



THE CANTERBURY CROSS

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV

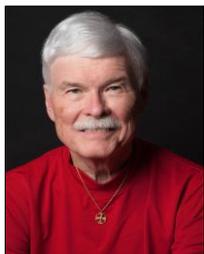
January 2017

Reminder

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 22, following a single service at 9:15 a.m.

Don't forget to bring a covered dish to share!

Review 2017-2020 Vestry Hopefuls, Vote at Annual Meeting January 22



John Beall

John Beall, a native Texan born in 1942, was professor of music and composer-in-residence at West Virginia University from 1978 until his retirement in 2014. A founding member of St. Thomas à Becket

Episcopal Church in Morgantown, he has held several Vestry memberships and one term as senior warden. Over the years, he has served as lector, chalice assistant, lay Eucharistic minister, choirmaster, substitute organist, youth leader, and is founder/director of the Becket Arts Series (since 1994). He was a member of the Building Committee through the design and building phases of the present sanctuary.

Although reared a Baptist, he has been an Episcopalian since 1973 and has been active in three different dioceses and four parishes. Through his increasing devotion to hymn and folk sources of West Virginia and the surrounding Appalachian country, he has undergone a sort of musical adoption.

Himself a string player (bass, cello) and pianist, he is also the father of violinist/violist Stephen Beall, potter Katherine Beall Simpson, grandfather of two budding pianists (Samuel and Matthew Simpson), and husband of pianist/organist Carol Allen Beall. Dr. Beall has written many pieces of music for the church, mostly for the choir of St. Thomas à Becket



Ann Claycomb

Ann Claycomb and her family “tried out” St. Thomas à Becket nearly 10 years ago and kept coming back, drawn by the warmth of the congregation, the erudition of the priests on the altar, and the delightfully

inclusive children’s program run (at the time) by Aurie Acciavatti.

Several years after the family joined the parish, Collin Claycomb, age 5, offered up a prayer in Sunday School for “my mom, who is having a baby!” Thus, Ian Beckett Claycomb was

introduced to the parish “a bit earlier than we might have planned”—and about a year later he celebrated his first Christmas at St. Thomas by “playing” Baby Jesus in the Christmas pageant.

Born and raised Roman Catholic, Ann has been active at St. Thomas for years, first as a member and then as co-chair (with Angela Carver) of the Special Events Committee; and then as the leader of the parish’s Youth Church, a program she created to address the spiritual and intellectual engagement needs of kids grades 4 through 8.

In her professional life, Ann is assistant vice president for strategic and academic communication in the Office of the Provost at West Virginia University. Her first novel is forthcoming from Harper Collins in March 2017, and she is at work on her second. She is not always sure she has time to engage in the valuable outreach and community work that is central to St. Thomas’s parish mission, but somehow always finds that the energy, dedication, and tremendous competence of everyone else around her makes things work.



Marty French

Marty French feels that our parish is a family for her. From the first organizational meeting (where she—“hugely pregnant and wanting a church for the coming baby—breathed

a thankful prayer that maybe, maybe here was our church”) to today, St. Thomas is her church. She is honored to have twice previously served on the Vestry. She founded the Crafty Ladies and currently serves as co-chair of the Fellowship Committee. She would once again highly value serving on the Vestry.

A Fairmont State University retired professor, she is a Stephen Minister (volunteer chaplain) at Mon General Hospital and serves on the board of Visiting Homemakers.



P.J. Henry

P.J. Henry is originally from Wheeling, WV, and has been attending St. Thomas à Becket since Ash Wednesday of 2015. P.J. was raised Catholic but has since joined the Episcopal Church in an effort

to be both traditional and progressive. He is a counter on Sundays and is also a member of the Property Committee.

P.J. is a 2011 graduate of West Virginia University, where he studied industrial engineering. He currently serves as the perioperative business manager at Mon General Hospital.

P.J. is married to Megan, who is currently pursuing an M.S. in mathematics. They reside in Preston County.

P.J. is honored to be considered for membership in the Vestry. He looks forward to being a voice for the St. Thomas members, especially during the pastoral search process.



Richard Morris

Richard Morris first came to St. Thomas with his wife in October 2014 and was confirmed along with others in June 2016. Originally from Wisconsin, where he studied at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater and obtained a bachelor of arts in international studies, specializing in Middle East public policy. After graduating in December 2009, he worked full time and volunteered with a local hospice organization.

In 2012, he came to West Virginia and began studying law at the West Virginia University College of Law. He graduated in 2015, and since then has been working for Legal Aid of West Virginia as an attorney, assisting and representing low-income veterans of West Virginia.

Since he has been attending St. Thomas, he has helped shovel snow and is a member of Altar Guild. He is truly humbled to be nominated to be a member of the Vestry and is honored by this nomination. It is his hope to be a member of Vestry so that he can do his part in continuing to grow and strengthen this community of faith.



Kristina Smith

Kristina Smith is from Charleston, WV, and has an M.B.A. from the University of Charleston. She has been a member of St. Thomas à Becket for more than five years and is currently serving on the Stewardship Committee.

She has also volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and many of the outreach programs.

Kristina feels honored to be considered for Vestry and hopes to continue to grow St. Thomas while serving her church family well.

It's time for directory pictures!

Would you like to have your picture in the new St. Thomas à Becket directory? There are two ways of doing that:

- 1) Send a picture of your choosing to Linda at thomasabecket.wv@gmail.com.
- 2) Have your picture taken at church. There is an area prepared in the Parish Hall where Jeff Fedan will be taking pictures in the interval (that is, from 9 until 10:00 am) BETWEEN THE 8:00 AND 10:30 A.M. SERVICES on January 8, 22 and 29.

Brush your teeth and bring a smile.

Praying for More to Come

Beth Royall, Stewardship Chair

As of mid-December, we had 42 pledges in hand—totaling \$136,110. Several pledges have come in since that tally, but we clearly have some distance to go to meet our projected expenses of \$262,600.

To give some perspective, at this time in 2016 we had a total of 64 pledging families—projecting a total of \$222,574.

If you have not yet turned in an offering form for 2017, I encourage you to do that.

All things come of thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given thee. 1 Chronicles 29:14

The prayers below were offered to help sustain our mission and ministries, and were received on Ingathering Sunday.

We pray that the word of God enters the hearts and minds of all peoples.

May we all strive to be more Christ like in our daily lives.



SOUP AND BREAD LUNCHEON

February 25, 2017

11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Hazel & JW Ruby Community Center
500 Mylan Park Lane - Chaplin Hill Road
Morgantown, West Virginia

Tickets on sale now for a minimum donation of \$20 each.

Children under 10 eat free, but do not receive a ceramic bowl.

If you are interested in volunteering and have not done so, please use the signup sheet on the table in the Narthex. Also if you are interested in making cookies for the event, there is a second signup sheet especially for that too (also on the table in the Narthex).



Bikes, Games, Clothes, and More!

Thank you to all the parishioners who blessed our Salvation Army Angel Family of two grandparents and four young boys. You made their Christmas brighter. Every one of their wishes was fulfilled. Bikes, games, clothes... and more!

Becket Arts to Feature Chamber Music Jan. 15

The January 15 Becket Arts Series concert at St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church might be entitled “The Skidmore Family and Friends.” Five members of the William Skidmore family will be involved: Bill, Dorothy, their two sons (Robert and Dan), and their daughter-in-law (Elizabeth, Dan’s wife).

Another featured performer will be harpist Christine Mazza. Other performers are Jeanne Friebe and Matthew Held.

The third concert of this season, the program will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday, January 15, and will include chamber music by W.A. Mozart, André Jolivet, Paul Reade, and Maurice Ravel.

Tickets, which will be available at the door, cost \$8 each. Seniors may purchase tickets for \$6. Student admission is free.

Happening in Our Diocese

EYE and Your Teens: Register by Jan. 17

Every three years the Episcopal Church invites high schoolers from every diocese to gather on a college campus for four days of fun, learning, inspiring worship, fun, and growth. The next Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) will be July 10-14, 2017, on the campus of University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, OK.

The Diocese of West Virginia is recruiting teens to attend. To participate, teens must be active in their parish and currently in high school (9th through 12th grades). Each teen must fill out the application.

Cost is \$175 per parish (per youth), and each youth is asked to contribute \$175 (the diocese provides the remaining amount).

If you have a teen (or more than one!) who would like to attend, contact John Hagan at frjohnhagan@aol.com (304-545-1734). The deadline is January 17, 2017.

We’re hoping to send 20 youth and 5 adults from the diocese to this wonderful event to join more than 1,000 other Episcopal teens. Contact John with more questions. Talk to your youth. This is a great opportunity!

A Note of Thanks from Church Periodical Club Chair Debbie Ventura to St. Thomas:

Please extend my gratitude to the great folks at St. Thomas à Becket. The donation from your “Browse and Buy Bookshelf” is greatly appreciated by Church Periodical Club (CPC) recipients.

✝

Test, Wash Those Aluminum Cans Before Giving Them to Sunday School

In 2017, please continue to donate aluminum cans to benefit the Sunday School’s outreach program. But, before you drop the cans off, please wash them and test.

The Sunday School collects aluminum cans in the large black trash can by the exterior exit door in the Sunday School. To keep the cans from attracting bugs, please wash the cans.

Please do not donate steel cans. To be accepted for cash, the cans must be aluminum. Try this test:

If a magnet sticks to the can (even slightly), the can has steel in it. It can’t be traded for cash. Please recycle steel cans via city or county recycling sites.

Thank you for your aluminum donations. The Sunday School uses the money from recycling these cans to support their Sunday School outreach projects of their choice.

The Sunday School has supported Scott’s Run Settlement House projects, Animal Friends of North Central West Virginia, Heifer International, and UNICEF—just to name a few.

Youth Church, Sunday School: Reminder and Pictures

Remember to Dress for Success to Paint Bowls

On Sunday, January 8, the children will be painting bowls for the Empty Bowls soup luncheon fundraiser on February 25. Please have children wear clothes appropriate for this activity (the paint is washable, ...BUT?). A \$5 donation per bowl would be appreciated to help cover the expense of this project.

Pictures of the children decorating the Christmas Trees at St. Thomas:



Sunday School Children Decorate the Tree in the Sunday School Room

Youth Church Members Decorate the Tree in the Narthex



Our Worship Schedule

The Rev. Dn. Al Prichard



Sunday

8:00 a.m. (Rite I, spoken)

10:30 a.m. (Rite II, with music)

Nursery care and Sunday School with children's worship are offered during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Please contact us at

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

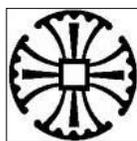
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St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV

26508





January 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Rev. John Bethell (one service) 9:15 a.m. Rite II	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany (No service)	7
8 The Rev. John Bethell 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir Outreach Comm. Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Finance Comm. Mtg. Girl Scouts 5-8 p.m.	9 Parish Hall RSVD- Spears	10	11 Backpack Feeding Program at SRSB 12:30 p.m.	12 Vestry Mtg. 7 p.m.	13	14 Acolyte Training 10 a.m.
15 The Rev. John Bethell 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Becket Arts! 3 p.m.	16	17	18	19 Parish Hall RSVD- Spears	20	21
22 The Rev. Dn. Al Prichard (one service) 9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer ANNUAL MEETING With Pot Luck Brunch <i>(immediately after service)</i>	23	24 Newsletter Articles Deadline	25	26 Women's Grief Support Group 6 p.m.	27	28
29 Bishop Alex Black 5th Sunday 8 a.m. Rite II 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite I	30	31				