

Rector's Report (submitted to Christ Church Eureka vestry on November 28, 2020)

- The month of October concluded with the Fall Triduum of All Hallows' Eve, All Hallows' Day, and All Souls' Day (Oct 31, Nov 1, 2), which were each packed with activities.
 - o On All Hallows' Eve (Oct 31), I once again ascended the magnolia tree in the parking lot to greet and asperge parish guests who drove by to pick up pre-consecrated wafers and service bulletins for our All Saints Eucharist. In the spirit of Halloween, I took on the persona of [Zacchaeus](#) the tax collector; and we distributed Halloween treats for those interested. Also, we premiered the reprise of the All Hallows' Eve Spooktacular Concert (including a new piece by David Powell and the Virtual Choir). The reprise currently has 127 views, while the original concert (which premiered on Oct 25) has 240 views. You can view the Spooktacular Reprise here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtdVDAhdaTE>
 - o On All Hallows' Day (Nov 1), we celebrated Holy Eucharist with about 12 people inside the nave. During Communion, viewers at home were invited to partake of their pre-consecrated wafers. We read the Necrology during the Prayers of People and, as of today, there have been 146 views of the All Saints' Day service. Following the Eucharist, I led a Confirmation Class on the Sacraments, which I have recorded and uploaded on YouTube as two parts here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHKclhNkicY> and here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1YC_Yu7QQM
 - o On All Souls' Day, we held a deanery meeting on zoom for the delegates of Diocesan Convention to discuss the nominees for the Board of Trustees and the Standing Committee. The bishop asked me to nominate a lay leader from the Sempervirens deanery to run for the diocesan Board of Trustees and I nominated Dan Phillips.



- On a very stressful Election Night (Nov 3), I joined the deacons for Lectio Divina online and then offered a Compline prayer service from the Transfiguration House. The clergy and I have decided to discontinue Lectio Divina and Compline during Advent.

- I taught the remaining two sessions of my class on the Gospel of John for the Center for Bible Study on Wednesday Nov 4 and 11. You can watch a recording of the first class session here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PEw371w9eBA>
- Diocesan Convention was held online on Friday Nov 6 and Saturday Nov 7.
 - o The Venerable Pam Gossard offered an excellent plenary presentation on Creation Care and Climate Justice, drawing from her experience at the Provincial VIII & VI Deacons Conference “Our Fragile Island Home: Protecting God’s Creation” (August 20 – 21, 2020). Her presentation also included images from our Sacred Saunter services.
 - o One of the business items for diocesan convention was the formal closing of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Ferndale. The motion for the church’s formal closing (led by the Rev. Nancy Streufert) passed.
 - o On Saturday Nov 7, I participated in one of the convention workshops titled “Living into our Baptism: Ancient/Future Formation for Baptismal Living” led by Lutheran Pastor Bryon Hansen of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church in Seattle (husband of the Rev. Britt Olson, who previously served as the Canon to the Ordinary for the NorCal Episcopal diocese). During the workshop, I discussed and shared my work on the Gospel of John and the Five Senses, work which I compiled online and hope to eventually convert into a book: <https://deforestlondon.wordpress.com/experiencing-the-fourth-gospel-through-the-five-senses/>
- On Saturday Nov 7, Annalee Veach delivered the portraits of the Twelve Apostles painted by the Rev. George Shultz (1896 – 1971). The wardens (Royal M. and John P.) and I placed them in Lewis Hall and made a plan to install them on Saturday Nov 21.
- On Monday November 9, I continued in my capacity as the special guest leader and preacher for Christ Episcopal Church Sausalito’s New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program by leading a short meeting and then giving a presentation on Stewardship to the Christ Church Sausalito vestry and leadership. My Stewardship presentation was titled “Learning from the Generosity of Trees” and you can read it here: <https://deforestlondon.wordpress.com/2020/11/10/learning-from-the-generosity-of-trees/>
- On Saturday November 14 at 9:30 AM, I participated in an online program hosted by the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars. The program was titled “Revising Prayer Books with the Bible’s Expansive Language for God” with special guest speakers Jonathan Draper from the University of KwaZulu Natal and Karen Langton from the University of Houston. We then concluded with a brief prayer service from the New Zealand prayer book led by James Harding from the University of Otago/Te Whare Wānanga o Otāgo.

- On Sunday Nov 15, I guest preached at Christ Episcopal Church Sausalito for their eConsecration Sunday service. I pre-recorded my homily earlier in the week, which allowed me to be present at Christ Church Eureka on the same day. You can view my homily here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCAN3nvNJ1s>. And you can view the service in its entirety here: <https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalSausalito/videos/395086361675874/> At 4 PM on Sunday Nov 15, I joined Christ Church Sausalito for their online Consecration Sunday Afternoon Tea Gathering.
- Also, on Sunday Nov 15, I joined the Advisory Council for the Center for Bible Study (CBS) led by the Rev. Peter Rodgers. I will likely be playing a leadership role in the future of CBS with the Rev. Peter Rodgers (St. Andrew's Antelope) and the Rev. Anny Genato (St. Augustine's Rocklin)
- On Wednesday Nov 18, Mother Sara Potter led a deanery zoom meeting in which we each greeted the Rev. Lisa Jacoby and shared our love and gratitude to Mother Susan Armstrong.
 - o The Rev. Lisa Jacoby is the new Chief Mission Integration Officer at Providence St. Joseph Health. She is also a vocational deacon (canonically resident in LA) who attended my ordination in January 2014. She worshipped a couple times at Christ Church Eureka before COVID, when she was looking for a place to live. She currently lives in Humboldt Hill but hopes to move to Arcata.
 - o Mother Susan Armstrong, who served as the Priest-in-charge at Christ Church Eureka from 2012 to 2016, is moving to an Assisted Living facility in Grants Pass OR, where she hopes to attend St. Luke's Episcopal Church. We each expressed our love and gratitude for Mother Susan and prayed for her health and wholeness in her new adventures.
- On Wednesday Nov 18 at 7 PM, Deacon Anne, Archdeacon Pam, David Powell, and I participated in the Humboldt Interfaith Peace Prize Ceremony in honor of Dr. Teresa Frankovich. I gave a brief presentation on peace while David introduced and played the "Sevenfold Amen" performed by the Christ Church Eureka Virtual Choir as the concluding capstone for the ceremony. You can watch the ceremony here: <https://www.facebook.com/eurekauc/videos/694994214745949> (currently 360 views)
- Due to the rising cases of COVID in Humboldt County, we decided to postpone the installation of the Apostles' Portraits in Lewis Hall (scheduled for Nov 21).
- On Sunday Nov 22 at 4 PM, we premiered the third online "Sundays at 4" concert. The Thanksgiving "Sundays at 4" concert can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbgeUZB2C7s> (currently 176 views)