



Trinity Topics

November 2020

Phone = (217) 245-5901

info@trinitychurchjax.org

Website = www.trinitychurchjax.org



“[Jesus] sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’”

—*Mark 12:41-44*

With the arrival of November at Trinity Church comes Stewardship Season. It is the time for all of us to express our gratitude for God’s generous and merciful works toward us in how we support his Church. This is an especially critical stewardship campaign because it arrives in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of us may not be able to come to worship. There may be fewer opportunities for fellowship or study at Trinity, but the work of the Church goes on. Trinity continues to need your generous support for this essential service in these trying times. The world may be filled with anxiety and stress, yet Trinity Church continues to be the life of Jacksonville just as the soul is the life of the body. Supporting the worldly needs of our community is a critical part of our proclamation of the Gospel.

The ancient standard of giving in the Church is called the “tithe.” A tithe is giving the first ten percent of our income to the Church and to charity. Just as the earliest people of God would give the first lamb of their flocks and first part of their wheat harvest to the Temple, so we show we understand where our life comes from by giving the first tenth of it away to the Church and to the poor. I will not deny this is an exceedingly high standard. Most of us would have to rearrange our finances entirely to meet it. In all honesty, my family has been able to meet it only occasionally over the years. If we cannot meet this high standard this year, I hope all of us have deep conversations with our families so that we can establish a plan for meeting it in the future.

Why should we make such hard sacrifices for the Church of God? The month of November offers some ideas. We celebrate the Feast of All Saints—in our pledge to the Church we find a connection to a community of heroic saints across the world and time. We find a connection to something that is beautiful and true. No wonder the widow of the Gospel gave away her last penny to the Temple when she could have bought bread for herself. Such was her eagerness to give to something that really mattered! Next is the Feast of All Souls. Trinity Church is a gift to us from generations past. In our pledge we have an opportunity to honor them and to preserve Trinity Church for future generations. In November we celebrate Thanksgiving—a pledge to the Church is a way of thanking God for his generosity by being generous to the community in return. Finally, this month we begin the season of Advent, which is the beginning of the Christian year as well as the start of the holiday season. The lead up to Christmas is a time to remember the joy of giving rather than receiving. It is a good time to start a new discipline of giving to the community and to the poor.

I do understand that giving to the community is a hard sacrifice for many of us. My family has known years when we longed to give more to the community we loved so dearly. For those of us in this situation, know that any amount matters to God, and it ensures that Trinity Church remains financially healthy. I also know it is the case that many of us have been richly blessed this year, including my own family. Those of us who have so much to be thankful for can rejoice in being able to give more this year. Whatever we have to give, I thank God for the support all of you have given our community over the years. I pray Trinity Church can remain a spiritual home for all of us, and for many others, for generations to come.

Fr. Zach Brooks +

A Course in Anglican History: Part XXII

As Queen Mary set about ruthlessly purging England of Protestantism, a motley set of clergy and nobles fled for the continent, settling mainly in Germany, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. This connection to Calvinist areas would prove to be pivotal in later years, as these “Marian Exiles” would eventually become an influential faction in the Church in Queen Elizabeth’s reign. Their faith and worship, though based on the 1552 Book of Common prayer, was unmoored from the authority of bishops and the Crown and came to be deeply influenced by their Calvinist surroundings. The little communities of English refugees scattered across Europe were fractious and distrusted wherever they went. They prayed for the day when they could return home.

Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, unlike the Exiles, resolved to stay in England. It is hard to know what he believed his fate would be. He had declared the new queen a bastard by annulling her mother’s marriage to King Henry. He orchestrated the English Reformation. He cannot have imagined Queen Mary would be inclined to leniency. On the other hand, as the possibility of a heretic’s execution came into view, he issued not one but four recantations of Protestantism, each more contrite and thorough than the last. Even with such a thorough and public embrace of the True Religion, it wasn’t good enough for Queen Mary. A more sober-minded queen might have seen the value in a great show of mercy to Protestants who returned to the fold. As Cranmer’s pyre was lit, he thrust his hand into the flames, declaring that the hand that had signed his recantations would be the first part of him burned away. This final, dramatic act made Cranmer a marquee level martyr in the eyes of Protestants everywhere.

This column is the twentieth-second in the monthly series on the history of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church.

All Souls/All the Faithful Departed

On November 2, we remember the Faithful Departed. We normally set out forms for the congregation to submit names to be read at the service. Since most of us are not able to attend services in person, Jo Ann has pulled from her files the forms that were submitted last year so that your loved ones are remembered before the Altar. If you have other names to submit, please contact the Parish Office.

The Readings for the Sundays in November

	<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>Psalm</i>	<i>New Testament</i>	<i>Gospel</i>
1	Revelation 7:9-17	34:1-10,22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
8	Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25	78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
15	Judges 4:1-7	123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
22	Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24	100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
29	Isaiah 64:1-9	80:1-7,16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37



Collect of the Day

Almighty and gracious Father, we give thee thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

News & Announcements

Church School

Our Church School teachers are now presenting a weekly video on Facebook so that the children can pray together and hear the Bible story of the week. We send home the weekly lessons so that they can follow along. Thank you, Church School Teachers, for your ministry in keeping the children connected to Trinity Church.

Outreach

- **Doorbell Dinners:** Trinity Church delivered meals the week of October 12 – 16. K-Lou Ashmore would like to thank those who helped: Kip & K-Lou Ashmore, Keith Bradbury, John Clancy, Rob & Lisa Haley, Forrest & Helen Keaton, Maryjane Million, Dana Ryan, Don & Alice Tracey, Sarah Van Aken, Mary Watts, and Ryan Worrall.
- **United Thank Offering:** We are pleased to report that we sent in \$828.75 to the Diocesan UTO chairman.
- **Holiday Food Drive:** The Outreach Committee has created this plan - On **November 14 and 15**, food pantry items can either be dropped off at the Radcliffe house, 1302 W. State, or committee members can pick up items from individual's porches from 2-4 either day. If they are interested in having items picked up, they need to contact Abby Radcliffe, abbyrad25@aol.com or **217-320-1811** and note which day items should be picked up. The Food Pantry has noted that they are most in need of sweet potatoes, egg noodles, stuffing mix and Jello. Their supplies are currently very low for those items. The complete **list of recommended items is on the back of this newsletter.**
- **Jacksonville Area Council of Churches:** The Life and Works Committee of the JACC encourages member churches to support the Personal Needs Pantry that is operated out of the First Baptist Church. They distribute the following items: for household cleaning, baby care, oral care, personal hygiene, and paper products. The Parish Office has a detailed list if you are interested. Items will be **collected through the end of December.** Jo Ann will pick up items from your porch and deliver them, but you may also drop them off yourself at First Baptist Church, 1701 Mound Ave. Their office hours are 9-11 am, Monday through Friday.
- **Operation Christmas Child:** We have received the boxes and information pamphlets for this project again. If you are interested in packing a shoebox for a child, please contact the Parish Office. Jo Ann can deliver you a box to pack. Boxes will need to be filled by November 18, and Jo Ann can pick up your filled box. Each box requires a \$9 shipping fee, so if you would like to help with that, please make a check out to **Samaritan's Purse** and send it to the office.

Pledge Campaign for 2021

Letters were mailed mid-October. If you did not receive one, but would like one, please let us know.

Congratulations!

Nick Cisne and Jordan Barrett welcomed their daughter Scarlett Wren, on September 21. She is the granddaughter of Jim and Janet Cisne. Welcome to the world, Scarlett!



****If you have news you wish to share, please contact the Parish Office.***

Sunday, November 1



Bible Study with Fr. Zach is on November 10 & 24.

Please email him for an invitation to the Zoom session.

Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, November 17

7:00 pm

Items for Holiday Food Baskets

- Sweet potatoes / Instant potatoes (Regular and large size)
- Pumpkin pie mix
- Gravy mix (package or can)
- Cool whip / Jell-O
- Corn / Green beans
- Butter / Margarine
- Fruit salad (canned fruit)
- Evaporated milk
- Chicken broth
- Mushroom soup
- Macaroni and cheese
- Egg noodles
- Flour / Sugar
- Stuffing mix
- Cereal
- Rolls

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER 2020

The Sunday 10 o'clock service with limited attendance is our only service. It is also live streamed on Facebook. Attendees must follow the Reopening Guidelines.

November 1:

All Saints' Day

November 8:

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15:

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

November 22:

The Last Sunday after Pentecost - Christ the King

November 29:

The 1st Sunday of Advent

HOLY DAYS

will be celebrated with a 10 o'clock Eucharist in the Lady Chapel.

November 2:

All Souls/All the Faithful Departed

November 30:

St. Andrew

2021 Pledge Campaign

Pledge Sunday is
November 1

Have you mailed in
your pledge card?