

# - A GRAIN OF MUSTARDSEED -

Dear Friends in Christ,

January 2019

Firstly, and on behalf of my family and all the staff of All Saints' Church, please accept our prayers for continued blessings this Christmastide, a Happy New Year and a joyful Epiphany. These twelve days of the Christmas season are filled with happy times; visiting friends, feasting, gifts, etc. Be sure to end them in the most proper fashion by joining us for worship on the Feast of the Epiphany on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Secondly, let me offer thanks to all who made Christmastide at All Saints' the joy that it typically is: Dr. Radu, our Choir and instrumentalists for beautiful music; Kevin Fife, our decorators and our Altar and Flower Guilds for a beautiful church; all which contributed to beautiful worship on the part of all our members. The overarching message of Christmas and Epiphany is that God has illumined this darkened world with the light of His Son, Jesus Christ. Particularly in Epiphany we are reminded that in Jesus Christ "the Wisdom of God and the Power of God" was manifest amongst us. We praise God for revealing Himself and His will to us in the teaching and signs of His Son our Lord. The "Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles" as Epiphany is called, also has much to teach us about basic Christian living. Just think for a moment on the reaction of the Wise Men when Christ was revealed to them. They first "fell down and worshipped him." Secondly they "presented unto him gifts...." Christ reveals Himself to us daily in so many ways: in prayer and meditation, in the written Word, in the charity of others. Our first reaction must be to worship Him, and then we must willingly offer Him our gifts; our time, talent and tithes. This applies to each of us as a general Christian principal, and it applies particularly to our current circumstances as a fellowship of Christians. We need each of us to consider how we will respond to the call of Jesus Christ on our lives in this place; how we will participate in this parish's mission to worship God, reach out to new people and serve Him in this world. I hope the example of the Wise Men will offer us answers to these question that will guide us into a fruitful and faithful New Year!

Yours in Christ, Edward L. Rix

## **EPIPHANY CELEBRATIONS: SUNDAY, JAN. 6<sup>TH</sup>**

This year Epiphany falls on a Sunday, so we keep the feast with our regular, first-Sunday-of-the-month schedule. (7:30 a.m. said Morning Prayer, 8:00 a.m. said Holy Communion, and 10:00 sung Holy Communion with prayers for healing after each of the Communion services). There will be no potluck desert party for Epiphany this year (save your strength for the one we will have on Ascension Thursday later this year!).



## **VESTRY NOMINATIONS**

Names are still needed to fill upcoming vestry vacancies. Give your nominations to Sharon Hawkins, Nominating Committee chairman, or to her fellow Committee members, Samuel Griffin and Perrin Hamilton, or the Wardens or Fr. Rix. Guidelines for eligibility are on the bulletin board outside the Choir Room.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Our AGM and Luncheon will be on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. As with last year we will be having a cold lunch of sandwiches and chili (provided: donations gladly accepted). Parishioners are invited to bring their own soft drinks, beer, or wine as well as dessert items to share. Please don't let a certain sporting event be your excuse for not joining your fellow parishioners that day. It's just an hour of your time: you'll be home hours before the game begins!



"The kingdom of God...is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it." *St. Luke 13:18-19*