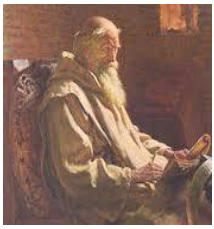


The Venerable Bede

St. Bede Episcopal Church
Port Orchard, WA

Our Newsletter

"The Tidings"

NOVEMBER 2026

Special Events

Come and worship with us on Sundays at 10am
Link for our broadcasting on 'You Tube' is:
https://www.youtube.com/@StBedeChurchPortOrchard.

Stewardship Committee, Sunday – November 1

Bishop's Committee –November 8 – 11:30am

Outreach – 2nd Tuesday –November 10 - 10am

Brown bag Lunch- 3rd Tuesday
- November 17 at 11:30am

Family Kitchen – November 23 – 11am-6pm

Coffee and Grounds Group
2nd & 4th Thursdays – November 12 at 10am
not 26 – Thanksgiving

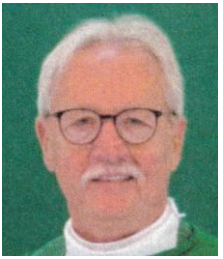
Ingathering and Blessing of the Pledges
Sunday, November 29

REMEMBER – CLOCKS GO BACK
1 Hour on Saturday Night

ST. BEDE'S FAMILY
November Birthdays

2 Erin Nichols **5 Kelly McCartney**
14 Linda Varda **20 Ling Wong**
26 Karen Bathgate **27 Jami Bledsoe**

A Letter from Our Interim Priest



Dear Saints,

I mentioned Bishop Phil's talk at the Diocesan Convention on Sunday – he reminded us that so often we hear -- *Don't just sit there, do something* -- and then suggested that maybe sometimes we do need to just sit there. Kathleen reminded us in her homily about the importance of prayer, daily prayer in helping us to make decisions and do the good works we are called to do. In no way do I take the Bishop's or Kathleen's words to be understood as prayer is nothing! Our prayer life is vital to our lives as Christians – both individually and communally.

I believe as we prepare for Fr Chuck to assume the role as your Vicar, this is indeed a time for which our prayers are so important. As Chuck, St Bede's, St David's, and the Diocese all work together to formulate his Letter(s) of Agreement (LOA) our prayers are so important. This is an exciting time as this new ministry grows from a concept to a reality. It is a time of hope, a time of placing our trust in the Holy Spirit, and time to transition from a holding pattern to a time of new growth and opportunity.

In the Book of Acts we find the various churches being visited and cared for by the Apostles and Paul as they traveled from place to place. And we find that the members cared for and ministered to one another. This "combined ministry" (or whatever name that will evolve – joint ministry, constellation, ???) will present new and renewed ways for the Holy Spirit to work in the midst of St Bede's.

As the BC and Vestry of the two congregations work with Chuck and the Diocese, I will be doing whatever I can to help with this transition and most importantly you will be central in my prayers. With love and blessings,

Craig

Seeking God's Call Together

In my recent sermon at St. Bede, I shared my hope that as we move through this time of transition, our first focus will remain on God's work and call in our lives.

We are called to care for one another and our neighbors, to listen for where God is leading us, and to recognize where energy is gathering and community is taking shape.

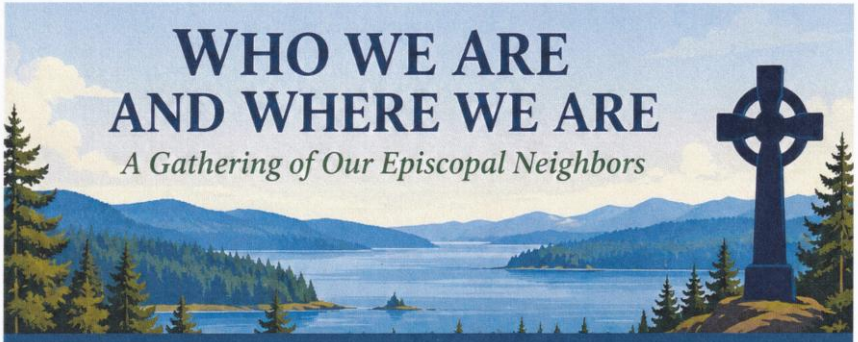
There will certainly be practical matters to address along the way, and we will share details about the transition as we learn them. But I hope we can remember that seeking God comes first, and the paperwork comes second. Our relationships, our shared ministry, and our willingness to explore new possibilities together are what will guide us forward.

One opportunity to continue building those relationships will be our gathering on Wednesday, November 11, at 5 p.m. at St. Hugh in Allyn. We will share a potluck meal and continue getting to know our Episcopal neighbors, learning about one another and exploring how God may be calling us into deeper community.

(See next page for more details)

I look forward to walking this journey together.

Fr. Chuck



WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE

A Gathering of Our Episcopal Neighbors

SESSION 2

Taking a Loving Look at Our Ministry Capacity

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
5:00 PM

St. Hugh Episcopal Church
Allyn, WA

Potluck Supper and Conversation

Our first gathering gave us an opportunity to begin knowing one another, sharing the stories of our congregations, and discovering the many gifts already present among our Episcopal neighbors.

Now we continue the conversation.

Together we will take a loving look at the life of our congregations: the ministries that give us life, how we are forming disciples and developing leaders, where our gifts and strengths are found, and where we may be experiencing challenges or limitations.

This is not about comparing congregations or arriving at a predetermined regional structure. It is an opportunity to listen, learn from one another, strengthen relationships, and continue discerning where God may be calling us.

OUR EPISCOPAL NEIGHBORS

St. Bede
Port Orchard

St. David of Wales
Shelton

St. Germain
Hoodsport

St. Hugh
Allyn

St. Nicholas
Tahuya

Sacred Waters

Bring a dish to share and come ready for good food, conversation, and fellowship.

Come as you are. Bring your congregation's story. Get to know your Episcopal neighbors.

BISHOP/SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Have you noticed that the Church yard is neat and tidy these days? Thanks to a number of efforts, the front entrance, the play yard and the area by the Parish Hall have recently had special attention. And throughout the year the Coffee and Grounds Group under the leadership of Tom Huffman, has worked to keep the church property looking neat and clean.

The play equipment project was lead by Don Little, installed by a team of workers and stained and sealed by Chris and Kristie Blum and now the play yard weed free done by a volunteer youth group. And how does the grass in the field get cut? Another wonderful member of St. Bede, Gary Ebbert.

It is impossible to name all people who have contributed. Thank you all! God's Angels are at work at St. Bede.
On October 15, a tree by the Parish Hall was removed thanks to the generosity of John and Jami Bledsoe.

On Saturday October 17, St. Bede had a special boost. Teresa Barnet approached the BC with a proposal. We qualify as a nonprofit whom her Haruke Karate Youth can do volunteer work for to earn needed volunteer hours for their Karate levels. We needed to serve them lunch in return for their spending the day working in our gardens. We accepted, set a date for the play yard and the entrance which are clean and inviting due to hard work of 11 youth. They were an impressive group of young people; who enjoyed doing this volunteer work for our church. Teresa did a wonderful job of motivation and encouragement of the group not to mention her participation in putting on the finishing touches.

Our thanks to the Coffee and Grounds Committee and their hard work to St. Bede looking nice all year and to all people and groups who have pitched in to keep it a lovely place to worship. Next up: the St. Bede Signs.

Mary Ann Balyeat

HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS...

St. Bede Episcopal Church
Proudly Announces its
Annual Holiday Bazaar

Saturday December 5th
9:00AM to 3:00PM

St. Bede Episcopal church
1577 SE Lider Road, Port Orchard
360-876-1182

The bazaar will include crafts, baked goods, fudge, jams and jellies, holiday decorations, new and like new Holiday gift items

Please come join us for a fun filled day

STEWARDSHIP

As we approach the end of the calendar year it is time to start thinking of our pledges for the financial support of Saint Bede's. **Stewardship is a year round effort for the congregation to give of time, talent and treasure.** I ask you to make your financial pledges early so the Bishops Committee can make plans for the coming year. **Ingathering and blessing of the pledges will take place on the 29th of November.** It is with a giving heart and open mind that I ask you the congregation to give of time, talent and treasure so that St Bede's can continue to be a bright light in our community.

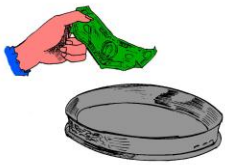
A change in the calendar of events, **the greening of the church will take place on December 20th following coffee hour**. **To those of you who volunteered to be part of a vibrant Stewardship committee, THANK YOU!**

The brown bag lunch group is to be praised for their support of the outreach committee and organizing the Thanksgiving luncheon, which will take place on the 22nd of November

(a correction) The celebration of Kathleen's retirement was sponsored and organized by the Bishops Committee.

Our next special event is Christmas bazaar on the 5th of December with set up on 3rd and 4th. as we prepare for the beginning of advent.

The support of the Little Pantry has been phenomenal. Thank you all for your contributions.



Many hands make light work.
1 Corinthians 9.16-19
Blessings
Don Little, Stewardship Chair

Heavenly Father
we thank you for
the gifts you have
given us.

OUTREACH REPORT

We were fortunate to have **Cody Clark from Coffee Oasis, a Christian organization for youth, as our presenter**. He told us the galas held in both Kitsap and Pierce Counties raised $462,000, supporting Coffee Oasis. There are 40,000 known homeless youth in Washington State, with only 7 youth facilities available in our state. The money raised at the galas will go toward supporting the youth facilities in Bremerton, with six overnight beds, and in Tacoma, with twelve 24 hour shelter beds. This will also help support the two drop-in centers in Poulsbo and Port Orchard.

Coffee Oasis also works with Scarlet Road, Olive Crest, Kitsap Mental Health and Bremerton Housing authority. Other agencies, such as Good Will and Salvation Army, are also involved on an as-needed basis. Through these agencies, the goal is to help the child with job training, work placement and, eventually, an apartment and learning to live on their own. They work with youth ages 13 - 25.

Their current goal is to have 50 beds between the two cities by 2030. **To this end, they have begun a program called Night Shift. People can sign up to donate $8.34 a month.** Multiplied by 12 months, this equals $100.00. Over the course of twelve months, you will provide a full night of shelter and care for one youth. To learn more, go to Thecoffeeoasis.com

Donations this month: Salvation Army, $200.00; Helpline, $200.00; The Little Pantry, $150.00.

Upcoming: **October 30th,** Lunch preparation at Bev Dawson's house.

Wednesday, November 11th, we will be preparing lunches at Jenni Conner's house.

Friday, November 27th, we will be again preparing lunches at Bev Dawson's house.

In November we will also be cooking 7 turkeys the week before Thanksgiving. It is a family event for the kids and other groups will also be providing food.

Next month's guest speaker will be from Scarlett Road. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month.

We also prepare lunches for youth here in Port Orchard the second Wednesday and the last Friday of each month.

Come join us for an amazing outreach opportunity and some really great fun while helping a very worthwhile cause.

Jami Bledsoe

FAMILY KITCHEN

On October 19 the St Bede' Family Kitchen crew prepared and served **tuna noodle casserole, green beans, fresh apple salad, rolls and peanut butter bars for dessert**. Although we only had 29 seated guests, we served second helpings to several and sent out 17 to-go meals. We also dropped 3 meals off at the little motel.

We received many compliments on our meal and many sincere "thank yous".

My continued gratitude for the cheerful, helping hands of our wonderful crew of volunteers!

Our Next Family Kitchen date will be November 23.

Love in Christ, Fran **Valley**

MONTHLY BROWN BAG LUNCH

The Brown Bag Lunch is held on the third Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 11:30. The next luncheon will be held on Tuesday November 17.

ALL are invited. It is a time to enjoy getting to know each other better through casual conversation. **Bring your own lunch; beverages are available. Sometimes a treat or extra food dish is available to enjoy as well.** Hope to see you at the lunch!

Mary Ann Balyeat

OLIVE CREST
Strong Families, Safe Kids

This is an opportunity to support the Olive Crest Project for Foster Children leaving the system and beginning an independent life, by bringing a donation of food for an apartment pantry. We are in need of more donations as we have supplied 4 baskets in the past four months.

For other donations of household goods, please check with:
Karen Bathgate – kbathgate@comcast.net

MUSIC at ST. BEDE

Bishop Robert Todd Griffin "Sung Holy communion" service began appearing in Episcopal. church in the U.S. during the mid-nineteenth century... and became more common during the latter half of the century. with their elaborate church music, vested choirs, and ceremonial practices. Morning Prayer remained the principal sung service in many Episcopal. churches throughout the nineteenth century.

How is it going with our learning of the 'new' Gloria?

I will be emphasizing the melody a little more so that everyone can hear it over those modern chords John Rutter composed. If you put in YouTube "Gloria" by John Rutter, you can hear it sung by several different choirs. Also, the complete change of rhythm in the middle section makes it an interesting piece of music to sing, along with some dissonant chords.

Occasionally there will be several 'new' hymns in one service which are specifically chosen by Craig to enhance the Scriptures for that day in the Church calendar. You are invited to hum, if that is preferable while learning the music to these beautiful prayers written with great care by great musicians.

The interlude music I play for Communion and transition times is mostly my choice, AND, I welcome your input. Usually, I record piano or organ music I have played in the past, on my digital piano at home, which is similar to the Yamaha instrument here. (It was new a year ago!) then I plug it into the church Yamaha and it magically plays what I have recorded at home. All of our presentations must have authorization by a legal copyright program that the church pays for with a yearly fee**. Another reason I record it is that I can utilize the electronics to make it sound like the organ at St. Mark's! I layer the tracks so we can hear a bass line as if played on organ pedals, and add the voices of flutes, bassoon, strings, even a tuba, occasionally.**

Thank you all once again for this opportunity to serve as musician at St. Bede's. **Mary Ferreira**

ST BEDE'S LITTLE PANTRY

An ongoing **THANK YOU** to all who continue to donate food and products to this very well used and appreciated community outreach. **PLEASE - NO perishables or out-of-date products.** **Kathleen Ebbert**

MEALS FOR MEMBERS!

St. Bede's continues with our 'Meals for Members' program. When difficult events happen, we can assist our members with meals to help them get through that bad time. **Linda Varda is 'point person' for this ministry of pastoral care**.

If you would like to provide a meal or two on occasion, please let Linda know. When the need arises, she will gather details (dietary restrictions, allergies, etc.) and then make some phone calls. **Linda at 360-602-0171 or lindavarda@hotmail.com.**

FLOWERS AND CANDLE DONATIONS

Thank you to all who sign up to provide flowers and or candles to beautify our St Bede Sanctuary.

If you would like to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or honor a loved one's memory, consider donating Altar flowers or a Sanctuary candle. Suggested donations are $20 for flowers and $10 for a candle. ***The forms are at the church entrance or in the Parish Hall. Complete the forms, include your intentions, and make checks payable to St Bede with flower or candle donation in the memo line. Place them on the offertory plate or give them to Kathleen Ebbert.***

Choose your date and sign up on the Flower Chart, on the wall in the Parish Hall. Your donations will be noted in the Sunday bulletin.

If you have any questions, please contact: Judy Wilkin at tjslkin@aol.com OR Karen Bathgate kbathgate@comcast.net

FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Link your rewards card with St Bede Episcopal Church on Fred Meyer Community Rewards**. Every time you shop you help earn a donation.** You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.

Our Community Rewards reference is RE 860

PARISH NURSE

8 Heart Attack Warning Signs in Women

Women and Heart Attacks

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in women, and your risk climbs as you get older — especially after 50. As estrogen levels fall, changes in your cholesterol, blood pressure, body fat, and blood vessels make coronary heart disease, and a heart attack, more likely. Some warning signs are subtle. Here are eight you shouldn't ignore.

Chest Pain Is No. 1

Chest pain or discomfort is the most common heart attack symptom in women. It can last more than a few minutes or come and go. You may feel it in the center of your chest, or in your lower chest, or upper belly. It doesn't have to be severe to be serious. You may feel pressure, squeezing, fullness, tightness, or heaviness, like a rope is tied around your chest. You may feel burning or an uncomfortable ache. It's possible to have a heart attack without chest pain.

Exhaustion You Can't Shake

This isn't ordinary end-of-day tiredness. You may feel exhausted by activities that normally wouldn't wear you out, such as taking a shower, getting dressed, or walking to the mailbox. In one study, about 7 in 10 women recalled unusual fatigue before their heart attack.

Pain Not in Your Chest

Heart attack discomfort can be felt beyond your chest. You may feel pain, pressure, aching, or discomfort in your jaw, neck, throat, one or both arms, between your shoulders, or in your upper back. It may come and go or linger. You might mistake the discomfort as being from a pulled muscle, stress, tension, or sleeping in an awkward position.

Shortness of Breath

You may have trouble catching your breath even though you haven't exerted yourself. This can happen with or without chest discomfort. You may feel dizzy or lightheaded, too. You might chalk it up to anxiety or being out of shape. But if it's new or comes with other symptoms, see your doctor.

Gut Symptoms

You may have nausea, vomiting, indigestion, heartburn, or discomfort high in your belly area during a heart attack. It may feel like you ate something that didn't agree with you, or you have a stomach bug. But it may be more serious if the feeling is new, unexplained, unusually severe, or if it comes with symptoms such as shortness of breath, sweating, chest discomfort, or unusual fatigue.

Cold Sweat

This isn't sweating because you exercised, got overheated, or had a hot flash. A heart attack can cause a sudden cold, clammy sweat for no obvious reason. It may come along with chest discomfort, nausea, shortness of breath, or lightheadedness.

Dizziness, Lightheadedness, Fainting

You may suddenly feel dizzy, lightheaded, weak, or as though you might faint. Don't assume it's dehydration, hunger, or standing up too ast — especially if it's new or you also have chest discomfort, shortness of breath, nausea, sweating, or unusual fatigue.

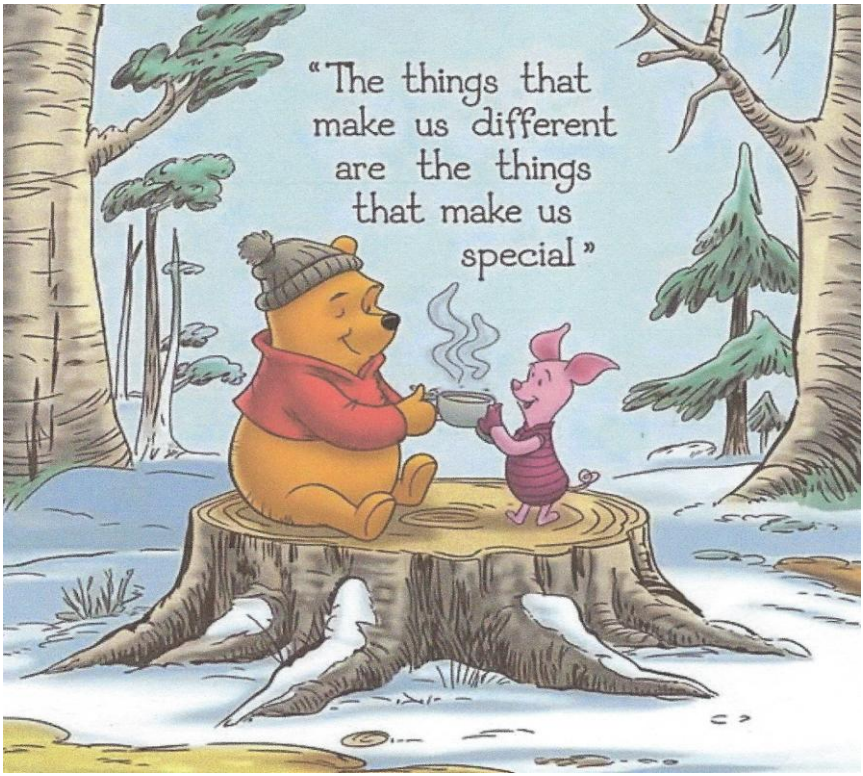
Suddenly Feeling Something Is Wrong

A heart attack can bring sudden anxiety, restlessness, or a feeling of dread, and this may be more common in women. Even though a panic attack can cause some of the same sensations, don't assume anxiety is the cause — especially if the feeling is new and comes with other symptoms of heart attack.

When in Doubt, Get Help

A heart attack doesn't always announce itself with crushing chest pain or a sudden collapse. Symptoms may be mild, build gradually, or come and go. Don't wait for your symptoms to become severe, or try to decide yourself whether it's heartburn, anxiety, or something else. Call 911 for emergency help. If in question, don't try to make a doctor's appointment that may be weeks later, call 911. Sit or lie down and try to stay as relaxed as possible until help arrives. Increased activity may only make things worse as the load on the heart increases.

Ken Hulet, Parish Nurse



TIDINGS
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Interim Priest
The Rev. Craig Vocelka
StBedeVicar@gmail.com

Services:

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10am

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study 11am.

We have resumed broadcasting using YouTube streaming. A link will be posted on the church website page on Sunday mornings.

St. Bede Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 845
Port Orchard, WA 98366

In the love of Jesus Christ, St. Bede joyfully welcomes you,
and seeks to serve and to nurture spirituality in all.