



## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,



On the very first day of November, after we have consumed bags of Halloween candy, the Church Catholic celebrates an important feast: the Solemnity of

All Saints. On this day we rejoice in one voice for all the Saints of God, those chosen vessels of God's grace and the lights of the world in their generations.

In observance of this great feast, we will celebrate All Saints Day proper on Tuesday, November 1, at 5:30 p.m. with Low Mass, accompanied by organ and cantor, followed by a delicious Mexican-inspired dinner. We will also keep the Octave of All Saints, on Sunday, November 6. So, you'll have two chances to sing "For All the Saints" this year!

The week after our All Saints Octave, on Sunday, November 13, we will once again observe Remembrance Sunday. This is a day in which we commemorate the contributions of military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars. As has become our custom, at least since my arrival, we will also observe our All Souls remembrance that

day and read the names in our parish necrology. To aid in our solemn observance, our choir will be offering Victoria's *Requiem, Missa Pro Defunctis* (Mass for the Dead), at the 10:30 a.m. service

The last two Sundays in November mark, respectively, the feast of Christ the King and the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Church year. November inaugurates not only a solemn period in our liturgical year, but also the start of our stewardship campaign.

By now, you should have received a letter inviting you to join me in making a financial pledge to support the ministries and mission of Saint John's. I hope that you will consider joining me and vestry in making a pledge to sustain and further strengthen the work and witness of this parish.

May God, who has given us, in the lives of his saints, patterns of holy living and victorious dying, strengthen your faith and devotion, and enable you to bear witness to the truth against all adversity.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Carlos†

## FROM THE DEACON'S PERCH

Dear friends,

*“If you have two coats, give one away,” he said. “Do the same with your food.” ~Luke 3:11*



Greetings to all of you. As many of you know, Ellen and I have been traveling between our home and New York City to be with our friend, Frank, who is in hospice at home. We are his helpers, along with his wife, Terry. We do this because there is an acute shortage of hospice nurses and hospice beds in facilities, so it's being done at home. I wish to thank everyone who has called, texted, or dropped a caring note in supporting us with our dear friend. Ellen and I helped Frank and Terry celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary with a great dinner. The priest came over with communion and prayers. It was a truly intimate and loving evening.

As the weather is changing toward colder and darker nights, the verse above always comes to mind. I have a big box ready to fill with the clothes I bought but didn't wear: shirts, sweaters, shoes, and trousers. Ellen and I made a commitment to giving back as we give in to all of the sales that are going on. Plus, we change styles and want different things, so we give away anytime we get something new. I particularly like the passage from Luke, because those few words pack a lot of what we as Christians

can be doing to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

We typically list the needs of the food bank, Out of the Cold, and FaithCentre. Let's take some time and look at our closets. Ask who can be kept warm by this piece of clothing. Maybe they cannot afford that expensive sweater we never wore, or just didn't look the same when we tried it on. Keep a box or bag handy and just take 10-15 minutes to go through your wardrobe and help to clothe the needy. As far as food donations are concerned, I will be getting in touch with the food bank to find out what their needs are for November.

The men's spiritual group will begin on **December 5 at 337 E Curtin Street at 7 p.m.** We will be looking at the book of Job for our Bible study. Please join us in our group. We are small but committed as we try to understand what scripture is teaching us.

I completed my yearly training for entrance to the county prison facility. I



visit there to help addicts prepare to

return to life outside and to provide life skills to men and women.

I will be attending our yearly diocesan retreat for deacons Nov. 4-6 at the Kenbrook Centre in Lebanon, PA. We gather to encourage each other, share ministries, and rest.

Our fall book study is exploring *Wearing God* by Lauren Winner. Kevin Lowe, our seminarian, along with clergy, are facilitating each week, looking at how we see and feel in different facets with regard to God. Check the Sunday bulletin or watch for the link that Fr. Carlos sends out each week. It has been very interesting to be part of this study, so please join us. In our most recent church profile, we stated that we wanted to receive more Christian education. Here it is.

~Deacon Alex†

**LET US KEEP THE FEAST!**



Let us keep the Feast! is a monthly worship and dinner series that celebrates feast days of the Church that would otherwise go unobserved.

Celebrate the glorious feast of All Saints on Tuesday, November 1. We will begin with Low Mass accompanied by organ music and cantor. A brief homily will be delivered by our seminarian, Kevin Lowe. For dinner we will enjoy a Mexican-inspired dinner: chicken tinga, refried beans, guacamole and chips, chopped salad, a pumpkin dessert, and wine and soft drinks. Bring your prayers and a hearty appetite!

**2022 Feast Days**

**Tuesday, November 1 – Solemnity of All Saints**

**Tuesday, December 13 – St. Lucy of Syracuse**

**Worship - 5:30 P.M.**

**Dinner - 6:00 P.M.**

If possible, to help with food preparations, please RSVP for dinner by contacting the parish office:

[office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org](mailto:office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org)

**POLISH DINNER FUNDRAISER**

**Saturday, November 5 | 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**



Charlotte Zmyslo and parish volunteers will be serving up a traditional polish dinner: stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, pierogies, and noodles – \$12 per dinner. To help make our final parish dinner fundraiser a success, please spread the word and consider volunteering for dinner service. A volunteer sheet is available in the back of the church.

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY & ALL SOULS**

**REMEMBRANCE**

**Sunday, November 13**

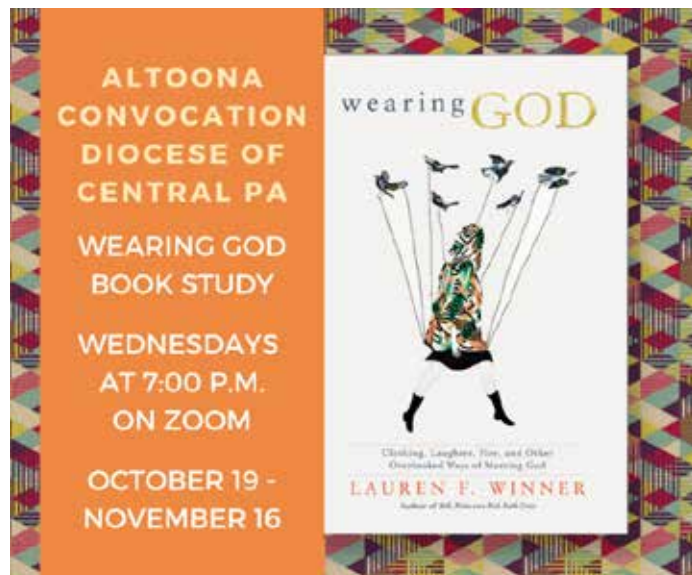


The parish office is receiving names for our annual Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. The parish necrology will be read as part of our Remembrance Sunday observance on Sunday, November 13. Please fill out a form in your pew and place it in the collection plate in the back of the church, or email or call in your list of names to the parish office. A special offering envelope is also available, as well as a special fund on our giving page:

<https://stjohnsepiscopepalbellefonte.breezechms.com/give/online>

**Please submit names to the parish office by Thursday, November 10.**

## NEW FALL BOOK STUDY!



## Wednesdays, 7 p.m., on Zoom

**Nov 2: Laboring Woman**

**Nov 9: Laughter**

**Nov 16: Flame**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8763410820?pwd=NE50LzQ4Y104Qk9qWU1VY25XR3NqQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 341 0820/

**Passcode: 556RN3**

## **HOPE FUND OF PENNS VALLEY: CHRISTMAS OF HOPE**



This year Saint John's will once again be sponsoring a family in need through our partnership with Christmas of Hope. A Christmas tree with gift tags will appear in the back of the church in mid-November. To participate, simply grab a tag and purchase the item listed (the tag will feature additional information about the child to assist in your gift purchase: age, clothing size, favorite color, etc.); or you can make a monetary donation and a gift will be purchased on your behalf.

Please purchase and return your **unwrapped** gift by Thursday, December 1, and make sure to include your gift tag with your Christmas

Many of us may be accustomed to calling God by a few familiar names: Father, Shepherd, King. But the Bible is filled with a rich variety of images of God that are sometimes strange and surprising. *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God* explores some of these unfamiliar biblical depictions of God. It will invite us to experience God in new ways, and reveal God to be much closer and more intimate than we may imagine. Free copies are available in the back of the church. If you prefer an e-book, contact [office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org](mailto:office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org), and we will email the link to the file to you (epub format).

*Lauren Winner is Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School and an Episcopal priest.*

present. To coordinate a drop-off time or a pickup from your home, please contact the Parish Office:

[office@stjohnsepiscopealbelleville.org](mailto:office@stjohnsepiscopealbelleville.org)

**ADVENT FAMILY DAY**

**Saturday, December 3**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**



Families with young children; grandparents and grandchildren; and parishioners with little ones in their lives are all invited to our Advent Family Day. We will begin our journey through Advent by learning about this distinct season of preparation and waiting for the birth of Christ. Families will make Advent wreaths and learn about the various rich symbols of Advent and Christmas. Snacks and lunch will be provided for the entire family. We hope to see you there! Please confirm your attendance by contacting Ellen Dyakiw: [setinsun@aol.com](mailto:setinsun@aol.com).

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Mark	Eminhizer	November 01
Nathaniel	Duminiak	November 05
Matthew	Reid	November 05
Carol	Fyfe	November 07
Harry	Witmer	November 16
Dylan	Arrington	November 21
Leigh	Meeker	November 26
Gwen	Perkins	November 30

**Vestry Members:** Larry Roberson (Sr. Warden), Matt Perkins (Jr. Warden), Liz Helms, Carol Fyfe, Debra Cree, Thomas Quigley, David King, Charlotte Zmyslo, Susan Christy, Peggy Jackson



**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - OCTOBER, 2022**



## 2022 ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

Please write the names of loved ones you want us to pray for in our Remembrance Sunday observance (November 13). Once you have filled out this form, please place it in the collection plate or email your names to the parish office by **Tuesday, November 8.**

Name

Anniversary of death (if known)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

 May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting**  
**September 21, 2022**

**Rector's Report:**

- Evensong – this Sunday.
- Feast Day – Michaelmas, Thursday, September 29 (since changed to Wednesday, September 28).
- Sunday School – cancelled until October 9<sup>th</sup> due to Ellen's absence.
- Family Day Program
  - Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup> for all families with young children.
- Formation for Teens
  - Sunday, October 2
  - Once a month led by Father Carlos, Kevin Lowe, and Haley Rhone.
    - Pilgrimage to Washington DC - Trip would be in June.
  - Floor Repair - Moving along nicely.
- Shaped by Faith Grant
  - Submitted for \$11K beginning in September for choral music.
  - St. John's along with Penn State School of Music and Penn State Campus ministry.
  - If we don't receive the funds the program will not happen.
- Blessing of the Animals
  - October 9. Father Carlos wouldn't be able to attend; therefore, Father Kevin will be asked to oversee.
- Clean Up Day
  - Need to schedule a clean-up day of garden beds.
  - Looking at October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9-12.

**Treasurer Report:**

- Everything ok.
- Pledges a bit lacking.
- Budget overages
  - Alter Guild budget is over because of Blanche Raymond's and Diane Fusco's funerals; however, had money come in which offsets.
  - Miscellaneous Income is at \$10K but expenses are \$9,673.
    - This is due to the columbarium addition, which is reflected in the expenses.
  - Gas – it was a cold winter.
  - Supply Priest
    - Will have another \$200 because of Father Kevin.
    - Budgeted amount didn't change but we also paid Ted Christopher, which wasn't planned.
  - Father Carlos commented that we hope to foster relationships with the greater Centre County community that will benefit us. The grant is an example of this effort.
  - Reality of budget – when we planned the budget, we hoped to get some new pledges, but this didn't happen. Some pledges won't be met due to death.

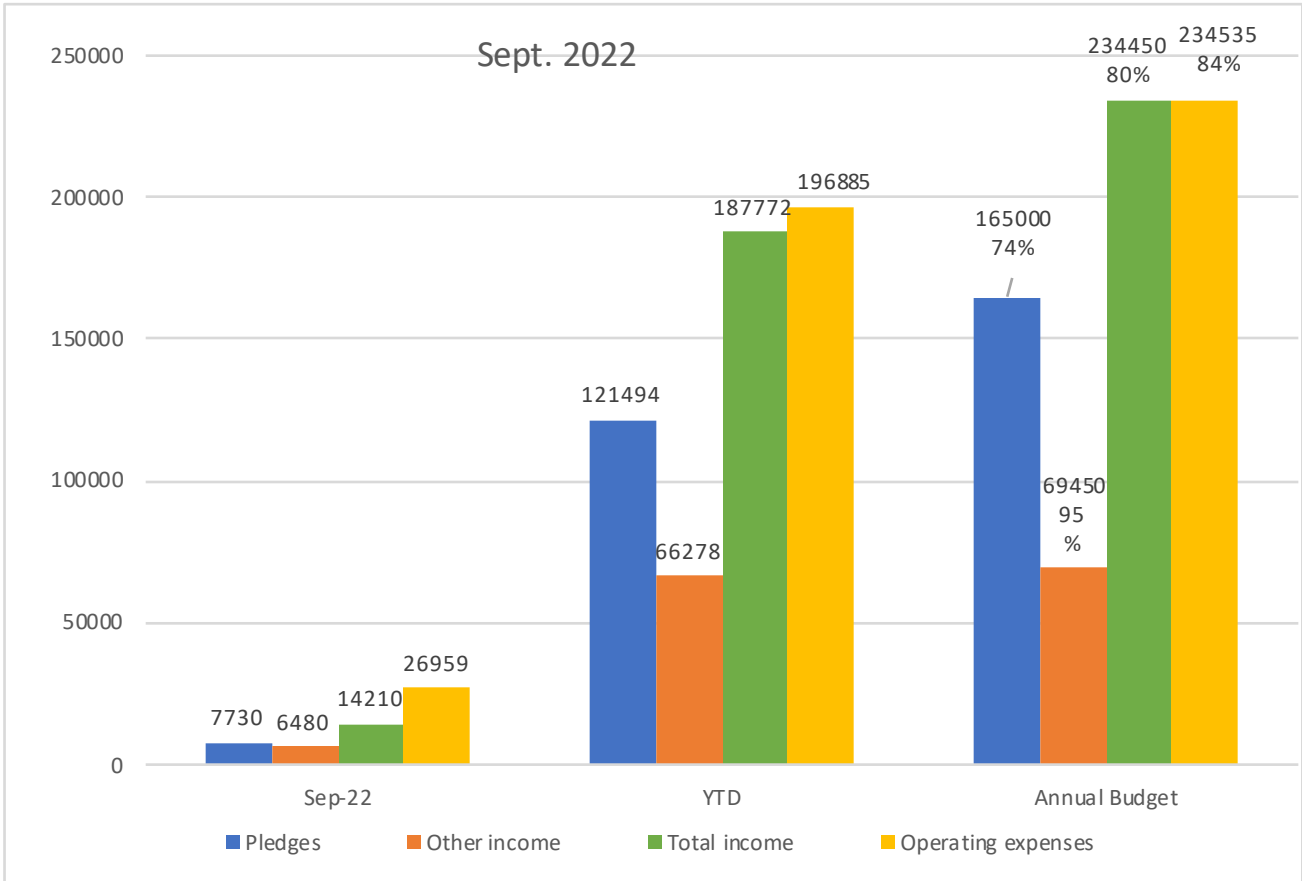
## Senior Warden

- Floor pretty much complete. Some minor things to be completed. Some things won't be put back into place until new altar platform arrives.
- Thank you to Jeff Wilson for all his work.
- Looking forward to fall clean-up.

## New Business

- Boiler Block
  - This has arrived after a six month wait. Ready to install.
  - Father Carlos proposed – do we want to allocate funds from the Eby Estate or from the \$20K gift received for maintenance?
    - Question was asked concerning any downside? Answer was no.
- Bats/Birds Issue
  - Bat droppings still happening.
  - Father Carlos contacted a contractor to inspect the issue. He was here for two hours. Found numerous areas where bats/birds were entering.
  - Contractor's proposal was to install and fill those areas where the stone meets the roof, behind the gutters, and fill in main entry areas.
  - Amount proposed was \$8K.
  - Question about what would deter the bats/birds from finding other entry areas. Cold/Hot allows for gaps over the years.
  - L. Helms thought we should do this because we have the funds and do it sooner rather than later.
  - Questions about a possible bat box.
  - L. Roberson commented that there are a few things we have to do for other access points. Would like to get other quotes.
  - M. Perkins – have we viewed any other work this contractor has done so that we can see what finished product would look like?
  - Father Carlos will schedule a time for Larry/Matt and the contractor to meet to ask additional questions, then bring it back to vestry by next meeting.
  - Motion for how we are going to pay \$8K.
    - Father Carlos asked to approve a resolution from the \$20K received for mitigation, then separately approve the actual contractor.
    - Father Carlos said that for the steeple we need a mason to get up on a lift.
- Photo Directory
  - Took lots of pictures but still missing many.
  - A general email will go out, then an email to the specific people will follow.

	Sep-22	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Pledges	7730	121494	165000	74%
Other income	6480	66278	69450	95%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>14210</b>	<b>187772</b>	<b>234450</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>26959</b>	<b>196885</b>	<b>234535</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>-12749</b>	<b>-9113</b>		



Numbers do not include investments, savings, or checking acct balance.