



**November 2016**  
**Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity**  
*Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, worshipping in the Anglican Tradition*



**Newsletter**

***A Reflection on Death and Life***

Adapted from a homily preached by Fr. Rob at Melisa Lariscey's funeral, October 13, 2016

A metaphor of life has been passed on to us by the 7<sup>th</sup> C church historian, the Venerable Bede. It is from a story of an Anglo-Saxon king being counseled about this new teaching Christianity that has come to the realm:



"Your Majesty, when we compare the present life of man on earth with that time of which we have no knowledge, it seems to me like the swift flight of a single sparrow through the banquet hall where you are sitting at dinner on a winter's day with your *thegns* and counselors. In the midst there is a comforting fire to warm the hall; outside, the storms of winter rain or snow are raging. This sparrow flies swiftly in through one door of the hall, and out through another. While he is inside, he is safe from the winter storms; but after a few moments of comfort, he vanishes from sight into the wintry world from which he came. Even so, man appears on earth for a little while; but of what went before this life or of what follows, we know nothing. Therefore, if this new teaching [Christianity] has brought any more certain knowledge, it seems only right that we should follow it." The other elders and counselors of the king under God's guidance, gave similar advice.

Venerable Bede's Ecclesiastical History of the English People (London: Penguin Books, 1990, page 131)

Making sense of life can be tough. We come into this life, live three score and ten, as scripture says- four score if we have strength, Psalm 90 adds- and then we die. But there is something wrong with this picture. After all, we humans are the crown of the God's creation, created in His image, breathed into by his Holy Spirit. God did not create us to just spend a short time in this world and then pass into oblivion... or worse. Scripture is clear about that. God is clear about that.

Where then does death fit into all of this? Well, it doesn't. God created us to enjoy us forever... to love us, and gave us the ability and choice to love Him back. That is God's plan and purpose for us, and obviously His deep heart's desire. And we know that Jesus came to do something about the curse and finality of the grave.

But still, we die and leave this world behind. We understand biological death... things go wrong, our bodies wear out, tragedy happens, and so forth. But God promises new life to everyone who will receive it, a new and perfected life where death, sorrow and pain are no more. God who is mighty enough to create us in the first place is mighty enough keep his promises. We may die to this old world, to our old selves, to our sins, brokenness, dysfunction and addictions, but those who are in Christ have been made a new creation and will be with their Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier in heaven forever.

***Parish Covered-Dish Lunch***  
**Sunday, November 13 following Sunday School.**  
 Barbequed is being prepared for us.  
 Bring your favorite fixin' or desert to go with it.

**WANTED:  
 YOUR UNUSED  
 COATS AND  
 BLANKETS!**



Terri Fulmer is collecting COATS and BLANKETS for the homeless over the next several weeks. There is a box in the fellowship hall for your donations.



***2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's - CSRA***  
 Saturday, 11 am, November 5, 2016 - Columbia County Amphitheater  
 Nancy Hartley is putting together an Anglican Church of Holy Trinity Walk Team.  
**To sign up/donate: 803-341-0075**

## *The Feast of All Saints*

All Saints' Day is a surprisingly old feast. It has its origin in the early Christian tradition of celebrating the martyrdom of saints. When martyrdoms increased during the persecutions of the late Roman Empire, the Church instituted a common feast day in order to ensure that all martyrs, known and unknown, were properly honored. The current date of November first was instituted by Pope Gregory III (731-741). It has been a tradition in the Church to transfer the



celebration to the following Sunday. A special treat for us here at Holy Trinity on that Sunday is that our children have a presentation for us during the service. They will tell us what they have learned about the Saints of the Church.

The vigil of All Saints (the eve of the feast), October 31, is commonly known as *All Hallows Eve*, or by its contraction, *Halloween*. "Hallow," as a noun, is an old English word for saint. As a verb, it means to make something holy or to honor it as holy. Despite concerns among

some Christians about the pagan origins of Halloween, the vigil is therefore a Christian celebration that is almost 1,300 years old. Albeit in error, some ancient Christians believed that on Halloween the veil separating earth, heaven and hell becomes very thin, and the souls of the departed can be more readily seen. The occult with its roots in pagan beliefs, particularly Celtic myths, with its emphases on ghosts, demons, etc, have seized upon these distortions, adding to the celebration and even making it their own celebration.

Should Christian parents allow their children to celebrate Halloween? If the festival is given the proper context and emphasis, why not? Christian parents should, however, explain the Christian origins of Halloween and its connection with the revered celebration of All Saints Day. Given the origin of the celebration, perhaps the more appropriate costumes for the occasion would be Bible heroes and church saints, rather than ghost and goblins.

*Father Rob*

### *A Word on Worship*

God is the primary actor or agent in the worship encounter. Worship is the arena in which God recalibrates our hearts, reforms our desires, and re-habituates our loves. Worship isn't just something we do; it is where God does something to us. Worship is the heart of discipleship because it is the gymnasium in which God retrains our hearts.

James K. A. Smith, *You Are What You Love*



Fr. Johann and Louise are leaving the Anglican Mission in Gambela because of Johann's an ongoing health issue. We continue our prayers for Johann and Louise as they discern God's direction for the next chapter in their ministry.

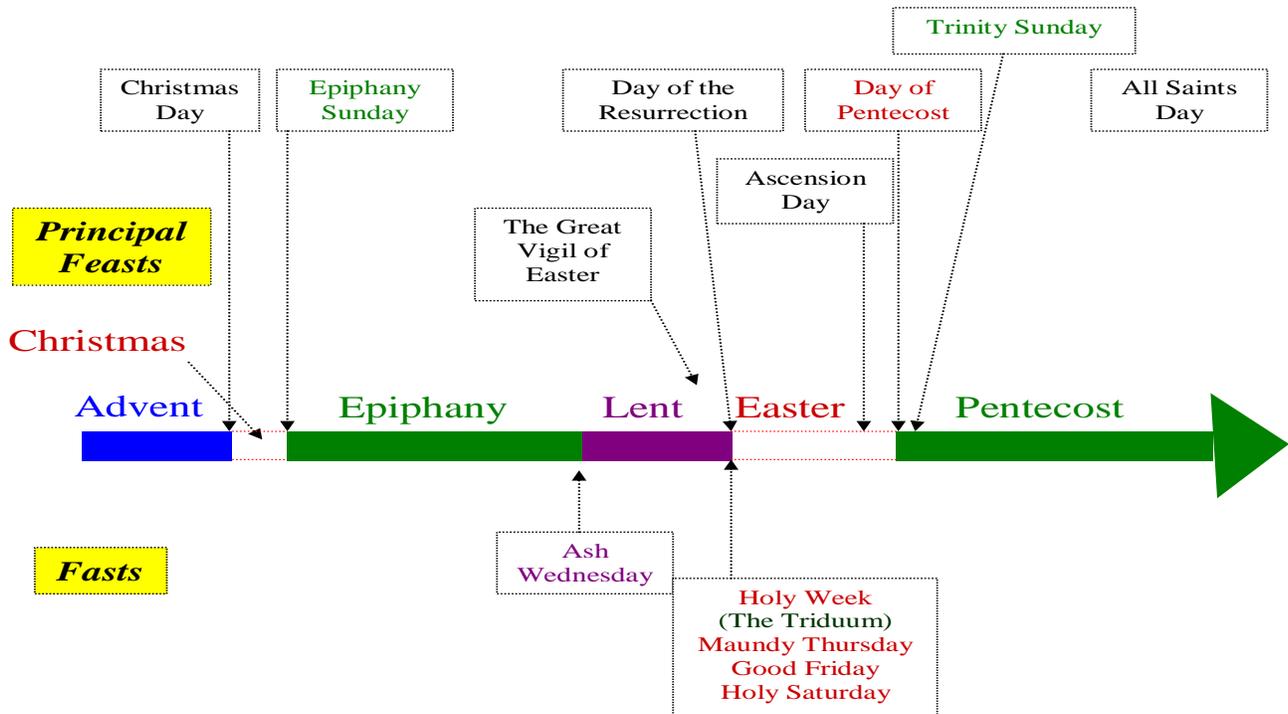
## *November Lay Ministries*

**If you are unable to perform the ministry as listed, please find a substitute for your slot in advance. Call Fr. Rob if necessary.**

2016	November 6 All Saint's Day 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	November 13 26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	November 20 Last Sunday After Pentecost	November 27 First Sunday of Advent	December 4 Second Sunday of Advent
<b>Euch. Min.</b>	Mike Sanders	Paula Wahl	Mike Holley	Jerry Nault	Sanra Sanders
<b>Ushers / Greeters</b>	Mark Watkins Monte Steedly Sue James	Joseph Anson Bill Bargeloh Wayne Lowe	Judy Chemin Mike Holley Deborah Kurilla	Donna Lariscey Margaret Williams Richard Mayson	Jason Nault Susan Penberthy Bobbie Roddy
<b>Presenting Bread/Wine</b>	Jennifer Chapman Judy Chemin	Pat Cowan Betty Croy	Mike & Jackie Fekula	Terri Fulmer Ginger Hackett	Billy & Amy Hane
<b>Prayer Team</b>	Nancy Hartley Wayne Lowe	Rosemarie Martin Margaret Williams	Ginger Hackett Monique Taylor	Nancy Hartley Wayne Lowe	Rosemarie Martin Margaret Williams
<b>Lector-OT</b>	Sandra Sanders	Avery Shapiro	Jami Warning	Margaret Williams	JoEllen Barbare
<b>Lector-NT</b>	Mitch Carter	Judy Chemin	Mike Holley	Betty Croy	Jennifer Dorn
<b>Altar Guild [week of]</b>	Ginger Hackett Monique Taylor Terry Nault	Betty Croy Donna Lariscey	Annette Morris Myrle Wilson	Rosemarie Martin JoEllen Barbare	Virginia Folk Marguerite Prescott
<b>Acolyte Guild</b>	Oke Iwuji	Avery Shapiro	Sandra Sanders	Oke Iwuji	Avery Shapiro

## The Approaching Season of Advent

The Season of Pentecost is coming to an end, and the Season of Advent begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Note from the chart of the church year below that Advent is the beginning of a new church year.



There are two pinnacles of the church year: Christmas and Easter. Each has a season of preparation preceding it: the season of preparation for Christmas is Advent; the season of preparation for Easter is Lent. The Advent-Christmas cycle focuses on the Incarnation- God coming and dwelling among us. In the Lent-Easter cycle we dwell on the Lord's Resurrection- God raising us to new life with Him. What is called Ordinary Time lies between the Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas liturgical seasons. These are known as The Season of Epiphany and The Season of Pentecost.

With all that said, let us focus on Advent. The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." Since Advent is the season before Christmas, it is logically about getting ready for coming of Jesus. We naturally think of Jesus' First Coming at Christmas, but if we listen to the readings that are assigned from the lectionary during Advent, we quickly realize that it is also about getting ready for Jesus' Second Coming, which is the long-awaited fruition of Christ's redemptive work in the world.

Advent makes the strong theological point that the flow of history from God's perspective, what we call Salvation History, has both a purpose and a destination. Salvation History is not a randomly stitched together series of events; rather, it is headed somewhere and God is in the driver's seat. There is a divine destination for all of us, and the Season of Advent is about welcoming into our lives the Way to that destination. The Way is, of course, Jesus. Whether we are talking about Jesus' first coming as a baby lying in a feeding trough in a stable at Bethlehem 2000 years ago, or about Jesus second coming in power and glory at the End Times, Advent is about God coming to us; thus, we have the great cry of Advent, "Come, O Come, Emmanuel!"

*Father Rob*

### **Christian Stewardship of Our Time, Talent and Resources**

It is this time of year that we start planning for the coming year. This involves positioning ourselves ministry-wise and financially to be the church God is calling us to be and to do the work He has given us to do. This is the time of year we focus on one particular Christian virtue- the Christian Virtue of Generosity- giving from all that our Lord has given us to His Glory and for the benefit of others.

We modern American Christians can struggle with generosity because we live in a secularized culture in which materialism points us in the other direction. The pull of materialism can be great, and our possessions can weigh us down as we make our pilgrimage heavenward. This is our time to assess where we are individually and corporately in this journey from the "Kingdom of Self" to the "Kingdom of God."

Throughout the month of November, we will be talking about the plans and visions we have for the year to come, and how we will respond with our time, talent and finances to support it.

# November, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Upcoming Events</b>  Jan 8 Annual Parish Report: Submission Deadline  Jan 22 Annual Parish Celebration & Mtg		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		<i>The Feast of All Saints</i>  10:00-11:30am No Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Alpha: Does God Heal Today?</i> Nursery available		7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 11:00 am Alzheimer's Walk 11:00- 2:00 pm Blood Drive at Holy Trinity
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
All Saints' Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i> Daylight Saving's Time Ends. Set your clocks back 1 hour		Election Day! Exercise your right to vote! 10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Alpha: What About The Church?</i> Nursery available		Veterans' Day!   7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study   6:00 pm Service of Prayer & Praise
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i> Barbeque covered dish Lunch		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>		7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King Sunday 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i>		10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>	<i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>	7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study  6:00 pm Service of Praise & Prayer
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
First Sunday of Advent 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i>		10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>			

*Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Anglican Church in North America*

**Christ-centered, biblically grounded, worshipping in the Anglican Tradition**

Sweetwater Center, 160 Merovan Drive, North Augusta, S C 29860

[www.AnglicanChurchoftheHolyTrinity.com](http://www.AnglicanChurchoftheHolyTrinity.com) (803) 341-0075 [robhartley@comcast.net](mailto:robhartley@comcast.net) Blog: North Augusta Anglican

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Rector: The Rev. Rob Hartley,

Assisting Clergy: The Rev.'s Dan Brown and Theophilus Iwuji

Vestry: Mike Holley (Senior Warden); Mike Sanders (Junior Warden); Jennifer Dorn, Terri Fulmer, Jerry Nault, and Larry Pettinato