

Episcopal Church of  
**ALL SAINTS AND  
ASCENSION**

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All Saints and Ascension**

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**The Rev. Renee L. Fenner**  
**Priest in Charge**

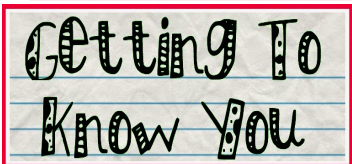
Karen Mosley-Admn. Assistant  
Vacant-Music Director

**Administrative Asst. Office Hours:**

9am-3pm Monday thru Wednesday

**Priest in Charge Office Hours:**

9am-5pm Tuesday thru Friday



sister to our Senior Warden, **Bill Young**. Her birth would be the start of a journey of becoming a leader as she followed her passion for training and helping others.

Her family migrated to the other side of the state during her childhood and she graduated from Central HS in Kansas City. She attended St. Augustine Episcopal Church while living in KC.

Midge was among the first to integrate Oberlin College in Ohio. She graduated in 1959 with a BA in education. This opened up an opportunity for her to pursue her passion of teaching others. She was recruited to teach elementary school in Long Beach, CA. This move offered the convenience of visiting her grandmother and namesake, Mabel LeFlore, in nearby San Bernardino.

As her career blossomed, she met and married her late husband, Kelton Winston. He was a defensive back for the LA Rams in the late 60s. They had one son, Kyle, who is

**GUESS WHO?**

This photo was  
taken when she  
practiced nursing.  
Answer page 4.



currently an attorney practicing in St. Louis.

Career advancement in the school system held much promise for Mrs.

**The Rev. Deon Johnson Elected Bishop**



At the 180th convention of the Diocese of Missouri, the Rev. Deon K Johnson was overwhelmingly elected our 11th bishop on the first ballot. Out of a combined total of 164 lay and clergy delegates, Johnson received 74 votes from lay delegates, and 41 votes from the clergy. Each of these two sets of votes easily exceeded the majority of votes required by convention rules for each group.

Approximately 300 people gathered at Christ Church Cathedral on Nov. 23, 2019 to witness this historic election. Many more watched over the internet via Facebook. When the results were announced, those assembled erupted into cheers. The bishop-elected appeared before the crowd via livestream from his home in Michigan. He appeared overwhelmed by the election results and the supportive response from the crowd.

Rev. Johnson currently lives in Brighton, MI with his husband and 2 children. He has been rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for nearly 14 years. He has much experience in social justice issues, and with gay and lesbian ministry. A native of Barbados, Deon immigrated to the United States when he was 14. He earned his undergraduate degree at Case Western University in Cleveland, OH. He found his calling to the ministry from the encouragement of parishioners at a nearby church.

Rev. Johnson's ordination ceremony is currently scheduled for April 25, 2020 at St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic Church in St. Louis. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry is scheduled to officiate the consecration.

**Midge Winston** was born at Peoples Hospital in St. Louis on May 2, 1941. Christened with the name Mabel Young, she was the second of three children born to William and Caroline Young, and is the

Winston, but she had little interest in becoming a school principal. So she enrolled at Pepperdine University, earned a MBA, and pursued a training career in the corporate world. At AT&T, she held various jobs in training, payroll, HR, and sales support. Using her acquired leadership skills, Midge subsequently accepted a position as president of the Morris County Urban League in New Jersey. She then moved on to become president of the Lawrence County NJ NAACP, while also serving as president of the local Girl Scouts. In 1997, she moved back to St. Louis and became the Director of Training for the local branch of the YWCA where she finally retired in 2004.

After returning to St. Louis, Midge became a member of All Saints where she has been very active as President of the St. Ann's Guild. The church was also able to tap into her leadership experience and elected her Senior Warden 3 times. She is credited with leading our congregation through some very troubling challenges during her tenures. We give thanks to Midge for being a guardian angel to our flock when it was greatly needed.



If you want to make God laugh, tell him about your plans.

....Woody Allen

A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps

....Proverbs 16:9 NKJV



## A Message from the Priest In Charge



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At this writing the season of Advent with all its sights, sounds, and preparations is but a memory. And while Christmas may be over with its garland and tinsel, I pray that we remembered to make room for Him as He comes to us each day.

Whether you've been here every Sunday or every once and a while, or if you have yet to walk through these doors: Please accept my personal invitation to YOU AND YOURS to make this new year a time for a fresh start and "come home".

And remember that we are now offering two services of Holy Eucharist every Sunday at 8 am and at 10 am. Our new 8 am Eucharist is a quiet service with no music. And the 10 am service continues to include

music.

Know that the doors are ALWAYS open not only during holiday seasons but each day the good Lord brings! Join us for Sunday worship and all other happenings during the week!

We have so much to look forward to this year (including our new bishop, Deon)! I hope that we, fully engaged and set afire by the Holy Spirit, will continue to plan, vision and build up the Body of Christ here in Northwoods. I pray that it will be a year filled with blessings, good health, and happiness.

Your sister in the Redeemer,

**Reverend Renee+**

## Men's Day 2019

On December 8, 2019, the Men's Club hosted their second annual Men's Day and it was a rousing success. We had many worshipers and there was someone sitting in every pew. Among the guest were several interns from Deaconess Anne House. **The Rev. Renee Fenner** led us in celebrating the second Sunday of Advent in grand style as we proceeded with preparing the way for the coming of Christ. And our guest music director was none other than our administrative assistant, **Karen Mosley**. That's right! Not only is she talented with a computer keyboard, but she can also tickle the ivories! During the service, Karen accompanied **Walter Fox, Stanley Johnson, Prince Thomas, and Michael Watson** (men's chorus) with a special musical selection.

Most of the Men's Day festivities were scheduled at the end of service. We were delighted with poetry selections from **Betty Brown** and **Valerie Patton**, and a song from **The Three C's (Camryn, Camille, Cayleigh Moore)**, with accompaniment on acoustic guitar from Camryn.

Parishioner **Sallie Simmons** had reason to be proud on this Sunday. Not only were many family members in attendance, but her son **Richard Simmons** was the keynote speaker. His emotional message was clearly

spoken from the heart as many hung onto every word he spoke. Several were seen shedding a tear as he spoke of how the men of All Saints help mold him into a man that would make a mother proud.



At the end of the program, it was time to announce the Man of the Year. Rev. Renee teased the congregation by parading down the aisle asking, "Who could it be?". When she finally stopped, she was facing **Rickey Mabry** who was taken by surprise when he was presented the award. Afterwards, the church service concluded, Rev. Renee blessed the food, and we proceeded to the fellowship hall. In keeping with tradition, a delicious repast was served. The meal consisted of baked chicken, red beans & rice with andouille sausage, green beans and tomatoes, jalapeno cornbread, salad, dessert...and joyful fellowship.



### BACK TO Sunday

What a joy—literally! **Betty Patton** has mentored many of our children over the years. So she is always excited when one comes "back to" visit her. **Joy Enkenga** returned on Sept. 15th to receive lots of hugs from parishioners. What a blessing!

## Congratulations !

**Karen Mosley**—10th Anniversary as our administrative assistant.

**Rickey Mabry**—Man of the Year 2019.

## Returning to Her Roots

**The Rev. Dr. Teresa Danielewicz** was introduced as our guest priest on November 24, 2019. But most of us had no idea that this visit was also her homecoming. You see, the church we now call All Saints and Ascension is sacred ground for Rev. Danielewicz as she was raised in this church. When growing up, she typically sat in the pew just a few rows back from where the choir section is, unless she was serving as an acolyte. And she was baptized at the very same baptismal font that we currently use today (shown in the photo). Years later, she attended seminary with Rev. Renee and our bishop elect, the Rev. Deon Johnson. And now she returns home as an Episcopal priest. Welcome home Rev. Teresa!





## Event Schedule (visit [allsaintsascension.com/schedule](http://allsaintsascension.com/schedule) for calendar updates)

Jan 1-3	Office Closed	New Years Recess (Office and Food Pantry Closed)
Jan 20	Office Closed	Dr. Martin Luther King Birthday
Jan 26	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist and Annual Meeting
Feb 9	10:00 am	Black History Month Eucharist and Celebration (tentative)
Feb 17	Office Closed	Presidents Day
Feb 23	10:00 am	Bishop Smith's Visit
Feb 26	12 Noon	Ash Wednesday Service (tentative)
Mar 8	2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time Begins



### RECURRING SCHEDULE:

Holy Eucharist Service	8 & 10 am	Every Sunday
Healing Service	8 & 10 am	Every 4th Sunday (during the 8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist Service)
Noonday Prayer	12:00 pm	Every Tuesday
Sunday's Coming Bible Study	10:00 am	Every Thursday (beginning January 9th)
Food Pantry	10am-1pm	Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday (Deaconess nurse will check vital signs)
Men's Club Meeting	9:00 am	Every 2nd Sunday
St. Margaret's Guild Meeting	11:30 am	Every 2nd Sunday (following Eucharist)
ECW Meeting	9:00 am	Every 4th Sunday



## Spotlight on Youth-Another Toddler Baptized!

On Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we welcomed our newest sister in Christ, **Avah Ivori Blackwell**, as we celebrated her baptism. Nicknamed Peanut, she is the daughter of **Terrell Blackwell** and parishioner **Heather Smith**, and the granddaughter of parishioner **Lola Crenshaw**.

Because Peanut was a toddler unable to choose for herself, her parents and godparents (**Dr. Nathaniel and Mrs. Sandra Murdock**) testified in her behalf.

This is the second baptism performed by Rev. Renee since she arrived in April. Our parish is slowly growing and this growth is reflected with an increased number of young people attending Sunday services. New members seeking baptism for themselves, or their children, are encourage to inform Rev. Renee.



## All Saints Sunday

Each year, the Episcopal Church celebrates All Saints Day on November 1. It is our parish tradition to celebrate it on a Sunday close to that date. This year, not only did we celebrate a baptism on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, but we also celebrated All Saints Sunday by honoring those saints who have passed on to glory within the past year. We gave recognition to nine departed saints. This year however, Rev. Renee added something special. Perhaps a new tradition for us. At the foot of the altar, we included a memorial display of framed pictures of loved ones who are no longer with us. May God rest the souls of the faithfully departed.

## Mass in the Grass

Once again this year, our church held an outdoor community worship service. We invited the neighbors and the community to join us in celebrating the Holy Eucharist. However, due to scheduling issues, the event was held on October 20<sup>th</sup> which is about a month later than usual.

Because of the unseasonably cooler weather, we were not too sure that anyone would show. Fortunately, the the weather cooperated, and attendance was good. Even better, we had a few visitors which resulted in us adding another member to our parish family. We really can't say that he is a new member because he is a former Ascension member. So we welcome **John Thames** back home. What a blessing! Next year, let us pray that our "Mass in the Grass" will be just as successful...and warmer!



**Free Sunday Shuttle Service-**Call **Harold Briggs** at 314-585-6855 or **Tony Vick** at 314-601-1171





## Announcements

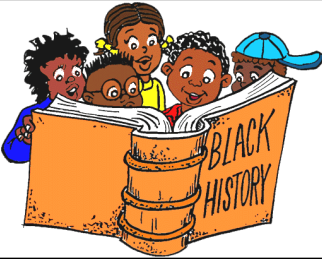
### Sunday's Coming Bible Study



The first weekly session of the new year will be held on Thursday, January 9th at 10 am. Please come join us and don't forget to bring your bible.

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH EUCHARIST AND CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2020**  
(tentative)  
**10:00 AM**



### SERMON RECORDINGS

You can now listen to Rev. Renee's Sunday sermons. They are available online at:

[www.AllsaintsAscension.com/sunday-sermon-recordings](http://www.AllsaintsAscension.com/sunday-sermon-recordings)



### In Memoriam

(4th Quarter 2019)

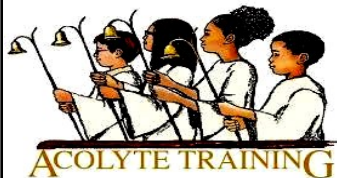
**Thelma Stephens**  
Nov. 4, 1945—Oct. 4, 2019



**Jack Ingram**  
Oct. 17, 1927—Oct. 14, 2019



**Clarita West**  
(mother of Machel West)



Would you like to become an acolyte or need a refresher? If so, please join us on Sunday, 1/12/2020 after the 10am Eucharist. Training will take place in the Nave and will last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. We welcome all children, adults, females, and males who would like to join this ministry. If you have questions, please contact Valerie Patton, Margaret Williams or Rev. Renee. Thank you!

### Caring Reminders

**Cleo Anderson**  
**Kimberley Baker**  
**Harriett Barrett**  
**Juanita Carroll**  
**Bessie Clemmons**  
**Suzanne Harris**  
**Virgil Lucas**  
**Mary Stafford**

(Note: Listing as of 12/15/19 Check the weekly bulletin for updates)



Answer to "Guess Who?" on page 1:

**Mattie Baker**



### Motivations by Mildred



Usually I preface my message with scripture. But this time I am going to reference a song that has been on my mind for a while. The song is "Make Somebody Happy (Make Somebody Strong)" by Carlos Santana. Mr. Santana's philosophy is that playing music brings on an element of healing. In this particular song, he uses simple repetitive lyrics about compassion and lifting people up.

During these times there is so much crime and misery in our city, and other cities as well. So this would be an excellent time to make somebody happy, and to make somebody strong. Just maybe we can help make a difference in somebody's life, and maybe conditions will improve. Even though it may be a small difference, every little bit helps. So please join me on this mission.

After I completed writing the message above, I watched the Ellen DeGeneres Show on TV. She was taking joy in making someone happy that day. There was a young African American lady on the show that was celebrating her birthday. Ellen told her that if she could finish a shopping spree at Sam's Club on her behalf in a certain amount of time, she would give her \$25,000 for her birthday. She completed the assignment and received the promised amount. Everyone in the audience also received a \$150 gift card from Sam's Club. There was lots of happiness to go around.

As I stated in one of my other articles "To whom much is given, much is required". We are not expected to match Ellen, Oprah, and others who have unlimited resources. But, we can do what we can to make others happy and strong using what we have. God bless!

### Where is Jesus Today?

A Sunday School teacher of preschoolers was concerned that his students might be a little confused about Jesus Christ because of the Christmas season emphasis on His birth. He wanted to make sure they understood that the birth of Jesus occurred a long time ago, that He grew up, etc. So he asked his class, "Where is Jesus today?"

Tyrek raised his hand and said, "He's in heaven." Kiara was called on and she answered, "He's in my heart." And Theo, waved his hand furiously and blurted out, "I know! I know! He's in our bathroom!!!"

The whole class got very quiet, looked at the teacher, and waited for a response. The teacher was completely at a loss for several seconds. He finally gathered his wits and asked Theo how he knew this.

Theo said, "Well.....every morning my father gets up, bangs on the bathroom door, and yells 'Jesus Christ! Are you still in there?'"



### Something New at All Saints and Ascension!

The Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension is now offering two services of Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. The new 8 a.m. is a quiet service with no music. Our 10 a.m. Eucharist will continue to include music.

