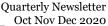
Sharing the Good News of God!

Shrewsbury Parish





A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

Our Dependence

For the past nine years we have had a small group gather for the Holy Eucharist and Litany of Prayers for Thanksgiving on the eve of Thanksgiving. Often the service was attended by members of the Wednesday evening meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. It was an intimate gathering where the homily was shared by members of the gathered community, who often spoke with passion about what they were most thankful for during the year. Then in our customary fashion, we ate of the Body and drank of the Blood of Christ in our Eucharistic feast.

This year is the first time we will not be able to offer such a service. due to the recent decision to temporarily postpone in-person worship and gatherings in a concerted effort to be safe and keep others safe.

Yet though this decision has been met with a variety of emotions, including genuine sadness, giving thanks may well be the most important element of our ongoing journey with God and with one another.

In the Book of Common Prayer, *A General Thanksgiving* is in my estimation one of the most beautiful and also one of the most little used prayers. Written by the Rev. Dr. Charles Price, the late Professor of Theology at Virginia Theological Seminary, the prayer encompasses an incredible array of meaningful parts of life well worth thanking God for. And this line seems to me to capture the essence of the current state of affairs we find ourselves in as a parish, a community and a nation:

"We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone."

(Continued on page 7)



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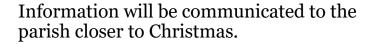
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PLEASE SEND NEWSLETTERS ENTRIES TO SHREWSBURYNEWS @GMAIL.COM

WHAT ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

As we proceed with monitoring the Covid 19 crisis in our country, state and county, we will make informed leadership decisions about the resumption of in-person worship services for Christmas Eve and Day.

Those decisions will be based on all available information, the context and health needs of our parish community and permissible numbers in the state prior to Christmas Eve and Day. If it is deemed necessary to continue the temporary closure, we will proceed with Virtual options from Shrewsbury, the National Cathedral in Washington, DC and the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore.







FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Anthony's flowers have been very gracious during this year of change. Flowers have been provided by parishioners when Shrewsbury began the outside service. If you are the provider of flowers November and December, they

will be delivered to the church and grace the altar. You can make arrangements with Sue Coleman to pick them up after the service.

Sue Coleman will be working on the 2021 Flower Chart in the beginning of December. The chart will basically remain the same as 2020 unless the provider wants to make changes. If you notice you do not have the week you asked for, it may be a calendar adjustment, especially during the Easter season. Contact Sue if you want the flowers saved for you. Please let the lady on altar duty know you want them so they can put them in a container for you. If you want special flowers or colors in your arrangement, contact Anthony's Flowers. You will be billed after your week or you may set up automatic payment with Anthony's. Please let Sue know if you have any questions or concerns. Her information is in the Church Directory.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORUM

Friends,

This fall we have had an excellent program reading and discussing *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. To keep this process going, we agreed to move to a Zoom format beginning Sunday, November 29th at 10:00 am. Our worship will be at 9:00 each Sunday until further notice and following worship we can Zoom in to the Adult Forum.

YOU can still participate, even if you have not read the book. A Zoom link will be sent to the Parish prior to the 29th and you are welcome to join us. If you wish to order the book, please do so on Amazon or your favorite bookseller.

If you have questions, contact Kelly Schelts or Fr. Henry.

An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. (Proverbs 18:15)

2020 GOOD AND PLENTY OF THANKS

from

Running Strong for American Indian Youth

Good Neighbor Fund

Camp Wright

Millington Food Pantry & Community Food Pantry in Chestertown

Kennedyville Volunteer Fire Company

Compassion International

COMMUNITY GARDEN HIGHLIGHTED IN LOCAL NEWS

The garden project was showcased in a wonderful article the Kent County News. Many thanks to the Diocese of Maryland, the Sacred Places Program, the Community Garden Team, the Bayside HOYAS, volunteers and Macon Foscue for this ministry. Praise the God of Creation!

"The team of planters, parishioners and community members — were out Sunday afternoon, Oct. 18 to install a permaculture area of bushes and trees including aronia, elderberry, hazelnut, persimmon, chestnut, pecan and plum." So starts the article by David Divilio.

"In the midst of the whole pandemic, this has been a morale builder," said the Rev. Henry Sabetti of the community garden project during the Oct. 18 planting session. "It's been fantastic."

Father Henry explained the genesis of the program. "It came to the fore through a process we were involved in called 'Sacred Places, Sacred Spaces,' which is a program that churches in the Diocese of Easton participated in to look at how to use historical sites to reach out to the wider community."

Bob O'Connell is cited in the article on the scope of the proposal initially encompassed 2 acres of soybean field owned by the church would become a substantial community garden, noting that the project began in May of this year. O'Connell reached out to the Bayside HOYAS (Helping Our Youth Achieve Success), community and church members who participated in the project. Details on the project's fall plantings and the full article can be found at the Kent County News website



Photos and excepts by permission by David Divilio

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

COVID 19 DIRECTIVE FROM THE DIOCESE

Most of you have already heard the Covid-19 emergency actions announced by the Governor of Maryland including recommended restrictions on religious services. Our Diocese of Easton has advised several key protocols and reminders for personal and public safety. The Diocese of Maryland on the western shore has taken action to immediately suspend worship services for at least the next few weeks, noting that this closure could continue through Christmas.

Our Bishop Marray has advised ""My pastoral counsel to our faith family is, as far as possible, stay home. Follow worship virtually through your parish's platform." Having had direct conversations with the Bishop, five clergy colleagues, our Senior Warden and Leadership Team, and other parishioners, I believe the safest course now is to move to Virtual Worship. I am temporarily postponing in-person worship through the remainder of November. Virtual live service of the Holy Eucharist at now9:00 am from the church visible remotely on our Facebook page. In addition, the Parish Office is closed to all outside groups and meetings and our Parish Administrator is working from home. Pastoral visitations are restricted to emergencies only. Hospital visits will be only in the case of emergency or for Prayers and Anointing for the Dying.

I believe that we are at a very tough place now with a resurgence of positive cases, hospitalizations and sadly, even deaths. It is our hope that these further actions will reduce the rate of community transmission in order to return to in-person services. Our most vulnerable age groups are still those over 60 and those with health compromises. The most important protocols of hand sanitization, social distancing and mask wearing remain effective means of preventing the spread of this virus. I thank you all for complying with these often difficult measures.

Your continued prayers are encouraged for the health and safety of all our people and especially those effected by the virus.

May we seek the eternal wisdom of the Lord our God, Jesus our friend and brother and the Holy Spirit our guide and source of strength and hope.

Blessings,			

Henry+

Do we have your birthday and/or anniversary information? Email us shrewsburychurch@gmail.com

OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

01	Doug & Sandy Hamilton
02	Bob & KC Holland
07	Kirk & Laura Wade
08	Charles & Deborah Wills
09	Olin & Catherine Davis III
13	Larry & Peggy Samuels
20	Michael & Nancy Browne
20	Will & Katie Hughes
22	Patrick & Jenny Randolph
25	Lisa & Edward C. Raffetto, Jr.
30	Don & Lynea Redman

RIRTHDAVS

DIKII	IDMID
02	Priscilla Churchill
04	Jeff Miller
05	Nora Becker
05	Liz Gross
06	Carter Clabaugh
08	Doug Hamilton
16	Sam Clabaugh
19	Roy Crow
19	Chuck Paff
19	Janet Sorrentino
21	Don Redman
27	Sandy Hamilton
29	Amy Yowell

ANNIVERSARIES

03	Doug & Mary Megarge	e
RIRT	HDAVS	

10/110
Eliza Mendoza
Paige Megargee
RJ Crow
Paul Samuels
Mike Browne
Jerry Clabaugh
Harriett Lusby
Pam Quarstein
Sue Coleman
Coty Schelts
Mary Lou Pagella

NOVEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Karen & Chuck Reed 22 John & Harriet Silcox

BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Jones 01 Seth Powell 04 Karen Boulden 13 Virgil Randolph

DECEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Rick & Kelly Schelts 05

BIRTHDAYS

Carol Orange 01 Bob Holland 02 Fr. Henry Sabetti 09 Ann Davis 15 Margaret Randolph 20 Jenny Randolph Mary Elma Sutton 21 21 Harold "Bunk" Miller 25 23 Will Hughes Mary Watson 29 Barbara Lloyd 31

(Continued from page 1)

(A General Thanksgiving, BCP, p. 836)

While many of us feel a lingering and palpable sense of disappointment with the overall trajectory of the pandemic, the recent election, racial unrest and violence and many social issues of our times, we do have the ultimate source of complete relationship and dependence upon God. That is where we may always return for sustenance and the hope of a light yet to come. And giving thanks or *Thanksgiving* remains an open opportunity to maintain and return our thanks to God.

We may not be able to worship in-person. We may not be able to enjoy the usual Thanksgiving gatherings. We may not be able to travel to see those we love or greet those who travel to love us. Yet we can continue to thank God that no matter what happens in this life and in these times, we have God and God has us. This relationship never ceases to be.

As we approach the sacred season of Advent, the message of God as Emmanuel has never been so poignant. Emmanuel, or *God is with us*, may be known, felt and shared across the boundaries of a difficult and scary time in our country. In Advent we wait and this year waiting has been a constant companion. In our waiting, may we meet God, who not only waits with us, but through the scriptures of the Advent season, pushes us into seeing and knowing that our waiting is never for nothing. It is a waiting of insight and purpose and unparalleled expectation and hope.

Our dependence is upon God. In this time and in this place, that may well be a mantra to repeat and take in and repeat again and again. Our dependence is upon God.

We will make it through this time of disappointment my dear friends and as we do we will know that God is truly and always with us and within us.

Be well, love God, love others and love yourselves,

Henry+

The Very Rev. Henry M. Sabetti, Rector and Dean

Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus.
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)



Submissions for the next quarter newsletter are due on February 9, 2021 before noon

Shrewsbury Parish P.O. Box 187 Kennedyville MD 21645 PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE