

THE HERALD

...A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

Volume 14, Issue 10

October 2011

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends in Christ:

Autumn has taken us by storm this year – literally and figuratively. Thankfully, as a result of the efforts of Larry Roberson, the church gutters have handled the actual downpours that have come our way with greater ease. Although the damp weather adversely impacted our parish picnic on September 11, the Mary R. Beaver Fellowship Hall turned out to be a winning location for good food and (dry) fellowship. All who helped to pull off the relocation of the event, as well as those who brought, cooked, and served food, deserve our deepest thanks.

On Sunday, October 30, we will keep **All Saints' Day**. That day, we remember the incredible witness of so many saints that have gone before us – both the well-known ones from the Bible (our own St. John very much among them), to those closer to home, especially the saints who have gone from our midst in living memory or from farther back, and the bounty of whose legacy we now enjoy.

On **All Souls' Day**, we remember the faithful departed at the altar in prayer. This is a very special day because it highlights the best way we know how, as catholic Christians, to be at one with those who have gone before us. When we walk into church, we leave behind the strings the secular world attaches to us. We walk into God's time, and start to participate in the worship of him that has been going on since time began. We join in that heavenly chorus we read about in Revelation, with angels singing "holy, holy, holy" in adoration of the Lamb upon the throne. That worship is exactly what our loved ones are participating in, even as we speak – they have joined the choir of angels, and are taking part in that heavenly chorus. In the Eucharist, the veil between our time and God's is drawn back, and we participate in the one, true, pure, immortal sacrifice – the eternal benefits of which our departed loved ones are already claiming.

Therefore, there will be three Eucharists on All Souls' Day, Wednesday, Nov. 2. One at the regular time of 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel; another at noon at the Lady Altar; and a third at 7 p.m. at the high altar. The late service will have no music but will have a brief homily. The names of the dead will be read out at each of the All Souls' services (see form below).

In addition to the All Saints and All Souls remembrances, there is plenty going on at St. John's in October. I commend to you the articles below, and I look forward to seeing you in church.

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Christopher V. Pyles, Rector

FIRST ST. FRANCIS DAY PET BLESSING A SUCCESS: NO FIGHTS, NO BITES, NO ACCIDENTS

On Sunday, October 2, at the 10:00 service, we anticipated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) with the first ever Pet Blessing in church. Over a dozen dogs and cats came, and after some initial chatter before 10:00, all the animals were silent for the entire church service. Pet owners deserve a round of applause for helping their animals to feel comfortable and at home. While the original destination of the pet blessing was to be outside at the end of the service, weather – again – forced us to remain indoors; pets and their owners gathered around the font in the back, where special prayers were said. Then, the animals received a sprinkling of Holy Water, along with a blessed St. Francis medal to be added to their collar or hung at home in the pet's area. A few pets even joined us for Coffee Hour. Our deepest thanks go to all pet owners for being open to bringing their dog or cat to church. We look forward to making this part of our annual liturgical tradition at St. John's.

HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY ON OCTOBER 16

We're trying something new this year on Sunday, October 16, in the form of a Harvest Festival. On that day, we will remember the great and abundant blessings we reap each day of each year as God's people. We are celebrating the Festival on October 16 in connection to the conclusion of our 2012 stewardship campaign. This observance is not meant to supplant Thanksgiving. Instead, it is meant to focus on the gathering in, or harvesting, of God's bounty in our lives, and the return of a portion of that bounty to God through our support of the church. Special seasonal decorations and special music will be employed to get us into the spirit. Additionally, all pledge cards – which are "due" that Sunday – will come down the aisle at a particular point during the service to be blessed, that their fulfillment might help to make manifest God's will in our lives, our church and in our community. Please plan to be a part of it.

In recognition of all our blessings in this life, we will seek to share with those less fortunate by having a canned food drive on Harvest Festival Sunday. On October 16, please bring boxes of pasta and jars of sauce, canned vegetables, soup, and tuna, which we will take to the FaithCentre in support of their feeding ministry.

JOHN HARWOOD TO BE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD ON OCTOBER 19

It is with great joy that we announce the ordination of John Harwood to the priesthood. It will take place on Wednesday, October 19, at 7 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church (the diocesan pro-cathedral) in Williamsport. Everyone from St. John's is invited. If you want to go but need a ride, please call the parish office so that transportation can be arranged. Likewise, if you plan to go and can offer someone else a ride, please let the parish office know. Please see the announcements in the Sunday bulletin for more information. In the meantime, please keep John in your prayers as he anticipates being admitted to the Sacred Order of Priests.

PIEROGIE AND SAUSAGE FUNDRAISER ON OCTOBER 21

Our last fundraising dinner of the year will be Friday, October 21, in the parish hall. There will be an Oktoberfest theme to match the pierogies and sausages that will be served. All members of the parish are reminded that the purpose of these meals is to raise funds for the church. That can't happen unless people attend. Additionally, costs are kept down by the generous supplying of food items for the meal; a sign-up sheet is already on the back table. Charlie Hilderbrand, and a hard-working support staff of parishioners, work an entire day to prepare the meal, set up the parish hall, serve the meal, wash the dishes and otherwise clean up. Let's make their efforts worthwhile by being SURE we are present to enjoy what will certainly be a superb meal with fun fellowship.

2011 ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE – WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2

Please write names of your departed loved ones on the blanks below; use the reverse side for additional space, if needed. Photocopy and/or cut this form out and return to the church (mailed to the office or dropped in the offering plate) by Wednesday, October 26. More forms will be located in the back of the church.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

✠ Rest eternal, grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

Your name

SUNDAY SCHOOL BACK IN SESSION!

Under the leadership of Ellen Dyakiw, St. John's Sunday School resumed on September 18. Already, the class is bigger than last year, and returning students have warmly welcomed newcomers. Each class session is divided up into component parts, including the study of a Bible story; a related art project or activity; and prayer time in St. Michael's Chapel. Children ages 4 (or mature 3 ½ year olds) to 7 or 8 are welcome, as are parents who'd like to lend a hand. Classes meet in the undercroft classroom between 9:55 and 10:45 Sunday mornings. Please speak to Ellen or Father Chris for more information.

VICTORIAN FESTIVAL SINGERS STARTING REHEARSALS

On Sunday, October 9, the Victorian Festival Singers will begin to rehearse for this year's concert, which will be held at St. John's on December 10 at 4 p.m. The program will be especially diverse this year – music from the 17th to the 21st centuries will be sung. If you can lend vocal or financial support, please speak to Kay Putnam. Rehearsals are Sundays at 2 p.m. in the church, except Oct. 30.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY UP AND RUNNING

After taking a break for the summer, the Thursday noon Mass and Bible study have resumed. This fall, a lectionary-based study is being followed, which means we look at the scripture lessons for the next Sunday. This provides greater variety than focusing on a particular book of the Bible. The Mass is at the Lady Altar in the back of the church; the brown-bag lunch and Bible study take place in the rectory dining room. We finish by 1:30. Come to all or part. Everyone is welcome.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR NOVEMBER 11 & 12

This year, as a result of additional donations, extra hands helping with crafts, and very hard work by our dedicated volunteers, we fully expect our Holiday Bazaar to be record-setting in terms of both patronage and fundraising. Please be sure you're a part of this wonderful annual event. The Bazaar is all day (9-7) on Friday, Nov. 11, and 9-1 on Saturday, Nov. 12.

LOOKING FAR, FAR AHEAD...

The 2012 bishop's visitation schedule was recently distributed to parishes. As is his custom, Bishop Baxter will be with us at the end of February. If you are considering Baptism, Confirmation, or Reception from the Roman Catholic or Lutheran Church for yourself or a member of your family, please speak to Father Chris so instruction can be arranged well in advance of the bishop's visit.

2012 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

Our pledge campaign is off to a fantastic start. As of this writing, we have received 36 cards committing \$86,500 to God's work done through our parish next year. With more pledges expected, we appear poised to at least meet, if not exceed, 2011's total of \$105,300. If you need a pledge card, simply take one out of your pew on Sunday and drop it in the offering plate in the envelope provided, or phone the parish office to have one mailed to you. **Remember:** pledge support provides the majority of our operating income each year. Without the generous pledges of our parish family, it would be impossible for St. John's to exist as it presently does. If you have already pledged, thank you. If you have not yet pledged, please return your card by October 16.

“GIVE, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU;
GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN,
SHAKEN TOGETHER, RUNNING OVER,
WILL BE PUT INTO YOUR LAP. FOR THE
MEASURE YOU GIVE WILL BE THE
MEASURE YOU GET BACK.” - Luke 6:38

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

120 WEST LAMB STREET

BELLEFONTE, PA 16823

Office: 814.355.0497 Fax: 814.355.3981

Parish Email: stjohnsepiscopal@comcast.net

Parish Website: www.stjohnsepiscopal-bellefonte.org

PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Christopher V. Pyles, Rector

cvpyles@aol.com 215.870.4809 (cell) (Off Tuesdays)

The Rev. Alex Dyakiw, Deacon

deaconalex@gmail.com 814.883.0430 (cell)

PARISH STAFF

Sara Witmer, Secretary

Barbara Roberson, Treasurer

E. Kay Putnam, Organist/Choir Director

Terence Riley, Sexton

LAY LEADERS

Dr. Karen Harvey, Senior Warden Mike Fitzgerald, Junior Warden

Charles E. Maurukas, Acolyte Director

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sundays: Morning Prayer at 7:45; Low Mass at 8; Sung Mass at 10

Wednesdays: Low Mass at 9:30 in St. Michael's Chapel

Thursdays: Low Mass at 12 noon at the Lady Altar

The Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 A.M. to 12 NOON. For after-hours emergencies, or whenever the services of a priest are needed, please phone the rector at the cell phone number listed above.

We are partners in Christ with the Love of God on our lips and in our lives!



VESTRY NOTES:

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Vestry will be held on **Oct. 26, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30 pm**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bellefonte Lunch Program:

Those who participate in the Bellefonte Lunch Program are reminded that they will be responsible for preparing and serving lunch on **Friday, October 7, 2011.**

John Harwood's Ordination:

Deacon John Harwood will be ordained a Priest on **Wednesday, October 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Williamsport.**

Supper Club Outing:

The supper club's outing this month will be on **October 28, 2011 at 7:00 PM.** Place will be **Finelli's, Altoona.** Sign up sheet on back table in the Church.

Parish Fundraising Dinner:

The next dinner, **Polish Sausage & Pierogies,** will be held on **Friday, October 21, 2011** from 4-7 pm.

Craft Workshop for Holiday Bazaar

Monday afternoons we work on crafts to sell at the Holiday Bazaar. We meet at 2 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend (men & women). The Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for the weekend of November 11-12. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. And help out if you can!

OCTOBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 St. Francis of Assisi, transf. 7:45 am-Morning Prayer 8 am-Mass-Rite I 10:00 am-Mass-Rite II Coffee Hour	3 2 pm-Craft Workshop 7 pm-Men's Group	4	5 9:30 am-Morning Prayer	6 Noon – Mass-Bag Lunch-Bible Study	7 10:30 am-Community Lunch	8
9 Pentecost XVII 7:45 am-Morning Prayer 8 am-Mass Rite I 10 am-Mass-Rite II United Thank Offering Ingathering	10 Office Closed Columbus Day 2 pm – Craft Workshop 7 pm-Men's Group	11	12 9:30 am Mass/Healing	13 Noon-Mass-Bag Lunch-Bible Study	14	15
16 Harvest Festival 7:45 am-Morning Prayer 8 am-Mass-Rite I 10 am-Mass-Rite II Coffee Hour UTO-Ingathering	17 2 pm-Craft Workshop 7 pm-Men's Group	18 St. Luke the Evangelist	19 9:30 am-Morning Prayer 7 pm-Deacon John Harwood's Ordination	20 Noon Mass-Bag Lunch-Bible Study	21 4-7 pm-Public Dinner Sausage & Pierogies	22
23 Pentecost XIX 7:45 am-Morning Prayer 8 am-Mass-Rite-I 10 am-Mass-Rite-II Coffee Hour 30- All Saints'; Same as above	24 St. James of Jerusalem 2 pm – Craft Workshop 7 pm-Men's Group	25	26 9:30 am-Mass/Healing 7:30 pm-Vestry Meeting	27 Noon Mass-Bag Lunch-Bible Study	28 St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles 7 pm-Supper Club	

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS 2011

October	3	-	Scott Strouse
October	5	-	David Cree
			Laura McGinley
October	8	-	Tracy Stover
October	12	-	Charlotte Saylor
			Ayriella Spicer
			Jacob Fitzgerald
October	14	-	Jessica Meeker
October	15	-	Barbara Roberson
October	18	-	Bryan Hough
October	21	-	Deborah McGinley
			Glodine McMullen
October	22	-	Liam Quigley
October	25	-	Zebulon Green, Jr.
October	28	-	Matthew King
October	31	-	Taylor Stover



St. John's Volunteers:

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

October 2011

	8 AM	10:00 AM NT & Chalice
October 2, 2011, Pentecost XVI	Dn. Dyakiw	Dn. Dyakiw Sara Witmer
October 9, 2011, Pentecost XVII	Scott Mauger	Dn. Dyakiw Jason Dench
October 16, 2011, Pentecost XVIII	Dn. Dyakiw	Dn. Dyakiw Kathryn Grossman
October 23, 2011, Pentecost XIX	Dn. Dyakiw	Dn. Dyakiw Judy Hilderbrand
October 30, 2011, Pentecost XX	Dn. Dyakiw	David Cree

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

October 2011

October 1 through October 7	K. Harvey, J. Dench, L. Meeker
October 8 through October 14	K. Harvey, L. Meeker, J. Dench
October 15 through October 21	M. Jones, B. Shugert
October 22 through October 28	J. Jackson, P. Jackson
October 29 through November 4	M. Jones, B. Shugert

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

October 2011

October 2, 2011	Judy & Charlie Hilderbrand
October 9, 2011	Stuart & Paula Hough
October 16, 2011	Dan & Deb McGinley
October 23, 2011	Billie Jo & Patrick North
October 30, 2011	Larry & Barb Roberson

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

October 2011

Sunday October 2, 2011 10:00 AM – Mass St. Francis of Assisi	Crucifer - Steve Dillon Torchbearer - Bryan Hough Torchbearer - Sean Hough Bookbearer/Server - Carl Meeker Thurifer - Charles Maurukas
Sunday, October 9, 2011 10:00 AM – Mass Pentecost XVII	Crucifer - Carl Meeker Torchbearer - Bryan Hough Torchbearer - Steve Dillon Bookbearer/Server - Charles Maurukas
Sunday, October 16, 2011 10:00 AM – Mass Harvest Festival	Crucifer - Bryan Hough Torchbearer - Carl Meeker Torchbearer - Jason Dench Bookbearer/Server - Sean Hough Thurifer - Charles Maurukas
Sunday, October 23, 2011 10:00 AM – Mass Pentecost XIX	Crucifer - Charles Maurukas Torchbearer - Steve Dillon Torchbearer - Carl Meeker Bookbearer/Server - Jason Dench
Sunday, October 30, 2011 10:00 AM – Mass All Saints	Crucifer - Sean Hough Torchbearer - Jason Dench Torchbearer - Steve Dillon Bookbearer/Server - Bryan Hough Thurifer - Charles Maurukas

