

# The Bell Tower

The Church of the Holy Innocents Newsletter

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November 2021

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## FROM THE RECTOR

*The Rev. Donald Lowery*



### A Grateful Heart

November is a particularly rich month spiritually. It begins with All Saints' Day, continues on to Thanksgiving Day and often the last Sunday in November is the First Sunday in Advent.

On **All Saints' Day** we remember all the heroes of the faith who have gone before us into eternal life. Not only do we remember the great saints of scripture and church history, but the unsung heroes of the faith who may not have a stained glass portrait or a church named for them, but who bore witness to Jesus in the words and actions. It is an opportunity to remember the people of faith who influenced our own lives by their steady witness to the transforming power

of Jesus Christ. It is also an affirmation of our faith in eternal life. God raised Jesus from dead not only to vindicate His Son but to open for all who place their trusting faith in him the gateway to eternal life beyond this mortal life. We will observe All Saints Day on the first Sunday in November.



**Thanksgiving Day** is rooted in the harvest festivals that all cultures celebrate when the harvest is safely home and the food and other resources one needs to sustain life are garnered away for our own use and the relief of those in need. While the First Thanksgiving by English speaking people on America was celebrated in Virginia (not Plymouth despite rumor to the contrary) it became a regular holiday by presidential decree during the dark days of the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln called the nation to prayers of gratitude in the midst of the bloodiest war in American History. It was a bold move but was rooted in his faith that God would prevail, that the war would come to an end, that the slaves would be free, the nation reunited and the wounds of civil conflict healed. My heart still thrills when I read the words of the Gettysburg Address with their faithful pronouncement that out of war would come a rebirth of liberty and a reaffirmation of the ideals of the Declaration of Independence. We will observe Thanksgiving on the Wednesday Service, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. , so folks can be with family on Thanksgiving Day.

**Advent**, as the old children's hymn reminds us, tells us Christ is near. As we prepare our hearts to remember the first coming of Jesus, so we look with longing to the Lord's second coming in glory to establish God's Kingdom on earth.

*Continued page 2*



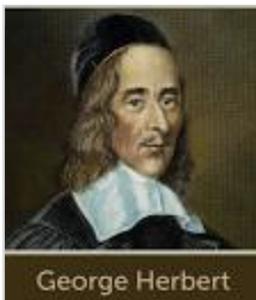
November is our stewardship month this year. We will solicit pledges for the 2022 budget. Our stewardship is connected to the Holy Seasons November brings. We are the heirs of the saints, of the faithful members of Holy Innocents who founded this parish, built our church, our parish house and our day school. Their generosity provided what we have. Our generosity enables us to maintain what we inherited and to use it for ministry. Did you know that something happens in our buildings every day of the week that offers ministry to people both from our parish and from the wider community which includes Narcotics Anonymous to a support group for Latino families with autistic children. We are very much a seven day a week parish.

Thanksgiving reminds us that people of faith show their gratitude by setting aside part of their resources for charitable giving. I personally support a number of causes, but my giving to the church is the first gift out of each pay check and the largest. I give because I believe in the work of the Church of the Holy Innocents as a parish. I also give because I am so very grateful for God's goodness to me and to those I love.

Finally, Advent reminds me that someday I will stand before Jesus both as my Savior and as my judge. When the book of life is opened I know my name will be there. I also want it show that I was as generous as my resources permitted me to be. I am generous, not in an attempt to earn God's favor, because his love is his free gift to me, but generous because I am thankful for all that God has done for me.

The Priest and Poet George Herbert spoke well when he wrote:

Thou who hast given so much to me, Give one thing more, a grateful heart. Not grateful when it pleaseth me as though thy bounty had spare days; But such a heart whose pulse shall be thy praise. †



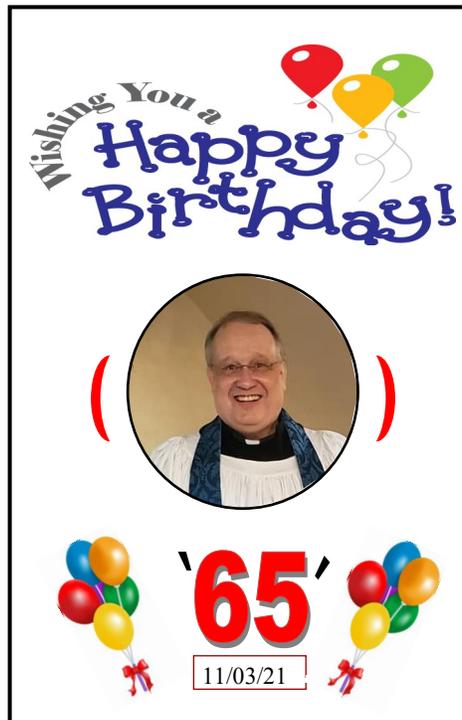
## PARISH NEWS...

### Wednesday Service



The Rev. Donald Lowery

Holy Communion will be offered each Wednesday this month at 5:30 p.m. The first Wednesday will include the prayers of the Healing service. †



## Tithes & Gifts

Marsha Lougee

Our church 2022 pledge cards have been mailed and you should have already received yours. Cards to be returned by Sunday, November 21, 2021. †



## Altar Guild News...

Margaret Williamson, Chairman



To all Altar Guild members—

It's time to decorate the Altar for Thanksgiving. Please bring fruits and vegetables to the church. You can put them in the Sacristy or the church office. Please bring them by Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Thanks! †



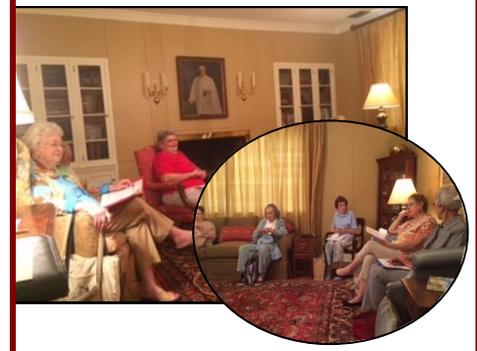
Allen Bean, Church Musician

Just a reminder that the Christmas season is fast approaching. Everyone is invited to sing during Advent leading up to the joyful Christmas Eve celebration. We look forward to your presence! †



Betsy Seifert,, President

We will not meet during this November but hope to resume our monthly meetings as soon as possible. †



# Treasurer's Report

Bob Nelson, Treasurer

10/01/2021

## Church Of The Holy Innocents Revenue and Expense Summary Year-to-date, Through September 2021

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
<b>Revenues</b>				
Pledged Income	\$4,486.66	\$10,000.00	\$129,785.04	\$139,000.00
Other Income	\$114.00	\$250.00	\$1,378.92	\$1,850.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$4,600.66</b>	<b>\$10,250.00</b>	<b>\$131,163.96</b>	<b>\$140,850.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Compensation</b>				
Salaries	\$3,091.68	\$2,600.00	\$26,096.96	\$23,400.00
<b>Employee Expenses</b>				
Rector's Expenses	\$749.24	\$900.00	\$7,577.71	\$8,700.00
Other Employee Expenses	\$3,565.44	\$3,200.00	\$38,553.25	\$29,100.00
<b>Total Employee Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,314.68</b>	<b>\$4,100.00</b>	<b>\$46,130.96</b>	<b>\$37,800.00</b>
<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$7,406.36</b>	<b>\$6,700.00</b>	<b>\$72,227.92</b>	<b>\$61,200.00</b>
<b>Administrative</b>				
Supplies	\$98.75	\$300.00	\$1,285.09	\$1,600.00
Preschool Income/Expense	(\$1,418.71)	\$1,250.00	(\$635.07)	\$11,050.00
General Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,126.50	\$9,000.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$28.00	\$100.00	\$412.26	\$500.00
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>(\$1,291.96)</b>	<b>\$1,650.00</b>	<b>\$9,188.78</b>	<b>\$22,150.00</b>
Utilities	\$1,715.71	\$1,700.00	\$15,283.86	\$14,500.00
Maintenance	\$963.44	\$1,500.00	\$19,204.60	\$13,500.00
Parish Life	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$240.00	\$1,700.00
Diocesan & Seminary Support	\$2,543.00	\$2,500.00	\$22,887.00	\$22,800.00
Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,336.55</b>	<b>\$14,350.00</b>	<b>\$139,032.16</b>	<b>\$135,850.00</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>(\$6,735.89)</b>	<b>(\$4,100.00)</b>	<b>(\$7,868.20)</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>



### Note from the Editor...

Marsha Nelson

The next church newsletter will be issued in December. Please email news items by **November 24 to:** [marleenel25@gmail.com](mailto:marleenel25@gmail.com)

Current and past issues of the newsletter are available on the church web site at: [www.churchoftheholysinocents.org](http://www.churchoftheholysinocents.org)  
Thanks for your support!

**Amazon Smile** is a branch of the regular Amazon.com site, except all of the purchases that are made through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will automatically donate 1/2% of the purchase (most everything is eligible) to a charity of your choosing. We are asking parishioners to consider making Holy Innocents that charity. Below is a link that will take you to the Amazon Smile site, and it should ask you to confirm that you wish to support Holy Innocents as your Smile charity. It's an easy way to add to your contribution without additional expense. †

Direct charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0554227>

For questions or help, visit <http://smile.amazon.com/about>



# SPOT- LIGHT ON



*Congratulations to Donald Seifert who is a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award from Governor Roy Cooper. This is one of the highest honors that is bestowed upon a citizen of the State of North Carolina.*

*A "Big" Thank You for your dedication and service to our church and community.*

## Birthdays

Mary Shearin ..... 11/01  
 Hal Mahler .....11/02  
 Donald Lowery. ....11/03  
 Matilda Gholson..... 11/03  
 Kate Blackburn ..... 11/07  
 Sam Goodwin.....11/07  
 Charlie Vaughn.....11/08  
 Rick Palamar .....11/11  
 Susann Ellis .....11/13  
 Valerie Gwynn ..... 11/14  
 Cole Whitt .....11/16  
 Genie Parish..... 11/17  
 Betsy Herford ..... 11/21  
 Ruth Hartness .....11/22  
 Anne Almand .....11/27

## Anniversaries

Dianne & Maurice Floyd .....11/02  
 Ellen & Roger Dickerson.....11/04  
 Jan & Bo Cheatham ..... 11/05

## Remember In Your Prayers

*Pray for Healing and Comfort:*

Mary Shearin  
 Veneal Williams  
 Bill Mast  
 Peggy Mast  
 Rose Flannagan  
 Cynthia Shaw



We're thankful for you!

## Special Dates

- All Saints' Day  
*November 1, 2021*
- Daylight-Saving Time Ends,  
*November 7, 2021*
- Veterans Day,  
*November 11, 2021*
- Christ the King Sunday,  
*November 21, 2021*
- Thanksgiving Day,  
*November 25, 2021*
- First Sunday of Advent,  
*November 28, 2021*

## Altar Flowers

- Roger & Ellen Dickerson 11/07
- Janet White 11/14
- Kat Kern 11/21
- Altar Fruit 11/25
- Altar Fruit 11/28

## NOVEMBER SERVING SCHEDULE

Nov	ACOLYTES	USHERS	LAY READER / CHALICE BEARER	ALTAR GUILD
7	Jack and Kaitlyn Paynter	Bob Nelson Bob Herford	8:00am—Bob Nelson 10:30am—Linda Shaw	Mariana Davis
14	Jack and Kaitlyn Paynter	Bob Nelson Bob Herford	8:00am—Tracy Madigan 10:30am —Nick Long	Mariana Davis
21	Chapman-Scott Burnette	Bob Nelson Bob Herford	8:00am—Rix Edwards 10:30am—Richard Davis	Anora Rainey
28	Chapman-Scott Burnette	Bob Nelson Bob Herford	8:00am—Greg Taylor 10:30am—Ruth Harttness	Anora Rainey

**NOTE: IF YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO SERVE AND HAVE A CONFLICT, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR OWN REPLACEMENT AND NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE.**





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**THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**  
210 South Chestnut Street  
Henderson, NC 27536

*Cut along the dotted line and share the below information with a friend....*

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OUR GATES  
ARE OPEN TO  
WELCOME YOU !!

## **The Church of the Holy Innocents**



**All are welcome to join us as  
we joyfully greet each person present at our worship.  
May our love and respect for one another be  
steady and true as we strive to follow Christ our Lord.**