

**NORTH PARISH
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
2024
NEWSLETTER**

**THRU THE HANDS OF GOD -
ONE HAND HELPING ANOTHER
(North Parish's Mission Statement)**



Musing from the priest's computer.....November –December 2024

John 3:9: Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Luke 1:34: Mary said to the angel, "How can this be...?"

There is a spiritual practice called "Lectio Divina", which is typically done in 4 steps:
Lectio, Meditatio, Oratio, Contemplatio.

LECTIO: One selects a passage of Scripture and reads it, usually slowly out loud, and repeats it by reading it slowly once or twice.

MEDITATIO: Next, consider a word or phrase in the passage that stands out to you.

ORATIO: Pray, focusing on the words that stood out to you asking God for guidance in meaning or action.

CONTEMPLATIO: Finally sit in the quiet of the moment, considering the majesty of God and the peace of God's presence.

Lectio Divina can be a worthwhile practice as we move from Ordinary Time-- the weeks after Pentecost--and into the Advent and Christmas seasons. It can be done alone, or as a group or even as a family practice.

The words above from the Gospels of St John and St. Luke have always stuck with me. Typical words I think because we hear them or say them frequently, often under joyful and hocking emotional circumstances. Consider a visit from a long lost relative or receiving a threatening medical diagnosis. Our minds resort to that "How can this be" almost instantaneously! But our humanity, and our connection to the Supreme God the Creator can provide grounding readily. In addition, the gathering of the great cloud of witnesses—our family, our friends, our fellow church goers—can offer affirmation and peace and enable us to share our joys and sorrows.

We will rush into seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent as the weather chills and as daylight fades faster than ever day to day. These later sunrises and longer nights present an opportunity to pray the Lectio Divina as a new or reconstituted prayer practice.

Right before Christmas, at the Winter Solstice, more minutes of daylight arrive! Hope and light renew us. These seasons also present us with the opportunity to invite others to pray with us, and to come to worship with us too. Remember, the Episcopal Church is still the best kept secret in Christianity.....so let's NOT keep it a secret!

Rest in the Love of Christ and keep each other in your prayers!

In brotherly love,

Fr. Kurt



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 – Bonnie Hynoski
Denise Ulceski

4- Nicole Scanlan

6 – Sam Correll

Ryder Chase Bowers

8 – Carole James

10 – Lilly Meade

17 – Aubrey Scanlan

19 – Albert Leibig, Jr.

21 – Ryan Lindenmuth

22 – Nicholas Price

24 – Neal R. Miller

27 – Theresa Price

28 – Christie Joy Donatti

30 – Monique Snyder

Patricia Snyder

Frances Clamser

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 – Joshua Jacobs

4 – Jennifer Evans

Janis Idell

Mary Price

8 – Randall Snyder

9 – Phil Frantz

10 – Brooklyn Hewes

12 – Holly Jazwinski

Sue O'Neill

Michael Leshner

Alicia Rathosky

14 – Albert Leibig

15 – Dakotah Deeter

18 – Robert Scheuren

20 – Greyson Allison

21 – Clayton Demcher

23 – Jane Shaqfeh

26 – John Price, Jr.

Stephen Ulceski

If your birthday is listed incorrectly or it is not included on the birthday list, please notify the church office. Thank you.

ONLINE RADA CUTLERY SALE



North Parish is selling Rada Cutlery online to benefit our General Fund. Please type in this link in your web address to place an order: <https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=5315822.c6637d>. When you are directed to the website, please click yes to support North Parish. Then place your order like any other online purchase. This will be an ongoing sale. For those of you who are not comfortable ordering online, please see Bonnie Baker or Bonnie Hynoski for a printed catalog. Please feel free to share this with your family and friends. Makes great Christmas gifts!!



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Amanda, Bridget, Emily, Jason, Mia, Patricia, Shannon, Ben S., Tara Compinski, Rachael Coyle, Charles Davenport, Clay Demcher, Delores Frantz, Donna Frantz, Phil Frantz, Gerard Frantz, Jennifer Frantz, Becky Higgins, Donna Horning, Harley Hynoski, McKenzie Kline, Dolores Kozlosky, Bill Kuhn, Joshua Lauver, Landry Lauver, Stephen M., Jeff Maurer, Shirley Moyer, Catherine Mozdy, Justin Mummaw, Gertrude Newman, Suzanne O'Neill, Diane & Jim Reed, Joe Scheuren, Kim Russell Seibert, Patricia Snyder, Christopher Stevens, David Strunk, Bob Tiley, and Eddie Ulceski

PRAYER LIST POLICY

We will begin a new prayer list beginning January 1st. If you would like your name to remain on the prayer list or you need to add someone, please notify the office before then.

We ask that you call the church office at 570-429-7107 or email us at nparish@ptd.net. Please leave your name, phone number and the name of the person for the prayer list.

You can also mail the form below to the church office at:
North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931

Name on the prayer list: _____

Person making the request: _____

Please note: The prayer list will be updated at the end of June also.



All articles for the January/February Newsletter should be submitted to our Parish Secretary, Shannon, no later than Monday, December 9th.



NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS are needed for our Food Cupboards. If you are unable to donate food items, you can give a monetary donation. Please write your check to North Parish and designate Food Cupboards. Thank you.

NOVEMBER MEMORIALS

WINE & WAFERS: In memory of Roland Price Sr. by Roland Price Jr. and Mary Makely.

BULLETINS: In memory of Jean M. Brennan by Phil and Donna Frantz.

SANCTUARY CANDLES: In memory of Merle Frantz by Peggy Frantz.

In memory of Betty Noble and Cole Joshua Lauver by the Hynoski Family.

In memory of Jim Lecher by the Lecher Family.



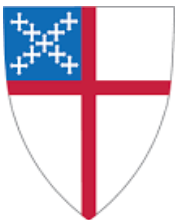
DECEMBER MEMORIALS

WINE & WAFERS: In memory of John W. Frantz by Donna and Phil Frantz.

BULLETINS: In memory of Harold and Deborah Strunk by the Strunk and Ulceski Family.

SANCTUARY CANDLES: In memory of Cole Joshua Lauver by the Hynoski Family.

THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NEWSLETTER is sponsored in memory of Jim Lecher by his family.



HOLY APOSTLES SATURDAY SERVICES

November 2, 2024 - Holy Eucharist
Celebrant – The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich

November 30, 2024 - Evening Prayer
Worship Leader – Bonnie Baker
Services are at 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY BREAKFASTS - Holy Apostles

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

November 3, 2024

December 1, 2024

Menu includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage,
home-fries, toast, juice, coffee, tea, etc.

Cost is \$12.00 at the door

The breakfasts are fundraisers for North Parish's general fund.

Our profit from September - \$1,062.82

Our profit from October - \$807.86



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS/MEMORIAL DONATION FORM

Please fill out this form and place it in an envelope with
your donation and place it in the collection or mail it to
the church office: North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931



PLEASE NOTE: ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO NORTH PARISH.

Name of Donor(s): _____

Church: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

PLEASE RETURN BY December 8, 2024

All memorials will be published in the January/February Newsletter.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – November 17, 2024

We will celebrate Stewardship Sunday on November 17th. An offering plate will be placed at the front of the church for you to place your pledge card. We ask you to please place your pledge card on the plate when you go to receive Communion. If for some reason you are unable to attend church, please mail your pledge card to the church office: North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT!!! (Fr. Kurt's stewardship letter is published on the front page of the Newsletter).

My 2025 Promise



I/we promise \$ _____ for ministry.

I/we plan to fulfill this pledge weekly monthly semiannually annually.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please contact me about including the church in my estate plans.

Thanksgiving Dinner

November 28, 2024



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Parish Hall
307 E. Hancock St.
St. Clair, PA

Please RSVP by November 21st

Call Bonnie at (570) 590-0450
Or the church office at (570) 429-7107



Eat in, Take Out or Delivery available

Deliveries – 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pick Up – 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Eat In – 1:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to cook, run deliveries and package meals. We also need donations of turkeys. Monetary donations will also be accepted to help with the dinner. Please make checks out to: North Parish. If you can donate any of these items or help with preparations, please contact Bonnie Baker.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24, 2024

Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. – Holy Apostles, St. Clair

6:30 p.m. – St. John's, Ashland

Celebrant – The Rev. Dr. Kurt K. Kovalovich

CAROL SING

December 29, 2024

2:00 p.m. at Holy Apostles

Light refreshments will follow the carol sing

Free will offering will be accepted.



NEWS FROM MARION PRICE TRUST FUND

Medicare open enrollment has begun! Enrollment to update and make changes to your 2025 Medicare plan is open until December 7, 2024. There are changes coming to Medicare in 2025, so it is a good time to review your coverage to be sure you have the coverage you need at the best cost. One of the big changes starting in 2025 will be a yearly \$2,000 out of pocket cap for Medicare covered prescriptions.

The PA MEDI program was created by the PA Department of Aging to help seniors understand Medicare and other health insurance benefits. Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services helps fund the PA MEDI program here in Schuylkill County. PA MEDI staff and volunteers operate locally through the office of Diakon Community Service, located at 2020 W. Norwegian Street in Pottsville. Dana Oravitz is the coordinator and she or volunteers can answer questions and provide information concerning Open Enrollment. I heard Dana speak at a recent meeting and she recommended that seniors take advantage of the PA Medi program, especially this year, because of the changes in Medicare benefits. PA MEDI counselors are trained to offer unbiased Medicare education to help seniors make the most informed choice about their options. Counselors do not sell Medicare products; they just give you the best options based on each individual's needs and medications. If you are interested in an appointment I have listed the available locations.

Open enrollment sessions are held at the following locations between 9 AM and 3 PM:

- ***October 19 or 21, November 11 or 18, December 7th** at the Diakon Office, 2020 W. Norwegian St Pottsville
- ***October 26** at Tremont Senior Center, 139 Clay Street in Tremont
- ***October 28** at the Mahanoy City Senior Center, 138 W. Centre Street in Mahanoy City
- ***October 29** at the Schuylkill Haven Senior Center, 340 Haven Street in Schuylkill Haven
- ***October 30** at Calvary Chapel Church, 1010 W. Maple Street in Valley View
- ***October 31** at Bethany E.C. Church, 13th and Market Streets in Ashland
- ***November 4** at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Greenwood & Mauch Chunk Streets in Tamaqua
- ***November 13** at Faith Church, Route 61 South in Orwigsburg

SENIORS MAY REGISTER FOR AN APPOINTMENT or receive more information by calling Diakon's PA MEDI program at (570) 624-3019. **PLEASE CALL EARLY** to ensure getting an appointment. Last year over 900 seniors were served by the program.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Please help me spread the word that the annual Marion Price Trust Fund Christmas luncheon will be held on December 19, 2024 at Holy Apostles Church in St Clair. The Eucharist will begin at 11 AM followed by a luncheon, games, and social time. This year we will be playing the "GIVE AND TAKE GAME" which I understand is a lot of fun and similar to a white elephant game. Please contact me or Bonnie Baker for details on participating in this game. More information will follow closer to the date, but feel free to contact me in the office with any questions on this or if I may assist you in any way. I will do my best to find an answer, provide information or help obtain needed services. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year!

AUGUST FINANCES

North Parish Receipts			North Parish Disbursements	
General Account			General Account	
	24-Aug	\$ 3,878.14		24-Aug \$ 6,179.70
Year to Date		\$ 41,145.80	Year to Date Exp.	\$ 59,367.13
Transfer in from M&I for Expenses		\$ -		
Transfer M&I Year to Date for expenses		\$ 6,500.00		
Transfer from DIT-General Acct.		\$ -		
Transfer from DIT-General Acct. YTD		\$ 5,000.00		
Transfer in from Memorial Acct.		\$ -		
Transfer Memorial Acct year to date		\$ 4,200.00		
M&I Account			M&I Account	
	24-Aug	\$ 45.11		24-Aug \$ -
Year to date		\$ 2,543.23	Year to date	\$ 6,500.00
Memorial Account			Memorial Account	
	24-Aug	\$ 30.09		24-Aug
Year to date		\$ 790.97	Year to date	\$ 4,200.00
Balances				
General Account		\$ 2,671.92		
M&I Account		\$ 6,242.93		
Total funds available		\$ 8,914.85		
Memorial Account		\$ 5,267.45		

SEPTEMBER FINANCES

North Parish Receipts			North Parish Disbursements	
General Account			General Account	
	24-Sep	\$ 6,354.84		24-Sep \$ 9,691.16
Year to Date		\$ 47,500.64	Year to Date Exp.	\$ 69,058.29
Transfer in from M&I for Expenses		\$ -		
Transfer M&I Year to Date for expenses		\$ 6,500.00		
Transfer from DIT-General Acct.		\$ 5,000.00		
Transfer from DIT-General Acct. YTD		\$ 10,000.00		
Transfer in from Memorial Acct.		\$ -		
Transfer Memorial Acct year to date		\$ 4,200.00		
M&I Account			M&I Account	
	24-Sep	\$ 902.67		24-Sep \$ -
Year to date		\$ 3,445.90	Year to date	\$ 6,500.00
Memorial Account			Memorial Account	
	24-Sep	\$ 0.09		24-Sep
Year to date		\$ 791.06	Year to date	\$ 4,200.00
Balances				
General Account		\$ 4,335.60		
M&I Account		\$ 7,145.60		
Total funds available		\$ 11,481.20		
Memorial Account		\$ 5,267.54		



NORTH PARISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2024

November 2 Saturday	Holy Eucharist	5:00 p.m.	Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
November 3	Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m.	St. John's	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
November 10	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
November 17	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
November 24	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Bonnie Baker Susan Noble
November 30	Evening Prayer	5:00 p.m.	Holy Apostles	Bonnie Baker

DECEMBER 2024

December 1	Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m.	St. John's	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 8	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
December 15	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 22	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Bonnie Baker
December 24	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Holy Apostles St. John's	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 29	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Bonnie Baker Susan Noble

November 2 & 3	The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost - All Saints	Green or White
November 10	The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 17	The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 24	The Last Sunday after Pentecost – Christ the King	White
Nov. 30 & Dec.1	The First Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 8	The Second Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 15	The Third Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 22	The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 25	The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ – Christmas Eve	White
December 29	The First Sunday after Christmas Day	White



***P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931
570-429-7107***

November 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The author of the poem that would become the words of the hymn “Take My Life and Let it Be”, was a frail woman, and a powerhouse in love with Jesus and the Church. Frances Ridley Havergal wrote numerous poems and set many to music. “Take My Life and Let it Be” is one of her most well-known hymns. She was most proud of the lines “Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.” She wrote to one of her friends that she was delighted to put those words into practice by selling her jewelry and jewelry cabinet and directing the proceeds to be used for the English Church Missionary Society and its efforts to expand the understanding and missions of the Church of England worldwide.

She believed in putting her faith into practice, and towards that end, she was enthusiastic in discussing all that Jesus Christ had done for her and could do for others. Her stewardship of the church was far-reaching, touching many people and leading to many conversions.

We too do that. We welcome others in to not only worship with us, but also to gather to see what this best kept secret of Christianity offers and how we serve, as the request in Frances’s hymn states: “Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love. Take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for Thee.”

During this season of stewardship, a focus of our time, talents, treasures through the year, my prayer is to keep the words of Frances in mind as your prayerfully consider where you can share your time and talents, and how you may share your treasure to help the Church do its work.

Frances’s favorite hymn was not “Take my Life and Let it Be”. Her favorite, “I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus”, contains the following lines: “I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead; Every day and hour supplying All my need”. All things come of God, and the stewardship campaign is a great time to put our trust in God and to share that trust with others in ministry,

With hope and brotherly love,

Fr. Kurt

***Thru the Hands of God – One Hand Helping Another
(North Parish’s Mission Statement)***