



Parish News

Jesus is the God whom we can approach without pride and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair. —Blaise Pascal

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Gifts for Life to Transform Lives

Truly I tell you, just as you gave to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.
Matthew 25:31-40 (St. Martin's Gospel)

St. Martin's gift market for Christmas and other special occasions will be held after Sunday services at 9 and 11:30 on December 4 and 11. We have an opportunity to transform lives in developing nations of the Second and Third World and in our Kalamazoo community. Gifts may be purchased for Clean Water for the World, Episcopal Relief & Development's *Gifts for Life*, and Open Doors. These projects connect us with those in need, support the Millennium Development Goals and our Baptismal Vows.

Please consider giving a gift which can save a life!

Clean Water for the World is a Kalamazoo-based project which builds, delivers, and installs water purification units to people in underdeveloped countries where every 8 seconds a child dies of a water-related disease. Each unit sustains a village of 600 people.

Gifts for Life, an Episcopal Relief & Development program, focuses on long-term solutions to save lives and restore people's dignity. The program provides 3 million people in over 40 countries with skills and the knowledge to generate stable income and to ensure a lasting, sustainable food supply. By giving a cow, goat, honey bees, a flock of chickens, or tools, a family will have the tools to feed themselves and make a living. Mosquito nets and training can protect children and families from a needless, preventable death. Micro-credit loans for small businesses give the start-up capital and training to allow families in poverty to become independent and earn enough money to support their families. Gifts start at \$12.

Kalamazoo's **Open Doors** provides a Residence Community, where low-wage workers can have good housing at affordable rates and receive personal support for maintaining health and stability; *Open Doors* also provides a residential self-help program, where homeless women and men can seek and find employment, save for future housing, and address personal obstacles to stability. Located in the heart of Kalamazoo, this non-profit agency has welcomed homeless and socially disadvantaged people for 40 years.

Looking Ahead

Nov. 19	Clean Water 4 the World: Work Day, shifts 9am-12pm & 1-4pm
Nov. 23	Missionaries return from India
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Liturgy at 10am, Thanksgiving Dinner hosted here at St. Martin's
Nov. 27	Advent begins
Nov. 29	Vestry Meeting at 6:30pm
Dec. 1	Last Scheduled Clean Water 4 the World Build Day 6pm
Dec. 4	Christmas Market (see page 3)
Dec. 4	St. Nicholas to visit!
Dec. 4	Welcome Home Dinner for our Missionaries 12pm
Dec. 4	Tattoos on the Heart Book Discussion 3pm
Dec. 9	St. Teresa's Guild Cookie Exchange
Dec. 9	Day of Service for Ali @ the Deacon's Conference 9-12pm
Dec. 11	Christmas Market
Dec. 11	Acolyte Training - 12pm

Link to our online Calendar: <http://www.stmartinepiscopal.org/calendar.php>

Advent Preparation

To help us prepare for the celebration of Christmas, we have Advent booklets with meditations and prayers for each day of Advent taken from the writings of Fr. Henri Nouwen. There is one for each household on the table in the entranceway. These are a strong help for our spirituality.

—Fr. Joseph

পুৰুলিয়া Purulia Update

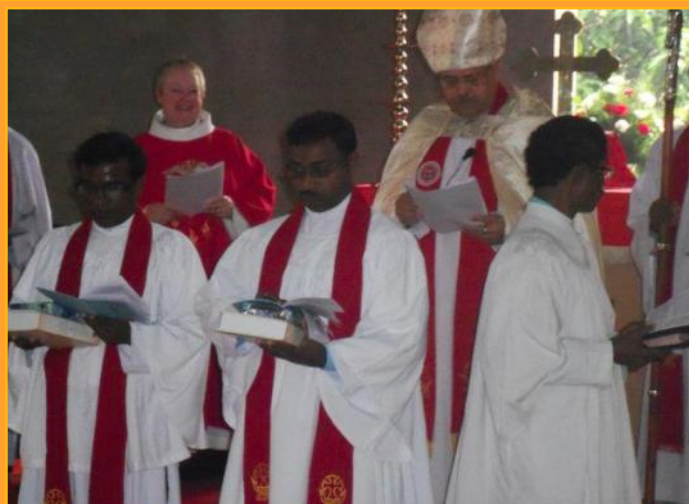
To see more photos of our Missionaries go to:
<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2660468356082.146451.1387130782&type=1>

And
<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2610298781874.145209.1387130782&type=1>

Pat with some "old" friends!
below
On the bus to visit 2 bastis (slums)



Mike playing in the newly finished cathedral in Durgapur.



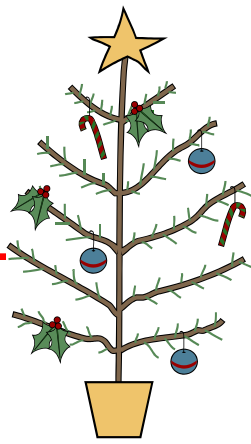
Mary with Bishop Dutta at the ordination of 3 new priests, one of which will be serving in Purulia (front row, far left)!



The new priest for Purulia with Mary.



Chris & David teaching music in Durgapur



The Giving Tree

Sorry for the Christmas tree...it's not even Thanksgiving! But as a heads up from the Outreach Committee: *Our Giving Tree will be put up on December 4th. This year, St. Martin's is collaborating with Children & Family Services to respond to needs in our community. Items off the Department's wish list will be strung on the tree. Keep an eye out for this small way to help our neighbors!*

Servers Needed

- ◆ This year Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Sunday and servers are needed to fill both the 8am & 10am services.
- ◆ 8am service needs lectors
- ◆ The nursery need some fresh volunteers!

Please contact Paula if you are willing and able to help out in any of these opportunities.



Coffee Hour

- ◆ *Is an easy opportunity to share with our church family. Please consider signing up to share some food and fellowship at coffee hour. Sign-up sheet is in the Great Hall.*



Wisdom from other Traditions

All differences in this world are of degree, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything.

—Swami Vivekananda



Save your jugs!

Are you saving your clean plastic gallon jugs for us? Remember: we will be using them to make luminaries for our New Year's Eve liturgy.

Please keep them at home until asked to bring them in.

Server Schedule

Sunday, November 20

Altar Guild: Pat, Mike & Bob

8am Service

Acolyte: Al
Lector: Jim
Prayers of People: Bob

10am Service

Acolytes: Shari, Becky, Sam & Ben
Lectors: Mikell & Becky
Eucharistic Ministers: Lee & Jeanine
Prayers of People: Nancy
Alms Bearers: Joel & Julie
Oblations Bearers: Laura & Ben
Greeters: Chuck & Lou, & Barb
Nursery: Kay
Coffee: Shari
Counters: Louise & Mark
11/11 Panera Packaging: Pat & Romeo

Thursday, November 24: **Thanksgiving Liturgy**

Altar Guild: Bob, Mike, & Pat
Acolytes: Shari, ? & ?
Lectors: Laurie & Joel
Eucharistic Ministers: Shari
Prayers of the People: ?
Alms Bearers: Alex & Becky
Oblations Bearers: ? & ?

*** There are spots to be filled!**



Sunday, November 27

Altar Guild: Jane, Laura & Shari

8am Service

Acolyte: Shari
Lector: Paula
Prayers of People: Jim

10am Service

Acolytes: Mike, Pat, & Alex
Lectors: Carol & Phil
Eucharistic Ministers: Tom & Shari
Prayers of the People: Carol Ann
Alms Bearers: Laurie & Becky
Oblations Bearers: Bill & Lynne
Greeters: Tom & Chris M.
Nursery: Barb
Coffee: Carol Ann
Counters: Carol Ann & Erik
11/4 Panera Packaging: Carol Ann & Musette