

THE KEYS



Church of St. Peter the Apostle
Anglican Catholic Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States
www.dmas-acc.org

The Rev. Peter Geromel OHI, Th.M, Rector
November 2021
<https://stpetersacc.org>

The Rector's Ramble (In and Out of Brambles)

Nowell's Catechism on All Saints' & Advent.

The Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer is what is called in catechetics a “shorter catechism.” In both Lutheran, Reformed, Roman Catholic and Orthodox traditions, there is usually a “larger” or “longer” and a “shorter” catechism. A shorter catechism is a primer, while the longer one serves for more extensive material. Anglicanism has never had an official longer or larger catechism. Cranmer wrote a larger one, based on a Lutheran source, but it never really took in England. (Not all his ideas did! He wasn't a one-man-show.) Then, when translated, the Heidelberg Catechism was used a lot in England unofficially where it was felt a larger was needed.

In 1579, Alexander Nowell published a “middle catechism,” something in between a shorter and a longer one. We might say that we have some other “middle catechisms” in the Anglican Catholic tradition, for example, the one in the *Practice of Religion*, *The Holy Cross Catechism* (from the same press that gave *The St. Augustine's Prayer Book* to us), or *A Catechism on The Catechism*. Nowell's full title for his work is “A Catechism, or Institution of Christian Religion to be learned of all youth, next after *the little Catechism: appointed in the BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER*.” Its themes and pastoral angle is similar to that of the Heidelberg Catechism in its emphasis on the comfort and examples to godly life that the doctrines give to us. That is, for one thing, the articles of the Creed are not just good for sound theology or because of the history of what Christ did for us, but these doctrines have spiritual import in the here and now! A great example from the Heidelberg Catechism on the Apostles' Creed is this: “*Question*: What comfort takest thou from the article of LIFE EVERLASTING? *Answer*: That since I now feel in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, after this life I shall inherit perfect salvation: which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive; and that, to praise God therein forever.” The following teaching from Nowell's Catechism is on the relevant parts of the Creed that concern All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day, and the Octave of All Saints' Day:

Ma. Why dost thou call this Church holy?

Sch. That by this mark it may be discerned from the wicked company of the ungodly. For all those whom God hath chosen, he hath restored unto holiness of life and innocency.

Rom. 8.c.29. 30. 1. Cor. 14.f.33. Ephe. 1.a.4. 5.b.11. 12. &c.

Ma. Is this holiness which thou dost attribute to the Church, already in all points perfect?

Sch. Not yet; for so long as we live a mortal life in this world (such is the frailty of mankind) we are of very weak strength wholly to shun all kind of vices. Therefore the holiness of the Church is not yet fully and perfectly finisht, but yet very well begun. But when it shall be fully joyned to Christ, from whom it hath all cleanness and pureness, then it shall be clothed with innocency & holiness, in all points fully and perfectly finished, as with a certain Snowy white and most pure garment.

Rom. 8.f.26. 1. Cor.13.c.9. &c. 2.Cor. 12.b.5. 9. 1. Cor. 13.c.10. and 15.g.52. 53. &c. Ephe. 5.d.26. 27. Apoc. 19.b.8. and 21.a. 2.c.10. 11. &c. g.27.

Ma. To what purpose dost thou call this Church Catholic?

Sch. It is as much as if I called it *universal*. For this company or assembly of the godly is not pent up in a certain place or time, but it containeth the universal number of the Faithful that have lived, do live, and shall live in all places, and ages, since the beginning of the world: that there may be one body of the Church, as there is one Christ, the only head of that body.

Math. 28.d.19. Act.2.a.5. 9.b.10. &c. 1. Cor. 12.b.12. Ephe. 1.d.21. 23. and 2.c.12. &c. and 4.a.4. 5. &c.

Ma. Now I would have thee tell, why after the holy Church thou immediately addest, that we believe the communion of Saints.

Sch. Whereas GOD hath them that worship him purely and sincerely, in all Countries and places, and in all times and ages ; all they, though severed in distant times and places, are yet members most nearly joyned and knit together, of one and the self-same body, whereof Christ is the head. Such is the Communion that the godly have with Christ, and among themselves. For they are most nearly knit together in community of spirit, of faith, of Sacraments, of Prayers, of forgiveness of sins, of eternal Felicity : and finally, of all the benefits that God giveth his Church through Christ. And they are joyned together among themselves in sincere love, concord and unity. And because the communion of Saints cannot be perceived by our senses, nor by any natural kind of knowledge, or force of understanding, as other civil communities and fellowships of men may be ; therefore it is here rightly placed among these things that are to be believed.

At the end of this month, on November 28th, we will enter into the Advent Season. The relevant passage of the Creed concerning this season is taught in the following words from Nowell's Catechism.

Ma. Now I would hear thee tell me shortly what thou hast learn'd of the last judgment, and of the end of the world.

Sch. Christ shall come in the clouds of heaven, with most high glory, and with most honourable and reverend Majesty, waited on, and beset with the company and multitude of holy Angels. And at the horrible sound & dreadful blast of Trumpet, all the dead that have lived from the creation of the world to that day, shall rise again with their souls and bodies whole and perfect, and shall appear before his throne to be judged, every one for himself to give account of their life, which shall be examined by the righteous and severe Judge according to truth.

News and Information – Don't forget **ADDITIONAL MASS** time on Saturdays at 5 PM.

Vestry is not scheduled for November. A Vestry meeting is planned for December 8th, just prior to the **Annual Meeting on December 12th**.

Pledge cards will be handed out at church November 6th & 7th. We hope to receive them back by Sunday, November 28th.

Our **Advent Quiet Day** will be at St. Alban's Cathedral in Richmond December 4th. Contact the Rector for details.

Veterans Day & Martinmas (Mass for St. Martin of Tours) will be celebrated Thursday, November 11th at 7 PM. (NO NOON MASS.) Fr. Darby will be preaching at this special occasion. St. Martin of Tours was a bishop and abbot but a former soldier, so we find it a good day to celebrate both! Martinmas was historically a very important day, as St. Martin is sometimes called the father of Celtic Monasticism (modern day France was once a Celtic land), and was anciently when you began your Advent Fast.

Thanksgiving Mass will be 10 AM on Thanksgiving Day.

St. Andrew's Day will be celebrated Tuesday, November 30th, at 7 PM. We hope to have a Piper for this mass. Wear your kilts!

As of right now, 10 out of 12 stained glass memorial windows have been reserved. Ss. Simon & Jude and St. Matthias are still available. Huzzah! And Hurray!

NOVEMBER, 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4] 12 noon HC	[5]	[6] 5:00 p.m. HC
[7] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS TRINITY XXIII	[8]	[9]	[10]	[11] 7:00 p.m. HC ST. MARTIN OF TOURS	[12]	[13] 5:00 p.m. HC
[14] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS TRINITY XXIV	[15]	[16]	[17]	[18] 12 noon HC	[19]	[20] 5:00 p.m. HC
[21] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT	[22]	[23]	[24]	[25] 10:00 a.m. HC THANKSGIVING	[26]	[27] 5:00 p.m. HC
[28] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS ADVENT I	[29]	[30] 7:00 p.m. HC ST. ANDREW	LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction			

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

Week beginning Sunday →	November 7	November 14	November 21	November 28	December 5
Altar Guild	M. Slayton	B. Higginbotham	V. Williams	M. Slayton	B. Higginbotham
	B. Higginbotham	J. Butterfield	B. Higginbotham	B. Higginbotham	J. Butterfield
Coffee Hour	B. Von Claparede	M. Slayton	J. Butterfield	G. Terrell	S. Darby
Ushers	P. Pappas	M. Slayton	G. Terrell	D. Drysdale	M. Slayton
	M. Slayton	D. Drysdale	P. Pappas	P. Pappas	G. Terrell
Epistoler 8 a.m.	A. Butterfield	A. Butterfield	G. Mauney	G. Mauney	A. Butterfield
Epistoler 10 a.m.	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	P. Williams	T. Paisley	C. Von Claparede
Server	P. Williams	T. Paisley	C. Von Claparede	P. Williams	P. Williams
Crucifer	C. Von Claparede	W. Paisley	W. Paisley	W. Paisley	W. Paisley

2021 Vestry (term end): Allen Butterfield ('21), Dan Drysdale ('23), Phil Pappas ('21), Marnie Slayton ('22), Clemens Von Claparede ('22), Phil Williams ('23)