

Loaves & Fishes

NOVEMBER 2026

Jason Louis and Addison Rae, we receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood. ***~~BCP 308***

What I most love about baptisms is that they are so profoundly countercultural. Of course, pushing against the culture is true of most of what we profess in the church, but baptisms are the time when it is most transparent. It is more than the sacrament of initiation; it allows all of us to assess where we are in relation to God's promises, individually and collectively as people of God.

To say that we belong to the household of God reflects the intimacy that we share with God and each other; it's also consonant with the image of the Great Banquet at the end of things. In contrast to how we have thought about baptisms in other times, when it was a private affair, done with a priest, parents and godparents on a Saturday morning (such was the case with my own baptism), we are inviting the newly baptized into our immediate worshipping community, the wider church and are witnessing the beginning of their journey as Christians in a world desperate for the gifts they can offer it.



Baptism is not something being done to them; it is something that happens within and among all of us as we commit to seek and serve Christ in all persons, proclaim by word and example the Good News of Jesus Christ and respect the dignity of every human being.

Jason and Addison Dontis will need us as they grow into their new identity as baptized persons. On their behalf, I ask

the left-hand column

- First up this month is the annual Silent Auction, Saturday November 7. Look inside for more about this.
- November 8 is the day of the Southern Maryland Pride celebration, and we're all invited. It's 9:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. at Lexington Manor Passive Park on Coral Drive South. Games, food, performances.
- Quite a number of us have been on the prayer list for a very long time; if you—or someone you know—feel it's time to take your name off, let Amanda know. On the other hand, if you know someone who'd like to be on the list, pass that information on as well.
- As always, Steve and his crew have done a magnificent job—if you were on the crew, he says—we all say—Thank you, thank you! If you couldn't help out this time, don't fret, there is likely to be another opportunity one of these days.

- St. Andrew's now has two automated external defibrillators (one for the church, one for the parish hall). Dates for training to use these miraculous gadgets will be announced soon.

for your support as they, and the rest of us, grow into the full stature of Christ, to be the voices, hands and feet that the world needs right now.

Mark+

Celebrating Our Saint

Although his official feast day is November 30, we will mark the Feast of Saint Andrew on November 15 this year, bagpipes, tartans and all. Celebrating Andrew is always a scheduling challenge, as his day falls so close to the beginning of Advent. Keeping the integrity of our calendar usually requires juggling dates to honor Saint Andrew without encroaching on the Advent season.

What takes no adjustment is the celebration of a saint revered across the world, from Scotland (the saltire cross on the flag is a symbol of the one used at his martyrdom) to Georgia, Romania and Ukraine.

He comes at us from the edges of the biblical narrative, the brother of Peter and one of the original four disciples summoned from their nets to become fishers of people. In John's gospel, he is the one to tell his brother Peter, "We have found the Messiah." In terms of simple personal witness, he is an example to us all.

So, wear your tartans on the fifteenth, break out your blue woolens and join us. No haggis this year, only a chance to celebrate the name day of our church in our Scottish best!

Mark+

Address to a Haggis

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the pudding-race!
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,
Painch, tripe, or thairm :
Weel are ye wordy o'a grace
As lang's my arm.

~~Robert Burns

The Senior Warden Reports

The theme for our October 24 potluck was Oktober Fest. There were sausages and sauerkraut and potato salad, as well as many other German-themed dishes. It was a great to get together with members of the parish in an informal and fun way. The next dinner will be on November 21 and the theme will be Friendsgiving. Please attend if you are able.

Steve Carroll has finished reglazing the windows on the south side of the church and the windows on the lower windows on the west side. He is now working on the windows on the north side of the church. He is doing a wonderful job. Take a look at them when you have a chance.

Several new readers have been added to the service rotation. It is good to see more people participating in the service. We are looking forward to the return of acolytes.

The Christmas Angel Project comes up in December. Stay tuned for more information in the not-too-distant future. We will be concentrating our efforts on the Head Start students in the center on our campus, plus a few more families.

Fr. Mark and I attended a warden's conference at St Luke's Church in Bethesda on Saturday, October 24. It was interesting to meet with other wardens and clergy from around the diocese, especially those from the Southern Maryland region.

By the time you read this we will have held the Fall Yard Sale and perhaps even the Silent Auction. I hope you were able to find time in your schedule to have attended one or both of these parish events. Treasures can be found at both events.

Susan Bennett

The Junior Warden Has Been Away, but Not Away

Our multi-talented Steve Carroll continues to use his skills cleaning and caulking the stained-glass windows adorning the church. He's in the end stretch— only two left.

In the midst of this labor-intensive effort, Steve is hosting a community-popular yard sale. There is an amazing amount of behind-the-scenes preparation that goes on before one of these sales: Thrift Shop sorters screen donations; Steve and Clara relocate donations to the sheds then (with the help of other volunteers) back

into the parish hall for the day of the big sale. Then it all has to be cleaned up before Sunday morning. If you can lend a hand for the next one, give Steve a call, or just show up.

The crawl space beneath the parish hall has my attention now: we'd like to reduce the monthly electric and oil cost as we transition to colder temperatures.

The immediate need is for the replacement of the two door frames and associated metal doors which provide access the crawl space under the parish hall, at which point replacement insulation sections will be installed.

To avoid a reoccurrence of what is referred to as stacking or the chimney effect, which allows moisture to accumulate, the basement vents will be closed for the winter. Our new gutters and downspouts should help direct water away from the foundation. Collectively these steps will reduce humidity levels within the crawlspaces. A decision to place an industrial dehumidifier under the southeast side of the parish hall is pending.

A list of needed and ongoing work and repairs at St. Andrews is posted in the parish hall. Each effort, some are minor, some large, needs resources and volunteers. The list is continually being updated. Comments and questions, as well as offers of help with these projects are always welcome.

The Holy Mowers have wrapped another successful season maintaining the lawn. Their dedication, time and talent saved money and enhanced the beauty of St. Andrew's. Next Spring the plan is to section out portions of the lawn into smaller efforts to bring in more volunteers. The job will be easier with the additional riding lawn mower donated by John Walters.

My six-week medical sabbatical comes to an end around Thanksgiving. In the interim, I am extremely humbled by the outreach of several culinary wizards who have been feeding me. Their unsolicited efforts represent just one the core reasons why I love St. Andrew's.

Peter Woodside

We have heard this phrase so often that we don't understand the existential shock of what "created in the image and likeness of God" means for us. If this is true —and I believe it is—our family of origin is divine. It is saying that we were created by a loving God to be love in the world. Our core is original blessing, not original sin.

~~The Rev. Richard Rohr

Here's an Update on Walk in Love

St. Andrew's *Walk in Love* giving campaign is underway.

Thank you to those who have already pledged. To date, we have received eighteen pledges totaling $62,230. and are prayerfully moving towards our goal of 60 pledge units and a total giving of $250,000. Pledge cards are available on the table in the back of the church or in the church office.

If you have any questions please contact me (703-798 5006, randygva@gmail.com).

Randy Gilles

November 7 Is the Day

Our annual Silent Auction begins at 9:30 that morning, and you have till 1:30 to enjoy its wonders.

Here is a great opportunity to exercise your baking skills: breads, cakes, pies, cookies are all popular. Wrap up your masterpiece and drop it off at the parish hall Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or Saturday morning before 9:30.

Questions? Ask Bobbi Brown (brbrown62@md.metrocast.net, 240 434-5934,) or Terri Leonard (ronnterrieleonard@gmail.com, 301 862-22420) about the auction. Contact Cindy Kilcoyne (ckkilcoyne@smcps.org, 240 577-3737) about the bake sale.

Auditions Coming Up

Hard to believe, but it's already time to start planning for Christmas.

That means there's a pageant to organize. Parts will be assigned November 1. There's something for ***all*** ages —actors, singers, stage hands, costume creators.

Sign up and get all the relevant information.

Rehearsals will be during Sunday School class-time and (in December) after the 10:30 service.

Want to know more? Email Joyce at churchschool64@gmail.com or call: 240 298-9112.

For an algorithm, an error is a flaw to be corrected; for a person, however, an error can be a catalyst for profound change.

~~Pope Leo XIV

Honoring Tom and Supporting St. Mary's Caring

In honor of Tom Joyner and in recognition of his support of the St. Mary's Caring Soup Kitchen, we are



organizing a food drive. Below are the items St. Mary's Caring is currently requesting. During your next grocery trip, please consider picking up some of these items to benefit the soup kitchen. We will have a basket in the church to collect donations.

Mark+

Here's what's needed:

cereals * pancake mix
syrup * jelly * oatmeal
peanut butter * graham crackers
microwave popcorn * string cheese
bottled fruit juice (64-oz.)
ground coffee
chunky and Progresso soups
Vienna sausage * string cheese
canned kidney beans * tuna * chicken
mayonnaise (30-oz.)

O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth: We beseech thee so to guide and bless our Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled, that they may enact such laws as shall please thee, to the glory of thy Name and the welfare of this people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

~~Book of Common Prayer







Photographs by Clara Stark

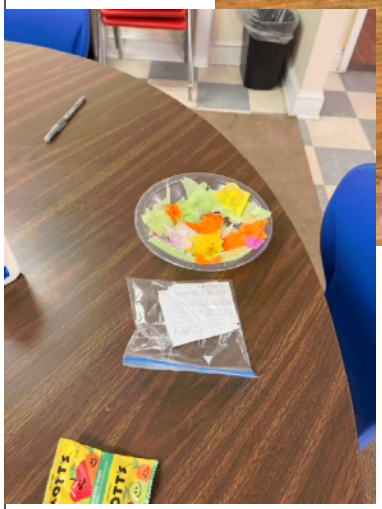
Photographs by Joyce Austin











Photographs by Steve Carroll









Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
~~Mark 5:7

November 1 Feast of All Saints
Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 ***or***
Micah 3:5-12 Psalm 43
8:00 a.m.
Lector: Cindi Hodskins Coffee hour: Mary Larson
Altar duty: Lynn Duff and Margaret Hallau
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Susan Bennett Lector: Margaret Hallau
Coffee hour: Bill and Nancy Riddell

November 8
Amos 5:18-24 Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13
8:00 a.m.
Lector: Jerry Gehrig Coffee hour: Brenda Weisman
Altar duty: Susan Bennett
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Mary Maker Lector: Barrow Dunn
Coffee hour:

November 15
Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 ***or***
Zephaniah 1:7,12-18 Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30
8:00 a.m.
Lector: Dave Seagle
Altar duty:Kim Stickney and Mary Hansen
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Nancy Edwards Lector: Mary Maker
Coffee hour:

November 22 Feast of Christ the King
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 or
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46
8:00 a.m.
Lector: Mary Larson
Altar duty: Mary Maker and Michael Dyson
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Kim Stickney Lector: Ginni Stein
Coffee Hour:

The 10:30 am service is available via Zoom
Please use the credentials below to connect.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82236313643?pwd=gYrhpabImkUfIX1DZtuntfnUnaHgJ6.1
Meeting ID: 822 3631 3643 Passcode: 604270

November 29 First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37
8:00 a.m.
Lector: Ron Leonard
Altar duty: Mary Maker
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Susan Bennett Lector: Robert Abell
Coffee hour: Anne Carson

Please Hold in Your Prayers

Patrick Afoakwah, Pam Baake, Ben Baisley, Melanie Baisley, Jan Barnes, Faye Bateman, Debbie, Linda, Sandie, and Tom, Bennett B., Eunice Benson, Grace Billingsly, the Billingsly family, Mike Blackwell, Hawa Boyce, Howard Bradburn Jr., Caelick Bradley and family, Carol Brimm, Pete and Nancy Brown, Christine Butler, Siobban Cauldwell, Amanda Cain, Misty Cantu, Susan Carroll, Donna Carter, Donnie Carter, Judy Cavin, Jennifer Ceriale, Brandan Chan, Aiden Collins and the Collins family, Judy Consoli, Fran Cook, Lanette Cowles, Erica Day, Ava Denos, Judi Donnelly, Billy Doughty, Phyllis Doughty, William Doughty, Sunday Rose Douglas, Virginia Douglas, Erin Dugan, Karol Dyson, Ruby Dyson, Helene Farrall, Sara Fisher, Dean G., Paula Gardner, Jerry Garner, Susan Geary, Gloria Gehrig, Gavin Gillies, Darlene Clark Gray, Alexi Greene, Jerry Himmelheber, the Hunter Bennett family, Ryker Hurst, Greta, Helen Kundracik, Aida Ledesma, Terrie Leonard, Thomas Leonard, Elinor Mattingly, Dee McRae, Artie Miller, Bernice Nunes, Kyle Patrick, Skylar Patron, Natalie Reed, Mark Riddell, Jane Roderick, Bob Sisson, Mark Stutso, Jonathan Tanner, Taylor, Isabella Tenczar, Charlene Townsend, Harvey Tyler, Paula Wayland, Patricia Welborn, Angelica Wilkinson, the Willet family, Branden Woehlke, Stuart A. Wood, first responders, and all who serve in the military and their families.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The nursery is available from 10:15 am—11:45

January

1 Sunday All Saints' Day
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. H.E. II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
2 Monday
3 Tuesday
4 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
12:30 p.m. Healing Service
5 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m. AA
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
6 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
7 Saturday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Silent Auction
8 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. H.E. II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Youth Meetup
9 Monday
10 Tuesday
11 Wednesday Veterans' Day
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
12:30 p.m. Healing Service
12 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m. AA
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
13 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
14 Saturday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
15 Sunday Feast of St. Andrew
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. H.E. II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
16 Monday
Noon St. Mary's Garden Club luncheon
17 Tuesday
18 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
12:30 p.m. Healing Service
19 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m. AA
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
20 Friday
21 Saturday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
5:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Potluck
22 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. H.E. II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
23 Monday
24 Tuesday
25 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
12:30 p.m. Healing Service
26 Thursday Thanksgiving Day
27 Friday
28 Saturday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
29 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. H.E. II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
30 Monday

Happy Anniversary, Happy Birthday

10 George & Beth Weeks
26 Fred and Rese Bergen

1 Anita Woodside
3 Catherine Walls
12 Zachary Wagner
13 Nicole Appleby
19 Samantha Frazier
25 DeVonta Lawrence
27 Jennifer Walls
28 Laine Doggett

Looking for Someone?

Rector: The Rev. Mark Smith: 301 862-2247 rector@standrewsleonardtown.org
Parish Administrator: Amanda Anisko: 301 862-2247 parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org
Senior Warden: Susan Bennett:
Junior Warden: Peter Woodside:
Joyce Austin:
Ethan Chan:
Randy Gilles:
Mary Hansen
Nancy Riddell:
Clara Stark:
Treasurer: Pete Ulrich
Minister of Music, Amy Foster:
Newsletter, Dee McRae:
To give flowers for the altar: 301 862-2247 admin@standrewsleonardtown.org
The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde 202 537-6550
The Diocese of Washington 202 537-6555 http://www.edow.org/

Food for Thought

Western Civilization is a phrase that has comes up often in public forums lately. New York Times *columnist Bret Stephens recently considered its meaning. As Thanksgiving approaches, his essay is a good place to start our reflections on all that we are thankful for. He sees three pillars:*

The first is the quest for truth. "Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts," the Psalms say, "and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom." Socrates says much the same thing when he tells the Athenian jurors who will condemn him to death that "the unexamined life is not worth living." This truth-seeking enterprise requires a combination of scrupulous honesty and self-scrutiny, as well as courageous skepticism of all prevailing beliefs, including religious and ideological ones.

In this sense, the Western tradition is an inherently revolutionary one. . . . But it's also an inherently humble one, because the quest for truth is always premised on the understanding that one never fully possesses the truth itself. That paradoxical demand for both epistemic humility and boldness is resolved only through a method that asks us to subject every idea, above all our own, to close examination and unsparing criticism; a method, in turn, that requires freedom of conscience, inquiry and speech.

The second is the worth and dignity of every human being, created by God "in our image, after our likeness." It's an immense idea. It sacralizes human life. It enjoins us not to sacrifice children, or murder brothers or strangers, or kill except for self-defense. It establishes a basis of equality between rich and poor, clever and dumb, strong and weak. It is the basis of the Declaration of Independence and the Declaration of the Rights of Man; of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution; of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. . . .

The final pillar is the rule of law: law that stands above the convenience of the privileged and the caprice of the powerful. Aristotle famously said that law "is reason unaffected by desire." It is also justice unaffected by fear, fairness unaffected by favor, process unaffected by influence, precedent unaffected by fashion and order unaffected by circumstance.