



# *Ring in the* **Good News**

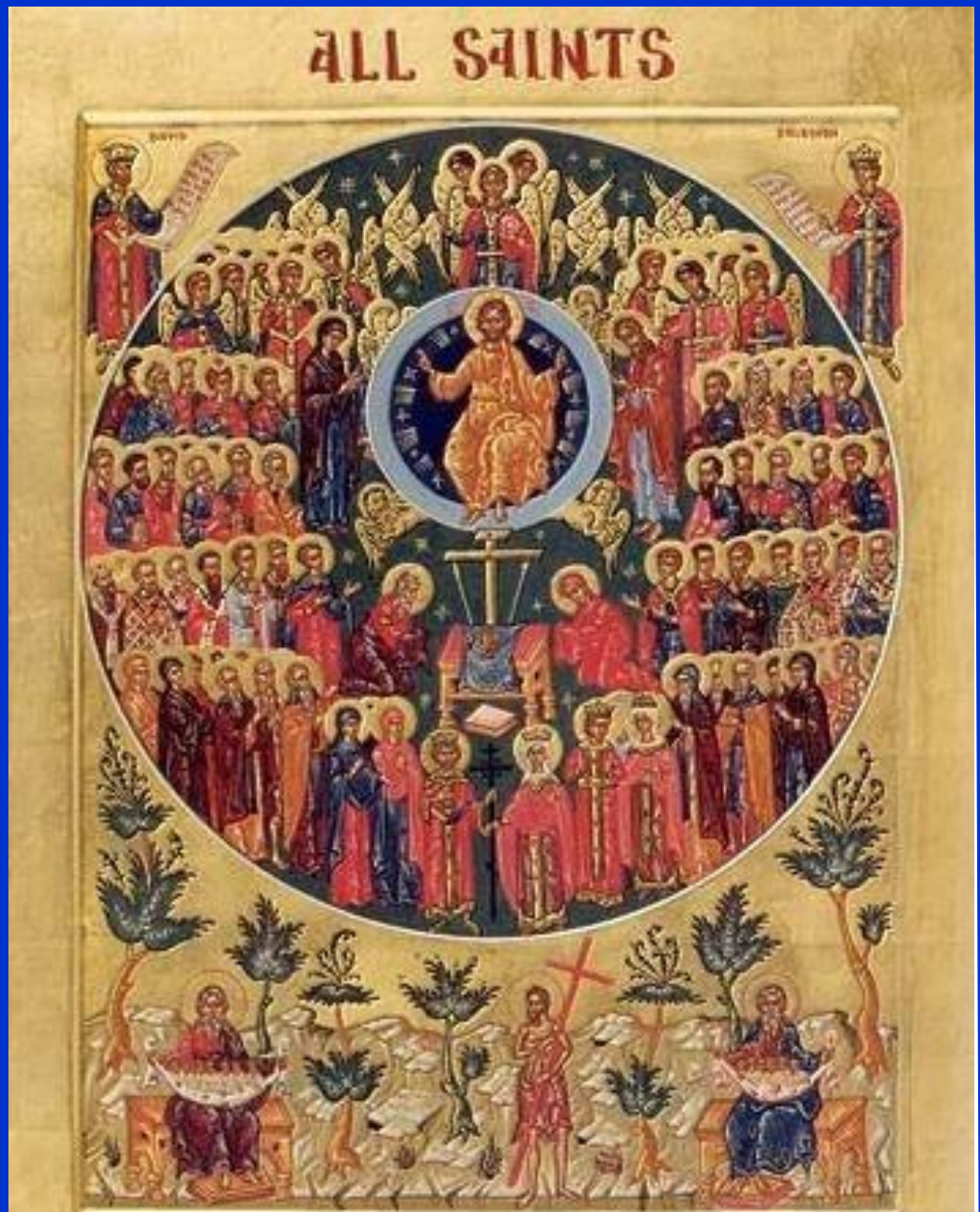
**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Purcellville, Virginia

Pentecost Season

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*For all the saints who've lived and died in Christian faith  
and set us an example to follow, we give you thanks, O God.*

# The Future Has Begun

By Fr. Tom Simmons

Construction companies will often erect a model home before they build the neighborhood. The model showcases what-is-to-come. That house gives a foretaste of the neighborhood that will be. Think of the church like that. The Church is the working model of life in the world God is making, in the redeemed future he intends for the whole of humanity. That future has begun.

When Jesus walked out of the grave he began building a new world, the long-promised “new creation.” Jesus has ascended to the place of authority over everything and little-by-little he’s making his kingdom come, and his will be done “on earth as it is in heaven.” He’s exercising a mysterious power, which “enables him to make all things subject to himself” (Phil 3:21) and he’s doing that IN us and THROUGH us, his beloved people!

The apostle Paul called us “citizens of heaven” (Phil 3:20) a colonial outpost of Jesus’ kingdom in this world spreading his embrace to the surrounding society, bringing wisdom and justice and peace for all people, “making disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:18). Jesus told us what to do: “immerse them in the presence of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” And he promised the eventual outcome: “The meek shall inherit the earth.”

That future empowers our hope today and guides our lives. Yes, I am mixing metaphors with reckless abandon, but stay with me. The church is a model home for a new neighborhood. We are a colony of a spreading empire. You and I are pioneers brining God’s kingdom to those parts of the world in which we have influence. And we’re doing it all right here on the outskirts of the capitol city of the U.S.A.

Our job every day is learning to live like it:

- in deepening intimacy with God,
- in more consistent loving care for the people around us
- in joyful labor to accomplish his purposes in all our endeavors
- in sharing news of Jesus’ tender lordship with our relations, friends and neighbors

It is hard work learning to think and behave as “citizens of heaven”. That’s why we put such focus on “Building Christians for Service” here at St. Peter’s. And every year more and more people are locking arms in small groups for Bible study, prayer, support and service. It’s SO EXCITING for me to see you all supporting and growing together, becoming a more vibrant colony of the new creation, that “city on a hill that cannot be hid.”

Doing so goes against the grain in the 21st century, as it did in the 1st century.

In the 1st century, Paul contrasted our “Christian citizenship” with Roman citizenship, which was very familiar to the Romans living in Philippi, a colonial outpost on the edge

of the empire. To be a Roman citizen meant to give allegiance to the faraway city of Rome, to support and spread its ideals and to love and serve the Emperor, who was viewed as a living god on earth, worshipped as Lord and Savior. The emperor cult was the fastest growing religion in the first century.

Christians went against the grain of this ideology by proclaiming Jesus of Nazareth as the world’s true Lord and Savior. They lived a different sort of lifestyle marked by a unique sort of love, joy and peace. We can too. I’d like to look briefly at each of these three attributes in this space in the months ahead.

In November let’s look at Love.

Paul put the spotlight on Euodia and Syntyche in v 2-3, illuminating the need for a more practical form of love. It seems these two have had a falling out, friends estranged in the Body of Christ. It happens. Unfortunately. And their fight threatens the unity and mission of the church, so Paul feels the need to call them out publicly, in writing. Ouch!

Reading between the lines, we can all identify, can’t we? In our world, there’s no end of things to disagree and get offended about. There’s so much fighting going on! And the church ain’t exempt, is it? It can be a “target-rich environment” for interpersonal strife. Contention spreads easily from individuals into opposing camps and draws our energy inward struggling against each other, rather than outward serving the world. Colonies sunk in conflict can’t do the pioneering work our Lord has given us to do.

But Paul says the fact that Jesus rose again from the dead puts it all in perspective. It is all small-ball compared to the more important struggle we’re called at the Messiah’s side, “making disciples of all nations.” So Paul said, “You might have your disagreements over this-and-that, but come together with one mind in the Lord on THIS most important mission” (paraphrase of Phil 4:3).

Loving like this shows the world Jesus reigns.





# Recent Rulings in Virginia and our Diocese

By Fr. Tom Simmons

Events have moved swiftly this year with regard to same-sex unions in the Commonwealth and Diocese of Virginia. The Rev Christopher Garcia, our former seminarian (2008-2010), now rector of Immanuel Church Greenwood Va, has written a very fine summary of what has recently unfolded. I quote him below:

On 28 July 2014, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit ruled that banning same-sex couples from civil marriage is unconstitutional. On Monday, 6 October 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court let that ruling stand, and later that same day, the Commonwealth of Virginia began issuing civil marriage licenses to, and performing civil marriage ceremonies for, same-sex couples.

These decisions by our civil courts apply only to civil marriages. Our Book of Common Prayer makes clear that "Christian marriage is a solemn and public covenant between a man and a woman" [Book of Common Prayer, p. 422]. Where does this leave us, as Christians and Episcopalians?

On Tuesday, 7 October 2014, our Bishop issued the enclosed Guidelines for Clergy and Congregations Regarding Marriage of Same-Sex Couples in the Diocese of Virginia [[http://www.thediocese.net/Customer-Content/WWW/CMS/files/Guidelines\\_SameSexMarriages\\_DOV\\_Oct7\\_2014.pdf](http://www.thediocese.net/Customer-Content/WWW/CMS/files/Guidelines_SameSexMarriages_DOV_Oct7_2014.pdf)]. Our Bishop's Guidelines clarifies the policy of our Diocese in light of civil court rulings. These Guidelines permit clergy to officiate at civil marriages of same-sex couples (as agents of the Commonwealth, not of the Church), and then to bless that civil marriage using a provisional-use rite approved by the 2012 General Convention of The Episcopal Church.

The Guidelines make clear that clergy are always free to refuse to preside at a same-sex civil marriage or at the blessing of a same-sex union; no reason need be given for refusing and there is no penalty for refusal. This refusals policy is completely consistent with the long-standing Episcopal Church policy with regard to Holy Matrimony: any clergy may refuse any to marry any couple for any reason.

In that context I'll draw your attention to the stance adopted by our congregation over the last decade. It has been framed by a statement of the bishops of the worldwide Anglican Communion at the 1998 Lambeth Conference. An overwhelming majority of the bishops adopted a resolution stating that "in view of the teaching of Scripture," their conference:

Upholds faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman in lifelong union.

1. Believes that abstinence is right for those who are not called to marriage.
2. Recognises that all baptised, believing, and faithful

persons, regardless of sexual orientation, are full members of the Body of Christ.

3. Rejects homosexual practice as incompatible with Scripture.
4. Calls on all people to minister pastorally and sensitively to all, irrespective of sexual orientation.
5. Cannot advise the legitimising or blessing of same-sex unions nor ordaining those involved in same-gender unions.

This position reaffirms the Bible's timeless teaching on marriage and sexual behavior, and also challenges us to welcome, recognize, listen to, and minister to all persons. Here's how we express that at St. Peter's:

At St Peter's we seek to walk a "narrow path," embracing both love and truth. Love looks like Jesus saying to the woman caught in adultery: "neither do I condemn you..." (John 8). Truth looks like Jesus finishing that radical affirmation with a challenge: "...go and sin no more." Christians often emphasize one of these at the expense of the other.

We want to be like Jesus with regard to the different sins we all struggle with, including our sexual sins, whose definition has recently become so very controversial. The Bible - from Genesis to Jesus, from the apostle Paul to the Book of Revelation - describes clearly God's vision of our sexuality, the conjugal boundaries within which we are to enjoy God's magnificent gift of sex. The Bible also gives insight into how Jesus' love can transform our brokenness.

Jesus loves us no matter WHO we are. But he will not allow us to stay WHERE we are. He calls each person to radical transformation of our identity, course and calling. We're all just sinners on a lifelong journey of recovery. At St. Peter's we are doing that together, walking with Jesus, supporting each other with his powerful embrace of love and truth.

Many of you have taken note of stories in recent years of encroaching threats to our religious liberty in this country. We've seen examples in the news of a rising tide of organized intolerance directed against the "intolerance" and "bigotry" of this way of life, which until very recently was universally accepted by Christians, as well as most of our fellow American citizens.

By God's grace we won't be confronted by such efforts at intimidation. But if we are to face such pressure, I'm grateful for the loving and courageous character of our congregation. We have tangibly demonstrated over the years that EVERY person who comes to St. Pete's is welcome to join us in the journey of transformation with Jesus. I'm so proud of the people of St. Pete's!

Keep up the good work, dear people! And let's continue to go deeper in our experience of Jesus living in our midst, and sharing that love with the people all around us.



## All Saints' Day Choral Evensong at St. Peter's - Sunday, November 2 at 5PM

By Barbara Bulger Verdile

The St. Peter's Choir with Choristers and Choral Scholars will sing Rachel Aaron's *St. James Responses*, A *Renaissance Evening Service* arranged by Mark Schweizer, Psalm 149 (Anglican Chant by Henry Smart), and *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter at **Evensong for All Saints' Day, 5:00 p.m., Sunday, November 2nd.**

For me, All Saints' Day is one of the best and most interesting holidays of the year. It's got some of the best music, for one thing. *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter is based on a text written by Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917). Pierpoint was 29 at the time he wrote these verses; he was mesmerised by the beauty of the countryside that surrounded him. These words first appeared in 1864 in a book of Eucharistic Hymns and Poems entitled "Lyra Eucharistica, Hymns and Verses on The Holy Communion, Ancient and Modern, with other Poems." Because the wording of the original refrain is written "Christ, our God, to Thee we raise This our Sacrifice of Praise" it was considered a Sacrificial, or Eucharistic hymn, which tended to limit its use.

In 1916 the text of the refrain was modified to: "Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise" for the hymnbook "Hymns Ancient and Modern." This modification brought about its acceptance as a "General hymn", a wider acceptance for general use, and has resulted in the use of this text in many anthem settings. The John Rutter setting which will be sung by our choirs is among the most popular.

Another example of a great piece of music associated with this day is "Holy is the true light" by William H. Harris. It has a terrific text:

"Holy is the true light, and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict, from Christ they inherit a home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore. Alleluia!"

All Saints' Day is a feast that gets serious about things that need getting serious about: life, death, struggle, endurance, reality, eternity. For another example of what I mean, here's the text of "Let Us Now Praise Famous Men", the famous passage from Ecclesiasticus which was set to music by Ralph Vaughn Williams:

"Let us now praise famous men and our fathers that begat us  
such as did bear rule in their kingdoms men renowned for their power  
leaders of the people by their counsel and by their knowledge  
such as found out musical tunes and recited verses in writing  
All these were honoured in their generation and for the glory of our times  
but some there be which have no memorial  
who have perished as though they have never been  
Their bodies are buried in peace but their name liveth  
for evermore."

Isn't that beautiful - and powerful? So the music on this day is, like the texts, beautiful and the mood is a strange mix, too: it's a bittersweet elation, somehow. It's about singing the praises of famous men, "our ancestors in their generations." It's "a date with the departed" on the one hand and it's a day for baptism as well, and looking forward. All Saints is about human life and its hallowing, from beginning to end, really, in all its goings out and its comings in. I like it.

So come to **Evensong** and see for yourself. It's a special service and it's a perfect opportunity to remember friends and family members who have gone before us, and to celebrate together our known and unknown saints. Following the service, all are invited to join the choir for a **potluck dinner**.



**POTLUCK DINNER**  
**Sunday, Nov. 2, 6pm**

# PUZZLES

## MISSING LETTERS

Can you complete the words in the lines of the following hymns about saints?

- 1 \_ \_ J \_ I \_ \_ in God's saints, today and all days!
- 2 For all the saints, who from their \_ \_ B \_ \_ \_ rest
- 3 Ye holy twelve, ye \_ A \_ \_ Y \_ \_ strong
- 4 Where \_ \_ \_ T \_ F \_ \_ ones from every tongue will  
one day come
- 5 One \_ \_ U \_ \_ \_ , one faith, one Lord
- 6 Come, let us join our \_ R \_ \_ \_ D \_ above
- 7 The saints above, how great their joys,  
how bright their G \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ be
- 8 For all the saints who showed your \_ \_ V \_
- 9 Holy, holy, holy, all the saints \_ D \_ \_ \_ thee
- 10 With his true saints alone the \_ \_ U \_ T \_ of  
heaven are filled
- 11 Who \_ \_ L \_ \_ \_ E \_ thee, obeyed, adored, and  
strove in thee to live
- 12 Who nobly waged and won the fierce and  
well-fought \_ \_ \_ H \_

*Solution on page 12*

## SAINTS AND APOSTLES WORDSEARCH

Can you find the 20 saints and apostles in this wordsearch?

Test your knowledge by covering up the names!

B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	W
A	I	L	I	C	E	C	B	A	T	E	M
R	P	H	I	L	D	B	A	T	H	R	A
N	F	S	E	K	U	L	E	T	I	D	R
A	N	O	M	I	S	E	T	H	S	N	Y
B	E	S	I	E	A	A	N	I	M	A	P
A	H	I	S	D	M	H	E	A	K	U	I
S	P	C	E	U	O	C	T	S	O	P	L
L	E	N	M	J	H	I	H	C	E	W	I
U	T	A	A	U	T	M	P	T	P	E	H
A	S	R	J	O	U	D	E	S	T	H	P
P	Y	F	A	R	Y	R	O	G	E	R	G

Peter	Matthias
Andrew	Cecilia
John	Francis
Philip	Luke
Bartholomew	Barnabas
Thomas	Stephen
Matthew	Paul
James	Gregory
Jude	Mary
Simon	Michael



Hello friends! I believe that I shared this same article with you last year. The author, Paul Chappell is the pastor of Laurel Baptist Church in North Carolina. Happily, I think you would agree that St. Peter's does not neglect the importance of small group ministry and Christian formation for our congregation! I do think that it is important to remember why we do it. — *Kathleen Voss, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries*

## 7 Reasons Why Every Christian Should Attend Sunday School / Small Groups

Sept 2010

Dr. Paul Chappell has said, "*Sunday School is the church organized to fulfill the purpose of the church.*" The purpose of the local church is to go, win, baptize, and disciple believers in Jesus Christ. While many churches have increasingly neglected the importance of the Sunday School / Small Group ministry, it is time for God's people to renew their faithful commitment to this all important ministry of the local church. It is through this small group ministry that we can fulfill what Christ has commanded us to do.

Here are seven reasons why every Christian should attend small group fellowship in the church...

1. Sunday School **establishes** total involvement in the local church.

*Hebrews 10:25, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much more, as ye see the day approaching."*

2. Sunday School **embodies** the practice of the Great Commission.

*Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."*

3. Sunday School **encourages** through small group fellowship and activity.

*Acts 2:42, 46, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayer...And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart."*

4. Sunday School **embraces** what Christ began with His disciples.

*Matthew 10:1a, "And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples..."*

*Acts 5:20-21, "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught."*

*Acts 5:42, "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."*

5. Sunday School **equips** the believer for ministry and discipleship.

*2 Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."*

6. Sunday School **enhances** our ability to honor the Lord's Day.

*Exodus 20:8, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."*

7. Sunday School **expresses** our love for Christ and His church.

*Ephesians 5:25-27, "...as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."*

May God help us to commit the Sunday School / Small Group ministry of our church

## Grateful kids

Adults aren't the only ones who benefit from counting their blessings. Research shows that thankful kids get better grades, experience less depression and jealousy, and maintain a more positive outlook on life.

Experts emphasize that parents must model gratitude, especially in today's consumer-driven culture. But professor Robert Emmons notes that being thankful usually comes pretty easily for children. "Kids have a natural affinity to gratitude," he says. "They often teach parents as much or more about gratitude than the other way around."



## What we are thankful for....

Words of Thanksgiving from our Sunday School Children...

**Nik H...** I am thankful for my house and my blanket!

**Jordan S...** I am thankful for legos and blueberry pancakes that my dad makes

**Shea V ...** what is "thankful" oh yeah, I am thankful for my parents and sister and riding my bike

**Madigan V ...** I am thankful for family, food and our house

**Sophie B...** I am thankful for my family

**Chandler P...** I am thankful for airplanes and trains

**Mary V...** I am thankful for my family

**Grant H...** I am thankful for everything

**Posey S....** I am thankful for my family

**Emily H...** I am thankful for my parents and brother

**Paul N...** I am thankful for being good at video games

**Olivia S...** I am thankful for my family and nice friends

**Daniel B...** I am thankful for My family and video games

## Bringing the Gospel Home

Witnessing about Jesus is challenging - even for the boldest of Christians. For most of us, it's just plain scary. And the most intimidating audience may be the people who know us the best: our family, close friends, and anyone else we can't fool. Randy Newman (newly appointed Senior Fellow at C.S. Lewis Institute) gave a very engaging talk on sharing the good news with "those who have known us the longest, seen us at our worst."

He began by describing himself first as a "chicken" when it came to starting up spiritual conversations with his family and then admitted there were times when he just gave up. As a Jew, talk of Jesus was off limits with some of his family members - they just didn't want to hear it. Randy offered several humorous stories of how not to witness to family followed by insights from the Scriptures, stories of others who have learned some lessons along the way, and some specific steps you can take to make progress in bringing the gospel home.

When summarizing his book, somewhat reluctantly since there is much more in his book, Randy emphasized three major thoughts: **time**, **love**, and **comprehensiveness**, and their implications for evangelism.

We need a longer-term perspective when it comes to family. Randy told how he had patiently worked over many years to help bring his mother to Christ at the age of 75.

We need a deeper reservoir of love. Randy demonstrated the challenges of expressing unconditional love by telling the story of his son who overcame his drug addiction and changes required in their spoken and unspoken communications.

And we probably need to come in the side door by presenting the gospel as comprehensive in its effects, not just as a ticket into heaven. Randy told how his brother didn't allow any spiritual conversations until he learned that Randy was experiencing many of the same challenges and travails in his marriage as was his brother.



Randy Newman has been with the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ since 1980 and currently serves with Faculty Commons, their ministry to university professors. He ministers on campuses and elsewhere in our nation's capital to students, professors and policy shapers. He is an honors graduate from Temple University and has a Masters of Divinity degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where he is also engaged in doctoral studies. Randy is a Jewish Believer in Jesus and is the former editor of The Messiah-On-Campus Bulletin. He lives in Annandale, Virginia together with his wife Pam. He is the author of numerous articles and books including, Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Hearts the Way Jesus Did, Corner Conversations: Engaging Dialogues about God and Life, and Bringing the Gospel Home: Witnessing to Family Members, Close Friends, and Others Who Know You Well (Crossway - preview).

The Renovation Committee received the final report of the financial feasibility study conducted by Andi Tilmann and has been reviewing the results.

In coming weeks, the committee will announce the results and what they mean for the project.

Thanks to everyone who took time to complete the survey! Your evaluations and comments were extremely helpful.



## Gratitude

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart. To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver.

Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

—Max Lucado, *You'll Get Through This*



## St. Benedict's Rule

When St. Benedict wrote guidelines for Christian living more than 1,300 years ago, he focused on gratitude.

The first rule is simply this:

Live this life  
and do whatever is done  
in a spirit of Thanksgiving.

Abandon attempts to achieve security;  
they are futile.

Give up the search for wealth;  
it is demeaning.

Quit the search for salvation;  
it is selfish.

And come to comfortable rest  
in the certainty that those who  
participate in this life  
with an attitude of Thanksgiving  
will receive its full promise.

## Editorial: Eucharist—A State of Being

I had an interesting experience this summer when my sister-in-law gave me a task of listing three things each day on my Facebook page that I was thankful for. I had enjoyed reading other people's "thanksgivings" and thought it sounded like a pretty good (and easy) thing to do to count my blessings one by one for a week. After all, I've got 5 fabulous kids, 4 terrific kids-in-law, and 8 magnificent grandkids who I am so grateful for—I practically had the whole week covered already!

Well, the task proved more challenging than I expected, but in a *good* way.

I had a terrible time *limiting* the things I was thankful for to just *three* a day! I discovered that while I was purposefully endeavoring to identify specific things I was grateful for throughout the week, it expanded my vision to really *see* and *appreciate* (be grateful for) so very, very many things—big and small—happy and sad—"good" and "bad", that I could have easily missed. I was just bursting with thankfulness!

Anglican services focus on "The Great Thanksgiving" during Holy Communion (Holy Eucharist), where we are told "It is very meet and right and our bounden duty, that we should *at all times*, and *in all places*, **give** thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God." (*emphasis mine*) Giving thanks is imitating Christ at the Last Supper, at the feeding of the 5,000, and numerous other occasions. And, of course, appreciating the astounding sacrificial gift Christ gave us on the cross.

The NAS New Testament Greek Lexicon, lists the definitions of the Greek noun εὐχαριστία—eucharisteo as: **"to be grateful", "to feel thankful", "to give thanks"**, but those are actually three very different things. Look at the verbs: to *be*...to *feel*...to *give*. I don't believe it's an accident that we are instructed repeatedly in the Bible to *give thanks* in *all* circumstances. It's just not natural to give thanks when circumstances are bad or painful or you just don't like them! If you don't *feel* thankful, you don't want to *give* thanks. But experience has taught me that if I am obedient and *give* thanks—even though I don't *feel* like it—the feelings eventually come. Notice I said "eventually" - it rarely happens immediately. It takes time and a commitment to give thanks to the One who "causes everything to work together for the good of those who love" Him. And after a while, one day you realize you *are* grateful (that state of **being grateful**). So **feeling thankful** and the state of **being grateful** follow the purposeful **giving** of thanks.

So I extend the challenge to you. What three things are you grateful for today?

—Wanda Juraschek

## Persevering Faith

In the movie *Monumental*, Kirk Cameron describes what led the Pilgrims to leave England and Holland for America — as well as the conditions they faced along the way. While on the cramped, storm-tossed Mayflower, they signed the Mayflower Compact, attesting that they came “for the glory of God and advancements of the Christian faith.”

Within months in the new land, 47 of the original 121 Pilgrims had died. Only six or seven could walk and care for the others, and only four adult women were still alive for the first Thanksgiving. But the Pilgrims persevered, thanks to their faith in God and help from Native Americans.

William Bradford, governor of Plymouth Colony for 30 years, experienced hardship firsthand; his wife was one of the first to die during the journey. Yet Bradford's tomb bears the bold message that “Jehovah is our help.”

## A Blessed Thought

Gratitude consists in a watchful, minute attention to the particulars of our state, and to the multitude of God's gifts, taken one by one. It fills us with a consciousness that God loves and cares for us, even to the least event and smallest need of life.

It is a blessed thought, that from our childhood God has been laying his fatherly hands upon us, and always in benediction; that even the strokes of his hands are blessings, and among the chiefest we have ever received. When this feeling is awakened, the heart beats with a pulse of thankfulness.

—H.E. Manning

## Why Praise God?

In *Reflections on the Psalms*, C.S. Lewis shared that he was confused and embarrassed by God's instructions to offer him praise. “We all despise the man who demands continued assurance of his own virtue, intelligence or delightfulness.”

But then Lewis thought about great artwork, for which admiration is the only appropriate response. Otherwise, he wrote, “we shall have missed something.”

Lewis concluded that God wants praise not only because it's right but because we need to do it. Praising God fulfills our highest purpose. As Psalm 33:1 (NIV) says, “It is fitting for the upright to praise him.”

—Adapted from *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering*, Timothy Keller

## Returning Thanks

How often must [God] look down upon us in sadness at our forgetfulness of his repeated blessings and his frequent answer to our prayers.

Returning thanks for blessings already received increases our faith and enables us to approach God with new boldness and new assurance. As we reflect [on] the wondrous goodness of God toward us on the one hand, and upon the other hand upon the little thought and strength and time that we ever put into thanksgiving, we may well humble ourselves before God and confess our sin.

—R.A. Torrey



**Our next YOUTH GROUP event  
will be held on  
Sunday, November 16th  
at 5PM.**

**We will be having a  
Pizza/Movie Night!!!**

**Please let Kathleen Voss know if you are  
able to join us by November 9th.**

## Christmas Pageant

We are beginning preparations for the Christmas Pageant, which will be held at the 5:00 PM service on Christmas Eve. We will need both children and adults to participate in order to make this year's Pageant a success!

Please join us for an Informational Meeting on  
**Saturday, November 1,  
9:00am in McCray Hall.**



**THE GREAT  
ADVENTure**

## Advent Wreath Making

### The First Sunday of Advent is November 30th

The season of Advent is a time to prepare ourselves to fully receive the gift of Jesus on Christmas.

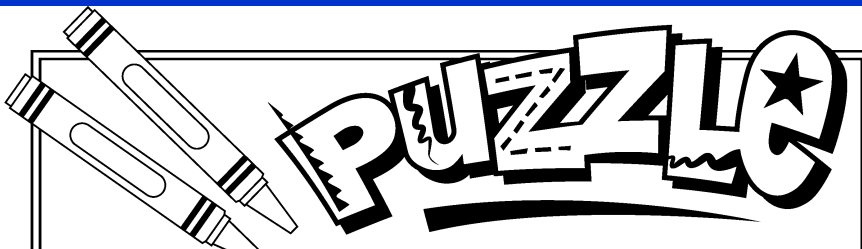
The Advent wreath is a wonderful way to remember the gift of His birth and it helps us to focus on what Christmas really celebrates. In addition, an Advent wreath in your home is another way to bring your family together for worship. You can gather around the wreath each Sunday in Advent, light another candle, and say a prayer together to anticipate the birth of our Lord.

**On Sunday, November 30th, after the 10:30 service, Saint Peters will be offering instruction on the making of an Advent Wreath.** If you and your family wish to participate, please sign up in McCray Hall so that we may purchase the necessary materials. The cost will be \$12.00 per wreath. Please make checks payable to Saint Peter's Church and write 'wreath making' on the memo line.


Contact: Randy Stoutenburgh








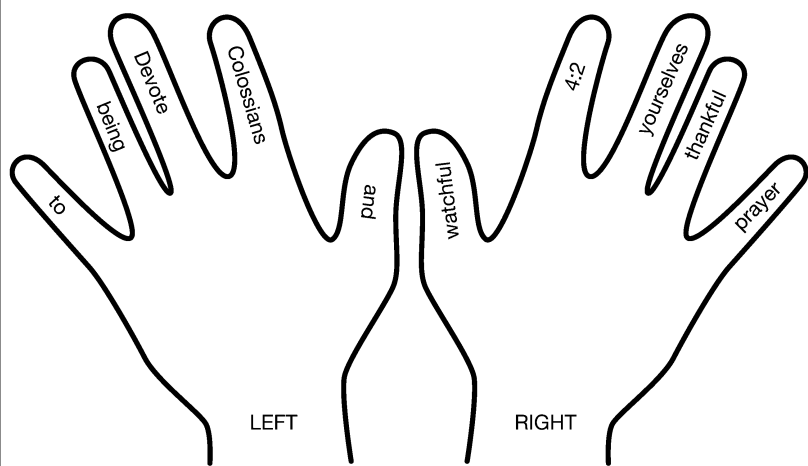
# Praying hands



One way to show our thankfulness is to bow our heads, fold our hands and pray to God.



**Directions:** Complete Colossians 4:2 (NIV) by selecting one word on the left hand, then one on the right and so on. Go back and forth, using the word blanks as a guide.



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W -----

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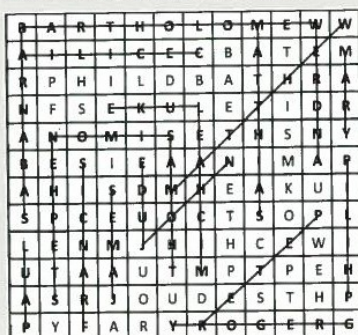
Answer: Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.  
Colossians 4:2, NIV

## SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLES ON PAGE 36

### Missing Letters

1 REJOICE ('Rejoice in God's saints'), 2 LABOURS ('For all the saints'), 3 MARTYRS ('Ye watchers and ye holy ones'), 4 FAITHFUL ('There is a higher throne', Keith/Kristyn Getty), 5 CHURCH ('Your/Thy hand, O God has guided'), 6 FRIENDS ('Come, let us join our friends above'), 7 GLORIES ('Give us the wings of faith'), 8 LOVE ('For all the saints who showed your love', John Bell), 9 ADORE ('Holy, holy, holy'), 10 COURTS ('Christ is our cornerstone'), 11 FOLLOWED ('For all thy saints, O Lord'), 12 FIGHT ('Glory to you, O God')

### Saints and Apostles Wordsearch



# Thankful TREE

Make this Thanksgiving decoration and keepsake as a reminder of God's many blessings.

## What you need:

- Acrylic paints
- Paint brush
- White cardstock (8" x 11")
- Baby wipes or wet paper towels
- 8" x 11" frame (available at dollar stores)
- Black permanent marker
- Bowls or paper plates

## What you do:

1. Paint your palm, fingers, wrist and a portion of your arm with brown paint.
2. With the white cardstock placed vertically, press down your painted hand and arm. The print should resemble a tree trunk and branches.
3. Clean your hand and arm with baby wipes or wet paper towels.
4. Dip your fingertips into different-colored paints and press them onto the paper to make leaves. (It's autumn, so leaves can be falling!)
5. When paint is dry, write "thankful" down the trunk with permanent marker. Also write your name and the year in the corner.
6. Frame and display your decoration.



# St. Peter's NOVEMBER ROSTER 2014

		Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16	Nov. 23	Nov. 30
		Baptisms				Great Litany
		All Saints	22 Pentecost	23 Pentecost	Last Pentecost	Advent 1
LECTORS	Early	Erin Schellhase	Dell Nunaley	Jesse Brown	Corrine Hegener	Drew Lavan
	Late	Dan LaPre	Mark McKinley	Liz Tuohy	Kyle Voss	David Weiss
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Early	Terry Duhring, Buddy Andrews	Tim Hall, Tanya Matthews	Peter Schellhase, Buddy Andrews	John Burden, Judy Hall	Gail Donohue, Paul Donohue
	Late	Dave Hunt, Shane Ayers	Linda Stoutenburgh, Randy Stoutenburgh	Dave Hunt, Dave Grommons	Linda Stoutenburgh, Randy Stoutenburgh	Dave Hunt, Dave Grommons
SUB DEACON	Early	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Buddy Andrews
	Late	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Mark Riley	Linda Stoutenburgh
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Early	Peter Schellhase	John Burden	Kelly Cockrill	HL	NA
	Late	Bill Geiger	Marty Thompson	Traci Eddinger	HL	NA
ACOLYTES	Early	Adam Gibson, Mark Matthews, Hayes Baker	Aubrey & Addie Winger, John Matthews	Michael, Katherine, & Bridget Wagstaff	Joshua & Megan Smith, Eric Gibson	Ciara, Kimberly & Colin Donohue, Isabella Tucker
	Late	Chris Hunt, George & Henry Simmons	Dan LaPre, Shane Ayers, Lauren Hunt, Peter Forbes	Katya Clavelli, Jonathan LaPre, Henry Psaltos	Chris Hunt, George & Henry Simmons	Dan LaPre, Shane Ayers, Lauren Hunt, Peter Forbes
COFFEE HOUR	Early	David & Carla Ramsey, Sonny & Mary Hoeltzel	Rick & Tricia Smith, Jean Kuhns, Justine Phelan	John & Debby Caulfield, Eckard & Keri Holdorf	Scott & Becky Harris, Jim & Wynell Schatz	Buddy Andrews, Chris & Terry Duhring
	Late	John & Beth Israel, Dave Tocki	Joe & Nissa Clavelli, Liz Tuohy	Deana Czaban, Paul & Sherri Kakol	Steve & Patti Flowers, Ollie & Betsy North	Shane & Teresa Ayers, Jimmy & Traci Eddinger
USHERS	Early	Todd & Pam Johnston, Bill & Beth Gibson	Doug & Elizabeth Wagstaff, Mark & Nancy Baker	Rick & Kelly Cockrill, Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt	John Sleeter, Dick Wilhelm, Mark & Jack Novak	Todd & Pam Johnston, Bill & Beth Gibson
	Late	Steve & Anne Schultz, Eamon & Jenn Coy	Ben & Anna Curtis, Bill & Renee Geiger	David Weiss, Tred Parry, Jimmy Eddinger, Billy Dillon	Susan Collins, Sandy Wehr, Marty & Erica Thompson	Ben & Anna Curtis, Eamon & Jenn Coy
GREETERS	Early	Jesse Brown	John & Debby Caulfield	Bill Gibson	Tim Hall	Corrine & Hank Hegener
	Late	Dave Tocki	Dan LaPre	Nissa Clavelli	Peter Forbes	John Israel
TELLERS		Pat Long & Sven Johnson	Howard & Linda Evans	Joe Clavelli, Rick Tyler	Pat Long & Sven Johnson	Carl & Nancy Sheys
ALTAR GUILD		Esther Kilgour, Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Maggie Heim	Esther Kilgour, Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Maggie Heim	Pat Pearson, Linda Evans, Debi Parry, Laurraine Landolt, Leigh Psaltos	Pat Pearson, Linda Evans, Debi Parry, Laurraine Landolt, Leigh Psaltos	Pat Pearson, Linda Evans, Debi Parry, Laurraine Landolt, Leigh Psaltos

If you are unable to fulfill your ministry on a day you are assigned, please (1) find your replacement and (2) notify the church office of the change in schedule. Thank you for serving!

# NOVEMBER Anniversaries and Birthdays

## ANNIVERSARIES:

11-1 Jimmy & Traci Eddinger  
 11-10 Howard & Linda Evans  
 11-18 Eckard & Keri Holdorf  
 11-21 Tanya & Joe Matthews  
 11-27 Jim & Jaqueline Whalen

## BIRTHDAYS:

11-2 Wynell Schatz  
 11-5 Buckley Moore  
 11-6 Jane Mitchell  
 11-7 Maggie Snyder  
 11-8 John Caulfield  
 11-9 Kathleen Voss  
 11-10 Esme Field  
 Marty Riddle

11-11 Pam Pierce-Johnston  
 11-12 Jean Kuhns  
 11-14 Bev Creamer  
 Katlyn Frichtl  
 11-15 Isla Smith  
 11-19 Ginny Jenkins  
 11-21 Mark Baker  
 11-27 Corrine Hegener  
 11-30 Henry Hall  
 Corrine Hegener



## Be In-The-Know!

You can be the first to receive important announcements, the *St. Pete's Weekly*, and the *Good News* by **signing up on our website**. Under "**Signup Opportunities**" click on "**Signup for St. Peter's announcements and news**" and enter your name and email address. It's as simple as that!

## Mark Your Calendar!

Nov 1 Men's Breakfast 7am  
 Parish Work Day 8:30am  
 Christmas Pageant Intro Mtg. 9am  
 Nov 2 **Daylight Savings Time Ends**  
**Holy Baptism**  
 No SS/Spiritual Formation Classes  
 Lay Committee Mtg. 12:30pm  
**EVENSONG** 5:00pm  
**Parish Potluck** 6pm  
 Nov 4 Vestry Ministry Mtg. 7pm  
 Nov 5 Mission Team Mtg. 5:30pm  
 Nov 7 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm  
 Nov 9 Guatemala Mission Craft Fair  
 Nov 11 Vestry Exec Mtg. 7pm



Nov 13 Holiday Grief Workshop 6:30pm  
 Nov 14 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm  
 Nov 15 Men's Leadership Mtg. 7am  
 Literary Guild 5pm  
 Nov 16 Youth Pizza/Movie Night 5pm  
 Nov 17 Mt. Calvary 10am  
 Nov 18 Pastoral Care Team 5pm  
 Vestry Mtg. 7pm  
 Nov 20 TOL Dinner 4pm  
 Nov 21 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm  
 Nov 23 Newsletter Deadline  
 Healing Liturgy  
 Nov 27 Thanksgiving Together  
 Nov 30 **Advent Wreath Making** 12pm

## Revised Common Lectionary Readings for NOVEMBER

Date	Sunday	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
<b>2</b>	All Saints	Joshua 3:7-17	107:1-7, 33-37	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
<b>9</b>	22 Pentecost	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
<b>16</b>	23 Pentecost	Judges 4:1-7	123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
<b>23</b>	Last Pentecost	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>30</b>	1 Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9	80:1-7, 16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37



# 

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



						1 Men's Breakfast Parish Work Day Christmas Pageant Mtg <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Sundaes on Saturdays
2 <b>HOLY BAPTISM</b> <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Choristers/CS Lay Committee Mtg. <b>EVENSONG</b> Parish Potluck	3	4 Vestry Ministry Mtg	5 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Mission Team Mtg MSSG Bible Study	6 Choir	7 Marriage Alpha	8 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
9 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Sunday School & SF Mission Fair Choristers/CS Bible Study	10	11 Vestry Exec Mtg	12 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> MSSG Bible Study	13 Choir Holiday Grief Workshop	14 Marriage Alpha	15 Men's Leadership Mtg <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Literary Guild
16 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Sunday School & SF Choristers/CS Bible Study Youth Dinner & Movie	17 Mt. Calvary Guild	18 PC Team Mtg Vestry Mtg.	19 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> MSSG Bible Study	20 TOL Dinner Choir	21 Marriage Alpha	22 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
23 <u>Newsletter Deadline</u> <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> <b>&amp; Healing Liturgy</b> Sunday School & SF Choristers/CS Bible Study	24	25	26 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> MSSG	27 	28	29 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
30 <b>1 Advent</b> <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Advent Wreath Making  Choristers/CS Bible Study						

**KEY:** CS=Choral Scholars; MSSG=Men's Spiritual Support Group; PC=Pastoral Care; SF=Spiritual Formation Classes; TOL=Tree of Life



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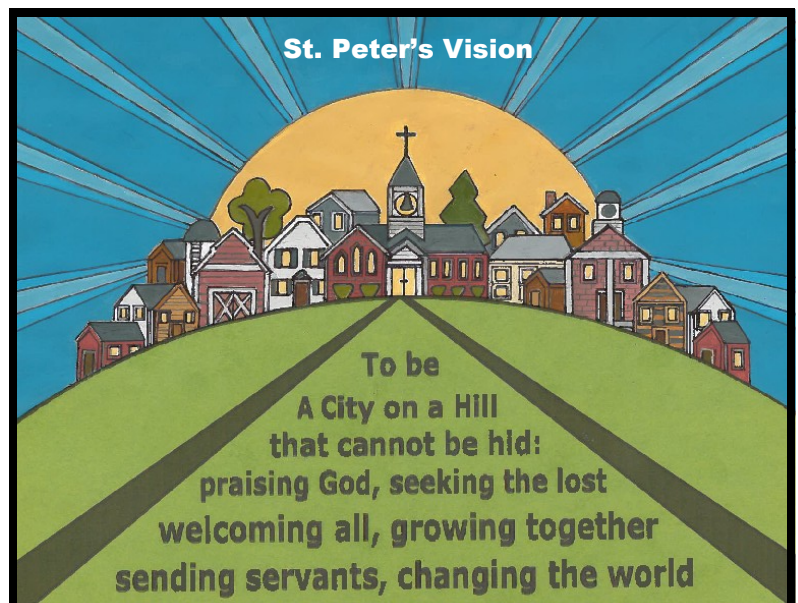
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