



Trinity Topics

November 2026

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“What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?”—*Psalm 116:12*

November is the season for gratitude. The harvest is in, the rush of the holidays is upon us, and if we are to make the coming weeks a season of charity and good cheer, we have just enough time to consider the blessings the Lord God has bestowed on us throughout the year. We must take this all-too-brief moment for gratitude because it isn't always easy in the busyness of life to remember to have gratitude, to “count our blessings,” as the hackneyed saying goes. It's true that some years make it harder to remember gratitude, yet the Bible says “To him who has, more will be given.” I believe that when we remember our blessings, even if we start with just the smallest ones, we will come to realize there are more and more of them to count. We say every Sunday that “the peace of God passes all understanding,” but we can begin to understand just a little of His abundant love for us in this season to come.

We Christians believe all good gifts ultimately come from God. Indeed, our life is just on loan from God, its true origin and owner. This means we must use it according to God's generous and merciful nature. We reflect our conviction in that reality through our gifts to God. Giving the first part of the harvest to God is the age-old recognition that our harvest (or paycheck!) is God's gift. Lest we think our blessings are the natural result of our own efforts, any farmer will tell you that however hard you might have worked for your living, it could easily have all come to nothing. Every year is, therefore, another gift of God's grace. We must show, to God and to our own hearts, that we know this is true. I hope we all keep this in mind as we conclude this year's pledge campaign to support Trinity Church in the year to come. It does give me some joy to give to God's Church, and I have often wished I could give more.

Our generosity to the Church, however, is only one part of expressing our gratitude for God's love for us. When asked what the greatest law of the Bible was, Jesus said “You should love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind.” But he refused to let this statement stand alone, and went on to further teach us that we must love our neighbor as ourself. Our gratitude, therefore, is inextricably linked to our charity for others. Jesus teaches us that we give to God through our concern for our neighbors, especially for the poor. Has God not been generous to us poor sinners? Should we not, therefore, be generous to those who have precious little to be thankful for? I assure you there are many such people even in our own community, and perhaps you will be the reason they can have gratitude to God. This will involve making sacrifices, to be sure, but anything we give up in this life will be treasures laid up in heaven.

I believe this gratitude that expresses itself in charity is essential for real Christian happiness. Good times come and go, but through the times that a not-so-good, or even the bad times, we will rest with the knowledge that God cares for us if we are willing to be thankful for and share even the little we have. Life my take away my wealth, and my health, and put everyone I care about far from me, but I will have gratitude because I will always have Jesus in my heart!

Fr. Zach Brooks +

A Course in Anglican History: Part LXXIII

It is in the 1850's that we can finally start talking about Anglicanism, for it took this long after the English Reformation for the concept of Anglicanism to emerge. The word Anglican itself didn't enter common use until this point. This is why the Episcopal Church in the United States, confusingly, does not have the word Anglican in its name—it predates the use of the term. Until the 1850's, it was simply the Church of England at home and abroad, with a few hangers-on such as the Episcopal Church or the Church of Ireland. They saw themselves as defined by their nationality, form of leadership and form of worship (in that order) rather than by having distinct doctrines from other Protestant denominations. The question of its unique identity didn't really need to be asked because it was mostly confined to England, where it had little competition. This began to change first in the 13 Colonies, where Anglicanism was a minority faith that had to justify its identity against other Christian denominations for the first time. The spread of the British Empire also put English Christianity into contact with non-Christians for the first time. At first, the Church of England showed little interest in evangelization, for it was content to be the Church of the English people. However, slowly but surely indigenous people in colonized lands began to show interest in the Christian faith, and English Christianity began to spread rapidly among non-English people. This pressed a question: What defined this particular kind of Christianity if it wasn't simply English Christianity? What does a Kenyan member of the Church of England share with a resident of Liverpool, England on Sunday morning? This process became all the more difficult because it coincided with a dramatic fragmentation of the post-Reformation Anglican consensus at the start of the modern era. The Church was roiling over with Evangelicalism, Modernism, Ritualism, and Anglo-Catholicism. Even to this day, Anglicanism is uniquely difficult to define compared to other Christian denominations.

This column is a monthly series on the history of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church.

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP FOR NOVEMBER 5

Please join us on Tuesday, November 3, at 7:00 pm for dessert.

The video and study will be from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.

This month's lesson in *Reading the Bible with Bonhoeffer* asks the question "Who is Jesus Christ today?" Our take on who God really is determines everything else, not just in our religious lives but in all of life in this world. We will study and discuss the important biblical texts that Bonhoeffer used to answer this central theological question.

Children's Chapel and Church School

Much work has been happening in the church school area. Please come for the open house on Sunday, November 1, after the 10 o'clock service. The children would like to show you the new mural and updated chapel.

News & Announcements

All Saints' and All Souls' Day Services

These two feasts are two of the most important days of the Christian year outside of Easter and Christmas. We will celebrate **All Saints' Day**, a Principal Feast, on Sunday, November 1, including a special litany for all the great saints in our lives. The following day we will remember those who have died with our **All Souls' Day** Requiem on **Nov. 2 at 10 am**. I hope we can come together as a community for these services to remember the reality of God's grace in all our lives.

Outreach

These items are needed for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets: sweet potatoes, instant potatoes, gravy mix (package or can), egg noodles, chicken broth, corn, green beans, mushroom soup, stuffing mix, macaroni & cheese, pumpkin pie mix; evaporated milk, cereal, flour, sugar

Items will be needed through both holidays, but we will deliver what we have on **November 16**, for use for Thanksgiving.

Doorbell Dinners: Trinity Church delivered meals the week of September 28 to October 2. K-Lou Ashmore would like to thank those who helped: Kip & K-Lou Ashmore, Keith & Maryjane Bradbury, Gayle Clark, Chuck Crim, Beth Hilleke, Cindy Meisner, Mary Pollock, Mickey & Michele Quinones, Hilda Radcliffe, Dana Ryan, Dianna Sutphen, Judy Tighe, and Ryan Worrall.

Next year's dates are January 4-8, April 12-16, June 28 – July 2, and October 18-22.

United Thank Offering: We are pleased to report that we sent \$645 to the Diocesan UTO chairman.

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 17. Each box requires a \$10 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.

ECW

Members will meet again for a build your own salad lunch meeting on **Tuesday, November 10, at 11:30 am**.

Pledge Campaign for 2027

Letters were mailed on October 21. If you did not receive one, but would like one, please let us know.

Sunday Ministers

A separate list is included for those who serve. We always need extra help so please let Fr. Zach or the Parish Office if you would like to serve.

Congratulations

Harold "Hal" Vaughan Keaton was born on September 25, 2026. His parents are Grant and Angela, and his proud grandparents are Forrest and Helen Keaton. Welcome to the world, Hal!

Hollyns Reagan Haley was born on September 26. She joins siblings Hugh, Harper, Henley, and Hallie. Proud parents are Levi and Jill. Proud grandparents are Rob & Lisa. Welcome to the world, Hollyn!

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

Sunday, November 1



Trinity Fellowship continues
to study
Reading the Bible with Bonhoeffer
Tuesday, November 3.
7:00 pm

ECW Salad Lunch
is on Tuesday, November 10
11:30 am
Bring a salad ingredient to share.
Lettuce and drinks are provided.

Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, November 17
7:00 pm



SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday at 8 o'clock & 10 o'clock
10 o'clock is live streamed on Facebook.

November 1:

All Saints' Day

November 8:

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15:

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 22:

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost -
Christ the King**

November 29:

The First Sunday of Advent

THANKSGIVING DAY, November 26:
Morning Prayer at 10 o'clock

HOLY DAYS & Wednesdays
will be celebrated with a 10 o'clock Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel.

All Souls / All the Faithful Departed

Monday, November 2:

November 4

November 11

November 18

November 25

November 30: **St. Andrew** (Major Feast)

2027 Pledge Campaign

Pledge Sunday is
November 1

Have you mailed in
your pledge card?