

December 2019



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter

Reflection



**The Rev.
David
Bateman**

Are you busy yet? Most of us soon will be! So let me suggest something. It's a little surprising, I know, to think that adding something more to our holiday commitments is a good idea. Most of us this time of year already get busier than we would like. We would rather be eliminating something from our time commitments or just simply wishing we had more time to spend.

But the busier, the more commercialized, the more demanding the holidays

become, the more we benefit from a respite, a refuge, a quiet space. And I'm not just talking about a space that is physically calmer and quieter and that is deliberately set apart. I'm also talking about a space that is spiritually fo-



cused, a place that in some ways is the opposite of more noise, more running around and more spending.

I'm speaking, of course about Advent, and specifically Advent Sunday morn-

ings at St. Edward's. Advent is the perfect antidote for holiday excesses. Christians are often saddened by the absence of a truly spiritual core to the holidays, but the fact of the matter is we cannot expect the world of buying and selling to give that to us. If we want a spiritual season we have to go to where it starts and we have to gather with the people who care about it. We are the ones from whom the season originates. We are the ones with the story to tell and the worship to honor that story. If we want a spiritually rich Christmas then the best way we can ensure that is to make sure we are a part of Advent.

David +

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Special points of interest:

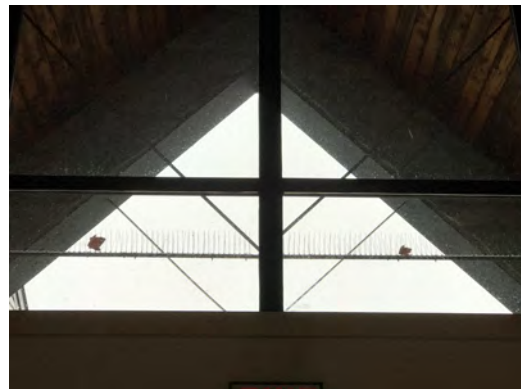
- • *Worship services and Parish hours are on the back cover of the Scepter*
- • *Staff and Vestry Members are listed on the back cover of the Scepter*

Sunday at St. Edward's

Pictures by Mary Snyder



A snowy Sunday at St. Edward's. November 24th



Having a farmer's field next to our front entrance allows us to capture all kinds of elements as the seasons change - from leaves, to corn husks, and a wide range of birds!



www.sainteds.org

Information

Parish Office Hours

Monday- Friday:
10AM – 4:30PM

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Michelle Bentley

Scepter

Production Staff:

H. J. “Mac” Miller



If you're the last person to leave the building following Sunday services or an event, please take the time to make sure all the lights are turned off (including the rest rooms) the thermostat is reset and the doors are locked.

By Meredith Aul Westgate
Senior Warden



November letter

November already! As we begin to look ahead to the holidays, vestry continues to keep St. Edward's moving forward one step at a time. Due to schedule conflicts our November meeting was held on the 19th, a week later than usual. Our agenda was quite long with parish affairs as well as renovation projects. I will try to highlight the most important things:

Memorial Garden – Vestry will be meeting with the existing committee on December 3 to review the current status of things and to begin to think about a long-term vision for the space. After this meeting, we hope to involve others who have a vested interest in the garden to join the discussion and to work with vestry on how to best memo-

rialize those whose ashes are interred there.

Social Outreach – Beth Lynch is stepping down as chair. I thank her for her leadership with projects including Soles 4 Soules, Jesse Tree, and especially, in our work with the Hempfield Area Food Pantry. She will be meeting with David and me to explain the status of projects as we seek new leadership for this important ministry.

Stewardship - A committee was formed in early October to plan the Stewardship Campaign. We are grateful to Dick and Gail Irons, Steve and Catherine Donohue, and Jamie Alton for saying "Yes," to organizing this campaign which is so vital to our very existence. The committee has expressed a desire for leadership. David is setting up a planning meeting with the committee and will offer guidance.

Search – Applications are being accepted until December 2 after which the Search Committee will begin the interview process! We are inching closer to calling a new rector.

Finance – Our income was down \$5200 in October vs. 2017. We expect an 'upturn' in December with five Sunday services and, hopefully, a full house on Christmas Eve, the annual cookie sale. Vestry voted to transfer a large portion of the Mumma Fund from a low-interest savings account to a diocesan account that offers 5% inter-

est with no fee for withdrawal of funds. Also approved was an increase to \$20 per entry for Christmas and Easter flowers. This fee has not been increased in more than 20 years.

Cultural Events – Our program with mezzo-soprano Amy Yovanovich accompanied by organist Donna Brubaker was very well received. We were able to cover all expenses through the free-will offering. The Cultural Events committee was invited to an organizational meeting on November 24 so that plans can get underway for spring events. Anyone interested in supporting this effort with finding and arranging entertainment, publicity is invited to join the committee. Without leadership and support, this wonderful ministry cannot continue.

Renovations and Repairs – Projects currently being addressed include dealing with the woodpecker that continues to peck holes in the wall outside the parish hall, and repairing or replacing the rusting Parish Hall doors. The mold on the Narthex ceiling will be taken care of in mid-January and ventilation in the Sanctuary will be improved to prevent further mold damage.

Other important issues – The parish office needs a new, updated PC and software as Windows 7 will no longer be supported

(Continued on page 4)

Military News

Please keep in your prayers those close to us who are serving in the military.

- ★Dustin Burleson
- ★Justin Carnahan
- ★Brandon Fox
- ★Gordon Frankenfield
- ★Matt Fuhrman
- ★Adam and Christina Grim
- ★Jack Hawk
- ★Benjamin Jenkins
- ★Drew Johnson
- ★Anthony Koser
- ★Alex Kube
- ★John Lewis

- ★Andy Lopez
- ★Richard Mutari
- ★David Peck
- ★Capt. Andrew Pfeiffer
- ★Rev. David J. Sparks
- ★Mike Spurr
- ★David Sternberg
- ★Clayton Tennes
- ★Allison Tomich
- ★Evan Westgate
- ★Seamas Whitesel
- ★1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel



Vestry Letter cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

after January 1, 2020. Our snow plow service has been discontinued and Michelle has found a replacement company. In the spring we will need to replace the coils for the HVAC system.

Advent is here! St. Edward's has many wonderful events coming up to set the tone for this month of quiet expectation. We began by making Advent wreaths for ourselves and for shut-ins at a workshop between services on November 24. The Lancaster Recorder Consort made the crafting more fun and festive by entertaining us with seasonal and other music. Advent continues with a special forum on Prayer Book Meditations for Advent presented by Father David on December 1, and Evening song with the Lancaster Chamber Singers also on December 1. Krist Kindling is also underway with its chain of gifts and prayers.

Moving on into the season, the Cookie/Craft sale and breakfast takes place on the 7th, followed by a relaxing gathering with church friends at the Community Fellowship Dinner on December 10. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be here before you know it, followed by a special one service Unity Sunday service on December 29th. I hope to see each of you at as many of these events as you can attend. They have been lovingly planned by many working behind the scenes to make your Advent and Christmas seasons meaningful and memorable.

I wish you all a peaceful Advent that opens your heart to the joy of Christmas! I thank you for your prayers and your financial support of St. Edward's and to each of you for sharing your time and talent in a multitude of ways. Blessings to you at this holiday season and always.



December 2019

Care Packages



We get many "thank you" notes from our college students for our college care packages which are sent to them each fall and spring, typically towards the end of the semester and before they approach their finals. Did you know that this outreach initiative is fully funded by the generous donations from our parishioners as a way to let our St. Edward's college students know that they are in our hearts, minds, and prayers as they tackle this important phase of their life journey. We believe it is very important to stay connected to our young adults, and their notes of thanks show that they appreciate our outreach. Please prayerfully consider giving to this worthy outreach twice per year. Our goal is to raise \$250 per year to cover this ministry. Thank you, for your support.

Dear St. Edward's Church,

I recently received a care package filled with several snacks and various items. Thank you so much for thinking of me and sending me a package. Thanks again!

-Rachael Smith

Community Dinners



WHEN: WEDNESDAY, December 11th at 6:00 PM

BRING: Your own table setting and a hot and cold dish (enough for 4 people) to share. Use your best judgment and make what you feel comfortable with!





Rachel was featured on the poster that advertised her Fall Dance program. Very Nice!

Ethan Kline



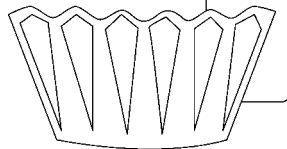
Kim Kline with Ethan for a ceremony to honor Hempfield Scholar athletes. Ethan participates in Cross Country.

Blessing Food



Light the way

Make some Christmas candles to remember Jesus, the Light of the world.



What you need:

- Unlined white notecards
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Yellow tissue paper
- Mini muffin liners
- Clothespins

What you do:

1. Roll a notecard from side to side into a "candle" tube. Secure with glue.
2. Insert a piece of tissue paper "flame" in one end.
3. Glue the other end to a muffin liner. Then glue the liner to a clothespin.
4. Repeat to make many paper candles. Pin them to the branches of a Christmas tree.



Symbols of the season

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.



shepherd's staff ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

tree that keeps its leaves ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

shines to lead the way ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

green for eternal life, ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ &
red for Jesus' blood ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

sounds to announce ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
good news ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

has no beginning or end ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Th ☐ ☐ ks b ☐ to ☐ od fo ☐ ☐ is
indesc ☐ ☐ ba ☐ le gif ☐!

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

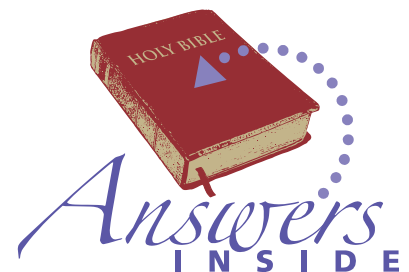
Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV



Bible Quiz

Where did the child Jesus and his parents flee for safety?

- A. Ethiopia
- B. Syria
- C. Rome
- D. Egypt



Answer: D (See Matthew 2:13.)

We Episcopalians

We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As constituent members of the Anglican Communion in the United States, we are descendants of and partners with the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church, and are part of the third largest group of Christians in the world.

We believe in following the teachings of Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection saved the world.

We have a legacy of inclusion, aspiring to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being; women and men serve as bishops, priests, and deacons in our church. Laypeople and clergy cooperate as leaders at all levels of our church. Leadership is a gift from God, and can be expressed by all people in our church, regardless of sexual identity or orientation.

We believe that God loves you – no exceptions.

Love your Neighbor
who doesn't
 **look like you,**
 **think like you,**
 **love like you,**
 **speak like you,**
 **pray like you,**
 **vote like you.**
Love your Neighbor.
No Exceptions.

**The
EPISCOPAL CHURCH in
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**

Welcoming!!



By Mike Patrone

Co-chair

**ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CHURCH
CAN DO FOR YOU**

**BUT ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO
FOR YOUR CHURCH**

Here at St. Edward's, I am constantly amazed at those who multi-task.

Whether it's pulling weeds, supplying coffee hour, being a LEM or the many other chores done. For those, thank you. Maybe for those who haven't become involved, it's not easy. We all at sometime in the past were fearful of not doing something correctly and were afraid of becoming involved. I was there as were most of the parish family.

You are now needed more than any other time. If everyone in this parish family said yes to one thing they would do, the intro phrase above could then be completed with **AND IT WAS DONE.**

"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."
—C.S. Lewis

Flower Ministry

As we approach the Christmas season, as well as the end of 2019 (already!), we are reminded that St. Edward's puts up 2 charts in the narthex for flower donations. The yearly chart for weekly altar flowers gives parishioners and family members the opportunity to sign up to give weekly flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones, anniversaries, birthdays, or special remembrances in one's life. Our altar flowers are \$100 per week and we have extended the ability for up to 2 people to sign up on a Sunday, which will allow the flowers to be cost-shared at \$50/each donor for that week. During Christmas (and Easter) we offer parishioners an opportunity to remember loved ones in the bulletin by "purchasing" flowers of the season at a new cost, starting this season, of \$20 per name entry. We hope all will prayerfully consider contributing to this ministry during the Christmas season so that our church can enjoy the beauty of the season.

Another important aspect of the flower ministry is having a group come together to share in the beautifying of the sanctuary and front door urns with flowers. We have a florist who delivers our weekly flowers and the altar guild places those flowers in the polished altar urns each week. However, after many, many years, our chief "master floral designer," Nancy Oliver, is set to turn in her clippers and provide the opportunity for others to serve St. Edward's in this beautiful ministry. To start with this transformation, we are looking for a small group of volunteers who can come together to work together to create the floral decorating of the sanctuary for Christmas. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help us with this immediate request and perhaps it will pique your interest to be more involved with this ministry in 2020. It is a wonderful way to express your creativity and to joyfully enhance the spirituality of St. Edward's for all to enjoy!



Altar flowers November 24th. Donated by Liz and Buddy Yeager



By Dottie Gschwend

Brief update from the Discernment Committee

You have probably already heard that our documents have been posted by the Diocese and will continue on line until early December. The posting is to a nationwide audience of Episcopal priests who may be considering a move to a new parish. You can also find our profile on our website. You provided great input, and we hope we have used it well. We have received response and remain confident that there may be more candidates for us to consider.

At this time, the committee is preparing for interviews that will be the next step. We have been well supported by our Diocese in the person of Canon Dan Morrow whose responsibilities are with transition ministries in our Diocese. Given this time of year, with Advent and Christmas fast approaching, our work will soon be interrupted until the new year. We will continue to keep you posted in general terms as we are able. As you can imagine, our work must remain confidential in the interest of any candidate. Feel free to contact any one of us if you have questions or concerns about this process.

Dottie Gschwend, Matthew Sternberg, Bill Swiernik, Bev Lynch, Peter Weber, Susan Landin, and Seth Hake



St. Edward's Search Committee Prayer

"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 care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP 818)

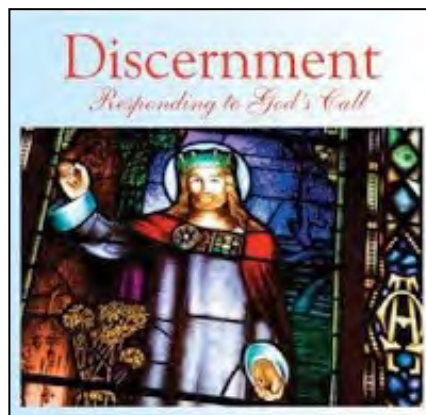
This prayer from our Book of Common Prayer is full of grace and beauty. *"Almighty God, giver of every good gift."* We begin with an acknowledgment that God is in charge and that one of God's good gifts will be a successful search process.

"Look graciously on your Church" reminds us that the Church is the people, not the building. We are praying for every person at St. Edward's – Vestry member, Rector Search Committee member, and all parishioners.

"Guide the minds" reminds us that this is a discernment process, seeking to determine who God would have serve as the next rector of St. Edward's: a *"faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip them for their ministries."* This is a brief but powerful summary of a rector's responsibilities.

As we continue our journey of discernment for our new rector, let us remember that we are united by our faith and love in community as we look forward to the bright future of our parish.

Your St. Edward's Search Committee,



Many thanks to the parishioners who faithfully provide hosting and fantastic food for our fellowship coffee hours. Both coffee hours are so well attended and that is a testament to our hosts and fellow parishioners to show our welcoming nature, not just as we walk through the front red doors each Sunday, but to extend the offer of: "Will you join us at coffee hour?" to those in church. It is so important in our outreach and welcoming efforts. As always, we are always looking for more hosts! For the 10:15 service we have a sign up sheet on a clipboard on the coffee/food table and for the 8 AM service please contact Bev Hess or the parish office if you would like to be added to the schedule as we enter a new year (and new decade!)

Thank you to:

Dottie Gschwend
Joe and Donna Holwager
Bob Young
Ethel Lawrence
Liz and Buddy Yeager
Seth and Beth Hake
The Milligan Family
Roger and Ginny Kloepping
Mark and Barb Jakiel
Hank and Linda Spire
Tony and Sue Bianco

Community Fellowship Dinner

By Meredith Westgate



Ethel Lawrence and Mike Freshwater

The St. Edward's Community Fellowship Dinners have faithfully been held the second Wednesday of each month since the spring. These dinners are a great time to come and enjoy each other's company over a meal and get to know one another. We always have plenty of food and plenty to talk about! Books, movies, travel, family. . . it is a wonderful time of fellowship.

Join us December 11th at 6 PM for our next dinner. If you enjoy cooking, please bring a dish or dessert to share! You can also pick a prepared item up along the way! Or. . . just bring yourself. There is always plenty of food and we supply the beverages. Please bring a place setting, but, again, if you are coming from work and do not have that, we have that as well. We look forward to seeing you.



Beth Lynch and Libby Sternberg



Ethel Lawrence and Randy Westgate



Matthew Sternberg presents Liz Yeager with a birthday cake



Dottie Gschwend and Michelle Bentley



Happy birthday Liz!



Julie Hoff, Liz Yeager, and Barbara Schultz



Shaped to Endure

By Dina Carter Ishler



Based on the readings Isaiah 65:17-25; Canticle 9;

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19 (November 17, 2019)

On November 17th, the Old Testament reading from Isaiah and Luke's Gospel offered us radically different images of our future as God's faithful people. Isaiah paints a picture of endless gladness and rejoicing, a time when weeping has ended and peace and prosperity belong to all God's beloved. On the other hand, the Gospel story is a frightening narrative of all manner of trials- wars, famine and disease, persecution and betrayal to the point of death- but through endurance we will "gain our souls."

It's important to know that despite their differences, these two stories actually speak to two very similar situations. In our reading from Isaiah, God's people have returned from their long season of captivity in Babylon, a frightening and uncertain time that centered around the destruction of the First Temple and most of the city of Jerusalem around 586 BCE. Upon returning home, they undertook not only the task of building a restored community but began construction on the Second Temple, which would then be destroyed, along with Jerusalem, in 70 CE. It is this second massive destruction that Jesus is prophesying about in today's Gospel- and by the time this Gospel was widely circulated and known this event would already have happened. These were beautiful places of sincere worship in the lives of countless believ-

ers- God's faithful earnestly believed that God's Presence was abiding within them.

These stories describe upheaval for God's people on a scale we can hardly imagine- homecoming after decades of exile, great sacred buildings destroyed amidst death and chaos, foreboding descriptions of "last times"- but we can relate. When humans are frightened and unsure of what the future may hold, our fear and anxiety can easily overcome us. We desperately need words of both courage and hope, promises that we can and will persevere through the weariness of the struggle to gain the reward. This is most true in our spiritual lives, where the reward promised is the everlasting one that by this endurance we will gain our very souls- as Paul says, if we do not become weary of doing what is right.

At our diocesan convention this October, when we launched our Shaped by Faith initiative through which we hope to discover what is "right-shaped" for our diocese, our key note speaker was a brilliant man by the name of Duo Dickinson. Duo



is both an acclaimed architect and a man of deep faith who acknowledges that God is the true Architect of all things; he believes that "Beauty is God's handwriting." When Duo discusses a sacred space and tells people every care must be taken in the building to the glory of God, people nod their heads- yet if he says that these buildings could be gone tomorrow and God is what lives- it is disturbing to all. Duo's true gift is the understanding that what he- and indeed all of us- help to shape is completely shaped by God in the first place, despite our deep desire, like St. Peter, to build tabernacles to the glory of God.

Our current generation of faith communities is shifting to a place where, like the disciples in our Gospel story, we do

not know what to expect or when, as we sense that the familiar "shape" we used to count on is not quite the same. This was true for Jesus' disciples as well, who left everything to be shaped by Jesus as we too are shaped through loving and serving God in our own time. We all want to be part of the shaping, even as our faithfulness demands we accept that we believe what we build, we can control. And yet, in Duo's wise words: **"the unending truth of God in our lives is nothing we ourselves can construct."**

Last spring, we watched in grief and horror as the Cathedral of Notre Dame burned in Paris, France and in the aftermath the world tried to process what it could mean to go forward with both endurance and hope. Some longed for immediate rebuilding, some wanted the money gifted for rebuilding to go towards mission instead, some wondered if institutional Christianity might somehow be there in the ashes- and whether, like the phoenix, it would rise from them and transform itself with new fervor and meaning. To ask these questions with honesty and Gospel-directed vision is to remember with great clarity Jesus' prophetic words that not one stone will be left upon another, that all will be thrown down. Jesus, who taught us that the stones can fall and we will still find God, is all the hope and encouragement we could ever need to persevere and endure.

Whether they are enormous temples or breathtaking cathedrals or lovely churches like St. Edward's, sacred buildings are profoundly meaningful to us and we do indeed find God there. But we also know that God's redeeming work given to us in the person of Jesus and the continued guidance of the Spirit can be found elsewhere as well, most often in the gift we are to each other as we share encouragement and love. We did not make this world, nor can we alone preserve it, but we can choose to seek and serve God always as we live in hope for the One to come. **Amen.**

Include your news and announcements in the next Scepter.

Due date for January will be:

December 20th.

Send articles and announcements to:
HJ_Miller@outlook.com





ST. EDWARD'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PRESENTS A SERVICE OF CHORAL EVENSONG

The Reverend David Bateman
Cantor and Officiant

Featuring

The Lancaster Chamber Singers

The Lancaster Chamber Singers, directed by Jay W. Risser, has played a major role in quality performances of choral masterpieces in central Pennsylvania since the ensemble's founding in 1978.

*We welcome all to join us for this very special evening as part of the St. Edward's Cultural Events Series.
Free-will Offering.*

First Sunday in Advent
SUNDAY DECEMBER

1ST | 4 PM

*Refreshments served
following the service*

St. Edward's Episcopal Church
2453 Harrisburg Pike | Lancaster, PA 17601
717.898.6276 | sainteds.org

ADVENT CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship Advent 1 What word or words from worship today have found a home in your heart? Share these words with a friend or family member.	2 Go Take time to listen closely to someone you may not ordinarily take seriously, or who has a different perspective than you. Pray to hear them as God hears them.	3 Learn Read Luke 1:30. What are you afraid of that keeps you from saying “yes” to God?	4 Pray Set a timer for three minutes. Silently repeat this prayer: “Here I am, God.”	5 Bless The angel blessed Mary with the gift of presence. To whom can you give the gift of presence this week?	6 Turn In giving generously, St. Nicholas turned from a sense of scarcity to a posture of abundance. What do you need to turn from in order to be generous of heart?	7 Rest From what could you rest in order to receive renewed life? Take as long as you are able to find that rest today.
8 Worship Advent 2 What part of gathering for worship fills your heart with hope?	9 Go Read or watch your local news. Where is reconciliation needed? Pray for healing.	10 Learn Read Luke 1:45. Consider how your faith is a blessing. Share your faith story with a friend.	11 Pray Offer a prayer of thanks for each person you encounter – both stranger and friend – silently or aloud.	12 Bless Call or write a family member with whom you desire a closer relationship. Share with them how they are a blessing.	13 Turn Reflect: Where have I fallen short this week? How can I make amends? Give thanks for the gift of fresh starts that we have through God’s grace.	14 Rest Set aside 30 minutes to rest, pause, and breathe deeply with a friend or family member. Give thanks for the restorative power of love in relationship.
15 Worship Advent 3 Pray for each person as they receive communion. Imagine who you would like to see at church next week. Invite them to join you.	16 Go Choose to take a different route to work, to school, or to play today. Who or what did you encounter differently?	17 Learn Read Luke 1:64. When Zechariah could finally speak, he began by praising God. For what can you praise God? Share on social media or with a friend.	18 Pray Keep a lookout for anyone who might seem lonely, stressed, or sad. Offer this simple invitation: “May I pray for you?” Then offer prayers – silently or aloud – on their behalf as you move through your day.	19 Bless Identify a blessing you have that you could give away. Share this blessing with your church, a local ministry, or your community.	20 Turn Turn away from the busyness of the week and turn toward someone who gives you life or to whom you give life. Give thanks.	21 Rest In Genesis 1-2, God calls the creation “good” and rests. What can you proclaim to be “good” instead of “not enough” as a witness to God’s love for the world today?
22 Worship Advent 4 Linger before leaving worship today. Ask God to prepare and send you on a journey into the world to witness to God’s love	23 Go Go out into your neighborhood today. Where do you see God at work? What attributes of God’s love are visible? Ask God to show you how you can celebrate and join that love.	24 Learn Read Luke 2:8-10. When has God surprised you? Share with a friend.	25 Pray Christmas Day Read Luke 1-2. Give thanks for the birth of the Christ-child. Pray that you may follow Christ Jesus on his Way of Love with your whole heart, mind, body, and spirit.			

Cultural Events

Patrick Ishler, Cultural Events Ministry Leader

We are looking to gather folks together who are interested in continuing the wonderful Cultural Events Ministry that has been established at St. Edward's. We need those who were part of this ministry in the past as well as those who may be called to serve in this capacity now and into the future. If you would like to serve our parish and this worthwhile outreach ministry, I ask you to join me as we consider future artists for our Cultural Events series and wonder what the series could be like going forward.

I invite you to please join me and others following the 10:15 am service on December 15th to discuss, consider and wonder about the future of this ministry.

In case people are not familiar with this very important ministry, here is a brief history:

In April 2013, a committee formed to explore starting a concert series at St. Edward's to draw outsiders into the church. The committee drafted the following mission statement:

The St. Edward's Church events committee will support the mission of the church by identifying, scheduling and supporting a series of cultural events designed to draw attendees to the church and to alert these attendees to other opportunities for fellowship at the St. Edward's community of faith.

Upon Father Stephen Casey's retirement in November of last year, the committee voted to rename the series the Reverend Canon Stephen C. Casey Cultural Events Series.

Concerts typically attract on average about 100 people to the church for each program, most of whom are not St. Edward's members. The concerts also result in good publicity and a growing email list of attendees. The church uses this email list to notify recipients of upcoming concerts and Advent/Christmas and Lent/Holy Week services.

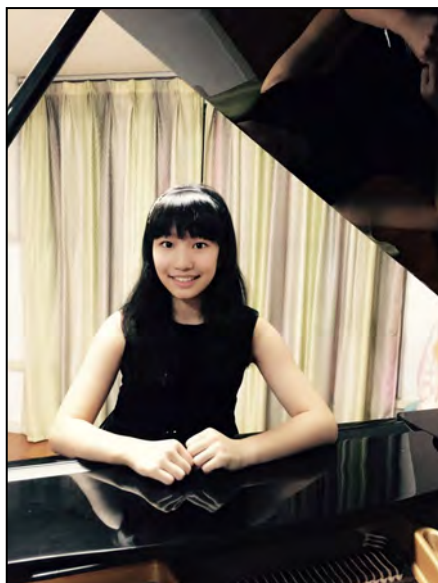
We look forward to seeing you on December 15th!



Simple Gifts Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon



Trio Clavino



Xinyue Zhang



Rizzetta's Tones 2019

Annual Cookie Sale

15th ANNUAL ST. EDWARD'S COOKIE SALE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH 8 AM until we're sold out

Over 60 varieties served deli style by the pound.

This annual fundraiser is a St. Edward's tradition and helps further the ministry of St. Edward's.

NEW THIS YEAR: Christmas Crafts for sale. A great way to shop early!

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST served: \$5.00/all inclusive
(coffee/tea, orange juice, muffins and bagels with jam, butter, cream cheese, fresh fruit)

**We are looking for bakers and volunteers as well!
Please sign up in the parish hall.
Cookies should be dropped off on Friday, December 6th
between 12 Noon - 6 PM





Christmas Eve

- 4:30 PM Family Service of Holy Communion
Praise Band will be playing music commencing at 4:15 pm
- 9:00 PM Festival Holy Eucharist with Choir

**Nursery is available for children up to age 4 at the 4:30 pm & 9:00 pm services*

Christmas Day

- 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

December 29th

- 9:15 AM One Service Sunday Holy Eucharist Rite II
with Choir and Praise Band

Fellowship gathering after the service in the parish hall

The Crown - Season Three

By Glen Bentley



My parents were born in England and came to America in 1946. My father was an R.A.F pilot during the war and my mother worked for the American Red Cross. They lived in London during the “German Blitz.” Their house was blown up with everything in it lost.

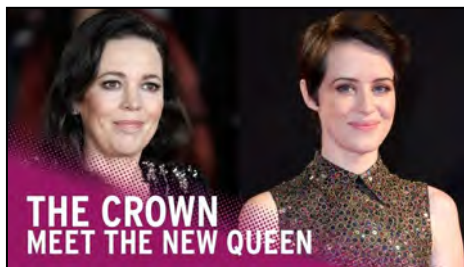
When you have nothing to lose, you come to America.

I was born in 1949 in NYC. The only history lessons I received from my parents about England were that Winston Churchill “was the right man at the right time.” They never mentioned the monarchy ever.

So, I have always had a strong curiosity with English history. Including the monarchy.

When *The Crown* on Netflix came along I watched it with riveting eyes and loved it.

In this third season now, *The Crown* experiences a reset, with a new cast coming in to play the royal family at a later stage in life. The Queen, now played by Olivia Colman, is in her middle life, older and no wiser as she navigates a changing world. The transition to the new cast is seamless, though the transition to a more recent period in history is not as smooth.



The Crown struggles to effectively service its ensemble, sidelining characters and short-changing stories. This show looks as good as ever but the overall impression of *The Crown* in season three is uneven and meandering.

But even when *The Crown* wanders a bit aimlessly through the sixties and seventies, the cast remains phenomenal. Colman plays Queen Elizabeth with calm assurance; she is no longer a young woman

finding her place but a settled matron comfortable with her role. Tobias Menzies takes over as Prince Philip, and it is a testament to Menzies that Philip is so watchable even as he is saddled with a largely uninteresting—and fabricated—story.



Helena Bonham Carter steps in as Princess Margaret, dissipated and dissatisfied and stuck in an unhappy marriage. Bonham Carter is great, but she is largely shunted to the side, one of the worst cases of *The Crown* losing its balance this season. The relationship between Elizabeth and Margaret drives the first segment of *The Crown*, but this time there is no such narrative engine, and one result is that Elizabeth and Margaret barely interact. The loss of tension in the story is palpable.

When *The Crown* works at its highest level, though, it works incredibly well. The standout episode in this season is “Aberfan”, which deals with a terrible tragedy in a Welsh mining town. The episode also finds Elizabeth struggling with a changing public's expectations of her. “Aberfan” feels like a different show, in part because every element functions together in a way they don't through the rest of the season, but also because “Aberfan” really explores the tension of Changing Times and an institution that is meant to be unchanging. It's also an extremely effective disaster story. Unfortunately, the rest of season three is not as considered or deeply felt as “Aberfan”.



Prince Charles (Josh O'Connor) is now a young man, and *The Crown* is super sympathetic to him, for how misunderstood he is within his family—where only his sister Anne (Erin Doherty, excellent and criminally underused) is a real ally—and for his uncomfortable position, waiting for his mother to die to start living his life.

But *The Crown* gives very little time to his relationship with Camilla Shand (Emerald Fennell), leaning too heavily on assumed audience knowledge of *The Gossip*. If you're going to tell a story, TELL A STORY. This barely explored story of Charles and Camilla, feels like a rushed prologue for *The Arrival of Diana*.

The *Crown* season three has a lot to recommend it—though it completely skips over Princess Anne foiling her own kidnapping.

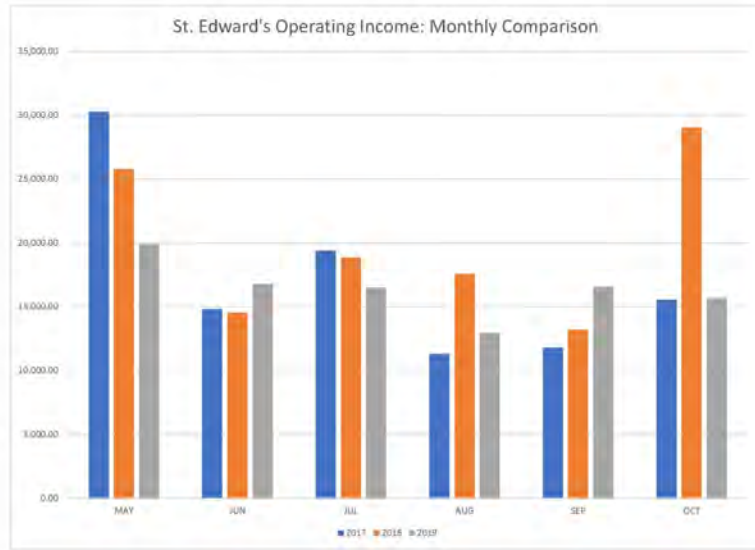
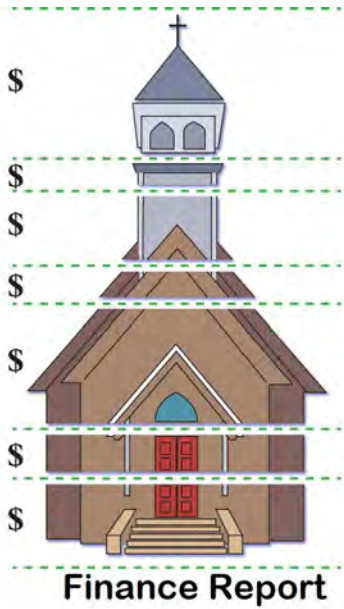
When it works, *The Crown* WORKS, such as “Aberfan”, and we're definitely going to come back to Josh O'Connor and Erin Doherty, who are just spectacular as Charles and Anne—they're so good they might retroactively gain sympathy for the eldest children of QEII. But this is also the first time it feels like *The Crown* flounders, unable to balance its various plots and characters as well as it did in the first two seasons.



This isn't a documentary, *The Crown* can make some narrative leaps, as it did with Princess Margaret in the first two seasons. But that is exactly what *The Crown* won't do this time, and, as stunning as it is visually, it is less engaging and interesting for it.

Financial Report

From the Finance Committee



Adult Forum

David Manuel, a member of the Susquehanna Speakers Association, spoke at the St. Edward's Adult Forum on Nov. 17 at 9:10 AM about the Navajo Code Talkers of WW II. He explored the Navajo nation's interactions with the US Government from their mistreatment in the late 1800's to their creation of a code that was never broken and was instrumental in helping to win the war in the Pacific. He says that his talk is the perfect blending of historical facts and human interest stories.



Code Talkers



Adult forum Sunday, David Manual. speaking about Navajo Code Talkers of WW 2
It was well attended and a very informative talk

Advent Wreath Construction

Pictures by Mary Snyder



Jackie Sandblade and Michelle Bentley making Advent wreaths for homebound friends and family.



Jackie Sandblade, Carol Cotnoir, and Randy Westgate crafting their Advent wreaths.



We were so grateful to The Lancaster Recorder Consort for providing such wonderful seasonal music while we made our wreaths. They were so good, that the first snow of the season happened right on cue!

Quilts of Valor Sunday

Pictures by Mary Snyder



The choir processes in for the start of the 10:15 service with altar servers and our church members who are veterans.



Tony Cerase



Father David blesses the quilt during the service



Buddy Yeager



Donna Holwager presents the Quilt of Valor

Quilts of Valor Sunday



Buddy Yeager presents this years Quilt of Valor to our parishioner, Richard Lawrence.



Richard Lawrence displays his Quilt of Valor Ethel Lawrence, Richard Lawrence, and Buddy Yeager

Arch and Dolly Cross when he was posted overseas.

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

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www.sainteds.org

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Staff

**The Reverend David
Bateman, Interim Rector**

**Michelle Bentley, Parish
Administrative Assistant**

**Patrick Ishler, Choir Direc-
tor**

Karen E. Waddill, Organist

Elizabeth Yeager, Nursery

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday:
10 AM – 4:30PM

-

Vestry (year term ends)

- ✦ **Michael Freshwater
(2021) Secretary**
- ✦ **Julie Hoff (2022) Jr.
Warden**
- ✦ **Dina Ishler (2020)**
- ✦ **Mark Jakiel (2021)**
- ✦ **Herb Johnston (2021)**
- ✦ **Ginny Kloepping
(2020)**
- ✦ **Ellen Milligan (2022)**
- ✦ **Bill Swiernik (2020)**
- ✦ **Meredith Westgate
(2020) Sr. Warden**

Worship Services

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I (said)

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Contemporary Service (2nd Sunday, Sept – May).

Wednesday

12:00 Noon – Holy Eucharist with healing
