

New Beginnings

Our lives are full of opportunities to make new beginnings; some are episodic while others are cyclical. In our time together so far we have experienced two of the former, and are approaching two of the latter.

Beginning my service as rector of Otey in August was an episode of new beginning marked by familiarization. I needed to learn people's names and start to learn something about them as people, including aspects of Otey's ministry they've been involved in. I needed to learn how Sewanee has changed since I went to seminary here, and to be reminded of what things have stayed the same. I needed to start building relationships with people in the Diocese of Tennessee, the University of the South, and the Sewanee area community. And Otey parishioners needed to start getting to know me in greater depth as we pray, learn, serve, and care together.

The service of my institution as rector in November was an episode of new beginning marked by celebration of the relationship we have undertaken. I have come into an Otey Parish that already was actively following Jesus Christ in a multitude of ways. Many of those ways were recognized in the presentation of different symbols of ministry during the course of the service. Otey's role in the wider community was reflected by the participation of those beyond our regular worshipping congregation with whom we collaborate in God's work.

The holy season of Advent marks a cyclical beginning that is the start of a new church year. We prepare for the coming of Christ--both in glorious majesty at the end of the age, and as a baby born under the humblest of circumstances. I think it is no accident that the church year renews at the time (in the Northern Hemisphere) when daylight is at its scarcest, decreasing every day. Renewal in Christ does not depend on external circumstances, but can take place just as much when we are surrounded by growing darkness as in the presence of brightness and light.

Our second cyclical beginning together will be the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, December 6, at 9:30am, followed by a single service of worship at 11:00am. At the meeting we will reflect together on God's work in the year that has passed and on God's call for the year to come. You will have the opportunity to elect candidates to serve on the Vestry, not so that some will win and others will lose, but to discern how to distribute parish responsibilities for the particular work ahead.

Beginning a rectorate and celebrating that new ministry come only when there is a change in clergy, while Advent and the Annual Parish Meeting recur each year. All of these offer us the chance not only to mark new beginnings, but also to undertake new beginnings—to make the choices that will conform our

lives—individually and as a parish--more and more closely to Christ. I find markers of new beginning of great help in making those choices, and invite you to explore what new beginnings God may be calling you to undertake.

TAKE NOTE

CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAYS, 10 AM Lectionary class each Sunday reviews that Sunday's Gospel lesson

- ✓ Dec.. 13 Thomas Cranmer and the English Liturgy", James Turrell
- ✓Dec. 20 "William Perkins and the Making of a Protestant England", Brown Patterson

MONTHLY EVENTS

- ✓ Dec. 16 Otey Notes submissions due, 3pm
- ✓ Dec. 17 Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ Dec. 6 Annual Parish Meeting, 9:30 am Only one service at 11 am
- ✓ Dec. 20 Otey's Christmas Luncheon, noon
- ✓ Dec. 21 Greening of the Church, 9 am
 - ✓ December 1st, 8th, and 15th, 5:15 pm, and December 21st, 9:00 am

Advent Reflections, (see page 9 for details)

SPECIAL SERVICES

- ✓Dec. 24 Creche Service, 4:30 pm
- ✓Dec, 24 Musical Prelude followed by Holy Eucharist, 10:30 pm
- ✓ Dec. 25 Christmas Day Service, 10:00 am

OFFICE CLOSURES

DEC. 24 AND 25

Rob Lamborn

Annual Parish Meeting, December 6, 9:30 A.M.

Our Annual Parish Meeting is Sunday, December 6 at 9:30 a.m. During the meeting we will be electing our three new vestry members to serve three-year terms beginning January 2016.

Vestry Election Process

All communicants in good standing who are at least 16 years of age are eligible to vote. At least 10 per cent of the total members so classified must be present in order for the election to count.

We will elect three vestry members to serve threeyear terms beginning in January 2016 and expiring in December 2018.

Nominations from the floor will be requested and accepted. If there are nominations from the floor, ballots with names of nominees and blank spaces for write-ins will be passed out to members eligible to vote. Each ballot must have no more than three names marked.

The winning candidates will be the three candidates who receive the most votes. A majority of the votes cast is not required for election.

In the case of a tie, another vote will be held. In that case we will distribute slips of paper and voters can write the name of the candidate they prefer on the paper.

There will only be an 11 AM service on Sunday, Dec. 6.

OUR VESTRY NOMINEES' BIOGRAPHIES



SHELLEY CAMMACK—Otey is like family to me. In no other congregation have I ever felt the love and inclusion as in this place. I have learned much from the many ways I have been asked to participate on projects and committees, and with each experience have been enriched and blessed. I have learned about planning and successfully executing Christian education from the best on CFC; I have learned how hard it is to keep a parish going with little

to no budget by helping Parish Life; I understand the importance of Otey Meals Ministry by preparing and delivering food to those in need; I realize the importance of perfection and duty from pressing linens and baking bread for Altar Guild; and I have valuably learned about calling a new rector with agreement and consensus by being on the most recent Search Committee. Finally, I am learning the hurdles a family faces by moving several hundred miles, literally and figuratively, into our community through my co-leadership of the Welcome Committee. I would be happy, blessed and proud to serve on your vestry if I am so called.

I have buried my parents and a daughter; my 24-year-old nephew cannot communicate because of severe Down's Syndrome; I have had an Angelina Jolie-Style double mastectomy for stage zero breast cancer; and my only sibling has Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and will be on daily oral chemotherapy for the rest of his life. He is 59. I have been through divorce, remarriage, family blending and

adoption. My faith has carried me through all of these.

I have a BA '81 and an MBA '88 from Vanderbilt where, among other things, I studied English Literature, French, Art History, Finance and Accounting. I am married to Ward Cammack and have four daughters ages 14, 20, 22, 27 and one Angel.

Shelley Cammack





TIM GRAHAM—My wife Janet, our children, Laura Beth and David, and I came to Sewanee in 1995 when I became Director of Development at St. Andrew's-Sewanee School. For several years, we attended and were active at St. James, Midway, where I was a member of the Vestry. Christ Church, South Pittsburg, was our church home until about six years ago, when we started attending Otey Parish. Since coming to

Otey, I have served on the Communications Committee of the recent Capital Campaign and as a member of the Rector Search Committee.

The Otey Parish family is central to my spiritual life. Like all families, our congregation experiences change, and we hope, growth. The ways we respond to the challenges of change reflect our trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit and each other. I firmly believe that personal faith is grounded in personal relationships. Our response to the commandment to love one another is lived out in our willingness to embrace and grow in the family of Otey Parish.

Otey is central to the well-being of Sewanee. A strong, vibrant and welcoming Otey Parish is vital to the fabric of our community in ways that are easy to take for granted. We must work together to provide a place that welcomes those in search of a church family.

Tim Graham





SUSAN HOLMES-I am a life-long Episcopalian and a member of Otey Memorial Parish since 1996. I have served two terms on the Otey vestry (1997-2000; 2003-2006). As a member of the vestry I served as junior (1998) and senior warden (1999). I currently serve as a lay eucharistic visitor, chalice bearer, lay reader, and member of the stewardship committee. I am an active member of The Society of the Companions of the Ho-

ly Cross, an organization of Anglican women devoted to social justice, simplicity of life, intercessory prayer and thanksgiving.

After twenty-five years as a development professional, serving the University of the South, Vanderbilt University, Chattanooga State and Episcopal Relief & Development, I

VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUED

exercise a ministry of hospitality as an active realtor with University Realty and providing accommodations to guests in the historic campus home I share with my husband, Greg Maynard.

I am an active community volunteer having served on the board of the Sewanee Civic Association, the Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace, Chattanooga United Way Center for Nonprofits, the Tennessee Association of Dance, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Center for Health Services, and others.

I have a Masters Degree in Leadership in Organizations from Peabody College, Vanderbilt University and BA Religion (1976) from the University of the South. I have done extensive graduate work in Public Administration, Art History and Ecology and enjoys putting this background to use in my professional, recreational and spiritual life.

My husband, Greg Maynard teaches History, Economics, coaches the varsity rowing team and serves as a dorm parent at the Baylor School. Our son, Robert Maynard, grew up in Sewanee and now lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan where he is a graduate student working toward an MFA in Dance.

Susan Holmes





BARBARA PRUNTY-I am what I think is called a "long timer" (precariously close to old timer). But it means that I got to make Bourbon Balls with Millie Dodd back in the day and am currently teaching in the Godly Play Program. I've read morning prayer on Wednesdays ever since Jack Gessell asked if I would like to take his place but I am a relatively new Lay Eucharistic Minister. I am on The Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Altar Guild. As with so many of the the church's ministries, I have gotten much more from what I've done than

what I've given. I'm glad to be a part of this exciting time at Otey Parish.

Barbara Prunty





RACHEL SUAREZ—The Mission Statement of our church family is "To worship God; To proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ; To serve the world for which Christ died; To educate and nurture our community; To welcome all." Such a vision is needed in today's world and in our community. We have new opportunity under the leadership of our new Presiding Bishop and our Rector Rob to further live into this Mission.

Mickey and I have been members of Otey Parish for eight years. During that time I have served as an usher,

chalice bearer, Parish Life Committee member, CAC Board Member, Clerk of the Vestry, Jr. Warden and Sr. Warden. I have also been ministered to by the participants of the Otey Women's Bible Study Group after our daughter Susan died. At the time we were new to the community, and this loving group of women welcomed me and supported me through a difficult time. All of us have known the joy of giving and receiving in our church community and through outreach. Mickey and I are thankful for our church family and are willing to serve in ways, such as the Vestry, that will further our Mission.

Before retirement I practiced law for 30 years in Houston, Texas, first in private practice and then at Continental Airlines in various positions, including Vice President-Legal, and the Houston Airport System as Sr. Assistant City Attorney.

Rachel Suarez





PETE TRENCHI- the grandson of Italian immigrants and of a Southern Baptist minister, descended from both the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, grew up Episcopal in Tullahoma, Tennessee, because, what else can you do with that beginning? After several undergraduate years at Sewanee wishing there was a degree in ecology and a brief stint as a cook and a bus mechanic, I graduated from UT Knoxville

with a BS in Forestry (applied ecology, if you will) and went straight to Auburn to get a Masters in Forest Economics. After two years with International Paper, I went with the US Forest Service to build elaborate computer models to examine future forest conditions, sell and cut timber, fight forest fires and pine beetles, develop and coordinate GIS computer based mapping, act as webmaster and work with a nationally recognized ecosystem research team. Simultaneously, I was also EYC youth sponsor for a portion of that time, and ran for political office (which got me involved in a multitude of community volunteer projects, including being president of the local International Visitors program). Since there was still some free time, I also worked as a cook, bouncer and waiter in a variety of local restaurants and bars. This allowed me to finance my hobby of overhauling antique cars. When things got dull, I went to law school at night and became an attorney shortly after the turn of the century. Due to the hot summers in Arkansas, I moved to Sewanee and designed and built (with some competent help) my off-the-grid house while starting a law practice in Juvenile Law. Except for getting an MFA in English and working with a variety of local organizations, I have calmed considerably since my move. So, that's what you will get, the calm voice of experience.

Pete Trenchi

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

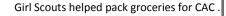
God of the hungry, make us hunger and thirst for the right til our thirst for justice has been satisfied and hunger has gone from the earth.

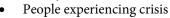
This prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book is always a reminder. Yes, hunger does exist right here in Sewanee and CAC does all that we can to change what we can, so

those in need are provided with good nutritious food and assistance.

Just who are those we serve?

- Widows
- Single parents
- Senior adults on fixed incomes
- Unemployed
- Working poor
- Individuals on disability





CAC is open every day from 9:00-11:00 and more importantly we are open to listening to the stories and sharing in the lives of those in need. Just who are they? Check the list

Looking for a gift for your friends or family who have

everything? How about a gift in their honor to CAC,. It truly is the gift that keeps on giving!





CAC had a great send off at the Thanksgiving Meal for our faithful volunteer Henry Chase, who with his wife Bev will move to North Carolina. In honor of Henry's generosity in providing paper products to CAC clients, a "mountain" of toilet paper was donated by grateful friends. It became known as Mt. Henry.

HENRY AND BEV CHASE

Otey Parish has lost some good friends and very generous volunteers. Beverly and Henry Chase are moving to a retirement community in North Carolina. They began attending Otey in 1999 while they lived in Huntsville, coming to Clifftops on weekends. (Every Sunday they preferred sitting on the left side of the church, about 4 pews back, as recently as last Sunday.) They finally moved up to the Mountain in 1999, and by then their volunteerism had been well established

Both Henry and Bev were drawn to CAC, and they spent a lot of their volunteer time there. Henry served on the CAC board as the treasurer. He was pleased to recall that at one time he was asked to be in charge of supervising the bagging of the weekly groceries, a real honor for him! When he learned that paper products could not be purchased with food stamps, Henry began providing CAC with paper towels and toilet paper. Once a month Henry would make a paper product run to Wal-Mart and stock the shelves with these necessities.

Bev was trained as a Stephen Minister; both of them served as chalice bearers; both of them served on the Altar Guild; Henry was a lay reader, and served the church at one time as the assistant treasurer. "I just had to sign checks when the treasurer wasn't in town," he says modestly. They headed a major committee during the Capital Campaign when the church was updated. In everything they did it was clear that their heart was in their work. They were truly committed.

In addition, they donated to Otey one of the beautiful wooden flower stands next to the retable. Folks at Home has also been the recipient of their generosity. Once a week for years they have volunteered to drive someone to Jasper for an appointment.

Bev and Henry met in Colorado over 50 years ago while Henry was in the Army and Bev was teaching school. She was from Pennsylvania, he was from Alabama, but there was no dividing line between the north and the south. They have been married over 50 years and have three

daughters and several grandchildren. Their new home is closer to their children.

Their friendly smiles and greetings are an additional benefit to the hard work and many hours they have put in as Otey members. We are a far better church because of the generosity of these committed Christians. Our tribute to them is to thank them for their important work, and to follow in their footsteps. Go ahead! Volunteer! Let Frieda know of your interests and she can put you in touch with the right person.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the Chases. They can be contacted at 3000 Galloway Ridge, Apt. B-201, Pittsboro, NC 27312

Installation, The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, November, 2015





CHRISTIAN FORMATION

FIVE ANGLICAN MARKS OF MISSION

Dear parents of children through 5th grade,

The children of Otey have their part to play! As in years past, we will have the children bring in the creche, piece by piece, during the early service on Christmas Eve. That service will be at 4:30 pm and we'd ask participating children to meet in St. Mark's Hall 30 minutes before for organizing.

And also as is tradition, the children will present the Epiphany Pageant! Watch for more information in the weeks to come, but mark your calendars for the evening of Jan. 10, 2016.

Thank you!

Tthe Christian Formation Committee



SEWANEE CHILDREN'S CENTER

Father Rob gave the three- four- and five-year olds a tour of the church on November 5. He talked about the stained glass windows and their stories, played the organ for the children and everyone got to ring the bell. Father Rob will extend the same courtesy to the other classes in the next few months.



With the installation of The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, our 27th Presiding Bishop on Nov. 1, our former Presiding Bishop The Most Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori gave a statement that included a reference to the **Five Anglican Marks of Mission**. Don't know what these are?

The Mission of the Church Is the Mission of Christ
To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
To teach, baptize and nurture new believers

To respond to human need by loving service

To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

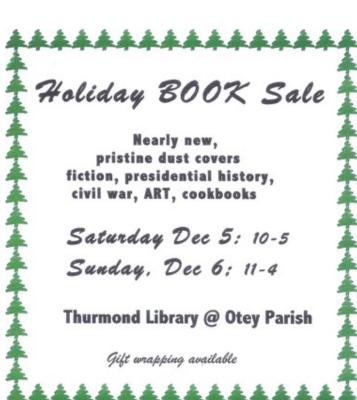
There has been mention of the ordination to the priest-hood in December for two *Transitional Deacons* in our diocese - The Rev. Jason Terhune and The Rev. Joe Woodfin. What is a Transitional Deacon? The Transitional Diaconate is for deacons planning on becoming priests. It is for a minimum of six months in length during which the deacon gains some practical experience under the guidance of a priest.

As we look toward our Annual Parish Meeting on December 6, one important item of business will be the election of three people to fill the expiring terms on the Vestry. So what is a Vestry?

A Vestry consists of the rector, wardens (Sr. and Jr. - more on that at a later time) and vestry members of a parish. The wardens and vestry are the official representatives of the parish in the absence of a rector. The wardens have special roles and need the firm support of their vestry colleagues.

Dorothy Gates





PASTORAL CARE ANGEL TREE

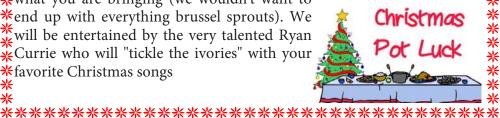
As a way to care for those who cannot always attend services or need extra care from our church community, the Parish Life and the Pastoral Care Committees would like to deliver Christmas trays of gifts. These were received with much appreciation last year. In order to help fill the trays with items, there is an Angel Tree set up in St. Mark's Parish Hall/ Please take one ornament. and it will indicate what you can donate. Then on Saturday morning, Dec. 12th, parish members are invited to come put the Christmas trays together for delivery.

OTEY'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, DECEMBER 20

The annual Christmas dinner for the Parish will be held on the 20th stof December 2015, following the 11:00 service.

Come one, come all!! Bring your family, friends, and visiting ∦guests. Parish Life will provide the meat, the rolls, the wine, the very fa-∦ mous Taylor Punch, and coffee. Please bring your family favorite be it sweet or tart Sign up sheets will be up next week for you to let us know 🛣

*what you are bringing (we wouldn't want to rend up with everything brussel sprouts). We will be entertained by the very talented Ryan Currie who will "tickle the ivories" with your *favorite Christmas songs



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Poinsettias Memorials

Anyone wishing to donate memorial/ thanksgiving poinsettias for our Christmas altar flowers please contact Diane Jones djones.sewanee@gmail.com or 615- 594-4805 by December 18. The cost is \$40.00.

Names will be listed in separate insert during the Christmas Eve and Christmas services.



CHRISTMAS

DIOCESAN NEWS

<u>Winterfest</u> is a Tennessee Episcopal Youth Retreat which provides a welcoming and safe space for high school students (grades 9th - 12th) to grow in their relationship with God and Christ through creative worship, service, music, love, friendship and understanding. This four-day program includes group discussions, daily worship, praising God through dance and song, and skits. The theme for the retreat is specifically designed to help kids explore their faith fearlessly, ask questions and be themselves.. Go to https://t.e2ma.net/click/uxnun/aye8tsb/aakg9e to learn more about it and the registration.

Register Now for the 184th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee-The 184th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee will be hosted by St. George's Church, Nashville, on January 22-23, 2016. You may go to https://t.e2ma.net/click/uxnun/aye8tsb/etpg9e to register for the Convention. Be sure to check the website often as we will make frequent updates to information regarding elections and other activities to take place at the annual event.

Advent Prayers for families

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ.

He is Emmanuel, the hope of all peoples;

He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us;

He is the Saviour of every nation.

O God, let your blessing come upon our family gathered here before you.

If you have candles and/or a wreath....

Bless us (+) and our advent wreath (+) [light candle(s)]

May the light that shines forth from them illumine our way as we journey towards Christmas;

may the light that shines forth from them illumine our lives as we wait in hope for the birth of the Christ-child.

We ask this through Christ who is the Light of the World. Amen.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Joy to the World - During Advent, take some time to find peace and joy by prayerfully reading the words of the carols we cherish. How might we allow these familiar Advent and Christmas hymns create in us a quiet space to invite Christ's presence amid the celebration of this season?

Meet with other parishioners in the evening from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1st, 8th, and 15th, and Monday morning, Dec. 21 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Come share your faith, hopes and memories.

Each participant will receive a Joy to the World pamphlet from Forward Movement. We will take time to listen a hymn at the end of each meeting. Meetings will be in the St. Paul's on the Mountain Chapel.in Claiborne House. Facilitator, Carol Sampson, M.A. Theology, volunteer chaplain.

Carol Sampson

Otey Memorial Parish

The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee

The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min., Rector

oteyparishrector@gmail.com

The Rev. Elizabeth Carpenter CAC Director

(931) 598-5927

cacoteyparish@gmail.com

Frieda Hawkins Gipson Parish Administrator, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, Calendar Coordinator oteyparish@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Telephone and Fax

(931) 598-5926

(931) 598-9537 (F)

Website

www.oteyparish.org

STAFF

Diane Fielding, Financial Adm. Assistant oteyfinance@gmail.com, (931) 598-5997
Diane's office hours—Tuesdays 2:30p-3:30p and by appt.

Neil Patterson, Youth Ministry fotmotey@gmail.com Kathy Sturgis, Organist musicotey@gmail.com

VESTRY and Assignments

Steve Ford, Senior Warden, '16 Doug Seiters, Junior Warden '15, Buildings & Grounds

Alexander Bruce, '15, Christian Formation

Carol Sampson, '15, Pastoral Care

Larry Barker, '16, CAC

Laura Willis, '16, Stewardship

Pamela Byerly, '17, Administration, Univ. Coord.

Dorothy Gates, '17, Diocesan Liaison

Ken Taylor, '17, Parish Life

Beth Wiley, Treasurer

Ann Aitken, Clerk

PRAYER LIST

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING AND THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED OUR PRAYERS: Doris Carlisle, Nancy Chase, Stuart Cook, Finnegan Davis, Jackie Faircloth, Mary Frances Gallagher, Bob Hughes, Patrick Irwin, Angela Jacobs, Bob Keele, Howell Lynch, Ellon Meeks, Francis Ridpath, Almeda Roberson, Henry Schneider, Mary Sears, Clifford Tomes, Kathy, Cameron, Suzanne

Inclement Weather Policy

It will be Otey Parish's policy to follow the Franklin County School systems closures and delays for inclement weather. If Franklin County schools are closed, Otey Parish will be closed. The Community Action Committee will also be going by this policy. The Sewanee Children's Center will decide and announce its own cancellations.

Contribution Statements

You will be able to pick up your contribution statement at our Annual Parish Meeting, December 6. This statement will let you know where you stand on 2015's pledge as of November 30.

Remember, all donations for 2015 tax purposes must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31, 2015. If you have questions about your pledge, contact Diane Fielding, Financial Administrator, at oteyfinance@gmail.com.

Don't Forget!

The deadline for submissions for the January 2016 issue of *Otey Notes* is:

3pm Wednesday,
December 16

Email submissions to: oteyparish@gmail.com

December



1-Dec Dawn Briggle1-Dec Shelley Cammack1-Dec Susan Holmes

2-Dec Sarah Ward3-Dec Jane Longhurst

6-Dec Eric Naylor

6-Dec Frank Lankewicz

6-Dec Rick Ball

6-Dec John Grammer

7-Dec Zell J. Hoole

8-Dec Paul Schutz

11-Dec Laurie Ramsey

13-Dec Sara Nally

13-Dec Libby Neubauer

14-Dec Carolyn Fitz

15-Dec Rachel Lynch

15-Dec Megan Roberts

18-Dec Kathy Solomon

18-Dec Ramona Rose-Crossley

23-Dec Carol Sampson

24-Dec Robert Black

24-Dec Addison Willis

25-Dec Doug Williams

25-Dec Bill Davis

26-Dec Nick Evans

29-Dec Terri Williams

29-Dec Mary Gatta

30-Dec Luwin Lewis

30-Dec Matthew Mollica

31-Dec Annwn Myers