

Smatterings

Saint Matthew's
Episcopal Church
September 2023



Fr. Frank

Canterbury Cathedral

The Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ at Canterbury (aka, Canterbury Cathedral) is 1,426 years old! It is one of the oldest and most famous Cathedrals in the world.

It was founded shortly after the arrival of Augustine of Canterbury in 597. Over the span of its 1400-year life, the building has seen major changes and renovations to its structure. The ground on which it stands was given to Augustine by the Anglo-Saxon King Æthelbert after the king's conversion to Christianity. The cathedral was completely rebuilt between 1070 and 1077, and then again in the 12th century following a fire. Then, in the 14th century, it was expanded again!

While most of us might rightly associate Canterbury Cathedral with Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales, there is so much more to the Cathedral than these tales! Interestingly enough, the Canterbury Tales are a collection of stories about pilgrims as they travel together to Canterbury to visit the shrine of Thomas Becket at the Cathedral. Becket was an archbishop who was murdered in the Cathedral in 1170. Becket's remains were first buried in a simple, stone vault in the crypt. However, because the site of his murder and subsequent burial place became a such popular pilgrimage site, his body was moved up in the main part of the church but directly above Becket's original tomb in the crypt. The area is called Trinity Chapel, which is directly behind the Chair of St. Augustine (the ceremonial enthronement chair of the Archbishop of Canterbury).

The shrine was not just an ordinary burial site, it was a magnificently bright structure made of gold and precious jewels. As many of the Cathedral docents noted while we were there, "with the sunlight streaming in through the large colorful stained glass windows and after climbing several levels of stairs on their knees leading up to the shrine, the whole drama of the spectacle would have seemed like heaven on earth to them!" Here is how it is described in some articles I came across and by what was told to us on various tours:

"Made of gold and silver with precious jewels, on top of a marble plinth, raised on columns. The gold covered a wooden chest, which contained an iron-bound box holding Becket's remains. In addition, various trinkets and treasures were added to the adornments of the chest over the years. Other adornments placed on pedestals or beams nearby or attached to hanging tapestries. The covering of the chest could be raised creating quite a spectacle for the pilgrims. Many of the jewels were offerings sent by sovereign princes."

This lasted until the time of King Henry VIII. He held great disdain for Becket's popularity and eventually had the shrine destroyed along with Becket's remains. Today, in the place where the shrine once stood is a small candle sitting on the floor that is always lit. There is a painting of Henry VIII by Hans Holbein that shows Henry wearing one of the prized jewels from Becket's shrine. As would be the case later in Henry's reign, the monastery was eventually dissolved, as well.

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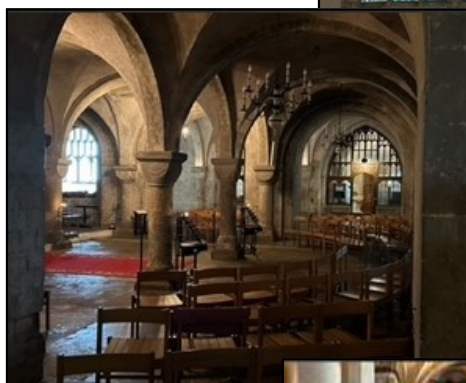
From its inception, there has always been a school on the grounds of the Cathedral since its first timber building. This is still true to this day!

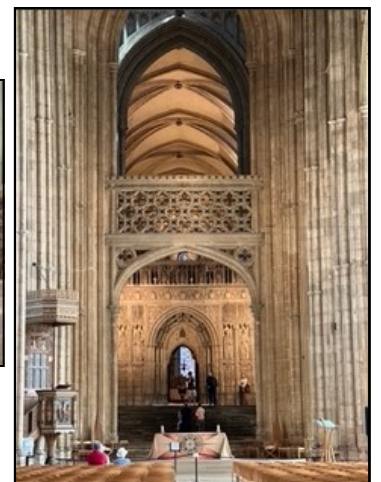
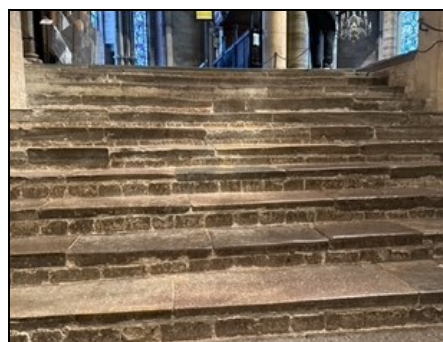
The cathedral was destroyed by fire in 1067, survived damages from the Danish raids on Canterbury in 1011, succumbed to another fire in 1174, an earthquake in 1382, the “cleansing of the cathedral” during the English Civil War, another fire in 1872, and both World Wars! And through it all, Christ Church at Canterbury continues to stand as a beacon of faith not only for the Church of England or the Worldwide Anglican Communion, but for all people, everywhere, at all times.

There is no less the 45 pages of names of people buried in the Cathedral. Some of the more notable names include:

- St. Anselm
- Stephen Langton (who designed “chapter and verse” of the Bible)
- Donald Coggan
- Michael Ramsey
- Edward the Black Prince
- William Temple
- Henry IV
- William Warham
- Joan of Navarre (Queen of England)

It is truly a remarkable place and is still a robust site for pilgrimage. As busy as the place can be with visitors and visiting choirs and dignitaries, there remains a peaceful and prayer calm in the massive structure and surrounding grounds. It has and it will always be, first and foremost, a place of prayer and a house of worship that gives glory to God.







Announcements



Crop Walk News

The annual Crop Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 1, 2023, at 2:00pm.** We

will begin the walk at the Inter Church Center on 42nd Street. St Matthew's team is registered on the Indianapolis website. For more information contact Jenny Lloyd-Jones.

September Birthdays

September 2	Maggie Gentry
September 2	Angie Wilkinson
September 8	Andy Wilkinson
September 13	Trevor Teague
September 15	Barb Steward
September 26	Edna Mae Fisher
September 29	Hadley Jean Bell

September Anniversaries

September 22	Del and Lester Arbuckle Burkeen
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Coming Events

September 24 is St. Matt's Day
October 1 is the Crop Walk

October 7 is Action Day and Pet Blessing
Nov 10 and 11 is Diocesan Convention

Sunday Ministry Schedule September 2023

Ministry Schedule	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Crucifer/Serve r	Jon Robbins	Andy Wilkinson	Devon Teague	Joe Weaver
Chalice	Melissa Kleine	Jon Robbins	Bonnie Godfrey	Lee Ann Kee
1 st Reading	Andy Wilkinson	Kevin Sterrett	Jody Breakell	Steve Albrecht
2 nd Reading	Joe Weaver	Jared Hancock	Wendy Blumenthal	Jennifer Albrecht
Intercessor	Catherine Davis	Marla Davenport	Heidi Kauffman	Crystal Black
Ushers/Greeters	Wendy Blumenthal	Greg Staab	Angie Wilkinson	Bonnie Godfrey
	Jody Breakell	Missy Ellis	Andy Wilkinson	Melissa Kleine
Counters	Terry Kee	Angie Wilkinson	Missy Ellis	Kevin Sterrett
	Andy Wilkinson	Jennifer Albrecht	Natalie Palmer	Jon Robbins
Oblation Bearers	Suzanne Kissling	Kaye Palmer	Susan Teague	Greg Staab
	Bonnie Godfrey	Natalie Palmer	Dennis Teague	Missy Ellis
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4

If you are unable to serve, please find a substitute and advise the Parish Office. Thank you.

Outreach

ICAN assisted 108 clients at the agency in June.

The ICAN Food Pantry served over 410 households in Quarter 2.

The Clothing Closet is currently in need of :

1. Jeans for men and women
2. Underwear for men and women
3. Tee shirts for men

Thank you for your continued support!



COME Pantry Update

Things the Pantry needs right now:

1. Bread 2. Volunteers 3. Cash



Our next Meijer Simply Give Campaign will be July 2nd - Sept 30th at the E. Washington St. location, with two Double Match days on August 12th and Sept 9th!

You can contact the pantry at: 317-891-5179.

August Vestry Recap

Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report

All funds stayed relatively the same as last month. There was an increase in Founders Fund due to the stock market. Pledges continue to come in and with rectory rental and increase in building use, we are in strong position on our Total Revenue for the month and year. Our expenditures are not too far off track with the budget.

Primary Discussion Topics

Outreach: Communication with Warren Resource Center has been inconsistent. We will need to establish a contact and build a relationship in the schools to see if we can make this work. We are planning to host another Christmas party for Warren students, but on a scaled down version. We hope to sponsor kids for Waycross Camp next year and may talk with local schools directly instead of going through the Resource Center. Waycross is willing to partner with us so that is encouraging. We will need volunteers to work on this initiative.

CBCP implementation (technology): We are looking into putting a new outlet in for the Parish Hall. We are also considering buying new round tables for the Parish Hall to attract groups and business forums to rent our space. We also hope to have speakers and a microphone installed in this space.

WiFi: Signs for signing on to WiFi have been placed around the building so guests can log on!

Small Business Forums: A new idea for Outreach. Fr Frank is working with Teresa Conroy-Roth about ways to use our Parish Hall to help small businesses.

Newly Revised Gifts and Memorial Committee: Kay Palmer, Jody Breakell, Wendy Blumenthal have agreed to serve.

Revising By-Laws: Heidi and Joan have been hard at work revising the By-Laws. The Vestry reviewed the initial revisions and will review the final draft at the September meeting. The By-Laws will come before the congregation at the next Annual Meeting.

Reports

Rector's Report:

2023 Choral Scholars: Advertising has gone out to local colleges and universities. The goal is to recruit up to

four Scholars. The Choral Scholars Program is scheduled for the months of October, November, and December (2023) and February, March, and April (2024). Auditions will take place in September. The organization/selection team includes, Paul Johnson, Linda Sykes, Jared Hancock, and Crystal Black.

REALM: In September, Brianna and Fr Frank will focus on the communication part of the new database. Once completed, members of the congregation will receive an email asking to be included in the database. This will allow us to email through the Realm database.

Spiritual Formation Classes

This fall, we will be offering spiritual reflection sessions about Renewal. These sessions will include Fr Frank's portion as well as the Congregation's experiences.

Small Groups: We want to encourage the small groups that met during the Renewal period to continue meeting for meals and discussions.

Senior Warden Report

At the Vestry Retreat, we used this quote from St Francis as a starting point for our discussions: "Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible" For the past 3 months (during the Renewal period) this is what the St. Matthew's community did. We acted as one to serve "with open hearts and caring hands." Everyone – "from A-Z" – contributed to keep things moving smoothly and healthily. In the small gatherings, dinners, and recordings of our history, we celebrated our becoming "family." Based upon the reception of these events, they most certainly need to continue on a regular basis. Lastly, but not leastly: To Brianna, Andy, Greg, and Vestry a grateful heart for all you did and are continuing to do for St. Matthew's. All the help offered and provided when called upon—no questions asked. Grazie! On a lighter note: Yeah, Fr. Frank is back!!!! But best of all WE surprised him.

Junior Warden Report

Two air conditioning units are not functioning properly. Unit #2 (sanctuary) was repaired. Unit #9 (offices and part of Narthex) is an old unit and needs to be replaced. Vestry voted to replace after getting another quote and not to exceed the quote of \$9453 for a new unit.

Upcoming Events:

September 24 is St. Matt's Day

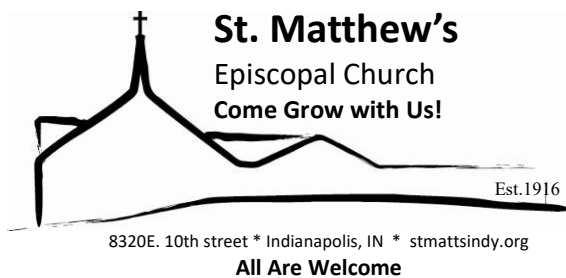
October 1 Crop Walk

October 7 Action Day and Pet Blessing

Nov 10 and 11 Diocesan Convention

Next Vestry Meeting – September 18, 2023

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Smatterings

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St. Matthew's clergy and staff:

The Revd Frank Impicciche, *Rector*

Brianna Owens, *Parish Administrator*

Crystal Black, *Hand Bell Choir Director*

A. Paul Johnson, *Organist/Choir Director*

Services

- Sundays: Holy Eucharist Rite II
8:00am and 10:00am
- Wednesdays : Holy Eucharist 10:00am

Nursery available on Sundays starting at 9:45

Parish Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8am-2pm, Fri. 9am-1pm

September 2023

St. Matthew's Mission Statement

The mission of St. Matthew's is

"to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."

We do this through worship of God,
education of ourselves and our children,
care for each other and outreach to others,
sharing faith stores with others,
and caring for all our resources (our time, treasure,
and talents).

Smatterings is published monthly except in the summer.

The deadline is the 15th of the month for the following month's publication.