

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week, we are grateful for our bounty

ADVENT EVENING WORSHIP OFFERINGS 2021

- 11/28: Advent "stations" with prayers, instrumental music, and a hymn or two. The unique stations will help us feel a connection to our brothers and sisters in faith around the world and through time.
- 12/5: Evensong; a service of scripture, prayer, and music, sung regularly in the Anglican church since the sixteenth century.
- 12/12: Blue Christmas, also called the Longest Night, gives space for those who are feeling sorrowful this season, and their friends who support them, to come and sit with one another, light candles, and listen to music, in a liturgy that speaks of the love of God for the grieving.
- 12/19: "Son et lumiere" images and colors accompanied by verses and music of Advent- this should be an awesome sensory experience.

5:00PM ON SUNDAYS

ALL are Welcome!

Sunday
Rite 1 spoken
8:00 am

Sunday
Rite 2 with music
10:30 am

Sunday
Advent Prayers
5:00 pm

Wednesday
12 noon
Intercessory Prayer

Thursday
7 pm
Evening Compline

Nothing will separate us
from the Love of God in Christ Jesus

- Romans 8:38-39

**To all persons who would like to use St Thomas's Parish envelopes
for their 2022 contributions:**

Please contact Jeanne Moore at jeannesmoore1@verizon.net or 302.292.1326. She will address and number them for you and have them ready for pickup in the Church Hall or Cana's office by December 20th. The printing company sends them out to us after December 1. Thank you for your generosity.



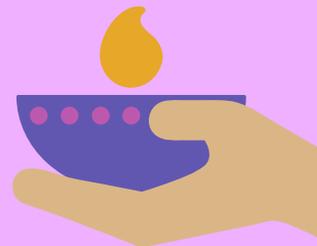
Diwali food donation

Diwali is widely celebrated—it's an important religious festival for Hindus, but is also observed among Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists—that it has no single origin story. But while each religion has its own historical narrative behind the holiday, they all ultimately represent the victory of good over evil. Diwali is observed on the 15th day of the Kartik month as per the Hindu Lunar calendar. This year the festival of Deepavali started on Thursday, November 4, and lasted for 5 days. For Indians, Diwali is a celebration of togetherness and faith. By lighting Diyas (lamps), they pray to eliminate darkness from our lives and welcome positivity, prosperity, wealth and good luck for the future. However, Diwali is not just about lighting Diyas. It's an opportunity to open hearts and assist the less fortunate in society.

In 2019, Blue Hen Bounty was fortunate to receive a large donation from a high school student who did a food collection as part of their celebration. They did so with the support of Diwali Food Drive. This year, another two highschoolers reached out, through the same organization, wanting to support BHB: Tejasvi Pathipati and Arin Nukiranti.

These youths, and their fathers and siblings came on Wednesday morning with a SUV FULL of non-perishables. They were very interested in knowing what was on the patrons' wish list, and learning more about how the bounty is publicized. They enjoyed the experience, and will be doing more service like this in the future. The relationship between BHB and Diwali Food Drive will continue.

It's of note that since the last Diwali Food Drive donation in 2019, both their organization and the Blue Hen Bounty have grown—despite a global pandemic that has slowed down almost everything else. The BHB has literally doubled in size, as has the number of universities that Diwali Food Drive works with. The number of people experiencing food insecurity has also grown during this crazy time, and it is amazing that with all of the volunteer restrictions and social distancing, both groups have boldly stepped up to give comfort and dignity to their neighbors in need.



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