Crossings

Church of the Holy Cross ✠ Episcopal
875 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Louisiana
September 4, 2026

Services

Holy Eucharist

Sunday 9 a.m. (Chapel)
Sunday 11 a.m. (Nave)
Wednesday Noon (Quire)

Daily Office

Tuesday – Friday
8:30 a.m.
Thursday 9 a.m.
(Hope House)
Monday-Saturday
6 p.m. (Online)

The Vestry

Fr. Garrett Boyte, Rector
Lucie Thornton, Senior Warden
Darrel Colson, Junior Warden
Holly McIntyre, Secretary
Reid Raymond, Treasurer
Rick Hadwin
John Hughes
Carlos McDaniel
Pembroke Roeder
Steve Snodgrass

Contact Information

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Please visit our website
https://churchholycross.org
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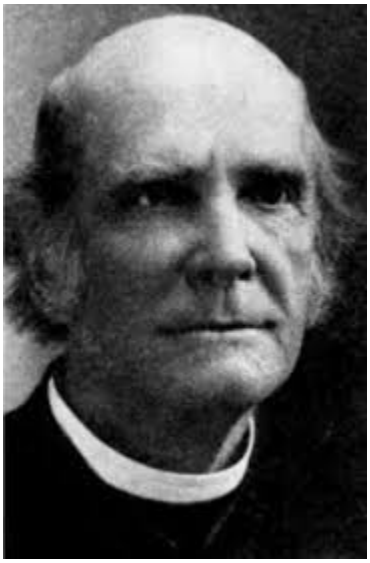
Dr. Dalzell: The Early Years



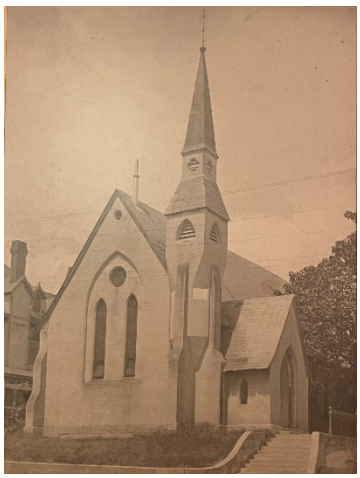
The following is taken from research about the history of Holy Cross that is a part of Fr. Garrett's doctoral work at Sewanee. This excerpt covers the early life of The Reverend W.T.D. Dalzell, a former rector of St. Mark's, in whose memory the church building is dedicated. The reredos at St. Mark's on Fairfield is also dedicated to his memory. More on his history and legacy will be published in the future.

W.T. Dickinson Dalzell was born in 1827 on the island of St. Vincent in the British West Indies. His father and uncle planted sugar together on the family plantation with the labor of some 287 enslaved persons.[1] His father Robert died in 1829, leaving him and his siblings in the care of their mother and grandfather John Dalzell. His family was active in the civic affairs of the island. His father served on His Majesty's Council and his uncle, John Dalzell, Jr., served as the Speaker of the House of Assembly for the colony. His father and uncle both died in the same year from Yellow Fever.[2] His mother, Mary Ann Tucker, remarried in 1833. Dalzell's stepfather was Robert Agassiz, a priest in the Church of England who received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Cambridge and was ordained a deacon then priest by the bishops of Lincoln then London in 1824. He later moved to St. Vincent where he and Mary Ann married. They remained there until her death in 1840, when Agassiz returned to England and remarried.

Dalzell's primary male role models then were a clergyman stepfather and his grandfather, Dr. John Dalzell, an Irish immigrant to St. Vincent who worked in the colony as a medical doctor. John almost certainly instilled the same importance of civic service in the young Dalzell as he clearly had done for his sons since Dalzell's life is marked by many and various instances of public service and active involvement in the civic affairs of his day. It's also likely that much of Dalzell's medical training came from his grandfather, since records of any formal training in medicine have not been found.

[1] Shepherd, Charles. *Historical Account of the Island of St. Vincent.* London: W. Nicol. 1831, A6
[2] *Royal Bermuda Gazette.* "Death notice of Robert Dalzell," February 9, 1830, 2.

Dalzell grew up during the time of slavery's abolition in the West Indies in 1834 and the resulting turbulence of the apprenticeship program that followed.[3] In addition to owning a large sugar plantation, his uncle had spoken quite forcefully on the importance of slave labor.[4] And while his uncle and father both died when Dalzell was still a toddler, It's safe to assume this environment and upbringing colored Dalzell's own thinking around slavery during his time in the antebellum South, as we will see later. His mother died in 1840, and Dalzell entered into some form of training for the ministry later that decade. Also in the late 1840s, he married Margaret Urquhart, with whom he had two children, Ernest and Spencer. His younger son is likely named for the Bishop of Jamaica, George Aubrey Spencer, who ordained him a priest.[5] Even in the earliest years of his ministry, Dalzell received particular praise as a good preacher and seemingly enjoyed universal acclaim wherever he went. His first cure was at Kingston in Jamaica as the rector's curate. The newspaper there noted that the entire city held Dalzell in the highest regard and lamented that he would depart them to a new cure in Mooretown.[6]



Following a few cures in the islands, he and his family eventually travelled to Demerara, British Guyana. There is little in the available record about Dalzell's time after Kingston between 1851 and 1854. While his departure was front page news in 1851, his return was less triumphal. Only two brief notices have been found in The Royal Gazette that mention him. One is a sentence stating that his wife Margaret died.[7] The other is a passenger log in April that says, "Passengers in the Curlew for Bermuda—Rev. Mr. Dalzell and 2 children." By summer Dalzell had left his sons in the islands to travel to Georgia to serve as the rector in Columbus at Trinity Church. Why he travelled to America is unknown. But the speed with which he did so soon after his wife's death is worth noting as it might establish a precedent for his departure from Houston in 1861. His tenure in Columbus was short-lived as a Yellow Fever epidemic swept through Savannah, and Dalzell went there to assist with the care of the sick. It was during this time in Georgia that Dalzell became acquainted with Georgia bishop Stephen Elliot, but their time spent together in Savannah fostered a friendship that would have a lasting effect, strangely enough, on the Diocese of Texas. At the end of this epidemic, he sent for his sons, who joined him in Columbus in the summer of 1855 before the family moved to Philadelphia.

Upon coming to Philadelphia in 1856, Dalzell took on the cure at the Church of the Ascension. He also married Helen Onderdonk in March, his second wife. She was the daughter of the suspended Bishop of Pennsylvania, Henry Onderdonk. The couple stayed for just a moment in Philadelphia before Dalzell left to become the Rector of Christ Church in Houston in May of 1857. He began his work in Texas by raising funds for the building of Christ Church, and in 1859 he travelled north back to Philadelphia to attempt to recruit a clergyman for the diocese and raise additional funds for Christ Church. During this trip, he stopped in New Orleans, where he met with Bishop Leonidas Polk and his friend and former ordinary, Bishop Elliot. Polk and Elliot were raising money for The University of the South, their educational project for the future of the Southern gentility. It was at this meeting in Bishop Polk's study that Bishop Elliot suggested Alexander Gregg to Dalzell as a suitable candidate for the Bishop of Texas.[8] It was during this time in 1859 that a cattle drive was happening down Texas Avenue in Houston, and a

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[3] Foner, Eric. *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877*. Updated ed. New York: Harper Perennial, 2014, 56. The apprenticeship program was designed as a half-measure, which satisfied no one. The former slaves were still basically enslaved during this time, but the former masters were not allowed to dole out any punishments. The result is that the newly freed slaves elected to tend their own fields and desires, which upset the former masters.

[4] Dalzell, John. *Speech of the Hon. John Dalzell, in the House of Assembly, St. Vincent*. London: C.M. Willich, 1827. Part of the Samuel J. May anti-slavery collection donated to Cornell University Library. Electronic reproduction. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Library, [between 2000 and 2002]. Accessed July 16, 2026.

[5] *The Clergy List (1851)*. London: C. Cox, 1851, 310. Dalzell is noted in many places to have been ordained a deacon by the Bishop of London in April of 1851, but no original record of such an ordination exists. Indeed, this would seem to run afoul of the record, which shows him as the rector's curate, heading to Mooretown, in March of 1851. That he then travelled across the seas to London, when a bishop was right there in Jamaica, seems unlikely.

[6] *Bermuda Royal Gazette*. "Dalzell to leave Kingston," March 11, 1851, 1.

[7] *Bermuda Royal Gazette*. "Death Notice of Margaret Dalzell," April 25, 1854, 2.

[8] Gregg, Wilson. *Alexander Gregg, first Bishop of Texas*. Sewanee: University Press, 1912, 45.

cattleman donated one of his longhorns to the building campaign. The Diocese of Texas says this is the reason their seal has the image of longhorn.

Helen gave birth to a set of twins in September of that year, Helen and Jennie. Jennie did not live through October, dying on the 26th at only 30 days old. In September of 1858, a Yellow Fever outbreak occurred in Galveston. Dalzell went there to tend to the sick as he had done in Savannah beforehand. While he was away, his 8-year-old son Spencer died of typhoid. Then his wife Helen died in June of 1860, leaving Dalzell a widower for the second time with two children to care for as half of his family died in three years.

Dalzell left Houston in June of 1861. Given the enormity of the loss he experienced since moving to Houston, it would make sense that grief compelled his move to St. Mark's in San Antonio, which is where he served throughout the war. His resignation letter to the vestry at Christ Church notes only that his reasons for leaving are already well known to everyone, and for this reason he does not list them. Alas, his actual reasons for leaving are lost to history and given to our speculation. But he does specifically mention the "heavy trials" and "much suffering" his four years in Houston left upon him.

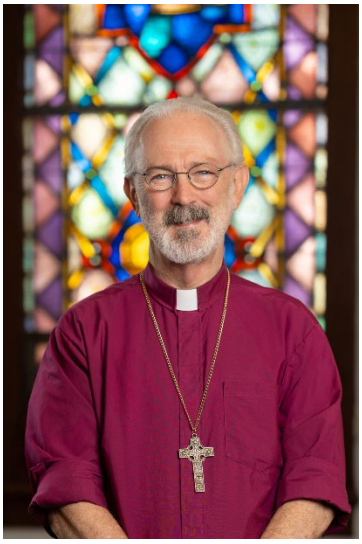
Dalzell was elected to serve as a delegate to the General Convention multiple times. He was active in civilian Confederate affairs and raised money and morale for the war effort (there is much more to say about this). Following the war he went to New Orleans where he married his third wife Felicite Logan, with whom he had three children. Immediately after his marriage he moved to Shreveport to become the rector of St. Mark's.

-Fr. Garrett

ECW Pickle Making and Bazaar Scheduled

The ECW will be making pickles on the following Wednesdays in September and October, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Undercroft: September 9, 16, 23, and October 7,14, and 21. The ECW Fall Bazaar will be on Saturday, November 7. Please call the office before donating items.

The Bishop Is Coming



Make plans to join us September 13 for Bishop Jake's annual visit to Holy Cross. The bishop will receive Beth Lacour into our communion as well as confirm some visiting members from our cathedral. Fr. Thomas will join us from the cathedral that morning as well. **There will not be a 9 am service that morning**.

Holy Cross Day September 20th

We will observe our Feast of Title on September 20. The Feast of the Holy Cross is normally on the 14th of September, but since it is our Feast of Title, we can observe it on a convenient Sunday. So make plans to join us to celebrate not only the Feast of Holy Cross but also Holy Cross Church!

The Deposit First Difference: More Than a Housing Deposit

Deposit First is much more than a program that pays rental and utility deposits. It is a comprehensive housing stabilization initiative designed to help individuals and families not only obtain housing but successfully maintain it.

Every household accepted into the program is connected to intensive case management and a network of wraparound services that address the barriers often associated with housing instability. Our goal is to create lasting changes by helping participants build healthy, stable, and self-sufficient lives.

Through Deposit First, participants gain access to medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare services; mental health counseling and addiction recovery support; assistance with Medicaid, Medicare, and prescription medication programs; financial stability and budgeting education; food and nutrition management training; self-care and wellness education; community engagement and volunteer opportunities

Participation in our Life Skills Program is a core requirement of Deposit First. These classes equip individuals and families with practical tools to improve financial management, strengthen household stability, make healthy lifestyle choices, and become active contributors to their communities. In addition to educational support, participants have access to the Hope House Food Pantry, where they may receive weekly assistance including nonperishable food items, fresh frozen meats, hygiene products, and household cleaning supplies. This resource helps families stretch limited budgets while ensuring basic needs are met.

Deposit First also recognizes the importance of social connection and quality of life. Through partnerships with community organizations, participants are offered opportunities to engage in cultural, educational, and recreational activities at no cost. These opportunities include tickets and special access to events through The Strand Theatre, Shreveport Common, the Shreveport Regional Arts Council, Sanctuary Glass, Urban Farms, and other community partners. These experiences help families build social connections, reduce isolation, and become more fully engaged in community life.

The strength of Deposit First lies in its holistic approach. While a rental deposit may open the door to housing, ongoing case management, life skills education, healthcare access, food security, and community engagement help keep that door open. Every household receives individualized support designed to address individual needs while building a foundation for long-term success.

By investing in Deposit First, funders are not simply helping a family move into housing. They are helping create healthier individuals. stronger families, and a more vibrant community where every person can thrive.

Donations can be as follows:
Checks, payable to Holy Cross Hope House with “Deposit First” noted in the memo and mailed to 762 Austen Place, Shreveport. LA 71101. Online donations can be made at churchholycross.org/donate. Be sure and designate your gift to Hope House “Deposit First.”

Pre-Bach, Post-"Blue Monk"

A free organ recital series

Benjamin Gessner, M.M., organist

First Sundays of the month

1:30–2:00 p.m.

Church of the Holy Cross

October through December 2026,
February, March, and May 2027

Featuring works by Shearing, Pachelbel, Couperin, L.L. White, and *many more*!

Church of the Holy Cross, Episcopal
875 Cotton St at Texas Ave
churchholycross.org

Calendar of Events

Sundays	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	9:00 a.m.	Chapel
	Rector's Forum	9:45 a.m.	Undercroft
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	11:00 a.m.	Nave
Monday - Saturday	Morning Prayer, Rite II	6:00 p.m.	Online
Tuesday	Morning Prayer, Rite II	8:30 a.m.	Chapel
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Rite II	8:30 a.m.	Quire
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	12:00 p.m.	Quire
Thursdays	Morning Prayer, Rite II	8:30 a.m.	Quire
	Morning Prayer, Rite II	9:00 a.m.	Hope House
Friday	Morning Prayer, Rite II	8:30 a.m.	Chapel
Wednesday, Sep 16	Vestry Meeting	5:30 p.m.	Library
Sunday, Oct 4	Continuing Feast	12:00 p.m.	Undercroft
Sunday, Oct 4	Organ Recital	1:30 p.m.	Nave

Prayer List

Alex and Betty
Suzanne Barber
Gerald Bates
Ellen Dunlop Belote
Burton Bible
Rhonda Blount
Margaret Boudreaux
Tommie Sue Brooks
Martha Brotherton
Tommy and Thena Carville
Mike-y Carlisle
Pia Conte
Frank Dodson
Jean Dooley
Aaron Elliott
Anne Fellers
Julie Folse
Patricia Forrest
Deb Garre
Wes Gearhart
John August Gianforte
John Joseph Gianforte
Albert Gladney
Georgie and Austin Gleason
Betty Gunter
Richard and Sandra Hadwin
Kaylee Hampton
Connie Harmon
The Hathaway Family
Dick Hatch
Bill Henley
Glenda Hicks
Andrew Hoover
Bob Jacob
Fred Jenks
Jane Lampley
Jay Kenigsberg
Peggy Maddox
Terry Mahlen
Carolyn Mahlen
Robert Matthews
Suzanne Mazdra
Gay Means
Bill and Cheryl McBride
Della McCranie
Katie McCranie
Catherine McDamiel
Barbara Middleton
Reece D. Middleton
Lindsey Middleton
Susan Mileff
Amy Palmeri
Frances Penton
Scott Porter
Josie Rogers
Denise Rhodes
Sierra Ryan
Steve Sasser
Mr. Stoma
James Susla
Robert Todd
Sara Townsend
Will Vance
Louis Wallace
Robert Willis
Mary Wright
Sheryl Wright
Bill Wright
Victims of War
Survivors of Gun Violence

Service Music and Hymns

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 6, 2026

Mass: Rutter, G.W. Brown *Mass for a Soulfull People*, and Crisafulli
Psalm 119: Simplified Anglican chant – R.K. Kennedy
Hymns: 11, VF98, 424 (AR HYD Y NOS), 581, 527
Anthem: Draw us in the Spirit's tether – H. Friedell
Organ: Elegy – C. Hubert H. Parry; *Nachspiele* in D – A. Hesse

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 13, 2026

Mass: G.W. Brown *Mass for a Soulfull People* and Crisafulli
Psalm 103: Simplified Anglican chant – R.K. Kennedy
Hymns: 665, 674, 376, 577, WLP776, LEVAS189
Organ: Andante con moto in E-flat – A. Guilmant; Scherzo – A. Ridout

Feast of the Holy Cross: September 20, 2026

Mass: Rutter, G.W. Brown *Mass for a Soulfull People*, and Crisafulli
Psalm 98: Single Anglican chant – G.A. Macfarren
Hymns: VF108, 474, LEVAS38, 585, 435
Anthem: There is a green hill far away – B. Chilcott
Organ: Prelude and Fugue in G, BWV 550 – J.S. Bach; Variations on LASST UNS ERFREUEN – D. Bédard

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost: September 27, 2026

Mass: Rutter, G.W. Brown *Mass for a Soulfull People*, and Crisafulli
Psalm 25: Simplified Anglican chant – R.K. Kennedy
Hymns: 450, 483, 489, LEVAS205, 348, 492
Organ: *Qui tollis peccata mundi* from Solemn Mass for Convent Use – F. Couperin; Sortie in C – L. Wély

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: October 4, 2026

Mass: Rutter, G.W. Brown *Mass for a Soulfull People*, and Crisafulli
Psalm 80: Double Anglican chant – Battishill
Hymns: 400, 546, 407, 598 (GATTA), 412
Anthem: Christ is made the sure foundation – V. Hoyte
Organ: Prelude on LAUDA ANIMA – M. Mills; *Allein Gott*, BWV 711 – J.S. Bach

Church of the Holy Cross
P.O. Box 1627
Shreveport, LA 71165-1627

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Email:rector@churchholycross.org
church@churchholycross.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/holycrossdowntown

Mission Statement:*To restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. -Catechism BCP, 855*

Hope House: There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent **pods**, disposable razors, and personal-size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) Please take your donations to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Forward Day by Day in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Ph.D., D. D.	XXVIII Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.	IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
The Rev. Garrett Boyte, M.Div.	Rector
The Rev. Mary Richard	Rector Emerita
The Rev. Donald Heacock	Priest Associate
The Rev. Lois Maberry, M.P.C.	Deacon
Mr. Ben Gessner, M.M.	Organist/Choirmaster
Mr. Jake D. Donaldson, MBA	Parish Administrator
Ms. Marie Boudreaux	Videography
Mr. Brian Jackson	Sexton
Ms. Donna Earnest	Hope House
Ms. Joy Porter	Hope House
Mr. Larry Murff	Hope House
Mr. Jason Goetz	Hope House