



The first Grace St. Paul's First Friday Play Reading will be "Nell Gwynn", the Olivier Award Winner for Best New Comedy, which took London audiences by storm in Shakespeare's Globe Theatre last year. Join us on **Friday, January 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bloom Room** to be transported to the flamboyant world of seventeenth-century London, recently restored to the monarchy after suffering through Cromwell's ultra conservative, puritanical government. This world drips with decadent excess and bawdy amusements. Nell Gwynn's quick wit and exceptional beauty propel her from selling oranges on the streets of London's theater district to performing on its stages, where she captures the hearts of her audiences—and England's King Charles II. This comedy, partly fact-based and partly invention, is based on the real Nell Gwynn, one of the first women to act on the English stage.

Please join us on **January 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bloom Room** to share in this lively comedy. Attendees may read if they wish or participate as "audience"; scripts are provided. Sharon McKenzie and Nanalee Raphael are the facilitators, both long-time theatre aficionados. This script is suitable for mature teens and older persons.

There is no admission charge, however a donation of canned food such as hearty soup, ravioli, chili or tuna for the Joseph's Food Pantry at Grace St. Paul's would be greatly appreciated.