

OUR GRATITUDE AND OUR GIVING

Bryant and Jeanette Cureton, Co-Chairs of Annual Giving 2020

"To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us - and He has given us everything. . . . Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder, and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference."

Thomas Merton, Thoughts in Solitude

Our Gratitude

Gratitude is woven through our worship each Sunday. Gratitude is where our private prayers often begin. Perhaps gratitude should be front and center when we consider our pledges of financial support for our church.



The good gifts of a gracious God surround us every day. The beauty of nature, music and art; the inspiration of courageous people; the love of family and the kindness of strangers — all remind us of the giver of life itself. And what a gift we have in Bruton Parish Church! Through all the seasons of our lives, this spiritual community provides support, encouragement, challenge, and a closer walk with God.

Our Generosity

But as Merton puts it, true gratitude "is never unresponsive." What better response than generosity? What better way to acknowledge bountiful blessings than by modeling openhearted giving ourselves?

Bruton offers so many ways to respond to gratitude with generosity by giving our time and our talents to worship, music, service, outreach, and fellowship. But our financial support has special leverage since it provides for the people and the infrastructure (clergy, staff, buildings, programs) that make our church a reality.

The recent forums on Bruton's finances and budget for the coming year provided an illuminating overview of how our dollars are used and how they will support our church in 2020. If you would like to review this information, or if you were unable to attend, please use the links in the box to the right. The best way to do our part in supporting Bruton financially, both for the sake of the parish and for our own planning, is a thoughtfully-considered pledge. We will be recognizing these pledges in our worship on Sunday, December 1.

The Future

The name of our Annual Giving 2020 campaign, Forward in Faith, reminds us that we are looking to the future. Our support of the church today is helping to secure its future — by building a vibrant and engaged congregation, by providing Christian formation for the youth who will grow into tomorrow's parish leaders, and by maintaining the physical facilities on which our successors will depend.

Each of us has the opportunity in our life to nudge the future, to contribute in meaningful ways to leaving the world a better place. Those of us who hope that in the coming years there will always be a strong Bruton Parish Church will want to do what we can today to help that happen. Both by giving generously to meet current needs and by remembering the Bruton Parish Church Foundation in our estate planning, we will all be making a difference for those who follow us.

WHEN TO SUBMIT PLEDGES

Please submit pledges by Sunday, December 1, or bring them with you to church that day, when pledges received by then will be recognized.

PLEDGE ONLINE

Pledges may be submitted online here or visit bit.ly/bpcpledge2020.

VIEW FINANCE PRESENTATION

To view and listen to the September 29, 2019 presentation on Bruton's finances and our budget for 2020, please click here online or visit bit.ly/bpcannualgiving2020.

ANNUAL GIVING BROCHURE

To read the Annual Giving 2020 Brochure, please click here online or visit bit.ly/bpc2020annualgivingbrochure.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information on giving to Bruton, including planned giving, please visit www.brutonparish.org/giving.

BRUTON PARISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Annual Giving 2020

For the work of God's church in our parish, diocese, nation and world, I/We wish to make a pledge for 2020. This amount, offered in faith, may be increased or decreased by me/us due to circumstances.

2020 Pledge: \$ _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you!