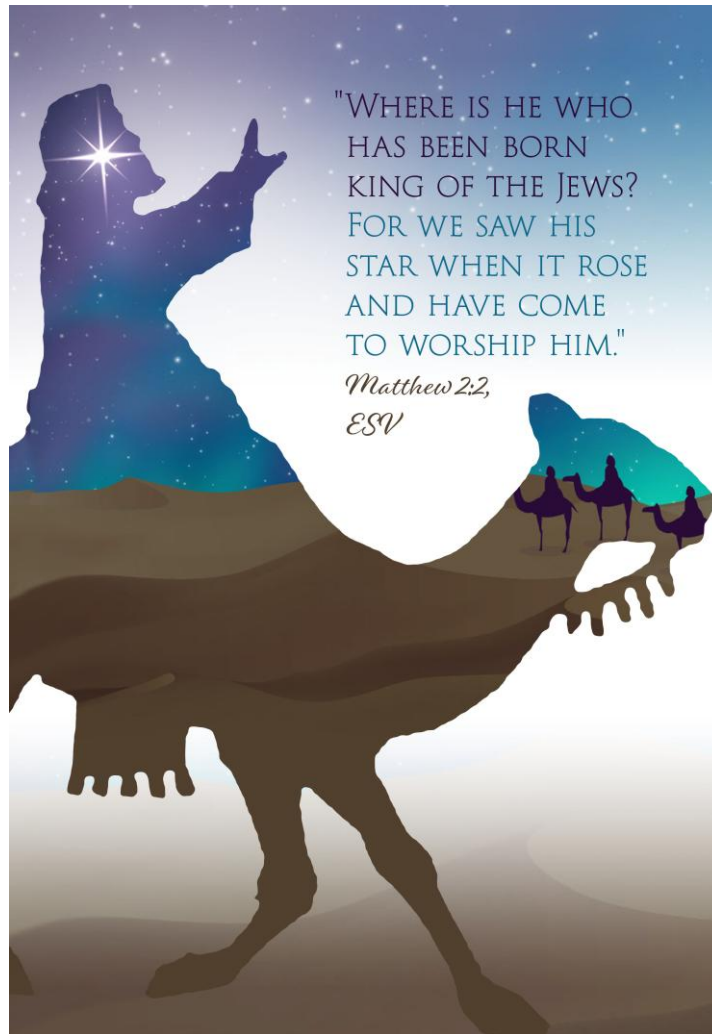


**TRINITY CATHEDRAL
OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY**



**JANUARY 4, 2026 – SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY – YEAR A
10:00 AM - THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO**

CELEBRANT & PREACHER - THE VERY REV. RENÉ JOHN

**Our Vision:
A visible agent of God's love in Christ, joyfully embracing all people.**

801 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08618
Phone (609) 392-3805; Fax (609) 392-2305
www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org
The Very Rev. René Rory John, Dean

WELCOME! We're honored that you're worshipping with us today. If you're not familiar with our Episcopal worship service, we hope this service bulletin will help. Masks are optional within the Cathedral buildings. Please use the hand sanitizer that is provided throughout the building before and after touching any surfaces. Thank you for helping us to remain as safe as possible while enjoying in-person worship.

Please stand as indicated and be seated for lessons

Prelude

Sleigh Ride

M. Parish & L. Anderson
arr. T. Verdi
The Trinity Strings

All stand, as able

Processional Hymn

Hymnal # 100

Joy to the World

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sing

Hymnal # S-278

Gloria in Excelsis

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

First Reading

Lector: John Gummere

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah (31:7-14)

Thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel. See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will

lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.' For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty," says the Lord.

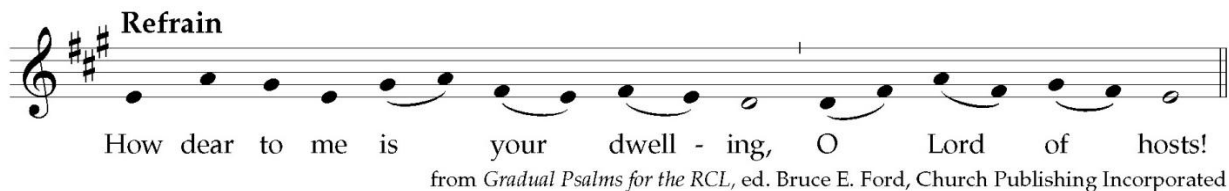
The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated; sung by the Choir

Psalm 84:1-8

Cantor: Dr. Kerry Heimann



How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of
the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

Refrain

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Refrain

Those who go through the desolate valley will find
it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Refrain

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
Refrain

Remain seated

Second Reading

Lector: Cn. Terry Cooper

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus (1:3-6, 15-19a)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand, as able

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal # 480

When Jesus Left His Father's Throne

Remain standing

The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may

also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

**The Very Rev. René John,
Dean**

All stand as able and say together

A Statement of Faith based on Galatians 3:26-28

Celebrant: Let us renew our pledge to work for unity, justice, and peace.

We are all children of God.

There is no longer Jew or Greek.

There is no longer slave or free.

There is no longer male and female.

For we are all one.

We believe Jesus lived for this and died for this.

We pledge ourselves with God's help and the support of each other to make this become a reality.

Remain standing

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit**

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Remain standing

Prayers of the People

Lector: Howard Ebersole

The Lector and People pray responsively

Deacon: Rejoicing in the mercy of God, manifested for our salvation in the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior, let us pray for all the needs of the world, saying: Lord, have mercy.

Lector: That the churches may know God and God's wisdom, that they may be assemblies of God's grace, let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That the leaders of the church, along with all preachers and ministers, bishops and teachers, may be formed by that wisdom of God manifest in Israel and born among us in Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: We remember God's holy catholic church, including Sean, our Presiding Bishop and Primate; Sally, our Bishop; René, Dean of this Cathedral; Bruce, John, Peter and Noel, priest associates; Christopher, our Deacon, along with all other ministers in this congregation, lay and ordained; Sarah, the Archbishop-Elect of Canterbury, Philip, the Archbishop-Elect of the West Indies, and all Anglican Christians around the world, especially the Church of the Province of Central Africa; and for our brothers and sisters in this diocese, including Joe Morris, Sylvestre and William, retired Bishops. Let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That the Jewish people may know continual comfort in God's mercy and great joy in the wisdom of their heritage, let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That those who suffer the ravages of winter, the hungry, the elderly, the unemployed, and the sick among us may be clothed with healing and comfort, let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: We remember before you those who are sick, or in any other special need, especially the residents of Hamilton Grove Care and Rehabilitation Center; along with **the People of Ukraine and Russia, the People of Israel, Palestine and Iran, the People of Haiti, Amarachi Ngozi Okere, Andrew McDonald, Virginia Barbarin, Darryl Francomacaro, Vicky Jones, Mike Bernardo, the Beckstrom family, the Dietz family, the Fleury family, Andrew Wolfe and the Wolfe family, Janet Harrington, Georgianna Aiken, the Jacobs family, Comfort Sparks, Taras Pavlovsky, Jimmy More, Donald Brokate, Ernie DeMarie, Homer Zacharoudis, David Coulier, the Tavel family, Sonia Smith & the Smith family, G. Lopez & family, the Reiner family, and Christopher Henderson.** Let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: We commend to your prayers this day all persons deployed in the service of our country. May they dwell safely under the protection of Almighty God. Let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Lector: That this assembly may be refreshed in its mission to bear witness to the word and wisdom of God, let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: We remember those with whom we give thanks, especially those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week: **William (Bill) Harmer, James Miller, Jr., Ra'shonda Washington, Christopher Pearson, Gail Lewis, Dorothy Pinto, Gilda Bertheau, Bernard McMullan, Hubert Perry and Karen Callaghan.** Let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: We remember those who have died, especially the victims of violence in our neighborhoods, and the victims of the ongoing wars around the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Silence, as the people add their own petitions.

Celebrant: Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Please remain in your pew for the Peace.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Holy Communion

Please remain seated while Ushers collect the offertory

Offertory Anthem

Gesu Bambino

P. A. Yon

arr. S. Wieloszynski

The Trinity Strings

Offertory Hymn

Hymnal # 497

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, food donations to the Cathedral Food Pantry, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or Celebrant.

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer A

Chalice bearer: Margaret Nartey

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds . . .

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People:

Hymnal # S-128

Sanctus

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues . . .

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to

you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray . . .

Celebrant and People:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then may be said . . .

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Hymnal # S-165

Agnus Dei

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All Baptized Christians are welcome to make their Communion at the Lord's table.

Music at Communion

The Trinity Strings

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People:

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements

Recessional Hymn

Hymnal # 87

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Blessing

Celebrant: May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Let it Snow

S. Cahn

arr. T. Verdi

The Trinity Strings

**WE WELCOME THE TRINITY STRINGS AND DIRECTOR, SHERRI ANDERSON
AS OUR GUEST MUSICIANS THIS MORNING!**

**TRINITY CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY
JANUARY 4, 2026 ~ SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY**



Following Christ, joining the Cathedral – We invite you to accept the invitation to follow Christ, to become a Christian and to become a member of Trinity Cathedral. We encourage you to fill in one of the pew cards and place it in the offering plate, or please contact one of the clergy.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lectors for the 10:00 am Mass on 1/11 are:

**Gil Williams, Bobbie Powell, Tony Wootson & Brenda Whiteman
(Chalice bearer – Cn. Phil Lewis)**

The Ushers/Greeters for Sunday, 1/11 (2nd Sunday) are:

Edward Greenfield (Greeter/Usher) & Dennie Higgins (alternate Greeter)

2026 Stewardship Update: We have received 65 pledges, totaling \$255,204, representing an average pledge of \$3,926 per family. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

If you would like a pledge card, please see an Usher.

This week we will bag food for the Food Pantry. Join us on Thursday, January 8th at 4:45 pm.

The Cathedral annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 18th after the 10:00 am Mass (one Mass only that Sunday.) - If you are the Chair of a Commission or other organized Cathedral group, please have your report for the meeting booklet turned in to the office no later than Wednesday, January 7th. Please E-mail it to Patrice at patriceattrinity@aol.com. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the Vestry, please speak with Chinweze Ahaghotu, Cn. Paul Cooper or Dean John. There is a handy form you can use to turn in your names; find one on the literature table in the Cathedral (the “ship table”).

Did you know that we host a Grief Support Group at Trinity? The next meeting is Saturday, January 10th from 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Guild Room.

If you are looking for a way to become more involved with the operation of our Cathedral, please see the volunteer bulletin board just inside the parking lot doors. Here you will find posted opportunities to volunteer at the Cathedral, big and small. If you would like to advertise a volunteer opportunity, you can create your own flyer or use the form on the literature table in the main hallway.

The next Food Pantry distribution date is – Saturday, January 10th (2nd & 4th Saturdays this month) from 9-11:00 am. Each Thursday, we distribute hot dinners “to go” from 4:15–5:30pm at the Overbrook Avenue entrance as a satellite location for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen.

OUR CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND GREENS HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY:

Lucy Adams, in thanksgiving for Keith, Andrew, Geoffrey, Jeffrey and Angelica

Nkeoma Akaeme, in memory of her parents

Jane and Peter Bridge, in honor of Joey Steele

Cynthia Coleman, in memory of Cynthia Woodson, Eva Coleman, and Eula Coleman

Patrice and Joe D’Angelo, in thanksgiving for Stormy D’Angelo,
and in memory of Lobo, Nikita, Codey, Max and Stanley D’Angelo

Winifred Daniels, in memory of Mable Daniels, John C. Hall, Richard Daniels,
Athalia Jackson, Margaret Shiffler, Chester Reasoner, Janet Lewis, Rocky Daniels
and Eugene Harris

Bill & Ginny Harmer, in thanksgiving for 55 years of wonderful marriage

Dennie Higgins, in memory of Dr. Fred Rogers

Mary Johnson, in memory of Hugh M. Jolley and Marie E. Jolley

Fay Manicke, in memory of Roger J. Van Sant, Rose and Albert Manicke, Jr.,
Agnes and Albert Manicke, Sr., Theresa and Stephen Finta, Carolyn Linarello and Anita Hill

OUR CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND GREENS HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY:

Cheryl Nagy, in memory of James and Relda Szenasi, Peter and Joyce Schmitt,
Cecelia and Elek Nagy, and Sister Lisa

Margaret Narthey, in memory of Victoria A. George

Georgia Koenig, in memory of Alva and George Brenner, Margaret and William Koenig,
Steven Koenig, Albert Lengyel, Pam Gazda Rickette Holden, Dorothy and Bert Petersen,
and Myrtle Goetz

Jennifer Ng'andu, in honor of Joseph Chileshe Ng'andu, Spencer Conover Lancaster,
Sheila Ward Rome and Donald Lee Rome

Rev. Cn. Arthur and Lynn Powell

Susan Remmers, in memory of Robert Remmers and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur N. Smith

Irene Sanz, in memory of Robert Sanz

Many thanks to all who helped decorate the Cathedral for Christmas!

**FUNDrive® Coordinator**

Sherri Anderson
(484) 467-9194
strettoyouthchamber@gmail.com

Our Goal: \$1000

250 Large Yard Bags (avg. 20 lbs.)
75 Medium boxes (household
goods)

Fundraiser Dates:

10/31/2025 - 01/10/2026

Clean out your closets for Stretto Youth Chamber Orchestra!

Please help Stretto by collecting items you are ready to donate.
Our collection date will be Saturday, January 17th, 9-10:30am at
Trinity. If you need to drop off ahead of time please send an email
to strettoyouthchamber@gmail.com

We are getting an extra bonus right now for books - empty those
shelves!!

We will need volunteers to help load. If you can volunteer, please
email.

We Are Collecting Clothes

men's, women's, & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves,
handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen,
tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses,
serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative
items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Books & Media

paperback, hard cover - all genres

**media needs to be boxed separately*

**no encyclopedias or text books*

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small
household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items
must be clean and in sellable condition.



THIS WEEK'S CATHEDRAL SCHEDULE

TODAY (1/4)

8:30 am

10:00 am

After 10am Mass

10:30a – 12:30p

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Rite I Eucharist in All Saints Chapel (in-person only)

Rite II Eucharist in the Cathedral (+ livestreamed, when available)

Confirmation class - GR

Full Gospel Community Church service - CHP

Thurs. (1/8)

4:15 – 5:30 pm

4:45 pm

8:00 pm

TASK Meals – SH

Food Pantry bagging

Rosary Devotions, via Zoom

Sat. (1/10)

9 – 11:00 am

10am – 12pm

Food Pantry

Grief Support Group - GR

Sun. (1/11)

9:15 am

10:00 am

After 10am Mass

10:30a – 12:30p

11:15 am

First Sunday after the Epiphany: Baptism of our Lord

Choir warm-up

Rite II Eucharist in the Cathedral (+ livestreamed, when available)

Confirmation class - GR

Full Gospel Community Church service - CHP

Choir rehearsal