

October 2026

Blessing of the Animals

St. Francis of Assisi is best remembered for his faithful witness to God's love for all creation. It's become our custom to follow his example by acknowledging the importance of our animal companions and asking God's blessing on them.

Bring your furry, feathered, scaly, spiny, or slithery friends, properly restrained for everyone's comfort, to All Saints' annual Pet Blessing. We'll gather on the labyrinth on **Sunday, October 4 at 4pm**. Hope to see you and your friends there!



Diocesan Convention

This year's Diocesan Convention, taking place over the weekend of October 16-18, will be held locally at the Red Lion in Pasco. There will be some changes to our normal Sunday services at All Saints' on **October 18**.

Morning Prayer will be held at 8am, and there will be **no** 10:15am service. Instead, please worship with us Sunday morning in Pasco for the closing Eucharist of Convention! There will **not** be Sunday School, Children's Chapel, or Nursery that morning.

We have not received any details yet if volunteers from the congregation will be needed for Sunday, but please keep an eye on the bulletins and Wednesday Word as we learn more information.

Trivia Night Returns!

About a year ago, when we were talking to parishioners about what type of fundraiser they enjoy, many of you suggested trivia. We took your suggestions to heart, and this year, Outreach Trivia Night is back by popular demand, on **Saturday, October 24!**

If you've played trivia in a bar, or attended our fundraiser in 2019, you'll know that Trivia Night is an informal, fun competition where teams of up to 6 battle to see which group has the greatest collection of random - and sometimes specific - knowledge bumping around in their brains. No studying required! Remember that none of us is as smart as all of us, and what you don't know, one of your teammates probably does. It's a great opportunity to laugh, socialize, enjoy snacks and beverages, and make a generous donation to Outreach.

Doors will open at 6pm, to give you a chance to visit (or make that donation to Outreach) before the trivia rounds start at 6:30pm. Beverages and snacks will be provided for you to nibble on while you play, with the evening winding down at about 8:30pm.

To keep things simple this year, we are not selling tickets. However, we **DO** need you to sign up in advance so we know how to assign tables and how

many snacks to buy. From October 4 - 18 there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex (or call the office if you can't make it to church). You can sign up as a team with up to 6 players, or you can sign up as a couple or individual and we'll add you to one of the smaller teams. Older kids (think: 12 and up) should be able to participate. We can arrange child care for younger kids with advance notice - contact the office or Theresa Grate.



Day of the Dead

On **October 25**, we will have a combined education hour for all ages from 9-10am, and we will start with a Godly Play-style story about the Day of the Dead, told in the multi-purpose room. Following the story, you will be invited to share your stories at the *ofrenda*, and work on traditional crafts (sugar skulls, flowers, skeletons, *papel picado*). Day of the Dead is a wonderful way to remember the saints who have come before us.

El Dia de los Muertos is celebrated each year on November 1st and 2nd, when families honor their loved ones who have died. This holiday has its origins in ancient Mesoamerican cultures that blended with those of the Spanish Catholic conquistadors, who arrived in Mexico in the early 1500s. The Aztecs believed that life and death were the forces of the earth and a natural part of the cycle of regeneration. Bodies die and go back to being part of the earth.

Rituals developed to honor the souls of the departed, including leaving food, burning incense, and making an *ofrenda*/offering. The Spanish encouraged the indigenous people to practice these rituals on All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. The Day of the Dead is the joyful holiday that resulted. Today, people build the altars in their homes, decorated with candles, flowers, and food. Trips to the cemetery involve cleaning the graves, eating, and all-night parties with live music and memorable stories.

All Saints' continues to celebrate the Day of the Dead and the saints who have come before us. We will have an altar set up in the parish hall: please bring your pictures of loved ones who have died (include the name on the frame or with a separate paper), along with a favorite item/food of theirs, to add to this altar. You will have the opportunity to share a story on Oct. 25 during the education hour. This altar will remain up through Nov. 1 (All Saints' Day) and you may leave your items on it for the week.



Internal Ministry Fair Oct. 11

The semi-annual internal ministry fair will be held after each service on **October 11**, which is also the first Sunday the Rev. Rachel Endicott, our interim priest, will be with us, so this is a fabulous opportunity to acquaint her with the works of All Saints' folks.

The head of each group has been notified by email to be prepared to manage a table that will tell the story of the mission of the group. Tables can be either round or square; please let Meg Milligan, Blake Slonecker, or Rev. Rachel Jackson know which you prefer.

Parish members will be able to see what each ministry does and also which one(s) they could sign up with to help. This is a great opportunity to learn more about any that you've been curious about! There will be the usual coffee hour, so grab a plate and wander around and get to know the ministries that makes All Saints' tick.

Children and Youth Ministries – October 2026

No Sunday School, Children's Chapel, or Nursery on October 18. We will all be in Pasco for the Diocesan Convention. Come worship there!

Godly Play is our Sunday school program for young children in preschool and elementary school. They meet in the Godly Play classroom on Sundays from 9 to 10 AM. Visitors and friends are always welcome. This month looks a little different, as we have two Sundays where we will not hold Godly Play class.

Our Godly Play stories this month are:

Oct. 4 - NO CLASS

Oct. 11 - The Great Family

Oct. 18 - NO CLASS

Oct. 25 - Day of the Dead

Youth Class. Youth in middle and high school meet on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10am. During the first two weeks of October they will be meeting in

the library to view and discuss some Bible Project Videos about the Character of God. There is **no** class on October 18 for Convention, and combined on October 25 for Day of the Dead.

Halloween candy needed. Any donations of wrapped Halloween candy would be much appreciated for our neighborhood trick-or-treat and for the Trunk or Treat at the Early Learning Center. Please drop off in the church office or bring on a Sunday, no later than **October 18**.



Teachers wanted: we are looking for parishioners interested in spreading the word and love of God to our young people. Both our Godly Play class, and our youth class, are looking for new leaders who are interested in helping in those classes. This would not be an every week commitment. See Theresa at the Ministry Fair if you are interested!

Youth Group, October 18, 5 to 7 PM. All young people in grades 6 through 12 are invited to come to these monthly in-person gatherings, and friends are welcome. We start with dinner and end with Compline, with activities and service projects in between. This month we will be making preparations for Day of the Dead and Halloween, including making sugar skulls. If you would like to be on the Youth Group email list, contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org.

Trunk or Treat at ELC, October 23. All Saints' will be sponsoring a trunk at Trunk or Treat at the Early Learning Center in Richland on the evening of October 23, from 5:30-8pm. If you are interested in helping out (youth or adults), please contact Theresa for details.

Treats for the Community, October 31. All Saints' will be "open" for trick-or-treating to our neighbors beginning at 5pm on Saturday the 31st in the narthex. If you would like to help pass out candy, please contact Theresa. And if you are out trick-or-treating that night, stop by and show us your costume!

New Choir Director

A note from your friendly neighborhood Music Director: I am so excited to announce that we have hired George Spencer as the new choir director for All Saints'! George returns to us from Whitworth University where he double-majored in education and music. He has been playing music consistently on numerous instruments (piano, trombone, guitar, and even the accordion) since age 10. George started singing in the All Saints' choir when he was 13 years old. Please join me in welcoming George!

Spiritual Life Inventory

As you've heard, we've launched the RenewalWorks Survey, aka the Spiritual Life Inventory (SLI), to understand the current spiritual profile of All Saints' congregation. We need *everyone's* help on this; please set aside about 30 minutes to take this anonymous, confidential survey. Some of the questions pertain to us as individuals, while some pertain to our understanding of our church.

The survey is available online and will stay open until October 11: <https://bit.ly/allsaintsSLI>. You can also find a direct link in the earlier SLI email that went out, or use the QR code below. If you would prefer a paper copy, please request one by calling the church office. We need at least 75 members (ages 16+) to take the survey for the results to be valid, so please have every adult in your family submit a response!

We'll receive a data report after the SLI closes that we can use in developing a Parish Profile to be used in calling a new Rector next year. Any priests discerning a new call will want to learn about the current spiritual profile and needs of our parish.

Questions?
Ask Katy
O'Callaghan, Caleb
Thomas, Marjie
Mack, or Jan Wells.



Saints and Sinners

Saints and Sinners will meet for their monthly social hour and potluck dinner in the parish hall at All Saints' on **Friday, October 16**. Saints and Sinners is a social group open to all adults of the parish and we are delighted to have additional folks join us. Since no one has volunteered to hosts please come prepared to help set up tables and chairs.

We have a social hour at 6 to 6:30 or 6:45 pm with wine and non-alcoholic beverages, and eat dinner after. Couples, please bring either a main dish or two sides (starter, salad, side dish, or dessert); singles bring one of these. Bring a \$5 donation if you would like wine. Also, please bring your own table service if possible.

We will have a signup sheet in the Narthex the preceding Sunday or you can call or text Linda Munson at 509-521-8981. If you don't sign up you can still come as we have ample tables and chairs and there is always plenty of food.



From the Senior Warden

Our new interim priest (priest in charge), Rachel Endicott, will begin work at All Saints' the week of October 5, with her first Sunday being October 11. We want to give her a warm welcome.

We have hired a Choir Director, George Spencer. He will start October 1. The choir is very pleased. John is also happy; since he only has two hands, it's hard to play piano/organ and direct at the same time.

The Vestry has submitted our "State of the Congregation Report" to the Bishop. At the last Vestry meeting on September 21, we appointed Blake Slonecker and Andy Gilbert to the positions of Co-Chaplains to serve throughout the Calling Process. We also appointed Katy O'Callaghan to serve as our Profile Chair, and Al Wells to work on entering the information on the website.

This Calling Process will take some months to complete. Please be patient and keep all who are

involved in this process in your prayers. If you have questions, please ask someone on the Vestry. Remember that we may not be able to respond since confidentiality is important, but we will tell you what we can.

Finally, we are asking you to participate in a Spiritual Life Inventory. It has been sent out by email, or you may get a hard copy if you prefer. Please help us by responding to this survey; it is important to the profile process. The sooner we can gather the information we need the faster we can proceed. See pg. 3 for more information.

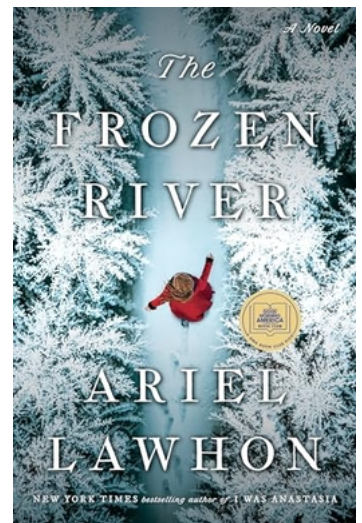
All Saints' Book Group

Our next book to read is *The Frozen River*, a 2024 historical fiction novel by Ariel Lawhon and an NPR Book of the Year. Maine, 1789: the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, and Martha Ballard, the town midwife and healer, is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. The man found dead is one of the town's most respected gentlemen, and a man recently accused of rape. The new doctor in town undermines Martha's conclusion of murder, however, declaring the death to be an accident.

Over the course of one winter, Martha pursues the truth, even though members of her own family may be implicated. This thrilling story was inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system. It's also a fascinating look at the early American court system.

We will meet to discuss this book on **Thursday, October 22**, beginning with a potluck at 6pm in the multi-purpose room.

Please join us! All are welcome. Contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org if you would like to get on the Book Group list for reminders.



Vestry Member of (Last) Month

Introducing: Meg Milligan! Meg was our vestry person of the month for September, but failed to get her information into Rachel on time, so here's a few things about Meg you may not know. She's been an Episcopalian since she was 4, when the Lutheran church in Butte, MT, told her mom that she was welcome to come but please don't bring your kids (they were a bit much). Mom read an advertisement about a coffee hour following the service at St. John's Episcopal church, and they offered Sunday school, so - problem solved.

Meg was confirmed at 12, and her mom was the first female lay-reader in St. John's, so she comes from a long line of pioneer women. Meg briefly considered pursuing life as an Episcopal priest, but enjoyed her work as an engineer and continued with that until she retired last December. She is married to Randy Milligan, the love of her life. They have no children, but they enjoy multiple nieces and nephews who can be spoiled and returned to their parents, so it works out.



Meg serves on the Ministry Committee and is also in the choir, as well as the Coffee Host Coordinator. She and Randy agree All Saints' is the best church they've ever been a part of.

Junk Journaling Class

Spark your creativity and learn about "Junk Journaling" in a workshop hosted by our own Laura Hendrickson, on **Saturday, Nov. 7, from 2-4pm**, in the multipurpose room. There is no fee for the class, although free will donations are accepted to offset the cost of materials.

Ever wished you could record memories of favorite trips, family events, or favorite activities? Junk Journaling allows your inner child artist to express

itself. No special artistic talent required: just the ability to use scissors and glue, and share your story or memory through images and words.

You'll learn how to create mini books and how to assemble a basic journal that can be:

- a celebration of special events, such as graduation, birth of a baby, or holiday memories
- a space to hold your thoughts about a topic, such as spirituality or daily life
- a place to remember: loved ones or travels
- room to experiment and explore art materials and your creativity

Papers and ephemera (such as stickers and tags) will be provided. Bring: a good pair of scissors, adhesive (glue stick, liquid glue, double sided tape - what works best for you), and a willingness to try something new.

Optional: magazines and other collage (cutting and gluing) items, such as fabric scraps, lace, washi tape (low tack Japanese tape), and photos/copies of photos, favorite markers/pens/pencils.

Journal samples and patterns for mini books will be available to spark your imagination. Bring your playful, creative spirit and explore Junk Journaling with an art educator who loves sharing ideas and techniques that are simple and fun.

Call/text Laura Hendrickson at (509) 366-3229 to register. Note: I am an art teacher for Pasco School District. Calls will go to voicemail when I am teaching. Please leave a message!



The class is limited to 12 participants, so be sure to register ahead of time. If there is enough interest, I will consider offering another session and place names on a waitlist. I'm so excited to create with y'all!

Save the Date - Book Sale!

Save the date (and especially your books!) for the upcoming Used Book Sale! In order to make it a success we need your gently used books, puzzles, and DVDs. Donations will be accepted the week prior to the sale.

The book sale will run on **Friday and Saturday, Nov. 6 and 7**, with a “last chance” bargain-priced sale the following Sunday morning. Spread the word and plan to stock up on lots of great new reads to support the work of these wonderful ministries.

Stay tuned for more details and a volunteer sign-up sheet! If you have any questions, want to help out, or need to arrange a pick-up time for your donations, please contact Rachel Loer in the church office at admin@allsaintsrichland.org.



Vestry Meeting Summary

All Saints' Vestry met on September 21 and spent its formation time discussing chapter 6 of *Following Jesus in a Culture of Fear*, which discussed maintaining trust and hope in uncertain times such as we find ourselves in these days.

The Property Committee will be placing lights in each stall of the bathrooms to light up what are very dark rooms when the lights go out. The Ministry Committee will hold the semi-annual internal ministry fair on October 11; after each service, tables will have information and people from the various ministries explaining what they do and how we can all help.

The Administrative Committee offered a draft 2027 budget and reported that the 2026 budget is on track and we are doing well. Andy Gilbert was approved as chaplain for the search committee, and Senior Warden Jan Well proposed Katy O'Callaghan to head the Profile Committee and Al Wells as tech

support. Dave DeGrenier will be taking pictures for a new directory starting Sunday, October 4.

Gathering Day was held at All Saints' on Saturday, Sep. 26, with people in attendance from many towns in the Diocese, including Richland, Yakima, and Walla Walla. The theme was “The Role of Music in our Liturgy,” and it was a great discussion on the importance of music. Rev. Canon Susan Cleveley led the discussion and we learned many things about music and the church; why the people of God sing, what a gift music is, and what emotional power music can have. Lunch was provided by the Diocese, and All Saints' provided drinks and breakfast-appropriate foods. It was open to all, and those who came enjoyed the discussion and the music provided.

We Give Thanks...

- to the youth who washed cars and collected over \$450 in donations for local charities: Avery, Claire, Lilly, Reilly, Iris, Bethany, and Ethan, along with Andy Gilbert and Amanda Riedinger.
- to all who donated items and those who packed 50 hygiene bags for people displaced by wildfires: youth members Lilly, Chloe, Bethany, and Alice, along with Elizabeth Arnold, John Spencer, and Teri Bartol. Additional thanks to Mike O'Neill for delivering the kits to White Swan.
- to everyone who helped with set-up, clean up, or food at Gathering Day, including: Meg Milligan, Katy O'Callaghan & Matt Lawrence, Theresa Grate, Marjie Mack, Jan & Al Wells, Ann Barry, Lisa Richmond, Caleb Thomas, Bruce Gillespie, and Jan Griffin.
- to the many people who made Rev. Jane's last Sunday such a marvelous celebration, and especially to Katy O'Callaghan for coordinating the garden party.
- to George Carter, Mike O'Neill, Marjie and Eric Mack, Paige & Mary Andrew, and Al & Jan Wells - the whirlwind who helped Rev. Jane clean out her office.