

NEWS FROM THE SAINTS

DECEMBER 2025

A WORD FROM FATHER RICK

ALL SAINTS

Rev. Rick L. Moore, Rector
Sami Jo Magoffin, Deacon
Ted VanderEnde, Deacon
Justin Pierce, Verger
Cristi Wilson, Music
Director/Pianist

Parish Vestry

Margaret Buford, Sr. Warden
Joe Norton, Jr. Warden
Marc Nichols, Member
Art Smith, Member
Virginia Smith, Member
Margaret Smith, Secretary
Tom Buford. Treasure

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Happy December Dear Saints

I've heard it said that Thanksgiving Day is when one species gobble and a representative of one species ceases to gobble. "Here's to" the turkey that was fully committed to the day! "It was delicious!" "Thanks Justin!" I've also been told, "regards to Jerry!" are in order.

Though Thanksgiving Day is not part of our liturgical calendar, the theme of the day is. It is part of our daily lives as Christians—thanksgiving. Gratitude shapes the life and thinking of a child of God. How could it be otherwise?

I read in an online journal article recently that the opposite of gratitude is entitlement. This seems reasonable. If one is under the presumption he is entitled, why would that person be grateful for what he possesses? Was it not earned? Was it not to be expected?

In America today, it seems that as a society, our complaints and grumblings are increasingly based on a sense of entitlement. In the same online article, Christian writer Gene Veith opined, "The sense of entitlement! We think that we *deserve* the good things we have. I deserve a nice home, a nice car, nice cuisine, a nice family, and a nice job. And if I don't have those things up to my standards of satisfaction, I feel like a victim of injustice. "It's not fair." This feeling is usually heightened by covetousness, resentment at what other people have that I don't. But if we do have these good things, we take them for granted, since they are nothing less than we deserve."

During this season of giving and receiving, may God give us hearts of gratitude. Hearts that acknowledge, in grateful humility, that we have NOT received that to which we are entitled. Instead, we have received the goodness and mercies of God—

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all which we do not deserve. Though we are unworthy servants, God has blessed us with the most magnificent gift of all in His Son, Jesus Christ. Every day for the Christian is a Thanksgiving Day. For we are invited to the Table of the Lord. Each week we gather for the “feast of the victory of our God.”

It is a Eucharist. It is a Thanksgiving meal. For in it, we realize we have all that we need or could ever imagine.

Have a happy and thankful Advent and Christmas season!

Blessings

Fr Rick+

SSS (Soup, Sandwich, and Study)



For those who are new to All Saints, SSS has long been a cherished Advent tradition. The name comes from the simple yet meaningful rhythm of the evening: we share a warm bowl of soup and a sandwich together before Father Rick leads us in an Advent study on the Wednesday evenings before Christmas.

This year, due to the many meetings and events filling our parish calendar, our schedule will look a little different. We will gather only on the first Wednesday of Advent, December 3, for our SSS evening.

We hope you will join us as we begin this Holy season together. It promises to be a nourishing and enriching start to our Advent journey.

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Search Committee Update

The Search Committee is grateful for the strong attendance at last month's Congregational Meeting. The purpose of the gathering was to hear directly from you regarding your priorities in the calling of a new rector. Your comments, insights, and suggestions were invaluable.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the parish participated in a vote to rank the qualities and responsibilities most important in our next rector. These rankings will be included in the Parish Profile that will be submitted to ACNA as we seek applicants for the position.

Desired Qualifications and Responsibilities of the New Rector

1. Excellent preaching and teaching abilities.
2. Strong leadership and management skills to guide the congregation.
3. Deep spiritual maturity; a godly example and role model.
4. Strategic planning skills to help guide and grow the parish.
5. Compassionate pastoral care.
6. A welcoming and inclusive spirit, with a heart for outreach and service.
7. A collaborative "congregational" style—someone who listens well and works with the parish to discern and articulate a shared, Gospel-centered vision.
8. Active engagement with the wider community.

The Vestry and Search Committee will be participating in a retreat with Canon Sean on December 13. During this time, Canon Sean will help us finalize the Parish Profile and outline the next steps in the search process.

Please continue to keep the Search Committee in your prayers as we move forward.

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Barnabas Ministry Update

The Barnabas Ministry continues to be a rich blessing to our parish family. Over the past month alone, this ministry has assisted more than fourteen parishioners with rides to medical appointments, personal visits, wellness check-in calls, hospital visits, and other acts of care and compassion. We give thanks for the faithful volunteers who offer their time and hearts in service to others.

Below you will find a list of the various areas of care provided through the Barnabas Ministry, along with the chairperson responsible for each area. If you or someone you know could benefit from any of these services, please do not hesitate to reach out.

-  **Driving Pool** – *Virginia Smith* | 941-387-4998
-  **Phone Calls** – *Cheryl Brown* | 213-906-0955
-  **Home Visits** – *Martha Nichols* – 501-984-0329
-  **Hospital Visits** – *Myra McGilvary* | 806-433-4686
-  **Quilt Ministry** – *Sharan Gunn* | 501-984-1668
-  **Meals, Groceries & Medications** – *Theresa Keyser* | 984-264-5551

Barnabas Quilt Ministry



The most recent recipient of a beautifully crafted quilt is **Elaine Weeter**, who was recognized for her many years of dedicated service to All Saints through her care of the church gardens. Elaine faithfully led the upkeep and planting efforts for years, ensuring that our grounds remained a place of beauty and welcome for all who visit.

We are deeply grateful for Elaine's devotion and the loving labor she invested in our parish landscape. Her work has been a true blessing to our church family.

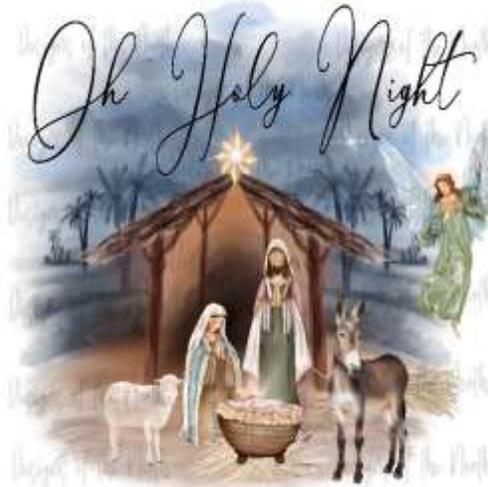
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CHRISTMAS POTLUCK LUNCH

Do you have plans for Christmas lunch?

If not, we warmly invite you to join us as we gather to celebrate the birth of our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A signup sheet is available in Sherrill Hall—please let us know if you plan to attend.

Our Thanksgiving and Christmas potlucks have quickly become a treasured tradition, offering a joyful time of fellowship, celebration, and shared meals. We look forward to spending this blessed day together.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will begin at **5:30 p.m.** This beautiful service, filled with candlelight and beloved Christmas carols, is a cherished way to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

We warmly invite you to join us—and to bring friends and family—as we gather in worship and joyful expectation on this holy night.

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DECEMBER CALENDAR

All Wednesdays

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



- December 3 SSS (Soup, Sandwich & Study) - 5 pm
- December 5 Ladies Birthday Luncheon
- December 7 Worship Service – 10:30 am
- December 10 Vestry/Search Committee Meeting – 1:00 pm
- December 11 Vestry – 10:00 am
- December 13 Vestry/Search Committee Retreat with Canon Sean 9-3
- December 14 Worship – 10:30 am Canon Sean will preach
POT LUCK SUNDAY
- December 21 Sunday School – 9:00 am
Worship – 10:30 am – Father William will preach
- December 24 Christmas Eve Service – 5:30 pm
Worship – 10:30 am
- December 28 Sunday School – 9:00 am
Worship Service – 10:30 am

December Birthdays	December Anniversaries
12/6 Kim Williams	12/7 Allan and Deb Schaeffer
11/29 Virginia Smith	12/19 Tom and Margaret Buford
	12/27 Bobby and Cheryl Brown
	12/27 Fr. Rick and Nancy Moore
	12/29 Dan and Lynda Valdez

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