



# CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 26

October 2022

## All Saint's Day

On November 1 we remember the saints and allow the memory of their faith to spur us on to deeper worship and greater service to the Lord. All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history.

In the early years when the Roman Empire persecuted Christians, so many martyrs died for their faith, that the Church set aside special days to honor them. But then with too many martyrs to each be given a day, they were grouped together into one day. Pope Gregory III changed the date of All Saints Day to Nov 1 and people prepared for their celebration with a night of vigil on Hallows' Eve.

This day reminds us of our connectedness as Christians. Perhaps, you were taught to think of saints as statues in a church building. But the Bible teaches something completely different. Who is a saint? You are. That is if you're a follower of Jesus. God calls a "saint" anyone who trusts in Christ alone for salvation (see Acts 9:13, Acts 26:10, Romans 8:27, 1 Corinthians 1:2).

Sainthood isn't given by a group of religious leaders. It's

granted by God Himself to any common, salt-of-the-earth person who simply trusts Christ (1 Corinthians 1:2). Saints are those who give up the anti-faith alternative of trying to please God by their good deeds and, instead, trust Christ alone.

## Celebrating All Saints Day

The 1662 Book of Common Prayer says that the holiday stands for "the unity of Christians of all ages, countries, and races in Christ, and the perfection of that unity in heaven."

The Bible doesn't tell us to pray to the saints (Matt. 6:6) or through the saints (1 Tim. 2:5). Instead, we think of our connectedness to past saints and find inspiration in their stories of God's faithfulness. These saints speak from the past and are whispering at this moment... "God is faithful."

While traditions across the globe vary, the common theme is celebration with family and remembrance of those who have passed. Many visit grave sites of loved ones to pay tribute and remember those who have passed onto heaven (sometimes with feasts of the deceased favorite foods). In Italy, All Saints Day bread is baked and shared among loved ones. And of course don't

## Upcoming Events

**Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m.,** Sunday Service in-person and via Zoom

**Every Tuesday** (starting September 13), 7:00 p.m., Book study via Zoom

**Sunday, October 9, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.,** Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, October 16, 10:30 a.m.,** Vestry

**Sunday, October 23, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.,** Junk in the Trunk

*(Zoom connection information at end of newsletter.)*

forget our tradition of singing the classic hymn "For All the Saints" by William How, music by Ralph Vaughn Williams: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OaBgaMcOvM>

## Clergy Schedule

**October 2 -**

Morning Prayer

**October 9 -**

Fr. Andrew G. Osmun

**October 16 -**

Fr. Andrew G. Osmun

**October 23 -**

Rev. Rachel Thomas

**October 30 -**

Morning Prayer

## Blessing of the Animals

We will be holding our annual Blessing of the Animals Sunday October 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in front of the church. Rev. Andrew G. Osmun will offer a special blessing for your pet in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi. Well-behaved dogs on leashes, cats in carriers and other pets (or their photos) are welcome. Please bring donations of canned and dry pet food, treats, toys and bedding to benefit the East Haven Animal Shelter.

## Christmas Fair

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

This year's Fair will be **Saturday December 3**, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Where would you like to help on the day of the fair? Please notify Carol at [clinkeru2@gmail.com](mailto:clinkeru2@gmail.com).

Donations needed:

- **Scratch lottery tickets** for Lottery Tree (unscratched)
- **Gift Certificates** for Raffle tree. Ask at your Favorite hairdresser, restaurant, etc. Give these to Ken or Kathy Dougherty.
- **Raffle basket items**
- Gently used **Christmas items** for Christmas room
- **Craft items** for handicraft tables
- Used **Jewelry**
- **Baked goods** for bakery table (Pies, Cakes, Cookies, etc.)

All donations should be in by Sunday, Nov. 27th, except baked goods by Dec. 1st.

See Carol Ude, if you have any questions.

**SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!!**

## Around the Church

### Signs of the Times



## Junk in the Trunk

Our last Junk in the Trunk for the year will be October 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

*From a recent sermon....*

F	For
A	Answers
I	I
T	Trust
H	Him

## Thrift Store Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Thrift Store seasonal clothing switch! I think this year we got summer items put away and winter items put out more seamlessly than ever. And that is thanks to all the hard work of everyone who lent a hand. Many hands do lighten the load and our shoppers are incredibly grateful for the ministry of the Thrift Store.

## We bid farewell to our brother in Christ David Zella

David Zella, a member of our parish family, passed away peacefully on September 8, 2022 at Smilow Cancer Center, surrounded by his loving family. He was the husband of Frances Murray Zella, and was a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather to his family. David and Fran relocated to Connecticut from their retirement home in Florida to be near their family. After settling in East Haven, they found their way to Christ and The Epiphany. Funeral services will be held at a later date. *Rest in God's loving hands, David.*

## Vestry Meeting

**Next Meeting** - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, October 16th in the Library and via Zoom after the 9:00 a.m. service.

**Building & Grounds** - The Community Kitchen is planning on resuming bi-monthly luncheons in October. We are requiring them to ensure the kitchen is well cleaned (we recommended a once a month professional cleaning). No food is to be left in the kitchen or refrigerator.

We sprayed 47 Park Place for ticks at their request. They have volunteers who will be clearing excess brush around the property. The architect did an inspection and assessment of the house. More information to come as the project progresses. Wendy Bellmore is leading this initiative as she secured the funding grant.

Painting is progressing with the three doors.

The new circulator for boiler #2 will be getting installed in the next week.

**New Business** - The Vestry resolved to make a \$100 contribution to Bishop Ian Douglas' Farewell Fund.



October 12 - Barbara Coulombe  
October 13 - Hal Levi  
October 30 - Kristina Langlan

## Encouraging Words

Audrey Sundwall

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

- *Galatians 6:9*

Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them. - *Psalms 126:5-6*

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

- *Matthew 9:37-38*

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. - *James 5:7-8*

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

- *2 Corinthians 9:10*

Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because when farmers plow and thresh, they should be able to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest.

- *1 Corinthians 9:10*



**Episcopal Church in CT (ECCT)**

**Ordination and Consecration of Rev. Jeffrey Mello**

A reminder that Barbara Parsons would love someone to join her on Saturday Oct 15, at 11:00 a.m. in Hartford for Rev. Jeffrey Mello's ordination and consecration. The chief consecrator will be Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

For those unable to attend in person, this event will also be live streamed via ECCT's Youtube channel.

**Annual Convention**

The annual ECCT Convention is the first weekend of November. Our delegates are Barbara Coulombe and Astrid Swanson. If you have any questions about convention or want to submit a resolution please reach out to them at [bgcoulombe@gmail.com](mailto:bgcoulombe@gmail.com) and [astridswanson2@gmail.com](mailto:astridswanson2@gmail.com).



**ECCT  
South  
Central  
Region**

**Town Hall with our Bishops  
Southeast and South Central  
Region Convocation**

**November 12, 9:00 a.m. -  
11:30 a.m. St. Andrew's,  
Madison and on Zoom**

We strongly encourage you to come and join in with other Episcopalians from the Southeast and South Central Regions to meet with each other and with our Bishops Jeff Mello and Laura Ahrens.

We will have time for prayerful conversation, choosing from the following questions:

- What do you love about the community in which your parish is located?
- What do you love about your parish community? What excites you?
- What breaks your heart? What keeps you up at night?
- Where do you see potential for new life? What do you dream about us doing together?

There will be time to ask our Bishops about whatever is on our minds! And we will have time to be mark this moment in our common life, listening for the voice of the Holy Spirit in our worship together. And, we will share a festive coffee hour at the end (around 11:30am). Do come and join the fellowship!

Note that we will do our best to provide those who participate on Zoom with support and engagement. Please recognize that, alas, in the world of technology, intentions do not always translate to reality.

Click here to register:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southeast-and-south-central-region-convocation-tickets-425310413897>

### **Report from SC Regional Gathering**

On Sunday October 2, George and Barbara Coulombe, Susan Shultz and Fr. Andrew Osmun attended a gathering of South Central Regional parishes without clergy. The meeting was to provide a forum to share ideas of how to maintain an active community of faith in the absence of clergy leadership and share areas of friction with Rachel Thomas (our SC Regional Missionary).

While there were only four parishes represented, many good ideas were discussed. The conversation grew quite lively when we got into the areas of friction.

All agreed that the biggest difficulty is with finding and scheduling supply clergy. Rachel has a number of ideas she is going to bring back to ECCT to try to improve this process.

There was also a desire to have better communication of events between parishes. Various possibilities are going to be pursued. Overall C&E is doing as well (if not in some areas better) than other parishes in a similar position.

### **Intercessory Prayers**

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alfred, Andrew, Barbuschak Family, Beverly W., Bohdan & Family in Ukraine, Brandon, Carol Ude, David & Irene, Diane Link, Dot Tate, Ed, Ed, Eileen F., Elaine, Erick Villano, Faith, Fran Zella, Francesca, Judy Herzman, Jack Uberti & Holly Chickos, Jack & Jan McDonald, Jay Medlyn, Jay W., Jim R. & Family, Joyce Aurelius, Kathrine Burdick, Keith M., Leah S., Lee Hubbard, Linda Lonardo, Lucas Sundwall, Mark Conti, Matt R., Mike, Nicole C., Rachael, Ray Sundwall Sr., Sallie Alexander, Sue R., Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.

### **Next issue**

The deadline for the November issue is **October 19**. Submissions can be sent to [newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com). For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310.

## Saint Spotlight - St. Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis of Assisi abandoned a life of luxury for a life devoted to Christianity after hearing the voice of God, who commanded him to rebuild the Christian church and live in poverty. He is the patron saint for ecologists.



Born in Italy circa 1181, Saint Francis of Assisi was renowned for drinking and partying in his youth. After fighting in a battle between Assisi and Perugia, Francis was captured and imprisoned for ransom. He spent nearly a year in prison, and began receiving visions from God. After his release from prison, Francis heard the voice of Christ, who told him to repair the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. Consequently, he abandoned his life of luxury and became a devotee of the faith, his reputation spreading all over the Christian world.

Francis' embrace of Christ-like poverty was a radical notion at the time. The Christian church was tremendously rich, much like the people heading it, which concerned Francis and many others, who felt that the long-held apostolic ideals had eroded. Francis set out on a mission to restore Jesus Christ's own, original values to the now-decadent church. With his incredible charisma, he drew thousands of followers to him. They listened to Francis' sermons and joined in his way of life; his followers became known as Franciscan friars.

Continuously pushing himself in the quest for spiritual perfection, Francis was soon preaching in up to five villages per day, teaching a new kind of emotional and personal Christian religion that everyday people could understand. He even went so far as to preach to animals, which garnered criticism from some and earned him the nickname "God's fool." But Francis' message was spread far and wide, and thousands of people were captivated by what they heard.

Later in life, Francis reportedly received a vision that left him with the stigmata of Christ – marks resembling the wounds Jesus Christ suffered when he was crucified – making Francis the first person to receive such holy wounds. He was canonized as a saint on July 16, 1228. During his life he also developed a deep love of nature and animals and is known as the patron saint of the environment and animals; his life and words have had a lasting resonance with millions of followers across the globe. Each October, many animals the world over are blessed on his feast day.

## Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	AUG	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$5,620.67	(\$535.33)	\$65,102.34	\$490.34
EXPENSES	\$6,717.92	\$1,391.58	\$76,157.78	\$9,362.28
NET	(\$1,097.25)	\$856.25	(\$11,055.44)	(\$8,871.94)

Notes: Income is under budget primarily due to some timing issues. However Junk in the Trunk has not brought in the revenue we had budgeted for. As mentioned before with unexpected furnace repairs and the other incremental increases, our YTD expenses are now almost \$10,000 higher than budgeted while income is only about \$500 over budget. We had budgeted a surplus of \$9,000 so that has pretty much been eaten up. And this is with relying on some large ((\$8,000) end of the year special gifts. We will need to be vigilant to do what we can to trim costs and increase income (keeping supply clergy to twice a month helps) in order to be close to a balanced budget – especially knowing we still have some more furnace work coming.

*On What Becomes of the Brokenhearted* (by Chuck Lathrop)

All sorts of things need breaking:  
seals on letters  
husks on corn  
bread  
butterflies from cocoons  
chickens from eggs  
and hearts

To break a heart  
is to let me out  
and let you in

To be brokenhearted  
to say YES  
to cracked open wideness

Heartquakes

And walking around  
in my pieces of self  
revelations abound  
so much more room  
so much more me

Not even the sidewalks can resist  
persistent dandelions

They could not have known him  
in the breaking of the bread  
had not their hearts broken as well

Loving is breaking:  
into pieces  
into ourselves  
into each other

Heartbreakers All.

## **A Prayer for Transition and Guidance**

O Lord, you are with us in every transition and change. With your deep compassion, presence and abounding love ease our anxiety. We pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, and daring in our faith. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Help us accept change as a gift of your direction for our journey in this transition. Instill in us a vision of the church's family; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Worship Schedule (9:00 a.m.)

	<u>October 2</u>	<u>October 9</u>	<u>October 16</u>	<u>October 23</u>	<u>October 30</u>
Usher	Diane Villano	Melanie Miller	Pat Walters	Barbara Parsons	Astrid Swanson
Officiant	Ray Clearwater	n/a	n/a	n/a	Pat Walters
Lay Reader	Barbara Parsons	Audrey Sundwall	Terry Osmun	Richard Mead	Gail Beck
Crucifer	n/a	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	George Coulombe	n/a
Acolyte	n/a	George Coulombe	Audrey Sundwall	George Coulombe	n/a
Lead Counter	George Coulombe	Astrid Swanson	Pat Walters	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz
Asst Counter	Audrey Sundwall	Fred Bowden	Melanie Miller	Richard Mead	Barbara Parsons

## Zoom Worship Connection Information

To connect by computer click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933030663?pwd=VnU2RjAxZDg0WWcvbVA4RHdOd3ZUUT09>

To join by phone call:

929-436-2866

Meeting ID = 993 303 0663

Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin please contact Diane in the office at 203-467-2310 or [christandtheepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:christandtheepiphany@gmail.com).

If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 203-589-1142 or [sbshultz@gmail.com](mailto:sbshultz@gmail.com).

# **Christ and The Epiphany Church**

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## **Worship Schedule**

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship  
*In-person with social distancing and optional masking*

*(See the newsletter, our website, or Facebook page for  
Zoom connection information details.)*