

NEWS FROM THE PEWS AT ALL SOULS

DECEMBER 7, 2025



The mission of All Souls Church is to be a Christ-centered sanctuary where a diverse and inclusive community worships and serves. We live this mission through faithful celebration of the Eucharist, Christian education, and loving nurture of both members and neighbors.

Today *The Second Sunday of Advent*

10 am Faith Forum

The Spiritual Life, by Evelyn Underhill with Sebastian Wellford

11 am

Advent Lessons and Carols
with Holy Eucharist

The Reverend Sara Palmer, Rector

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table.

Please join us downstairs in the Undercroft after the service for coffee hour.

Today's Readings

The First Lesson,
Isaiah 40:1-11
Will Stewart

The Second Lesson,
Jeremiah 23:5-6
Cynthia Evans

The Third Lesson
Baruch 4:36-5:9
Judy Andrew

The Fourth Lesson
Isaiah 7:10-15
Kevin LeGrand

The Fifth Lesson
Luke 1:26-38
Mother Sara



The Second Sunday of Advent focuses in preparation, repentance, and peace, highlighting John the Baptist's call to "make straight the way of the Lord," often symbolized by lighting the **Peace Candle** (or the second candle) on the Advent wreath, as it's a time to clear obstacles in our hearts and lives for Christ's coming, moving from judgment toward hopeful reconciliation and the "**peaceable kingdom**" Isaiah foretells.

Dear All Souls friends –

We wanted to share a quick appreciation to All Souls Episcopal Church for your ongoing donations to the Woodley House Food Pantry. We've attached a flier of gratitude as well.

The Parish's food donations have contributed to an outpouring of support this fall that has left our pantry shelves more stocked than they've been in years! And it couldn't have come at a more critical time for our community.

Wishing you and everyone at All Souls a healthy and happy Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

-Dan

Dan Schiff (he/him/his)

Director of Development & Marketing



Reminder:
Next Sunday
December 14
is our 2nd
Sunday
collection!

THANK YOU

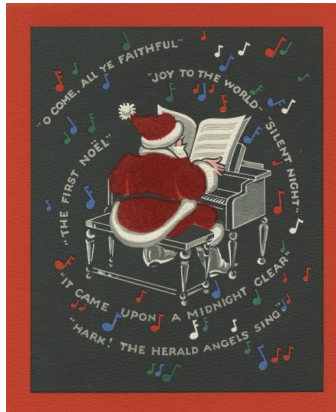
to our friends and neighbors at
All Souls Episcopal Church for your
generous contributions to the
Woodley House Food Pantry this year!



Woodley House Donations



THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS GATHERING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH RSVP TODAY!



The Men's Fellowship will be meeting on **Wednesday, December 10th** in the Undercroft.

The fellowship hour will begin at 5:30 pm and we will serve a **home-cooked meal at 6:30 pm.**

To celebrate the season, we will gather around the piano and sing Christmas carols!

If you plan to attend,
please send an email to Ike Brannon at
chiefdeputyusher@gmail.com.

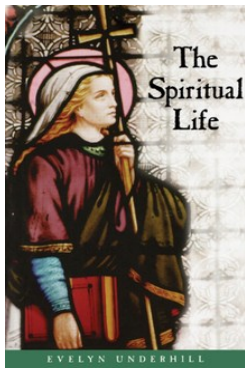


**EPISCOPAL 101
BEGINS IN JANUARY
WEDNESDAYS,
6:30-7:30 PM**

Mother Sara will facilitate a new series of seven classes beginning **January 7th, 2026 and ending on Wednesday, February 25th.** There will be no class on Ash Wed., Feb. 18. The classes will be held in-person in the Conference room.

This class is for anyone new to the church or long time members seeking a "refresher" course! Taking the class prepares those interested in being received, confirmed or baptized into the Episcopal church. Come and ask all your questions, and make new friends in the dark and cold winter months!

Sign up online or at the Welcome table.



FALL FAITH FORUM SERIES

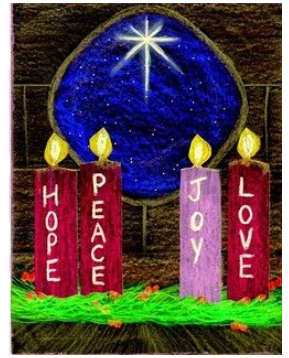
Sundays at 10 am,
in the Conference Room

The following four Sundays in Advent:

DEC. 7: *The Spiritual Life*, by Evelyn Underhill
with Sebastian Wellford

DEC. 14: *The Spiritual Life*, by Evelyn Underhill
with vEnessa Acham

DEC. 21: *Pastoral Visit* by Bishop Mariann Budde



OUTREACH COMMITTEE CLOTHING DRIVE

The Outreach Committee is planning a clothing drive to benefit So Others Might Eat, a local charity serving homeless individuals in Washington, D.C. (<https://some.org/>). We hope to collect clothing in Mid-January. We are hoping you will set aside things now as you go through your winter garments and find some that are in good shape that you no longer need. Please have them laundered or cleaned. Here is their "wish list":

CLOTHING WISH LIST:

- ◎ New underwear for men and women, especially larger sizes (their greatest need)
- ◎ New or gently worn socks for men and women
- ◎ New or gently worn bras
- ◎ Casual shoes
- ◎ Belts
- ◎ Men's jeans and casual pants
- ◎ Men's shirts
- ◎ Sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets (cold season only)

*Thank you in advance for
thinking of your neighbors in need
over the coming holidays.*

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec. 14, The Third Sunday of Advent

10 am - Forum: *Conference Room*

11 am - Holy Eucharist with organ and choir

Sunday, Dec. 21, The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10 am - Forum with Bishop Budde:
Conference Room

11 am - Holy Eucharist & confirmation
with organ and choir; **Bishop's visit**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve

5 pm - **Lessons and Carols, family service**
with reserved Sacrament

9 pm- **Festive Holy Eucharist**
with organ and choir

Thursday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day

11 am - Holy Eucharist *with* organ, soloist
and hymns

Sunday, Dec. 28, Christmas I

11 am - Holy Eucharist *with* organ and choir
The Rev. Martin Smith,
Guest preacher and celebrant

Christmas Flower Dedications and Donations



Please help beautify the church for Christmas with your flower donations. We will print dedications in the Christmas leaflets. Leave in the offering plate with check or pay online by **this Wed., Dec. 10th.**

Parish Prayer List

The Washington Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:

Latino Ministries in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington

In the Wider Anglican Communion, we pray for:

The Church of Bangladesh

For those who are sick or in need, we pray especially for:

Robert, Christopher, Laura, Warren, Shinn, Charles, Eric, Joann, Ron, Russell, Amanda, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan;

We Give Thanks for:

All who continue giving of their time to the mission of All Souls including our Vestry, Wardens, Volunteers and Ministry Leaders.

Submit prayer requests to Andrea in the church office (andrea@allsoulsdc.org) or Mother Sara (rector@allsoulsdc.org) to stay on for a month at a time.

We are prepared to pray indefinitely for your requests.

*Healing prayer is available after Holy Eucharist
on the **1st and 3rd Sundays**, at the Mary Chapel.*



Christmas Gifts for Needy Children Collection deadline December 14th.

All Souls is doing our annual collection of gifts for the needy children at Housing Up. Carolyn Kulischeck, Julia O'Hanlon and Sheila Arbury made 50 "ornaments" for the tree which have the names and ages of each of the 50 recipients. Please consider **taking several** this Sunday to *brighten a child's life*.

The gifts have to be wrapped and brought to the church by December 14th.

They will be taken to Housing Up on the 15th.

Please do take an ornament and bring joy to a child as we anticipate Jesus' birth at Christmas, God's best-ever gift to all of humankind.

Deep thanks in advance!

