

November, 2024

From The Dean . . .

What is a Cathedral?

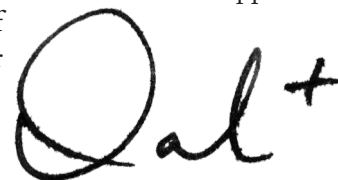
If you are passing by and feel intimidated by religion, please know that when you enter here you are granted immunity from the ravages of religion and misuse of Divine revelation. In this Cathedral operates an unconditional surrender to the freedom of God to speak in whatever language is understandable to you. The Cathedral offers sanctuary to everyone, and promises the glorious freedom of God and the climate to explore the healthiest living that religion affords.

If you are passing by and feel hesitant to join the ranks of a particular denomination or buy into the creeds of millions, please know that many people who enter this sacred place are practicing no regular religious discipline.

All names are sacred here but none must place one's name on a membership list to be taken seriously. Perhaps you quietly dropped by wanting to reconnect in your relationship with God; or surrender a burden; or pray for a loved one; or meditate on a hard personal dilemma; or simply to find a moment of peace. A Cathedral has a high ceiling and long aisles to allow the contained soul an opportunity to venture forth in multiple directions without the encumbrances of forced community. This Cathedral offers a vast spiritual space to which anonymous individuals may be on pilgrimage.

If you are passing by and feel that life is fragmenting into a number of irreconcilable, shattered pieces, then please know that we hold an outrageous hope that, in God alone, all aspects of life are in unity. We believe that God is the Alpha, the beginning, and that God is the Omega, the ending of all things. So we are called to extravagant hospitality in the confidence that a gracious welcome is central to a Cathedral's purpose. And yes, we are part of a specific religious tradition. We are so, not because one religious tradition exclusively contains all truth, but because when one goes on a long journey toward ultimate unity, one has to depart from one specific place. In Christ Church Cathedral, the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is our point of departure. Our companion in the journey is Jesus Christ. We believe Him to be the clear manifestation of God's love for the whole world and the expression that all of our lives are in ultimate unity even beyond the finality of death. In the midst of what appears to be an ever-increasing fragmentation of life, we seek to offer a House of Prayer for all people, an abiding hope that there is a oneness at the center of human life. Enter, pray, and may your time here be blessed.

Source: Dean Jack Potter, Salt Lake City (retired)



And in other news . . .

Bishop's Annual Visitation

On Sunday November 10, the Bishop will make her annual visit to the Cathedral at 10:00 AM Mass. As the Cathedral, she celebrates her on several special days every year, however, this is our special time for her to be with us for confirmations and a pastoral visit. Please plan to join us.

Communications Coordinator

I am pleased to announce that Cathedral member (and Vestry member) Bonnie Scott has agreed to become our Communications Coordinator effective November 1. Bonnie will be responsible for editing the weekly emailed newsletter as well as updating our social media pages and website. She will work in partnership with the Canon Precentor to ensure all our Sunday service bulletin and monthly canticle announcements are consistent across all platforms. Welcome Bonnie!

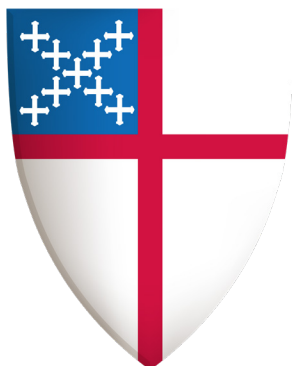
Deanery Thanksgiving Service

Please join us in the Cathedral for our Annual Deanery Thanksgiving Mass at 10AM Thursday November 28. The Rev Stephanie Fox, Dean of the New Orleans Deanery and Rector of St Georges Church will be our preacher.



THE CANTICLE

THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH



WELCOMES YOU

SUNDAY LECTIONARY TEXTS

November 3

All Saints' Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

November 10

Pentecost 25

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalms 146

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

November 17

Pentecost 26

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalms 16

Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

November 24

Last Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalms 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

December 1

Advent 1 (C)

Jeremiah 33:14-16

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

Psalms 25:1-9

December 8

Advent 2

Malachi 3:1-4

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Canticle 16

December 15

Advent 3

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

Canticle 9

December 22

Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Psalms 80:1-7

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LOUISIANA

The Right Reverend
Shannon Rogers Duckworth, *Bishop*

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

The Very Reverend
David Allard duPlantier, *Dean*

The Reverend Canon Steven M. Roberts

The Reverend Canon David B. Lowry,
Theologian in Residence

The Reverend Travers C. Koerner,
Priest Associate

The Reverend Georgene "Gigi" Conner
Priest Associate

Mr. Jarrett R. Follette, *Canon Precentor*

Dr. G. Marc Loudon, *Assistant Organist*

Ms. Lisa Wilkie, *Parish Administrator*

Ms. Lisa Sibal,

Executive Assistant to the Dean

Ms. Mary Lynn LeBlanc,

Administrative Assistant

Mr. Daniel Terrebonne, *Parish Secretary*

Ms. Dorothy Phillips, *Sunday Sexton*

Submissions for Cathedral publications
are always welcome.

*Items for the January, 2025 issue of *The Canticle* are due December 16.

Please e-mail articles to
canticle@cccnola.org.

Send photos to
photos@cccnola.org

Sunday bulletin and/or weekly e-blast
announcements should be submitted
before noon on Tuesdays to
canticle@cccnola.org.

Christ Church Cathedral
2919 Saint Charles Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70115
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504.895.6662 (fax)
<http://cccnola.org>

HONORARY CANON NON-RESIDENTIARY

Mr. David R. Pitts

VESTRY

Amanda George (Treasurer)

2025

Jethro Celestin, Diana Orr,
Billy Soileau (Senior Warden)

2026

Chrissy Carmody, Meryl Fink,
David O'Leary (Junior Warden)

2027

Brian Frilot, Kathryn Washington,
Ed Whitfield

2028

Charlotte C. Meade, Bonnie Scott,
Angela Sella

Weekly Liturgies

Sundays

10:00 AM ~ The Holy Eucharist (Sung)
Rite II (Rite I in Lent)

6:00 PM ~ The Holy Eucharist (Sung)
Real Presence

Weekdays (M-F)

7:30 AM ~ Morning Prayer
12:15 PM ~ The Holy Eucharist

Follow us online!



[cccnola](https://www.facebook.com/cccnola)



[cccnola](https://www.youtube.com/cccnola)



A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 PM



Lyrica Baroque in Concert
Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 PM



Christmas at the Cathedral

Tuesday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
5:00 PM ~ The Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Bishop Duckworth, Celebrant and Preacher

Wednesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
10:00 AM ~ The Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Carols

Christmas Flowers



If you would like to make a contribution toward the Christmas Flower array in honor of, or in memory of a loved one, please clearly note this on a Christmas Flower envelope that will be mailed to you soon - return it to the Cathedral office by Friday, December 13. Names will be listed in the Christmas service leaflets. Many thanks!

Here's a thought: Staying Power

The Reverend Gigi Conner

Once, when serving in the Diocese of Washington, I was in charge of a summer camp program for 28 teens living in a transitional housing project – none of them Episcopalians. Our small staff of four called it the “camp from hell”. On paper, we had our act together with the theme: Building Peace and Community. We had activities planned galore, including horseback riding and swimming and we were out in West -by- God-Virginia at a great site with the whole camp to ourselves. We did have rules and regulations-which we immediately found hard to enforce. The boys and girls ran back and forth between cabins all week until 2 a.m. each morning (probably just to drive the staff crazy) and meals in the cafeteria were chaotic because the campers would run into the dining room, grab and throw food, and leave the table with their mess on it.



We started on Sunday and by Tuesday, one of the campers wanted to go home, which was no surprise to us because the tiny little staff also wanted to go home. Our “vision” was quickly going down the tubes. We kept trying to make things work. We did the Christmas in July thing, art projects including Ukrainian eggs – in the craft room. We tried ‘skit’ night, but the kids didn’t understand what that meant. Amazingly enough, we managed to have a short chapel service every day. The kids loved taking turns lighting candles and reading scripture. They had no concept, really, of liturgy and most did not know any Bible stories. We told a different story each day and explained what we were doing in the liturgy. Although the stated theme for the week was Peace and Building Community, it was really about staying power. Power to stay with the group. Power to stay with the issues. Power to stay with each other.

One of the older girls was definitely the ringleader. Trying the shared leadership approach didn’t work. “People look up to you,” I said. “You can be a positive influence. You have a lot going for you.” But two nights before the week ended, the young ‘problem’ teen snuck out of the cabin and I found her in the craft room at 2 a.m. I said “get your rear end back to the cabin” (actually, I used a cuss word). She said, “You shouldn’t have said that word, you’re cussin at me.” And I said, “Oh, no. It’s in the Bible!” (Numbers 22:21-38) But my voice sounded hard just like my heart felt. She said, “You’re going to send me home aren’t you?” The next morning, she was up with her bags packed. She expected to be sent home.

Well, what would that prove, sending her home? Would it teach her a lesson, that if you misbehave at camp you get sent home? Obviously she had already been down that road before. Been kicked out, sent home, taught a lesson. Her bags were packed. She knew what to expect. And what would we be sending her home to? We already knew that some of these children were living in abusive family situations where parents were hitting the children, and we did not want to do anything -- anything -- that would give any parent an excuse to do that. Because there is never -- let me underline that -- never a reason for hitting a child. Would the other campers learn something from this? They might learn that church camp was no different than any other place. God loves you up to a point - and then you’re out of here.

Would it make life easier for us, the staff, if we sent her home. Possibly. But then we would always be wondering if we had done the right thing. Or had we given up too easily? So, we told her to stay. I often wonder how that young teen – now a woman – is doing. ‘They’ say it takes a community to raise a child but what if there is no community? How can a young person today learn about peace, experience reconciliation and sister/brother love if our society does not function as a community? That girl and other young people (and some older folk) I have encountered need continuity in their lives. They need presence. They need staying power for themselves and from others. In fact, we all need staying power in some form.

We are called to be in right relation with God. This is the heart of the Gospel. This being in right relation with God means being in right relation with each other. It means not dividing and separating ourselves or setting

ourselves over others because we are women and men; adults and children; gay and straight; white and other colors; rich and poor or differently abled.

Sometimes it is hard to have the staying power to see a sticky situation through. But we must do it if we are to move on. Working for reconciliation is coming to grips with what is going on in our lives and with others. Being in right relationship means being able to admit failures, to confess mistakes, to be honest with people and to be intentional. It means getting out of whatever rut in which we are stuck. It's hard to move out of our self-imposed ruts, to get into massive real change, especially in our society, because we don't really like to fix things; we like to discard them and get something new. We don't like to take time to sit down and really work things out.

Getting unstuck requires making a move to another way of thinking, asking another question, discarding bad habits of life like garbage. It requires – gasp – CHANGE! One of the wonderful aspects of church life is that, periodically, we are given opportunities to intentionally re-examine our lives, to making right what is wrong, to begin anew, to do or say those things we should have, but didn't. To make changes in the ways we live – to bring new life into the old places where we've been stuck. In a sung confession I've come across, these words are so impactful: I come to make confession of all that I have failed to do this day; of help withheld, concern and love restricted, forgive me Lord, and lead me in your way.

Advent comes upon us on the First Sunday in December. This can be the time to break out of a rut or to exercise some of that staying power – to make changes – to see life anew – to be truthful – honest – intentional. If we all worked to be reconciled with ourselves and with each other, and to have the staying power to see life in new and different ways – we will truly be in right relationship with God. And if we were all in right relationship with God and each other, who knows what kind of community we could be. Maybe the kind that helps to raise a child into a whole, healthy and productive human being.



November



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Tyler Nichols | 14 Chrissy Carmody |
| 2 Beth Buckley | Sam Das |
| Michael Ibiwoye | Jennifer Leetham |
| Olivia Leetham | Caitlin Knoles |
| 5 John Alden Meade | Jason Kirkwood |
| Mark Collins | Liz Schafer |
| 6 Spann Rookard | 15 Amy Corcoran |
| 7 Clara Pardo | Jean Meade |
| 8 Greg Schafer | 16 Jimmy Faust |
| 9 Carl Gaines, Jr. | 17 Owen Leetham |
| Charlotte Krass | 19 Amelia Smith |
| 10 Les Bradfield | Meredith Thomasson |
| Margaret Parker | 20 Bob Carr |
| Joe Young | 21 Travers Koerner |
| 12 Shelie Carlson | 22 Chris Brown |
| Matt Thomas | 26 Sam Jameson |
| 13 Erica Dodson | 28 David O'Leary |
| Andrew Shoftstahl | 30 Margaret Albert |
| | Margaret Cross |

December



- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Lynn Finch | 13 Jack Meade |
| Meryl Fink | 14 Jessie Haynes |
| 4 Anne Abbott | 15 Bill Buckley |
| Juan Barroso | Heidi Smith |
| Paloma Pardo | 17 Greg Fahrenholt |
| 5 Erich Shoftstahl | Michael Krass |
| Olivia Shoftstahl | Elizabeth Martin |
| 6 Charley Browning | 18 Carolyn Deyo |
| Barbara Rigby | Addison Dodson |
| 8 Jake Appleford | Greg Gunter |
| Rene Mithun | John Thomas |
| 9 Erin Tuck | 19 Adeline Smith |
| Lois Shoftstahl | 21 Hunter Meade |
| Patrick Tuck | Anna Schieffelin |
| 10 William Mallery | 27 Hollie Carlson |
| Davis Slocum | Taylor Cheek |
| Walker Slocum | 28 Justin Allen |
| 12 Harry Leche IV | Caroline Beary |
| Marcia Molloy | Bp Shannon Duckworth |
| Rick Mithun | Isabella Stencel |
| 13 Joella Burlingame | 31 Bridget Tierney |
| Sandy Johnson | |

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants who begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

If your name isn't listed, we don't have your date of birth in our records.

Please send an e-mail to acs@ccnola.org or call the cathedral office and we'll be sure to wish you a *Happy Birthday* next year!



The Episcopal Diocese of LOUISIANA

An Update From the Diocesan Vitality Initiative

Dear Friends,

The Diocesan Vitality Initiative is writing to update you about our activities and progress for this most recent quarter. In September, several of our team members met in person with the other dioceses of our national cohort, networking for shared learning and collaboration. As you might remember from our May correspondence, our committee has been immersed in the timely topics of property insurance, financial sustainability, and improvements to our communications that keep you informed and engaged with our work at every step.

As we draft this letter, Hurricanes Milton and Helene have had devastating effects on our friends and neighbors on the east coast. We pray for everyone impacted and know all too well that their reality could occur within our diocese. Since hurricanes pose one of the greatest threats to our diocese, we have commissioned a report to explore projected losses and coverage needs based on potential weather events and the churches within our diocese. We expect to receive their recommendations within the next 2-3 weeks. In Bishop Duckworth's summer correspondence, she indicated the diocese would form an insurance study committee that includes members of the Diocesan Vitality Initiative and the Finance Committee. This group will share a report with the Executive Board in the spring of 2025 with long-range ideas on how to help our congregations with rising insurance premium costs. Furthermore, Bishop Scharf and his CFO, from the Diocese of Southwest Florida, have been and will continue to be welcome collaborators in these conversations as they face many of the same issues. We are grateful to have made that connection at our recent cohort meeting.

Sustainability and stewardship are top-of-mind when contemplating long-term financial health for the diocese. Every congregation is feeling the strain of recent inflation and other rising costs. The diocesan budget is the same. Therefore, we continue to evaluate the most reasonable and equitable approaches to the assessment model. While no sweeping changes are expected to the formula in the short term, this remains on the committee's radar for long-term evaluation. However, the Executive Board is considering changes in the assessment review process that will be shared with you at the end of 2024. In the meantime, the Finance Committee and Budget Committee have worked over the course of this year, and our deficit for 2025 has been significantly reduced, with further reduction expected. More details will be shared at convention, and in post-convention communications. As we have mentioned before, difficult decisions will be a part

of this process, while we also find ways to more fully support the mission and ministry of the diocese.

Furthermore, the diocese is engaged in conversations with the Lilly Endowment and other additional grant funding sources to expand the work and strategically plan the vision of the Gaudet Umbrella. Also, as we work towards our goal of long-term sustainability and endeavor to find ways to provide financial relief to our congregations, the committee is exploring the feasibility of a fundraising campaign that will provide far-reaching benefits across the diocese, not just on the diocesan budget. We are in the early stages of these conversations, but some of the questions we are considering are, "What would it look like to have reserved insurance deductibles? What if the college campus ministries were endowed? What if the general budget was partially endowed to reduce assessment levels and create new opportunities?" Overall, our discussions have been both creative and respectful of the sensitivities and impact financial considerations have for our brothers and sisters in the diocese.

Our diocese is vibrant with faith-filled ministries that are transforming lives. Our ongoing goal is to share this good news and offer meaningful ways to engage as a diocese as a whole. We welcome your participation and feedback as we further build our communication channels.

The Diocesan Vitality Initiative team feels your support and prayers as we move through this important work. We look forward to communicating with you in future correspondence and during congregational visits throughout the year.

We are deeply grateful for the support that has brought the Solomon Center to this point. It is because of the dedication of people like you that this place continues to thrive. But our work isn't finished—together, we can ensure that the Solomon Center continues to serve as a beacon of hospitality, faith, and renewal for generations to come.

Faithfully,

The Very Rev. Chris Duncan, Chair
Keith Crawford
Bishop Duckworth
Catherine Harrell
The Rev. Canon Morgan MacIntire
Francis Nezianya
Nancy Stich

LIFT YOUR GAZE - LIFT YOUR HEART YOGA IN THE CATHEDRAL

Cathedrals evolved to become spaces which invite the eyes and the heart to lift toward the heavens. The arches point the way for eyes to lift; the stained light from windows high above entice the vision higher; and the lofty vaulted ceilings complete the illusion.

Yoga teaches that the heart follows the eyes. This yoga practice will focus on opening the heart to loving kindness, accepting the human-ness of our selves and others and creating a lightness in the heart. But 'you gotta move' to teach your heart to open.

All Levels of Experience are Welcome

Every Tuesday ~ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

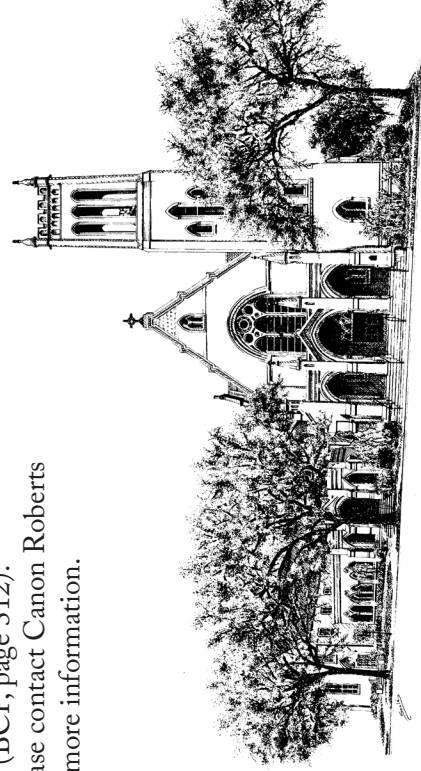
Cost: FREE (Donations are welcomed but are not required)

What to Wear: Comfortable, layered clothing

What to Bring: A yoga mat

Baptism

is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil, on the Day of Pentecost, on All Saints' Day or the Sunday after All Saints' Day, and on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany). It is recommended that, as far as possible, Baptisms be reserved for these occasions or when a Bishop is present. (BCP, page 312). Please contact Canon Roberts for more information.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, November 3
Special Guest Preacher
The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett
Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London
at the 10:00 AM Eucharist

Sunday, November 10
Bishop's Annual Visit with Confirmation
The 10:00 AM Eucharist

Sunday, November 17
Peter Collins, Pianist, In Recital
3:00 PM

Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving Day)
10:00 AM - The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, December 15
A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
4:00 PM

Thursday, December 19
7:00 PM - Lyrica Baroque Holiday Concert

Tuesday, December 24
5:00 PM - The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Wednesday, December 2
10:00 AM - The Holy Eucharist, Rite II