

HERITAGE SOCIETY SUNDAY

Discussion Points

- The primary purpose of the Heritage Society is to encourage consideration of a planned gift as a final act of Christian stewardship and to recognize those who have made that commitment.
- Membership in the Heritage Society is open to all who indicate that they have included the parish in their estate plans. Most commonly, this is done through a bequest in a will, but increasingly parishioners are using life insurance policies or other life income gifts such as a Trust, Charitable Gift Annuity or other vehicles.
- Most of us put off making a will, and in fact, approximately 60% of all Episcopalians put off making a will.
- Thinking about the ultimate disposition of our worldly goods forces us to contemplate our own mortality and the shortness of life. It also reminds us that all the things we “own”, nothing is really ours. We are merely caretakers or stewards of these resources which come from God and will one day return to God.
- Preparing a will is an act of stewardship. You will become the means to express the faith and values you held during your lifetime. Only through a will, can you choose to share your resources with your parish or other Episcopal-affiliated charity.
- We have seen our children baptized and married in our church, maybe even our grandchildren too. But, what about their children? Wouldn't it be wonderful to know that they can continue in the tradition and call our parish a home? Join us in becoming a member of our parish Heritage Society and naming your church in your will, and thereby helping to guarantee the future financial stability and ministry of this church and your loved ones for years to come.
- The Book of Common Prayer indicates “The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of all persons to make prudent provisions for the well being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.”
- For more information on how you can participate in a Heritage Society Chapter, contact your parish office or EPISCOPAL CHARITIES.