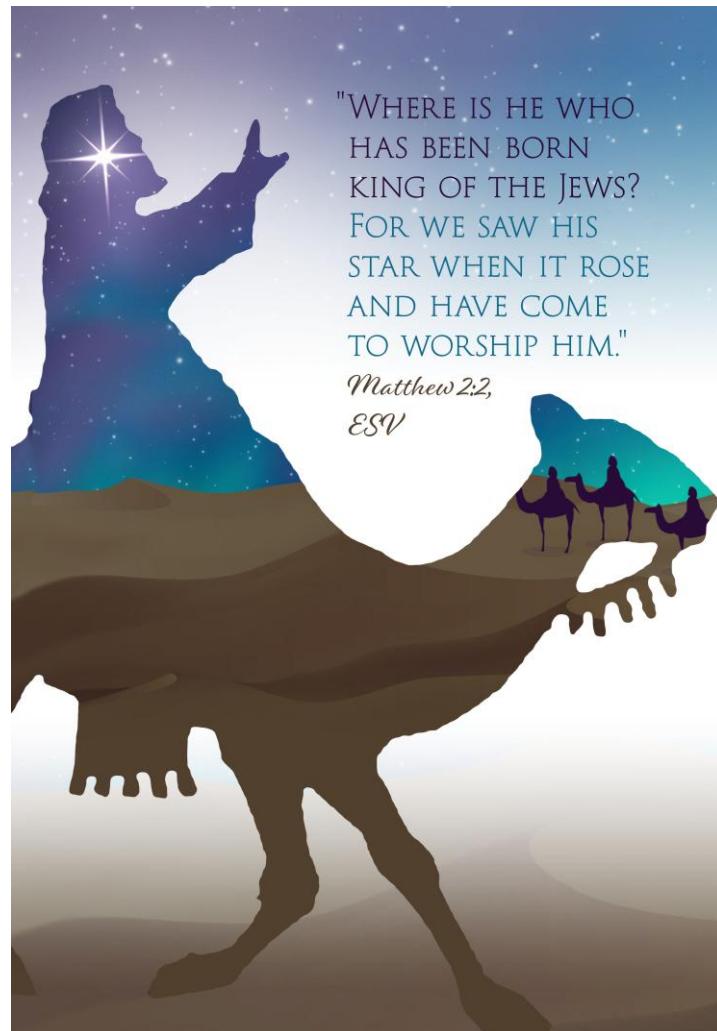


**TRINITY CATHEDRAL
OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY**



**JANUARY 4, 2026 – THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY – YEAR A
8:30 AM - THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE**

CELEBRANT & PREACHER - THE VERY REV. RENÉ JOHN

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

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

WELCOME! We're honored that you're worshipping with us today. 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. "This is how we love one another!"

Please stand as indicated and be seated for lessons

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

All stand

Processional Hymn

**Hymnal # 100
vs. 1 & 4**

Joy to the World

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Amen.

All say together

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,**

have mercy upon us.

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

First Reading

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.

All remain seated to say

Psalm 84:1-8

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.

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.

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.

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

Remain seated

Second Reading

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
vs. 1 & 2**

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 be to thee, O Lord.**

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 be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

**The Very Rev. René John,
Dean**

All stand, as able

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

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. 330

Please remain in your pew for the Peace.

The Peace

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Holy Communion

Remain standing

Offertory Hymn

Hymnal # 497

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer II

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

All say together

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

All kneel or stand, as able

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

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.

All say together

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The People may join in saying

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

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 persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Solo

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

All say together

Post-communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy

everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Announcements

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.**

**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

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

OUR CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND GREENS HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY:

Margaret Nartey, 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!



Clean out your closets for Stretto Youth Chamber Orchestra!

FUNDdrive® 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

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 and 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