



The Scroll

Volume 45, Issue 10 November 2025

Reflections from the Rector:

At our recent annual Diocesan Clergy Conference, I was reminded of the deep gift it is simply to stop and praise God. The days were filled not so much with meetings or lectures, but with prayer, singing, reflection, and fellowship. There was space to be renewed. I found myself returning to the familiar words many of us learned early in our childhoods which we sing each Sunday:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...

Those words remind us that everything we have - our homes, our relationships, our gifts and talents, even the breath that fills our lungs - is a blessing from God. When we pause to recognize that truth, we begin to see the world differently. We loosen our grip on what we fear we may lose and step more fully into the abundant life God offers. Praise shifts our mindset from scarcity to gratitude, from worry to trust.

As Christians, we are also storytellers of this abundance. Our faith is rooted in the great story God has told across generations: from the creation of the world, through the voices of the prophets, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Yet that story did not end at the empty tomb. It continues in us - here, now. Like Mary, the mother of Jesus, who proclaimed, "Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!" or Mary Magdalene who ran from the tomb to share the Good News, we too are bearers of God's story.

This is why stewardship is not simply about fundraising or budgets - it is about telling the story of God's love with our lives. When we give, we are saying with our actions what we believe in our hearts: that God has given us more than enough, that we trust God to continue providing, and that we want to participate in God's ongoing work of hope, healing, and transformation.

So this month, as you consider your stewardship pledge, I invite you to do so prayerfully. Ask yourself: *What is the Good News that God is writing in my life? What blessings have I received that I am called to share? How is God inviting me to "tell out my soul" in love, service, and generosity?*

May we, together, praise God with grateful hearts and continue the story God is telling through us at St. Bart's.

Blessings,
Joseph+

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Senior Warden's Corner

How wonderful it was to see our lawns filled with orange and parents & children searching for the perfect pumpkin in October. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and gave of their time and their talents to serve at the Pump-kin Patch. It truly did take an army!

Now we look forward with the spirit of expectation as the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons quickly approach. This newsletter is full of exciting opportunities to fellowship and grow in our relationships with both the Lord and one another. Make time to live, laugh, & breath.

Jackie Raeth

2025 Vestry

<i>Jackie Raeth</i>	-----	<i>Sr. Warden</i>
<i>Bobbie Quinn</i>	-----	<i>Jr. Warden</i>
<i>Zeny Vo</i>	-----	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Kathy Ives</i>	-----	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>John Doughty</i>		<i>Charles Duchscher</i>
<i>Joyce Feenstra</i>		<i>MaryAnne Good</i>
<i>Barb McCall</i>		<i>Mary Beth Pierucci</i>

Lisa Russ

Scroll Editor: Janice Furman

Please submit articles by the 20th of the month by e-mail to:

admin@saintbart.org

Any suggestions? Submit to same.

About St. Bartholomew's

We are called to be an inclusive community where all may encounter God's love. God strengthens, nourishes, and speak to us through scripture, tradition, and reason.

Our worship services are fully accessible in person and online, supplemented by a variety of other opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. We welcome the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as we seek to follow Christ.

With God's help, we seek to share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ through our outreach and social justice ministries.

All have a place here.

- *St. Bartholomew's Vision Statement*

Beloved,

November has arrived and a new season begins. With grateful hearts, we tell out our story, begin to prepare for a celebratory time of Thanksgiving, and embark on our pilgrimage through the Holy time of Advent.

As our day by day guide on our journey through Advent, we have chosen the devotional booklet, "I Witness". These booklets will be made available to you on Sunday, November 23rd. The Advent Adult Formation discussion series begins on November 30th.

Forward Movement has this to say about "I Witness":

"Many of us have heard the story of Jesus' birth, but have we lived inside it? Episcopal priest Kate Moorehead invites us to enter the story of salvation with our hearts and minds wide open, experiencing the miracle of Jesus through the eyes of witnesses: Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary,

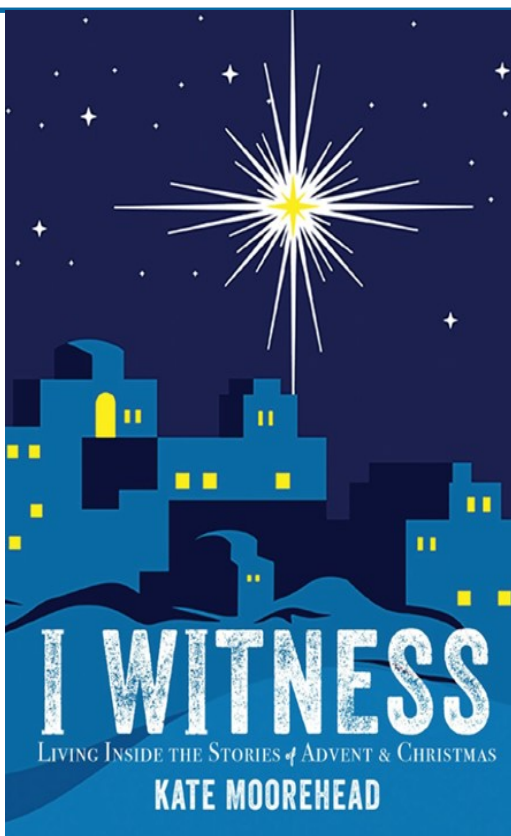
Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men, and others. And, Moorehead encourages us to bear witness ourselves - both then and now - to the marvel and majesty of a babe born in a manger, of Christ our King. "

Come and See. We will walk this path together.....sharing our experiences along the way.

Also, on the increasingly near horizon is the date for our **2nd Blue Christmas Service. SAVE THE DATE! Thursday, December 18th at 7:00 PM.** Stay tuned for more information.

I look forward to experiencing this deeply spiritual season with you all.

Peace,
Deacon Pam



St. Bart's ADVENT WREATH MAKING



**Sunday, November 23
9:00 a.m.**

As we get ready for Advent, all ages are invited to a festive morning of **Advent Wreath Making** on **Sunday, Nov 23rd at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.**

This joyful gathering takes the place of Sunday School that day and is designed for **children and adults together.**

Making an Advent wreath before the season begins helps us **prepare our homes and hearts for Christ's coming.** Each week of Advent, one more candle is lit - growing brighter as Christmas approaches - reminding us of **hope, peace, joy, and love.**

This event is free, but please RSVP so we can have enough materials: admin@saintbart.org

The First Sunday of Advent is November 30, and we look forward to beginning the season with wreaths we've made together here at St. Bart's.

Celebration Sunday - November 16th

On Sunday, Nov 16th, we will gather at St. Bart's Episcopal Church for Celebration Sunday, our annual stewardship ingathering and a time to give thanks for the abundance God has entrusted to us.

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, we'll continue the celebration with a parish potluck luncheon. Please bring a dish to share as we gather around the table in gratitude for one another and for the ministries we share.

This special day invites us to renew our commitment to God's work through St. Bart's and to rejoice in the community that sustains and inspires us.



THE BELLS ARE RINGING AGAIN AT ST. BART'S!



St. Bart's Handbell Choir

**MEETS WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM
ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF
THE PARISH HALL**

ALL ARE WELCOME – COME JOIN THE FUN!



St Barts
Episcopal Church
of North Augusta

**Questions? Contact Scott MacMurray at
jscottmacmeng@gmail.com**



HELP NEEDED SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

We're laying the stone pavers for our new labyrinth in the Meadow Meditation Garden. Join us at 10 a.m. to be part of this special project—bring gloves, shovels, wheelbarrows, tools if you have them, and a willing spirit!



If you can come, please text YES to (803) 913-9340 so that we know who will be there.



**Brunch with
Brenda Martinez
Saturday -
November 22nd
at 10:00 a.m.**

We're delighted to welcome Brenda Martinez, who directs a healthcare ministry in Ecuador that St. Bart's has faithfully supported for many years. Brenda's ministry brings hope and healing to those in need, combining compassionate medical care with a deep sense of faith and community.

Join us for a **free brunch at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 22**, as Brenda shares stories and updates from her work. She'll also have handcrafted items from Ecuador available for purchase - beautiful pieces that make wonderful Christmas gifts and directly support her ministry.

Everyone is welcome! Please sign up in the Parish Hall so we can plan for food. To learn more about Brenda and her ministry, visit

[https://
sendmelord123.blogspot.com/2025/10/
a-healthy-outside-starts-from-inside.html](https://sendmelord123.blogspot.com/2025/10/a-healthy-outside-starts-from-inside.html).

Food Drive

for Community Ministry of North Augusta

We're collecting non-perishable food items for Community Ministry of North Augusta's food pantry!

Food items accepted here through November 18th

Learn more about CMONA at www.cmona.org

Examples of items needed:

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna
- Jiffy Cornbread Mix
- Sugar (small packages)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly (grape/strawberry/etc.)
- Grits (individual packages)
- Oatmeal (individual packages)
- Canned Fruits & Veggies
- Cereal (for kids & for adults)

Please ensure that all items are new, unopened, and unexpired.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to Community Ministry of North Augusta and mail to:

Community Ministry of North Augusta
PO Box 7152
North Augusta, SC 29861

Or scan the QR code to donate online!

Scan to give online:





THE CHRISTMAS STORY COMES ALIVE AT ST. BART'S

Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m.
Kids welcome to join the pageant

CALLING ALL SHEPHERDS, ANGELS, AND WISE ONES

This Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m. we will have something very special - a **Children's Christmas Pageant** at St. Bart's! We're so excited to bring the Nativity story to life together.

If your child or grandchild would like to take part - in any role, big or small - please let Fr. Joseph (priest@saintbart.org) know by November 10th. We'll keep it simple, joyful, and filled with the spirit of Christmas. Come be part of the fun - and help us celebrate the story of Jesus' birth in a way only our kids can!

THANK YOU

St. Bart's family and friends, for your generosity! Because of you, our Holiday House Market brought joy to hundreds and will bless countless lives through our outreach ministries. Stay tuned for our total raised - and more opportunities to continue blessing our neighbors in Christ's love.

Christmas Choir Forming for Christmas Eve Service

This year we'll gather a **Christmas Choir** to sing at the **11 PM Christmas Eve service**. Whether you have choir experience or just love Christmas music, you are warmly invited!

Our Organist and Choirmaster, **Jessie Jones**, needs **9 voices (6 women and 3 men)** to form the choir. So far, we have 5 people who have signed up, so we just need 4 more - 2 women and 2 men. The choir will sing **one anthem** and lead **Christmas carols** during the service.

Rehearsals: **2-3 times in December** (dates TBD)
Experience: **Not required!**

To join, please contact Jessie Jones (music@saintbart.org). Let's fill St. Bart's with joyful song this Christmas!



STEWARDSHIP AT WORK

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” Anne Frank

Year to Date receipts through September, 2025:

	OPERATING FUND		
	Actual	Need	Difference
Pledge	\$ 189,091.42	\$ 195,529.82	\$ - 6,438.40
Other	\$ 20,156.64	\$ 11,702.91	\$ 8,453.73
TOTAL	\$ 209,248.06	\$ 207,232.73	\$ 2,015.33

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If you are a member who has not pledged, please consider doing so. Just contact the church office, get a pledge card, and drop it in the offering plate. Pledges are welcome at any time during the year.



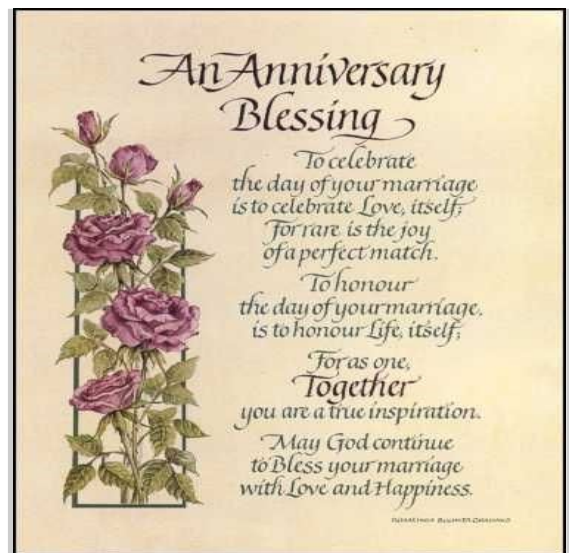
A Wish and a Prayer

When you wish upon a birthday candle, God hears it as a prayer. These dreams of your heart ascend to His heart, where they ignite in hope. Hope for happy days ahead, for making more good memories. Hope for loved ones coming together, sharing smiles and stories and hugs. For reasons to celebrate – big and small – and for joy upon joy. Each candle, like each

year of your life, represents God's faithful care for you. He is always working things together for your good, bringing you more grace, making your hopes and dreams come true.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Larry Harper	16 Martha Potter
3 Charlie Creech	16 Barb McCall
4 Barb Rectenwald	24 Debra Jones
10 Dean Bouchard	24 Julie Bush
11 Vera Russ	29 Jim Scott
11 Liam Jones	30 Connor Kirkland
12 Laura Ann Whitaker	
12 Trey Langston	
14 Lisa Russ	



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

05 Mark & Robin Petry
29 Larry & Tranis Harper



We invite you to purchase altar flowers in *Loving Memory of* or in *Thanksgiving of*, by signing up for a Sunday in the Flower Book, located in the Narthex. or by contacting Janice at admin@saintbart.org. The cost is \$45 and may be paid by cash or check, earmarked "altar flowers" in the Sunday collection, or by text-to-give: Text SAINTBART Flowers \$45 to 73256 using your text messaging. Standard rates do apply.

Pastoral Emergencies

All pastoral concerns including:
hospitalizations, illnesses, deaths, child concerns, or relationship issues
may go directly to Father Joseph via his secured email at priest@saintbart.org
or by phone at 803-279-4622.

All concerns will be held in the strictest of confidence.

EpiscoPals Lunch

The EpiscoPals is a monthly luncheon gathering for Adults 50+. It is a fun, relaxed time of fellowship and to eat good food! We meet for lunch on the **3rd Thursday** of each month in a different location.

For some good food and a whole lot of talking, make plans to join us:

November 20th - Rockin Crab, 2807 Washington Rd, Augusta at 11:30.

Sign up Sheets are in the Parish Hall. For more information contact Mike Osteen at 803-315-3549 Hope to see you there

The Health Ministry Screenings will be on the THIRD SUNDAY, November 16 from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. During this time, you can have your blood pressure, blood glucose and weight checked, as well as ask general health questions.

For any questions, contact Robin Petry, 706-836-3027 or petrymail@yahoo.com.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

**NOVEMBER 12
5:00–6:30 p.m.**

Watch the sports drama
Heart of Champions
(2021) at home, then join
us for a potluck dinner
and discussion.

For those unable to view
the film ahead of time, it
will be shown in the Parish
Hall at 3:00 p.m.



November Ministry of the Month: Kay Bryden Brown Bag

Thanksgiving PACK A BROWN BAG

Please Return Bags no later than Sunday, November 16th

We still have Brown Bags with Thanksgiving Lists available in the Parish Hall. Thank you to all that are helping with this ministry.

THIS YEAR we invite "EACH FAMILY" to sign a Thanksgiving Card found in the Narthex that will be put in the Brown Bags

For more information contact Dino Pierucci via text to: 803-442-3723



The Scroll

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
471 West Martintown Road
North Augusta, SC 29841

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M. *Sunday School*

10:00 A.M. *Holy Eucharist Rite II*

10:00 AM *Children's Church*

10:00 A.M. *Live Streaming to Facebook & YouTube*

11:00 A.M. *Coffee Hour in Parish Hall*

Thank You from St. Bart's Pumpkin Patch!

What a wonderful Pumpkin Patch season! We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who helped unload pumpkins, worked shifts, read stories to preschoolers, and welcomed our neighbors with warmth and joy.

This year's pumpkin sales raised approximately \$3,000! This year's patch, though, was more than a fundraiser - it was truly a ministry. We made meaningful connections with our community, hosted a free Pumpkin - Palooza party for families, and shared laughter, friendship, and the beauty of fall together.



Every dollar raised will go directly to help those in need right here in our community. Thank you for your generosity, your energy, and your love in action. St. Bart's shines brightly because of you!

Endowment Campaign Update: Let's Keep Growing!

This spring, we relaunched the St. Bartholomew's Endowment Fund—a commitment to care not only for our church today, but for those who will worship, learn, and be formed here for generations to come. We are delighted to share that your generosity continues to grow this effort in meaningful ways.

As of November, we have received **\$34,050 in gifts** from the parish. Because of the anonymous matching challenge, **every dollar given has been doubled**, bringing our current total to **\$68,100** toward our \$200,000 goal. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed—you are helping plant something that will last.

Our original timeline invited gifts by December 31, and we continue to encourage and welcome year-end giving. At the same time, several parishioners have expressed that—for tax or financial planning reasons—they are best able to give early in the new year. In response, the matching opportunity will **remain available into early 2025**, ensuring that these gifts are also doubled.

What does this mean?

- ◇ **If you are able to give this year**, your gift will make an immediate impact, and we are deeply grateful.
- ◇ **If you need to give after January 1 for tax purposes**, the matching funds will still be there for you.

Endowment giving is distinct from our annual pledges: these gifts are invested for the long-term, helping us care for our buildings, support new ministries, and say “yes” to opportunities the Spirit places before us.

You can give by check with “Endowment” in the memo line, or contact the office to discuss giving appreciated stock or including St. Bartholomew's in your estate plans.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your hope for the future of this church we love.

Let's keep growing—together.

