



# THE THREE CROWNS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF THE EPIPHANY



**31 October 2016**  
[www.3crowns.org](http://www.3crowns.org)



## Is Technology Hindering Us?



There are certain

alive right now. The rapid increase in the quality of our tech products are monumental. I take for granted the fact that today I have more computing power in my pocket than NASA had in 1970 and while they landed a man on the moon, I'm still working on figuring out the Domino's app.

In five seconds I can call someone in India, connect them to a person in Australia, Facetime with my friends in LA, and order flowers for my cousin in Atlanta, and I'm no tech genius.

So you'd imagine with all of these avenues we would have completely eradicated any chance of living insulated in a bubble surrounded by people just like us, right? Not exactly. I noticed during last week's

<b>Monday, 31 October</b>	
9:00am	Parent/Toddler Group
6:00pm & 7:30pm	AA
<b>Tuesday, 1 November</b>	
7:15am	Men's Group
9:30am	Holy Eucharist with Healing
6:00pm	Pray the Parish Prayer List
7:00pm	Prayer Team Meeting
7:30pm	Property Committee

powered by iContact

7:30am	Holy Eucharist
<b>Thursday, 3 November</b>	
9:30am	Bible Study
5:30pm	Chorister Rehearsal
7:30pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday, 4 November</b>	
	Diocesan Convention
<b>Saturday, 5 November</b>	
	Diocesan Convention
7:30pm	Skylark Concert
<b>Sunday, 6 November</b>	
8:00am	Holy Eucharist
8:45am	Fellowship
9:00am	The Word Today, Lectionary Discussion
9:45am	Youth Formation Class
10:00am	Holy Eucharist & Baptism
10:00am	Children's Worship

presidential debate, that everything I saw my friends post on Facebook was fiercely feminist, anti-Trump rhetoric.

Now this doesn't make sense. How is it that out of my 2,100 Facebook friends, none of them seem to support a candidate that (as of right now) 40% of our country stands behind?

11:15am	Adult Formation Class
11:15am	Children's Ministry Comm
11:30am	Genesis Youth Group
12:00pm	Older Adults Group
6:00pm	All Souls Requiem
7:45pm	Election Prayer Service

Well, it turns out that's not the case. I have a number of Republican friends and a few Trump fans, but Facebook has certain algorithms that filter out posts they feel the user won't enjoy. The result is an entire news-feed where I'm constantly bombarded with Maya Angelou quotes and what a wonderful president Obama is, while on the other side, my Republican friends see nothing but posts about missing emails and Benghazi.

The fact is, the bubbles which were supposed to be shed with this new age of communication ended up being reinforced. People like me stroll through life being inundated with information that only confirms our beliefs. As a result, our beliefs only grow more hardened.

Now you may ask, "What's the problem with that?" Staying in our comfort zone is an alluring prospect and it comes with many perks. The more comfortable we are, the less we question, the less we question the more self-assured we are in our knowledge of the world, the more self-assured we are the more comfortable we allow ourselves to get, and we're back to the top of the cycle.

A diverse collection of people, attitudes, and beliefs will promise better results than a homogeneous collection of like-minded folks.

If we can come to terms as a community with the fact that our technology may be hindering us from being more diverse, and that the idea of having people with different viewpoints, backgrounds, and ideas together enriches our work and offers a wider perspective, we should be on the right path.



powered by  iContact



MISSION  
&  
OUTREACH

## Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Council of Social Concern



The mission statement for the [Council of Social Concern](#) (CSC) is "*Neighbors Helping Neighbors.*" CSC is supported by and serves residents in Woburn and Winchester. This year the shelves of their food pantry are desperately low.

Epiphany will, once again, participate in the CSC's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Last year, Epiphany collected approximately 70 bags of food.

This year, the Mission & Outreach Committee and the Genesis Youth Group hope to double or even triple that number!

Helping is easy. The list of needed food can be found here and, as well, as there are copies in the office. The food will be collected at the 8:00 and 10:00 worship services on November 13th. You can bring up your bags of food with your annual pledge card at our pledge ingathering. There will be plenty of folks available to help carry bags. Donations can also be brought in prior to the 13th, but all items must be at the Church before 15 November.

Let us show our thankfulness this holiday season for all of our blessings by helping our neighbors in need.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to this effort and to all of our Mission & Outreach work.



powered by  iContact

**THANK YOU BRUNCH AT ST. STEPHEN'S**  
Sunday, November 20th from 12:00pm to 1:30pm  
St. Stephen's Church  
419 Shawmut Avenue, Boston

St. Stephen's Youth Programs wants to say thank you and show us their new kitchen!

*All are invited to Sunday morning worship on the 20th at 10:30am*



## Nominations for Vestry and More

The Parish of the Epiphany seeks men and women of all ages, backgrounds, passions, and skills to serve on our governing board (the Vestry), and as delegates to our annual diocesan convention. If you are interested in learning more about these leadership positions, or if you know of others whom we should invite please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: [Reid Boswell](#), [Thom Fries](#), or [Brenda Reishus](#).



**Sunday, 30 October at 11:15am**

Come join us in the Upper Parish Hall following our 10:00am worship for coffee, treats, friendship, and conversation. Children are welcome to wear their costumes.



On Sunday, 23 October we kicked off this year's Commitment Campaign, of which the theme is *Listen. Pray. Go.*

The theme is inspired by Micah Chapter 6, Verse 8: *What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.*



From this scripture we have drawn three directives: LISTEN to scripture and to one another; PRAY by speaking with and listening for God; GO serve others, make disciples, and live with abundance.

Over the next few Sundays we are hearing testimonials from Epiphany members about their experience with becoming more faithful, prayerful, and active in the church and in the world.

During our kickoff week we heard a marvelous testimonial from Andy and Charlene Sanna, when Charlene noted, *"And for me; walking through these doors, whether it be for Sunday Service or participating in some of the many ways to give here, Epiphany is respite for my soul. I can leave my burdens elsewhere. Here, I can renew."*

If you would like to contribute online using our new website, simply [click here](#).



## Have You Heard

Epiphany member Charles Brown Ketcham has published *Finding Fellini*, an autobiographical and photographic book of the great Italian film director, Federico Fellini.

powered by iContact

Congratulations to Reed Aldrich, Jack Degnan, Jacob Hickey, Julia Keating, Christopher Rappole, and William Sullivan who were confirmed by Bishop Gates into the Episcopal Church on Saturday, 29 October.

Epiphany's Women's Spirituality Group that has been meeting regularly sponsored a retreat in September at Adelynrood Retreat Center in Byfield, MA. Ten women gathered led by Carol Watson, Gayle Pershouse, Sandra LaPerche, and Miriam Gelfer. We prayed, chanted, read poetry, and reflected on our lives and our faith claiming our wisdom as older women discerning where God might be leading us in the next chapter of our lives.



## Everything you always wanted to know about All Saints' and All Souls'

During a lively conversation in staff meeting it was crystal clear to me that we held several ideas about the meaning and the evolution of this week's holy days. With thanks to N.T. Wright, the website of the Diocese of West Missouri, and our Prayer Book, I compiled these Frequently Asked Questions (NOT!). [Click here.](#)

At the bottom of the FAQ's there are a couple of suggestions for keeping the days with children. Enjoy.

NOVEMBER 1

*All Saints*  
*All Souls*

NOVEMBER 2



## All Saints Sunday Necrology

If you have a loved one whom you would like to have remembered in our prayers on All Saints Sunday, 6 November, please [click here](#) to submit his/her name to be included in remembrance.



## Prayer Vigil for Election

We'll join other sisters and brothers throughout the Commonwealth (in both our diocese and in Western Massachusetts) in committing ourselves to praying

continuously before and during Election Day, November 8th. At Epiphany we'll start 48 hours of prayer with a prayer service at 7:45pm on Sunday, November 6th (at the conclusion of the YPF meeting...to which all are invited), and we'll continue



## Pray with us!

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of this land in the election of officials and representatives, that by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all might be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. [Book of Common Prayer, p. 812]

**Election Prayer Vigil: Nov. 6-8**

praying throughout the day on Monday (the Chapel of Praise will be set up for you to stop by, or to commit to a specific time), and Tuesday, concluding with Evening Prayer at 7:00pm on Tuesday evening. More information about making this a spiritual practice for your household will be forthcoming. Of course praying now is also good.

For more information on the Diocese of Massachusetts Prayer Vigil [click here](#).

### **Prayers at Epiphany**

7:45pm on Sunday, 6 November - Prayer Service led by members of YPF Youth Group

Monday and Tuesday, 7 and 8 November - Chapel is open during the day for personal prayer

7:00pm on Tuesday, 8 November - Evening Prayer



### **All Saints Requiem**

**Sunday, 6 November at 6:00pm at Christ Church in Hamilton**

*A Story of Ongoing Musical Collaboration, Requiem Opportunity*

On 6 November 2016 at 6:00pm, Parish Choirs of Parish of the Epiphany and Christ Church Hamilton & Wenham will be singing Gabriel Fauré's setting of a Solemn

requiem departed.



The collaboration with Christ Church Hamilton & Wenham is important because it shows how the music ministry at Parish of the Epiphany can partner, collaborate, and reach out into the community to share the beauty and grace that we experience every week.

Dr. Jack Russell, Director of Music at Christ Church Hamilton & Wenham, is also Professor Emeritus of Music at The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio. Upon his retirement, he and his wife,

Susan, an Episcopal Priest, relocated to Massachusetts. As a result of Jack's extensive experience, he has been instrumental in reaching out to support and encourage his colleagues in this part of the Diocese. As a result, Christ Church has collaborated on a number of occasions with Church Church Andover, St. John's Gloucester, and others.

Since my arrival at Epiphany in August of 2014, as part of the strategic plan set forth by the Search Committee, Vestry, and Rector, there has been a desire that Parish of the Epiphany use its musical talents and gifts. This has become an important priority. As a result, my relationship with Jack Russell, the Skylark Vocal Ensemble, and numerous other individuals and professional organizations has been cultivated and continues to develop. Actually, the emergence of *Music at 3 Crowns* is an expression of this vision. Our ability to promote high quality musical offerings, not

only on Sunday mornings, has become an important way of how we at the Parish of the Epiphany share our gifts and talents beyond.

Our Parish Choir, Choristers, Thursday evening Chorister dinners, regular Evensong offerings, Lessons & Carols, along with the partnerships we continue to develop through my roles with the Association of Anglican Musicians, Old West Organ Society, and the American Guild of Organists are ways that Parish of the Epiphany is able to share the love, hope, and beauty that our music ministry is able to give.



This is a story of how music can be used to reach into our collective hearts to share and experience how God's love can help us join together with one voice in this community and beyond.

Praise be to God,

David D. Eaton, Director of Music & Organist



Join Skylark Ensemble in their inaugural "Skylark Spotlight Series," a new sub-series showcasing the diverse musical talents within Skylark. On Saturday, 5 November at 7:30pm, Skylark Soprano Jessica Petrus brings friends Nathaniel Cox (Theorbo and Cornetto) and Heinrich Christensen (Organ), to Parish of the Epiphany. Together, they will perform early music treasures by Henry Purcell, Barbara Strozzi, Tarquinio Merula, and feature a new work by Epiphany's own parishioner and composer Louise Munding.



## Music Notes from Yesterday Morning

*David Eaton, Director of Music and Organist, offered the following notes regarding the music that was sung at the 10:00am worship yesterday.*

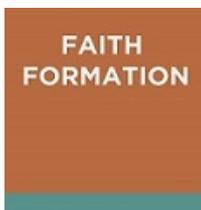
The offertory anthem was, *There's a wideness in God's Mercy*, the text of which is by Frederick William Faber (1814-1863) and set to music by Maurice Bevan based on the tune *Corvedale*. We are also familiar with this text in our 1982 Hymnal to the musical setting *St. Helena* by Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) #469, and *Beecher* to the musical John Zundel (1815-1882), #470. I believe the Parish of the Epiphany is quite familiar with #470 along with the tune written by Calvin Hampton.

In his work among the poor, first in London and then in Birmingham, Faber knew the need to plead with people who themselves felt rejected by society and by the respectable and judgmental churches around them. His hymn expresses his message to such people with a mixture of themes. In this selection of verses from the longer hymn he pleads with them not to limit their thoughts of how great God's love can be; he points to the suffering of Christ on our behalf. In more controversial mode he says that we limit that love by imagining that God is stricter on our sins than is really true. It is probably truer that for much of the time it is we ourselves who are soft on our sins. It is doubtful, too, whether all Christians would recognize his description of their lives in the last verse. For much of the time the Christian pilgrimage is a hard trudge with little light as we 'walk by faith and not by sight' (*2 Corinthians 5: 7*). Nevertheless, this hymn says some important things with simplicity and directness.

The tune was written by Maurice Bevan to be sung in St Paul's Cathedral. He had been in the choir for forty years. It is named after the area in Shropshire around the River Corve and near the village of Stanton Lacey where his father had been vicar. It is set here in an anthem arrangement, but the sweetness of the tune is still plainly heard, and carries those unique words.



powered by  iContact



## Adult Formation Class

The Adult Formation class meets Sundays at 11:15am in Hadley Hall. If you have any questions, suggestions, or are interested in joining the Adult Formation Committee please contact [Rich Goldhor](#).

## Adult Faith Formation Classes Starting in October



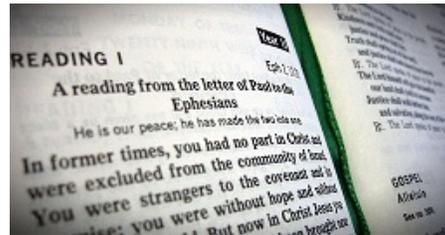
work as a calling and how their faith informs what they do. The second week will continue with more engaging stories from parishioners about their faith and their life's work.

Sunday, 13 November: *Bishop Gayle Harris* will join us to talk about how parishes in our Diocese may form partnerships with parishes and Institutions in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.



## The Word Today: Discussion of Today's Lectionary

On Sunday get some coffee in Hadley Hall and join us for Bible study and conversation based on the day's readings. We start at 9:00 and finish at 9:45am. We gather in the library for a member-led, relaxed, and friendly study of the day's lectionary readings intended to connect our faith journeys with the texts



powered by iContact



## Bible Study



### Thursday Bible Study Weekly at 9:30am in the Suter Room

Do you like to make friends and discuss ideas? Are you interested in learning more about Holy Scripture, and how it inspires and challenges your faith? This fall every Thursday morning from 9:30-11:00am, we will focus on of the Gospel of Matthew. As a reference the group will use *An Introduction to the New Testament* by Raymond E. Brown.

This group is known for deep thinking, strong coffee, and tasty snacks. We begin and end session with prayer. Friendship and learning abound.



### **Mark Your Calendar - Dates To Note**

Tuesday, 1 November - All Saints Day Holy Eucharist and Healing, 9:30am

Friday and Saturday, 4 and 5 November - Diocesan Convention

Saturday, 5 November - Skylark Spotlight Concert, 7:30pm

Sunday, 6 November - Holy Eucharist with Baptisms, 10:00am

Sunday, 6 November - All Saints Requiem and Mass, 6:00pm at Christ Church in Wenham

Sunday, 6 November - Election Prayer Service, 7:45pm

Monday and Tuesday, 7 and 8 November - Prayer Vigil in the Chapel, 9:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday, 8 November - Election Day Evening Prayer, 7:00pm



powered by  iContact

Sunday, 13 November - Ingathering Brunch, 11:15am with guest Bishop Gayle Harris

Wednesday, 16 November - Vestry Meeting, 7:30pm

Thursday, 17 November - Parish Potluck Supper and Apple Pie Baking, 5:00pm-9:00pm

Saturday, 19 November - Pastoral Care Retreat, 9:00am

Tuesday, 22 November - St. Stephen's Turkey Wahoo



## For more information

Our website can be found [here](#)

Information on our Worship Services can be found [here](#)

If you are new to Epiphany, click [here](#)

Our complete Parish calendar can be found [here](#)

Sign-up for on line pledge payments [here](#)