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A View From A Pew
Advent Quiet Day
NOEL
Shepherd's Crook
Blue Christmas

Upcoming Events

Sunday Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.,
In the Church

Monday, December 3 5pm
NOEL Meeting
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Wednesday, December 5 6pm
[RDCC Christmas Cabaret](#)
Performing Arts Center
Ocean City

Saturday, December 1 & 8
[Christmas Nights](#)
Camp Wright
Stevensville, MD

Sunday, December 9 11am
Parish Life Committee Meeting
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

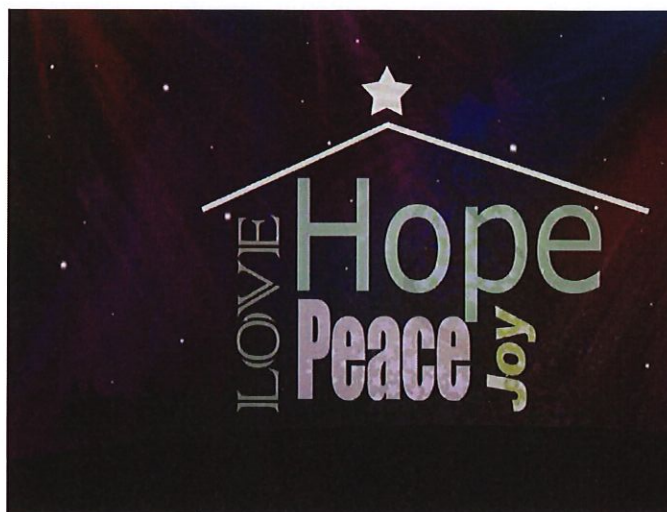
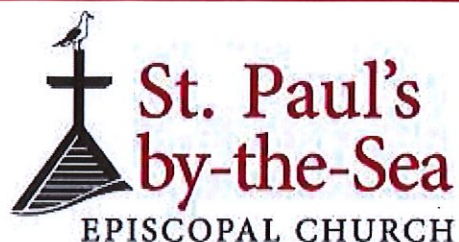
Tuesday, December 11 5 pm
Buildings & Grounds Mtg
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Wednesday, December 12
Advent Quiet Day
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Thursday, December 13 6pm
Vestry Meeting
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Sunday, December 16 11am
Parish Breakfast prepared by
John Bunting & his Team
St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Friday, December 21
Blue Christmas & Pot-Luck
Dinner
St. Paul's by-the-Sea



Advent Reflections

Advent is the beginning of the new church year, a period of joyful and longing expectation. We are called to spend the season preparing ourselves and our lives for the coming of Emmanuel, or God with us, as the name indicates. Let us consider ways to make room in our daily living for preparation and reflection, so that we may be awake and found ready when the Bridegroom arrives, even unexpectedly, as in the night. Let us consider taking advantage of the Adventide offerings in December, including the Wednesday evenings Bible Study and Holy Eucharist beginning December 12 at 5:00 pm. In addition, Fr. Moyer from St. Paul's, Berlin and I will hold an Advent quiet day on December 12 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm which will include reflections, silent prayer and contemplation, and the Holy Eucharist. In addition, the labyrinth will be available for meditation.

But in a larger sense, upon reflection on the name Emmanuel, we realize that the God of Jesus Christ is already with us. Therefore, Advent is rather a time of becoming more aware of a guest who is already with us, for searching for that which is already found, and for preparing for what has already arrived. Perhaps a more robust sense of Adventide observance may be that of reflecting on what already is the case, that the God of Jesus Christ has come to us and has sent his Spirit to