



A GLORIOUS HOLIDAY



Christmas Eve Service

Walt Lawrence & Stephen Lewis Center for Worship and the Arts
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
At Sunshine Cathedral
December 2022

Welcome!
From the Senior Minister

I fondly remember the Grimm Fairy Tale about the Cobbler and Elves. The short story, as I remember it, was about a poor cobbler who was about to go out of business. He worked hard, never cheated his customers, made a good product, but for some reason, his business was going under.

The cobbler had run out of money and only had enough materials to make one final pair of shoes. So, the cobbler laid out his materials and cut his pattern and left it overnight to finish his work in the morning; but when he came in to do his work, the shoes were already made. Additionally, they were flawless and someone came in, saw them, loved them and bought them. This gave the cobbler enough money to purchase material enough to make 2 pairs of shoes.

As he had done before, he prepared everything and left it all out to finish in the morning, but the next morning, the shoes were made, they were fabulous, they fetched a good price, and he was able to prepare for more work.

This went on for a while. The cobbler would lay out materials in the evening, come in the next morning to work but the work was already done and done very well.

The cobbler and his wife were discussing their lives one evening and marveled that someone was doing their work for them and had lifted them from poverty to wealth. They wanted to thank whoever it was, so they hid one night in the shop to see who it was that was making their shoes for them.

In two naked elves danced, happy and playful. With remarkable speed they made the shoes, laughing all the while, and when the work was done, they left. Mr. and Mrs. Cobbler were dumbfounded, but they immediately knew what they wanted to do for their benefactors. The poor souls had no clothes! They could certainly remedy that.

Mr. Cobbler made them shoes and Mrs. Cobbler made them each a suit of clothes, and they laid out their gifts for them on the table where the materials to make shoes were usually left.

The elves returned, as they had for many consecutive nights, but this time instead of finding work to do, they found gifts for them. They howled with delight, got dressed, danced away and never came back.

The cobbler did his best, even when doing so didn't seem to be rewarding.

The cobbler lived and worked honestly, even when life was difficult.

The cobbler appreciated the help that was getting him back on his feet.

The cobbler who had benefited from kindness wanted to show gratitude and appreciation.

The cobbler contributed to help others in need.

The moral of the story seems to be that we are blessed by doing our best, that gratitude brings more blessings, and that generosity can bring joy to giver and receiver alike.

Christmas is the holiday (Christian or commercial, depending on our personal experiences) where we are reminded to be our best, share our best, and to be grateful for the good that comes our way.

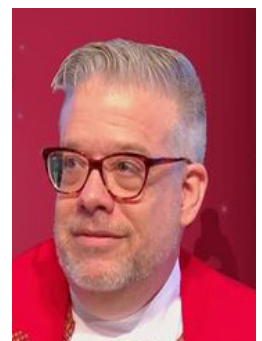
Kind souls (the angels and elves of our lives) are always giving us a kind word, a warm smile, a hand up, a bit of encouragement, solidarity in the work for justice for all...and when we appreciate their gifts and pay the blessings forward by caring for others, we are participating in a divine economy where joyful giving and grateful receiving contribute to peace and healing in the world.

May Life bless you richly.

May Life, through you, bless others richly.

May we all be happy and well this Christmas, and throughout the year to come.

Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins
Senior Minister



Thank You 2022 Christmas Angels

Host Angel

Phil Cordell - In Honor of an amazing & outstanding Circle of Friends.

Archangels

Dick Schwarz & Tom Massey

Gary Lane

Mark Messinger & Scott Schwab - In Honor & In Memory of Family and Friends, Past and Present.

Mark Nogal - In Honor of all my friends and chosen family at Sunshine Cathedral.

Peter Cinelli, MD - In Memory of Michael LiPuma.

Phillip & Sara Burns - In Honor of the Sunshine Cathedral Music Ministry.

Richard Childs & Raul Diaz - In Memory of Tim Myers.

Angels

Gary Grieve & Patrick McGeachen - In Memory of Barbara Grieve.

Rev Kevin Tisdol & Michael Mitchell - In Memory of our parents and our sisters.

Lawrence Gammons - In Memory of Carl Jennings.

Stephen Lewis - In Memory of Walt Lawrence and Carl Jennings.

Cherubim

B. Anthony Sliwinski - In Memory of Sliwinski & Jenreski families.

Brad Sterl & Tedd Davis- In Memory of our angel mothers, Matilda & Liz.

Cathy Tullo & Karen Dougherty - In Memory of Bill and Dorothy Dougherty and Frank Tullo.

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins & Rev Dr Robert Griffin - In Memory of Shawna Kennedy.

John Kent - In memory of my late husband Terrence Phillpott.

Michael Spatz - In Honor of Sunshine Cathedral congregation & ministries.

Ron Couture & Bob Easton

Steve McGehee

Seraphim

Rev Dr Anne Atwell & Amy Walker - In Honor of our mothers.

Bob Woodman - In Memory of Stan Ainsworth.

David & Andi Katon

Denise Warrick - In Memory of my parents, Lois & Bill Damm.

Deacon Ed Huckemyer - In Memory of Gladys "Ma" Ehrlich.

James Burke - In Honor of my husband Daniel.

Joe Osborne - In Honor of those who maintain their hope to achieve their goals.

Keith Muller & Stephen Plescia - In Honor of the courage of the people of Ukraine.

Marc Dickerman - In Memory of Leo Paralta.

Margie & Edie Baket - In Memory of our Angels. We miss you.

Mario Rios & Carl Shearer - In Honor of Sunshine Cathedral the family we choose.

Mary Cimini - In Honor of Barbara Ramcharitar and Sara Burns.

Melody Fiore - In Honor of my church family.

Michael Moore - In Memory of Wayne Bennet & Naomie Ells.

Mike Manning & Andre Caetano - In Honor of Adelia Araujo Caetano.

Phil McChesney & Joel Scinto

Rick Brown - In Memory of Mom, Dad, Nan & Aunt Kate.

Rick Killoran - In Memory of my husband Dave Keller.

Robert DeCamillo - In Memory of my loving partner Ken Sasser of 49 years.



Christmas Eve A Glorious Holiday

Service of Gathering

Welcome

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

Introit

Ave Maria

By Franz Shubert

Performed By Gabe Salazar



Christ Candle Lighting

7pm - Jade Fernandez & Valeska Sequeira Family

9pm - Mary Cimini



Please rise as you are able.

Sunshine Cathedral Affirmation

*Sunshine Cathedral is a different kind of church where
the past is past and the future has infinite possibilities.*

The Call to Worship

This is the night our faith becomes sight.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

A New Thought Christmas

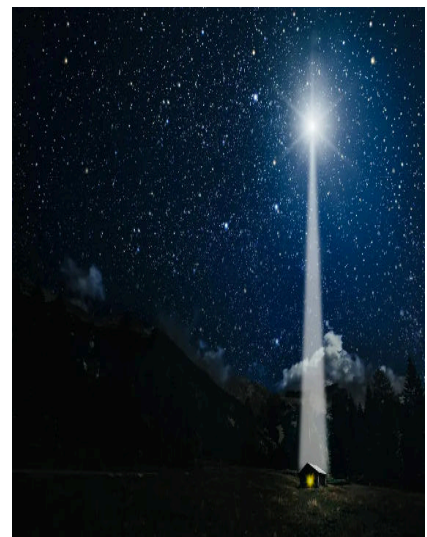
by Rev. David Alexander

The Christmas Season is a magical and special time for millions of people world-wide. We each have our unique version of storied memories of lights, food, music, sacred ritual and festive gatherings of friends and family. All seemingly gathered around a central birth narrative. Yet, this narrative too has its versions and unique interpretations through time.

Not even the Gospel writers themselves all agree on the particulars of the story. Further, many of the narrative elements seem to be borrowed from other, more ancient stories and traditions. Through it all something still calls to us, something mysterious and mystical, something profound yet simple enough for a child to comprehend. It calls to us to overcome fears and doubts, to keep watch over our thoughts and follow the illumined star of our intuition to the manger of our heart. The season calls to us to awaken and give birth to a higher ideal of ourselves and of humanity. It calls us to remember the Light Within and to share it with our world.

From the Holy Qur'an

"The angels said, 'O Mary, indeed God gives you good news of one whose name will be the Messiah Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honor in this world and in the Hereafter, and of those who are near to God. He will speak to the people in the cradle, and in old age, and he will be of the righteous...He will be a messenger to the Children of Israel (saying), 'Indeed I have come to you with a sign from your Lord. I make for you out of clay the likeness of a bird, then breathe into it, and it becomes a bird by the permission of God. And I heal the blind and the leper, and I bring the dead to life by the permission of God. And I inform you of what you eat and what you store in your houses. Surely, there is a sign for you in that, if you are believers...Indeed, God is my Lord and your Lord, so worship God. This is the straight path.'"



Paradox

by G.K. Chesterton

Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home.

A Christmas Reflection

by Bart Ehrman (New Testament scholar)

One of the things I haven't lost... is my love of Christmas... I now know that the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel of Matthew is very different from the story in the Gospel of Luke, that their accounts are not simply differently nuanced, but factually at odds... But they are beautiful stories. Angelic visitors, heavenly inspired dreams, miraculous works... There are shepherds and wise men and wicked kings and murdering soldiers and near escapes; tragedy and salvation.

The stories live on, with or without my faith in them as history. And the meaning of the stories continues to touch me. This is a season of giving... It is a season of brightness, of music, of reflection, a season of winter and snow and Christmas trees with lights to be observed with rapt contemplation.

Our True Home at Christmas

by Thich Nhat Hanh

Jesus, as soon as he was born, had to be on the run right away and to be a refugee, a runaway without a home. When he grew up and became a young man, it was the same; he was still a wanderer with no real home to return to. In one of his discourses, he protested that even the birds have their nests to return to... but [he had] no place to lay his head, no place to call home.

Siddhartha, as an adult, found himself in a similar situation. He was born into a royal family that was wealthy and privileged... He had a bright future ahead of him; destined to be [a] king... But still, he did not feel comfortable even with all this. He did not feel at home. He was not at peace. Therefore, one day, he decided to leave... in search of inner peace.

For our home to be true, there needs to be love, warmth, and fulfillment.

In the end, Jesus found his true home in his heart. He found the light in his heart. He taught his disciples that they too have their own light and he taught them to bring that light out for others to see.

This Christmas... remember that your 'True Home' is not found outside yourself, but it is right in your own heart... We do not need to travel far to arrive at our true home. If we know how to generate the energy of mindfulness and concentration, then with each breath, with each step, we arrive at our true home. Our true home is not a place far removed from us in space and time. It is not something that we can buy. Our true home is present right in the here and now; if only we know how to return and to be truly present to it.

Service of Praise

Crucifer

Rev Renwick Bell - 7pm

Deacon Lydya Chapman - 9pm

Processional Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and with your captive children dwell. Give comfort to all exiles here, and to the aching heart bid cheer.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come within as Love to dwell.

O come, you Splendor very bright, as joy that never yields to might. O come, and turn all hearts to peace, that greed and war at last shall cease.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come within as Truth to dwell.

O come, you Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by our presence here. And dawn in every broken soul as vision that can see the whole.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come within as Light to dwell.

O come, you Wisdom, from on high, from depths that hide within a sigh, to temper knowledge with our care, to render every act a prayer.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come within as Hope to dwell.

Opening Prayer

Henri Nouwen, adapted
Rev Dr Anne Atwell

Lord Jesus,
Send your holy Spirit upon our preparations for
Christmas.
We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to
hear your voice each day,
We who tend to be anxious over many things look
forward to rediscovering the Christ within us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the
complete joy of your kin-dom.
We whose hearts are sometimes heavy seek the joy of
your message.
We are your people; we wish for our light to shine as
yours so brilliantly did.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"
Amen.



Sung Response

Amen

*Amen. Amen. Amen, amen. amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen, amen. amen.*

Please be seated.



About Sunshine Cathedral

THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL AFFIRMATION

Sunshine Cathedral is a different kind of church where the past is past and the future has infinite possibilities!

THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL PRAYER OF PURPOSE

May we follow Jesus, our great example, and thus love and serve others, seek justice, live in awareness of God's omnipresence, and affirm the sacred value of all people. Amen.

SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES

1. There is an omnipresent Life that we call "God" and we are all a part of (and never apart from) It.
2. Since we are each a part of and are expressions of divine Life, all people have sacred value.
3. Habitual thoughts and attitudes influence our experience of life.
4. A miracle is a change of perception from fear to love and miracles are always possible.
5. Prayer is conscious unity (comm-union) with God and can offer peace, hope, and joy.

THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL MISSION

To rescue religion from irrelevance, practice positive thinking, be justice workers, build community, value diversity, and help people experience peace, hope, and joy in their lives.

SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL VALUES

Inclusion. Compassion. Spiritual Transformation. Social Action.

THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL MESSAGE

All people have sacred value.

God is omnipresent Love.

Rooted in the Christian tradition and the Gay Rights Movement, we are an inclusive church for ALL kinds of people.

THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Mother-Father God, we affirm blessings for all who are on the Cathedral's prayer list and for all who are on our hearts. We trust you to lead, guide, and direct each of us in the ways of happiness, well-being, and right action. We pray for those who hold authority in the nations of the world that they may be guided by wisdom and motivated by a love of justice and peace. We pray for our departed loved ones, (+) let light perpetual shine upon them. And with people all over the world we pray, "May peace prevail on earth!"

SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(by Durrell Watkins, based on the tenets of the Apostles Creed)

I believe in God, the Good, and in the message and mission of God's anointed prophet, Jesus the Wayshower, who was born of Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was executed for empowering the powerless and restoring the dignity of the marginalized, and yet he lives in our hearts and ministry. I believe in the omnipresent power of divine Love, in the Blessed Community, in the sacred value of all people, and in life without end. Amen.

SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL SACRAMENTS & RITES

Hospitality (Eucharist)
Belonging (Baptism)
Sharing (Tithing)
Matrimony
Responsibility (Confirmation)
Ordination
Healing

Sacraments and Sacramental Rites are outward signs of inward grace. They symbolize a Love that is with and within us. They help us focus on the one Power, the one Presence in the Universe: God, the Good. These symbolic reminders of our enormous potential and sacred valued are part of the worship experience of the Sunshine Cathedral.

ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF HOSPITALITY
(HOLY COMMUNION)

We ritualistically share unleavened bread and non-alcoholic grape juice to symbolize our unity with our Source and with one another. The Table is open. Regardless of belief or religious affiliation, everyone is welcome to participate in the symbolic Feast.

THE SACRAMENT OF BELONGING (BAPTISM)

We consider anyone "baptized" who chooses to be a part of the Sunshine Cathedral community. Everyone who calls Sunshine Cathedral their spiritual home is immersed in our love and we know that all people are immersed in the presence of God. If someone wants to ritualistically celebrate that Truth for himself/herself or for his/her child, we are happy to perform the ritual of water baptism, but no such ritual is required to be a full member of our faith community.

WHAT YOU'LL HEAR AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL
~ We teach the omnipresence of God and the sacred value of all people.

~ We affirm that peace and social justice are spiritual goals.

~ We have found that optimism, gratitude, and generosity are spiritual tools that enrich and empower one's life.

~ We encourage prayer, positive thinking, and faithful worship.

~ We present a social gospel; that is, we find in the teachings of Jesus a call to affirm the dignity of all people, to be mindful of those who have been marginalized in society, to model inclusivity, and to care for the most vulnerable among us - this gospel call to justice for all includes an intentional affirmation and celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

PRAYERS & AFFIRMATIONS
USED AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL

May peace prevail on earth! (Masahisa Goi)

This is the day our God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118)

There is Good for me and I ought to have it!
(Emma Curtis Hopkins)

I am God's miracle and not God's mistake.
(Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins)

There's not a spot where God is not.
(New Thought aphorism)

Day by day, in every way, I am getting better and better. (Emile Coue)

All shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. (Julian of Norwich)

THE SAMARITAN INSTITUTE
AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL

TSI is the religious education arm of Sunshine Cathedral. TSI is approved by the State of Florida to grant religious degrees and is approved by the Divine Science Federation International as a New Thought ministerial training school. TSI also trains Sunshine Cathedral prayer chaplains and deacons. Courses are offered on campus and via self-paced home study courses. Course fees are very low and the personal enrichment that comes from theological study is very high! Contact Rev. Kevin Tidol at Kevin@SunshineCathedral.org for more information.

Service of Proclamation

King John's Christmas by A. A. Milne

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

King John was not a good man —

He had his little ways.

And sometimes no one spoke to him

For days and days and days.

And men who came across him,

When walking in the town,

Gave him a supercilious stare,

Or passed with noses in the air —

And bad King John stood dumbly there,

Blushing beneath his crown.

King John was not a good man,

And no good friends had he.

He stayed in every afternoon...

But no one came to tea.

And, round about December,

The cards upon his shelf

Which wished him lots of Christmas cheer,

And fortune in the coming year,

Were never from his near and dear,

But only from himself.

King John was not a good man,

Yet had his hopes and fears.

They'd given him no present now

For years and years and years.

But every year at Christmas,

While minstrels stood about,

Collecting tribute from the young

For all the songs they might have sung,

He stole away upstairs and hung

A hopeful stocking out.

King John was not a good man,

He lived his life aloof;

Alone he thought a message out

While climbing up the roof.

He wrote it down and propped it
Against the chimney stack:
'TO ALL AND SUNDRY – NEAR AND FAR –
F. Christmas in particular.'

And signed it not 'Johannes R.'
But very humbly, 'Jack.'

'I want some crackers,
And I want some candy;
I think a box of chocolates
Would come in handy;
I don't mind oranges,
I do like nuts!
And I SHOULD like a pocket-knife
That really cuts.
And, oh! Father Christmas, if you love me at all,
Bring me a big, red, india-rubber ball!'

King John was not a good man —
He wrote this message out,
And gat him to this room again,
Descending by the spout.
And all that night he lay there,
A prey to hopes and fears.
'I think that's him a-coming now!'
(Anxiety bedewed his brow.)
'He'll bring one present, anyhow —
The first I had for years.'

'Forget about the crackers,
And forget the candy;
I'm sure a box of chocolates
Would never come in handy;
I don't like oranges,
I don't want nuts,
And I HAVE got a pocket-knife
That almost cuts.
But, oh! Father Christmas, if you love me at all,
Bring me a big, red, india-rubber ball!'

King John was not a good man,
Next morning when the sun
Rose up to tell a waiting world
That Christmas had begun,
And people seized their stockings,
And opened them with glee,

Join the Cathedral at Easter!



Ash Wednesday Service
February 22nd - 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
APRIL 7th - 7pm

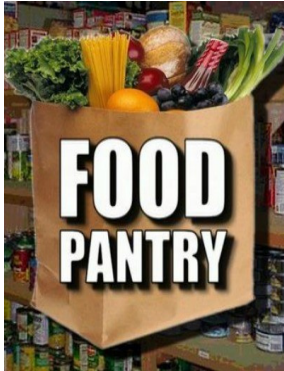
**EASTER SUNDAY
Worship Services**
April 9th
9:00am and 10:30am



**Sunshine Cathedral Food Pantry
is open**

Every Wednesday from
11AM – 1PM or by appointment

**No ID required.
No income
verification.
No questions.
No judgment.**



For more
information or to
schedule an
appointment,
please contact Rev. Anne
954-462-2004 ext. 208
Anne@SunshineCathedral.net

To make a donation to the Sunshine
Cathedral Food Sharing Program, check out
our website sunshinecathedral.org and click
on the Food Sharing tab.

**Thank you to our Corporate, Business,
and Non-profit donors:**

Broward House
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The Pantry of Broward
Project Lifeline (United Way)
Publix
Campbell's Company
SAGE of South Florida
South Florida Hunger Coalition
The Cupboard – A Kosher Pantry

And crackers, toys and games appeared,
And lips with sticky sweets were smeared,
King John said grimly: 'As I feared,
Nothing again for me!'

'I did want crackers,
And I did want candy;
I know a box of chocolates
Would come in handy;
I do love oranges,
I did want nuts!
I haven't got a pocket-knife —
Not one that cuts.

And, oh! if Father Christmas, had loved me at all,
He would have brought a big, red,
india-rubber ball!

King John stood by the window,
And frowned to see below
The happy bands of boys and girls
All playing in the snow.
A while he stood there watching,
And envying them all ...
When through the window big and red
There hurtled by his royal head,
And bounced and fell upon the bed,
An india-rubber ball!

AND, OH, FATHER CHRISTMAS,
MY BLESSINGS ON YOU FALL
FOR BRINGING HIM
A BIG, RED,
INDIA-RUBBER
BALL!

In these human words, God's voice is heard.
Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

Carol

Deck the Hall with Boughs of Holly

*Deck the hall with boughs of holly,
fa la la la la, la la la la.*

*'Tis the season to be jolly,
fa la la la la, la la la la.*

*Don we now our gay apparel,
fa la la la la la, la la la la.*

*Troll the unknown Yuletide carol,
fa la la la la, la la la la.*

A Reading from Luke's Gospel (2.7-14)

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

...Mary gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

In the nearby countryside there were shepherds living in the fields and keeping watch over their flock throughout the night. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terror-stricken, but the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. For this day in the city of David there has been born to you a Savior who is Christ, the Lord.

"This will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all those on whom divine favor rests."

In these human words, God's voice is heard.

Thanks be to God.



NEW YORK SUN 1987

DEAR EDITOR: ... IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

~ VIRGINIA O'HANLON

VIRGINIA,

...ALL MINDS, VIRGINIA, WHETHER THEY BE [ADULTS] OR CHILDREN'S, ARE LITTLE. IN THIS GREAT UNIVERSE OF OURS [WE ARE] A MERE INSECT, AN ANT, IN [OUR] INTELLECT, AS COMPARED WITH THE BOUNDLESS WORLD ABOUT [US], AS MEASURED BY THE INTELLIGENCE CAPABLE OF GRASPING THE WHOLE OF TRUTH AND KNOWLEDGE.

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS. HE EXISTS AS CERTAINLY AS LOVE AND GENEROSITY AND DEVOTION EXIST, AND YOU KNOW THAT THEY ABOUND AND GIVE TO YOUR LIFE ITS HIGHEST BEAUTY AND JOY. ALAS! HOW DREARY WOULD BE THE WORLD IF THERE WERE NO SANTA CLAUS. IT WOULD BE AS DREARY AS IF THERE WERE NO VIRGINIAS. THERE WOULD BE NO CHILDLIKE FAITH THEN, NO POETRY, NO ROMANCE TO MAKE TOLERABLE THIS EXISTENCE. WE SHOULD HAVE NO ENJOYMENT, EXCEPT IN SENSE AND SIGHT. THE ETERNAL LIGHT WITH WHICH CHILDHOOD FILLS THE WORLD WOULD BE EXTINGUISHED.

NOT BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS! YOU MIGHT AS WELL NOT BELIEVE IN FAIRIES! YOU MIGHT GET YOUR [PARENTS] TO HIRE [PEOPLE] TO WATCH IN ALL THE CHIMNEYS ON CHRISTMAS EVE TO CATCH SANTA CLAUS, BUT EVEN IF THEY DID NOT SEE SANTA CLAUS COMING DOWN, WHAT WOULD THAT PROVE? NOBODY SEES SANTA CLAUS, BUT THAT IS NO SIGN THAT THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS. THE MOST REAL THINGS IN THE WORLD ARE THOSE THAT NEITHER CHILDREN NOR [ADULTS] CAN SEE. DID YOU EVER SEE FAIRIES DANCING ON THE LAWN? OF COURSE NOT, BUT THAT'S NO PROOF THAT THEY ARE NOT THERE. NOBODY CAN CONCEIVE OR IMAGINE ALL THE WONDERS THERE ARE UNSEEN AND UNSEEABLE IN THE WORLD.

YOU MAY TEAR APART THE BABY'S RATTLE AND SEE WHAT MAKES THE NOISE INSIDE, BUT THERE IS A VEIL COVERING THE UNSEEN WORLD WHICH NOT THE STRONGEST [PERSON], NOR EVEN THE UNITED STRENGTH OF ALL THE STRONGEST [PEOPLE] THAT EVER LIVED, COULD TEAR APART. ONLY FAITH, FANCY, POETRY, LOVE, ROMANCE, CAN PUSH ASIDE THAT CURTAIN AND VIEW AND PICTURE THE SUPERNAL BEAUTY AND GLORY BEYOND. IS IT ALL REAL? AH, VIRGINIA, IN ALL THIS WORLD THERE IS NOTHING ELSE REAL AND ABIDING.

NO SANTA CLAUS! THANK GOD! HE LIVES, AND HE LIVES FOREVER. A THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW, VIRGINIA, NAY, TEN TIMES TEN THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW, HE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE GLAD THE HEART OF CHILDHOOD.





Song of Response *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

*Let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.*

*With God our creator, neighbors all are we;
let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow,

*To take each moment and live each moment
in peace eternally -*

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Please be seated.

The Anthem

Gloria with Glory, Glory

Words and Music By Mark Hayes

Homily

A Glorious Holiday

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

Invitation to Prayer

Prayer Chorus

Once in Royal David's City

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*Jesus is our childhood's pattern, daily like us lived and
grew,*

*Jesus, little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles and
comfort knew.*

*Jesus felt the pain of sadness, and the joyous lift of
gladness.*

Altar Call

Pastoral Prayer & Affirmations

Sign of Peace

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.

Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:

New life, new hope the child will bring.

Listen to the angels sing,

"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.



*Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:
New life, new hope the child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing,
"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.*

Service of Sacraments

Sacrament of Sharing

Rev Kevin Tisdol

Donating to Sunshine Cathedral

Venmo - @SunshineCathedral
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Text to Give - 954.399.7333

Stewardship Thoughts

*"Giving and receiving are one in truth."
A Course in Miracles*

Offering Prayer

May God bless every gift and ever giver. Amen.

Offering Music

The Gift

By Frank Wildhorn and Jack Murphy
Performed By Sara Burns

Please rise as you are able.

Doxology

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth.
As you sing creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth.*

*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship now, give thanks and sing.*

*Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.*

*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship now, give thanks and sing.*

The Truth of Myths

by Rev. Dawn Hutchings

Don't ever make the mistake of thinking that myths are not true. Myths have the power to communicate truth. A myth is only untrue when it is presented as a fact. Myths are so much more than just mere facts because myths have the power to tell us the truth about the deepest mysteries of life. Myths are metaphors about the very stuff of life and they have the power to help us to understand what it means to be human...

According to [mythologist Joseph] Campbell, myths derive their power to communicate truth because they are really stories about the things that go on inside of us; in here, right now...

The difficulties with myths occur when we get hung up on believing in them as facts. When we refuse to look beyond the metaphors to see the truth to which they point. It's kinda like standing in front of a painting. We don't stand there and ask is this painting true or false? Did this scene really happen? These kinds of questions miss the whole point of the artist's work. We need to approach myths in the same way as we approach art. Does this painting touch me? Does this music move me? Does this movie inspire me? How does this work of art change the way I think about life? Great myths like great art move us, touch us, and transform us in the deepest realms of our being.

...In the stories of Jesus' birth, we learn that this Mystery we call God is intimately involved with the stuff of life. In the stories of the child born in Bethlehem, we learn that our God is born among us and dwells among us. Over and over again, within the myth of Jesus' birth we see people struggling with both the horrors and the joys of this life, and over and over again the message comes clearly and profoundly to us, the message that we long for, in a few simple but oh so powerful words: "Do not be afraid."

...With his life Jesus personified the Love of God and so, when the people came to tell of this amazing life, they remembered him in the way that their neighbours always remembered exceptional lives and they cast a star in the sky, described an incredible union between the human and the divine, and a birthing filled with challenges, and set the whole thing to music sung by a celestial choir.

...The stories of Christmas are not about miracles. The stories of Christmas are not concerned with facts or reason. The story of Christmas is about the LOVE that is God interacting with human life to create in human life wholeness, the ability to live fully, the capacity to love extravagantly, the courage to be everything that we are capable of being. The story of Jesus birth points us toward the truth that lies in the power of LOVE to enable us to live and love and to be.

...The story is so powerful, so true that our various holiday rituals move us beyond ourselves to the heart of the story where we too can awaken to the reality of our God who is Love. By embodying the LOVE of God, Jesus of Nazareth changed the world. The stories of the birth of Jesus remind us that we too are called to embody this LOVE that is God.

...Do not be afraid, for the MYSTERY that we call God is with you now and always.

Sacrament of Hospitality

We Remember

Chuck O'Hara	12/18/1993	Herbert Hackney	12/19/1998
Paul Grant	12/19/1989	Joseph Novotny	12/22/1994
William DeBar	12/19/1994	Bruce Edgerly	12/23/1993
Chad Blackwell	12/19/1996	Clara Scinto	12/23/2010
Jay Tramontozzi	12/19/1996	Wes Brooks	12/24/2003
Richard Drews	12/19/1996	Chuck George	12/24/2004

Eucharistic Intentions

Deacon Ed Huckemeyer - 7pm

Deacon Michael Karban - 9pm

We celebrate this Eucharist to the glory of God and with special intentions for the Sunshine Cathedral Global Fellowship and local congregation, and with people all over the world we pray,

May peace prevail on earth!

Bidding Prayer

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

One: Children of God, let us pray for the needs of the whole world – for peace on earth and goodwill among all people; for unity and concord within this parish and for blessings to flow into our community, our nation, and the whole world.

And because this of all things would rejoice the heart of Jesus, let us remember the poor and challenged, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children, and those who seek spiritual peace, comfort, strength or guidance.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light (+), that multitude which no one can number, who are held forever in the love of God.

We humbly offer these prayers using the words of Jesus which we now sing:

Holiday Thoughts

from Washington Irving

Christmas is a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart.

Holiday Thoughts

from Agnes M. Pahro

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future.

Holiday Thoughts

from Brigham Young

Love the giver more than the gift.

Holiday Blessing

Let the spirit of love gently fill our hearts and homes. In this loveliest of seasons may you find many reasons for happiness.





Holiday Thoughts

from Ann Garnett Schultz

Let us keep Christmas beautiful without a thought of greed.

Holiday Thoughts

from Charles M. Schulz

Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.

Holiday Thoughts

from Peg Bracken

Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas.

Holiday Thoughts

from Irving Berlin

Happy holiday! Happy holiday! While the merry bells keep ringing, happy holiday to you.

Model Prayer

Creator which art in heaven, hallowed be thy names. Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And leave us not in temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

The Lord's Supper

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

Invitation to Communion

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

One: These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Communion is Shared

Communion Carols

*+Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the christ-child bring;
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and seekers reconciled!'*

*Joyful, all you saints arise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angel host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'
Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the christ-child bring!'*

*+Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem has
sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old
have sung. It came a floweret bright, amid the cold
of winter, Then half spent was the night.*

*+It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song
of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch
their harps of gold; 'peace on the earth good will to
all, great news of joy we bring.' The world in solemn
stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

+*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from
heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the savior is born;
Christ the savior is born.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev Kevin Tisdol

Please rise as you are able.

Prayer of Protection

*The light of God surrounds us;
The love of God enfolds us;
The power of God protects us;
The presence of God watches over us.
Wherever we are, God is!*

Benediction Rev Dr Durrell Watkins



Merry
Christmas
&
Happy New
Year



from the
Sunshine
Cathedral
Staff

Recessional Hymn

Joy to the World

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth her praises bring,
let every heart prepare Christ room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Christ fills the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of God's righteousness,
and wonders of God's love, and wonders of God love,
and wonders, wonders of God's love.*

Dismissal

Our worship has ended. Let our service begin.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude


Barbara Ramcharitar





**The Non-Profit Theatre Experience
Supporting the Community.**

Food Sharing | HIV/AIDS Programming
Grief Support | Women's Action Programs
Anonymous Groups | Elderly Daycare
LGBTQ+ Youth programs | much more.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 06, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

JANUARY
06
2023

ELEMENTRIO SINGERS

Vincent Connor | Victor Valdez | Terry Barber

3 award-winning, international, male vocalists come together to create a sound that is uniquely "EleMenTrio". Terry Barber, Vincent Connor, and Victor Valdez are EleMenTrio.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2023
AT 7:00 PM (EST)

JANUARY
28
2023

TRAE CROWDER

Known for his YouTube videos and his "Well-Red" and "Puttin' on Airs" podcasts, this self-described "good old boy" and liberal "redneck" is an intellectual, a social commentator, and most importantly, an hysterical comic

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

“ Jovial, jocular and joyous,
a true entertainer and star.
Rivers extolled that he is the
best act to impersonate her. ”

Stephen Vowles
Boyz Publication, London

“ Seth Sikes sings Judy,
Liza, Barbra, etc.
A hit with audiences
& critics. ”

N.Y. Times

TRIBUTES

STARRING JOE POSA AS JOAN RIVERS
AND SETH SIKES

Don't miss this amazing tribute to the legends we love:
Barbra Streisand, Liza Minnelli, Judy Garland & more!



Tickets: \$35 - \$65

SunshineCathedral.org/arts



Saturday, January 14, 2023 • 8pm

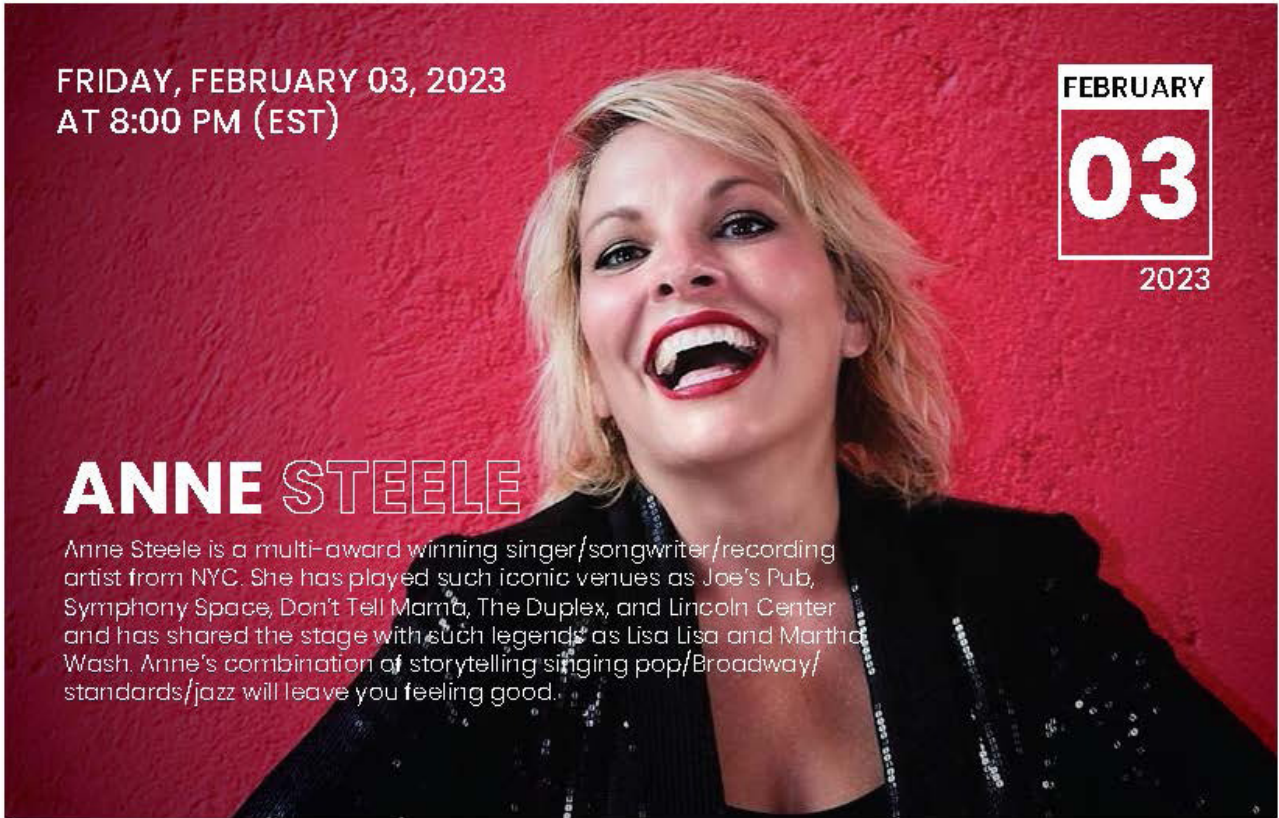
Sunshine Cathedral Performing Arts Center
1480 S.W. 9th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale



LAS OLAS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 21,
2023, 5PM**

**SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL
1480 SW 9TH AVE,
FORT LAUDERDALE,
FL 33315**

A portrait of Anne Steele, a blonde woman with a joyful expression, wearing a dark sequined jacket. The background is a textured red.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 03, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

FEBRUARY
03
2023

ANNE STEELE

Anne Steele is a multi-award winning singer/songwriter/recording artist from NYC. She has played such iconic venues as Joe's Pub, Symphony Space, Don't Tell Maria, The Duplex, and Lincoln Center and has shared the stage with such legends as Lisa Lisa and Martha Wash. Anne's combination of storytelling singing pop/Broadway/standards/jazz will leave you feeling good.

A portrait of Matt Alber, a man with a beard and short hair, singing into a microphone. He is wearing a blue shirt and a dark vest. The background is dark with some stage lighting.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023
AT 8:00 PM – 09:30 PM (EST)

FEBRUARY
10
2023

MATT ALBER

Singer/songwriter Matt Alber has been an official musical ambassador to Eastern Europe and Africa and has performed on Grammy winning albums.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

FEBRUARY

11

2023



Varla Jean is a character originated and portrayed by Jeffery Roberson, an American actor, singer and drag performer. Varla Jean Merman is perhaps best known for her role in the 2003 independent film *Girls Will Be Girls*.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023
AT 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EST)

FEBRUARY

25

2023

RANDY ROBERTS

Night club headliner entertaining audiences for over 30 years. Roberts impersonates some of the world's most iconic female performers. He was featured on NBC's "America's Got Talent", was seen off-Broadway in the workshop of "Give a Man a Mask," in San Francisco in the world premiere of the musical "Chance", on ABC's "One Life to Live," and in the independent film, "Any Day Now". He's also been in "Boylesque" in Las Vegas and in Spain and has performed in regional musical theatre.



A woman with a large black wig, a white flower in her hair, and white-rimmed glasses. She has a wide, open-mouthed smile and is holding a large bouquet of red and white flowers. She is wearing a white ruffled collar.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

MARCH

11

2023

MISS RICHFIELD, 1981 CANCEL CULTURED PEARLS

Her live performances have received critical acclaim with The New York Post declaring Miss Richfield 1981 "the must see act in Provincetown." and Twincities.com noting: "In these divided times, Miss R is tonic— and gin—for the soul."

A man and a woman are smiling and posing. The man is wearing a black vest and a blue bow tie. The woman is wearing a black and white striped dress. They are standing in front of a colorful, abstract background.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

MARCH

18

2023

AMY ARMSTRONG THE GATO & THE GUAPO

with
Fernando Gonzalez

Comedienne and cabaret singer.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023
AT 8:00 PM (EST)

MARCH

25

2023

BRANDEN & JAMES WITH EFFIE PASSERO

BRANDEN & JAMES bring the soulful timbre of James on his cello combined with Branden's emotional and powerful vocals, creating a sound that leaves audiences feeling moved and inspired.



Well
Strung's

Edmund Bagnell HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

Friday, April 14th, 8pm

Tickets available at [SunshineCathedral.org](https://www.SunshineCathedral.org)



Did you know that the Sunshine Cathedral...

Our Food Sharing Ministry feeds 800+ people each week?

With partner SunServe, acts as the home of a Senior Day Care Center? This Day Care support allows caregivers to have a break from daily challenges.

Is home to over 40 groups that meet for weekly and daily meetings? Think Alcoholics Anonymous as one example.

Provides compassion/bereavement support to those that have loss in their lives?

Sunshine Cathedral and the Center for the Performings Arts is a (501c3) not for profit organization?

How do we do this?

Through donations from people like you and from profit of all ticket sales paid for shows and events. After covering expenses for the events, all profits are directed back into our community to help provide services and support.

How can you help?

Continue to buy tickets and enjoy the shows at Sunshine Cathedral Square and Sunshine Cathedral Center for the Performing Arts. Purchase upgraded services for shows known as PS service.

Actively share show information with your friends and family so they can join in the amazing performances.

What is PS service?

Premium Service or PS is an upgraded experience that includes the following.

- PS exclusive parking in the front parking lot at Sunshine Cathedral
- PS expedited entrance to the performance
- PS pre-event indoor exclusive reception with premium alcohol and nonalcoholic beverages, snacks and HORS D'OEUVRES
- PS meet and greet the artist in person (when available, not every artist can meet before a show, sorry)

Coming soon, the Sunshine Performing Arts Circle?
Another way of recognizing all that the Sunshine team does with your support.



Mark Nogal,
Director,

Sunshine Cathedral Performing
Arts Circle

Become a Guild Member Sunshine Cathedral Center for the Performing Arts Guild

Sunshine Circle – \$25.00
Name Appears in Program Book

Sunshine Sponsor – \$50.00
*Congratulatory message to SC Center for
Performing Arts*

Sunshine Bronze Benefactor – \$150.00
*Vertical or horizontal business card sized ad
3.5" x 2" or 2" x 3.5"*

Sunshine Silver Benefactor – \$200.00
Half-page ad 4.5" wide x 3.75" high

Sunshine Gold Benefactor – \$400.00
Full-page ad 4.5" wide x 7.5" high

Sunshine Platinum Benefactor – \$1,000
Two facing pages, 4.5" wide x 7.5" high
Includes PS Services

Sunshine Concert Series Sponsor – \$2,500
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programs*
Includes PS Services

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Consider underwriting a performance.
Includes PS Services +



Rev Dr Robert Griffin
Robert@SunshineCathedral.org

Sunshine Cathedral Performing
Arts Circle



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WE ENSURE
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*We help individuals plan their estates, so that their philanthropic giving
can continue for years—even generations—after passing away.*

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WISHES OUR
SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL FAMILY A VERY

Merry Christmas

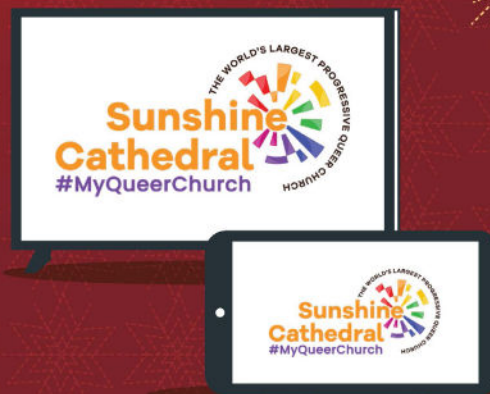
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

OUR CHRISTMAS GIFT TO OUR SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL FAMILY

Coming in January of 2023, A New Weekly
Television Show Dedicated to Sunshine Cathedral

A show, hosted by the Reverends of Sunshine Cathedral
dedicated to the mission, services, programming,
events, and the role of Sunshine Cathedral in the
LGBTQ+ community.

Over 200 Anchors & Hosts
South Florida's Most Diverse Programming Representing
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Youth/Students, Black, Latin, Trans, Seniors, Drag
Queens, Lesbians, Indo-Caribbean, Asians, and more...



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Spiritual or secular, local or global Sunshine Cathedral
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Sunshine Cathedral Square

"The Queer Campus Serving Our
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Income, gifts, and donations go directly towards our community programming:
Food Sharing | Grief Support | Social Justice Initiatives | Women's Action Programs
Anonymous Groups | Elderly Daycare | LGBTQ+ Youth programs | HIV/AIDS
Programming | and more.