



THE CANTERBURY CROSS

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV

November 2017

Remember Our Saints This All Saints' Sunday

On Nov. 1, the Episcopal Church observes All Saints' Day to commemorate all saints—known and unknown, according to the official dictionary of the Episcopal Church. All Saints' Day is one of the seven principal feasts of the church year, and one of the four days recommended for the administration of baptism.

All Saints' Day may also be celebrated on the Sunday following Nov. 1, which is what St. Thomas will do this Sunday, Nov. 5.

Please take a moment during coffee hour to review the thoughtful materials displayed in the Parish Hall in honor of our deceased relatives and friends. The annual commemoration is organized by the Columbarium Committee and Linda Yost.

(NOTE: When you have a definition-type question about the Episcopal Church, turn to the glossary available at www.episcopalchurch.org/library/glossary. At that site, you also can purchase the latest hard-copy edition of "An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church: A User-Friendly Reference for Episcopalians.")

Becket Blessings . . . What We Value Costs Money

by Margot Racin

As we drive up to St. Thomas on Sunday morning, what do we expect? We look forward to meeting friends who will encourage us after a bad week or rejoice with us after a good one. We anticipate hearing Scriptures we love, ritual prayers, and a sermon that gives us something to think about during the week ahead.

We also anticipate that the light and heat will be on, that the restrooms will be cleaned and stocked with toilet paper and paper towels, that there will be nursery attendants and materials for our Sunday school, that the elements and candles will be ready, that Linda will answer our questions, and that we will hear beautiful music.

ALL these things we value cost money! The Vestry has prepared a draft budget to cover our expenses. Now it is our turn to contribute. Acknowledging that I have a responsibility to our community here that I love, I will raise my pledge this year. And I will pay it monthly to reduce the "sting."

Some churches talk about "paying dues." Others require tithing. Episcopalians call financial giving "stewardship," which makes it possible to carry out our missions to love God and our neighbor.

Outreach and Sunday School Planning Thanksgiving Baskets

by Aurie Acciavatti

It all started back in 2003 when the Sunday School and Outreach Committee prepared Thanksgiving baskets for six families for Scott's Run Settlement House. Once again we will be preparing baskets, and this year 34 families (108 people) will receive our baskets. The help of everyone in the congregation is needed to accomplish this feat.

Grocery bags with the list of recommended items were distributed Oct. 29 and will again be distributed **Nov. 5**. Buy what you can from the list and bring the food no later than **Nov. 12**. Gift certificates/cards toward the purchase of a turkey from Kroger or Giant Eagle are requested. Please write the dollar amount on each gift card. That information will help us to distribute the cards to the families. Although extra food is appreciated, please donate only what is on the list. (Please check the expiration date on all food. We must toss food with expired used-by dates.)

All food must be at the church by **Nov. 12**, so that volunteers can sort the food to see what extra food needs to be bought. On Friday, **Nov. 17**, beginning at 6 p.m., the Sunday School children, and anyone else who is willing to give a hand, will meet at the church to help fill the Thanksgiving baskets. This is the 15th year we have done this activity. It is such a rewarding and fun time. Pizza and juice will be served; the work will continue after supper. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be in the Narthex.

The Sunday School children will be decorating lunch sacks to secure each bag of sugar, and they will also be purchasing fruit. A note will be attached to the fruit saying: *In memory and in honor of Mrs. Ann Pahl, who was a nurse who knew the power of healthy fresh fruit and was also a loving, giving member of the St. Thomas à Becket Parish who helped put these baskets together for many years.*

The SRSB families will come to St. Thomas à Becket to pick up their baskets from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Sunday, **Nov. 19**. There will be opportunities for members of St. Thomas to help the clients take food to their cars. Look for further information in the Parish Post in the coming weeks to find out how you can help.

This is going to be a big challenge again this year. Anyone can help with this project, not just Sunday School families and Outreach members.



Just Cookies? Just Fine! Please Host Coffee Hour

One of the ways we keep in touch and stay close to each other as a parish is through enjoying coffee hour together. But this special ministry needs a few more volunteers.

Please find a friend, a family, or several friends and families to help you host a Sunday coffee hour. The focus during coffee hour is on friendly faces—not on fancy food. So, you and your group can serve whatever you want. You don't have to go all out. Make it simple. Just cookies? Just fine!

The church provides coffee and tea.

A coffee hour follows the 10:30 a.m. service every Sunday. The 8 a.m. service has a coffee hour once a month, usually on the third Sunday of the month. Both "coffees" need more hosts.

Put your name or your group's name on the coffee hour sign-up sheet in the Narthex and help keep this church family tradition strong.

Our Prayer for a Priest-in-Charge

Almighty God, we pray for the guidance of thy Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest-in-charge for our church. You know our special needs and the task that lies to our hand. In our search direct us, and give us insight to perceive a leader you would choose for us. And we further pray, O Lord, that in this time of waiting we may all devote ourselves afresh to your service, so that nothing be lost of the faithful work of the past, but rather that it may be brought to rich harvest in the years to come. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Note of Thanks for You From WV Diocesan CPC

Thank you ever so much for your 20 years of your support to Church Periodical Club!

Your Browse and Buy Library is a very creative approach.

Thank you for your recent donation and years of faithful support.

Sincerely,

Debbie Ventura,

Chair of the WV Diocesan Church Periodical Club

NOTE: If you are not aware that we have a Browse and Buy Library in the church, we do. It is located between the church office and the Columbarium. These are books donated by parishioners and can be purchased for a small donation. When you are finished with a book, you may donate it back to the library or keep it.

Sunday School Notes

by Angela Carver

We now have a new Sunday School leader: Sally Tolka. She will start this position on Sunday, Nov. 5.

On Oct. 29, we held our annual guess-the-weight-of-the-pumpkin contest to raise money for UNICEF. We raised \$7.50. Congratulations to Charlie Heiskell, whose guess came closest to identifying the pumpkin's actual weight.

With your help, our Sunday School collected 1,273 diapers during the month of October. Thank you to everyone who donated diapers for the families of Scott's Run Settlement House.

November is the month we collect new hats, gloves, and scarves for those in need. Please bring your donations to the Sunday School room.

Buy Holiday Flowers From Us



Be sure to buy your flowers and wreaths for the holidays from our own St. Thomas à Becket Flower Guild.

The guild is now taking orders for Thanksgiving arrangements for you to place on your holiday table or for you to take

as a hostess gift. These will be live flower arrangements and can be made to suit your needs. A sign-up sheet for these arrangements will be on the Narthex table from Nov. 5 through Nov. 19.

You also can purchase holiday wreaths and baskets made with artificial flowers. (Some are for sale now in the Parish Hall.) The proceeds from the Flower Guild's work benefit the church's Capital Improvement Fund.

The guild will soon seek donations for poinsettias to decorate our church for Christmas.

Add Angel Tree to Your Shopping List

No, Thanksgiving isn't even here yet. But, yes, it's time to make some plans for Christmas. Please plan to be prepared to shop for our annual Salvation Army Angel Tree family.

Every year, we have a very short turnaround time between when the Salvation Army gives us a list of our family's needed items and when we must deliver the purchased clothes, toys, and other Christmas gifts to the Salvation Army's office.

Sometime after Thanksgiving, we will get the list. Then during the first 10 days of December, we must deliver the gifts. We don't know the exact dates or the needed gifts, but we do know that St. Thomas à Becket will be a blessing a family in need again this Christmas.

November 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>REMEMBER that daylight saving time ends Sunday, November 5. Clocks fall back an hour!</p> 			1	2	3	4
<p>5 All Saints' Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch.</p> <p>Second Distribution of Food Bags for SRSB Thanksgiving Baskets</p>	6	<p>7 Backpack Feeding Program at SRSB 12:30 p.m. (note date change)</p>	8	<p>9 Vestry Mtg. 7 p.m.</p>	10	11
<p>12 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir Outreach Comm. Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. CIP 3 - 6 p.m.</p> <p>All of the Food for SRSB Thanksgiving Baskets Due</p>	13	14	15	16	<p>17 Fill SRSB Thanksgiving Baskets</p>	18
<p>19 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Distribute Thanksgiving Baskets to SRSB Families 12:30 - 2 p.m. at St. Thomas</p>	20	21	22	<p>23 Thanksgiving</p>	24	25
<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday </div>						
<p>26 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch.</p>	27	<p>28 Newsletter Articles Deadline</p>	<p>29 Backpack Feeding Program at SRSB 12:30 p.m.</p>	30		

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

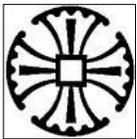
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