



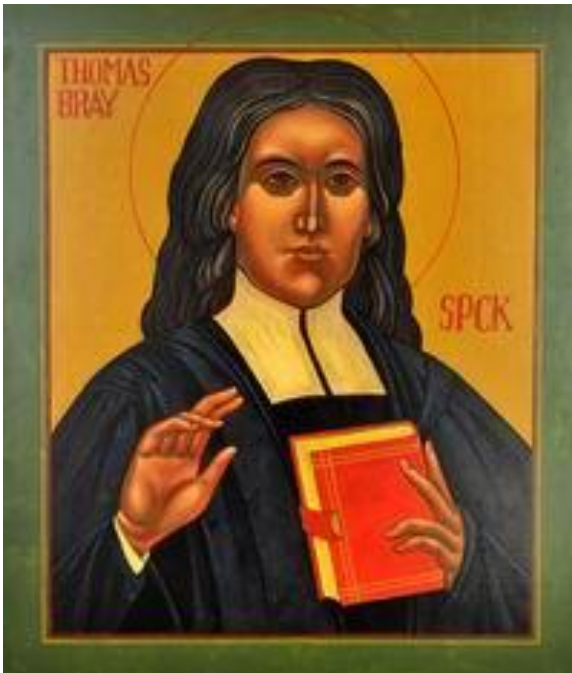
Season of Epiphany

## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

### THE FEAST OF THOMAS BRAY

*Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.*

*From Wikipedia*



**Thomas Bray** (1656 or 1658 – 15 February 1730) was an English clergyman and [abolitionist](#) who helped formally establish the [Church of England](#) in [Maryland](#), as well as the [Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge](#) and [Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts](#).

#### **Life**

##### **Early life**

Thomas Bray was born in [Marton](#), then in the parish of [Chirbury](#), [Shropshire](#), at a house today called Bray's Tenement,<sup>[a]</sup> on Marton Crest, in 1656<sup>[2][3][4]</sup> or 1658.<sup>[5]</sup> He was educated at [Oswestry School](#) and [Oxford University](#), where he earned a B.A. degree with [All Souls College](#) in 1678 and a M.A. with [Hart Hall](#) in 1693. He also completed the work for B.D. and D.D. degrees at Oxford (Magdalen, 17 Dec. 1696) at the request of Maryland's governor, but was unable to pay the [Continued Pg11](#)

Wednesday, 15 Feb 2023 9:30am

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev Allison Cornell**

## **Salutation:**

**Leader:** Blessed be our God.

**People:** For ever and ever. Amen.

**Priest:** Let us pray the Collect for Purity together:

**All:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Gloria                      Canticle 13                      Hymnal 1982 #S236**

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \***

**you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \***

**on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths; \***

**in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Presider:** The Lord be with you

**People:** And also with you.

**Presider:** Let us pray

## **Collect for the day:**

**O God of compassion, who opened the heart of your servant Thomas Bray to answer the needs of the church in the New World: Make your church diligent at all times to propagate the Gospel, and to promote the spread of Christian knowledge; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Readings:** *(Please be seated)*

### **First Reading: A reading from Jonah (4:1-11):**

This was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 85:7-13** *(Read aloud in unison)*

**7 Show us your mercy, O Lord, \*  
and grant us your salvation.**

**8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to him.**

**9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.**
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

**Gospel Reading: Luke (10:1-12)**

**Reader:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town."

**Reader** The Gospel of the Lord

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## SERMON/HOMILY

**CONTEMPORARY NICENE CREED:** *(please stand as you are able)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## **Prayers of the People:**

Leader: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers. God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.

**People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: God the Son, you came that we might have life and have it more abundantly

**People: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit, you inhabit our bodies as a temple of your presence.

**People: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled that they may be made whole.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Return to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin in our lives, in our nation, and in our world.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Bless all who attend to the suffering and needy, granting them wisdom, skill, sympathy, and patience.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Give to the dying peace and a holy death and uphold by your grace and consolation those who are bereaved.

**People: Hear us Lord**

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer pray for *The Diocese of Southern Philippines.*

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for *St. George's, in Holbrook.*

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona Odum peoples who called this area home.

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

**Presider:** Lord our God, accept the sincere prayers of your people, in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help, for you are gracious O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Peace:**

**Presider:** May the peace of the Lord be always with you!

**People:** **And Also with you.**

*(The people exchange greetings of peace)*

**Presider** Let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.

### **Offertory Hymn**

Doxology #380 vs 3 *(Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**  
**Praise him all creatures here below**  
**Praise him, above, ye heavenly host**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## The Lord's Supper: The Great Thanksgiving - EOW 3

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**Sanctus**

**Hymnal 1982 # S124**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured



out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us (+) and upon these gifts (+) of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator, in voices of unending praise:

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

Presider: And now as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

*CONTEMPORARY LORD’S PRAYER:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven, Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread:** *(Presider breaks the consecrated bread)*

Fraction Anthem

#S171

*[Ant]* **Be Known to us Lord Jesus in the Breaking of the bread.** *[Ant]*

**The bread which we break,, Alleluia,**

**Is the communion of the body of Christ** *[Ant]*

**One body are we alleluia**

**For though many we share one bread** *[Ant]*

## **Invitation to Communion:**

Presider: *This is not my table, this is not St. Stephen's church's table. This is Christ's Table. Jesus invites you to come forward and receive the bread and the wine in this place.*

## **Communion Hymn** “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

#135

*Please come forward to the rail and stand or kneel. Put out your hand to receive the bread, hold onto the bread if you also would like wine from the chalice. Please dip/intinct the bread into the wine and then consume it. If you do not wish to have the wine, you may eat your bread when you receive it. You may instead of receiving the bread and wine, receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. After receiving communion or blessing, return to your seat.*

## **Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude**

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Presider: *Let us pray:*

**All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Benediction:**

Presider: *The Wisdom of God the Love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen.*

### **Dismissal:**

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

**People: We are called to love and serve.**

Deacon: Let us go forth in the power of God's Spirit, Alleluia, alleluia!

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

required fees.<sup>[2]</sup>

## **Ministry**

After graduation and ordination, Bray returned to the Midlands as a curate at [Bridgnorth](#) and then became chaplain to the family of Sir Thomas Price in [Warwickshire](#).<sup>[6]</sup> Price also gave Thomas Bray a position at [Lea Marston](#), where his diligence and library drew the attention of a neighboring vicar, [John Kettlewell](#) at [Coleshill](#). Kettlewell pointed out to Bray that the poverty of country parsons kept them from owning and reading theological books, which could lead to ignorance and hopelessness and affect their ministry. Kettlewell also introduced him to Sir Charles Holt and to [Lord Digby](#) whose brother made Thomas vicar of [Over Whitacre](#), and in 1690 rector of [St Giles' Church, Sheldon](#). In addition to his parish duties at Sheldon, Bray also wrote the first volume of what he intended to be a four-volume set of *Catechetical Lectures*, and published the first volume, dedicating it to [William Lloyd, Bishop of Lichfield](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup> The book sold well and drew the attention of [Henry Compton, Bishop of London](#). In 1696, Bishop Compton appointed Mr Bray as his commissary to organize the [Church of England](#) in the [Colony of Maryland](#).<sup>[4]</sup> Protestant rebels had ousted the Catholic [Proprietor, Lord Baltimore](#) in the [colony's revolution](#), and in 1689 (the year after the [Glorious Revolution](#) in Britain), the British Crown ousted the proprietor's governor and took title to the restive Colony. Maryland already had numerous Church of England parishes, and had requested an "experienced, unexceptionable priest" to supervise them.<sup>[7]</sup> However, such organization needed royal authorization, as well as additional priests.<sup>[2]</sup> Mr Bray knew that the clergy willing to accept positions overseas were often among the poorest, unable to bring or obtain religious books, so he conditioned his acceptance upon having funds to supply the parishes with books, which educational mission was soon expanded to deaneries in England and Wales as the [Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge](#) (founded March 1698). Meanwhile, Lord Baltimore's heir, [Benedict](#) then a devout Catholic, had fled to France, but in 1698 received a royal licence to return to England, where he soon married.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

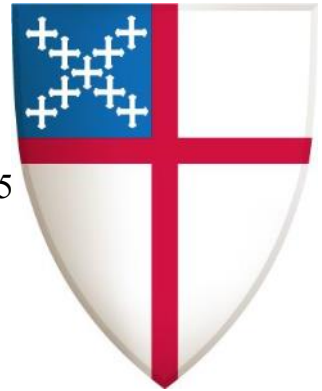
Due to England vetoing the establishment for a commissary, Bray's trip to Maryland was delayed prompting a "resubmission of the act for His Majesty's assent".<sup>[8]</sup> In 1699 Thomas Bray sailed to Maryland, along with two recruited priests. He had started his library work by establishing seaport libraries at [Gravesend](#), [Deal](#), and [Plymouth](#) on his outward journey. By the time Bray left Maryland the following year, he had divided the colony's ten counties into [thirty parishes](#), as well as established seventeen parish libraries there—the one in the colonial capital at [Annapolis](#) in part using four hundred silver pounds contributed by [Princess Anne of Denmark](#) (of £1500 pledged by wealthy subscribers, including two archbishops and five bishops).<sup>[2][9][10]</sup> Bray took a great interest in colonial missions, especially among the slaves and [Native Americans](#), writing and preaching vigorously against slavery and the oppression of Indians.<sup>[11]</sup> Bray left swiftly after securing the establishment of the Church of England in the colony pursuant to an Act of the Assembly in 1700, because the colony's [Quakers](#) had lobbyists in England attempting to secure the law's veto, as had happened twice before.<sup>[12]</sup>

Upon returning to England, in 1701 Bray published an expanded edition of his [Catechesis](#), as well as a report on the Church of England in North America,<sup>[13]</sup> which refuted the Quaker arguments against the church's establishment in the colony. Rev. Bray did not, however, manage to get a bishop authorized for the colony. He also helped secure a royal charter for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, now known as [USPG](#)

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### Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update    Giving Envelopes     Mail News Letter   

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (Mid.) (Last)

Hm: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_