



Church of the Epiphany

FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Monthly Newsletter • Cloudcroft, New Mexico • November 2020



ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAYS

On November 1st and November 2nd we celebrate the church holidays of All Saints and All Souls Days. One of the hymns we sing on that Sunday of All Saints is the familiar one with lyrics by William How and music of Ralph Vaughan Williams "For All the Saints."

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
All are one in thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, alleluia.

On this day we don't pray to the saints or through the saints who have already gone into heaven. Instead we remember the saints and allow that memory of their faith to strengthen our own faith and service to our Lord. We follow their example and move forward in our own journey in companionship with Jesus Christ. We pray that like them we will be in communion throughout our lives with our Lord Jesus Christ.

In our devotional reading this week from the book *Experiencing God Day by Day* we were encouraged to hear the word of the Prophet Isaiah 51:1. "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were cut, and to the quarry from which you were dug."

The lesson was to continue to acknowledge the saints of the Old Testament and the New Testament and biblical historical figures but to move forward from there to our own times. Thinking about that I had quite a list of name that had lasting and positive effect in my life.

In Isaiah's day the people had forgotten their spiritual heritage and were living as spiritual paupers rather than as the members of a royal priesthood. Our spiritual heritage is even richer than that of Isaiah's generation. Think about your family history of faithfulness and give thanks for the guidance that may have come to you from the past.

This sainthood is not only given to those who labor hard for the kingdom of God. It also belongs to those day to day, salt-of-the-earth people who simply trusted God to carry them through their lives. Through our belief in Jesus Christ we are saved and called to be "saints" (1st Corinthians 1:2) and it is a blessing to be called a saint in God's eyes.

SYNOD

On Saturday the 24 we had our ninth Synod of the Diocese of the Southwest. This year, because of the virus, it was an entirely different experience. Seventy plus of us from various parishes gathered together by Zoom. We sat in front of our home computers and became little visual pictures doing the Lord's business.

Thanks to the prior work of Noel Collins Pfeifer and others the technological requirements of such a meeting went well. At scheduled times we were able to visually observe the person speaking and hear responses to those who electronically "held up their hands" on line who were recognized to ask questions. Votes were taken and business was resolved. Small group breakout meetings of the Deaneries were accomplished. Bishop Ackerman conducted the virtual services as the clergy renewed our vows. All aspects there but weird.

There was the realization that it was virtual. The real sense of community of gathering together as part of the Body of Christ to share information and to pass the peace was missing. When will we be able to return to the way it was? It was noted that due to the restrictions of our times attendance and giving at our churches has been diminished with its effect on the "Diocesan budget.

Fr. Frank Wilson from Epiphany was made the Secretary of the Diocese and that puts him on the Standing Committee with voice and vote.

We will do this again on December 12 when we vote for the selection of our new Bishop. There will be a **virtual "walk about"** for the candidates on **Thursday, November 12 at 7 pm.** When we have the link to the Zoom meeting, we will let everyone know. This will be for the El Paso Deanery and will originate at St. Clement's, El Paso.

Continue to pray for the Diocese and for our nation as we go to the polls and vote. Our religious freedom and national heritage is very much in the crosshairs of the times. The continued restrictions placed on in person services and the conduct of ministry opportunities could have long term results on our churches and our lives. Never have we been so regulated by a plague as to make all manner of personal expression so diminished.

With Thanksgiving coming up we don't know if we can even have a Thanksgiving service and a family meal. Travel to El Paso is restricted by the military and discouraged by state governments. Our prayers must be to our God for his protection.

We may be living in a time of Satan's attack and Spiritual warfare against us. Certainly we can have truly different opinions between us but we must also guard against the encroachment of real evil coming into our society to destroy all the good work that has preceded our own times. We may be contending against powers present (Ephesians 6:12) in this dark of winter.

Spiritual warfare is real and it can be destructive but we have the power and authority of the name of Jesus as our defender.

May this peace of our Lord be with us always.

Pastor Fred+

It snowed this week in Cloudcroft!



A Time For Prayer

Politics running rampant, pandemic going wild once again. Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of the faithful with the power of your love, joy, and peace! And while you are at it, do something about that old so-and-so down the street (or on TV) who keeps stirring up discord and dissension. He or she is annoying everyone!

Our need for prayer is immediate. Important local and national elections are set to happen. When the votes have all been counted, there will be many unhappy people. Pandemic numbers continue to climb and may threaten to overwhelm our health care system. Recovery from Covid-19 is a struggle. Recovery from the defeat of your favorite candidate maybe more so. It will directly affect so many of us.

We recognize the needs. We may not, however, be able to find the words to express our plea in our daily prayer time. Even though we learn in Roman 8:26 that when “we do not know what to pray for as we ought” the Holy “Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words”, we are a people who long for structure in our expression. Our Book of Common Prayer helps in such times. Consider Prayer Number 31, p. 655, the prayer FOR AN ELECTION:

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide and direct, we humbly pray, the minds of all those who are called to elect fit persons to serve [in _____]. Grant that in the exercise of our choice, we may promote your glory, and the welfare of the nation. This we ask for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

This and a number of other prayers for specific needs are set forth in our Book of Common Prayer. They are organized by subject in the tables on pp. 642-645. Take the time to leaf through one or more of the subject areas, beginning perhaps with THE NATION and SOCIETY. Particularly appropriate is prayer number 39, pp. 657-8, FOR OUR NATION. Go now and find your Book of Common Prayer (or go to the Anglican Church of North America website, anglicanchurch.net/resources, for the online version) and read it. Then also pray it.

You can bookmark the prayers which set forth the concerns of your heart. Carry the key phrases in your mind through the day. Lift them to the Lord! When all the votes have been counted and, Lord have mercy, re-counted, God will still be in charge. And as followers of the Prince of Peace, we will need to go forth in our ministry of reconciliation. In 2 Corinthians 5:18, Paul calls us pretty specifically to be doing just that. It was Christ, Paul declares, who “gave us the ministry of reconciliation.” A good place to start is with Prayer 33, page 655, FOR OUR ENEMIES. I have added emphasis to a few parts:

*O God, the Creator of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them **and us** from prejudice to truth; deliver them **and us** from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable **us all** to stand reconciled before you in Jesus Christ, in whose Name we pray. Amen.*

Fr. Frank K. Wilson

Associate Pastor

ADSW Synod News

The 9th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of the Southwest was called to order by the Chairman of the Standing Committee, Greg Clark, All Saints, Midland TX, at 9 am, October 24 with 72 in attendance. Because of the virus, this was a virtual meeting on Zoom with participants from Dallas(Bishop Ackerman) to Mexico to Texas and New Mexico and Kentucky for Fr. Frank. This was the one advantage to the virtual meeting in that we could easily all be together. Rev. Noel Collins Pfeifer and the tech team were terrific and there was Spanish translation for our brothers and sisters in Mexico. Delegates for Church of the Epiphany were Clergy, Rev. Fred Griffin, Rev. Frank K. Wilson and Lay, Nancy Griffin.

The meeting opened with Morning Prayer conducted by Interim Bishop Keith Ackerman.

The business meeting began with the designation of The Rev. Hal Scott, Good Shepherd, San Angelo, as Vice-Chairman and the Rev. Noel Collins Pfeifer Recording Secretary.

One time changes to the canons were passed which allow the Diocese to proceed with the altered timeline in the selection of a bishop. Gus Haddad presented the proposed budget for 2021 and also discussed the financial statement for 2020 and the financial review for 2018-2020.

New Parishes were announced and received and Deanery Caucuses and elections were held.

The Synod concluded with Midday Prayers, Clergy Reaffirmation of Vows and the signing of oaths and blessing of the oils.

New Standing Committee Officers were elected at a short meeting of the Standing Committee after the Synod: Diocesan Secretary, Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Church of the Epiphany, Cloudcroft; Diocesan Treasurer, Bert Shrecengost, Church of Our Lord, Albuquerque.

The Next Diocesan meeting will be December 12 for the Bishop Election Synod.

Five New Parishes Received into ADSW

Comunidad Sion, Puebla, Puebla Mexico, led by Delfino Alvares and Lourdes Alvares

Comunidad del Fey, Rey de Justicia, Juarez, Mexico, led by candidate Isai Valenzuela

Iglesia Piedra Angular, Juarez, Mexico, led by candidate Heber Gil

Comunidad de Gracia, Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico, led by Postulant Alexis Gonzalez Matus

Light of Life Ministries, Albuquerque, the Rev. Ruth Morgan

Deanery Elections for

Standing Committee

El Paso Deanery:

Clergy, Rev. Bill Cobb, St. Clement's, El Paso
Lay, George Wayne, St. Clement's, El Paso.

Albuquerque Deanery:

Clergy, Rev. Carl Brenner, Christ Church,
Farmington

Lay, Bert Shrecengost, Church of Our Lord,
Albuquerque

West Texas Deanery:

Clergy Rev. Tom
Johnson, St. Mark's, Amarillo; Lay, Debra Riley,
Good Shepherd, San Angelo

Mexico: Clergy, Rev. Jack Wehr, Iglesia Puerto
Valarta; Missionary Meredith Omland, Iglesia
Gran Pastor, Fresnillo

Bishop Election Schedule

Thursday, November 12 - 7 pm

El Paso Deanery Virtual Walk about for
Candidates - more information will be
forthcoming.

December 12, 2020 - Electing Synod convenes.

Early January 2021 - College of Bishops
convenes to consider candidate selected by
Electing Synod.

March 6, 2021 - Archbishop Foley Beach
presides over the consecration of our next bishop.

*This timeline is subject to change under the Covid
19 restrictions which may still be in place.*

Parish News

We congratulate Wayne and Donya Conine upon the birth of their newest great-grandchild, Evelyn Rose, on October 27 in Texas. Wayne and Donya were in Kingsland that weekend but missed the birth by several days. However, they did have a good visit with all their family over that weekend and returned safely to Cloudcroft just before our first snowstorm.



Pastor Fred and Nancy had a good visit with Deacon Dwight when he was in Alamogordo several weeks ago. He and Marge are well and he has been able to serve in his new parish in Montrose CO this year.

Thank You's Abound

Many thank yous to the Fazenbakers for the new ceiling light in the vestry. What a difference! Also for Paul's repairing of the fascia on the porch.

We thank Sarah Griffin and Will Seyffert for the i phone and bose speaker which will make it possible to record more service music in Esther's absence and we thank Nancy Knowles for the idea and Mike Shinabery for continuing to help us record music.

Please Note: Nancy Griffin's new cell number which now works through wireless at the house. 575/495-3811...and yes, we can also now receive text messages. We will keep the house landline as that is the church number.

Thank You For Your Prayers

We continue our prayers for DeeDee Jessup who has finished her 2nd round of chemo, For Danny Heeth who will be having a procedure on Friday to put in a permanent drain in her lung. For her daughter Bethany who is still not healing from her operation.

For little Bennett Pursley, who continues his battle with leukemia.

Praise Reports

- For a successful ADSW Synod on Oct. 24 and for all the people who helped put it on.
- For Fr. Frank's position as Diocesan Secretary
- For the candidates for Bishop, The Rev. Jack Estes and the Rev. Steven Tighe
- For new parishes accepted at Synod (See list on page 4)
- For Mike Shinabery as he steps in for Esther during her absence
- For safe travel for Fr. Frank as he commutes to Kentucky to help Carolyn with her daughter.
- For Bob Jessup's move to rehab as he recovers from Covid.
- For the Conines' new great grandchild, Evelyn Rose and their safe trip to east Texas and back.
- For moisture in the form of snow for the mountains.

Prayer Concerns

- For DeeDee & Jess Jessup, Fr. Frank & Carolyn
 - For Dannette & Richard Heeth, Bethany; Pastor Shelby Moon, Lynne Skinner, Bennett Pursley
 - For Lisanne Fyock and the family as she nears the end of her life.
 - For Machele Lackey's mother, Helen Resindez who is in hospice care
 - For all caregivers.
 - For all universities and schools and their administrators, teachers and students, as they plan for the 20-21 school year.
 - For new ministry opportunities for Epiphany
 - For church plants within the diocese.
- (See list on page 4)

November Service Schedule

LEMS & Lectors

The Rev. Willis F. Griffin, Pastor

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Sunday, November 1 - 10 AM

All Saints Day

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Patrick Zima

Lector Paul Fazenbaker

Sunday, November 8 - 10 AM

Pentecost 23

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Karli Sorensen

Lector Donya Conine

Sunday, November 15 - 10 AM

Pentecost 24

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Patrick Zima

Lector Nancy Griffin

Sunday, November 22 - 10 AM

Pentecost Last

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Karli Sorensen

Lector Donya Conine

Sunday, November 25 - 10 AM

Advent I

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Patrick Zima

Lector Paul Fazenbaker



November Coffee Hour

November 1 - potluck

November 8 -

November 15 - Karli Sorensen

November 22 -

November 29 - Nancy Griffin

Sign-up sheets are on the table in narthex.

November Events

Time change, Sunday, November 1 set clocks back 1 hour

November 1 - Potluck

November 8 - Board Meeting after the service
Thursday, November 12, 7 pm - Virtual Walk-
about with Bishop Candidates. Zoom link will be
announced.

Wednesday, November 24 - Thanksgiving
Service 5PM

Sunday, November 29 - Advent begins



Fr. Frank blessing the anniversary of Charles
and Susie Stigall - September 15



November Birthdays

Murl Tullis - 10

Esther Fyock

Carolyn Wilson - 16

Avery Goodgame - 26

Nancy Griffin - 28

November Anniversaries

Jack & Char Jagoe - 27

David and Jessie Brinkley - 28

Lectionary for November ACNA Anglican Lectionary A

All Saints Day • November 1

Psalm 149

Revelation 7:9-17

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 5:1-12 or Luke 6:20-26

Pentecost 23 • November 8

Psalm 70

Amos 5:18-24

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

Pentecost 24 • November 15

Psalm 90:1-12

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

1 Thessalonians 5:1-10

Matthew 25:14-30

Last Sunday after Pentecost • November 22

Psalm 95

Ezekiel 34:11-20

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Matthew 25:31-46

Lectionary B

Advent I • November 29

Psalm 80:1-7

Isaiah 64:1-9a

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Mark 13:24-37

The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ

The Anglican Church in North America,

The Rt. Rev. Foley Beach, Archbishop

Diocese of the Southwest,

The Standing Committee

The Church of the Epiphany

The Rev. Willis F. Griffin, Pastor

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Musicians: Esther Fyock, Stan & Sandy Thomas.

Paul Fazenbaker, Junior Warden

Wayne Conine, Treasurer

Machele Lackey, Bookkeeper

Church Board

Karli Sorensen Aguilar

Donya Conine Annette Fazenbaker

Carolyn Wilson Patrick Zima

Nancy Griffin, Clerk

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere where the Word of God fills each person with an understanding and renewal of their faith in Christ.

Outreach, both within our own community as well as abroad, is a further extension of this faith.

Romans 10:17 ~ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.

Church of the Epiphany Prayer List

The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Rt. Rev. Justin Welby, and the Anglican Communion

The Anglican Church in North America, The Rt. Rev. Foley Beach, Archbishop

The Anglican Diocese of the Southwest; Interim Bishop, Keith Ackerman, Standing Committee, Selection Committee

Christ the King, Albuquerque (Rev. Pete Falk, Deacon Bill Lock); Church of Our Lord, Albuquerque (Rev. Harold Trott, Rev. Michael Kline, Rev. John Linebarger); Christ Church, Farmington (Rev. Carl Brenner, Rev. Barbara Brenner); St. Clement's Church, El Paso, TX (Rev. Bill Cobb, Rector, Rev. Rick Milliorn, Rev. Steven Tighe, Rev. Dan Klooster, Rev. Eduardo Gonzalez, Deacon Don Morrill, Deacon Courtney Brown); Rey de Paz, El Paso (Rev. Ken Hanna, Rev. John Dixon); Good Shepherd, San Angelo (Rev. Hal C. Scott, Rev. June Smith, Deacon Glenn Polhemus); St. Stephen's, Roswell, (Rev. Bob Tally); Holy Trinity, Silver City (The Vestry); St. Augustine's, Deming (Deacon in charge Tom Guerra); All Saints & St. Paul's, Midland (Rev. Tom Finnie); Church of the Epiphany, Cloudcroft, (Rev. Fred Griffin, Rev. Frank K. Wilson); Iglesia La Trinidad, Guadalupe (Lay leader Miguel Meriono Lobos), Iglesia de Jesus & Jesus es la Resurreccion, Aguas Calientes, Mexico (Rev. Maria Del Rayo Jimenez Victoria, Rev. Elias Rosales Mendez, Deacon Roger Griffin); Gran Pastor, Fresnillo Mexico (Sr. Warden Norma Rodriguez, Missionary Meredith Omland); Good Shephard, Hill, NM (Rev. Margaret Short, Rev. Farhid Adabache); Iglesia Anglicana, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (Rev. Jack Wehrs, Deacon Fernando Sandoval); St. Mark's, Amarillo (Rev. Tom Johnson).

For: DeeDee & Jess Jessup; Fr. Frank & Carolyn; Danette Heeth & Richard; Bethany; Helen Resindez; Susie Sims; Bennett Pursley; Pastor Shelby Moon and family; Lisanne Fyock, the Fyock family; Wayne and Donya Conine; Scooter Roof; William Swain; Lynne Skinner; Margaret Bailey; Tom and Gail Carteaux; Trevor Conine; Eddie Aguilar; the Zima family; Kelli; Kathleen Paige; Patti; Ethan; Harry Duval,

For: and all service men and women: Creed Napier; Alonso Marquez; Dominick Rankin, Mason Gregg, Gabriella Murley, Colin Tomlin, and all police and first responders.