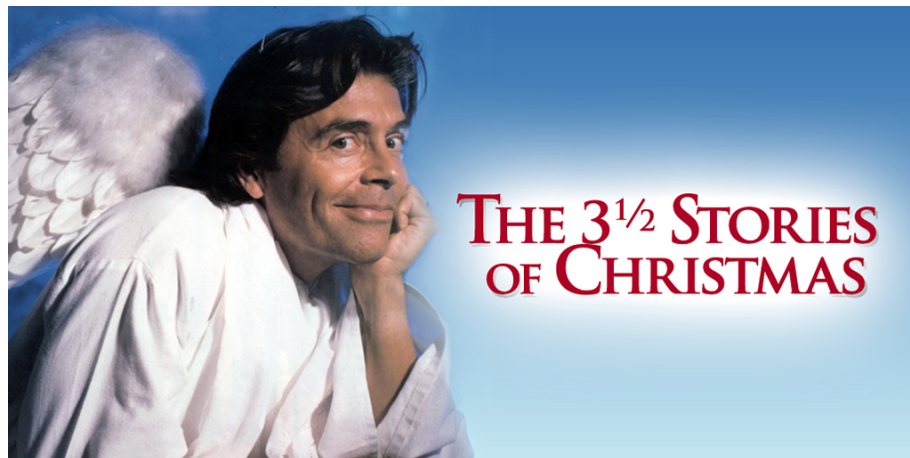


Bravo! The 3 1/2 Stories of Christmas was a great success.

“Hark The Herald Angels Sing”...Hark! On Friday, December 2, 2011 the AIT (that *would be...angel in training...* with very tiny wings) visited our Saint



Andrew Parish Community who gathered in church for the “3 1/2 Stories of CHRISTMAS!” The angel plunged into our midst at the stroke of 7:06 pm, and engaged the community in the Great Story of Faith from Creation until the very night of December 2, 2011.

The Angel showed us the dawn of creation and the darkness of the abyss. He brought to life a gentle and young Mary, a wise and endearing Joseph, Shepherds from all over the church who gathered in the center aisle and found the bright round “moon star”, 2 sweet fluttering, *littlest angels*, three very groovy wise guys, (that *would be wise men*), and one ornery King Herod who refused, *really refused* to die...but eventually, *eventually*, he did! (...*there were belly laughs galore*) Who ever accused angels of not having humor?

“Angels We Have Heard on High,” was right in our midst! The baby King, “Away in A Manger”, (*a teeny, tiny, little baby it seemed,*) was carefully swooped away to Egypt by His Mom and Dad (*who were not sure who was actually carrying the baby*) when King Herod went into a hissy fit that he had competition with this new baby King!

Alas, “We Three Kings of Orient Are”; The Three Wise Guys, (*wise men*) boogied their way to King Herod and were directed to find the new baby King! You know the story; they found the newborn King, gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh and boogied their way away from King Herod. King Herod was in a rage, and the mean, ornery king Herod was no more.

The secret the angel searched for was found! Where? Right in our very lives! Here, at Saint Andrew, Jesus lives within us and through us and in all of creation! We are the continuing story! Yes, we are! Perhaps we helped the Angel get his big angel wings!

+++Many thanks to the Retreat Team of Saint Andrew, The members who worked all day to provide the amazing dessert reception with chocolate fountains and treats galore! The publicity, registration and ticket takers, the set up crew and those working the lights and fogger, the servers and cleanup crew, and our Pastor and the Friars for their support. And to Frank Runyeon our guest angel, and especially our very own parishioner; Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, little angels, wise guys (wise men) and ornery King Herod! And, Behold! Kudos’s to our “spunky” musician!

And to Jesus our King of Kings and our Amazing God, The Creator of all that is, we live in gratitude for our faith, our families and our parish community as we continue to live the Jesus story..... Joy to the World!