



*We feed people — body,
mind, and spirit.
Come as you are.*

St. Giles
Episcopal Church
Northbrook, Illinois

Volume 66 Issue 8
November 2020

A Message from our Priest-in-charge; Fr. Tom Scott:

Dear friends,

Jim Brooks remarked to me recently that he's been talking with people about the search for the next rector of St. Giles. A recurring topic has been whether or not a full-time priest is necessary for now. Jim asked me to write about my view of the matter. I agreed, noting three things: I've said most (if not all) of what follows to the search committee and the diocese, so this is not new; I want to underscore that I was trained long ago in a different era, and while I have worked to keep current in my thinking, I don't have the full benefit of current clergy formation practices and work patterns; I serve St. Giles on a very limited basis, so I have not much grounding in the local situation. So, when the Sr. Warden asked me to write out my thoughts, I agreed.

The ordination and celebration of new ministry liturgies—found online at: www.bcponline.org and www.churchpublishing.org — are very useful reference points for any discussion about defining the godly and reasonable terms and expectations of a call to serve a congregation, either full or part time. I used what I lay out here for my own work during my active service, and am glad to share my views. Please remember, these are my views and not any kind of official statement. The diocese has trained staff who will communicate the current expectations to the search committee and vestry.

It is important to be clear from the beginning that the liturgical resources—along with the canons of the church—outline the work of a cleric independent of any particular situation. How a priest “works” is defined by both the ordination liturgy, the celebration of new ministry, and the leadership of a diocese whether or not the congregation compensates a priest for full or part-time service. By this we all need to understand that serving a congregation is only one part of what is commonly called the “job description”. When a congregation calls a priest as rector, they are not “hiring” a cleric to serve them; the reality is much richer, more wonderful, and more open for marvelous things to happen than a mere fee for service relationship. Remembering this will encourage and challenge everyone involved.

There are actually four aspects or areas of a parish priest's responsibility, in my view: The bishop and diocese; the congregation; the Christian community locally and at large; the wider world. Let's explore these.

The primary and fundamental unit of the Episcopal Church is the diocese and its bishop. There are no independent congregations or clergy. We are all grounded somewhere. Congregations are diocesan outposts; clergy—priests and deacons—are the local presence and agents of the bishop (fingers on the hand, if you will). That is part of the purpose of having the organizational structure we have in the Episcopal Church. I, for example, am canonically resident (under the jurisdiction of) the diocese of Western Michigan and its bishop. I am licensed to serve congregations in the diocese of Chicago by courtesy.

Clergy take an oath to obey the canons of the Church and to remain in communion with, and obedient to, the diocesan authority under which they serve when they are ordained. The Letter of Institution that is read aloud at the celebration of new ministry re-affirms this. Part of that obedience and collegial identity involves participating in what the ordination service calls “the councils of the church”—which means being engaged in everything from committee work to appointed and elected office in the diocese and beyond. So, whether the call to St. Giles is full or part time, a portion of that call must be understood to be dedicated to diocesan and perhaps other service. It cannot be regarded as something for the priest to do in her “off hours”. It is not optional. The same reasoning applies to diocesan clergy days, conventions, and so on. (Continued on [Page 5](#))

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Current Schedule

Sundays

Indoor Morning Prayer
Service -10:15 AM

Thursdays

5:30 PM: Zoom Virtual
“Pray & Chat”



St. Giles Episcopal Church

3025 Walters Ave.
Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847-272-6622
www.saint-giles.org

Office Hours

Monday: Office closed
Tues-Thurs: 9 AM - 2 PM
Friday: Office closed

Diocese of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Lee,
Bishop

Vestry

James Brooks, Sr. Warden
Kay Okoli, Jr. Warden
Ellie Bonebrake
Ted Chabraja
John Hanzel
Glenn Hunt
Lewis Kirkwood
William Perley
Gloriann Harris, Treasurer
Ned Libby, Bookkeeper
Tom Page, Chancellor

Team Leaders

Building & Grounds (Facilities) -
Bob Schultz
Communications - John Hanzel
Fundraising - Huw Williams
Green - James Brooks
Hospitality - Jan Hutchins-DeWitt
Newcomers - George Miller
Pastoral Care - Leslie Ruttenberg
Social Justice - Jocelyn Turner

Staff

The Rev. Thomas Scott
Priest-in-charge
The Rev. Charles Hensel
Assisting Priest
Jim Brown
Director of Music
Cathy Leimbeck
Parish Administrator
admin@saint-giles.org

Parish Profiles:

*(Interviewed by Jim Brooks)
Meet Nancy Schultz*



We (We (Bob and I) have been attending Saint Giles since September 1995. Before coming to St. Giles, we were attending Christ Church in Winnetka where I taught Sunday school. When my son Rob was in eighth grade I realized he needed to be confirmed, so I called St. Giles (Jay Risk) and the Presbyterian church in Northbrook. Jay didn't call back, so we went to the Presbyterian church.

Later, when we were at the funeral for Bob's father, at a Catholic church, I told Bob that I missed the Episcopal traditions I had grown up with, so we decided to just go to St. Giles and see what it was like. At our first visit we were both struck by what a great sound the small choir made, and after service a singer named John Thomas invited me to join the choir. I sent an email to the choir director, James Brown, asking him whether I could join the adult choir and my daughter could join the junior choir. He said yes to both requests, and I've been singing in the St. Giles choir ever since.

I really like the feeling of a smaller community at St. Giles, and I've known people here for years. Our church is a very welcoming place.

My joining the choir was a perfect choice for me because I love singing. I find that the whole spiritual part of my faith comes to me through singing. It's really hard for me to attend church when I'm not singing; it doesn't have the same depth for me. My favorite music is "Magnificat," by Herbert Brewer. I really like singing almost everything that Jim asks us to sing.

A little known "secret from the choir loft" is that we actually have two music directors: the inimitable Jim Brown and a rubber chicken that sits on the organ and motivates us.

My fridge always contains:

- eggs
- butter
- oat milk

Some "fun facts" about me:

- I'm a trained nurse
- I have three older brothers
- I was a serious tomboy when growing up (I played golf and tennis competitively when I was younger)

After graduating a year early from Northshore Country Day School, I was accepted by Wellesley College, but they wanted me to travel for a year before enrolling. Instead, I went to Pitzer College in California and earned a B.S. in anthropology (which I never used!). During my divorce, I enrolled at Oakton Community College and earned a nursing degree. Then Bob and I had Christine, I stayed home to care for her and began working part-time at the Music Institute of Chicago with Jim Brown. This "part-time" job turned into a 20-year career! Currently, I am working with my son Rob as a finance manager for his construction company.

I love spending time with our families and children and grandchildren and dogs. Another passion I have is for playing—wait for this—Pokémon Go! Bob drives me around to parks and other places I wouldn't (and he wouldn't) normally visit, and I have developed a group of friends through this very social game (though the social gatherings have been curtailed during COVID19).

Talk to me if you have any questions about music, our choir or construction financing.



November Birthdays

Birthdays:

- 4 Ted Chabraja
- 18 Bob Schultz
- 20 Christine Schultz
- 30 Pat Miller

On Behalf of the Glenbrook CROP Walk:

Thanks to your help, as of Monday morning 10/19 Glenbrook CROP Walk has raised \$16,885, of which St. Giles has contributed \$1,250. We had four virtual walkers and nine donors. On Sunday we had a socially-distanced, rainy, cold walk around the poetry prayer pumpkin patch after our service. Thanks to the Labyrinth Team for their hard work! People here in our community and around the world will benefit from your generosity!



November Lectionary Readings

November 1—All Saints' Day

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8—23 Pentecost

Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15—24 Pentecost

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 22—Last Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

November 29—1 Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

October Vestry Meeting Recap:

The October vestry meeting was opened with a prayer by Kay Okoli. This was the first in-person meeting since the pandemic procedures were enacted earlier this year.

The primary topic of concern was opening the church for indoor services. The original target date was to be the first Sunday of November, but due to the current downturn in temperatures has been moved up to 10/25/20. We came up with tentative procedures as to how this will be implemented and will adjust them as necessary if there are any issues.

The full vestry will meet with the rector candidate on Sunday afternoon, followed by a joint meeting with the candidate and search committee as per diocesan guidelines.

The meeting continued with a discussion about the stewardship campaign for the upcoming year. Due to the current national health & financial issues it was agreed to notify the parishioners to ask if they could match their pledge from 2020.

The next items discussed were removal of a dead tree and repair / replacement work on the windows at the east side of the sacristy which are in desperate need of repair. It was agreed to go ahead with both items, along with further clarification on funding from Bonnie & Gloriann.

The minutes of the September Zoom vestry meeting were approved.

John also mentioned that the diocesan election of the new bishop is coming up. If anyone is interested in the process and what is involved on the parish level, please contact him.

The meeting ended with a prayer led by Kay.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn R Hunt



Senior Warden's Report:

Greetings All Saint Gileans,

Since we began conducting outdoor prayer service on August 16, 2020, we have had an average attendance of 20 members. Although many have expressed they miss the full service, people generally seem happy to at least have an opportunity to congregate and share readings and prayers together.

Perhaps our most memorable recent service was on October 4, 2020, Saint Francis Day, when Father Tom blessed pets that accompanied their owners. We had four canines, one feline and one canine surrogate (a stuffed animal stand-in), and Tom went down to their level to greet and bless them all. Everyone was well-behaved (even the 25 humans!), and it was a special service for us all.

Unfortunately, Tom's wife, Dorothy, tested positive for Covid-19 in mid-October. Neither she nor Tom were showing or experiencing symptoms of the virus. We hope that by the time you read this, they are both "out of the covid-19 woods" and able to join us for Sunday prayer service.

Due to Tom's self-quarantine, we held a self-led prayer service on Sunday October 18, and members took turns reading. We had no homily, but the service was still meaningful and fulfilling for all in attendance.

Our Vestry met October 20, 2020, and voted to conduct prayer services indoors beginning Sunday October 25, 2020. We may have to adjust how we are seated in different pews and how to distribute bulletins, but we are hopeful.

The Vestry also approved two proposals from our Buildings and Grounds team:

1. To replace windows on the east side of the Sacristy and
2. To remove the old apple tree that is nearest the church (wood chips to be used in our Community Garden).

The Vestry is setting up online contributions so that all members may make pledge payments securely from the comfort of their homes. Details will be sent to all members when this option is active. In the meantime, please write "DEPOSIT ONLY" on the back of your check before sending it to St. Giles.

Another financial moment that is worth sharing: Former parishioner Bee Roberts made an extremely generous gift (six figures) to St. Giles. This is worth noting because it not only increases our Legacy Society's holdings (which benefits our entire faith community), but it also reminds us to keep St. Giles in mind when we are writing our wills and doing estate planning. **Please remember St. Giles in your will and charitable giving plan. Thank you.**

This year the Diocesan Convention will be held "virtually," November 21, so our delegates, Meredith Brooks and John Hanzel, will not be physically attending. Father Tom will also attend virtually, even though he will not vote (he's still a resident of the Diocese of Western Michigan).

Our safety precautions are in effect for our **indoor** prayer services. **Space is limited to 50 people total.**

- Members planning to attend an indoor service shall:
- Take your own temperature at home prior to attending our service.
- If a member feels ill, or has a temperature above 100.3, s/he should stay home (and get well soon).
- Maintain a distance of at least six feet from non-family members.
- **Wear a face mask at all times while inside the church.**
- Pick up a copy of the provided bulletin for the service.
- **Place your offering in the collection basket; it won't be passed among members.**
- Refrain from handshakes, hugs, kisses, etc., with non-family members.
- No singing will be permitted at the service.
- Take the bulletin home and dispose of it safely.
- At the end of the service, exit immediately, avoid lingering and large gatherings.
- No coffee hour will take place after the service.
- A limited number of disposable face masks will also be available and provided as needed.
- Hand sanitizer will also be available.
- Bathroom will be available; people are asked to use disinfectant wipes to clean all touch points after using the wash-room.

Please follow these steps carefully and thoroughly for the safety of others and ourselves. We look forward to seeing you in church soon!

Respectfully Submitted; James Brooks, Senior Warden



(Message from Fr. Tom Scott, cont'd. from Page 1)

By the way, in the course of the celebration of a new ministry, the congregation commits itself to the vision and values expressed in the canons and liturgy. This is aimed, in part, to make clear to everyone that both the priest and the congregation have the same outlook. If difficulties arise, reviewing this liturgy and the documents can remind everyone that there is an objective, neutral, and binding view of what a priest's work should imitate.

The next area of responsibility for a parish priest is the congregation itself. This is how and where many people see their priest, though as we have seen it is actually only a part of a larger enterprise. A priest has two tracks of responsibility here. The first is to be the chief pastor, liturgist, evangelist, and teacher for the congregation—and being up to date on the best current thinking in these areas; the second is to be the president and chair of the Vestry and the corporate entity that is the congregation. Any priest worth her salt and any reasonably healthy congregation lay leadership circle understand together that one person is not likely to do both sets of tasks with equal skill, and everyone will want to pray for and assist in discerning the best way to share these labors for the benefit and building up of the congregation, fostering the fullness of every member ministry, and the enabling the spread of the gospel. Again, the priest's responsibilities are framed by the canons and the liturgies and anticipated in the training a cleric receives in seminary and in subsequent programs. Of course, personal development and mentoring for clergy are a part of this on-going process as well.

A companion thought to this is that there are the recurring responsibilities (liturgy and worship, pastoral ministry, spiritual formation and education, planning, paperwork, budgets, buildings and grounds, etc.) that are ever-present. In addition, discerning and planning for the longer term realities and opportunities a congregation will have requires time, prayer, learning, and conversation with key people to bring to fruition. Priest and congregation work together ideally, though the initial leading may come from either side. Some examples of this might be doing the on-going work in anti-racism training and re-formation of our community life or carrying out an extensive effort to establish a new ministry initiative or developing a futures and legacies structure in congregational stewardship or a major building and space renovation or a fundamental shift of attention and dedication to new member ministry, and so on. These projects take time—years!—along with resources, dedication, and prayer.

The wider Christian community involvement I mentioned above encompasses everything from creating and coordinating events and liturgies with and supporting local churches. Our recent participation in CROP Walk and being part of Holy Week worship are good examples. What stands behind this is a pattern and practice of spending time with local clergy over lunch, in meetings, on the phone, etc. These engagements take on real importance in times of crisis and concern. But the preparation for them happens in the course of ordinary life together, and that takes dedication and commitment. Of course, the priest ought not to be the only one engaged in this. Congregations as a whole can benefit mightily from such interactions and relationships. As with everything I say here, this work should not be ignored or passed over as not part of “the job” when thinking about the rector position.

Lastly, but not least, there is the witness given by a congregation and its priest through work with inter-faith (non-Christian) and non-religious groups in the civic life of one's community. Here might be seen actions and support for public services, public libraries, taking part in public celebrations, being a site for blood donations, civic gatherings, public health and welfare projects, social services and help for those in need. Here, too, the support and engagement of the congregation is vital, and the undertaking itself has a profound effect on the congregation and its awareness of its situation in the community. So, this work also is regarded as essential. It is through these activities that the priest and the congregation get more widely known and well-regarded in the community.

The designs and strategies a cleric may use in carrying out these responsibilities can fill a book! In my view the work of a priest should cover all four areas. This will require balance and mutual support and understanding. It is surely true that there are many ways one may follow to do the work. The actual design of a priest's service takes awhile to emerge and will change over time. But, I believe the aim should be to blend these four aspects so that one's service in and with, to and through a congregation is a Coherent enterprise, is Congruent with one's vows and letter of call, and is Christian in its content and purpose for a person serving a parish in the Episcopal Church. If it sounds like a lot, you're right. Finding ways to monitor and assess the work is no small part of the priest/vestry relationship.

I know this little essay has touched on many topics in a fairly abstract and general way. I think, though, that any good candidate, along with the staff, parish leadership, and diocesan authorities can see how what I've written here gives opportunity to connect the particular features and special needs of St. Giles with the many different realities in the diocese and broader church and the community of Northbrook to form a useful template for an ordained person's service in this congregation.

God's peace and joy,

TCHS



From Pugs to Poetry to Pumpkins ...



The "Season of Creation" may have officially ended on the feast day of Saint Francis, but the celebration at St. Giles continues with outdoor activities in October. The Poetry Path welcomes everyone (canines included) to "walk in love" about the churchyard and pause for a bit of thought-provoking verse tucked into the changing autumn landscape. There is seating for some great squirrel watching— they are LOVING the pumpkins!

Thanks to everyone for donating poems, prayers, photos (and pumpkins) to the project, which will conclude on Saturday, October 31, so invite a friend today and check out the Poetry Path.

Also, we will gather at the labyrinth for a bit of All Hallow's Eve fun and games ending with a labyrinth walk. It just might become a BLUE MOON and pickle-ball kind of day!



**St. Francis of Assisi ~ Pet Blessing
at St. Giles on October 4**



**We prayed for Buster's
broken toe to heal**



(Photos by John Hanzel)





ST. GILES EPISCOPAL CHURCH • NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints' Day Indoor Morning Prayer, with Necrology—10:15 AM	2 Office Closed	3	4	5 Zoom "Pray and Chat" - 5:30 PM	6 Office Closed	7
8 23 Pentecost Indoor Morning Prayer—10:15 AM	9 Office Closed	10	11	12 Zoom "Pray and Chat" - 5:30 PM	13 Office Closed	14
15 24 Pentecost Indoor Morning Prayer—10:15 AM <i>December Bells submissions due</i>	16 Office Closed	17 <i>7 PM—VIRTUAL Vestry Mtg.</i>	18	19 Zoom "Pray and Chat" - 5:30 PM	20 Office Closed	21
22 Last Pentecost Christ the King Indoor Morning Prayer—10:15 AM	23 Office Closed	24	25	26 Office Closed 	27 Office Closed	28
29 I Advent Indoor Morning Prayer—10:15 AM	30 Office Closed					

Time Change!

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 1.
Please set your clocks back one hour before retiring on Saturday night!

Diocesan Convention is November 21!

The 183rd Annual Diocesan Convention will be held virtually on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our delegates representing St. Giles are Meredith Brooks and John Hanzel. **EVERYONE** can listen in and follow what happens. *This is a free convention!* You can find more details at The 2020 Diocesan Convention Online; <https://episcopalchicago.org/governance/2020-diocesan-convention-online>.



St. Giles Church
3025 Walters Avenue
Northbrook, IL 60062-4399

www.saint-giles.org
Look for us on Facebook!

Time-Sensitive Material

