



ST. STEPHEN'S SPIRIT

The Newsletter of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wilkinsburg PA

October 2025

Jesus calls us to strive to be holy, to seek to be a saint, in our daily lives.

"Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen." - The Book of Common Prayer

The basis of "All Hallows Eve," is the vigil of the "holiday" (holy day) of All Saints. All Saints Day is a day to honor the saints. We are given the details of the struggles in lives as an example. We are invited to look at the struggles in our lives and to be courageous in our fight against injustice, hatred, violence, elitism, bigotry and all other evils that divide us as a family created by God. Heaven is a real place. We are going to a destination that has been assured to us by the very words of Jesus Himself in the Gospel of John "I go to prepare a place for you."

That's our inheritance. That is what we have been given in Jesus. But the truth we see in all of those who lived their lives with an intention to be boldly, uncompromisingly dedicated to the teachings of Jesus Christ. We are each called to pray for grace each day to face the injustices, hatred, violence, elitism, bigotry and all other evils in our world by standing peacefully yet clearly against it, by shining with our self-sacrificing love and care for others, especially those in need, those marginalized victims of evil.

Because of Jesus Christ, we live now in the reality of a victory assured, a promise that in Christ everything is made new, the new heaven and the earth are the reality. The shroud is taken away; death is not the end. We are called to give witness to this by how we make our commitment to the teachings of Jesus our highest priority and the light that guides our decisions at our jobs, in our homes, and in our communities. Pondering the lives of the saints can help us to follow the example of these saints, to live our lives, our normal, regular, everyday lives, with an uncompromised faith.

So All Saints' Day is a day to give thanks. And it is a day even more deeply to say yes to all that we have been given and to which we have been invited. It is a day to live.

Let's spend this month focused on the blessing God has given the Church in these holy women and men who stand as mentors for each of us on our faith journey, especially as we gaze into our world that is so clearly hungering for the blessing of peace, so aching to have love prevail over hate, so weary from partisan dishonesty and corruption. Let us show the world by how we live, the expression on our face, the tone of our voice, the priorities of our time and the choices we make, that we are striving to be disciples of Jesus Christ, holy people to bless the world God has called us to live in right now, tomorrow and always.

Fr. Chuck +

Morning Prayer happens the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. See you on October 1st!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

October 2 Greg Gent

October 4 Gabe Sunderman

October 7 Cathy Wilkie

October 10 Jay Vaidya

October 11 Anne Bump / Andy Muhl

October 14 Doug Chaffey

October 16 Don Block / Oliver Jackson

October 22 Rosemary Angelo

ANNIVERSARIES

October 18 Pam and Chris Sovich

FOOD OF THE MONTH

Canned Fruit & Vegetables



Prayer for October

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

ECW Fall 2025

Memorial Scholarships Available

The Episcopal Church Women established the Memorial Membership Fund to aid students with educational grants. The fund was begun in 1927 to be used for two missionary training scholarships. In the 94 years of its existence, the scope of the fund has widened to include nursing, theology and other humanitarian fields of study.

Funds are raised through gifts from individuals or groups in memory of a loved one or friend. This money is invested and the interest used for the granting purposes.

The applications must be received by **Friday, October 10, 2025**. The application form with submission instructions can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.episcopalpgh.org/docs/Fall-2025-Memorial-Scholarship-Fund-Application.pdf>

**Vestry will meet again
Monday, October 6th @ 7p**



SUPPORT A CENTRAL SERVICE FOR THE POOR OF PITTSBURGH

Federal funding cuts have severely impacted Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry's access to items from the food bank. You can help them maintain their current level of service to the community by planning to attend this year's very special Harvest Fest Outreach Fundraiser.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1066 Washington Rd, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228
412-531-7153 stpaulspgh.org

Tickets will be \$25, with additional opportunities to give. More details, and the delicious menu, will be released soon!

TRINITY'S WALK-IN MINISTRY

The Walk-In Ministry is a part of The Downtown Pittsburgh Ministerium whose mission statement reads: "Reaching out in love to the homeless, the poor, and the discouraged since 1980." This long-standing ministry is in partnership with other churches in the downtown area and has also been supported by many in our diocese, as parishioners from parishes beyond Trinity Cathedral have increasingly offered their time and resources.

If you would like to learn more, check out this link:

<https://www.episcopalpgh.org/trinity-walk-in-ministry-serving-the-community/>

**Are you an outdoorsy person?
Check out the HOLY HIKES!**

<https://www.episcopalpgh.org/holy-hikes-southwest-pennsylvania-2025-schedule/>

**Saturday, October 18, 2025 – 10:00 am
Ohiopyle State Park – Meadow Run Trail**

Let Kathy know if you want to attend!

Email krmulligan718@gmail.com



**Give Your Parish an
Ethical AI Assistant—
Rooted in Episcopal
Tradition**

Even better, most congregations can set up their own chatbot for free with [Ecclesia.ai](https://ecclesia.ai)—the platform behind [EpiscoBot.com](https://episcobot.com), which has thousands of trusted conversations every week. Grounded in the Episcopal tradition and built by priests for priests, it provides your parish with an ethical AI assistant trained on your own data.



Silent Film with Live Organ Accompaniment



The Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh
Co-presented with
The Pittsburgh Silent Film Festival

Wednesday, October 1, 7:30pm

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church,
5801 Hampton St. Pittsburgh 15206

General Admission Tickets \$20.00 (cash or card)
Children and Students with ID are
FREE admission to the concert

Concert Organist Joshua Stafford,
Director of Music Ministries and Organist at First
Congregational Church of Columbus, Ohio

*A full bio and tickets ahead of time are available
on: www.organseries.com*



Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM

Contact Us

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