The Church of the Epiphany

The Episcopal Church of Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

# EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

November 12, 2026

## Lord you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**Thursday, November 12**
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
7:45 p.m. Choir Practice

**Sunday, November 15**
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Tuesday, November 17**
6:00 p.m. Advent Book Study Group

**Wednesday, November 18**
5:00 p.m. Bishop's Committee Meeting
*Note: Feeding the Spirit Bible Study will not meet again until January 6th*

See the full calendar here

## Connections

**Our services are livestreamed!** You can view this week's service, past services, and memorials HERE. The bulletin will be posted by the end of the week HERE.

Do you want to hear last week's sermon? Click HERE.

In the hope that you will have a deeper understanding and closer connection to the Word, we are sharing the lectionary for this Sunday.

Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

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## Epiphany's Stewardship Campaign

Plenty Good Room

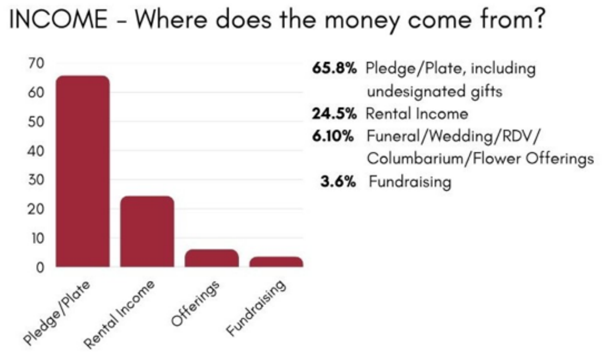
### Welcome to our Plenty Good Room season of stewardship!

Our parish is a place of belonging — a community where each person matters, and each gift is needed. Together we are the Body of Christ.

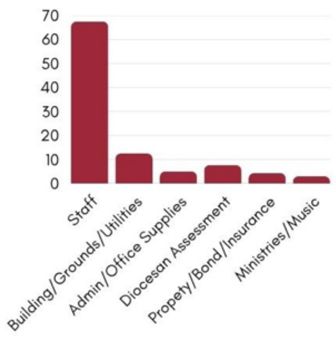
If you'd like to make a pledge, please click the button below to fill out our online pledge card.

### BUDGETING

The Operating Budget varies from year to year depending on income and needs.



EXPENSES – Where does the money go?



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|---|---|
| 67.5% | Staff |
| 12.5% | Building/Grounds/ Utilities |
| 5% | Admin/Office Supplies |
| 7.7% | Diocesan Assessment |
| 4.3% | Property/Bond/ Insurance |
| 3% | Ministries/Adult Education/Music |

### WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP GIVING?

Stewardship is a gift of your time, talent, and treasure for building up God's kingdom here on Earth. It is an act of faith and an expression of gratitude. It is what you do when you realize that your life work, abilities, skills, and the people and places you love are ALL gifts from the God who created you.

Stewardship is more than just giving. It encompasses the broad concept of assuming the responsibility of caring for the gifts that God has given us. If you attend regularly, you are already giving some of your time and talents in service to God, but are you giving a portion of your income? It's never easy to promise a piece of your living for God's purposes, to let go of control of what you earn. But that difficulty points to the importance of "stewardship" on the faith journey. It's an opportunity to grow, to learn to give as God has given, freely and generously.

**CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE**

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

## Newcomers Class

*"Episcopalians find comfort, nurture, fellowship, and encouragement in our communities of faith (especially true for us at Epiphany). And we believe the Almighty is not finished with us yet. We believe—now more than ever---that we provide a uniquely fulfilling and vital role in the panoply of modern Christian experiences…"*
-The Episcopal Handbook

We would like to announce that the diocese released Bishop Antonio's visitation schedule this week, and we are the first visit he will be making in 2027, which will be January 10th.

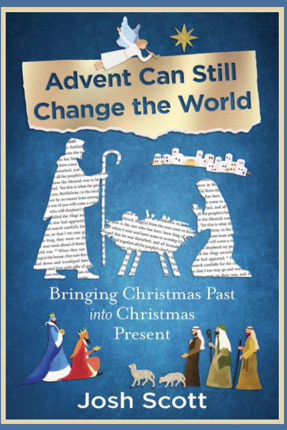
As is our tradition, in the weeks preceeding the Bishop's visit, this is the time we offer our Newcomers/Episcopal 101 class series after church.

**Class dates:**
**Sunday, December 13th**
**Sunday, December 20th**
**Sunday, January 3rd**

This course is not only an opportunity to get to learn more about the core beliefs of the Episcopal Church and Epiphany as we get to know one another better, it is also a requirement for those who wish to be Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal faith. **At the conclusion of the courses, you will then have the opportunity to seek Confirmation or Reception by Bishop Antonio thereby becoming a new member of Epiphany and the Episcopal Church at large.**

Please **RSVP to info@tcote.org if you will be attending** so we can provide adequate seating and snacks!

## Advent Book Study Begins Next Week!

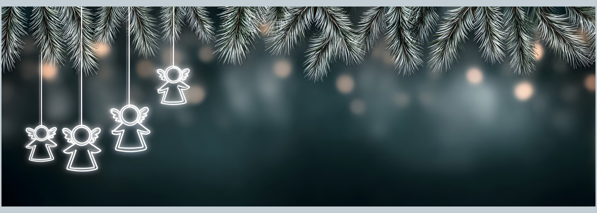

Advent Can Still Change the World
Bringing Christmas Past into Christmas Present
Josh Scott

**Our first meeting will be next Tuesday, but after that we will meet Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.**

For our Advent book study this year, we will be reading "Advent Can Still Change the World," by Josh Scott.

(Tuesday) November 17th
(Wednesday) December 2nd
(Wednesday) December 9th
(Wednesday) December 16th

***Please note: Feeding the Spirit Bible Study will take a pause from the start of Advent through Epiphany on January 6th.***



## Adopt-A-Family

Our adoptions are underway. Thanks to all who have adopted. There are now just five children and two parents who need adoption. Come to the Bishop's Hall on Sunday morning, November 15th, and adopt a child or parent or sign up to provide a book. Give cards and books need to be turned in by Sunday, November 29th. Questions? Email yvonnelux@gmail.com.

# Reverse Advent Boxes Wrap Party

**Join us for a “Wrap Party” on November 22nd after the 10:00 service!**

**Reverse Advent Boxes give us the opportunity to fill boxes with food items for Harbor House. Rather than take an item from an Advent Calendar, a food item is placed in the Reverse Advent boxes. We will wrap boxes to distribute the following Sunday, November 29nd, the first Sunday of Advent.**

**Christmas Carols will be playing during our “Wrap Party.” All ages are welcome!**

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RED DOOR VINEYARD

# RDV Happy Hour Next Friday

Please join us for an evening of gratitude, good company, and great pours.

**POUR, SIP & GIVE THANKS for RDV 🍂**
**Friday, November 20**
**5:00pm - 6:30pm**
**Founder's Room**

As we reflect on the season and the wonderful community we share, RDV invites you to unwind, connect, and give thanks together. Bring a favorite bottle of wine or other beverage to share, an appetizer, and an attitude of gratitude. We look forward to raising a glass and giving thanks with you.

As always, ALL are welcome - bring a friend!

***CHEERS***

*"Go, eat your bread with enjoyment and drink your wine with a merry heart."*
-Ecclesiastes 9:7

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Conejo Valley Interfaith Association
THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Conejo Valley's annual **Community Thanksgiving Service** will take place on **Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 pm** at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints,** located at **1600 Erbes Road** **in Thousand Oaks.** The theme of this year’s service is “Finding Peace through Prayer and Meditation" with emphasis on understanding how, when, and where various faith traditions pray and meditate. Presented for more than 40 years by the Conejo Valley Interfaith Association, this wonderful event is an opportunity for people of all faiths to gather, express thanks, and find common ground. Each year it rotates among the various faith traditions throughout the Conejo Valley. Pie is served afterwards for all who attend!

Our own music director, Jay Wilcox, will be preparing the group choir and providing the music. If you are interested in singing, please contact Jay at **jwilcox@tcote.org**. And carpooling may be possible. Please contact Kerrie Sadler if you're interested or have questions, at **818-292-3858** or at **sadlerkerrie@gmail.com**.

The Conejo Valley Interfaith Association (CVIA) allows clergy and lay representatives to gather and discuss community initiatives, engage in educational exchanges, and support local non-profit organizations through food drives, refugee assistance, and winter shelters for the homeless. The Women’s Interfaith Network, which The Church of the Epiphany supports, was established in 2016 as CVIA’s dedicated service branch.

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# Give the Gift of Preparedness

We are reaching out to you to take part this holiday season in helping others. As you might know, we are in an El Nino year and are going to see extreme weather patterns over the next 6 months.

The deanery is working with a group of volunteers - the Venutra County Climate Voices - to help put together disaster preparedness kits. These will be distributed in early December to families in need in areas most susceptible to local weather disasters. We also will be helping these families to understand what possibly may happen and how they can best be prepared.

Your participation by helping supply: **canned food, can openers, AAA batteries, duct tape, wrench/pliers, moist towelettes, face masks (preferably N95), whistles**, will greatly help those going through these difficult times.

We will be collecting until December 8th. Please drop donations off in the collection basket in the Bishop's Hall. Thank you for your care and love.

For more information, contact Mahri Mendenhall at mmidsgn@sbcglobal.net.

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# Blue Christmas Service Dec. 22nd

***The holidays can be hard. We can bring that to God.***

Whether you are grieving a loss, experiencing a hardship, or need a break from holiday stress, please join us for our Blue Christmas Service: a thoughtful, medatative, quiet service of prayer, music, and reflection offering a space where you might find comfort and hope.

**Tuesday, December 22nd at 6:30 p.m.**

*"Come, all who are weary and heavy, and I will give you rest."*
Matthew 11:28

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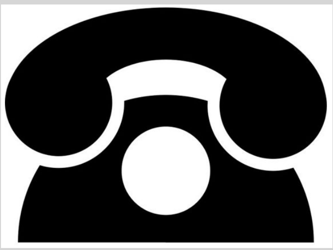
## CONNECTIONS REMINDER

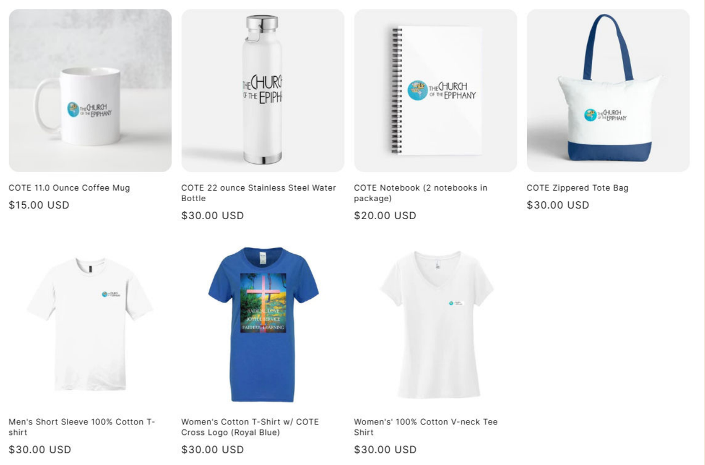
Just a reminder that all submissions for the weekly Connections must to be submitted to the Parish Administrator at **info@tcote.org** in their complete form by **9 a.m. on Tuesday.**



For those people without computers, we have the option of phoning in and listening to our livestream services on Sunday mornings! Please share this with anyone you know that you think would enjoy being able to listen in when they can't come in person. Phone: +1 720-256-2320. Enter the pin number 840327174, then hit #.

Visit our online store:

**The Epiphany Emporium**
Click on the link above, go to our website, or find an order form in the narthex, Bishop's Hall, or Founder's Room. All proceeds go to support our ministry(s).



COTE 11.0 Ounce Coffee Mug
$15.00 USD

COTE 22 ounce Stainless Steel Water Bottle
$30.00 USD

COTE Notebook (2 notebooks in package)
$20.00 USD

COTE Zippered Tote Bag
$30.00 USD

Men's Short Sleeve 100% Cotton T-shirt
$30.00 USD

Women's Cotton T-Shirt w/ COTE Cross Logo (Royal Blue)
$30.00 USD

Women's' 100% Cotton V-neck Tee Shirt
$30.00 USD

## Prayers

**Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer List:**
Aubrey, Brian, Mike, Kyle, Joanne, Judy, Bill M, Lorraine, Kenneth, Ron, Vicky, and Lynette

**Please pray for those on our Long-Term Parish Prayer List:**
Stephanie, Marilyn, Don, Pat, Katie, Anna J, Fred, Brian Z, Lori, Bill M, Dania, Bill, Mary, Eileen, Daren, George, Marsha, Valorie, Michelle, Clara, Chad, Lori, Steve, Ken, Jennifer, Janine, Hazel, Nancy, Dave, Tony, Blair, and Tracy

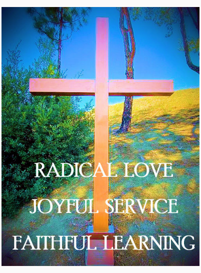
**Please pray for the souls of the departed,** especially Ces Boyd

*The prayer lists are included in the Sunday bulletin.*

To add yourself, family, or friends to the prayer list, please fill out a prayer card or submit your prayer request **here.**

## Mission

We seek to ensure that all who enter our doors know that they are loved, welcomed, and celebrated unconditionally, that we serve the world with gratitude, humility, and courage, and that we continue to grow in faith, recognizing reason and exploring the profound mystery that is God's creation.



## Vision

To live and love as true followers of Jesus, not just fans.

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

PARISH DIRECTORY

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