



*We shall never learn to know ourselves except  
by endeavoring to know God; for, beholding  
His greatness, we realize our own littleness ...  
and by meditating upon His humility we find  
how very far we are from being humble.*

*... Teresa of Avila*

# THE PRESS

NOVEMBER, 2002

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:  
Eucharistic Living

Each Sunday we gather together giving thanks to God for all of God's goodness, but most especially for giving his only son, Jesus Christ as the savior and redeemer of the world. Christians are those who live Eucharistic lives—lives of thanksgiving. After all, that is exactly what the word Eucharist means: Thanksgiving.

November heralds the beginning of the 'holiday' season with Thanksgiving Day. On that day we gather with friends and family around a table laden with a cornucopia of the fruits of the earth, and we give thanks. We give to God our thanks for another season of God's loving hand providing for us from God's own creation all that we need to sustain our lives. Isn't this exactly what happens each and every Sunday we gather for worship? We too gather around a common table surrounded by friends and family. Yet on Sunday's we do not feast from a cornucopia of fruits of the earth, but rather, from the very body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Around God's table we feed on the foretaste of the heavenly banquet. No longer do we rely on the earth to produce. No longer do we feed off of earthly things. Gathered together we feed off of heavenly things—God's very own self. No wonder

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when we gather together the only thing we ever have to offer to God, that isn't his already, is our thanks. Thanks for the earthly blessings and for the heavenly ones.

Eucharistic living is the realization that everyday is Thanksgiving Day. Eucharistic living is realizing that all we have, or ever need, is provided by him "who did not even withhold his own Son, will he not with him, also give us everything else? (Romans 8:32)"

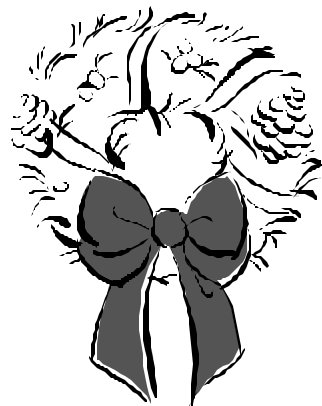
As we enter this holiday season, may it be for us a means by which we enter more fully into the Eucharistic life.

Your servant in Christ,

**Scott+**

## Advent Wreath Making

Before we know it, Thanksgiving Day will have passed and Advent is right around the corner. As a matter of fact, since Thanksgiving Day is so late this year, Advent I is the following weekend. So, to that end, we are making plans now. On Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>, Advent I we will NOT have Sunday School but rather will all gather in the Parish Hall for the making of Advent Wreaths. All are invited to join in with the festivities. We will have supplies for all so that you too can construct your own Advent wreath for use in your home and walk the four-week journey to the Creche. Hope to see you all there in the Parish Hall, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM.



## Habitat for Humanity Work Day a Success

The St. Andrew's Habitat for Humanity Work Day was held October 19, and was a most gratifying experience. Ten people from St. A's participated and helped make great progress on the house at 66 Fairmont Street in Fitchburg. Russ Harris, Jonathan Wistar, Jack Mercier, Tom Cotton and John McNeill were able to put together and raise an outside wall and put up several room partitions as well as putting up lots of strapping (hard overhead work). Ginger Quarles, Judy Adams, Catherine Wheatley, Millie Mercier and Peggy Braat did many odd jobs, including sorting, moving and stacking lumber for the next work crew. A team of students from M.I.T. and Tufts prepared the basement, digging out rocks and leveling the ground in preparation for the pouring of cement.

It was a true delight to meet the new home owner, Brenda and one of her young sons, to hear her excitement and gratitude, and to see how hard she worked in helping to build her house.

All of St. Andrew's should be pleased that it supports Habitat as part of its Outreach Program.

### *Editor's Note:*

*Next Issue: December 2002*

*Deadline: **WEDNESDAY, November 20***

*Send submissions to: [acahill@hybricon.com](mailto:acahill@hybricon.com)*

*Or, drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.*

*Questions? Please call me at:*

*H: (978) 448-4053*

*W: (978) 772-5422 x 323*

*Be sure to include your name and telephone number on **all** submissions!*

## *Readings for November*

### Sunday, Novemer 3 – All Saints' Sunday

#### **First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-10,13-14**

The first reading today gives thanks for all those in the past who were famed for their contributions to human life.

#### **Second Lesson: Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-17**

The second reading is John's vision of the gathering of all the redeemed before God in the heavenly worship.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12**

The Gospel reading is the passage known as the Beatitudes.

### Sunday, November 10 – The Twenty-fifth

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Amos 5: 18-24**

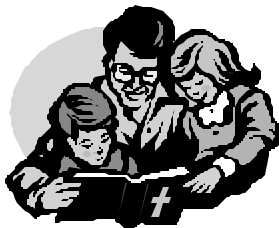
The first reading today is from Amos. The prophet lives in a time when the people of God are very 'religious' in carrying out the rites and sacrifices of worship, but are blind to the injustice and inequities in the social and economic life of their nation.

#### **Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 4: 13-18**

The second reading continues the First Letter to the Thessalonians. Some in that church, expecting the Lord to return in their lifetimes, have begun to doubt, because some of the members have died.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13**

The Gospel reading is the familiar parable of the wise and foolish maidens. The emphasis here is always to live in readiness for the Lord's return.



### Sunday, November 17 – The Twenty-sixth

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18**

In the first reading, the prophet Zephaniah presents perhaps the gloomiest picture of the Day of the Lord.

#### **Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 5: 1-10**

Today we conclude reading through I Thessalonians. In his final words to this early congregation, confused because the Lord has not yet returned, Paul tells them that Jesus' return cannot be predicted.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-15, 19-29**

In the Parable of the Talents – a talent was a monetary unit worth fifteen year's wages in the first century – we are taught that what God has given us is to be used productively and ultimately returned to God, enhanced by our use of those gifts.

### Sunday, November 24 – Christ the King

#### Sunday

#### **First Lesson: Ezekiel 34: 11-17**

The prophet Ezekiel, centuries before Christ, foresaw the coming of the Shepherd-King, sent by God to his people.

#### **Second Lesson: I Corinthians 15: 20-28**

In writing the Corinthian church, Paul sees a greater and more complete picture of the reign of Christ.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46**

Today is the final Sunday of the Church Year on which we celebrate the kingship of Christ.

# Annual Christmas Fair

Come to the 29th Annual St. Andrew's Christmas Fair!

Our fair date is **Nov 9th** from **9am-3pm** in the Parish Hall. We have everything from trinkets to treasures, bracelets to mittens, delicious beef stew and apple pie, too!

Come browse the craft tables, check out our raffles, and enjoy lunch with friends.

If you have never been, now is the time to come...and bring friends too! We are always looking for donations, particularly crafts, items for our Silent Auction and Andrew's Attic (White Elephant). Please sign up to donate food for the kitchen on the signup sheet in the Peabody room. Baked goods for the bake table are also welcomed day of the fair.

Help us get the word out. Take our green insert in this month's express and post in at your favorite store or public bulletin board. We hope to see you all there on Fair Day!

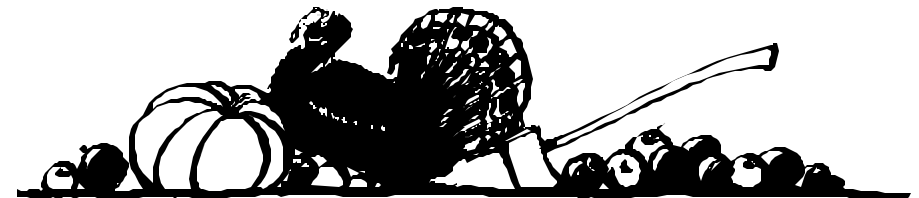
Deb Savoie

Phone: 978-772-4401

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## Thanksgiving Day Service

The tradition of offering a Thanksgiving Day service at St. Andrew's continues this year. On Thursday November 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM we will have a full service with Holy Eucharist. All are encouraged to attend this wonderful service that focuses our attention and our thoughts to God on this day when we gather to give God thanks. Besides, what better way to spend your time while the turkey is in the oven. You can come to church in between bastings. See you at Church on Thanksgiving Day.



# St. Andrew's Pipe Organ Update

News from the Auction!!

We've done it! The auction was a huge success, netting nearly \$10,000 and bringing us very close to the goal of \$40,000 that we started working toward a year ago. Two or three generous members have offered to fill the gap that remains, so we are ready to pay the bill for the renovation of our pipe organ.

The success of the auction was made possible by the time, talents, and treasures of so very many people that I won't try to name them. The members of the committee worked intensely for four months. They found other members of the parish to help. There were the solicitation of goods and services, and advertising for the catalog; the preparation of the auction catalog and mounting it on the website; planning how to set up the hall and decorate it; soliciting for food and managing the kitchen. There was the marvelous work of 'our' auctioneer, and the bookkeeping that the event required. And for everything that was planned there were dozens of phone calls and many trips here and there, and many out-of-pocket expenses that committee members generously donated out of determination to maximize our profits.

And now – everyone is asking, "When do we get our organ back?" We, and the Andover Organ Company, are still hoping to have it installed and playing again in time for Advent. I will be making several trips to the organ shop in Lawrence over the next month to keep an eye on the project and demonstrate our interest and enthusiasm. Then sometime between Epiphany and Lent we will have a grand rededication and recital!!

- Judy Adams

*An example of  
Andover Organ  
Company's  
fabulous work!*



# Baptisms and Incense

That's right baptisms and incense at St. Andrew's! On Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> we will gather together in celebration for the Sunday after All Saints'. Thanks to the generosity of some recent benefactors we now have a thurible. For those who have not brushed up on their ecclesiastical jargon thurible means a censor or a vessel for burning incense. As is appropriate on all major feasts of the church year, we bring out the best we have and that includes special music, singing the Eucharistic prayer, special hangings and incense. Some say that incense is an acquired taste (or should we say smell) but it is most appropriate on these "high Holy days." More importantly we will have three families bringing their little ones to the font for Holy Baptism. It will be a festive day indeed - not only for the families and their children, but for all of us as we too claim once again our common hope in our own baptismal vows!



# The Race is On

On your mark, get set, GO! And we're off - headed into the last stretch of the church's fiscal year and that means a mad dash to reach the goal. The Stewardship Commission had its first meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> and discussed creative ways to raise awareness of stewardship within the Parish. We walked away with the common belief that we want to see more parishioners involved and active in our stewardship ministry. As we look to the finish line of this year, we are keenly aware that our current fiscal situation is dire. We're lagging behind, and we have to put the pedal to the metal and reach back for all the energy available to us. To that end, we are committed to finishing first! And that means involvement from the entire parish. Our goal is to visit every household to encourage all to make a faithful, prayerful, and whole-hearted financial commitment to St. Andrew's. So, be on the look out, and don't be surprised if you see a member of the Stewardship commission on your doorstep. With all of us working together, we will win the race!

# Looking To the Future

You may recall that we ran this article in a recent newsletter. These ministry opportunities remain open for any and all who would like to participate in the life and ministry of St. Andrew's. There are many areas where a lot of help is needed and as St. Andrew's parishioners, your time and talent are in high demand. Please consider becoming involved in one or more of these wonderful ministries of our worship and our lives together. It's not too late to get involved, as a matter of fact, what better time than now at the cusp of a new Church year beginning December 1<sup>st</sup> with Advent I.

## Ministry Opportunities:

- Acolytes—This ministry is open to anyone third grade and up. Training is provided to all who are interested. Come and join in the fun with the existing seven acolytes we currently have serving and you too can contribute to this wonderful ministry.
- Choir—The scriptures say, "make a joyful noise unto the Lord," nowhere does it say you have to be on key. We especially need male voices! All are welcome. Practices are held weekly, and of course commitment for Sundays.
- Sunday School teachers for kids and adults alike—The more the merrier!
- Lectors—Especially for eight o'clock service. Come join the two we currently have (you don't have to be an eight-o'clocker to help out). If the eight o'clock service doesn't work, we also need lectors for the 10:00 A.M. service as well. Training will be provided.
- Chalice Bearers—Currently we have eight but many more are needed, this is also open to all youth who have been confirmed. Training will be provided.
- Pastoral Care—Currently there is just one person doing this ministry, many, many more are needed. The only requirement—love for people.
- Youth Leaders (as opposed to Sunday school teachers)—To support and be with the kids during evening activities and outings.
- Parish Life—These are the ones who organize and throw the parties and celebrations of our life and ministry together.
- Office volunteers—helps out once a month in the church office to prepare the Xpress for distribution and help Judy in the office.

These are just a few of the many areas in and around the church where you can be involved in the life and ministry of St. Andrew's. Please consider giving your time and talent to these worthwhile ministries.

## *MILESTONES AND MEMORIALS*

### ***Baptisms:***

*Kevin Brendan Barlow  
Dylan Mark Pueschel  
Gregory Liam Gagne  
(all on November 3, 2002)*

### ***Deaths:***

*Augusta Rose Gregory  
(October 14, 2002)*

# ST.ANDREW'S APPLE PIE DAY

The day dawned bright and sunny. Al Gregory was the first pie helper to arrive. He got the pots cleaned and labelled, and the building warmed up. By 9:30 there was a flurry of activity with eight people peeling apples and two working on dough. By 11:00, some people had left while still more people arrived. We had 25 people helping throughout the day. We finished making pies and cleaning the hall by 2:20.

Thank you to all who attended to make this a fun, enjoyable event. Thank you especially to Al Gregory and Catherine Wheatley helping with set up and clean up, Peggy Braat for providing lunch AND reminding me to serve lunch, Susan Leeming for reminding me to take the pie out of the oven and serve it, Blanche Foss, aka Courtney MacIntosh, for providing the pie inspection program, and lastly Barbara Kamb for quietly doing what she always does so everything could move along smoothly. It was wonderful to see so many new faces eager to learn about pie making too.

Thank you to Catherine Wheatley, Bertha Doran, Leslie Harrower, Sonia Hayward, Louise Rogers, Barbara Kamb and Peggy Braat for donations. The following people helped prepare 71 pies for a profit to St. Andrews of almost \$500.00: Susan Leeming, Mary Medeiros, Catherine Wheatley, Al Gregory, Jill Colburn, Sonia Hayward, Louise Rogers, Blanche Foss, Jane Rockwell, Peggy Braat, Eleanor Dattoli, Barbara Kamb, Leslie Harrower, Heidi and Luke Wharton, Lynn Ferrillo, Joan Reynolds, Helen Preist, Pat Colburn, Rena Gagne, Faith Smith, Sheryl Baker, Judy Venno, Lee Burton, Bernice Gregory, and Audrey Western.

- Rhonda Cotton

# November 2002

## St. Andrew's Church

Tel: (978) 772-2615

Office Hours: M - Th 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
 Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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**December 1st: Advent I  
 Wreath-Making at 9:30 AM**