

# St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

## December 4, 2025: EBlast



### Feast of St Nicolas

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MICHIGAN Office of the Bishop  
A Letter to the Clergy, People, and Congregations of the Diocese of Michigan

#### Advent 2025

*My beloved siblings in Christ,*

*Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*I write with both ecclesiastical importance and considerable merriment. The Right Reverend Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, has requested permission to visit our diocese during Advent and Christmas.*

*Bishop Nicholas has impeccable credentials: fourth-century pastoral experience, radical generosity, and a distribution network that would make Amazon jealous. Therefore, with great joy, I grant him full permission to exercise his ministry throughout the Diocese of Michigan during this holy season.*

*Bishop Nicholas, you are welcome in all our congregations—from Lake St. Clair to Ann Arbor, from Monroe to the Thumb. A few local notes: Try Detroit-style pizza (Buddy's or Loui's). The Lions are actually doing well this year—an Advent miracle itself. And yes, there's a fierce debate between Lafayette and American Coney Island; as Episcopalians, we believe in the *via media*, so try both.*

*More seriously: You come with a reputation that precedes you—not the commercialized version, but the real you. The bishop who gave away his inheritance, defended the vulnerable, stood up to emperors, and allegedly punched a heretic at Nicaea. (We don't endorse the punching, but we appreciate the conviction.)*

*Your secret gift-giving and rescue of desperate families weren't heartwarming tales—they were radical Gospel witness that cost you something. So while I grant permission to visit, I ask you to challenge us. In a region that has known economic hardship and systemic racism, we need Bishop Nicholas, not Santa Claus. We need the saint who emptied his pockets for the poor, not the figure who asks, "Have you been good?"*

*I encourage all congregations to celebrate your feast day on December 6th—leave out shoes for treats, tell your real stories, and then get to work. Serve at soup kitchens. Support ministries for the unhoused. Advocate for justice. Be Secret Santas in the truest sense—anonymous, generous, focused on those who need it most.*

*Bishop Nicholas, we welcome you with open hearts. Inspire us to be generous. Remind us that Christ's coming is not about consumption but compassion, not about getting but giving, not about comfort but making room for the vulnerable, just as Mary and Joseph needed room in Bethlehem. May this Advent season transform us all into people who follow your example and, more importantly, the example of Jesus Christ, whose birth we eagerly await.*

*Your sister in Christ,*

*The Right Reverend Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, XI Bishop of Michigan*

***P.S. - If you see the Stanley Cup on your travels, could you redirect it back to Detroit?***

***Consider it an ecumenical favor.***

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." — Matthew 25:35*

Thanks, Bishop Bonnie!

See you Sunday,

Rev. Michelle

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### Sunday Dec 7

8:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I Celebrant: Rev. Michelle  
In the Church & livestreamed

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II Celebrant: Rev. Michelle  
In the church

11:30am - Church Decorating for Advent/Christmas

### Tuesday Dec 9

11:00am - ECW Meeting

### Saturday Dec 13

2:00pm - LOK Christmas Party

### Sunday Dec 14 - Dragon Slayerz Band

### Wednesday Dec 17

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

6:30pm - Men's Group

### Sunday Dec 21

11:45am - Benthic Brass Christmas Concert & Luncheon

### Wednesday Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00pm & 8:00pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Eucharist

### Sunday Dec 28

9:30am - One Service of Lessons and Carols

### Wednesday Dec 31

5:00pm - New Year's Eve Party

## LOK Christmas Party Saturday Dec 13 and 2:00pm

It's cold, it's dark, it's icy and we have all gotten smarter in our old age, so the Ladies of the Knight have moved their Christmas Party to Saturday afternoon this year. Join us at Joyce Spletzer's house on Saturday Dec 13 at 2:00pm for a rousing good time. Please bring a dish that is "lap food" (no knife needed) or wine. Bring food, table ready with a serving dish and utensil. **Sign up at church, or call or text Sandy Scott** to avoid duplicates, contact info is available in the directory.

## Holiday Outreach Opportunities:

### Giving Tree

The tags will be out on Sunday on the small tree in the Fellowship Hall! We will be sponsoring a family again this year through the Milford YMCA. We have 25 tags in a variety of price ranges. **Take**

**a tag and return the wrapped item with a tag attached to the church by Dec 14.** Help us make Christmas bright for one Milford area family.

### **The Mitten Tree**

The mitten tree has returned to the Fellowship Hall. We are seeking new mittens, gloves, hats and other warm winter wear for the students of Neithercut Elementary School in Flint. Child sizes are preferred but adult items are also useful for older students, siblings and parents. This is a great time of year for good sales at Costco and Target/Walmart, Amazon also sells great bulk packs. We are also seeking new or gently used children's books. Items will be collected until **early January**. See Dave Dickey and Mike Darcy for more info.

### **AdventWord Devotional**

Forward Movement convenes another year of AdventWord, an inspirational online Advent calendar featuring a daily prompt word selected from the Sunday lectionary readings. Email subscribers and social media followers receive a daily meditation and visual image inspired by the day's word, and are invited to share their own personal reflections, art, poetry, or other creative expression. Learn more at [adventword.org](https://adventword.org) or sign up here <https://adventword.org/sign-up-adventword/>

### **Church Decorating Sunday Dec 7**

Plan to stick around after the 10:15 service to help beautify the church for Advent & Christmas. Cookies will be provided.

### **Benthic Brass Returns Sunday Dec 21 at 11:45am**

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a festive Tuba and Low Brass concert and sing along of Christmas favorites and other selections. Lunch will be served after the concert. Sign up now if you are willing to help provide for the luncheon. Fliers are available in Print and on the Facebook page to share around town.

### **Poinsettias for Christmas**

Please sign up in the narthex or email the office to donate a poinsettia to beautify our church for Christmas. Suggested donation \$20. Flowers will be available to take home after the 8:00 pm service on Christmas Eve.

### **St. George's New Years Eve Party**

Are you tired of sitting at home on New Year's Eve waiting for midnight and the start of a new year? Why don't you come and celebrate with your friends at St. George's 5:00pm-8:00ish on Wed Dec 31. We will gather for a potluck dinner, white elephant gift exchange, games, music and fun. We will ring in the New Year with our friends in London at 7:00pm with champagne and festive drinks. Sign-up and more details coming soon.

### **Tell Out My Soul - Stewardship 2026**

The Stewardship drive has officially ended but it is not too late to return your pledge. Please prayerfully consider your contributions to St George's for the coming year. Please see Ed with any questions or concerns. Extra cards are available in the Narthex.

## Ongoing Outreach Activities

Below is a list of things we are currently collecting for our ongoing outreach ministries. Check back often to see what we are up to

**New Childrens Mittens, Hats & Gloves** - Neithercut Elementary - Mitten Tree - **Through early January**  
**Christmas Gifts** - Take a tag from the tree and return wrapped with the tag by **Dec 14**

**Dress and other nice clothing** - Grace Centers of Hope Resale Shop - Middle of Hallway - through Nov

**Small Toiletries** - FedUp - Hallway Closest to Office - Ongoing

**Non-perishable food** - Community Sharing - Green bin in Narthex - Ongoing

**Used Grocery Bags** - Crochet for a Cause - Bins outside by The Dragon or in back classroom - Ongoing

## The Church at the Crossroads

Check out their November newsletter to see all the great work they are up to here: [November Newsletter](#)

## Ongoing Ministries in Action:

### -Braver Angels

Monthly meetings have now been moved to the last Wednesday of the month working on depolarization. All are welcome. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, skills practice at 7:00, and planning at 7:30, finishing at 8:00 pm. **NOTE: Due to the holiday season the last meeting for the year was on Wednesday, December 3rd. See you in the new year!**

### -Coffee Fellowship

**Sign-up sheets are available to host coffee fellowships in December.** We are looking for hosts for **Dec 7 & 28 (both cookies only)**. This valuable ministry allows us to have a lovely time of food and fellowship together after church and **it won't happen without hosts**. It is quite a simple endeavor requiring only 2-3 items like, pastries, fruit/veggies and/or crackers & cheese and a commitment to help set up and clean-up. Unused food is taken home or given away after. You can do it on your own or with a partner. Please see the sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall or Deb Sawyer for more information.

### -Crochet for a Cause

Making mats for those in need out of plastic grocery bags. 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. We have a great time! **Next Meetings are Dec 17 & Jan 7 (no meeting on Dec 31).**

### - Cookie Ministry - Supporting the AA groups that meet at our church

Who can help on the **third Friday of each month**? About 50 cookies are needed in total. Please reach out to Dot if you would like to cover **Dec 19** (third Friday.) or once in a while to give the Darcys and the Vangels a break on the other Fridays. You can drop off your cookies the Sunday before or during office hours during the week.

### -ECW (Episcopal Church Women)

ECW will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday December 9 at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.**

St. George's ECW is a small group of women committed to supporting the many activities of this church. All women members of the church are members of ECW and are encouraged to attend the meetings. Do come along and join us.

## - Healing Prayer

Provides laying on of hands and anointing for healing after worship at 8:30 & during communion at 10:15 service. The next Healing Prayers will be on **Dec 7 & 21**. Healing Prayer can be offered at all other services by request.

## - LOK - Ladies of the Knight

### Tentative Calendar of Events

December 13, Saturday at 2:00pm: Annual Christmas Party at Joyce Spletzer's home.

Extemporaneous: Tuesday movies at Emagine.

## - Mens' Group

The Men's Group normally meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. All Men are invited to attend.

The **next meeting** is on **Wednesday Dec 17 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall**.

Please see Mike F. Sr's upcoming email for more information.

## Keeping Your Faith Strong

### -Those in Our Prayers

Please pray for our members, community members and friends in search of health, healing, wholeness and solace: *Anne G., Annie F., Art, Barry, Brett & Megan, Brian, Carol R., Caroline, Cheryl, Denise, Helen, Jeanne F., Jen C., Joan B., John E., Joshua, Judi V., Kathy, Katie M., Karen C., Karen S., Kim, Laurie, Leon, Lisa D., Lisa S., Liz, Mark, Mary Lou, Maya, Nancy, Nancy B., Rick & Debbie, Rick, the Sera Family, Sharon A., Sue H., Tara,*

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.* (*Book of Occasional Services pg217*)

## - Online Daily Office Schedule

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Fridays, 4 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sundays, 7 p.m. Compline

Do you join our Sunday worship online? A reliable and quick way to find our YouTube services (live or recorded) is from our website's "Watch" page, accessed from the top of the home page by clicking the word "Watch." [Here's a direct link.](#) Want to participate in our Daily Office online? Those are on

Facebook. [Here's the link.](#)

## -Sermon Blog

Ever hear something in worship and think, I wish I could look at that again or send it to a friend? Well now you can. Now St George's has a Sermon Blog. Weekly sermons and reflections will be posted here from now on. Rev. Michelle's sermons will appear on Sunday morning, Morning Prayer reflections will usually be up within a couple of days. Feel free to share! [St George's Sermon Blog](#)

## -When to contact the Priest:

Please be in touch. I can only pray, help or connect you with resources if I know what is happening. Examples of when to contact the Priest: Birth, Death, Illness, Hospitalization, Difficulty in the Family, You would like to receive sacraments or a Pastoral visit, You have an idea or ministry you would like to discuss. I am usually in the office Wed and either Tues or Thurs 9:30-3. If you see my car in the

lot, feel free to pop in. If I don't answer the phone make sure to leave a message or send a text and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

How to contact Rev. Michelle: **Phone/Text:** (734) 646-4064 or **Email:** [priest@stgmilford.com](mailto:priest@stgmilford.com)

### **-Forward Day by Day Devotions**

The November-January Booklets are available now to pick up in the Narthex. Let us know if you need one mailed/delivered to your house. The cost is \$2.00 for each booklet. Please reimburse us as you are able in the donation box nearby. I recommend a read!

**SAINT GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
801 EAST COMMERCE STREET MILFORD, MI 48381

## **Community Events**





# *A Christmas Concert*

presented by the  
Huron Valley Community Chorus

**Sunday, December 7, 2025**

**4:00 PM**

(doors open at 3:45 PM)

## **Faith Lutheran Church**

3501 E. Highland Road (M-59)  
Highland, MI

(handicap parking available on the hill)

**Donations accepted – Box available**



### **Huron Valley Community Chorus:**

- \* All volunteer
- \* Four-part community chorus
- \* Non-audition
- \* Established in 1977
- \* Member of Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce
- \* For information, contact: Jacqueline Rhodes, 248-887-1514



OCC Symphony Band  
2025  
*Winter Concert*  
**Friday, December 5**  
**7:30 PM**  
OCC HIGHLAND LAKES CAMPUS  
**Student Center Arena**  
7350 Cooley Lk. Rd.,  
Waterford, MI  
Free Admission  
OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
30 YEARS

The poster features a green and gold background with musical notes and snowflakes. It includes the text 'OCC Symphony Band 2025 Winter Concert' in a mix of fonts, the date and time 'Friday, December 5 7:30 PM', the location 'OCC HIGHLAND LAKES CAMPUS Student Center Arena', the address '7350 Cooley Lk. Rd., Waterford, MI', and 'Free Admission'. At the bottom, it says 'OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE' and '30 YEARS' with a logo.