

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity welcomes you!

18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

Liturgy 6 Smells ...

And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. Revelation 8:4

Incense rounds out the sensual experience of the Liturgy with the sense of smell: not only the mind, but the whole body participates in the experience, affirming the importance of our bodies and of the physical world as God's creation.

Incense has been used at worship from the most ancient times, and was an important element of the liturgy of the Jerusalem Temple: Jesus and the early Jewish Christian Church would have been quite familiar with it. It is mentioned at the beginning (Zachariah, John the Baptist's father in the Temple; the magi bearing frankincense), and at the end (the heavenly altar in Revelation) of the New Testament – and at several points in between,

The first record of the use of incense in Christian worship appears in the diary of a nun Spanish nun Egeria (ca. 380 AD) on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, though it must have started well before that. Apparently it was something she was unaccustomed to in the West. By the 11th century though, the use of incense had become established everywhere and is was used by all Christians until the Reformation when it was abandoned by most Protestants until the liturgical revival of the 19th century.

Incense symbolizes the “prayers of the saints” that accompany the offering up of the elements of the bread and the wine, the offerings of the people, of the ministers and the people themselves at the Eucharist. The altar, the place where the offering is made is censed at the beginning of the Eucharist; the gospel book is censed as we glorify God for its proclamation among us; the bread, wine and collection are censed at the offertory, then one by one, the participants. The thurifer (the acolyte carrying the censer, or thurible) or the deacon (if there is one) first censes the presider, then other ministers, then the choir and finally the congregation. We are thus all offered up together in union with Christ's one offering in this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Psalm 141

SAINTS:

Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 25 September. Born in 1555 in Barking, Lancelot Andrewes studied at Merchant Taylors' School and then Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. After ordination, he held several posts before accepting appointment as bishop, first of Chichester, then of Ely and finally of Winchester in 1619. Andrewes was present at the Hampton Court Conference in 1604, which furthered the reform of the Church of England, and he was also a translator of much of the Old Testament of what is known as the 'Authorised Version' of the Bible. His preaching and his writings proved highly influential and his holiness of life and gentle nature endeared him to all who met him. He died on this day in the year 1626 and his remains lie in a church which was then in his diocese of Winchester but now is the cathedral for the diocese of Southwark.

Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of Lazarists, 27 September. Born in 1581 at Ranquine in Gascony, Vincent was educated by the Franciscans and was ordained at the age of nineteen. He was something of a token priest until his conversion in 1609, when he resolved to devote himself and all he owned to works of charity. He founded communities for men and, with Louise de Marillac, helped to begin the Sisters of Charity, the first community of women not to be enclosed and which was devoted to caring for the poor and sick. Vincent worked for the relief of galley slaves, victims of war, convicts and many other groups of needy people. He became a legend in his own lifetime and died on this day in the year 1660.

<p>MORNING PRAYER: 8:00a.m.,Chapel. (Tues, Wed; Fri & Sat)</p> <p>SEPTEMBER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Sept.26, Thursday, Healing mass, 3:00p.m.♦ Sept.28, Saturday, ECW FINANCIAL LITERACY FORUM, 2:00p.m. Sign-up on the board.; Wedding, 2:30p.m. <p>OCTOBER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Oct. 6, Sunday, French Service, 11:30a.m.♦ Oct. 12, Saturday, Wedding, 2:00p.m.♦ Oct. 13, Sunday, Visit of the delegates from the Council of Churches in East	<p>Asia (CHT to host guests from the Diocese of Eastern Kowloon, Anglican Church of Australia & Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines). Potluck follows the service; Wedding, 3:00p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Oct. 14, CCEA Closing ceremony, 5:00p.m.♦ Oct. 20, IP Sunday. 8:30a.m. JOINT EUCHARIST. Potluck follows the service.♦ Oct. 24, Thursday, Healing mass, 3:00p.m.♦ Oct. 27, Sunday, Vestry meeting, 11:00a.m.
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