

Honoring the Past, Defining Our Future

The tradition of creating art to aid in the worship of God stretches all the way back to Moses and the Hebrew people when they constructed a portable house of worship in the wilderness. Scripture tells us that God gave special abilities to craftsmen and artists who created sacred art in fabric, precious metals, and wood. Their work was meant to point the people to the beauty and goodness of God and God's creation. Even though the Hebrew people worshiped "out of a suitcase" for several hundred years, the portable worship space reflected what the psalmist called "the beauty of holiness."

Our parish began worshiping in a similar fashion, using temporary facilities for the first decade of our parish's life. For years parishioners and staff packed liturgical and worship supplies in their car, unloading and setting them up each Sunday—just like the Hebrew people! In 2000, the parish moved into our current worship space. Over the years, an altar, chairs, and altar furniture were purchased, and the reredos and the Stations of the Cross were created and installed. A beautiful, functional, and permanent space has been created for the worship of God.

But there remains one critical piece of our liturgical infrastructure to complete our vision of a permanent worship space: the baptismal font. The current font configuration is a cracked garden pot in which sits a bird bath. As we approach our 30th anniversary and our 20th year in the building, it is a good time to round out our permanent worship space. The new baptismal font reflects the dignity and sacred place of baptism in our tradition, and the value we place on the visual arts. The installation of a permanent font says to our community: "We are here to stay—to serve, proclaim the gospel, and baptize those who come to faith in Christ."

Liturgical Arts Committee

Cheryl Smith (chair)

Elizabeth Fuchs

Tony Fuchs

Cat Fugman

Rick Gill

Mark Johnson

Debby Tenace

Cathy Whitehead



A New Baptismal Font

*To complete our sacred space
for future generations
on our 30th anniversary*



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Bringing the Vision to Life

A 10-member liturgical arts committee, led by artist Cheryl Smith, spent eight months discussing the vision for a new font and researching designers, materials, and costs.

They started by discussing the functional and spiritual needs of the baptismal font, and through research found a foundry that aligned with Good Samaritan's needs and evoked the deep spiritual meaning of the sacrament.

The end result was this vision for a custom-made wood and bronze font, pictured right.

The features include:

- 1 a hidden drainage spout in the wood base for easy cleaning
- 2 hidden retractable wheels in the base for mobility
- 3 31 inches high to match the height of the altar and allow accessibility for children and adults in wheelchairs
- 4 a separate footstool that will increase accessibility even further
- 5 28-inch diameter bowl to allow more people to gather around during a baptism
- 6 cherry wood stained to match the ambo, altar, and credence table
- 7 mosaic elements in the base will use the same glass as the reredos



cut on the dotted line

cut on the dotted line

Be Part of the Gift

The Liturgical Arts Committee made this recommendation to the Vestry, and it was accepted and approved. On Sunday, January 12, 2020, on the Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord, we will launch a campaign to raise \$20,000 to commission the creation of the font. **Work on the font will not begin until we have raised most of this amount.** With that said, our hope is that in September 2020, our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, will lead us in a service to consecrate the new font.

This is an exciting opportunity to sink our spiritual roots even deeper and grow in our own understanding of the commitments we made in our Baptismal Covenant. I invite your generous gifts to this project and look forward to celebrating this milestone with you.

On the journey,
Fr Steve+

Your Gift

Gifts to this project may be made in honor of, in memory of, or in thanksgiving for a person(s) or event(s). Please fill out the following form, detach this section, and return it with a check by mail or in person.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Pledge Amount: _____

*Due by May 1. Payable to Good Samaritan.
Please include 'Baptismal Font Project' in memo line.*

Given in: honor of memory of
 thanksgiving for

Please check if you want this person/event included in the memorial plaque in the Narthex.