

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

October 24, 2021



Have you ever closely watched what an acolyte does on Sunday mornings? This young man served at the altar for the first time last Sunday. In the inset pictures, from top to bottom, he passes the offering baskets to the ushers; accepts the bread and wine from them; sets the Communion elements on the altar; and pours water over Fr. Ron's hands for the ablution, the ritual washing of the hands before celebrating the Eucharist. On top of all of this, he lit the torches and the candles on the altar. That's a lot to tackle on your first Sunday, and as the only acolyte that day! Well done!

All Saints roll to be read at services next weekend

Nov. 1 is the traditional observance of All Saints Day, when Christians remember those who have died. We'll be remembering parishioners, family members and friends who have died since last All Saints Day at services on Saturday, Oct. 30 and Sunday, Oct. 31. You may submit names to be included on the All Saints Roll by going to app.onechurchsoftware.com/standrews/forms/55, or by contacting Judy Baird at 740-548-5112, ext. 3 or jbaird@standrewspolaris.org. The deadline is Wednesday, Oct. 27.

All Saints Sunday brings return of children's procession!

Calling all saints ... and princesses and knights in shining armor, super heroes, cartoon and movie characters, ghosties and ghoulies, puppy dogs and kitty cats, and other assorted characters!

Our annual All Saints Procession will be held on Sunday, Oct. 31. Children (and some of you adventurous adults, too!) are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and participate in the All-Saints Procession during the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. Fr. Ron will give a short homily on the origin of Halloween—All Hallows' Eve—and the meaning of All Saints Day. And yes, you can expect treats at both services!

During Godly Play between services that day the children will be introduced to some of the great saints of the Church and learn how "They all prayed and came close to God. And they all did amazing things." They'll also discover how they are part of the larger story of the Communion of Saints.

Inside 'The Net' today

- Vestry candidate profiles available
- Vestry election and Stewardship Sunday in two weeks
- Fall into a Small Group this autumn!

The Daily Lectionary

Week of the 22nd Sunday after Pentecost • Oct. 24-30

Sunday, Oct. 24 — A.M.: Psalms 132, 133; 2 Kings 13; Acts 3:1—4:4 P.M.: Psalms 134, 135; Isaiah 6; Mark 6:30-56

Monday, Oct. 25 — A.M.: Psalm 136; 2 Kings 14; Acts 4:5-31 P.M.: Psalms 137, 138; Isaiah 7; Mark 7:1-23

Tuesday, Oct. 26 — A.M.: Psalm 139; 2 Chronicles 26; Acts 4:32—5:11 P.M.: Psalms 141, 142; Isaiah 8; Mark 7:24—8:10

Wednesday, Oct. 27 — A.M.: Psalm 140; 2 Kings 15:1-29; Acts 5:12-42 P.M.: Psalm 143; Isaiah 9; Mark 8:11-38

Thursday, Oct. 28 (Feast of St. Simon & St. Jude) — A.M.: Psalm 144; Acts 6:1—7:16; John 14:15-31 P.M.: Psalm 145; Isaiah 10; Mark 9:1-29

Friday, Oct. 29 — A.M.: Psalm 146; 2 Kings 16; Acts 7:17-34 P.M.: Psalm 147; Isaiah 11; Mark 9:30-50

Saturday, Oct. 30 — A.M.: Psalm 148; 2 Kings 17:1-28,41; Acts 7:35—8:3 P.M.: Psalms 149, 150; Isaiah 12; Mark 10:1-31

Next Sunday, Oct. 31 — A.M.: Psalm 2; 2 Chronicles 28; Acts 8:4-25 P.M.: Psalms 3, 4; Isaiah 13; Mark 10:32-52

Next Week's Eucharistic Lectionary

Proper 26 (Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost) • Oct. 31

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Hebrews 7:23-28 (11:15 a.m.)

Psalm 119:1-16 • BCP 472 (5 p.m. & 9 a.m.)

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28 (5 p.m. & 9 a.m.)

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34 (All)

Prayers for the Church

Anglican Church in North America: Bishop Derek Jones and his wife Connie; Bishop Mark Nordstrom and his wife Christine; Bishop Michael Williams and his wife Becky; and all the chaplains and members of the Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy. Almighty Father, we pray that they may be faithful witnesses for Jesus Christ and empowered by your Holy Spirit to serve you in the world.

Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes: Fr. Bryan Hollon and the people of St. John's Anglican Church, Canton, Ohio.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Jim Worthington; Terry and Karolyn Yoakum; and the members of the St. Andrew's Prayer Chain.

A Prayer for the Selection of a Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this Parish that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Encouragement for your prayer time

Any problem over your head is under God's feet. "He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." (*Psalm 91:15*) "... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (*Hebrews 12:2*)

— From the St. Andrew's Prayer Ministry Team

Message suggestions for your Cards from Christ

The Daughters of the Holy Cross invite you to join them in the Gathering Area between services for the next four Sundays to write Christmas cards to incarcerated people in Ohio prisons.



You don't know what to say to an incarcerated perfect stranger? If the Lord inspires you, anything uplifting is a blessing! Following are some suggestions to get started. Write as simply or complicated as the Spirit moves you, copying these, or editing at will. Let the Lord guide your message. It can be longer or shorter, and "Love in Christ" or something similar is always good. It's OK to repeat your message on more than one card!

"Jesus loves you."

"May God's gifts to you be a warm heart, a clear mind, and understanding of His grace and mercy"

"I don't know who you are, but the Lord does."

"You are not alone. The Lord is with you."

"Love, in Christ."

"I pray the Lord will bless you this Christmas"

"I am praying for you."

"May the Lord bless you in body, mind and spirit."

"My prayer for you is you will know and receive His blessings."

"May Jesus be born anew in your heart."

"God takes my prayers for you and drops them in your heart."

"I am praying for every kind of blessing to be yours."

"As you receive this card, receive my prayers for your blessings".

"I'm not just wishing but praying for a blessed Christmas for you."

"The grace of God be with you this Christmas and forever."

How to boost tax savings of charitable contributions

As we enter the season of giving, Ryan Weiser, a certified financial planner, shares tips on making the most of your charitable donations.

Prior to the 2018 tax law changes, many tax filers were writing checks to charity and taking itemized deductions for charitable contributions. However, with the increased standard deduction, many people are realizing that they are not able to deduct those contributions because they're taking the larger standard deduction.

One strategy to maximize the tax benefit of charitable contributions is to bunch multiple years' worth of donations in a single year. For example, by advancing your 2022 contribution and making payment prior to Dec. 31, 2021 you may have enough total deductions including your 2021 gift to itemize for the 2021 tax year.

Another option is to donate securities that have appreciated in value. By gifting the actual security to charity, you do not need to recognize those gains since you are not selling the asset, which enables you to avoid the tax liability on the capital gains.

Lastly, retirees who are 70½ and older may donate directly from their IRA accounts to charity. This is accomplished through a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD). The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$100,000 per person per year.

By using the QCD, you can still take the standard deduction and effectively the charitable deduction. (You don't really get a deduction, you get something much better — an exclusion from income, which is even better than a deduction because it takes the income off the tax return and lowers Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). If you can lower AGI, your tax on Social Security might be lower, Medicare surcharges might be lower, etc.)

The benefit of a QCD is to exclude the withdrawal from income by having your donation made payable directly from your IRA to your designated charity. Additionally, QCDs can count toward satisfying your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) for the year, as long as certain rules are met.

It's important to understand the "first dollars out rule" of an IRA. This means that the first dollars withdrawn from an IRA in a required distribution year are deemed to go towards satisfying the RMD first.

Therefore, it is very important that the QCDs are the first dollars out of the IRA if you want to get the benefit of excluding the RMD from taxable income. Once you take the RMD, you can't offset those withdrawals from taxable income, but you can still use a QCD for additional withdrawals. Be sure to talk with your tax preparer in advance when implementing a QCD.

The content provided herein is for general informational purposes and is not to be considered tax advice. Tax planning can be a complicated matter and it's important to consult a tax advisor regarding your specific situation.

Weiser Financial Planning, LLC is a Fiduciary & Fee-Only Registered Investment Adviser offering investment advisory services and comprehensive financial planning in Ohio and other jurisdictions where exempted. Ryan J. Weiser CFP® is the president and founder of Weiser Financial Planning LLC. He helps people connect their money with the things that are most important to them by making wise financial decisions, so they can maximize their money and live the best life possible. Ryan can be reached at 614-450-2929 or ryan@weiseradvisor.com.

Watch your mailbox for stewardship materials

On Saturday, Nov. 6, and Sunday, Nov. 7, we'll lift up to God our pledges to the 2022 General Fund. Members should receive the stewardship brochure and pledge card in the mail this week. Please take time to read through the booklet, and prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give toward his work in this place in the coming year, discuss it with your family if necessary, and come prepared to respond to that call.

More information will be provided in a detailed line item budget available for download from the Member Connection. Watch your email for a link, or call the Parish Office at 740-548-5112, ext. 1, for a physical copy.

If you have questions, please call the Parish Office or speak with Fr. Ron Baird or one of our Vestry members.

Vestry candidate profiles available today

Five parishioners have stepped forward to run for Vestry in the election coming up the weekend of Nov. 6-7. Candidates are Larry Baldwin, Dan Brill, Carlo Cherubini, Jim Oxenham, and Eric Whitehead. All are either currently serving on Vestry, or have served previously.

Candidate profiles are available at the Information Desk today. Profiles are also available on the Member Connection of our website under the "Files" tab of the "St. Andrew's Members" group, or by [clicking here](#). The link was also in this week's "eNet Mail."

You will need to be logged in to view the profiles online. If you don't yet have a login, go to standrews.onechurchsoftware.com and click on "Register," or "Forgot Password?" if you need to reset your password.

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Online readers are reminded that underlined text in dark red in "The Net" represents a hot link that you may click to download a resource, go to a form or another page on our website, or send an email to a person.

Fall into a Small Group this autumn!

As with everything else, COVID-19 prevented our annual Rally Sunday, which is a church-wide celebration and kick-off for our Grow in Faith Sunday morning discipleship program, as well as a ministry fair of sorts that we usually hold the second Sunday in September.

Below is a listing of our small groups or similar ministries at St. Andrew's. You will see which ones are meeting in person, online or even outside. The easiest way to find out more about any of the groups is to contact the leader.

Our parish mission statement is to transform the world through Christ—one heart at a time—by bringing all people into membership in the family of God, welcoming them fully by assimilating them into the life of the church, discipling them to follow Jesus and equipping them for ministry. Small groups encourage people to live out this mission by moving from pews to circles of smaller gatherings, and doing life together.

If you want more information, are unsure which group is for you, or want to start your own group (no seminary degree required), please contact Tally Whitehead, director of spiritual formation, at twhitehead@standrewspolaris.org or at 740-548-5112, ext.5.

Men's Groups

The Brotherhood of St Andrew

Group Description: Local chapter of a men's global organization that meets twice a month. We stand on three main disciplines: Prayer, Study and Service.

Meet: First and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. online and in person at the Parish House.

Contact: Carlo Cherubini, cherubinicarlo@yahoo.com

Keepers (of the Flame)

Group Description: To create community among men of any age, by connecting informally to explore issues of life, faith, family and friendship ... usually with choice beverages around a fire.

Meet: Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at various locations from 8 to 10 p.m.

Contact: Fr. Shane Tucker, 740-548-5112 ext. 4 or stucker@standrewspolaris.org

Women's Groups

Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross

Group Description: Order of Anglican women committed to making disciples and serving Jesus through our Rule of Life: prayer, service, study and evangelism.

Meet: Currently meeting online. Traditionally meet on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House library.

Contact: Bonnie Freeman, bonnie.freeman0318@gmail.com

Women's Morning Bible Study

Group Description: Women's small group that focuses on bible study, prayer and fellowship.

Meet: First and third Tuesday mornings; currently meeting outside, 10-11 a.m. in church parking lot, weather permitting.

Contact: Tally Whitehead, twhitehead@standrewspolaris.org

Women's Evening Small Group

Group Description: Women's small group that focuses on Bible study and prayer

Meet: Second and fourth Mondays, 6:30-8 p.m. at the home of Ellen Vosburg, with extended breaks for holidays and church calendar activities.

Contact: Ellen Vosburg, ellenvosburg@gmail.com

Co-Ed

Senior Saints Bible Study

Group Description: Co-ed small group that focuses on Bible study and fellowship.

Meet: Mondays at 6:45 p.m. at Westerville Library, with a break during holidays and winter months.

Contact: Mary Ann Busick, maryalicebusick@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Apostles

Group Description: Co-ed small group that focuses on fellowship, prayer and sharing wisdom with one another.

Meet: First Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish House and the third Sunday of the month online at 7 p.m.

Contact: Ann Schnapp at acbs2@hotmail.com

Hokey Pokey Small Group

Group Description: Co-ed small group that gathers for Bible study, prayer, mutual support and fellowship.

Meet: Currently on break due to Covid-19, but usually meet in the Baird's home.

Contact: Fr. Ron Baird, rbaird@standrewspolaris.org

Middle Schoolers meeting on Sunday mornings

Middle School students are resuming The Bible Project video series on Sundays from 10:15 to 11 a.m. in Room 101 off the Gathering Area. Students in 6th through 8th grades are invited to come and engage in meaningful conversation, laugh, and learn together.

This is a valuable time for our middle schoolers to build relationships with one another, explore who God is and what he's doing in the world, and discuss how they can more fully partner with him in it!

We are in need of adults/parent volunteers to help us facilitate these conversations from the video series and curriculum. If you're interested, please contact Fr. Shane at stucker@standrewspolaris.org or 740-548-5112 ext. 4.