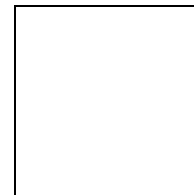


The Messenger

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

November 2007



Choices

Dear friends in Christ,

About once a month, I fly to Chicago for a visit with my mother and some of our family. It is a quick trip, leaving Philadelphia about 6:30 a.m. and returning around 8 p.m. She is nearing 93 but in good health and happy to see me.

As a part of the day, there is a great deal of waiting in the airports. I spend a lot of the time reading or doing crossword puzzles but eventually that wears thin so I walk around the airport. I am not a fan of fast-food restaurants but they do fascinate me. The range of items available is almost beyond belief. Hamburgers, oriental food, pizza, "health food"—the list is almost endless. Moreover, the combinations are almost infinite. Indeed, I can have almost anything I want in any combination I want. It occurred to me that it would be great if life offered us pleasant alternatives—pick what you want and avoid what you don't want. But the fact of the matter is that life, unlike McDonald's, does not offer us clear choices.

Take our marriage vows, for instance. We promise for richer for poorer, for better for worse, and in sickness and health. We cannot have just "richer" or "health." Life would be great if we could select only those things which please us and make us happy. The truth is in this life we cannot have only those things which please us.

Unfortunately, there are those among us who think this can be. They look for the answer to their problems in promises of drugs to make us thin, drugs to make us happy. Each choice we make becomes a responsibility. Even the happiest of marriages will end someday. The best job will end someday. Our best choices will someday be challenged by the inevitable choice which God has set before us. From the earliest of times, God has asked His people to make a choice. Choose God or the pagan god Baal. Choose to follow Christ or the devil. Choose to serve others or yourself.

There is a choice which has no down side. If you choose Jesus, there is no downside. He is not only better, He is the best; He alone gives health to our souls. It is He who takes us beyond the grave to a life "where there is no sorrow or weeping."

The choice, my sisters and brothers, is yours. God bless you.

Peace,

George J. Karney

November 1
All Saints Day Service

November 3
Five Wishes Program

November 4
Celebration Sunday

November 9
Women of St. Anne's
Card Party

November 17
Parish Life Day
St. Anne's School

November 18
Installation of the Very
Reverend Tony Pompa

November 22
Thanksgiving Service
12 Noon
Community Dinner
12 to 2 p.m.

Finding Peace of Mind With *Five Wishes*

The St Anne's Pastoral Care team is hosting a unique opportunity for the parish to learn of a new program called *Five Wishes*. No one wants to think about a serious health condition, but the *Five Wishes* document helps you express how you want to be treated if you do become seriously ill and unable to speak for yourself. It is unique among all other living will and health agent forms because it looks to all of a person's needs: *medical, personal, emotional and spiritual*.

Wish One lets you choose the person you want to make decisions for you when you can't make them for yourself. Lawyers call it a "durable power of attorney for health care."

Wish Two is a living will. It lets you put in writing the kind of medical treatment you want or don't want if you become seriously ill and can't communicate to anyone.

Wishes Three and Four let you describe in detail how you want to be treated so that your dignity can be maintained.

Wish Five gives you a chance to tell others how you want to be remembered, and express other things that might be in your heart, like forgiveness.

This program is designed for people of all stages in life and you are encouraged to invite your family and friends.

Saturday, November 3, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

St. Anne's Parish Hall Cost: \$5

Register by phone: 378-2401

or E-mail: office@st-annes-church.com

Or you may sign up in person that day.

Adult Confirmation/Inquirers Class

Are you an Inquirer about the Episcopal Church?

Do you need a Refresher Course in Anglicanism?

Are you interested in Adult Confirmation or Reception into the Church?

Please come to Adult Confirmation/Inquirers Class, led by Chaplain Louise Howlett, beginning on Sunday, October 21, during formation time, 9:35-10:25 a.m., in the Barr Chapel. Bring a friend! The class meets through December 16, so there's still time to join up. Call Louise at 302.378.3179, Ext. 325, with any questions.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
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The Rev. George J. Karney

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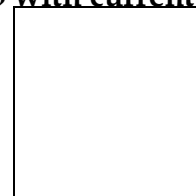
Send articles to
newsletter@st-annes-church.com

**Articles for the December
Messenger are due November 15.**

Please Note:

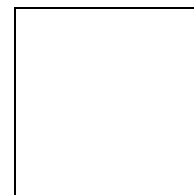
When someone is admitted to the hospital, please call the office at 302.378.2401 or Father Karney at 302.994.3659.

Keep up with current church events.



**See our online calendar at
www.st-annes-church.com.**

**November 4
Return to Eastern Standard Time
Fall Back!**



**Sent your clocks back one hour before
you go to bed on Saturday, November 3.**

Community Thanksgiving Dinner and Noon Church Service

The 8th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in the Great Hall on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, from noon until 2 p.m.

During the Church Service on November 11, please take a paper slip from the basket at the foot of the altar which will indicate a non-perishable food item or paper goods that we hope you will donate for the dinner. It is because of generous donations and lots of helping hands that we are able to offer this fantastic dinner to the public for free. Monetary donations help to fund St. Anne's University of Delaware Honors Day Awards.

Community participation has always been extraordinary, and the many friends we have made over the years return each year to help with the preparation. Once again, a beautiful dog bed will be the door prize. This year it is decorated with a horse motif.

All of the food is homemade by the "best cooks in the MOT area" and includes the usual (and unusual) Thanksgiving fare: turkey/dressing/gravy with sides that have been the most popular over the years, including green bean casserole, baked cheese cabbage, sweet potato casserole, corn pudding—the list goes on. Of course, the mashed potatoes are the "real stuff." But the homemade bread takes the cake! One year, we had fresh oyster stuffing with smoked duck! I'll bet nobody else on the planet had that on their menu.

Our dinner is buffet style, and we have take-outs for shut-ins. Some folks bring a regional or special dish to share, and we are always hopeful for those. Variety really is the spice of life. Last year we cooked 10 turkeys and 5 hams that were all donated. The dessert table miraculously overflows with unsolicited fabulous desserts!

We give community service certificates to youth who help distribute flyers, set up tables, etc. We distribute flyers in Spanish and English. We are thankful that this dinner has become truly a non-denominational and welcoming community event.

For information, suggestions, or to help, **please phone Grace George at 378-7358.**



Christmas Outreach: People's Place

Founded in 1972, People's Place provides a wide range of mental health and social services to the residents of Delaware. Recently they opened a Group Home for Adolescents in the Townsend area. This group home provides a home-like environment for teens in the foster care system ages 12 through 18. The teens attend school and participate in normal teenage activities. There are eight boys in the home.

Brenda Beissel, their Public Relations Coordinator, expressed a need for gift cards for them for Christmas. She suggested cards for clothing stores at the Dover Mall, Wal-Mart, Kohl's; shoe stores; theaters (Dover or Midway), school or craft supplies; and games (indoor and outdoor).

I received a letter from Ms. Beissel stating, "I commend all that the congregants of St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Middletown do for others." She is not the first person to comment on the generosity of the people of St. Anne's. At times we have been in the forefront for accessing and addressing the needs of the community.

Information brochures and needs lists will be posted on the bulletin board. A small artificial tree will be placed in the foyer of the Great Hall. Gift cards can be hung from the tree, any denomination gratefully accepted. **It is important that we have gift cards for all of the eight young men on the tree by Friday, December 7.**

For information or to help with this Christmas project, **call Shelia Carlisle at 653-2584.**

Installation of the Very Reverend Anthony R. Pompa

On Sunday, November 18, at 5:00 p.m., the Very Reverend Tony Pompa will be installed as Dean of the Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Tony's new title is Dean Pompa, and he is addressed properly as the "Very Reverend." This title is reserved for Deans and some other clergy. Bishops are titled "Right Reverend," and the presiding bishop is called the "Most Reverend."

The service for the installation can be found on pages 558 through 565 of the Book of Common Prayer. The service itself defines the duty of the new priest and the duty of the congregation to share in the ministry. It is also a celebration of a new beginning with its hopes and expectations.

Food Pantry Outreach

We at St. Anne's Church collect non-perishable food and paper goods that we deliver to Neighborhood House each week. **Please remember to take a food slip from one of the baskets located at the back of the Sanctuary and on the organ.** If you attend the 10:30 service, you can get a slip from one of the Acolytes after you've received communion. Bring your items on a Sunday and place them into the boxes in the church vestibule, and we'll make sure they get to the Neighborhood House food pantry.

We have been faithful in this ministry for many years, and many needy families have been helped by this continuing generosity. Thanks to all who support this important ministry. **Just as a reminder, on November 11, the food slips will support the Thanksgiving Dinner.** *Grace George and Jessie Ventura*



Habitat for Humanity

Building was completed during the spring on Faith Way and the families are busy building new lives in clean, affordable housing thanks to the generosity of many people in our faith community here in the MOT area.

However, St. Anne's financial commitment of \$25,000 over 5 years remains. As the year winds down, you may wish to make an end-of-year charitable donation. **Please consider supporting our pledge by donating to Habitat for Humanity.** You can write your check to St. Anne's and list Habitat for Humanity in the memo portion.

Jessie Ventura



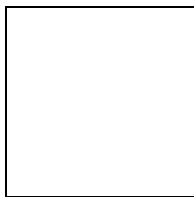
The Women of St. Anne's Bake Table Needs Your Donations

Fire up your kitchens and make something scrumptious for the bake/goodies table!

Bring your made-from-scratch cakes, brownies, fancy cookies, pies, breads, and your home-canned pickles, preserves, jams, and jellies to the Parish Hall on Thursday, November 8, from 9 a.m. to noon, or on Friday, November 9, at 9 a.m.

Call Paula Szczuka at 378-9213 to let her know what you will be making.

A View From the Pew



Spread the joy of Christmas to disadvantaged children this Christmas by supporting the Angel Tree program. Purchasing a gift on behalf of the parent in prison shows these children that, even though their parent is incarcerated, they are not forgotten. In November, an Angel Tree evergreen located in the Lobby will be adorned with Angel Tree cards containing names of the children and recommended gifts for each child. More information will be forthcoming as soon as we know the number of children for whom we will purchase gifts.

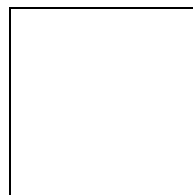
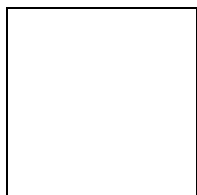
I want to thank the people of St Anne's for their ongoing generosity in supporting this program. Please contact me at 449-0897 if you have any questions or would like to help with coordinating.

Thank you,
Fuad Masso

Help Wanted: Receptionists

Can you answer a phone and greet visitors with a smile?

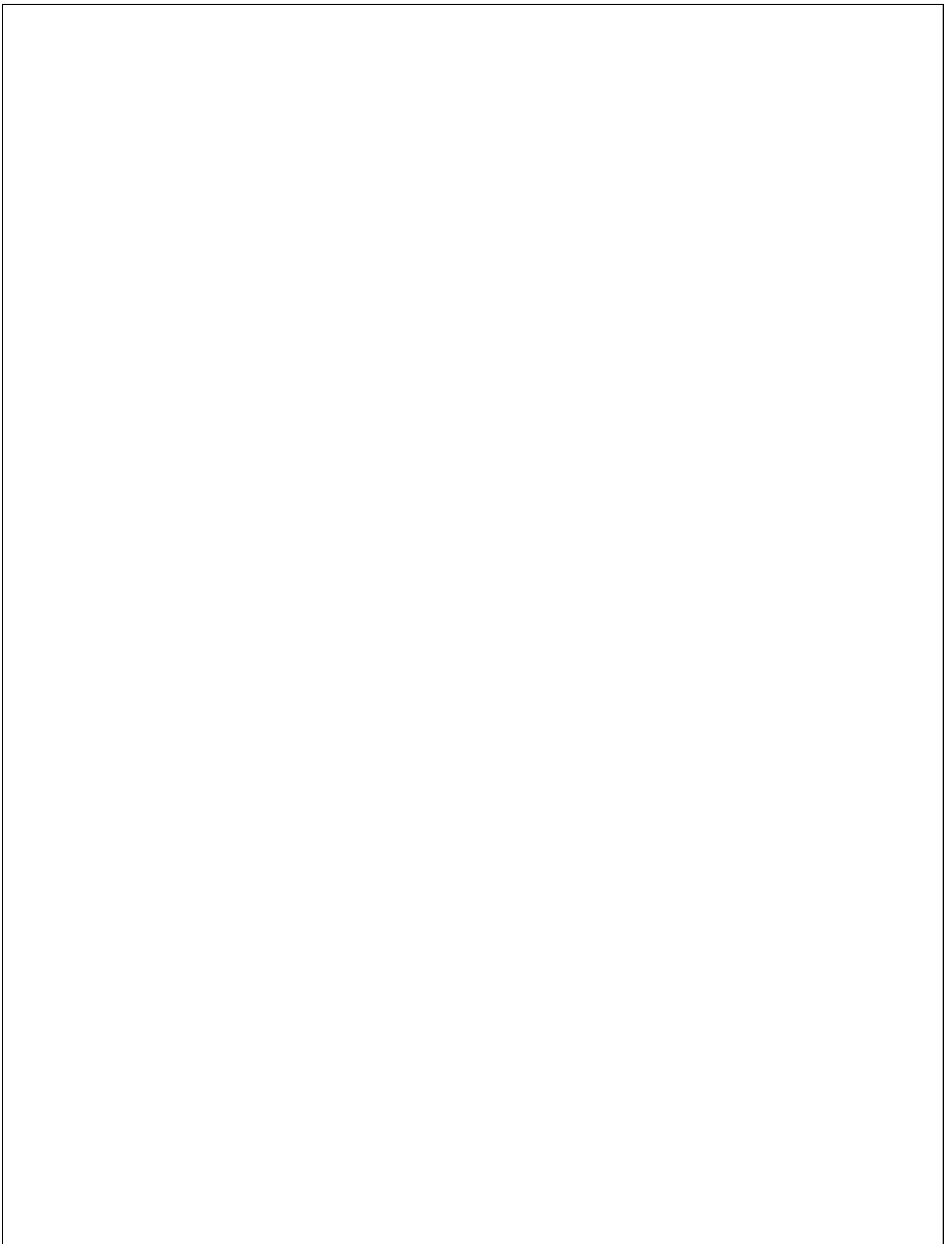
Do you have three hours a week to give to the church? If the answer is yes, please call Lois at 378-2401. Morning and afternoon shifts are available. Occasional help also welcomed.



Recently we celebrated the feast of Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, England. He died September. 26, 1626. Learned in twenty-one languages, he was the main translator of the King James Version of the Bible. Below is a prayer of thanksgiving he used in his own personal prayers, published after his death.

My Lord, my Lord, I thank Thee for that I am,
that I am alive, that I am rational:
for nurture, preservation, governance:
for education, citizenship, religion:
for Thy gifts of grace, nature, estate:
for redemption, regeneration, instruction:
for calling, recalling, further calling manifold:
for forbearance, longsuffering, long longsuffering
towards me, many times, many years, until now:
for all good offices I have received, good speed
(prosperity) I have gotten:
for any good thing done:
for the use of things present, thy promise and my
hope touching the fruition of the good things to
come:
for my parents honest and good, teachers gentle,
benefactors always to be had in remembrance,
colleagues likeminded, hearers attentive, friends
sincere, retainers faithful:
for all who have stood me in good stead
by their writings, their sermons, conversations,
prayers, examples, rebukes, wrongs:
for these things and all other, which I know of,
which I know not of, open and secret, things I
remember, things I have forgotten withal, things
done to me after my will or yet against my will,
I confess to Thee and bless Thee and give thanks
unto Thee,
and I will confess and bless and give thanks to
Thee all the days of my life.
What thanks can I render to God again for all the
benefits that He hath done unto me?

Peter Hall



DOCC at St. Anne's

Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC) is an adult formation program designed to provide an experience of building Christian community while encouraging spiritual growth. Each session consists of two parts. First is a presentation covering the topic for the night and then small group discovery and discussion to apply discoveries to daily life and living. Participants have no homework between sessions and no preparation for sessions.

New DOCC groups are forming. Please consider signing up to participate in this rewarding faith-based community-building group. DOCC meets for four sessions on Thursdays throughout the church year from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The following are this year's meeting dates:

- Session 1: November 8, 15, 29, December 6, 13
- Session 2: January 3, 10, 24, 31, February 7
- Session 3: February 21, 28, March 6, 13
- Session 4: April 3, 10, 17

Commitment to yearly cycle is important as learning takes place in ongoing community. The cost is \$50 for entire year. Register now by calling the church office at 378-2401 or via e-mail at office@st-annes-church.com

Please see Adult Formation bulletin board in the café area for more information and a sign-up sheet. Also visit our Web site at www.st-annes-church.com for information on DOCC at St. Anne's and nationally.

This is what a few past DOCC participants have to say about their experiences:

I really enjoyed the sessions and getting to know each other spiritually.

It is part of our human nature to go into a new program like DOCC with some apprehension because of the unknown. You might even consider not participating for the same reason. However, I am here to tell you that it would be a mistake not to participate. There was no one to communicate this to us, in the first DOCC group, but we soon grew to realize the benefits of the program. The program gives each participant the opportunity to interact within their own comfort zone and not be put on the spot.

In addition to learning something about our role, in God's Kingdom, you will also learn more about the life events, views, and opinions of your fellow parishioners within your small sub-groups. You may even find that you have become closer to your brothers and sisters in Christ than you have even been. This is all accomplished with a confidential, compassionate, and non-threatening view of the thoughts, views, and opinions of the participants. I looked forward to our weekly meetings and even felt that I was missing something when we took our planned weekly breaks between sessions of the program. I urge everyone to sign-up for the program when it is offered and I do believe that you will not be disappointed.

DOCC began at Trinity Church, New Orleans, and is now being supported and sponsored by The National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. It is carried out in congregations, helping individuals grow spiritually, delve deeper into a discovery of basic tenets of Christian faith and what it means to be a follower of Christ.

Goals

- A deeper spiritual life
- An increased knowledge of the basics of faith
- A greater commitment to Christ
- Being part of a caring community
- Identify and exercise ministry in the church and beyond

Projected Outcomes

- A renewed, refreshed level of faith
- Enhanced communication skills
- Better grasp of faith and the gift of prayer
- Better understanding of how Scriptures relate to the mission of God's people and your life
- Learn how to approach scripture and how God speaks through it

Biblical Assumptions of DOCC

- God calls us to covenant relationship
- God calls each individual to live out the covenant in community
- God calls the community to take responsibility for our mission

All Saints Day Service
November 1, 7:00 p.m.

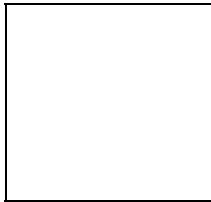
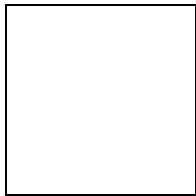
All Saints Day is a major feast day of our church. It is a time when we remember all those persons who have witnessed by their faith to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ. This is a time when the church gives thanks for all those who have enriched the life of this community.

If you have a person or persons whom you would like to have so remembered, please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate.

I (we) _____

would like to have remembered on All Saints Day:

Please cut this form out and put in the collection plate on Sunday, October 28, or bring to the church office (19 E. Cochran St.) no later than Tuesday, October 30.

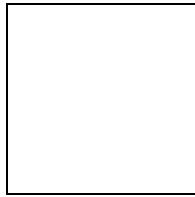


Heather Archangelo 1
Lauren Sealy 1
Kathie Stegg 2
Marty Hipp 3
Linda Fletcher 5
Mary Grant 5
Garrett Hennings 5
Michael Kline 5
Noah Cicogna 6
Jill Foster 6
Rachel Owens 6
Mike Sands 6
Chelsea Frederick 7
Julian Martucci 7
Maria Walker 7

Gordon Brownlee 8
Betty Hall 8
Lesley Sparks 8
George Schreppler, III 8
Drew Vail 9
Tyler DeFriece 10
Elizabeth Dolan 11
Tom Shetzler 11
Dean Belitskus 12
Jennifer Cook 12
Anna Massa 12
Gerry DiAngelo 13
Evelyn Halpern 13
Phyllis Schabinger 13
Fred Shallcross, Jr. 13

Rebecca Davis 14
Brandon Haas 14
Kali Kasprenski 14
Zachary Malcom 14
Kristin Voshell 14
Douglas Young 14
David Novak 15
Eliana Ocalagan 15
Nancy Woodward 15
Grace Juel 16
Larry Norfleet 16
Sheila Carlisle 17
Vickey Ocalagan 17
Samantha Young 18
Ed Fletcher 20

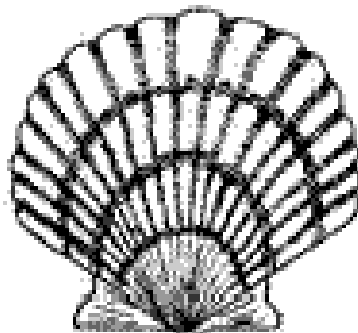
Julie Bennett 21
Jeanne Foster 21
Thomas Young 21
Skip Loessner 23
Mary Seeley 24
Diane Dudderar-Foster 26
F. C. Garrod 27
Malcolm Brown 28



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Discovering the Holy



in Ourselves, in our Community, and in the Stranger