The Church of the Epiphany

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

# Epiphany Connections

November 19, 2026

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."



**Thursday, November 19**
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
(For Parish Choir and Schola members singing Jubilate Deo)

**Friday, November 20**
5:00 p.m. RDV Happy Hour

**Sunday, November 22**
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by
Reverse Advent Box Wrap Party

**Tuesday, November 24**
11:00 a.m. A Grief Shared
5:00 p.m. Laundry Love

**The church office will be closed Tuesday 11/24 through Friday 11/27. Happy Thanksgiving!**

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.

**Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

**Psalm 95:1-7a**

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

**Matthew 25:31-46**

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## Epiphany's Stewardship Campaign

We have less than a few weeks left FOR YOU to be part of our goal to increase participation in our PLENTY GOOD ROOM Stewardship Campaign 2026-27. We respectfully request your prayerful consideration about pledging whatever amount you can today. Help us grow our family and sustain Epiphany's Mission: Radical Love, Joyful Service, Faithful Learning.

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

**Why not consider participating in our Plenty Good Room Stewardship Campaign by donating "Stocks"? Here's just a few reasons why this way of donating will help our Plenty Good Room Stewardship Campaign in a way that will have great impact!**

**Income Tax Deductions**: Donating stocks can also lower your income taxes. When you file your taxes, you can deduct your donation from your taxable income. This means you pay less in taxes, which leaves more money for you to donate to our Stewardship Campaign

**Maximize Your Gift and Impact**: When you donate stocks instead of selling them and giving cash, you maximize your impact. The money you would have paid in taxes goes directly to Church of the Epiphany , making your gift more valuable.

**Avoiding Capital Gains Taxes**: If you sell stocks, you may have to pay up to 20% in taxes on your profits. But when you donate those stocks to fulfill your Stewardship Pledge BOTH you and our church don't have to pay any taxes on them. **You save money and give more!**

**Easy Donating Process:** Donating stocks might sound complicated, but it's actually quite simple. In less than ten minutes, you can fill out an online form with your investment company or broker, submit your gift as your Pledge, and Epiphany will be notified of your generous donation. And guess what? There's no fee to make a stock donation, so 100% of your gift goes directly to Church of the Epiphany Stewardship Campaign to fufill your stewardship pledge.

**REMEMBER Epiphany does not receive operating revenue from the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. We depend on the generosity of our congregation.**

**For questions or assistance about donating stock please email shass@tcote.org or call Erica, our Church Administrator, at 818-991-4797.**

**CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE**

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## Newcomers Class

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. If you have previously attended our Newcomers Class but were not Confirmed following the class, you may also be Confirmed during the Bishop's visit.**

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

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## Advent Book Study




**Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 2nd 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.

(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.***

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## Adopt-A-Family

All of our families and children have been adopted. Thank you so much for helping make their Christmases happy.

Please bring the gift cards and books to church by **Sunday, Nov 29.**

You can also drop them off at the church office 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow or Monday 11/23. Questions? contact: yvonnelux@gmail.com.

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## Reverse Advent Boxes Wrap Party

**Join us for a "Wrap Party" this Sunday, 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 Tomorrow

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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## Win a Decorated Christmas Tree!



### Three trees available to win

**On display starting Sunday, November 22nd, in the Bishop's Hall.**

Your purchase helps support the ministries and mission of Epiphany.

**One ticket: $20**
**Three tickets: $40**

Buy tickets on Sunday or in the church office from Erica during the week following Thanksgiving.

Place your ticket stub in the box in front of the tree you wish to win.

Already have a tree? Consider purchasing a ticket and donating your tree to a family or an organization who might not otherwise have one this Christmas.

**Drawing: Sunday, December 5.**

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## A Grief Shared: Tuesday, 11/24

Wherever and however you are experiencing grief - the death of a loved one, the loss of hope, the fear of the unknown - we invite you to come and share your story in a safe and supportive space. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, November 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** in Ascension Chapel. Please contact **Laurie Burns** at lburns@tcote.org if you need further information.

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## Laundry Love

**Tuesday, November 24,** we will meet at the Coin Op Laundry, 1008 E. Avenida de Los Arboles from **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** You don't need to stay the entire time. For more information, contact info@tcote.org.

**Laundry Love always meets on the last Tuesday of the month.**

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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 #.

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THE EPIPHANY EMPORIUM
CHURCH MERCH

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).






## Prayers

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

**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 Judy Jackson and Willie.

*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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