

*Deadline to submit articles for "The Epistle" is the 15th of each month.*

*The children's craft table for Wednesday night dinners will resume January 5. Come join us for fun and fellowship!*

*Our monthly EYC gathering with the Mediator will be held January 30. More details coming soon.*

*Parish Office will be closed January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.*

*January 18 • Vestry Meeting • 5:15 p.m.*

*Come celebrate the Feast of Epiphany Wednesday, January 5. Starting at 5:30 p.m. on the patio we will have a brief service with the "Burning of the Greens." Please bring a sprig of greenery from your garland or tree to burn in the fire. Following the service we will enjoy hot dogs and chili in the Parish Hall.*

### **Christmas Thank You**

We are most appreciative to the parish for all the remembrances offered at Christmas and year's end. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. From Christmas bonuses to treats and gifts to goodies, we are moved by your kindness especially during this past holiday season. THANKS!

—David, Mallory, Joane,  
John, Judy, Brenda,  
Denise, Rita and  
Fr. Austin



## **St. Paul's Annual Meeting - January 23**

**One service at 9:30 a.m.**

*Calling all Committee Chairman, Vestry Liaison's Reports for our Annual Meeting Booklet are due Friday, January 14, to be printed in the Annual Meeting booklet, so please get your reports in to Joane.*

## **We Welcome Elizabeth Graham to St. Paul's**



I'm Elizabeth Folk Graham, born in Vicksburg and reared across the Mississippi River in Tallulah, LA. After 30 years of teaching elementary and middle school students, I began my journey in response to God's call. This journey has led me from Albuquerque to south Louisiana and finally to Meridian where I began the discernment process at the Church of the Mediator. I am a senior at the A.C. Marble School for Theological Formation, and was ordained to the transitional diaconate December 18, 2021.

I am grateful for the support of Sam, my loving husband of 25 years. I have three children and nine grandchildren who all live in Austin, Texas. My passion is pastoral care, particularly caring for those suffering and the elderly. I find great joy in sharing the Word of God and His love with all of God's children and serving them the Body and Blood of Christ. What a privilege it is to be working with Father Austin. I look forward to getting to know the wonderful people at St. Paul's!

### *Messenger for the World, Messenger of the Church*

We are so excited to welcome The Reverend Deacon Elizabeth Graham to St. Paul's. Elizabeth comes to us from The Church of the Mediator. This January, she will be finishing her ordination exams as well as her Clinical Pastoral Education. During her tenure at St. Paul's, Elizabeth will be a pastoral presence to God's people. She will preach, facilitate an adult formation series, write a Lenten Prayers of the People and serve regularly at God's table. She will serve as our deacon through May 15.

*"O God, most merciful Father, we praise you for sending your Son Jesus Christ, who took on himself the form of a servant, and humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on the cross. We praise you that you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all; and that,*

*through him, we know that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling this your servant to the order of deacons... Make her, O Lord, modest and humble, strong and constant, to observe the discipline of Christ. Let her life and teaching so reflect your commandments, that through her many may come to know you and love you. As your Son came not to be served but to serve, may this deacon share in Christ's service, and come to the unending glory of him who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever." (BCP 545)*

Faithfully,

# Annual Council Set

January 28 - 30 Natchez, MS

Make plans to attend the 195th Annual Council January 28 to 30 in Natchez. The Council is open to all to attend and Natchez has many charms.

Representing St. Paul's will be St. Paul's Delegates Kelly McQuaig, Lloyd Gray and Wayne Wuestefeld. Alternates are David Benson, Rob Calcote and Tiffany McGehee.

The first opening service and business session will begin Friday, Jan. 28, closing on Sunday, Jan 30 with worship and eucharist.

All committee meetings, business sessions, workshops and exhibits will be held at the Natchez Convention Center, which is in the heart of downtown and in walking distance to many fine shops and restaurants. A Saturday evening social gathering will take place at the beautiful antebellum home Dunleith.

For more information or to download forms go to [www.dioms.org](http://www.dioms.org).



Congratulations to Annie Martin who will serve as an At-Large Member of the Diocese of Mississippi's Youth Council in January at Annual Council in Natchez.



SHOPPING FOR CARE LODGE — Our EYC got into the true spirit of Christmas today on a trip to secure presents for residents of Care Lodge. From left, Payton Hanschke, Hayes Lancaster, Jack Martin, Ann Revere Davis, Britton Dunn, Olivia Lewis, Cooper Tibbetts, Sellers Breaux, Lucy Simmons, Carlyle Breaux, William Davis and Henry Hiatt. For more than 39 years, Care Lodge has provided essential services and emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence in east central Mississippi.

## Thanks, Gary!

Gary Jones for many years has made sure that the spot lights illuminate our stained glass windows along each side of the Nave for our Christmas Eve services. The beautiful lighted windows make the services even more special. We give thanks for his tireless efforts through the years.

## Vestry Nominations Open

Vestry nominations are now open to elect three new members at our Annual Meeting, set for January 23.

Forms for nominations are available at the entrances to Nave and on the bulletin board in the hallways. Nominations must be received by Monday, January 17 to be printed in the Annual Meeting booklet.

A potential vestry member must be a confirmed communicant; at least 21 years of age; must be canonically resident and actually residing the parish (letter of membership on file); must be entitled to suffrage at annual meeting at which elected; cannot have served on the vestry in previous three years (though such person is immediately eligible to stand for nomination as Warden); and shall not serve more than six consecutive years in that or a combination of Vestry member/Warden offices unless said individual has served a portion of a former term (i.e. filled an unexpired term). Prior to the Annual Parish Meeting, potential vestry members will meet with the Rector; consent to the parish's Vestry Covenant and commit to attend the annual Vestry retreat.

## We Remember in our Prayers

For our Parish family: Don, DJ Wells, Edgar Morrison, Elaine Sanders, Harriet Simmons, Holly Morgan, Jerry Greene, Jo Van Devender, John Carrier, Kay Dickson, Margaret Van Dyke, Mary Dunn, Peggy Carrico, Rick Farr, Tadley and Wanda Blount.

In our senior living communities: Joyce Welsh, Lora Jones, Mary Scott and Nita Neville.

Extended family and friends: Alison Ulmer, Amanda Rainey, Andi Kushner, Bill Selman, Brooke, Brooks Moore, Chuck Fishburn, Clancy, Cory Gaylord, David, Diane Dunn, Diane Honeycut, Donna Polizzi, Edesser "Dess" Reid Ward, Rob & Aislinn Ward, Emily Chancellor, Frances, Francois DuPlessis, Frank Baker, Frank Barrett, Freddie Bea Watson, George Farr, Jada Dooley, James, Jan, Jane Wacaster, Jim Thompson, Jo Nell Brown, John, Josh, Katie, Ken Fisher, Kylie Temple, Leland Tew, Lisa Primeaux, Lou Dubose, Mac Thigpen, Martha Mazingo, Mary Halliwell, Michelle Nelson, Mike Covert, Nell McMullen, Norman, Pat Carver, Patsy Harris, Paul Alfieri, Randy Moore, Rick, Roger, Rosemary Kahlmus, Sandy Carrier, Taylor & Trey, The Rev. David Elliott, The Rev. Greg Proctor, Tom Schram, Tony Sansone, Wanda Farr, Wanda Scott, Willie Spencer, Wilma Kangery and Zack Martin.

We pray for those who have died especially; Eugene Wood, husband of Judy Graham Wood; Bob Deen, husband of Lindy Deen; Lee Vinson, mother of Patty and Ruthie Vinson; and Bob "Felix" Kay.

We pray for our Bishop Brian, our Rector Austin and his family, and our Deacon Elizabeth.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. 2 .....Jack Martin, Jim Miller	Jan. 17 .....Anna Katherine Carrier, Matthew Davis,
Jan. 3 .....Scott & Rose Hudson, Cindy McGinnis,	Chris & Julie Stump
Jim McGinnis, Chris Stump	Jan. 19 .....Mark Davis, Rick & Joanne Entrekin,
Jan. 7 .....Kelly McQuaig	Gavin Smith
Jan. 8 .....Rick Barry, Juliet McDonald,	Jan. 20 .....Jo Van Devender
Tiffany McGehee	Jan. 21 .....John Carrier III, Mark & Nancy Davis
Jan. 9 .....Scott Carmichael, Melissa Hudson,	Jan. 22 .....Danny & Joane Mackey,
Jamie Smith, Jan Wayton	Robert & Candy Ward
Jan. 10 .....Bobby & Sherree Maddox	Jan. 23 .....Scott Hudson
Jan. 11 .....Clay & Laura Holladay, Merrell White	Jan. 27 .....Elizabeth Scott Bond, Anthony Hiatt,
Jan. 12 .....Bob Rea	Scott McQuaig, Liam Morphis
Jan. 13 .....Remy Stump	Jan. 28 .....Sandy Singleton
Jan. 14 .....Candy Ward	Jan. 30 .....Hunter Howell, Carolyn Jones,
Jan. 15 .....Rainey Breaux, Robby Dreyfus	Kay Milhorn, Mike Reich
Jan. 16 .....Linda James, Robert Ward	Jan. 31 .....Cameron Burchfield

## Services

	JAN. 2	JAN. 9	JAN. 16	JAN. 23
VESTRY COUNTERS	Michelle Lewis & Rob Calcote; Lock: Tim Hanschke			
8 A.M.	<b>ANNUAL MEETING</b>			
CHALICE	John Carrier	Bob Covert	Malcome Gee	John Carrier
READER	John Carrier	Bob Covert	Malcome Gee	John Carrier
USHER	John Carrier	Bob Covert	Malcome Gee	John Carrier
10:30 A.M.	<b>ONE SERVICE 9:30 A.M.</b>			
READER 1	Bev Pringle	Jerome Kittrell	Lisa Howell	
READER 2	Wayne Wuestefeld	Katie Simmons	Sally Gray	
PRAYERS	Helen Abraham	Kay Reich	Bobbie Rea	
USHERS	Jim Miller	Melissa Love	Lisa Howell	Ann Compton
	Marsha Miller	Sara Mason	Stephen Wilson	John Compton
ACOLYTES				
ALTAR GUILD	BJ Ray	BJ Ray	Lee Loeb	Lee Loeb
	Leslie Hiatt	Leslie Hiatt	Rainey Breaux	Rainey Breaux
CHALICE	Gloria Chancellor	Barbara Boone	Gary Jones	Lynne Taleff