



Church of the Holy Comforter

September 2015

THE DOVE

The Rector's Column *by The Rev. Dr. Jason Parkin, Rector*

This is the Month....

This is the month, and this is the year....

This is the month when all starts anew at Holy Comforter. The choirs resume their ministry among us in song and psalm. Christian Formation returns for people of all ages. The full liturgical schedule begins once again. The Monday prayer group returns, and the Youth Group reconvenes. Planning kicks in for the Stewardship campaign, for the Fall Festival and the Fall Fellowship Dinner and for a host of other moments in our common life. This is the month when the full vigor and vibrancy of Holy Comforter springs forth into full blossom.

And so, let this be the year when, I pray, each us will take more seriously than ever before our faith in God and our relationship with the Holy One through his Body, the Church. Let this be the year when, I pray, each of us ponders—and then uses—the gifts given to each of us by our absurdly generous God.

It is easier to sleep in or to take a walk of a Sunday morning than it is to wrestle the kids into their church clothes or to fight the challenges of parking on Kenilworth Avenue. It is easier to skip Church School or the Forum or not to join one of the choirs than it is to commit to full participation. It is easier to place a bill in the offering plate than it is to make a financial commitment in support of the parish and its ministries. After a week of meetings at work, it is easier not to become involved in a ministry or program that demands of us some of our valuable personal time. It is easier to watch “Big Bang Theory” or “The Voice” than it is to pray.

But who among us wants to take the easy way out?

The most important aspects of our lives are those that require dedication and personal investment. Is not the basis of the Christian faith the belief that God has given all for and to us—even going so far as to come among us as one of us in order to heal, to feed, to nourish, to die, and to live again—and that, therefore, we must offer ourselves back to God in grateful thanks? Growth as people of faith does not easily happen haphazardly. We don't, in general, develop our spirituality, our gifts, our relationship with God, and our connection to the community without some intentionality. Our young people won't learn and appropriate their identities as children of God if they only experience worship and formation every so often. One doesn't learn how to play the piano by only practicing every other Thursday, or how to play lacrosse by never picking up a stick. The same is true of our lives as God's people.

And we can gain so much by being part of this parish. We receive brothers and sisters seeking to grow, just as we are. We develop friendships and memories that can last and nourish for a lifetime. We get to sing and laugh and cry and work and love and pray and reach out together, as part of something larger than ourselves, as members of a family of faith. We enjoy the regular reminder that we are unspeakably beloved in God's eyes and heart. We experience, again and again, the possibility of new hope and light and life and peace.

And so, let this be the year when, I pray, each of us reconnects to God, recommits to the community of faith, re-offers our gifts and our time and our devotion and our very lives to the One who has called us into being, who created and constantly re-creates us, who is our Way and our Truth and our Life.

This is the month, and this is the year....

Pat Drew to become Lifetime Trustee of Episcopal Charities



Many, many years ago, as Pat Drew and her team at McDrew Sales were finishing up a house sale, a man she knew lightly struck up a conversation. During that discussion, he mentioned that he was on the Board of Cathedral Shelter, an Episcopal ministry in the city that provides a variety of social services, including shelter for formerly homeless persons, and counseling for addiction and related issues. Knowing that Pat had previously volunteered at Cathedral Shelter, he asked her if, by chance, she would be interested in being on the Board. “It can only have been the Spirit moving,” Pat says, but without pausing for a second, she said, “Yes!”

And thus began a record of service, dedication, leadership, and exemplary commitment to the Diocese of Chicago and many of its outreach ministries that has continued to this day. In honor and recognition of all that Pat has offered to so many people throughout the Diocese of Chicago, she will become a **Lifetime Trustee of Episcopal Charities and Community Services** at the annual Episcopal Charities Gala on Friday, October 30.

In the 55 years since its founding, only five other people have been named Lifetime Trustees of Episcopal Charities, so this is an extraordinary and wonderful tribute. The honor is more than well-deserved. Pat served on the Board of Cathedral Shelter for 12 years, and as the President of the Board for three of those years. She was on the Episcopal Charities Board for six years, acting at one point as the Vice President, and chairing the Bishop’s Ball (as the Gala used to be called) some years ago. And since 2001, she has been the President of the Bishops’ Associates, an organization within the Diocese that seeks to promote awareness of our many shared ministries, to build bridges of communication and understanding throughout the Diocese, and to support the Bishop by sponsoring activities, providing financial

support and nurturing new programs. In short, Pat has spent the last several decades offering her time, her energy, her physical labor, her love, and her unparalleled gifts to improving the lives and situations of countless thousands of people throughout northern Illinois. And that’s without even mentioning the untold ways she has served here at Holy Comforter: on Altar Guild and Housewalk and Bazaar, on Vestry, as leader of the Bereavement Ministry and delegate to Diocesan Convention, as active Guild member and President of the Women of the Church, and much more. No one within the Diocese of Chicago is more deserving of this accolade than is Pat Drew.

The 2015 Episcopal Charities Gala will take place at the JW Chicago Marriott on Friday evening, October 30, beginning with cocktails at 6:00, with dinner, silent and live auctions, and dancing to follow; and it is during dinner that Pat will be honored. **It is my deepest hope that many members from Holy Comforter will turn out to support Pat** (and Episcopal Charities) on the 30th by buying tickets—or even tables—and show up in great numbers. If enough people attend, we will investigate hiring a bus for the evening to transport parishioners to and from the Marriott for the sake of convenience and safety. If you would like to learn more, or to purchase your tickets for the (black-tie optional) event, please go to the Episcopal Charities website at <http://www.eccsonline.net/2015-gala-pages-191.php>; and please let Laurel know that you are going to attend, so we can begin to coordinate transportation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

No one merits recognition for selfless and unstinting devotion and ministry as much as our beloved Pat Drew. Please make every effort to attend the Ball on October 30, and cheer with all your might as our sister is honored! Thanks be to God for her presence among us.

Fr. Jason



The Center for Trinitarian Spirituality, Our New Initiative

by *Chris Hardman*

As many of you know, I grew up in the First Baptist Church of Helena, Arkansas, which was a moderately conservative church of its time and place. Naturally, I believed God was “up there” somewhere. God loved me, but that love was always a conditional love. If I strayed from the straight and narrow, “condemnation to hell” lay close at hand. I could always repent, but even if I did, I was never sure if I had repented “enough.”

At a worship service when I was 16, I felt a strong sense that God was calling me to something. At the time, I did not know what that was. The only image of the clergy I had was that of the Baptist preacher, and that was not me!

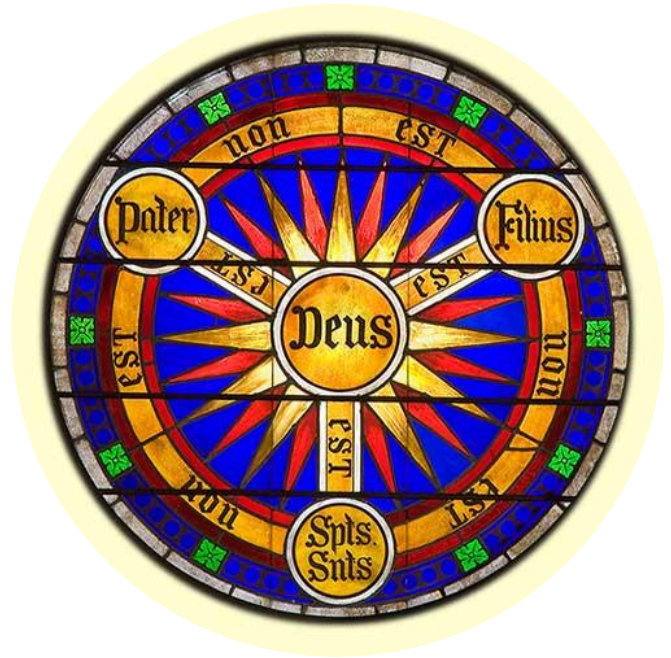
For the most part I set that calling aside and began to pursue other interests. My childhood interest in insects and rocks led me to major in geology in college. I particularly loved the study of natural history and how life evolved over billions of years. It captivated my imagination like few things had. While I grew up in a church that took the Bible literally, in college I began to think about those first chapters of Genesis in a more metaphorical way. That metaphorical interpretation became even stronger when I married my wife, Libby, a cradle Episcopalian, who brought me into a church with a lot more “breathing room,” a lot more openness to different ways of thinking about God and life.

My wife’s continued influence, along with an exceptionally pastoral Episcopal priest, led me into the ordained ministry. In the midst of my pursuit of seminary, however, a conflict arose in my state that changed me, and set me on a journey that I am still traveling. In 1981, the Arkansas Legislature passed a bill calling for equal treatment of creation-science and evolution in the public schools. In 1982, a lawsuit was brought against the state to repeal that law stating that creation-science was not science but religion.

Believing that evolution was the process God used to create us and everything else, I was on the side of those who had brought the lawsuit. Most of my friends, however, were on the other side. They did not believe in evolution at all—even those who had gone to college. I could not understand why. I began to ask

some hard questions. Are science and religion irreconcilable? Do you have to choose one or the other? Or is there some way of bringing the two into some kind of harmony?

I have been searching for answers to those questions for over 30 years. In the past 15 years, and especially since I have been here at Holy Comforter, I have grown in my understanding of God as Trinity to the point that I have finally begun to reconcile science and religion in a way that is life giving. In addition, this understanding of God has helped me reconcile a number of other sets of opposites that have always been problematic, like sacred and profane, material and spiritual, Christianity and other world religions.



What this *Center for Trinitarian Spirituality* proposes is a more encompassing way of seeing God at work in our world. It does not negate the way we have thought about God up until now. Rather, as philosopher Ken Wilber puts it, this new way “transcends and includes” the old way. The old way has been thinking about God as a person. That is a natural way to think about God because God is personal and relational, and the only way we know how to relate is through persons. This reemerging way, however, sees God more as a dynamic cosmic force, a force of love that moves in us and around us. In fact, as Paul puts it, God is “the one in whom we live and move and have
...continued on page 4

continued from page 3

our being.” These two ways of thinking about God, may seem irreconcilable, but in reality they are just the way it is.

Science says much the same thing when it tries to describe a photon of light. Scientists tell us that sometimes it acts like a particle and sometimes it acts like a wave. Which is it? It is both, even though we can't explain it. Sometimes God can act like a person, and sometimes God can act like a flow of love. Which is it? It is both, even though we can't explain it. Not being able to explain it is really a good place to be, because if we could explain God completely, that would not be God!

As theologian Karl Rayner used to put it, “God is incomprehensible Holy Mystery.” We are caught up in that mystery in all kinds of ways. What I hope this Center will do is to help us expand our understanding

of God and become more conscious of God within us and us within God—together.

There are a multitude of efforts to do this going on throughout the world. It is gaining momentum under a lot of different names such as: emerging church, non-dual consciousness, action and contemplation, living in the present moment, etc. We have chosen to use Trinitarian Spirituality because we believe God is at the center of this movement. God is the one leading us to greater consciousness.

As we begin to put this way of seeing God into practice, we invite you to join us in some way. You can participate in a class or prayer group, or you can visit our website or peruse the new “Trinitarian” section in our library. If you have any interest in this initiative, and would like to help, please let me know. I would love to talk with you about it.

Adult Forum 2015-2016

God is Love: Creating Sustaining Uniting

is our programmatic theme this year. When we say **God is love** we are saying more than “God loves us.” We are saying that God is more a verb than a noun, more a flow of love than another object in the universe.

Putting your head around that can be quite discombobulating. When I first heard this in seminary some 30 years ago, it made my head hurt. Please hear this! Proclaiming that **God is Love** does not do away with the truth that **God loves us**. Nor does it do away with our understanding of God as a noun which, by the way, is very helpful in our developing a personal relationship with God. Instead, understanding that God is Love transcends and includes those concepts.

We will introduce and explain what that theme means more fully on kick-off Sunday, September 13th. Then, on the 20th, we will hold a ministry faire, exposing us to the many ways God is at work in our own parish community. On the 27th, Jan Parkin will talk to us about Episcopal Charities, some of the many ways God is working in our diocese including a special note about one of our own that you will want to hear about and celebrate. In October, we “take off” from there.

Adult Forum in September

September 6

No Forum, Labor Day Weekend

September 13

Kick-off Sunday: A brief overview of our theme God is Love: Creating, Sustaining, Uniting

September 20

Ministry Faire: Join us to learn more about the many opportunities for to serve our parish and the community through the Ministries at Holy Comforter

September 27

Jan Parkin will present on Episcopal Charities and the many ways God is at work in our diocese

"What Face of God Do You Need to See Today?"

Pastor Heath Howe, Family Ministries

I stumbled upon this quote again just the other day. I loved it the first time I read it, but over the years I had forgotten it. Sofia Cavalletti, the founder of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, is one of my favorite teachers when it comes to considering how we talk to children about God. Sofia begins with the assumption that each child has a relationship with God that began not in the Sunday school classroom or the sanctuary but in the womb. From the moment of creation the child and God were one. Gorgeous.

What then is our job as parents, grandparents, Godparents, church teachers, youth ministers, and older Christians walking the way of the cross with a younger child of God? What do we teach or share with them? Facts about the history of the church? Sure. Those can be interesting to some of our teenage history buffs. Maybe we need to have them memorize the church catechism as we used to do? That cannot hurt and it offers interesting conversation for the skeptical thirteen-year-old who is beginning to wonder why we do what we do and say what we say each Sunday. Or perhaps reciting Bible chapter and verses would be useful. There are even songs that reference various Bible stories. Maybe they could hum those songs in their heads as they play. All of these ideas are fine and certainly teach a child something about God.

However, these ideas do not really get to the heart of Sofia's question in the end. Her questions beg us to go deeper than fact finding and memorization. First, in her question she reminds of the incarnation. "What *face* of God..." is asked of us. The idea of God having a face reminds us that God is not invisible to us. God can be seen. This face of God can be as mysterious and awe-inspiring as the Grand Canyon or the Pacific Ocean. This face can take our breath away just like a beautiful cello concerto. God's face can be as gentle as the smile of an elderly widow or as tender as a June breeze. God's face is seen in the tears of those forgotten or lost and in the laughter of a new born

giggling for the first time. Finally, when we are brave enough God's face is not invisible at all. God's face is among us and within us.

Secondly, Sofia asks "...is the child telling us he or she *needs* to see?" The word *needs* strikes me. It reminds me that we all have a longing for God deep within us. We do not only want to see God, we need to see God. We need to see the wildly mysterious powerful face of God because it grounds us in our humanity. Seeing the great face of God gives us humility and reminds us that we are not the all-powerful one. We need to see the face of God right next to us in creation, in other people, and in ourselves because without doing so we forget who we are and who others are around us. We forget about love. We need to see love because love is the one thing that frees us from separation, loneliness, fear, or anger. We do desperately need to see the face of God so that we might live.

"What face of God is the child telling us he or she needs to see?" How do we answer this with more than facts about God? First, we listen to the child God has given us. This child could be five, 15, 27, or older. Whoever God has given you to love at this point in your life, listen to them. Listen to the questions they are asking with their words and the ones they are asking with their actions or lack thereof. Second, keep in mind they need to see this face, either grand and awe-inspiring or small and very near. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, answer with your heart. If revealing the face of God is centered in giving and receiving love you are free from worrying about answering "correctly" or getting it "right." When someone is asking to see the face of God, they are asking for love. This Love reminds us all that we are valued, gives us courage, fills us with hope and leaves us free.

What face of God do you need to see today?

ONWARD AND UPWARD! *Charlotte Long, Youth Ministries*

A brand new start with new chances to find God in all the crevices and open doors of Holy Comforter begins again! Here's everything 7th – 12th graders need to know about how they can explore who they are with and in God in our community and with kids their age!

Junior High:

8th Grade Families: Welcome Back! Your child is now Confirmed, but they are not yet in the High School Youth Group. We have lots planned for them this year, so we hope they will continue to get to know our community, the other kids and God in the process.

7th Grade Families: Your child is now entering a 2 year block called by its curriculum name, RITE13. It consists of 7th and 8th graders, meets at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning for 45 minutes and several other times throughout the year for service projects, fun outings and worship opportunities. Please feel free to consider this your child's invitation to all of these events!

Rite13 Families: As some of you may know, Confirmation is only every other year. In between Confirmation Years, we have a gap. This gap year is your child's Service Year. The Service Year prepares Jr. High kids for the responsibility and projects involved with meeting every week for High School Youth Group and the respect given for everyone's time and interests. It teaches them the importance of giving back to the community and the world and to see God in all persons. This Service Year will consist of:

1. Establishing a continued relationship with Church of Our Saviour's Food for Friends Program in Chicago. COS has a long-running, widely-serving hot lunch program for the needy that we have participated in several times before and will continue to be a part of. 2 to 3 visits in 2015-2016.
2. Setting a goal and raising money for Heifer Project International. This non-profit organization is dedicated to eradicating world hunger through the donation of livestock, sustainable agriculture and farm training for 3rd world populations. We've raised over \$5,000 for this worthy cause in the last years, and would like to continue our relationship with them. This happens during Sunday School hours, November through December.

3. A day-long service trip to Chicago's Rogers Park Neighborhood to work with Good News Partners. Good News works with the homeless to give them housing, job training, counseling and nourishment. October, 2015.
4. Plenty of lock-ins, bowling and pizza! Several throughout the year.

While the kids may not view it that way, seeing their classmates every week will indeed grow their relationships with one another! Especially in the church atmosphere. Again, it will be expected of them to attend in High School - so they get another year of practice. Sunday School is also where the real "meat" of their spiritual education often happens, including reflection on their service, their school life and their relationship with God. We know you will encourage them to attend as often as they can! Most Sundays, 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m.

High School: 9th Grade Families: Your teenager is now entering a 4 year block called by its curriculum name, J2A (Journey to Adulthood.) It consists of 9th - 12th graders, and gathers for fellowship, service, reflection and fun! Please feel free to consider this your child's invitation to all of these events! The Holy Comforter J2A Youth Programing consists of 3 core aspects:

1. Sunday School! A little more low-key and still, time to check in and see their classmates every week will help grow their relationships with one another and their own relationship with God. No judgement, no fuss. Sunday School is where the real "meat" of their spiritual education often happens, including reflection on their service, their school life and their relationship with God. We know you will encourage them to attend as often as they can! Most Sundays, 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
2. Youth Group! This is the name by which the teens often refer to themselves, as in, "We Are the Youth Group!" Youth Group is a 2-hour, weekly session that includes dinner and longer fellowship that we don't have time for on Sunday mornings. This can, and may, include everything from outings and games played in the church, to a Spiritual Autobiography from someone in the community, or a prayer walk during Holy Week.

Drop-ins welcome, as well as are friends from outside church! Most Sundays, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Great Hall.

3. Appalachian Service Project! A week-long service trip to the Appalachian Region to visit with communities and re-build homes in need. Trip prep begins during Youth Group in April; the trip is scheduled for the week after school gets out.

We are so excited to get this year rolling! More formal invites will be shared as they are ready. If you have not received an email from me and your child is in 7th–

12th grade, please email me as soon as possible at cbllong@hollycomforter.org. If you have a High School-aged child, please give me the email your teen would like to be contacted at; I often send them little reminders on upcoming events so they aren't dependent on you!

Mark your calendars:

September 13th: 1st day of Sunday School!

September 20th: First Day of Youth Group!

Stephen Ministry *The Meaning of the Stephen Ministry Logo*



The logo tells the story of a person's journey from brokenness to wholeness through the transforming power of the cross of Jesus.

The **CROSS** is the dominant part of the logo to remind us that Christ is at the center of Stephen Ministry relationships.

The **BROKEN PERSON** symbolizes how we are all broken people with imperfections and problems.

The **WHOLE PERSON** in front of the cross signifies the wholeness we encounter through the transforming power of the cross of Jesus and our

connection with each other through Christ.

The **CIRCLE** is a symbol of God's eternal and never-ending love for us.

Stephen Ministry is Christ Caring for People through People.

If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time and would benefit from having someone to listen and give spiritual support on a confidential basis, please consider a Stephen Minister. If you have any questions or would like to discuss a Stephen Minister relationship, please call **Carrie Smart**, Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator 847-501-3954 or Stephen Leader Team Coordinator, **Jean Britt** 847-256-2372.

The Power of Music *Derek Nickels, Director of Music*

Music has always been a powerful force, tapping our emotions that range from one extreme to another. Music is also a healing force that transcends all human boundaries and differences, for it speaks directly to our souls. In our fast-paced society where we are all so stressed out from all of the forces around us, music is a wonderful opportunity of spiritual healing. For that reason alone, music is a very powerful equalizing force. We all have souls regardless of our differences that need the nourishing and healing touch of music.

In order for the music at Holy Comforter to be powerful and exciting, we need you. If you sing, you are more than welcome to join the choir. Everyone, including high school students, is welcome to join the Adult Choir. There is no audition required, just simply

a desire to sing. We rehearse our anthems and hymns on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. with fun and fellowship included. Our Junior and Youth Choirs also rehearse Thursday afternoons as well: 3:50 to 4:30 for the Junior Choir and 5:30 to 6:30 for the Youth Choir.

Our special musical offerings of Advent Lessons and Carols in December and Lenten Evensong this coming February will be opportunities for you to join us for a special occasion. If you have other musical talents and play an instrument, I would love to hear from you. It would be wonderful to be able to include our congregational talents from time to time at the 9:00 service.

Creating Lifelong Learners *Mary Johnson, Director, Children's Ministries & ATB&B*



In the world of education, there is an important tenet that we try and instill in the children at All Things Bright and Beautiful and

in the Sunday School Chapel: *you are a Lifelong Learner*. So many times the educational endeavor seems more focused on the specific lesson of the day, the teacher's goals, or worst of all – teaching to the test! As adults, most of us have one or two disciplines that we would say we know very well. We consider that the “learning” took place in school and now we are in the practice of applying what we have learned. And we all have our individual ways of learning. Dr. Howard Gardner originally identified eight specific abilities or intelligences as he called them, and later added the ninth. They are: musical-rhythmic, visual-spatial, verbal-linguistic, logical-mathematical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalistic, and existential-moral.

If we open our options to the familiar saying “you learn something new every day” and we are intentional about accomplishing that, what would that look like for you? Think of something that you'd like to try and then schedule it into your week. It may require stepping out of your comfort zone. Maybe strike up a conversation with a perfect stranger while visiting a new city, or even in your daily commute. For me, not a problem. However I know many individuals for whom that would be a huge step out of the comfort zone! It drives my husband crazy that I can strike up a conversation in a lobby, in an elevator, sitting next to

someone in a ball park ...or just about any setting for that matter. I love finding out something about the people I happen to be around.

I think learning is one of the greatest joys in life. As a teacher, when you see the light bulb go on for a child, the face lights up, and there is the discernable “aha” moment, it is truly magical. When do we allow ourselves as adults to seek out those moments? Many professions require Continuing Education credits and in my experience, I haven't had too many “aha” moments while meeting those requirements. It has always seemed rather predictable. There is one regular experience in my week where I am so grateful to learn something new. That is when I come here to Holy Comforter and hear the wonderful, insightful, informative, and formative messages in the weekly homily.

We have some of the most gifted and inspirational clergy here that never fail to open my mind and heart to a new way of seeing things. It contributes to my personal goal of being a Lifelong Learner. The fact that learning happens in this loving, nurturing, and open hearted community is the bonus.

As we begin the academic and parish program year this September, I wish you a year of learning more about yourself, your family, your community and this beautiful world that surrounds us. One of the explanations of the saying “you learn something new every day” is that you are struck by something painfully obvious that you never noticed before. I wonder when that might happen for you.

Some Beautiful Days in the CHC Neighborhood!

Here are some dates for your calendar! Look for the full Parish Mailing in your mailbox soon.

September

- 3 ATB&B Parent Partnership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Vestry meeting
- 7 Labor Day: Offices closed
- 8 - 11 ATB&B Transition week
- 13 Return to full liturgical and formation schedule
- 20 Ministries Faire, Church School Presentation
- 16 Fr. Chris' Adult classes begin, 9:45 a.m.
- 26 Youth Choir Outing and Sleepover
- 27 Youth Choir to Sing at 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

October

- 3 Vestry Meeting & Lucille Donation Pick-up 9:30
- 5 Canvass Mailing
- 11 Columbus Day; No Formation Classes
- 12 Columbus Day; Offices closed, no ATB&B
- 17 Fall Festival & Blessing of the Pets
- 23 Fall Fellowship Dinner
- 25 Fair Trade Event Adult Forum
- 25 Pumpkin carving 4:00 p.m.
- 30 Episcopal Charities Bishop's Ball:
Honoring Pat Drew

Fall....Stewardship.....Reality *Marc Franson, Stewardship and Canvass*

September. Fall. Back to School. Vacation's over. Cooler Weather. Reality has set in! For Holy Comforter, it also means time to refocus on our stewardship theme of Reality, Spirituality and Community.

The reality is that the church must pay its bills, fund its program, pay staff and maintain the physical plant. The reality also is that the parish budget is reliant on the generosity of our members to meet our financial needs. Thank you to those who have remained faithful to their pledge during the summer months! To all, we encourage your prompt fulfillment of your pledge.

From a stewardship perspective, as our every member canvass draws closer, we will provide you with more information about our parish finances and will respond to your questions. But for starters, a couple of things to ponder:

1. Like many churches, a small number of pledging units funds a large proportion of the budget- each

of us needs to consider our giving and how we can keep our community vibrant.

2. Ignore the natural tendency to "do the same as last year."
3. Treat stewardship as a spiritual matter- giving back in gratitude to a generous God who has provided us with so much.

At canvass time, we always hear the rumblings that the church is always asking for money. Not so. There is never any admission charge to liturgies of poignant homilies, exquisite music and cheerful fellowship. Our doors are always open. Our clergy minister at all hours. In fact, the only time we really ask for money is at canvass time --when we ask you to pledge yourself, your time and your treasures to the service of Almighty God and the community we call Holy Comforter.

Reality is back. Fall is here. Canvass is coming. Consider your offering and commitment to Christ's kingdom, this community and your own soul.

Lucille On-the-Spot Pick-Up: Saturday, October 3rd



Lucille
resale reinvented

Save the Date and your gently used items! On Saturday, October 3, from 9:30 a.m. until noon, Holy

Comforter will, once again, participate in Lucille Resale Shop's "On the Spot Pick-Up." A large truck and two moving/loading assistants will be on hand to make sure your goods are loaded with care and on their way to "greener pastures," being resold to raise money for Holy Family Ministries. Donors will receive receipts for tax purposes.

All profits from Lucille support Holy Family's school and youth programs serving children from low-income communities on Chicago's West Side. Founded in 1985, Holy Family School is a high-performing Pre-K-8 elementary school, as well as after school and summer programs. All programs take place in the Holy Family Ministries Center at 3415 West Arthington Street in Chicago.

Lucille is most happy to accept the following items at our "On the Spot Pick-Up" on October 3rd:

Yes, please...

Clothing: men's and women's
Accessories: jewelry, handbags, scarves, and shoes
Housewares, furniture and home décor and books

Thanks, but no...

Items damaged or missing pieces
Children's clothing
Car seats, strollers, cribs and high chairs
Mattress, box springs, sleeper sofas
Pianos

Please take advantage of this special opportunity to donate your unused items and raise money for a very good cause: the children served by Holy Family Ministries and Holy Family School. Hope to see you, and your treasures there on the 3rd! Of course, coffee and doughnuts will be served.

It Took a Village!



 All Things
Bright and
Beautiful

Good Morning God!
With Love & Gratitude
Dedicated August 30, 2015

Bright
&
Beautiful
BASH

In the Vineyard

It is with deep sorrow that we pass on the sad news that long-time parishioner Gloria Polydoris died on Tuesday, August 11, in Palm Desert at the age of 85. Our prayers and love go out to Nick, her husband of 62 years, as well as to Susan Hall, Lynn George, and Steve Polydoris, and their families. May God embrace Gloria with peace, joy, and wholeness, and comfort the family with hope and loving memories.

Blessings be upon Jane and Peter Kelly on the birth of their newest grandchild! Hunter James Kelly was born on Thursday, August 6th, in San Francisco, weighing in at 6 lbs, 13 oz., and even though he was a couple of weeks early, he is doing great. Hunter is the son of Jim and Kristen Kelly, and his excited sisters are Olivia and Caroline. Congratulations to the entire extended Kelly clan!

And congratulations also to Beth Kemp on the birth of her newest great grandchild! Kira Leigh Brandstetter was born on July 19 in Cleveland to parents Jennifer and Stephen Brandstetter. The proud grandparents are Michelle and Harry Moore. May God's blessings be showered on all four generations of the family, and especially upon Kira.

We also rejoice in the birth of Charlotte Anne Holden on July 25 at Prentice Women's Hospital in Chicago. Charlotte is the daughter of Ed and Kathleen Holden, and the little sister of Abigail. She weighed in at an even 8 pounds, and grandparents Bill and Pam McGaghie are in seventh heaven at her healthy and safe arrival. Welcome, Charlotte, and grace and joy be with the entire family!

Church of the Holy Comforter

222 Kenilworth Avenue

Kenilworth, IL 60043

847.251.6120

To read more about our parish or to register for a parish event, please visit www.holycomforter.org.