



May / June 2016

Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

From the 2016 Annual Rector's Report

Parochial Report Comparison	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Average Sunday Attendance	81	80	71	76	60	52
Baptism	8	13	9	6	9	13
Weddings	4	4	6	4	5	6
Funerals	8	6	5	6	5	8
Pledged	45,000	41,762	37,016	35,978	34,978	33,321
Plate and Pledged Rec'd	67,210	58,949	56,288	54,190	49,994	47,087
Money from investments*	89,940	112,300	98,364	113,804	107,118	117,556
Other operating income**	86,311	97,051	108,895	92,598	126,975	128,765

* Money from investments used for operations

** Other operating income, including unrestricted gifts & restricted gifts used for operations - includes rental income and fund-raising income.

*If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (NRSV)*

*If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love,
I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. (The Message)
(1 Corinthians 13:1)*

I am reminded this year, as I begin my report with numbers (some may say "facts") that if I speak, as St. Paul reminds us, without love, I will sound like a noisy gong...or a clanging cymbal...or the creaking of a rusty gate. None of those are sounds we seek. They are sounds we avoid. They are unpleasant sounds.

I hope you all know I do not speak without love as I think about the year just past and what I might say about our time at Gloria Dei in 2015. When I look back on the last year I am reminded of the thirteen baptisms and rejoice that those were brought to our altar and into our fellowship. I remember the six weddings and those joyous days of celebration right here, in this place. And as I remember the eight funeral services I am thankful that we are here to comfort and console those who mourn, and to assure the community gathered in remembrance that there is hope in the gospel message of resurrection and new life.

And yet, with a heart full of love for this place, this time, this community, I cannot help but be concerned at the slowly dwindling numbers that have to do

(continued on next page)

with regular attendance and support. And as I recognize the joys of ministry and opportunity here at Old Swedes, so also do I recognize the challenges that we face for the future.

What I said in last year's report I can repeat accurately again this year: "Gloria Dei continues to be challenged by a lack of growth and a slow decrease in income. Not the kind of changes we welcome or wish for. As we work to make ourselves relevant in our community we find it challenging to change as the needs of the community change. This past year we have begun to recognize that the way in which we are surviving, financially, is through making our facilities available for events and by participating in and supporting our own increasing fund raising events with our time and talent."

And so we have continued this past year to look for new fundraising opportunities, new opportunities for fellowship, and new ways in which to serve the community within and without our walls. Some ideas have drawn in folks previously not regular participants. Others have remained stable. And new as well as ongoing ways to insure the survival of this worship community are being supported by friends and neighbors of Gloria Dei.

In all we do, though, it is important to focus on the great gifts we have been given. Gifts of land and facilities. Gifts of folks with imagination and creativity and willingness to give of time and talent. Gifts of ongoing regular corporate worship that is open to everyone. While it is our responsibility to face hard facts about hard times, it is also our responsibility to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a world becoming more and more cynical by the day.

We are not the only church that is struggling. Churches throughout the United States, indeed in many parts of the Western world, are facing a great sea change, and discovering that the answer to these fearful times is not wishing for the good old days when the pews and the offering plates were filled. Attempts to go back never work. We must go forward, one step at a time, looking for new ways in which the Gospel message of hope, of faith, of love, of new life may be not only heard but believed and acted upon.

We have continued this year to value and treasure our relationships. Relationships with partners in our community and within our walls. We spend time understanding our need for affiliates and reaching out to them to insure their needs are met as well. So, the National Park Service continues to be an important partner with us in maintaining this gift of historic land and buildings. Our Historic Preservation Board (HGDPC) affords us the opportunity to involve specialists and professionals who are dedicated to the preservation of this historic site. The Queen Village Neighbors' Association, and the Pennsport Civic Association are community organizations of which we are proud to be members. And of course, the long term relationship with Young Children's Creative Arts (YCCA) gives us not only a needed income stream but a way in which we the community is made aware of this amazing

space for many outdoor activities. I am happy to tell you that though YCCA has opened another site on 2nd Street they still wish to remain here as well, and we are in the midst of renewing their lease with us.

As I said last year, so again I wish to point out that the only place where we have been able to affect positive financial change has been in the use of our facilities, either for our own fundraising events or through rentals. Thanks to the investment of HGDPC we have given Riverside Hall a fresh coat of paint, some repairs, and new closet doors. This week the floors will be refinished as well. These things we see as investments in the future. They were affordable to us this year as well. Looking to the future we hope to be able to do more extensive work on Riverside Hall so that it can produce for us even more income. Last year we had talked about a major expansion project but that, at this time, has been shelved for a more conservative approach that we believe will still encourage financial growth.

This year I announced my plans for my retirement. My plans to retire towards the end of 2017 allowed the Vestry to consider going through the discernment and search process for a new rector while I am still here, rather than to go through an interim period after I retire in which to do that work. The vestry decided to go ahead with the process while I am here. This means that in the next year the congregation will be challenged to think not only about the past and the present but the future of Gloria Dei. As Gloria Dei looks to the future, to a new time, a new rector, it is my prayer that this beloved Old Swedes will continue to be a beacon of light in the community, a place of safety for those who suffer injustice of any kind, and a destination for those who seek a deeper relationship with God and neighbor. May we always be able to say with honesty and pride – All are welcome, all the time.

Blessings to all who love this place, who give of time and talent and treasure to its works and witness, and who live in the hope and faith that is our resurrection Gospel.

Peace, *Joy +*





Volume 6A and B of the Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania - The Wrangel Years is now available for purchase at www.old-swedes.org.

The Wrangel Years, 1759-1768 was a period of renewal and unprecedented growth for Gloria Dei Church, yet a time marked by clerical rivalry and bitter controversies.

At the center of it is Carl Magnus Wrangel, 1727 - 1786, Dean of the American Mission.

704 Pages



Dolores Collins wanted to share this meaningful story with us!

Why Go to Church?

A churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone to church for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me I can't remember a single one of them. So I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

Thank God for our physical **AND** our spiritual nourishment



*Donate to Gloria Dei
 Make a pledge payment
 Purchase books
 Make Amazon purchases*



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!
 Just visit us as www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
 Check out our Facebook page while you're there.



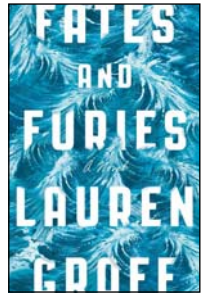
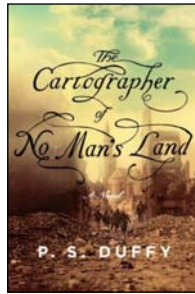
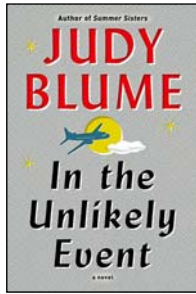
The Book Club at Gloria Dei

Here are our next books and meeting dates. The Book Club meets at 7 pm

May 23, 2016 *In the Unlikely Event* by *Judy Blum*

June 27, 2016 *Cartographer of No Man's Land* by *P.S. Duffy*

July, 25, 2016 *Fates and Furies* by *Lauren Groff*



Marilyn Johnson



May 19

7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall

From the Rector's Warden

Greetings, below is my report for our 2016 Annual Meeting which will be held on May 1st.

Gloria Dei is gearing up for some big changes. As you know our Rector Joy, is retiring at the end of 2017. That means we have a lot of work to do in order to find a new Rector for Gloria Dei. This will entail the forming of two (2) committees -the Parish Profile Committee and the Rector Search Committee.

The Parish Profile Committee

This committee will be a group of 16 (members of the vestry and parishioners). That group of 16 will come together and choose their chairperson. The Parish Profile committee will be broken into 4 teams, A, B, C, & D - each team will have at least 1 vestry member on it.

Team A - Will gather demographic information of our community (research is done on the computer)

Team B - Will be examining our finances (Expenses and Income)

Team C - Will examine our Worship/Spiritual (Internal) Ministries

Team D - Will examine our Community (External) Ministries

We are currently seeking parishioners and members of the vestry, willing to do the work of this important committee. To be considered you must be an active participating member of the congregation, and have a willingness to work alongside other parishioners and vestry members. It is important to remember that this is a discernment process, and members need to support each other and hold them up in prayer. Each team should expect to meet once or twice a week from June - October 2016. The findings of all 4 teams will constitute a draft to be submitted to the vestry for approval. A Parish Profile will then be created by November 2016.

Interested members should fill out the form for the Parish Profile Committee. These can be found at the back of the church, and place it in the collection basket or by email, to Carol Jenkins at Ivoryhawk4@gmail.com, by Sunday June 12, 2016.

The committee members will be announced on Sunday June 19, 2016

The Rector Search Committee

This committee will be a group of 7 (2 vestry members and 5 members of the congregation)

Members of this committee will be responsible for gathering information and questioning of applicants for the position of Rector at Gloria Dei. A

member of this committee should have strong communication and interview skills.

This committee will be formed after the Parish Profile is created and will begin in January 2017. Look for further announcements about this committee in the fall.

We are all responsible for keeping Gloria Dei strong and moving forward. The future of any church is as strong as the congregation that supports it. Take time to pray and consider which committee you might like to participate on.

Let us remember that change is scary, but with it comes great possibilities of growth and transformation.

Carol Jenkins



Spirits and History!

JOIN US

When:

May 13, 2016
(Friday the 13th!)

7-10pm

Where:

Gloria Dei
(Old Swedes')
Church
916 Swanson St.
Philadelphia
PA 19147

Tickets available at www.preserveoldswedes.org
\$50 per person

Featuring:

- Spirited tastings to match the times of eight of our illustrious permanent residents!
- Jazz Trio courtesy of The Jazz Sanctuary
- Cocktail Party Hors d'Oeuvres
- Fun in the Graveyard!



Gustavus Hesselius, 1600's – *Vodka*

John Douglas, 1700's – *Gin*

George Ord, 1700's – *Rum*

John Stille, 1700's – *Whiskey*

Peter Cruise, 1800's – *Craft Beer*

Amandeus Johnson, 1800's – *Aquavit*

The Peales, 1800's – *Wine*

Alexander Wilson, 1800's – *Scotch*

HELP US PAINT RIVERSIDE HALL!

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church. Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation is a 501c3 charity. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

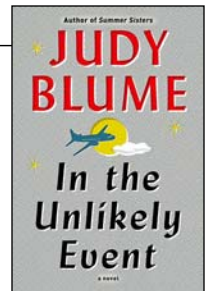
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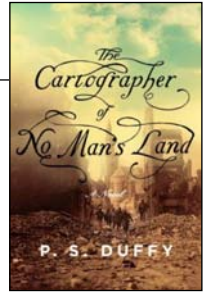
Calendar

- May 1** Annual Meeting
- May 9** HGDPC Meeting - Roak Room - 5:30pm
- May 3, 10,
17, 24, 31** Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary
- May 10, 17,
24, 31** Yoga - 7:00pm-8:00pm Riverside Hall, drop in class,
all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- May 11, 18,
25** Qigong - 10:30-11:30am, Riverside Hall, drop in class,
all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- May 12** Luncheon for Park Service, 11-2:00pm
- May 13** Spirits & History, sponsored by HGDPC - 7:00-10:00pm
Tickets - \$50.00 per person
- May 15** Pancake Brunch - Riverside Hall - 11:30am-2:30pm
- May 18** Vestry Picnic - 6:00pm
- May 19** Swedish Colonial Society Meeting - Riverside Hall - 10:00am
- May 21** Flea Market
- May 22** Liturgy Committee Meeting - 12:00noon - Roak Room
- May 23** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
In the Unlikely Event —————
by Judy Blum
- May 25** Yoga - 9:00am-10:00am, Riverside Hall,
drop in class, all levels welcome,
\$10.00 a class
- May 30** Sexton Sideshow
Memorial Dei Family Event
- 12:00 noon - 8:00pm



Calendar

- June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** Yoga - 9:00am-10:00am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
Qigong - 10:30-11:30am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- June 7, 14, 21, 28** Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary
Yoga - 7:15-8:15pm, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- June 12** Swedish Service - 4:00pm with reception to follow
- June 13** HGDPC Meeting - Roak Room - 5:30pm
- June 21** Make Music Philly
- June 27** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
Cartographer of No Man's Land by Daniel James Brown



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday please call the office and let us know. You may provide the flowers yourself or you may provide funds for flowers and a volunteer “flower person” will purchase and place the flowers for you.

The Lectionary for May

May 1st, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29

May 8th, Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

May 15th, Day of Pentecost

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Acts:2:1-11

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Romans 8:14-17

John 14:8-17, 25-27

May 22nd, Trinity Sunday

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Proverb 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

May 29th, 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Merciful Lord God, we do not presume to come before you trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and abundant mercies. Revive our faith, we pray; heal our bodies, and mend our communities, that we may evermore dwell in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1 Kings 18:20-21 (22-29) 30-39

Psalm 96

Galatians 1:1-12

Luke 7:1-10

The Lectionary for June

June 5, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 5

Compassionate God, you have assured the human family of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Deliver us from the death of sin, and raise us to new life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1 Kings 17:8-24

Psalm 146

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 7:11-17

June 12th, 4th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 6

O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

2 Samuel 11:26-12:10, 13-15

Psalm 32

Galatians 2:15-21

Luke 7:36-8:3

June 19, 5th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 7

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1 Kings 19:1-15a

Psalm 42

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

June 26, 6th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 8

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1 Kings 19:15, 19-21

Psalm 16

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Luke 9:51-62

From the records of Gloria Dei

May 2, 1942 - George Jenks Gillingham, Jr. wed Elizabeth Morris. He 28 of 1005 S. 46th Street. She 22, daughter of John Jr. & Stella Henry Morris. Witness Charles P. Gillingham, Doris Swalm, Elizabeth F. Swalm, Harold O. Corson, & Richard Y. Moore. This was the first marriage performed after President Roosevelt proclaimed the Church a National Shrine.

May 2, 1817 - Eliza Vallee died on the 2nd but no death changes took place until the 8th.

May 27, 1816 - Catherine Burrick was killed by her husband who then killed himself.

June 15, 1777 - Joseph Ashburn wed Elizabeth Ross

June 30, 1697 - Arrival at Wicaco of Rev. Andrew Rudman (Wicaco), Rev. Eric Biorck (Christina) and Rev. Jonas Auren (Raccoon and Penn's Neck).

Remarkable Occurrences

May 13, 1796 - Two men and four women came. The bride looked very young, & seemed much alarmed, she and some of the company said that her parents formerly of Burlington, were dead. The chief woman, who would give the bride away, pretended to be a sea captain's wife, and to live in a street not very distant, said that the girl had been two years her maid. refused. N.B. They came in chairs, no doubt from the country.

May 1805 - This May deserves notice as an example of impulse without decorum:- a party came after 11 on a Saturday. night and begged very hard for the ceremony. I had a long conversation with them without opening the door. They came out of the country as they said. The bridegroom gave as a strong reason for his importunity that his love was so violent that he might suffer if restrained from bedding with her that night.

May 3, 1807 - Sun.. Two Frenchmen, came with two women, The intended bride looked decent, and had a daughter about 7 or 8 years old, being a widow or she said. The bridegroom was likely young seaman, but very groggy. On my remonstrance against this impropriety with them, she pretended that he was sober enough, and that he was going to sea tomorrow. He could not pay much, tho I conversed with him in French.

June 14, 1802 - A company of 4 or 5 brought a man so drunk that he could not stand. He nevertheless expressed great unwillingness to be married. The company endeavored to persuade me that he had given full consent and was not much in liquor, etc. The intended bride was also very desirous, giving

for one important reason, that putting off the nuptials was an unlucky omen; as she had experienced in her first marriage (She being, or pretending to be a widow). I gave to all proper reproaches, and dismissed them. Two of the men were so angry at the bridegroom, as to give him several thumps.

June 29, 1805 - A young man came and requested secret marriage, because her parents withheld their consent on account of his inability to support her. He proposed going to Kentucky for employment, where his trade of portrait-drawing had been represented to him by some persons from there as profitable. I advised him not to go there, to stay here and acquire money by any kind of painting till he could afford to marry by no means to contract a secret marriage.

June 10, 1810 - A clerk, by appearance and his assertion, prob. of age, came after 9 in ev. and said they were going to Baltimore next morn. The family name was known to me, and a clerk whose Christian name is the same with that of his father lives here: he said that this man is but a distant relation. The suspicion was however, sufficient for my denial. They behaved civilly. Only one woman, aunt of the bride came with them.

Tombstone Inscriptions

Sacred to the memory of **Catharine Swanson**
wife of Andrew Swanson who departed this life May 4th 1842 aged 46 years
3 months and 20 days.

Weep not my husband nor my children dear
I am not dead but sleeping here:
And when my God shall bid me rise
I hope to join you in the skies.

Also of **Mary K Fox**.
eldest daughter of Peter and Abigail K Fox, who departed his life May 4th 1863,
aged 24 years 8 months and 7 days.

In sure and steadfast hope to rise,
And claim her mansion in the skies
A Christian here her flesh laid down,
The cross exchanging for a crown.

In memory of **Capt. Charles Sandgran**
a native of Sweden who was lost at sea, in the year 1829 aged 48 years.

Also of **Sarah** his wife, Died May 3rd 1860 aged 72 years.
"The earth and the sea shall give up their dead."

THE

Sexton SideShow *presents*

the 6th annual

MEMORIAL DEI FAMILY PICNIC

Monday May 30th 2016

916 S. Swanson St. Gloria Dei Church

Featuring Musical Acts by:

BEN ARNOLD JOHN FAYE & THOSE MEDDLING KIDS

KUF KNOTZ BAND FEAT. LIZANNE KNOTT COWMUDDY

THE LATE SAINTS REVEREND TJ MCGLINGHEY

BEN O'NEILL HURRICANE HOSS CURTIS COOPER

CHRISTOPHER DAVIS-SHANNON The Nite OWIS feat. PEG DUZIT

JOY IKE CC GRAB TREE & THE GIN SISTERS LILY ALBRIGHT & FRIENDS



/sextonsideshow

THE BEST FLEAS AT THE OLDEST CHURCH

Gloria Dei Church
(Old Swedes')

FLEA MARKET

Spaces - \$25.00 Paid at the Door

May 21st

Saturday,

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

*HOMEMADE SOUPS & CHILI,
HOTDOGS, MEATBALLS,
COLD DRINKS, HOT COFFEE*

**HISTORICAL CHURCH TOURS AVAILABLE.
COME JOIN THE FUN!!**

*Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147*

For information (215) 389-1513 www.old-swedes.org



Welcome the Newest Members

Baptized on March 27, 2016

- Lucas Charles Nguyen
- Matthew Joseph Ross
- Nils vanAmmers

In Remembrance of:

Gordon Hammond
March 12, 2016

Celebrate the Newly Married

Joseph Siegle and Christina Laramée
April 17, 2016

Sean Edward Coghlan and Leah Elizabeth Hoffman
April 23, 2016

Ian Hunt Enterline and Susan Melissa Pavlik
April 30, 2016

Memorial Cards:

Jeanne Peters

By: Doris Connor

Gordon Hammond

By: Cathy & Jim Ufheil, Connie Twist,
and Carol Jenkins

Mark Edwards

By: Chris & Eileen Sabo and Bert Kubiak

Edward McMullin

By: Bob & Jean Weill



Sunday Service:

10:00 AM

Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-2:30

CLERGY

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector
The Rev. Paul Harris, Assoc. Clergy

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director
Vicki Cusack, Parish Administrator
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons
Mark Roberts, Treasurer

VESTRY

Barbara Chilcott
Jill Duink, Accounting Warden
Kimberly Goodwin
Re Henning
Carol Jenkins, Rector's Warden
Leigh Jenkins, Secretary
Barbara Potts
Mark Roberts
Nils van Ammers
Rita West
Jeanette Woehr



STANDING NOTICES

Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church's cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of Our Lord (1/10/16); The Great Vigil of Easter (3/27/16); Pentecost (5/15/16); and All Saints Sunday (11/6/16). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.