

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

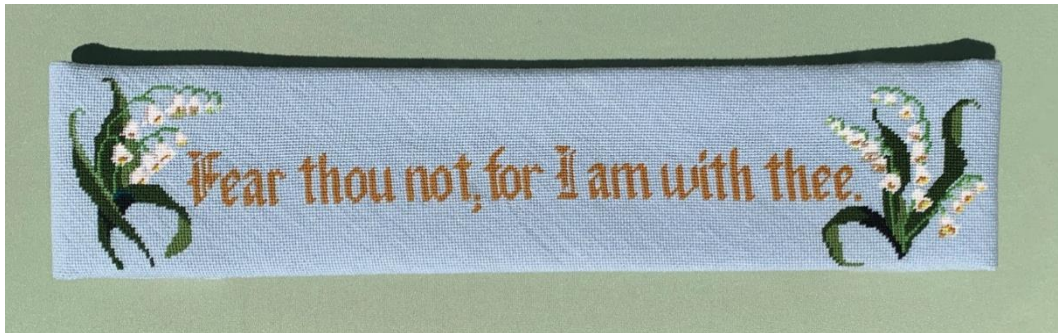
Needlepoint Kneelers

Phase Three: The Nave

During the renovation of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in 2015, volunteers—inspired by parishioner John Phillips and encouraged by our rector, the Rev. Gary Jones—began planning a project to cover all the kneelers in the church with hand-stitched needlepoint.

The Needlepoint Guild was formed in 2016 and the first phase of this vision was launched with kneelers for the chairs in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. The canvases were painted by well-known artist Nancy Lukoskie, and are based on icons in the stained glass windows. The Holy Spirit kneelers were completed in 2017 and work on the Chapel of the Good Shepherd kneelers began, with canvases designed by parishioner and needlepoint artist Jessica Tongel. Each Good Shepherd kneeler features a different spiritual symbol.

With more than 250 kneelers to cover, those involved in this project expected it to take at least 10 years. But with the Good Shepherd project substantially completed, we have begun the Nave phase of the project ahead of schedule.



Artist Anne's Pennypacker's vision for the nave kneelers is unique. Although many churches have needlepoint cushions, St. Stephen's is the only church we are aware of that will have well-loved scripture verses on its kneelers.

Each kneeler is stitched in memory or honor of a loved one. To reserve a kneeler, complete and detach the enclosed form, and send it along with your check to Needlepoint Guild, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23226. Since the parish office is closed to the public at this time, you must mail your check or make your donation online (ststephensRVA.org/needlepoint).

If you have questions, please contact Marie Carter at mdcarter27@gmail.com or 804.402.4003. To request a specific Bible verse, contact Anne Pennypacker after you have submitted your reservation and donation, apennypacker@mac.com.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia
Needlepoint Kneeler Order Form
If you prefer to place your order online, you can find an online form at
ststephensRVA.org/needlepointorder

Name (please print)

Date

Phone (include area code)

Address

Email address

I plan to stitch the kneeler myself Yes
 No

- I have a basketweave stitch sample on file.
- I have stitched a kneeler for earlier projects at St. Stephen's Church.
- I would like a volunteer to stitch my canvas for me.

Overview

We require the basketweave stitch as it pads and thickens the canvas for durability. All new stitchers must complete a sample form before beginning. We offer lessons and instructions for those who want to learn. The painting of your canvas may begin after payment and stitch approval are completed.

Donation: \$500

- Credit card (in person at May Fair House outdoor shop, or online through St. Stephen's Web site at ststephensRVA.org/needlepoint)
- Check _____

Checks should be made payable to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and note "Kneeler" on the memo line. Mail to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23226. (The church office is closed to the public. Please do not attempt to drop off a check.)

You may pay in four installments if you prefer; the final payment is due within one year of today's date.

Bible Verse Selection

After you have made your donation and reservation, you may contact Anne Pennypacker, our artist, to select your verse, review available canvases, or to share any information you wish to be considered. Email address: **apennypacker@mac.com**

Donor Information

For church records, please name the donor/s for this kneeler as follows (print clearly).

Honoree

The name/s of the person/s honored by your donation will be engraved on a brass plaque on the kneeler. Please provide the honoree information for you kneeler.

- In Memory of
- In Honor of
- In Celebration of
- In Thanksgiving for
- Will decide later

Name/s of honoree/s (print clearly)

Your Signature

Date
