

Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
(Member of the Chenango District)

The Parish News

www.stannsaftonny.org

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 607-761-4601 Office: 607-656-9502

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at one of the numbers above.

In an emergency and Fr. David cannot be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Wardens: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Tracey Tallmadge: 607-343-1301



from a book **The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity.**

Written by an anthropologist and an archaeologist, it presents insights into the findings from both professions over the last few decades. It's a fascinating book that I highly recommend. I hope and pray that you all are doing well. This month I'd like to share a thought

I was happily surprised when this re-evaluation of the development of human societies presented a section reflecting on the role of the sacred. It's kind of difficult to summarize in the limited space I have, but here I go: "Sacred" simply means something (a place or thing) set apart for a special purpose instead of normal, general, everyday usage because this sacred thing has some connection to a higher power. This is all basic stuff I was taught in seminary. What fascinated me in the book was how the authors suggested that in looking at the multitude of different cultures that have existed in the world, our idea of private property closely precisely resembles the act of making something sacred in those many other cultures. Cultures known for sharing nearly every aspect of life always seem to have some specific item that an individual has exclusive ownership of and in these cultures, those items are sacred. The authors point out that our notion of private property is "almost identical in fact, in its underlying logic and social effect." One example they provide is the car. Except for certain specific instances, the car we own is our own exclusive space that we decide who enters and who doesn't. In other words, and in a very important way, our culture has made our cars sacred spaces. That strikes me as amazingly true and also very odd. Then I got to thinking that our culture encourages us to set aside a great many things as our own exclusive "sacred" items. From a faith perspective, that makes me a little uncomfortable. I can't quite explain it. I'm still thinking through it. But what do you think?

Cheers and blessings!

MAY SERVICE SCHEDULE \ SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

If you are not currently receiving email Zoom invites, then please send your email address and you will be added to the parish listing. Bottom415@aol.com, Yes, the “zoom” service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule					
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	Acolytes	
May 1	HC	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	D.Wieber/B.Vail	
May 8	MP	T. Tallmadge	T. Tallmadge	T. Tallmadge	
May 15	HC	A. Wieber	A. Wieber	B. Vail	
May 22	MP	D.Wieber	D.Wieber	D.Wieber	
May 29	MP	C. Cimini	C. Cimini	B.Vail	
June 5	HC	Artie Sabanos	Artie Sabanos	B. Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospel
May 1	HC	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
May 8	MP	Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 15	HC	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
May 22	MP	Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29
May 29	MP	Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21	John 17:20-26
June 5	HC Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:25-35, 37	Romans 8:14-17	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.					



Altar Duty for the month of May is Betty Vail

607-639-1201. If you desire flowers on the Altar in memory of loved ones, please call her at the above number.

MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:

May 8 Denise & Amy Wieber

May 22 Carol Cimini/Judy Rettberg

May 29 Betty Vail/Artie Sabanos

St. Ann's Prayer List for **MAY 2022**

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. *"We are trying to be sure that our prayer list is as updated as possible and don't want to remove someone that should be on it."* Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201. Please note long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two/three months unless updated.

SHORT TERM

Raevin
Anne
Melrose
Dorothy
Kathy

LONG TERM

Fr. David Hanselman
Fr. Steven White
Deacon Kay
Pastor Becky
Fr. Geoff Doolittle
Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe
Bishop Michael Curry
The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph
Emmanuel Church
Epiphany Church
Zion Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Andrew's Church
St. Matthews Church
St. Peter's Church
Carol Cindy
Peter David
Joyce Jason
Mya Dakota
Bonnie Hailey
Richard Joan
Tyler Bobbi
Marion Thurston
Marsha Terra



Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –
Pete and Carol Vail
Joyce Whitney
Grace Affuso
Bonnie MacPherson

The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer: *Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.*

Birthdays

5/3 Adleigh Noone
 5/5 Pat Tucker
 5/11 Betty Vail
 5/20 Kathy Vail
 5/22 Allyson Vail



Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary
cttallmadg@aol.com or 607-343-1301



CHURCH TERMS

CHURCH TERMS: BAPTISM – One of two great sacraments ordained by Christ in which water is applied to a person “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” The baptized one becomes a member of “the body of Christ,” the Church.

PHILIP, THE APOSTLE – Commemorated with the Apostle James on May 1. Both are lesser figures among the disciples, although James did become the bishop of Jerusalem in later years. Liturgical color: red, for both were martyred.

Please join us at Coffee Hour for a Special Toast to ALL Mothers!!



MOTHER'S DAY POEM:

Oh, you, who have a Mother dear,
 let not a word or act give pain;
 But cherish, love her, with your life.
 You ne'er can have her life again.

Anonymous



No meeting in April as it was Easter Sunday

THE SHEPHERD'S CARE

Be strong and brave and do the work. Don't be afraid or discouraged,

Because the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or leave you.

1 Chronicles 28:20 NCV

God is like a shepherd, continually watching His flock, searching for lost sheep, seeking those who need protection, guidance, and salvation.

God loves us and protects us. In times of trouble, He comforts us; in times of sorrow, He dries our tears. Sometimes we may feel lost or afraid, but we're never alone; the face of God is always turned toward us. Proverbs 5:21 promises, "The Lord sees everything you do, and he watches where you go" (NCV).

Remember that God is as near as your next breath. So trust Him and turn to Him for solace and security.

He goes before us, follows behind us, and hems us safe inside the realm of His protection.



A warm "THANK YOU" to Judy Rettberg for her birthday card ministry, to Gary Zurn for his work as treasurer for St. Ann's and to Bobbi Zurn for her continued "behind the scenes" support of this Parish.

Some definitions:

AMEN: *The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.*

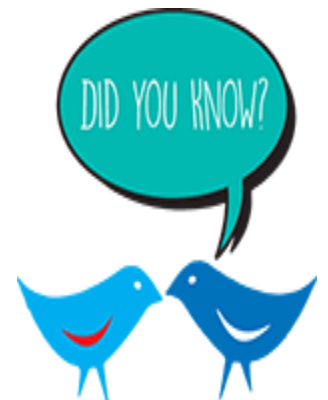
BULLETIN: *Your receipt for attending the service.*

HYMN: *a song of praise usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.*

INCENSE: *Holy Smoke!*

KYRIE ELEISON: *The only Greek words that most Episcopalians can recognize besides gyros and baklava. (It means Lord have mercy.)*

MAGI: *The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.*



Spring UTO

May 15th. has been designated as the date for the Spring “ingathering” for the UTO.

The first United Thank Offering was in 1889 and began as part of Missionary efforts of the Women’s Auxiliary to the Board of Mission authorized by General Convention in 1871. Julia Emery, secretary to the Women’s Auxiliary, and Ida Soule, who counted the missionary offering of the 1886 Triennial meeting Women, inspired women to pray and give coins with the idea of building a new church in Anvik, Alaska as well as sending Miss Lisa Lowell as a missionary to Japan. In that year, the offering reached \$2,188.64. These women dreamed of supporting mission work. It is now our time to dream of how we can make a difference with the message of thanksgiving and self-giving, and always with grateful hearts.

The United Thank Offering is a way for men, women and children to give daily thanks to God with a sense of gratitude. The discipline begins at home by placing coins in the Blue envelope or box. In years past the “blue boxes” of the UTO have been used as a Sunday School project, for the purpose of helping others. Now, that offering is, on a yearly basis, between two and a half and three million dollars, all of which is used for projects at home and abroad. “Thankful coins from thankful hearts.”

The UTO awards hundreds of grants each year. The expenses of the UTO are carefully controlled and volunteer committees are supported by the income from designated trust funds. Any surplus is also used for grants. The general budget of the Episcopal Church USA supports the UTO office.

Everyone can become part of UTO by offering thanks and prayers as part of your daily life with Christ, while dropping coins in the Blue box or envelope. It is a good reminder to give thanks to God for the gifts that have been given to us.....a child’s smile, a beautiful day, for healing of hurts, for garden fruits, for rain, for our families...HOW LONG IS YOUR LIST? Why not consider supporting the UTO effort.



A little-known fact about the Catholic Church in Las Vegas: There are more churches in Las Vegas than casinos. During Sunday services, at the offertory, some worshipers contribute casino chips as opposed to cash. Some are sharing their winnings; some are hoping to win. Since they get chips from so many different casinos, and they are worth money, the Catholic churches are required to send all the chips into the diocese for sorting. Once sorted into the respective casino chips, one junior priest takes the chips and makes the rounds to the casinos turning chips into cash. And he, of course, is known as: The Chip Monk.

The Best and Most Beautiful Things

When an elderly man died in the geriatric ward of a small hospital near Tampa, Florida, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value. Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Missouri. The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the St. Louis Association for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but eloquent poem. And this little old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is now the author of this "anonymous" poem winging across the internet.

"Crabby Old Man"

What do you see nurses?.....What do you see?
 What are you thinking.....When you're looking at me?
 A crabby old man,.....Not very wise,
 Uncertain of habit.....with faraway eyes?
 Who dribbles his food.....And makes no reply,
 When you say in a loud voice,....."I do wish you'd try!"
 Who seems not to notice.....The things that you do.
 And forever is losing.....a sock or a shoe?
 Who, resisting or not.....lets you do as you will,
 With bathing and feeding.....the long day to fill?
 Is that what you're thinking?.....Is that what you see?
 Then open your eyes, nurse.....you're not looking at me.
 I'll tell you who I am.....as I sit here so still,
 As I do at your bidding,.....as I eat at your will,
 I'm a small child of Ten.....with a father and mother,
 Brothers and sisters.....who love one another.
 A young boy of sixteen.....with wings on his feet
 Dreaming that soon now,.....a lover he'll meet.
 A groom soon at twenty.....my heart gives a leap.
 Remembering, the vows.....that I promised to keep.
 At twenty-five now.....I have young of my own.
 Who need me to guide.....and a secure happy home.
 A man of thirty.....my young now grown fast,
 Bound to each other.....with ties that should last.
 At forty, my young sons.....have grown and are gone.
 But my spouse's beside me.....to see I don't mourn.
 At fifty, once more,.....babies play 'round by knee,
 Again, we know children.....my loved one and me.
 Dark days are upon me.....my spouse is now dead.
 I look at the future.....I shudder with dread.
 For my young are all rearing.....young of their own.
 And I think of the years.....and the love that I've known.
 I'm now an old man.....and nature is cruel.
 Tis jest to make old age.....look like a fool.
 The body, it crumbles.....grace and vigor depart.
 There is now a stone.....where I once had a heart.
 But inside this old carcass.....a young guy still dwells.
 And now and again.....my battered heart swells.
 I remember the joys.....I remember the pain,
 And I'm loving and living.....life over again.
 I think of the years.....all too few.....gone to fast.
 And accept the stark fact.....that nothing can last.
 So open your eyes, people.....open and see....
 Not a crabby old man. Look closer...see.....ME!! Remember this poem when you next meet an older person
 who you might brush aside without looking at the young soul within...we will all, one day, be there, too! The best and most
 beautiful things of this world can't be seen or touched. They must be felt by the heart. God bless!! GROWING OLD IS NOT
 FOR SISSIES!!



Character: Deuteronomy 7:6 – *“For you are a holy people, who belong to the LORD your God. Of all the people on earth, the LORD your God has chosen you to be his own special treasure.”*

God’s people are set apart—holy, dedicated, chosen. Above all other people on earth, we have special privileges and responsibilities. Now that we are his, he expects us to act in a way that is, distinctive, that causes unbelievers to notice our commitment to what is good, true, and right. Godly character is godlikeness. As we imitate the character traits of God, we certainly will be distinctive in this world. In what ways are you effectively imitating God? In what areas could you improve?

NLT - GEZ

St. Ann’s Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 22
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SHARING GOD’S LOVE IN OUR
 COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
 AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman
 Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

