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The Episcopal Church  
of St. John the Baptist



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Sunday December 1, 2019**

**8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I**  
**10:00 am Holy Eucharist Enriching our Worship**

## The Rev. David DeSalvo, Priest-in-Charge

### LECTIONARY READINGS

[Isaiah 2:1-5](#)

[Romans 13:11-14](#)

[Matthew 24:36-44](#)

[Psalm 122](#)

[Click HERE for the Participant Schedule for the 10am Service](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Events Coming Up

**Happy Thanksgiving!!!: Thursday, Nov 28**

**Bible Study, BYO Lunch: Wednesday, Dec 4, 12:15pm in the Rectory**

**Vestry Meeting: Wednesday, Dec 11, 5:15pm in the Rectory**

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## **A Thanksgiving Message from Fr. Dave**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. John the Baptist Church,

This week we pause from all the busy-ness of our weekly routines to give thanks for all we have and all that God has given us to do with our lives and resources. We have our families, our friends, our towns and villages, and our church community. It is no wonder that we feel very blessed, especially about our vision for St. John the Baptist Church and our future as a growing parish and model for other churches of what it means to be a “right-sized church.” God, indeed, is giving us a vision, and it is up to us to make that vision a reality. These aspirations motivate us to imagine how and why we will soon be able to share our gifts of time, space, and fellowship with others.

This week we also take time to think more deeply about what Thanksgiving Day really means. *An Episcopal Dictionary of*

*the Church*, which was compiled and edited by one of my dear seminary professors, notes the following:

*A national holiday and day of thanks. Thanksgiving Day is celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday in Nov. This custom is based on the celebration of three days of prayer and feasting by the Plymouth, Massachusetts, colonists in 1621. There was also a Thanksgiving celebration with prayer by members of the Berkeley plantation, near what is now Charles City, Virginia, in 1619. The first national Thanksgiving Day was celebrated in 1789.*

There is more in the *Dictionary*, but we get the idea. We have been given great gifts, and God is the giver. What we do with God's gifts is at the heart of Jesus' life and example: He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. The way we do that is by being "faithful stewards of God's great bounty, providing for our own necessities and the relief of all who are in need." (Collect for Thanksgiving: BCP, p. 246)

The people of St. John the Baptist Church are givers. We give of our time, talent, and treasure. Beyond this, we pray that very soon we will further our understanding of Jesus' example through a renewal of our mission to the community by opening the doors of our soon-to-be-built parish hall. Together, we look forward to the day when we welcome newcomers into our church and share our great bounty with the good people of this area.

Thanks be to God for The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, and thank you for keeping the gift alive and thriving in

this community.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Father Dave

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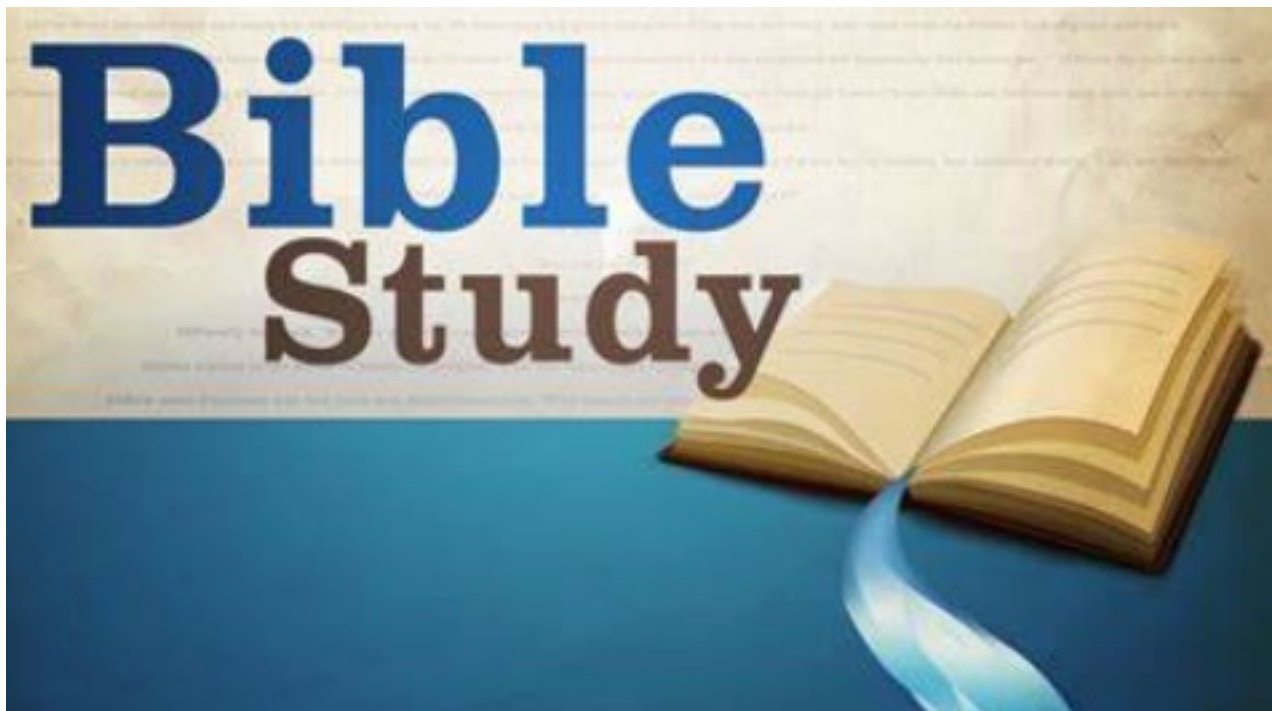
## Father Dave's Office Hours This Week

**Tuesday, Dec 3, 10am - 2pm**

**Wednesday, Dec 4, 10am - 2pm**

Other hours and weeks, by appointment. Call  
302.824.6272

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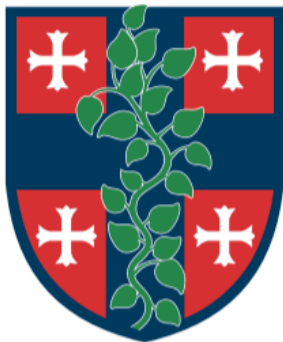


**Bible Study with Fr. Dave**  
**Wednesday 12:15PM in the Parish Hall**

## BYO Lunch

In our Dec. 4 Wednesday Bible Study  
we will examine the birth narratives in  
Matthew and Luke as we  
transition from Lectionary Year C  
to Advent, Year A

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**EPISCOPAL**  
CHURCH OF NH

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Bishop Rob's Address to  
our Annual Convention:  
[to read his address  
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**Prayer List:** Elijah, Jack, Claire, Joanne L., Tim, Sean, Mickie, Jenifer and family, Paul, Joanna, Nathan, Fran, Jeff, Maria, Ashley, Dan, the Walker family, Joe and Carol, Anne, Justin, Sue A. & Jim, Barry, Marge, Harry, Ed D., Al, Becky, Thomas, Sebrina and Tyler, Julia, Diane, Brandice and family, Pat F., Hazel, Jim & Michelle, Wendy, Elaine, Carol Anne, Dave, John, Amos, Tess, Kirt, Jeffrey, Mike, Diane, Michele, Tomas, Ann, Briana, Peggy Sue, Kathy, Martha, Linda, Jeff D., Deidre, Stacy, Baby "P", Marshall and Victoria, Patty, Caroline.

**Military Prayer List:** Jeremy, Colton, Kevin, David, Maxwell, Martin.





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