Saint Paul's
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

The Holy Eucharist
All Saints' Sunday
November 1, 2026
8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

SUNG LITURGY OF THE DAY

Missa O Quam Gloriosum by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

The Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral
Patricia Hills, Conductor
Timothy Socha, Guest Organist

Hymns, in numerical order, are in the 1982 Hymnal; service music is listed on the service leaflet and may be found in the front of the 1982 Hymnal, with "S" before the number. "BCP" with a page number, refers to The Book of Common Prayer

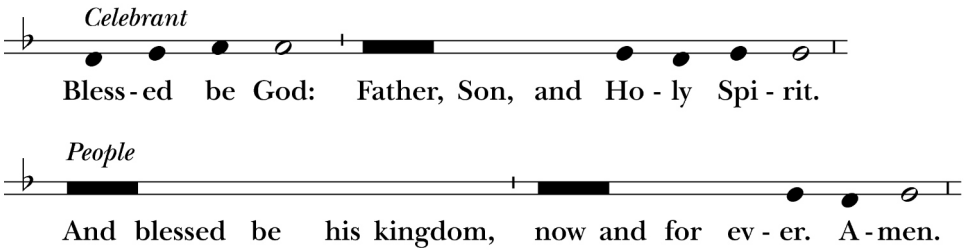
PRELUDE – Prelude III in D Minor Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #287 For all the saints *Sine Nomine*

All stand as the procession enters the nave.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION S76



Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

Victoria

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

All sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader A reading from the Revelation of John.

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

> "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
> and thanksgiving and honor
> and power and might
> be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

> "For this reason they are before the throne of God,
> and worship him day and night within his temple,
> and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
> They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
> the sun will not strike them,
> nor any scorching heat;
> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
> and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
> and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34:1-10,22 Setting by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

8am Read responsively; 10:15am chanted by the choir

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

THE EPISTLE 1 John 3:1-3

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – #656 Blest are the poor in heart *Franconia*

All standing, as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

All remain standing, as able.

The ✠Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Very Rev. Rebecca A. Barnes

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Celebrant In Holy Baptism, we have become part of the Body of Christ that great fellowship of believers in all times and places. As members of Christ's body we are inheritors of God's kingdom with the saints in light. Let us now renew the vows of our baptism by which God has made us a holy people.

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
People **I do.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor In communion with all the saints and in the name of Jesus, let our prayers ascend to God whose children we are, saying: *Hear us, O Holy One.*

For the Church, and especially Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean our Presiding Bishop; Stephen our Bishop Provisional; and our Diocese as we prepare to call a new Bishop Diocesan, that together we may heed God's call to strive for justice and peace among all people. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For this Cathedral community, that we who share in the heavenly feast may be joined together with those of all times and ages in one Body of faith, service and witness to God. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all who seek peace in Ukraine, the Holy Land and other places of war and conflict, that God will grant wisdom and courage to those in authority to lay down the instruments of violence and destruction and study war no more. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all who are anxious or fearful, that God will calm our hearts, quiet our minds and still our thoughts, that we may wholly trust in God's goodness and grace. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For the upcoming election, that God will grant wisdom to voters, integrity to candidates and election workers, and peace throughout our communities, that our nation may seek the common good and walk in harmony according to God's will. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all those living in the shadows of fear, violence and poverty, and all those who are in need of our prayers, remembering especially, Christian, Yvonne, Tracy, Brian, Sean, Lynne, Alex, Jim, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, and those on the Cathedral Pastoral Care list, that they may be kept safe in the hollow of God's hand. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

In thanksgiving for those who have gone before us in the faith, that we may be inspired by them to greater efforts to live the Gospel and trust in God's gift of salvation.
Hear us, O Holy One.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Blessed Mary the God-bearer, with Blessed Paul, with the spirits of the blessed, with the holy patriarchs, prophets, and martyrs, and all the saints and souls of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O God, we give glory and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for the triumph of Christ in the lives of your saints. Receive the prayers we offer this day and make us one with all your saints in the fullness of Christ's body, so that we may rise again to glory with him who is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – Give us the wings of faith Sir Ernst Bullock (1890 – 1979)

Give us the wings of faith to rise
Within the veil, and see
The Saints above, how great their joys
How bright their glories be

We ask them, whence their victory came
They with one united breath
Ascribe the conquest to the Lamb
Their triumph to His death

They marked the footsteps that He trod
His zeal inspired their breast
And following their incarnate God
They reached the promised rest

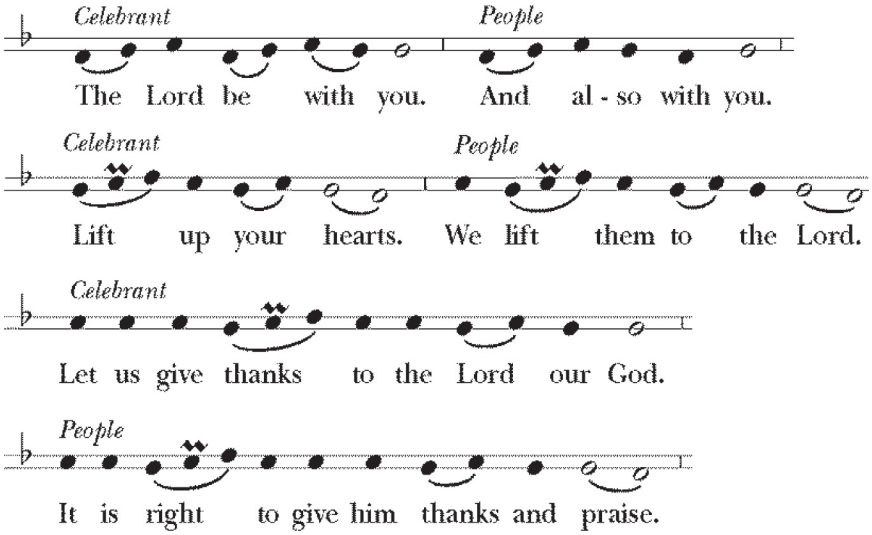
OFFERTORY HYMN – #232 By all your saints still striving *Nyland*

All standing, as able.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

SURSUM CORDA S120



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS Victoria

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

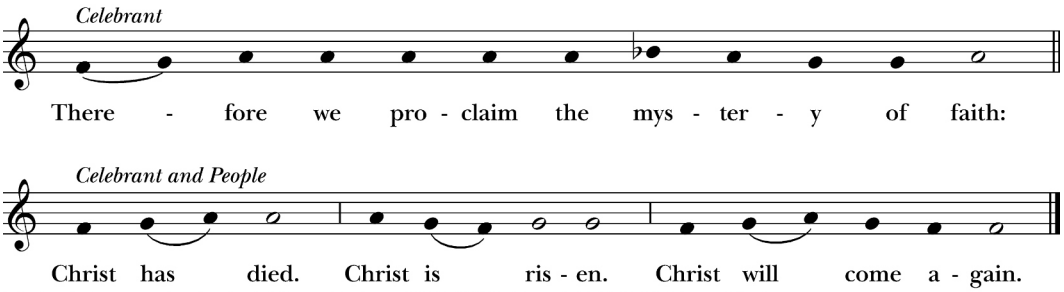
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION S133



Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

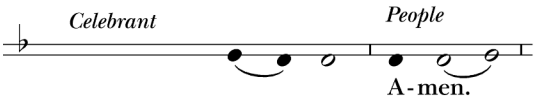
The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through you Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

CONCLUSION OF THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND AMEN S142

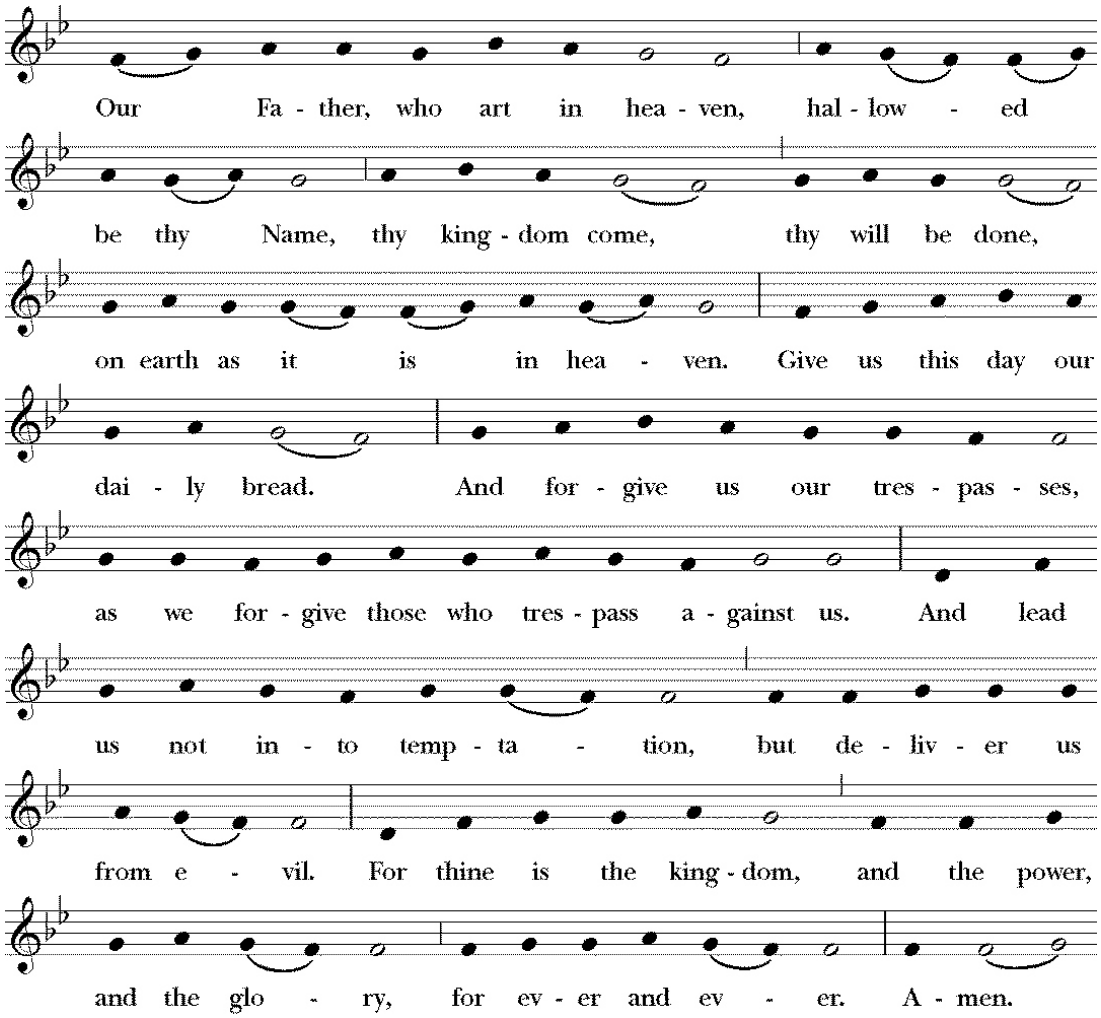


The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

S119



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.
Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Victoria

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Paul's. Communion will be distributed at the High Altar and at the Crossing. The people will be invited by row to come forward; you may return to your pew by the side aisles. Anyone needing assistance may indicate so to an usher and communion will be brought to you at the end.

The Holy Communion is distributed under the forms of both Bread and Wine. In the interest of public health, the Cathedral does not practice intinction, that is, the dipping of the Bread into the Wine. It is the faith of the Church that Jesus gives himself in the Sacrament whether it is received in only one kind or both. Gluten-free Wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

It is our custom to receive the bread in the upturned palms of our hands, and eat it immediately. Those who wish to receive wine should partake by sipping directly from the chalice. Please use your hands, holding the base of the chalice, to gently assist the server in guiding the chalice to your lips.

If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, instead of the bread/wine, signal your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

AT THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

O Taste and See Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
(Psalm 34 v.8)

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP page 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

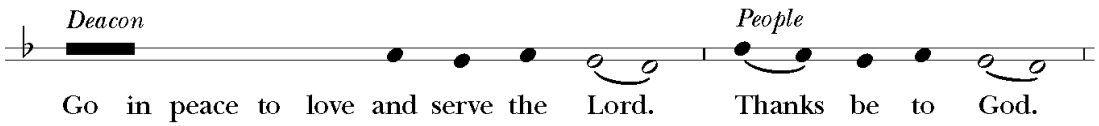
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING BCP page 339

THE FINAL HYMN – #618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones *Lasst uns erfreuen*

THE DISMISSAL S174



POSTLUDE – Fugue III in D Minor Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

TODAY AT ST PAUL'S

- 8:00am – **The Holy Eucharist, Rite II** (said) – Richmond Chapel
- 9:00am - **Bible Study** in the Walker Room – coffee and discussion of scripture lessons for the week.
- 10:00am – ***Godly Play Sunday School Program*** - St. Paul's offers "Godly Play: is a Montessori-based program on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children.
- 10:15am – **Holy Eucharist, Rite II** (Choral)
- 11:30am – **Coffee Hour** – All are welcome to enjoy refreshments and join in some fellowship time at coffee hour following immediately following the 10:15 Eucharist.
- 5:00pm – Choral Evensong for All Saints'

All Saints' Festival Choral Evensong

A Festival Choral Evensong will be held in celebration of All Saints' Day on November 1 at 5pm.

The Cathedral Choir will perform a *Preces and Responses* by Bruce Neswick and *The Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* in D by Roland Martin, all of which were composed for St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo, along with *Holy is the True Light* by William Henry Harris. All are warmly welcome to attend.

Parking is available at Main Place Mall Parking — 221 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY 14202. We suggest that you use the entrance directly across from the Rath County Office Building, 166 Pearl, (you will notice the skywalk above) which is only a 1/2 block north of the Cathedral. Bring your parking garage ticket with you and an usher will validate for free parking.

Livestreaming will also be available over the Cathedral's livestream site:
https://tinyurl.com/yrh6pvu7

From the Dean's Desk

On October 18th, we launched our 2026/7 Fall Pledge Campaign - Plenty Good Room. At the risk of making multiple, and perhaps confusing requests, we took two special offerings right at the same time we were heading into the pledge season. One was to assist our friends at Good Shepherd, Irving, NY, a parish on the nearby Seneca Nation lands. This was to assist with covering needed repairs to their furnace prior to the winter months. With a grateful heart, I am happy to report that we raised $1,289 for Good Shepherd, and an additional gift of $1,311 will be sent to them to cover the full cost of the needed work.

The other was a collection we took was for the United Thank Offering (UTO) for which a total of $758 was given by St. Paul's Cathedral. At Convention, Delegates brought forth their UTO donations which totaled $6,300 from the parishes from across the Diocese.

Thank you all for your tremendous kindness, generosity, and support as we seek to serve Christ together.

– Dean Rebecca

First Tuesday - November 3rd

The first Tuesday in November falls on Nov. 3, that's right, Election Day. After you've done your civic duty, grab your favorite beverage, sit back and enjoy some chit chat with old and new friends at the SPC Zoom Coffee Hour.

Join us at the following Zoom link anytime between 7:00 and 7:45 PM when there is no particular agenda. One never knows what will come up, but this time we might imagine something about our polling experiences. Compline begins at 7:45 and we adjourn about 8:00.

SPC Zoom Link: https://tinyurl.com/mvnsn4aw
Meeting ID: 716 855 0900 Password: 4cathedral
By Phone: 929-205-6099 Access code: 716 855 0900 Password: 535 007 8352

Regional Confirmations

Regional confirmations have been scheduled for Saturday, November 21 at 10:30am at St Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo. The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane (Bishop Provisional of WNY) is presiding. This is an opportunity to be confirmed, received, or reaffirmed. If you would like to know more about Confirmation/Reception/Reaffiirmaiton (or baptism or officially becoming a member of St. Paul's), please speak with Dean Rebecca.

Diocesan Convention Highlights

From Evelyn Smigelsky, Delegate to the Convention

Last week, along with Kim Goodman-O'Connell and Su Hadden, I had the privilege of attending and representing Saint Paul's Cathedral as a delegate to the 189th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York. The convention met at the beautiful Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celeron, New York on October 23 and October 24. In addition to Kim Goodman and Su Hadden, Estelle Siener, was present as an Alternate delegate, and Chris Casto served as a Greeter. Other dedicated members of St. Paul's also in attendance were Kathy Reiss and Nancy Boncore.

This year's convention, whose overarching theme was "We are the Episcopal Church," included delegates and leaders from 52 different congregations from the seven counties of

Western New York who met to consider the essential work of worship, elections and the budget.

Dr. Molly James, the Interim Executive Officer of the Episcopal Church, was the special guest speaker whose topic addressed our life as the Episcopal Church in these challenging times. Among the many interesting points that Dr. James made was the fact that membership in the Episcopal Church in America in 2026 is similar to membership in the church in 1930 in the sense that back then the numbers had declined, only to increase steadily during the baby boom era of the 1940s through 1960s. However, she emphasized that, as the generation of baby boomers dies out, the church will have to transform itself once again to meet the needs of the younger generation.

The work of the convention centered around Ministry & Fellowship and included committee reports, updates on regional church initiatives, and community fellowship.
Over the course of a day and a half, the convention considered and approved the diocesan budget as well as resolutions related to canonical voting to elect leadership for the standing committee, the diocesan council, and trustees. In keeping with the technological era in which we live, voting for the Lay and Clergy candidates for the various posts was completed electronically via our cell phones, and several nominations, appointments, and commissions were made by Bishop Stephen Lane.

Notably, Christina Casto from St. Paul's was re-elected as a Diocesan Trustee, and Su Hadden was was elected and commissioned as a member of the Diocesan Standing Committee in the Lay Order.

Among the four resolutions that the delegates were asked to consider, one of particular note was the Buffalo City in a Park Collaborative Resolution which called for the diocese to be a supporting partner in the efforts to promote environmental justice, neighborhood, reconnection, public health, and community flourishing.
Diocesan support would include providing a grant of $10,000 in seed funding to support the collaboratives, organizational development, community engagement, public education, and initial operating expenses. Although there was some opposition to approving this resolution among the delegates, the majority supported it, and the resolution was approved.

The business of much of the remainder of the Convention related to discussion of the rules and procedures for the May 1, 2027 Electing Convention at which a new Bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of WNY will be selected. Also, the date and the site of the next annual convention were set (October 29-30, 2027 in Niagara Falls, New York). Thereafter, the elected persons whom Bishop Lane appointed and nominated were formally commissioned, and, following the final blessing, the meeting was adjourned.

While I could offer greater detail about all aspects of the convention, I will conclude by simply stating that the experience was an opportunity for growth and renewal for those in attendance. The convention confirmed that, "We are the Episcopal Church!"

Stewardship 2026: What's your why?

It is now official. On Sunday, October 18, the 2026 Stewardship campaign was launched with our traditional ice cream social during the coffee hour after the 10:15 service. I offer these words to hopefully help you to think about a stewardship campaign through a different lens. Recently the Dean, and three of the members of the Stewardship Committee participated in an online training program on stewardship offered by the College of Bishops of the Episcopal Church. The goal of the training was to help congregations develop an individualized stewardship campaign that can be used year after year. Just to be clear, this year, we will use the campaign materials provided by the Episcopal Network for Stewardship or its acronym TENS. This year's theme is Plenty Good Room. You will hear more about that during the ongoing campaign that will end on November 22 with ingathering of pledges during the 8 & 10:15 services.

Back to the training. One of the first things that we focused on were the following three words: what, how, and why? Some clarification. We are very well versed in the first two words. A stewardship campaign is what we do. Our weekly outreach programs through the Garden of Love belong in the what category. Things that we do all of the time. The how is the things we do to make the what successful. For stewardship we have a kick-off, we send out letters to the congregation, various members of the congregation will offer messages about what stewardship means to that individual.

I have left why for last. Now you may think that you know the answer to the question: Why do we have a stewardship campaign? Duh, to raise money for the next budgetary year. While that may be true, I would ask you to bear with me while I provide another answer to that question. It was during the very first session of the training that I and my fellow trainees had one of those moments when you begin to look at a familiar concept in a totally different light. Consider the following description of our cathedral parish:

For over two hundred years St. Paul's has been a beacon of hospitality and welcome to all in the center of our city. Sunday mornings will find an inclusive and diverse congregation meeting to share fellowship, hear the word of Jesus proclaimed and preached in a beautiful liturgy which still follows a format that might still be recognized by earlier worshippers in the same venue. Our congregation is more of a church family that gathers together to receive nourishment at our Lord's table which segues to a coffee hour where all, members and visitors gather to greet each other and welcome new faces. When we leave the church on Sunday morning, we carry the message of Jesus out to the world and fulfill our gospel mandate to care for our neighbors through pastoral care and outreach initiatives that meet in the Flickinger Ministry Center throughout the week. This is a congregation that looks to the future, sure in the conviction that the gospel message of love, peace and caring for our neighbors and the stranger, will endure for another two hundred years.

Now, you might mistake what you just read as a profile we might use to attract new members or even be used when a search is held to find a new rector. Believe it or not, what you just read constitutes my own personal why for having a stewardship/pledge drive each year. Sure, we still need to bring in funds to help provide many of the things mentioned in the description of St. Paul's. You will probably agree with most of what I wrote and you might even add something that I did not mention.

Over the course of the next few weeks, you will hear people speak about his or her why for making a pledge to St. Paul's. I ask that you use what you have read here as an aid in your own discernment as to what you will promise for next year when you fill out your pledge card. Yes, we will still send out letters, and yes money is important; all of the things that are important to us as a congregation cost money. It is still the what/how of stewardship season. I am hoping that you will add your own why to the mix when pledging what you will give back to God for his continued love and care to you and to this cathedral.

Michael Bonilla, Sr. Warden
Stewardship Committee

CATHEDRAL CREATION CARE

Holy Hikes

Holy Hikes of Western New York, a ministry of St. Paul's Cathedral, is pleased to announce its full schedule (tinyurl.com/mwc53bmn) for the 2026 season. All hikes are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10am, unless otherwise announced. **On November 14th, we will hike at the Iroquois National Wildlife Preserve, Basom, NY.**

All are welcome; carpooling will be available from the Cathedral at 9:15am or you can join us directly at the appointed hike location.

SJAT Note: Good News! Scrap It Buffalo Expands

From Estelle Siener for the Social Justice Action Team

A turquoise bucket sits next to our coffee machine in the kitchen at church. It's a compost bin for food waste. All coffee grounds, tea bags and food waste go into it. Bill and I take the bag home to put in our own compost bin. Farmer Pirates, a company operating on Coit Street in Buffalo, collects and composts the food waste. It sells most of it to the City of Buffalo for our parks, but in the spring, it will also sell to individual gardeners.

For several years, Bill and I have participated in this pilot composting initiative. We have a small compost bin on our kitchen cupboard. When it is full we put it in a larger bin with a biodegradable liner, both supplied by Farmer Pirates. City dwellers may have seen these bins on garbage day in their neighborhood. It is about three feet high and fits under our kitchen cupboard. Farmer Pirates picks it up and leaves a new liner on our garbage day.

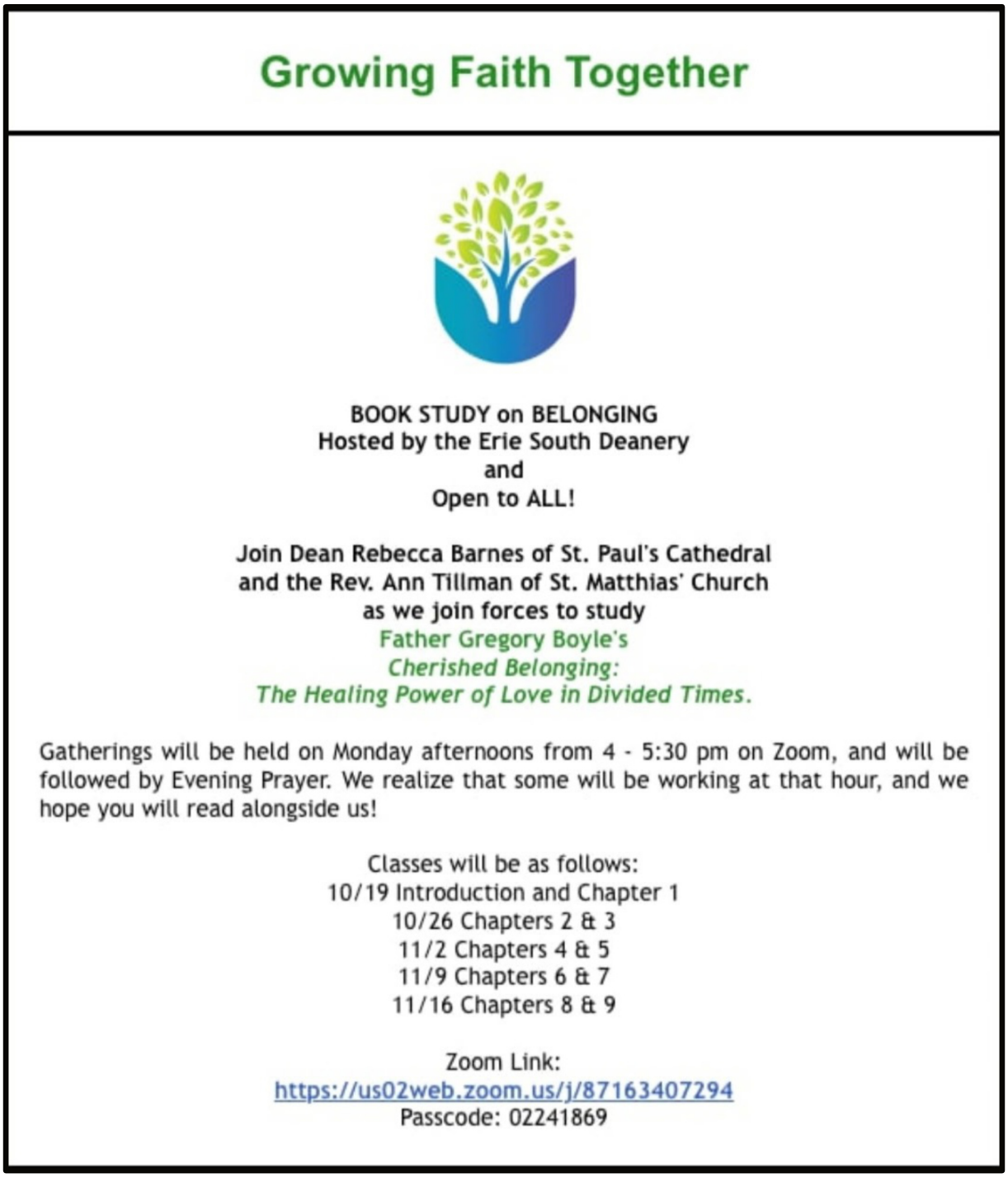
Buffalo residents can now apply for this expanded service. If you live outside the city, check with your town government to see if there is a similar program.

It's free! And recycling waste is good for the planet!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Children's Christian Education: "Godly Play"

"Godly Play: a Montessori-based program is offered on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children. If you are interested in learning more about Christian Education and Formation for a child in your family, please contact Kathy Reiss at kathyreiss@yahoo.com. For information about baptism and/or confirmation, please contact Dean Rebecca at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org



IMPORTANT ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS AT ST. PAUL'S

"We've got you covered!" - Parking at St. Paul's

At St. Paul's we are deeply aware of the challenges of downtown parking. As one of the oldest churches in the Diocese, we have been on this location for 210 years, long before the advent of the automobile era, but we do not want that to hinder your participation and worship at the Cathedral.

We offer the following options:

We've got you covered - literally! Park at Main Place Mall Parking (221 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY 14202, https://www.mainliberty. com/parking) .This is our preferred garage for those coming to St. Paul's. We suggest that you use the entrance directly across from the Rath County Office Building, approx. Address is 166 Pearl, (you will notice the skywalk above) which is only a 1/2 block north of the Cathedral. Weekend parking is $6 all day. Weekday rate: $5 for 1 hr or less; $7 for 3hr or less; $12 full day.

Accessibility: ADA-compliant spaces and elevator access available and 24/7 surveillance, well-lit areas, and patrolled security. EV Charging: Electric vehicle charging stations available. If you bring your ticket from the Main Place Mall Parking with you, at the end of the service ask an usher for a voucher for your card. (If you can afford to pay, we kindly ask that you please leave this limited fund for those who can't, thank you!)

As a reminder, street parking is free on Saturdays and Sundays.

Additional ramps we suggest are:

- Adam Ramp (343 Washington St., Buffalo, NY 14202) - 1 1/2 blocks behind the Cathedral. Weekend parking is $6 all day. Weekday rate: $2.50 hr/ $10 max.

- 93 Pearl Street Garage (93 Pearl St. Buffalo, NY 14202) - A block south of the Cathedral. Daily Parking (Mon - Fri, 6 am - 6 pm) - $10 Max

Pastoral Care Ministry at St. Paul's

In the weekly Prayers of the People, we offer intercessions for those for whom prayers have been requested who are in acute or critical need. Names remain on the list for six weeks. Should you wish to have them remain on the list longer, that request may be made to the Dean. We maintain a separate Pastoral Care prayer list for those who are homebound and in nursing homes, or may request ongoing prayer. This list is weekly announcements and eNews, but individual names are included in the intercessions. We ask that the entire congregation remember these beloved of our community in our regular prayers holding in your hearts and prayers, all those in need and absent from us.

In a **Pastoral Emergency,** please contact— The Reverend Elizabeth Grohowski, Associate for Pastoral Care at (212) 222-8109 / email at motherliz@spcbuffalo.org or The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Dean at (646) 533-1836 / email at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org.

If you, or a family member, are in the hospital, a healthcare facility, or are home bound and would like to have a visit from one of the clergy or a member of our Pastoral Care Committee, please contact the cathedral office at (716) 855-0900 or at office@spcbuffalo.org. Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, commonly known as HIPAA, hospitals no longer automatically provide churches with names of admitted parishioners. If you or a family member are hospitalized or in a healthcare facility, you or someone acting on your behalf will need to notify the church to assure that proper pastoral care may be offered. St. Paul's complies with all HIPAA requirements and cannot provide personal information for sick or injured members without permission of the member or his or her close family member. Additionally, if you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and desire regular Eucharistic visitation, please notify the parish office. Eucharistic Visitations are customarily made once per month; weekly visits may be scheduled upon request.

Prayer and Pastoral Care for the Week of November 1

We lift up the following in prayer, especially Christian, Yvonne, Tracy, Brian, Sean, Lynne, Alex, Jim, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, Sharon, Elaine, Howard, Lillian, Patty, Renee, Jim, Judy, Ann, Carol, and Shirley.

We also remember those who have died especially Terry, Wanda, Rob and Antonio, the victims of the mass shootings in Erie and Oregon, and those whose anniversaries of death we mark this week. We pray for them and their loved ones who remember them.

ACROSS THE DIOCESE AND THE CHURCH

From Bishop Steve

Dear Friends,

A moment to pat ourselves on the back. A big thank you to all who took part in or helped with our Diocesan Convention. We enjoyed a beautiful setting, worshiped together, heard from a leader of The Episcopal Church, engaged in meaningful conversations, practiced electronic voting, elected our own leaders, reviewed this past summer's listening process, adopted the budget, and addressed our business in a respectful and orderly manner. There was a good and hopeful spirit throughout.

A successful Convention requires the hard work and faithful participation of many people. So thank you to all who took part: clergy, delegates, exhibitors, guests and staff. We did it together!

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This week is Halloween, which in my lifetime has become an increasingly popular holiday, celebrated not only by trick-or-treaters, but also by adults. It has also become an important commercial event. So, it's probably useful to talk about it a bit.

We are moving into the season of new year's festivals, and Halloween is the first of them. Our Halloween practices are rooted in the Celtic observance of Samhain, meaning "summer's end," a harvest and new year's festival. At Samhain, the Celts believed that the veil between the living and the dead thinned and connections could be made with the spirits of the dead, some of which were malevolent. Communal bonfires were lit to keep the bad spirits at bay, and in true new year's fashion, fires were extinguished at home and families carried home embers of the communal fire in gourds to protect their homes. (Think jack-o-lanterns.) Costumes or animal skins were also worn to confuse or hide from malevolent spirits.

The Christian Church, in a long established habit, moved All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day to November 1 and 2, to co-opt and Christianize the pagan festival. The calendar remains the same today.

There is in all of us the very human sense that people remain connected beyond death. Whether we think that's simply the power of memory or a living, spiritual connection, it's nonetheless the truth that, although death ends our physical connection, we continue to carry those who have gone before us in our minds and hearts. In the Church we call that the communion of saints, and we believe that through God's grace we remain connected for eternity. The saints are for us examples and reminders of God's love and faithfulness. I sometimes hear my former mother-in-law, a good theologian, speaking to me about what God wants.

Christians sometimes lament the rise of Halloween traditions. I personally dislike the gruesomeness of some Halloween decorations. But the human recognition of mortality, the yearning for connection, and the hope for new life that underlies Halloween deserves serious consideration. The "cloud of witnesses" we recognize continues to be an important part of our faith and life. Perhaps we might celebrate All Saints' and All Souls' Days with renewed attention and energy this year.

Peace,
+Steve

Diocesan Convention

Many thanks to our musician, Karen Hewes Suber; to our clergy, Ann Tillman, Jason Miller, Luke Fodor, Nick Evancho, Cathy Smith, Diana Leiker, Molly James, and Bishop Steve; and to our laity from Trinity, Hamburg, and Rachel Pinti and Cheryl Emerson, who served at Eucharist. Thanks also to Katelyn Nicoloff and Gavin Card for leading our morning worship. It does, indeed, take a village!

Convention is a time of great reunion and renewal. As someone who is involved with many of our congregations, I want you to know that the faithfulness of your work toward the reign of God is noticed and appreciated. Keep the faith, love God, change the world!

– Canon Cathy

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Four carloads of food & hygiene donations were delivered to the Jamestown Community College Food Pantry due to the generosity of our congregations, and $1,200 was collected for the Food Pantry during the Convention Eucharist!

Delegates brought forth their UTO donations which totaled $6,300 from our congregation's support!

All information from convention is on our website: **https://tinyurl.com/myrhmr7p**

To view more photos and video from Convention, visit our FaceBook page: **https://www.facebook.com/your.episcopal.wny**

Remember to Follow & Share!

Coming Soon: Called Together — Our Diocesan Profile

Mark your calendars for November 2! As we continue our search for the 12th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, we're excited to share Called Together, our diocesan profile.

Shaped by a summer of listening across 49 of our 51 congregations, the profile tells the story of who we are, the ministries that bring our faith to life, the challenges we face, and the hopes we hold for our future. Most importantly, it invites potential candidates to discern with us as we seek a bishop who will help us deepen connections, strengthen our shared ministry, and imagine with us what God is calling us to become.

Help us spread the word. Just as a personal invitation is the most effective way to bring someone to church, a personal invitation is also the best way to encourage prospective nominees to consider Western New York. If you know someone who might be a good fit for this calling, send them the profile. Encourage them. Pray for them—and all who are discerning.

You can find the profile after November 2 on the diocesan website: **https://tinyurl.com/2uan7rp2**

Download the Prayer for the Bishop Search: **https://tinyurl.com/yc7uczsz**

From the Archives

No. 35

St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Buffalo, New York

According to our Jewish/Christian tradition, the world was created in a symbolic period of six days, with God resting on the seventh day, the Sabbath. By adding an "eighth" day to the story of creation, Christians not only celebrate our Lord's resurrection on the "eighth" day, we bear witness, as well, to our belief in the sacrament of baptism by which we enter into God's new and eternal creation.

Eight-sided baptismal fonts, attesting to this belief in "the eighth day of creation", have been around for many centuries, and it is not uncommon to see them in Episcopal churches today. St. Paul's Cathedral has had two such fonts: one from the early days of the wooden church (1821-49), which was placed in the new stone church in 1850. Unfortunately, this font was destroyed in the explosion and fire of 1888. A sizable piece of the marble basin bearing the monogram *Alpha and Omega* is on display in the back of the nave. It was found in 2026 after lying forgotten in a dark corner of the cathedral's cellar for the last 138 years. We know from *The History of St. Paul's Church* that four of the panels of the octagon bowl were carved with baptismal symbols. Unfortunately, only the *Alpha and Omega* panel survived the blast. The second octagonal marble baptismal font was placed in St Paul's in its present position in 1897 in memory of Mrs. Amilia Lent Curtiss (1827-1881) by her sons Dr. Alexander M. Curtiss and Mr. Harlow C. Curtiss. Before the installation of the Curtiss memorial baptismal font a quatrefoil-shaped one had been used for baptisms. What became of this font is unknown at the present time.

The Curtiss memorial baptismal font has the traditional eight panels surrounding the basin. Five of the panels contain stylized crosses enclosed within a quatrefoil. The remaining three depict Noah's Ark, a symbol of the Church; the Greek monogram **IHS**, the first two letters of the name Jesus followed by the final "s"; and lastly, the inset with the three interlaced fish. This panel is difficult to see as it faces the wall. The inscription around the rim of the basin reads:

Suffer the little children to come unto me.*

A few words now about the image of the three fish found on our baptismal font. Why fish? Well, we can't be sure, and theories on its origine abound. However, we do know that images of fish were used to decorate the walls of early Roman catacombs in second, third and fourth centuries A. D., usually in reference to Jesus and the Eucharistic meal. The word **fish** in Greek **ichthus** serves as an acrostic for "**I**=Jesus **CH**=Christ, **THU**=Son of God, **S**=Savior." The connection between fish and water is obvious. Just as fish need water to survive, Christians need to pass through the waters of baptism to enter into the kingdom of God. A representation of three fish alludes to the Holy Trinity in whose name we are baptized. If arranged in a circle the three fish refer to God's triune and eternal nature.

Religious symbols, even those in their simplest visual forms, can still represent complex concepts and ideas that have layers of meaning rooted in the history, culture and values of a faith community. I can't help but wonder about the number of symbols here in St. Paul's Cathedral that are "hiding in plain sight," such as the three interlaced fish on the back panel of the Curtiss baptismal font. If I have piqued your interest in religious symbolism, and if you would like help with the count, please let me know in person or contact me at wmori@aol.com.

Wayne A. Mori, Archivist

**Footnote*

These words of Jesus found in the Gospel of St. Matthew may have been particularly meaningful to the Curtiss family as their thirteen-year-old daughter, Charlotte, had been taken from them on January 16, 1866 by diphtheria. The Jewett M. Richmond family, as well, lost two sons, Jewett and Irving, ages eight and five, respectively, to diphtheria within a month of each other in 1880. Diphtheria, nicknamed the "Strangling angel," remained the leading cause of illness and death among children well into the first decades of the twentieth century.

New or visiting today? Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the Hymnal in the pew (red or blue). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable.

Restrooms are located on the lower level. From the elevator, proceed through the double glass doors and look to your right for an accessible restroom. Additional restrooms are on the same level, to the left, near the kitchen.

Children are always welcome in worship and are invited to explore! Greeters can provide activity kits, available in the back of the church. Godly Play is also offered. For details: cathedral@spcbuffalo.org.

MINSTERS OF THE LITURGY

Kathy Reiss, Delwyn Milander; Altar Guild
Kimberly O'Connell, Susan Hadden; Ushers
Jessy Alexander, Patricia Hills; Coffee Hour Hosts
Thomas Heyer; Livestream Technician

Valerie Thomas, Roger Woodard, Charles Casto Jr.; Readers
Roger Woodard; Thurifer
Andrew Jacob; Crucifer
Valerie Thomas, Andrea Larracuente; Intercessors
Evelyn Smigelsky; Eucharistic Minister

The Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral
Patricia Hills; Conductor
Timothy Socha; Guest Organist

The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes; Celebrant and Preacher

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop Provisional
https://episcopalwny.org/

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Thomas Himmelsbach, Maintenance

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Michael Bonilla, Warden (bonz5647@yahoo.com) • Estelle Siener, Warden (estelle.siener@gmail.com)

The people of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral strive to be a beacon of
God's love in Western New York through transformative worship, inclusive fellowship,
and active service in partnership with the wider community.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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