

NEWS FROM THE SAINTS

MAY 2025

ALL SAINTS

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Lynda Valdez, Deacon
Ted VanderEnde, Deacon
Justin Pierce, Verger
Cristi Wilson, Music
Director/Pianist

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Margaret Buford, Sr. Warden
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Reuben McGilvary, Member
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Margaret Smith, Secretary
Tom Buford. Treasure

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A WORD FROM FATHER RICK

Happy May, All Saints!

April showers. Check. May flowers. Check. Mother's Day. Check. Memorial Day. Check. One can check off the list of notable events in the month of May. May has also been significant through the portals of history. Athanasius, teacher of the Faith, died on May 2, 373 AD. Julian of Norwich, died on May 8, 1417. Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine, died on May 21, 330 AD. Bede the Venerable, historian, died on May 25, 735 AD. Augustine, first archbishop of Canterbury, died on May 26, 605 AD. John Calvin, theologian and reformer of the Church, died on May 27, 1564.

Seasons change. Our heroes come and go. The days fly by each calendar month. As surely as the seasons of life change so sure are God's promises to his people. What He has said, He will do. He will, as the Aaronic blessing promises, "bless us, and keep us, and make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us..."

Our times are in his hands. As we make our plans, he lovingly directs our steps. He finds joy and delight in blessing his own. May we find delight in Him. The psalmist encourages us forward by reminding us: "Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days." (Psalm 90: 14,) We don't know what tomorrow holds, but we know who holds tomorrow. So, we can walk confidently and joyfully forward.

We have begun a "mortgage retirement" campaign. We are calling it "All Saints Path Forward." We are taking the steps. We are making our contributions. How happy to know that God is directing our steps. How happy to know that God is blessing us and keeping us and making his face to shine upon us.

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Whether it is raining or the sun is shining. Whether our heroes are living or are gone. One thing we know for sure: “Our times are in God’s hands.” And we delight in Him.

Blessings, Fr Rick+

Ascension Day

One of the key feast days in May is the **Ascension of the Lord**. The Anglican Church allows the traditional celebration of Ascension on Thursday (May 29) to be moved to Sunday (May 25). Ascension Day marks the **fortieth day of the Easter season**, commemorating the moment Jesus was taken up into Heaven. It is one of the most important feast days in the liturgical year.

We celebrate Ascension with great joy, as it represents the **triumph of the risen Lord**. This day signifies the completion of Christ’s work of salvation, His **glorious return to the Father**, and His **promise of our own future glorification**. It is both a conclusion and a beginning: while Jesus' earthly mission was fulfilled, the path was laid for the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

A fun and symbolic way to celebrate Ascension Day is by enjoying **Divinity cookies**, which resemble the **clouds in the sky**—a sweet reminder of Jesus’ heavenly ascent.

Here’s the recipe in case one of our wonderful bakers is inspired to share a batch:

Divinity Cookies Recipe

Ingredients:

- 2½ cups sugar
- ½ cup water
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 egg whites
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup chopped pecans, toasted

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Instructions:

1. In a heavy 2-quart saucepan, combine the sugar, water, corn syrup, and salt. Cook over low heat until the sugar dissolves and a candy thermometer reads **248°F** (about 15 minutes). Remove from heat.
2. Beat the egg whites at high speed until stiff peaks form. Slowly pour half of the hot syrup into the egg whites in a thin stream, beating constantly at high speed for about 5 minutes.
3. Return the remaining syrup to the heat and cook over medium heat until it reaches **272°F** (about 4–5 minutes). Stir in the toasted pecans.
4. Drop the mixture quickly by rounded teaspoonfuls onto lightly greased wax paper.



Things to Consider

- **Ladies' Summer Clothing Drive**
Do you have summer clothes you no longer wear? Now's a great time to clean out your closet! Harvey's Chapel is in need of gently used women's summer clothing, and we'd love to help. Let's see what we can gather and bless others in the process!
- **Pentecost Celebration – June 8**
Mark your calendars! Pentecost, the 50th and final day of the Easter season, celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. We'll be honoring this special day with a worship service and picnic at the Cortez Pavilion, catered by Riverside. This is becoming a beloved annual tradition! Final details are still being arranged, so stay tuned for more information soon.
- **CPR Training Coming Soon**
Jerry Duhon is coordinating a CPR training session. If you've expressed interest, you'll be contacted once a date is confirmed. There's still time to sign up if you'd like to participate!

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Path to the Future: Help Retire the Church Mortgage

The Vestry of All Saints Anglican Church has launched the **Path to the Future** campaign with the goal of eliminating the remaining **\$107,500 mortgage** on our church building. By freeing up the **\$1,500 monthly payment**, we can increase our support for **missions** and **prepare for future needs**.

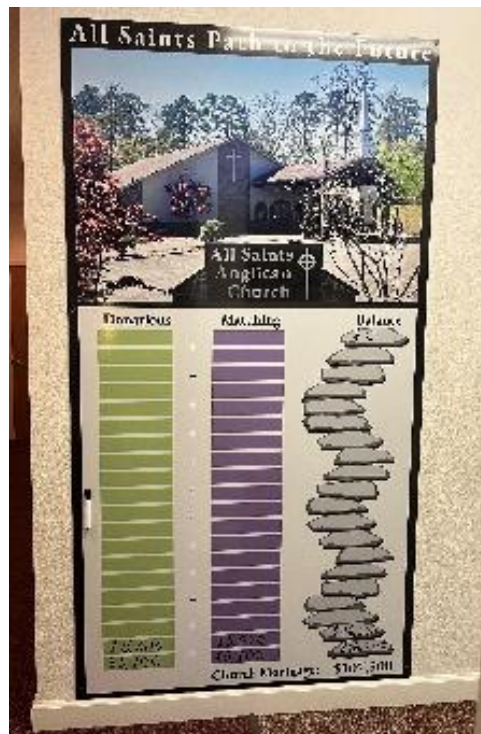
Already, generous gifts have started us off strong:

- A parishioner has donated **\$5,000**
- A friend of the church added **\$100**
- A matching donor is **doubling all contributions!**

With these gifts and matching funds, our starting balance is now down to **\$97,250**.

We believe we can raise **\$49,000**—and with matching donations, that would fully retire the debt!

Please **pray for guidance** and **give as you are able**. Every gift matters and brings us one step closer to a debt-free future.



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GET TO KNOW THE SAINTS



Joel and Elaine Bailey: After many cherished visits to Hot Springs Village dating back to 1988, we made the move from Fort Worth and officially became residents in 2020. Our connection to All Saints Anglican Church began through our dear friends Joe and Nancy Norton, whom we first met at the New Wineskins Conference in 2010.

Our love story began early—we were childhood sweethearts and have been together since we were just 13 years old. On May 7th of this year, we will celebrate 60 wonderful years of marriage. Together, we've been blessed with three daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Joel began his career as an X-ray technologist, working full time while attending college. He went on to earn a Master's degree in Hospital Administration and served as a hospital administrator for 18 years. Faced with the decision to relocate for another hospital position, he chose instead to transition into the financial services industry, where he worked until his retirement in 2014.

Elaine enjoyed a fulfilling career as an interior decorator and entrepreneur, running her own business for several years. In 1990, she became a realtor and successfully blended both careers until her retirement in 2018.

Throughout our journey, we've called many places home: New Orleans, Andalusia and Mobile, Alabama; San Antonio and Galveston, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; Sherman, Texas; and finally, Fort Worth, where we lived from 1978 until our move to the Village.

In 2003, we were invited to be chaperones on a youth mission trip to Panama City, Florida—an experience that sparked a deep passion for mission work. We went on to participate in several youth trips, including one to Belize, and became deeply involved with an orphanage in Choutomec, Chihuahua, Mexico, making multiple visits there. A true highlight for Joel was a two-week mission trip to Northern Malawi in Africa.

One of our most exciting adventures was our 2018 trip to Israel, which was a profoundly life-changing experience.

We feel incredibly blessed by the life we've lived, the people we've met, and the opportunities we've had to serve and grow in faith.

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CALENDAR FOR MAY

All Wednesdays	
8:00 am	Men's Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies
9:00 am	Ladies Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies

Please note that the normally montly scheduled Ladies Luncheon will not be held in May due to all the Easter functions. Our one and only May Birthday Girl, Margaret Smith, will be included in the June luncheon scheduled for June 13th.



- May 4 Worship Service – 10:30 am, Pot Luck Sunday
- May 8 Vestry
- May 11 Bible Study – 9:00 am
- Worship Service – 10:30 am (Mother's Day)
- May 18 Bible Study – 9:00 am
- Worship Service – 10:30 am
- May 25 Bible Study – 9:00am
- Worship Service - 10:30 am

May Birthdays	May Anniversaries
5/3 Allen Schaeffer 5/31 Margaret Smith	5/7 Joel and Elaine Bailey 5/27 Ted and Dorothy VanderEnde

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