



Dear Redeemer Family,

I was so very deeply, almost inexplicably, moved by the recent service of reopening and rededication at Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris. I have watched the service twice on YouTube, in addition to being glued to the live coverage in English on BBC. (Yes, I thought the vestments were garish in the extreme, but I digress.)

What stuck out most for me, however, wasn't the A-list attendees and world leaders, nor the grandeur of the restoration itself, although both got lots of coverage. The big takeaway for me was theological — the motif and metaphor of reconstruction and new life, especially after something horribly tragic like a fire.

It doesn't take too much reminiscing to remember a few areas and situations from 2024 that basically made you feel like some aspect of your life was going up in flames. It could have been your doctor calling about your MRI or something related to the storms we had. My own mother died in 2024, for example, and the grief is just now coming home to roost. Your fire may have been the loss of your marriage or relationship with your son. And so forth and so on.

But this is a new year! And while there will certainly be fires in 2025, the simple fact remains that God is always restoring the ruins — grace is always healing the burned-over bits of our lives, transforming decay into new life. "Can these dead bones live?" asked the prophet Ezekial. And the Lord God instructed Ezekiel to tell those dead bones: "I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live!" The old English hymn gets it right, too: "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply."

In this season of resolutions and fresh starts, let us resolve "with confidence to draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Your servant,

Fr. Charleston Wilson, Rector, Church of the Redeemer

Pictured above:
The Wise Men make their way around the church before arriving at the crèche to honor the newborn King on Epiphany.

— Special Gifts —

A donation for **hurricane relief** from St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Wellesley, Massachusetts

St. Francis Memorial Garden restoration and landscaping given by Patsy Chotin in memory of her husband, **George**

A gift in memory of **Mary Babcock** designated to the Memorial Fund from Kay Chandler

A gift in memory of **Julie Eisele** designated to the Memorial Fund from Kay Chandler

Gifts in memory of **John Dumbaugh** designated to the Memorial Fund from Kathryn Carr, Lee Ettenger, Tessy Giuria, Josie Naccarato, and John & Valerie Schaub

A gift in memory of **Nancy Boyle** designated to the Memorial Fund from William Lambrecht

A gift in memory of **Jose Guedes** designated to the Memorial Fund from Kirk Ferris Malcolm

— Milestones —

Baptism

Blake Vivian Tatum

Deaths

Linda Kistler

Transfer In

Suzanne & Patrick (Joe) Wright from St. Agnes Episcopal Church, Sebring, Florida

Transfer Out

Sarah & Robert Stern to The Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta, Georgia

Joining

Jeanne Gray
Wayne Johnston

Snapshots from Fall Redeemer Neighborhood Groups

Join a New Group Starting This February!



Redeemer Neighborhood Groups have been going strong for several seasons, including this past fall, when groups met throughout October, November, and December. Thank you to all of our hosts and facilitators!

Neighborhood Groups of about eight to twelve parishioners meet in a parishioner's home for fellowship and a discussion of a newly written devotional.

Stay tuned for more information, which will be released later in January, about how to join a Neighborhood Group that will gather six times over the course of February, March, and April.

If you're looking for a powerful New Year's Resolution, participating in a Redeemer Neighborhood Group might be perfect for you!

Key benefits of joining a Redeemer Neighborhood Group:

- Strengthen your faith by studying meaningful devotionals written by Redeemer clergy especially for Neighborhood Groups
- Engage in interesting, insightful discussions with fellow parishioners
- Meet and get to know parishioners from other Redeemer services

Stay tuned for sign-up information in the Redeemer News eblast, in the weekly announcements booklet inserted into service bulletins, and on Redeemer's social media.



january 2025 Highlights



Feast of the Holy Name Mass: Wednesday, January 1, 6 p.m., Church

Grace Gang Women's Bible Study with the Rector: Thursdays, January 2 and 16, noon-1 p.m., Goewey Hall

History Hunters: Thursday, January 2, 6-7:30 p.m., Goewey Hall

First Fridays on Palm Avenue: Friday, January 3, 5:30-7 p.m., Palm Avenue Terrace

Baptism Preparation Class: Sunday, January 5, 10:10-10:40 a.m., Room 220

All-Parish Baby Shower: Sunday, January 5, 10:10-10:40 a.m., Gillespie Hall

Epiphany Mass: Monday, January 6, 6 p.m., Church

Reception After Epiphany Mass: Monday, January 6, 7:10 p.m., St. Francis Garden

Ladies' Bible Study: Tuesdays, January 7, 14, and 21, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Goewey Hall; 6:30-8 p.m., Room 220 (Kings and Prophets, Part 2: Assyrian Exile to Babylon Exile)

A Taste of Alpha: Tuesday, January 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Goewey Hall (Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register)

Middle School Mission Trip Parent Dinner: Wednesday, January 8, 6-7 p.m., Gillespie Hall

Books and Beyond Men's Book Club: Wednesday, January 8, 6-8 p.m., Room 220 (*The Ghost at the Feast* by Robert Kagan)

Women of Redeemer Wine, Women, and the Word Event with Carrie Headington: Thursday, January 9, 6-8 p.m., Gillespie Hall (Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.)

Redeemer Young Professionals Wine & Cheese Gathering: Saturday, January 11, 4-6 p.m., home of Ian McGowan

Race Back to Sunday School: Sunday, January 12, 10 a.m., Gillespie Hall

Coffee Talk Women's Book Group: Monday, January 13, 9:30 a.m., Gillespie Hall (*Murder of Mr. Wickam* by Claudia Gray)

Just Do It: Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29, 6-7 p.m., Gillespie Hall (Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.)

Adult Christian Formation Class — Depression: Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Goewey Hall

Youth Confirmation Class: Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29, 7-8 p.m., Babcock Youth Lounge

Redeemer Forum — Sharing Our Faith Talk: Sunday, January 19, 10:10-10:40 a.m., Goewey Hall

Evensong: Sunday, January 19, 5:15-6 p.m., Church

Youth Group Gathering — Courtyard Cookout: Sunday, January 19, 6-7:30 p.m., Courtyard

Vestry Meeting: Monday, January 20, 6 p.m., Goewey Hall

Alpha Program: Thursdays, January 23 and 30, 6-8 p.m., Gillespie Hall (Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.)

Movie on the Lawn: Friday, January 24, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Courtyard (Sign up at RedeemerSarasota.org/Register.)

Annual Parish Meeting: Sunday, January 26, 9:30-11 a.m., Church

Bagels and Bathrobes for Children and Youth: Sunday, January 26, 9:30-11 a.m., Gillespie Hall

Night Shift Women's Book Club: Monday, January 27, 6:30-8 p.m., Room 220 (*Moonflower Murders* by Anthony Horowitz and *The Weed That Strings the Hangman's Bag* by Alan Bradley)

St. Stephen's Episcopal School Introduction: Tuesday, January 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Goewey Hall



First Fridays on Palm Avenue

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

RedeemerSarasota.org | 941-955-4263

Making new Christians and making all Christians new



Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
Contemporary Mass*

A service with contemporary music

Sunday at 7:30 a.m.
Rite One Mass

A service without music for early risers

Sunday at 9 a.m.
Rite Two Choral Mass*
A service for all ages with
traditional music
(Children's Chapel during mass)

Sunday at 11 a.m.
Rite One Choral Mass*
A service with traditional music

Sunday at 1 p.m.
Rite Two Mass*
A service in Spanish with
contemporary music

*in person and livestreamed

Nursery care at the 9 and 11 a.m. masses.

— ANNUAL PARISH MEETING —

Sunday, January 26, after the 8:45 a.m. service

Election of four Vestry members | Updates on the state of the parish

*Please note the early start time for the 9 a.m. mass.
The meeting will start after the 8:45 a.m. service ends.*

Daily Mass: Monday-Saturday at 10 a.m.
Morning Prayer: Monday-Saturday at 9 a.m.
Evening Prayer: Monday-Friday at 5:15 p.m.