

## A LETTER FROM PERRIN

NOVEMBER 2018

Well, here we are in November, the last month of the church's year, and the end of the year that I've had the pleasure -- and the honor, believe me -- of being with you.

### Up-coming in November

Two major Sundays occur in November: All Saints' Sunday--this Sunday, November, 4<sup>th</sup>--and November 25<sup>th</sup>, called Christ the King Sunday. Both Sundays look forward to the glorious ending of the history of our salvation. On All Saints' we remember the saints, unseen yet present to us in prayer and fellowship, those who've lived their Christian lives and now dwell in the presence of God. And on Christ the King Sunday, we're reminded of the triumph of Christ over all creation -- that time when *"nothing in all creation will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 8. 39).

### And one more celebration

On Sunday, November 18, we will be participating in an event long-overdue. As you know, we have a chapter of the Daughters of the King here at Epiphany. But it's been a good while since its members have renewed their vows of prayer and prayerful service to the sick and those in need. And so the members of the chapter--at least all who are able to come to church -- will have their vows renewed, and they will be blessed for their holy ministries. You will see who they are, too. For there's no desire on the part of the Daughters to claim the limelight, but it's important for you to know who prays for us here at Epiphany, and who does numberless sweet gifts of service and compassion for those in need.

And on that day we'll also have the chance to learn a little about the patron of our chapter, St. Teresa of Ávila, who lived in Spain in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and whose books are still avidly read.

### **To end is another way to begin**

As you know from your own lives, whenever there's an ending there's also a beginning. Come the start of Advent, you will have a new priest to serve at Epiphany, to provide you necessary pastoral care, and to love you. I know you will welcome him or her with the same open arms with which you welcomed me this time last year. And I trust that you will be led forward into new possibilities for your ministries over the next year. Although I will be leaving you, I will still keep you in my prayers, and, given the small size of our diocese, I'm sure I'll hear of the progress you'll be making and your successes. I trust there'll be new people from among us who'll be taking on the responsibilities I've been teaching you about this fall, and become new readers, crucifers, chalicists and lay Eucharistic ministers at Epiphany. And I rejoice to think of those of you who'll be presenting themselves to the bishop when he comes to visit you to become confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. Who knows what gifts these new Episcopalians will bring with them into the church to enrich it and give it new inspiration and energy?

So, as I began my time with you, wishing you ever the Peace of the Lord, so I now end this year God has given me to be with you, with the same greeting and the same valediction:

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

Perrin