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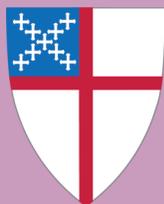
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The Chalice

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The Chalice

Give Thanks with a Joyful Heart

by Father Al Jewson

"Give thanks with a joyful heart" is the opening verse to a praise song that I first became familiar with through the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of West Missouri. The message of this particular song is that God has given the greatest gift possible to us – Jesus Christ. The song goes on to say that now the poor are rich and the weak are strong because they possess wealth and power in Jesus. The text of the song follows this article.

Giving thanks is a theme that renews itself around this time each year. Soon we will begin preparations for Thanksgiving Day and then Christmas with all its celebration and solemnity. The Psalmist writes, "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" (Psalm 95:2, New Revised Standard Version). These next several weeks can be a whirlwind of rushing and activity or they can be a time of reflection and thanksgiving. How we choose to enter into these next weeks is a personal choice, and far too often I think that we get caught up in the commercialism of the season and

forget about grateful thanks. Perhaps that is why the Church, in her wisdom, wants us to celebrate the Season of Advent right in the midst of the rush and bustle.

Thanksgiving Day began with the Plymouth Colonists as feast

has bestowed on each of us. There will be an opportunity to offer worship and thanksgiving to God on November 27 at St. Francis' Church. On that evening we will celebrate Holy Eucharist at 7:00pm. If you are in town come to church on Thanksgiving Eve and give thanks with a grateful heart.

We truly live in the abundance of God's love, grace, and mercy. God has given us the greatest gift of all in Jesus Christ. We have been blessed with gifts and talents from the Holy Spirit. We have each other. In my opinion we are truly blessed!

As we begin our preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas, let's make sure we take time for reflection and thanksgiving acknowledging the goodness and blessings God has given us. "Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving" (Psalm 147:7).

Give Thanks with a Joyful Heart
Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

*And now let the weak say, "I am Strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done ... for us. Give thanks (Henry Smith).*



of celebration and thanks to God for the bountiful harvest. In spite of the harsh conditions in which they lived, the early English settlers took time to gather in community with native Americans and give thanks with a grateful heart for all that God had given them. It ultimately became a national holiday and is celebrated in the United States and in Canada. Rather than viewing this celebration and its weekend as a holiday, perhaps we should begin to view it as a holyday – a time for worship, thanks, and praise for all of the bounty God

Finding the Stillness

by Herb Smith, Bishop's Warden

The weekly email just came out today. If you haven't ever looked at it, you should. You might find yourself impressed, as I was today, with just how much goes on at St. Francis' on a regular basis. In addition to the regular Sunday services much happens throughout the week. There is morning prayer, evening prayer, Bible study, book club, centering prayer, Craft-ernoon, tutoring, seven 12-step programs, women's group dinners, lunches for FoSF are being prepared, the building is being cleaned, various committee meetings are held, gardens are weeded, and trees are planted. And I haven't even mentioned all the activity at FoSF with about 13 or so frisky 3 and 4-year-olds. There is flat out just a lot of stuff going on for such a small parish.

All that activity is a great thing. It's our parish being God's church in Eureka. Exercising our various ministries, being God's presence in the community, worshiping together, glorifying God. Sometimes it's hard to keep up with it all.

As I was thinking about it all, I recalled a picture that Jackie Selle gave to St. Francis' that hangs on the wall as you enter the sanctuary. It is a verse that I understand was one of Kevin's favorites: Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

All of Psalm 46 is worth spending some time with, but there is much to be said for this single thought and the need we have to find some peace and quiet, take a deep breath, and know that Yahweh is God. People find that stillness in various places and ways. Centering prayer is a very real way to be still and to be open to God. I recommend it. Marsha and I are blessed to live in the country. I find a lot of peace and stillness being close to God's creation. I love the woods. Sometimes the tree frogs are creating a virtual symphony or the barred owls are having a big conversation, but there is a calmness and closeness to God that is hard to find in many other places.

Regardless of what works for you, I would encourage you to take regular time to just be still and soak in the reality that Yahweh is God, that He is active in our

lives both individually and collectively, that She loves us, sent Jesus to die for us, and will always be with us. We have a lot on our plate at St. Francis' these days, and I know that sometimes I find that a bit exhausting. Perhaps you feel that way sometimes as well. Next time you come into the nave, take a look at the wall to your right and remember to take some time on a regular basis to find some quiet -- some stillness -- in which you can know that Yahweh is God. You may be surprised to find out just how anxious God is to meet you in that stillness.

Walkabouts

The Transition Committee invites members of the diocese to attend a meet-and-greet with our three bishop nominees. This is an important time for us to acquaint ourselves with the nominees—and, just as importantly, for them to learn about the diocese and its people.

The Rev. Stacey Fussell, the Rev. Deon Johnson and the Rev. George Smith will be visiting our diocese Nov. 4-7. You can meet the nominees, ask them questions and share fellowship at one (or more) of these walkabouts.

Registration is appreciated, but only required for individuals who need child care. Please note: Each walkabout has a separate registration form. If you plan to attend more than one event, please register for each separately. To register please go to www.diocesemo.org.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

Trinity Church, Central West End, St. Louis

5:30 p.m. - doors open with refreshments
6-8 p.m. - program

Wednesday, Nov. 6

Calvary Church, Columbia

5:30 p.m. - doors open with refreshments
6-8 p.m. - program

Thursday, Nov. 7

St. Timothy's Church, Creve Coeur

6 p.m. - doors open with refreshments
6:30-8:30 p.m. - program



Visitors to the first-ever St. Francis' Trunk or Treat enjoyed trying their hand at playing the theremin.

Friends of St. Francis

by Kathy Regnier

"Spooktober" is over, but we had tons of fun! The children at Friends of St. Francis decorated pumpkins, candy corn and bats. On Halloween our kids dressed up in their costumes and enjoyed themselves at the Halloween party. A few of our parents joined in on the fun too. Our little goblins trick-or-treated their way to church where they received lots of candy.

We will now have a little shade in our playground. A huge thank you to Herb and Marsha for donating and planting a tree for our yard. It will be big and beautiful in no time!

Herb and Marsha volunteered to teach our kids about eggs, the difference between hay and straw, and farm to table. It was so fun to see the children so interested! We were so lucky to be able to combine our curriculum with a little show-and-tell on farming.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers this month. We are seeing a few new faces in our center. Thank you to Donna for always shopping for us and to our lovely volunteer lunch crew who help us every day serving lunches to our little ones: Donna, Joe, Sally, Michael, Doris, Kathleen, Paddy, Sue, Sylvia, Arlene, Kathleen, Herb, Marsha, Mike and Pat. Thank you to Joe and Kathleen O'Reilly for cleaning help!

In November we will study Community Helpers. The children will discover different career fields such as banking, cooking, construction, health and wellness, and creative careers. If you would like to join us and talk about your career field let us know -- we would love to have you!

Discernment Team

The Discernment Team is in the process of compiling input from parishioners gathered throughout September and October as we work toward creating the first draft of our parish profile. Using comments from the surveys (online and print) and discussions at the small group "Coffee and Conversation" gatherings, the team is identifying common themes and areas of particular interest and importance to parishioners. Your input will be used as the basis for creating a parish profile for St. Francis', which will then go to the Diocese. Eventually this profile will be made available to clergy who might be interested in our parish. Thank you for your participation and support in this crucial stage of the process of finding our new vicar!



Joe and Donna Bernert celebrated their 20th anniversary with a renewal of vows on October 13.

Discernment Team Members

Paul Jokerst, Chair

Mike Rohan, Liaison to the BC

Jackie Selle, Secretary

Michael Booker Barb Sacco

Suzanne Jones Jack Laules

Marsha Smith Jerry Smith

Diocesan Convention Slated for Nov. 22-23

by Father Al

The Annual Convention for the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri will be held on November 22 and 23 at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis. In addition to the usual events and agenda we will elect the 111th Bishop for the Diocese of Missouri.

Please go to the website for the Diocese of Missouri www.diocesemo.org for more information about the nominees for our next bishop. In addition there will be "Walkabouts" to meet the nominees. Please see the information on page 2.

Bob Schaefer, Max Starbuck, Deacon Rebecca Barger and I will be present along with Michael Booker. You are invited to attend.

Three Reasons to Volunteer at Church

by Paul Jokerst and Stephannie Bethel

You go to church nearly every Sunday. Perhaps you attend special midweek services, pay your tithe, and give offerings. Why would you need to volunteer?

One of the reasons for church volunteerism is that it causes you to grow closer to others who are grounded in our church and helps you connect to the church body. When you join as an usher and greet people for service and help them learn more about the church, become an assistant or help in the childcare center, or spend part of your day cleaning part of the church, you begin to learn more about the people you're working alongside. After all, we are to know those who labor among us. You also begin to care more about the things you're involved with and understand that the church is not perfect but is definitely worth the effort.

As you begin to volunteer, you stop only taking in the preaching, teaching, counseling, and wisdom being poured out each Sunday, and start giving back. Instead of just being a pew-warmer watching the show, you have the ability to start a true relationship with the

church - and relationships go both ways. It's an opportunity to go from wondering when the Vicar is going to notice or offend you to actually being a part of the lifeblood of the church. In a way, volunteering can keep you from feeling isolated and giving you the urge to church-hop, trying to find a church that will make you feel like you're a part, important, and loved just like you felt as a new member here at St. Francis. Believe it or not, this typically can be remedied by action on your part - deciding to grow with the church as a volunteer and helping it move forward instead of staying the same and feeling left behind.

As you take the initiative to begin a real, two-way relationship with St. Francis and know those who are laboring with you by volunteering, you gain experience, knowledge, and understanding. You learn how to work with others in the church and how the church operates behind the scenes. You see the gaps where help is necessary and can alleviate the burden many faithful volunteers have been carrying as they held on until someone like you came along to help. If you complete your volunteering with excellence, God will

cause you to be blessed and give you a greater measure of authority. This is especially important for those who feel called to ministry.

Knowing those that labor among you, having a solid, grounded, two-way relationship with the church, and growing in authority are just three of the reasons you should volunteer your time at St. Francis. If you haven't already, take the first step and contact Fr. Al or Deacon Rebecca to see what it is that you can do here at St. Francis'.

Garden Talk

by Marsha Smith

The growing season is winding down and I'm enjoying the display of beautiful fall foliage. I am once again reminded of the incomprehensible creativity of God. I'm also thinking about planting bulbs for spring (symptom of gardener-itis) and deciding upon what types of bulbs to try for the first time.

Daffodils are one of my favorites for many reasons: their bright cheery colors after what almost always seems like a long winter; their wonderful variety in yellows, whites, pinks and oranges; their resistance to deer; and last but not least, low maintenance! Daffodils are not difficult to grow, but they will do best in a sunny location with good drainage. Plant them in late fall when the ground has cooled; in our area this is usually November. The top of the bulb should be at least two times as deep as the height of the bulb, i.e. the top of a 2" bulb should be about 4" deep. If using a fertilizer, choose one that is low in nitrogen; for example, 3-6-6. After planting, water them well and wait for the show in the spring!

We will be planting some daffodils in St. Francis' gardens in November so if you'd like to help plant bulbs, watch out for a sign-up sheet.

A new tulip that I am trying this year is *Tulipa fosteriana* 'Juan' which is reportedly less likely to be lost to rodents and more likely to bloom year after year. Tulips like a sunny, well-drained location that is a bit on the dry side so don't put them in an area with an irrigation system. Prune off spent blooms so that energy is not used by the plant to produce seeds.

Allow leaves to die back and yellow before removing them; they are storing energy in the bulb to produce next year's bloom.

Lastly, I plan to plant some Spanish bluebells, *Hyacinthoides hispanica* 'Excelsior', which was named by the Missouri Botanical Garden as a Plant of Merit. Plants of Merit are plants selected for their high quality and dependable performance in our area. Spanish bluebells bloom later than many of our spring bulbs, April to May. They need well-drained soils, so heavy clays should be amended before planting them. I plan to choose a sunny or mostly sunny location and plant a group of them. Spanish bluebells are listed as bulbs that deer do not usually eat so I hope to plant some in the St. Francis' Memorial Garden.

Meanwhile, the maples trees are beautiful right now so take time to enjoy the fall colors. The black tupelo tree, *Nyssa sylvatica*, recently planted by the Friends of St. Francis Childcare playground should turn a beautiful shade of red this fall. Check it out!

Below: Herb and Marsha Smith plant a tree on the grounds at St. Francis'.



Food Pantry

by Arlene Underwood

One of our St. Francis' long-time outreach traditions has been to donate food items to the Eureka Food Pantry, located in the The River Church on Central Ave. Members contribute and place items in the red wagon parked in the narthex. These items are distributed to those in our community who are currently food challenged. Some of our members volunteer time to assist in this distribution.

In addition to non-perishable foods there is always a need for toiletry/grooming aids, soaps, paper products, and sanitary items as these items are not covered by the food stamp program.

The Pantry often has an over-abundance of canned corn and green beans, but currently often run out of Hamburger/Tuna Helper, jelly, canned fruits, breakfast cereals, and toilet paper. Please keep the red wagon in mind as you shop. The organization is so grateful for any items we bring in. If you have any questions just ask Laurie Dailey, Paddy Wrob, George Vits, or Arlene Underwood. Thanks for pitching in.

Stump the Vicar

Q: When I was growing up the priest always wore purple vestments during Advent. Now the color is blue. What happened?



Advent was not celebrated in the Western Church until the latter part of the 6th century and was viewed as a mini-lent. Although less strict than the penitential season of Lent, fasting, acts of penance, not celebratory occasions, etc. were kept.

Now the theology behind the Advent Season is two-fold: preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ and looking forward to the end time – the coming of Christ at the Last Judgment. Because of the shift in emphasis Sarum (*the word Sarum is from a liturgical rite used in England during the later Middle Ages*) blue or another blue color is recommended for Advent vestments.

SF Book Group

by Kathleen McDonald

St. Francis' Book Group invites all to our monthly meeting of reading fans. We will meet on November 11 at 6:30 in the Community Room to discuss *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. Anyone who has read the book or seen the recent movie will enjoy this chance to discuss a compelling story. Upcoming dates and books for Book Group are listed at the end of these summary reviews.

A young New Yorker grieving his mother's death is pulled into a gritty underworld of art and wealth in this Pulitzer Prize winner that "connects with the heart as well as the mind"

(Stephen King, *New York Times Book Review*).

Theo Decker, a 13-year-old New Yorker, miraculously survives an accident that kills his mother. Abandoned by his father, Theo is taken in by the family of a wealthy friend. Bewildered by his strange new home on Park Avenue, disturbed by schoolmates who don't know how to talk to him, and tormented above all by a longing for his mother, he clings to the one thing that reminds him of her: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo into a wealthy and insular art community.

As an adult, Theo moves silkily between the drawing rooms of the rich and the dusty labyrinth of an antiques store where he works. He is alienated and in love -- and at the center of a narrowing, ever more dangerous circle.

The Goldfinch is a mesmerizing, stay-up-all-night and tell-all-your-friends triumph, an old-fashioned story of loss and obsession, survival and self-invention. From the streets of New York to the dark corners of the art underworld, this "soaring masterpiece" examines the devastating impact of grief and the ruthless machinations of fate

(Ron Charles, *Washington Post*).

The Book Group will not meet in December, so our next meeting is scheduled for January 13 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Copperhead* by Alexi Zentner.

A Prayer for God's Will

Loving God, we pray that your will for us and for St. Francis' Church be done. Rid our minds of personal goals and expectations, doubts and fears so that we may be vessels for your will and your expectations. We pray that your will for St. Francis' Church be made manifest to us; and give us the courage to carry out your will whatever it is. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who always lived out your will in his life. Amen.

St. Francis' Women on Retreat

by Kathleen McDonald

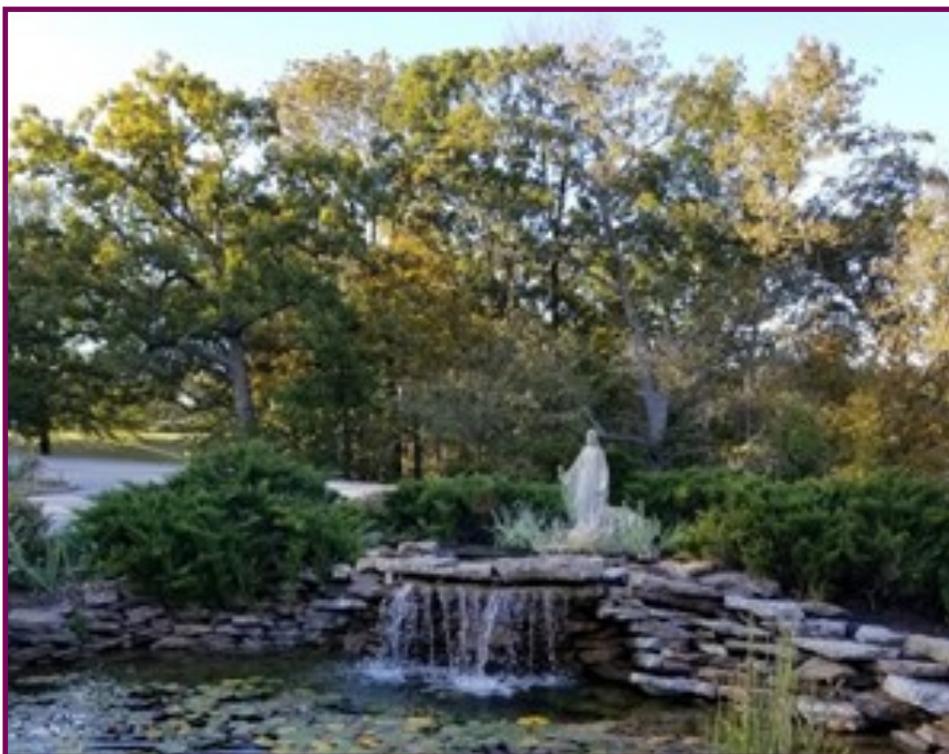
On two gloriously sunny days in October, the Episcopal Women of the Diocese held a spiritual retreat on the lovely grounds of Marianist Retreat Center (below).

Using the theme of *Encountering God in Nature* our retreat leader, Mother Leslie Scoopmire of St. Martin's, presented many encounters of God found in science, scripture, art, music, theology, poetry and the participants' own personal experiences.

Most of us left with names of poets and musicians we'll be looking up soon!

The grounds of Marianist, located on the bluffs of the Al Foster Trail near Highway 109, provided the perfect location for meditation, encountering, or just breathing.

In addition to our presenter, Mother Leslie, participants included St. Francis' members Doris Schaefer and her sister Sharon Combest as well as Kathleen O'Reilly and Kathleen McDonald.



Totally D.O.P.E.

by Michael Booker

I just returned from an amazing event. Last December I was asked by the Executive Council to serve for a three-year term on the Presbyterian Episcopal Dialogue Committee. This is a small group of Episcopalians and Presbyterians who are in official conversation about future relations between the two denominations.

I've decided to call it the Dialogue Of Presbyterians and Episcopalians. "DOPE" for short.

For a number of reasons, we weren't able to meet until this October (the 7th through the 9th). We met in an Episcopal retreat center (Transfiguration Spirituality Center) in Cincinnati. Five Presbyterians and Five Episcopalians were in attendance. The leader of our delegation is Bishop Eugene Sutton from the Diocese of Maryland. I have to say, this is an astonishing group of people, intelligent and faith-filled, and with genuine hearts for John 17:20-23:

I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

We started with introductions and then talked about the history of the Dialogue. It turns out that we are the most recent incarnation of a dialogue that's been going on for over a century. I'm not sure if that increases the pressure on us for making progress or takes us completely off of the hook. By the end of the three days, I really did feel like we have every determination to accomplish what the groups before us couldn't; namely, drafting a viable resolution for Full Communion between the two denominations. That would need to be approved by the highest legislative bodies in both groups, so the challenge isn't just to obtain our own private consensus.



Michael Booker (far right) serves on the Presbyterian Episcopal Dialogue Committee.

Tuesday morning we had Morning Prayer with a resident group of Episcopal Sisters and also celebrated Holy Eucharist with them. Through the three days we prayed in both Episcopal and Presbyterian idioms. Our conversations leapt from history to polity (organizational structure) to personal stories to conversations about other ecumenical dialogues. As we shifted from topic to topic, I became increasingly impressed with the knowledge contained in the room. I was certainly the least-informed person there, but I picked up a huge amount of information.

A big part of Tuesday was learning about a local church called Indian Hill. For reasons of local history, it was founded in the 1940's as an Episcopal-Presbyterian church. It is both a part of the Southern Ohio Diocese of the Episcopal Church and the Presbytery of Cincinnati. Even though we don't have a Full Communion agreement, Presbyterians and Episcopalians have been finding ways to work with each other. (In the St. Louis area, we have St. Luke's Hospital, which is a joint ministry of the two denominations.)

As evening came, we said prayers and then socialized with adult beverages. Our one great failure was that we couldn't find a location for karaoke nearby. That would have been a delight.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February. I have high hopes for this group, but even if I'm being overly optimistic, this is still a thrilling opportunity.

All Saints' Sunday

by Father Al

On Sunday, November 3rd we celebrated the Feast of All Saints (Nov. 1st). As part of our service, we remembered the Faithful Departed whose names have been submitted by members of our congregation.

According to The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Faith, "All Saints Day is celebrated by Anglicans, Roman Catholics, the Orthodox, and Lutherans However, because of their differing understandings of the identity and function of the saints, what these churches do on the Feast of All Saints differs widely. For Anglicans the Feast of All Saints is a day to remember, thank God for, and to honor the saints in heaven. It is a day to glorify Jesus Christ, who by his holy life and death has made the saints holy through Baptism and faith."

Pony Express

by Father Al

On All Saints' Sunday, November 3 all of the saddlebags and returned Estimate of Giving letters were presented at the altar during the Offertory, blessed and offered up to God as your free will gift back to God for the gifts God has given you. Moreover during the Great Thanksgiving, as your priest and celebrant, along with the bread and wine, I will consecrate your promise and mine to our God. It is a sacred event, for through our gifts of time, talent, and treasurer, we are transformed. We celebrate being faithful stewards who are living out what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. On that day as you come forward to receive the sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood, the sign of our redemption and God's love for us let that act be your soul's commitment to Christ.

The Prayer List

Please check the Sunday bulletin and weekly email announcements for the list of those who have requested prayers.

Please Join Us and Make an Advent Wreath

by Archdeacon Rebecca

On Sunday, November 17 in place of Adult Forum, youth and adults are invited to gather in the Community Room to make a new Advent Wreath for your home or refresh your old one. Hear the story of the Advent Wreath and how your



family can use the wreath to help prepare for Christmas. An Advent Worship brochure will be given to every-

one present. It uses the Advent Wreath as way of centering our family prayer around mealtime on the true reason we celebrate Advent and Christmas. Please take advantage of this spiritual tool for your family.

Advent calendars will also be made available. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. The cost will be \$20.

Father Al Away

Fr. Al will be away from November 11 – 19. There will be a supply priest for Sunday, November 17.

Publications of the Diocese of Missouri

- **Weekly enews by email, iSeek.**
- **Faith stories and reflections in Seek,** our printed quarterly, free by mail.
- **JesusHacked: Storytelling Faith,** our weekly podcast.

All subscriptions are free. To subscribe please go to www.diocesemo.org and click on **Connect**, scroll down to **Publications**, open, and subscribe to any or all three.

Blue Christmas

For many people Advent and Christmas season does not embrace them as a season of joy and mirth. On December 12 at 7:00pm we will observe a Blue Christmas Service with Holy Eucharist.

According to Todd Outcalt in *Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness*, “While others are enjoying celebrations with their friends and families, those who are hurting often feel even more lost, abandoned, and alone than ever. Blue Christmas is an honest Advent devotional that meets people where they are – in their hurts, fears, and disappointments – and offers them hope through the birth of Jesus Christ.”

Please join sisters and brothers on December 12 for your sake or theirs.

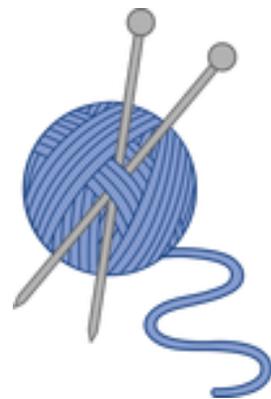
Prayer Shawls

by Doris Schaefer

Prayer Shawls are a symbol of God’s love, compassion and understanding. They can be used by placing it over the shoulders as if receiving a hug, as a wrap for warmth and coziness as a reminder of God’s love and comfort.

Prayer shawls are used for anyone who have experienced an illness, a death or any personal hardship, and another used for a Prayer Shawl is to celebrate an event such as a wedding, birth/adoption of a child or children.

If a prayer shawl is needed, the priest or deacon are to be contacted so the prayer shawl can be blessed at the next church service. After the blessing the priest will give the prayer shawl to the recipient or person requesting the prayer shawl on behalf of another recipient.



BLT Pasta (submitted by Archdeacon Rebecca)

½ pound bacon	¾ cup chopped sun-dried tomatoes
Cracked black pepper	2 tablespoons chopped garlic
3 cups half-and-half	¾ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons butter	Salt & ground black pepper to taste
1 pinch red pepper flakes	1 pound Penne pasta, cooked and drained
3 to 4 cups baby spinach	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Arrange slices of bacon on a parchment lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with cracked paper to taste; bake until crisp, 15 to 20 minutes. Drain on paper towels and let cool. Chop bacon.

To make a sauce, combine half-and-half, butter and red pepper flakes in a large pot; cook over medium heat, stirring often, until butter melts.

In a large skillet, combine spinach, chopped bacon, tomatoes and garlic; cook over medium-high heat, tossing, until spinach begins to wilt. Add spinach mixture to sauce; bring to a boil. Gradually stir in Parmesan; cook until sauce thickens. Add salt and ground pepper to taste. Add cooked pasta; toss well.

These are the adjustments I make based on my family’s tastes and preferences... I increase bacon to 1 pound—this allows extra slices for certain individuals to sample the crispiness of the bacon!



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The Gospel of Luke Challenge

by Paul Jokerst

How much do you know about Jesus? Do you know of His life and ministry?

I challenge you through the month of December; take a journey with myself, and Luke, through the life of our Lord and Savior. During this time of the church calendar, we usually focus on Christ's birth. However, this year, let us also focus on why His birth is so significant.

If you have heard or read the Gospel of Luke, you know just how detailed he was as his Gospel truly corroborates the other Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and John. Additionally, Luke tells us about additional events in Jesus life including his early childhood.

Therefore, I issue to you the Gospel of Luke Challenge. There are twenty-four chapters in the Gospel of Luke. The chal-

lenge is this, each day between December 1 and December 24 read one chapter from the Gospel of Luke. By the time we get to Christmas Eve, we will have a better understanding of Jesus and his ministry. Maybe, by December 24, we will wholeheartedly praise God with the angels and declare, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"



(Luke 2:14)

As you read the Gospel, keep notes in a journal on specific highlights that stand out to you in the reading. That is the challenge, read and learn Jesus. Let's take this trip together through Luke's account of the life and ministry of our Lord, our Savior, the Messiah, the King!

Centering Prayer: Quiet Time with God

Centering Prayer takes place at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays in the church. Our quiet time together will last about 20 minutes.

One of the goals of Centering Prayer is to be totally open to God: totally available, all the way down to that innermost point of your being; deeper than your thinking, feelings, memories, and desires.

Season of Advent

by Father Al

The Sunday closest to St. Andrew the Apostle's feast day on November 30 marks the first Sunday of Advent. This year the Feast of St. Andrew falls on a Saturday, so Advent begins on December 1st and ends on December 24. Don't let the hustle and bustle of the season prevent you from taking the time to spend a prayerful and thoughtful Advent season.

Adult Forum Offerings

Nov. 3—Modern Israel, Part I

Nov. 10 — Modern Israel, Part 2

Nov. 17 — Advent Wreaths

Nov. 24 — Diocesan Convention Recap

Bishop's Committee Members

Herb Smith, Bishop's Warden

Donna Bernert, Junior Warden

Caitlin Selle, Clerk

Class of 2020

Paul Becker

Joe O'Reilly

Brenda Russell

Class of 2021

Mike Rohan

Barb Sacco

Bob Smith

Class of 2022

Sylvia Ahmad

Donna Bernert

Jackie Selle

Herb Smith

Delegates

Bob Schaefer (2020)

Max Starbuck (2021)

Michael Booker (2022); alternate

On Wednesday evening, November 27th at 7:00 PM there will be a Thanksgiving Eucharist offered in gratitude for all that God has done for us. Please make plans to be present for this celebration.



Children enrolled at Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center enjoyed learning about chickens from Marsha and Herb Smith (above and right). Days at the center also provide time to play outdoors in the beautiful fall weather (left).



Volunteers Needed to Help Clean

Instead of having one cleaning day each month volunteers may sign up for any day this month on which they are available. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Simply sign up for a task, come in on the day you are available, and mark the date you completed your task. Thank you to those who have already helped!



Upcoming Dates for Women's Group Dinners



November 12 — Linda Doolittle
December 10 — Donna Bernert

A Prayer for Evangelism

Almighty God, by your grace you have given us new life in Jesus Christ, and by your Spirit you have called us to proclaim his Name throughout all the nations. Awaken in us such a love for you, and for your word and deed, that all people may come to know him as Savior, and follow him as Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

OCTOBER WEEKLY SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

2018	SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	2019
59	Proper 21	50
58	Proper 22	65
64	Proper 23	93
62	Proper 24	66
74	Proper 25	76

Calling all COOKS!

Do you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share in **The Chalice**? Please send it to the business office at stfranch@sbcglobal.net.



Vitals Check

Bill Thompson, RN, will be available in the Community Room between services on the second Sunday of every month to check and record blood pressures and heart rates. Be sure to stop in to see him for this valuable ministry!



NOVEMBER 2019 Worship Participants Schedule

	Nov. 3	Nov. 10	Nov. 17	Nov. 24
Altar Guild	Doris Schaefer	Sue Schmidt	Jerry Smith	Linda Doolittle

Worship Participants for 8:00 a.m. Service

Acolyte	Tatum McCart	Amanda B-M	Tatum McCart	(Volunteer)
Lector/ Intercessor	Jackie Selle	Janet Houseman	Sheila McCart	Della Thompson
Announcements	Jackie Selle	Tracey Oswald	Brenda Russell	Donna Bernert

Worship Participants for 10:15 a.m. Service

Greeter	Linda Doolittle	Mary Ann Kinder	Sue Schmidt	Linda Doolittle
Usher	Joe Bernert	Chris Kinder	Bob Smith	Michael Booker
Acolyte	Rich Mayfield	Jerry Smith	Paul Jokerst	Aundrea Bach
Lectors	Paul Jokerst (1) Bob Smith (2)	Barb Sacco (1) Michael Booker (2)	Bob Smith (1) Sue Schmidt (2)	Joe O'Reilly (1) Paul Jokerst (2)
Intercessor	Kathleen McDonald	Sally Hader	Paddy Wrob	Kathleen O'Reilly
Torch Bearers	John Schmidt Sue Schmidt	Bob Schaefer Doris Schaefer	Laurie Dailey Arlene Underwood	Jack Laules Jeff Veenstra
Eucharistic Ministers	Kaleik Jokerst	Vernon Alexander	Jeff Veenstra	Mary Ann Kinder
Eucharistic Visitor	Paddy Wrob	Jeff Veenstra	Tracey Oswald	Paul Jokerst
Tellers	Joe Bernert Chris Kinder	Rich Mayfield Bob Smith	Marsha Smith Arlene Underwood	Joe O'Reilly Bob Smith
Announcements	Mike Rohan	Michael Booker	Suzanne Jones	Marsha Smith

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10am Bible Study 10am Open OA	2
3 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship Ingathering of Estimates of Giving 11:55 am Adult Forum All Saints' Sunday	4 5pm Evening Prayer 6pm Worship & Music	5 8:30am Morning Prayer	6 1:30 pm Crafternooners 5pm Bell Rehearsal 5:30pm Centering Prayer 6:30pm Tutoring	7 8:30am Morning Prayer 1 pm Staff Meeting	8 10am Bible Study 10am Open OA	9
10 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship 11:55 am Adult Forum	11 5pm Evening Prayer 6pm Discernment Team 6:30 pm Book Grp Fr. Al out of office	12 6:30pm Women's Dinner w/L. Doolittle Fr. Al out of office	13 1:30 pm Crafternooners 5pm Bell Rehearsal 6:30pm Tutoring Fr. Al out of office	14 3:30 pm Chalice Mtg Fr. Al out of office	15 10am Bible Study 10am Open OA Fr. Al out of office	16 Fr. Al out of office
17 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship 11:45am Wreath- Making 1 pm BC Fr. Al out of office POT LUCK	18 5pm Evening Prayer Fr. Al out of office	19 Fr. Al out of office	20 1:30 pm Crafternooners 5pm Bell Rehearsal 5:30pm Centering Prayer 6:30pm Tutoring Chalice Deadline	21 8:30am Morning Prayer 1pm Staff Meeting	22 10am Bible Study 10am Open OA Diocesan Convention	23 Diocesan Convention
24 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship Baptism of Ryder Thomas 11:55 am Adult Forum	25 5pm Evening Prayer	26 8:30am Morning Prayer	27 1:30 pm Crafternooners 5pm Bell Rehearsal 5:30pm Centering Prayer 7 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	28 Thanksgiving – Office Closed	29 10am Bible Study 10am Open OA Office Closed	30