



Highlights of diocesan news in printable format — November 23, 2022

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From the Bishop

A Thanksgiving message

“Come, ye thankful people come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied:
come to God’s own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.”
– Hymnal 1982 #290

In this year when we continue to experience the goodness of God’s love, mercy, and blessings, I send my hopes for your Thanksgiving gathering to be filled with love and joy. May God’s presence within us guide us to bless those who are mourning, lonely, or hungry with comfort and plenty. Treasure this time, it is a precious gift given to us by the God who loves us.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Bishop Hughes

Diocesan Announcements

Episcopal House holiday closing

Episcopal House will be closed tomorrow in observance of Thanksgiving and Friday in observance of Native American Heritage Day.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. – Book of Common Prayer, p. 246

Announcing Alleluia Fund Season!

The diocesan Alleluia Fund for Outreach is anchored in the belief that all of us together can spread the incredible love of Jesus.

From adults in Newark earning their GED to people in Burundi getting clean water, the Alleluia Fund grants made possible by your donation change lives, unite people, and create new possibilities in communities both near and far.

You can mail a check (payable to the Diocese of Newark with “Alleluia Fund” in the memo line) to: The Diocese of Newark, 31 Mulberry Street, Newark, NJ 07102.

When you give to the Alleluia Fund, you are making tangible your desire to see all people live in safety and harmony. Thank you for your generous support!

Happening in the Wider Church

Once Again: Bishops United Statement on the Club Q Shooting

Bishops United Against Gun Violence has issued this statement in response to the November 20 shooting at Club Q in Colorado Springs:

Once again, beloved LGBTQ+ children of God have died at the hands of a gunman fueled by hatred.

Once again, beloved LGBTQ+ children of God have died at the hands of a gunman already known to police.

Once again, beloved LGBTQ+ children of God have died after a relentless campaign of vilification by politicians, pundits and television personalities.

Once again, beloved LGBTQ+ children of God have died at the hands of a gunman who should not have been allowed to obtain a weapon because guns are too easy to get, and too easy for people in crisis to keep.

Once again, In the face of this unspeakable evil, broken by sorrow and fired by rage, we put our faith in Jesus, whose triumph over death calls our church to act decisively against gun violence in all its forms.

Today, we call on all Episcopalians to fulfill the promises we make at baptism to strive for justice and peace by advocating for sensible gun laws in their states.

We call upon the Executive Council to invest in the ministry of Episcopalians advocating for gun violence prevention advocacy in their states by funding Resolution B006 of the 80th General Convention.

We pray for those who died at Club Q in Colorado Springs on Sunday morning. We pray for their families, for their friends, for the LGBTQ+

community, and for all who mourn. We pray for those who are injured and for those whose lives will never be the same. And we pray in thanksgiving for those who risked their lives in taking quick action to subdue the shooter, for the first responders, and for those who cared for the wounded and the dying.

O God who remembers, we hold before you all who have died from the plague of gun violence in our land. We remember those who have taken their lives with a gun, those who have died in school shootings and mass shootings, those who have died from gun violence fueled by anger, by abuse, by accident, by domestic violence, or by crime. We lift our voices in sorrow and frustration knowing that every life is infinitely valuable to you. Receive all who have died into the arms of your mercy, bless those who mourn with the hope of eternal life, and strengthen our hearts and our arms to bring an end to this scourge. This we pray in the name of the one who overcame the power of death, your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.