

# The Parish News

## St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY

Member of the Chenango District

May 2014

Clergy The Reverend

*From Fr. Dave*

Fr. David A. Hanselman

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

761-4601 cell

656-9502 office

Wardens:

-Betty Vail

639-1201

-Tracey Tallmadge

343-1301

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

Sorry this newsletter is coming out a bit later than usual. You see, I've been struggling with what to tell you this month. I know it seems I easily jabber on and on about most anything, but I do try to provide valuable, inspired messages each month. Sometimes, like this month, inspiration isn't so forthcoming. But, when I finally figured out what to say, I couldn't figure out a good way to say it. I knew the message that would be most appropriate, just not the words to convey that message. And then, as part of my (mostly regular) self-discipline, I came across some perfect statements in Joan Chittister's "The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century".

For May 2, Joan writes: "To the wise, it seems, life is not a series of events to be controlled. Life is a way of walking through the universe whole and holy."

"There is an Oriental proverb that teaches, 'Take from death before it takes from thee.'

"If we want to have a spiritual life, we will have to concentrate on doing so."

"No one grows simply by doing what someone else forces us to do. We begin to grow when we finally want to grow. All the rigid fathers and demanding mothers and disapproving teachers in the world cannot make up for our own decision to become what we can by doing what we must."

"In failing to respond to God everywhere God is around us, we may lose the power of God that is in us."

"Who of us has not been failed by all the other things besides God - money, status, security, work, people - that we have clung to and been disappointed by in our cleaving? Whose life has not been warped by a series of twisted hopes, the roots of which were sunk in the shale of false promises and empty treasures that could not satisfy? ... We have been loved to life by God, and now we must love God back with our whole lives or forever live a living death." Amen.

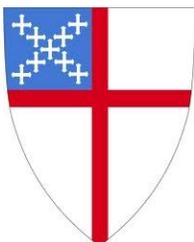


### **Make a Note**

May 11th -

**Mother's Day**

**breakfast** will be after the church service. If you plan to attend, please sign the sheet in the Parish Hall. This will give the food shoppers the amount of food to be purchased.



If you desire to have Father David visit you or give you a call, please contact him at:  
(607) 761-4601 or (607) 656-9502.

*Father Dave* ✝

## Easter Flowers - 2014

### Given By:

Carol Tarvin  
Tracey & Calvin Tallmadge  
Judy Rettberg  
Sandy & Jody Proffitt  
Melrose Kelly  
Woodie Robins  
Robin Felldin  
Denise Becker  
Pete & Carol Vail  
Duane Kane  
Marion Diehl & Family  
Amedo & Carol Cimini  
Dan, Kerri, Allyson, Garrett Vail  
Shannon & Sarah Crowley  
Grace Affuso  
Tom & Betty Vail  
Joyce Whitney

### In Memory Of:

Clyde Tarvin  
All Our Loved Ones  
Departed Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones  
Robert, Scott, Jennie Fredenburg  
Sola Hurst, Genevieve Wieber  
My Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
Elmer, Jr.  
Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
Daddy (Robert Crowley)  
Tony  
Our Loved Ones  
Baby Sherry, Bob Whitney, Ray & Nora Mitchell

Have you ever wondered why we do this or that in Church?

#### Bringing the physical into the act of worship

The physical is very significant to human beings. There are lots of questions as to WHY we have this and that in the Church, and why we DO this and that. If these questions aren't answered, they leave little points of frustration which get in the way of our worship. It is very important to say here that these ceremonies (physical acts of worship), objects, symbols, or vestments are not necessary to salvation. The priest could be in shorts, standing stock-still, out in a field, using an orange crate for an altar, ordinary bread, a china cup for a chalice, and the Eucharist would still be as valid as that done with all the ceremony in the finest cathedral. The physical objects are used because we are part physical; and bringing physical beauty and symbolism into our worship makes it seem more reverent, more beautiful, and more meaningful to us.

People occasionally use the term "High Church" and "Low Church." These terms apply chiefly to the amount of ceremony in the worship services of a particular local church. A "high" Episcopal church might regularly use incense, a Sanctus bell, elaborate vestments, processions, and sophisticated music, including chant. All of these things are very beautiful IF the worshiper understands the meaning of everything used and done. Otherwise, physical acts and objects can be distracting and even irritating. The "low" Episcopal church would use little of the above. Most local churches strike a balance. This is particularly true if the church is the only Episcopal church in the vicinity. The same Prayer Book is used throughout the spectrum, the same Faith believed, and the same Sacraments received.

**Service Schedule**

	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
HC	May 4	R.Felldin	B.Wright	RF	SP	B.Vail/Tracey T.
MP	May 11	J.Proffitt	A.Weiber	JP	---	B.Vail
HC	May 18	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/J.Proffitt
MP	May 25	T.Vail	J.Proffitt	TV	---	J.Proffitt
HC	June 1	S.Proffitt	D.Becker	BV	DB	J.Proffitt/B.Vail

Morning Prayer:

May 11 - D.Becker/M.Harding  
 May 25 - B.Vail/B.Wright

Church School:

May 4 - T.Vail  
 May 11 - S.Proffitt  
 May 18 - B.Vail  
 May 25 - No Church School

*Special Thanks to all who serve*

**Note to all who serve:** It would be most helpful if, when you cannot make your assigned date, you would arrange for a substitute. If you are unable to do that, please notify a warden. Thanks for your cooperation!

**Lectionary (Year A)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
May 4 Easter 3	Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17	Acts 2:14a,36-41	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
May 11 Easter 4	Psalm 23	Acts 2:42-47	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 18 Easter 5	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Acts 7:55-60	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 25 Easter 6	Psalm 66:7-18	Acts 17:22-31	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
June 1 Easter 7	Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36	Acts 1:6-14	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11

**Altar Guild**

**Altar Guild Duty**—Grace Affuso (607) 639-2961 and Betty Vail. If you wish to purchase or provide flowers for the altar on a particular Sunday, call Tracey Tallmadge or Betty Vail (607) 639-1201. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Pete Vail (639-1444) no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin. If you wish to purchase Easter Lily in memory of a loved ones for Easter Sunday, please see Betty Vail or call her at 639-1201.

**St. Ann's Brochure**

The best way to bring someone to church is a personal invitation. The brochure provides an "icebreaker" when given to a friend or neighbor you ask to come to church with you. Copies are located at the back of the church and in the hallway between the church and the parish hall. Please feel free to take one or as many as you need for this purpose. Please give one to visitors and when you invite someone to come to church with you!

## Vestry Highlights - March 2014

1. Outreach - \$200.00 Feinstein Food Pantry Challenge.
2. Mother's Day Breakfast discussed. Woodie and Calvin expected to be available.
3. Parish Picnic will be at Kellystone Park on Sunday, June 15.
4. Treasures report was given by Pete Vail. Fuel costs has created a negative cash flow.
5. Furnace will be shut off during the week to save some fuel.

## Coming attractions

Annual Picnic at Kelly Stone  
**June 15**  
*A great time for all.*



## Kudos



**THANKS!** Many thanks to Melrose Kelly, Sandy Proffitt, Grace Affuso and Betty Vail for cleaning the brass in the church.

**THANKS!** A big thank you to Robin for the goodies she brought for the Easter egg hunt after the Easter Sunday service. The young people had a great time on a beautiful day!

*Note: If you know of one or more people who we should thank in this column, please pass that information on to Pete Vail or Jody Proffitt. We don't want to miss anyone!*

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Grace Affuso's daughter Rosie as she graduates from Syracuse University College of Law on May 9th.

## Baptism

On April 6, baby Olivia Sommers, daughter to Natasha and Doug Sommers, granddaughter to Jody and Sandy Proffitt, was baptized at St. Ann's and welcomed into Christ's flock. A reception was held in her honor in the parish hall.



## In Need of Prayer

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. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201.

<b>Carol</b>	<b>Peter</b>	<b>Michele</b>	<b>Sally</b>	<b>Joyce</b>	<b>Fay</b>	<b>Jen</b>	<b>Pat</b>
<b>Mya</b>	<b>Holly</b>	<b>Cindy</b>	<b>Lou</b>	<b>Toni</b>	<b>Beverly</b>	<b>Lois</b>	<b>Sally</b>
<b>Clifford</b>	<b>Joe</b>	<b>Steve</b>	<b>Julia</b>	<b>Richard</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Elizabeth</b>	<b>Matt</b>
<b>Doug</b>							
<b>Fr. Chuck Taylor</b>		<b>Fr. David Hanselman</b>		<b>Fr. Bruce MacDuffie</b>			
<b>Bishop "Skip" Adams</b>		<b>Pope Francis</b>		St. Peter's Church in their search for a rector			

The following prayer is suggested by Bishop Skip. It 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, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake.*

## Youth Group News

Hello! We hope everyone is enjoying the beginnings of spring! St. Ann's is planning to host the next youth group gathering. It will be held on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm. We are planning a laid back gathering where the kids can play and the adults can have some time to discuss how youth group has been going this year and our ideas for the format of youth group in the future. So, bring your favorite board games and/or a craft to share (our daughter will be bringing her rainbow loom kit!) and let's meet up for some game-playing and crafting fun! St. Ann's will be providing ice cream for a special treat. We would appreciate it if each family could please bring their favorite ice cream topping to share. Looking forward to seeing you next month! If you have any questions, please contact us.

Dan and Kerri Vail

## From Your Treasurer

At first glance it would appear that our cash flow is improving. However, energy (fuel oil and electricity) continues to be a significant drain on our funds and computer problems at Zion have delayed requests for funds to support Fr. Dave. These two situations combined result in our cash flow remaining negative for now. Time should improve these conditions as the need for energy decreases and Zion resolves their computer problems. Detailed financial reports are available on the parish hall bulletin board to the right of The Parish News. Thanks to all who are keeping their giving up-to-date! It makes the Treasurer's job much easier.

Pete Vail

## Afton Interchurch Council (AIC)

### Afton Food Pantry

- New coordinator Kathy Knudsen

### A Place at the Table

May 17, 2014 - St. Ann's will be providing free soup and sandwich lunch at the Afton Presbyterian Church as part of the inter-church council. *Anyone that can help please see Judy Rettberg or Sandy Proffitt*



Address label here

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Tracey Tallmadge

Wardens: Betty Vail

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR  
COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY  
AND ACTION

Afton, New York 13730

P. O. Box 22

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

## The Final Word



—  
*But Stephan, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed steadily upward into heaven and saw the glory of God, and he saw Jesus standing in the place of honor at God's right hand. And he told them, "Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing in the place of honor at God's right hand!"*

*Then they put their hands over their ears, and drowning out his voice with their shouts, they rushed at him. They dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. The official witnesses took off their coats and laid them at the feet of a young man named Saul.*

*And as they stoned him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he fell to his knees shouting, "Lord, don't charge them with this sin!" And with that, he died. (NLT)*

Acts 7:55-60

The above quoted scripture is the 1st Lesson for the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The following commentary comes from the Guideposts edition of the New Living Translation.

The central message of Christianity, that all have sinned and are lost apart from Christ, is offensive to most people. After all, we humans are proud and we don't like to consider that we are ever in the wrong. Because Christianity is offensive, those who bear its message are perceived as offensive also. Stephen became the first Christian martyr because the Jewish leaders who sent Jesus to the cross were enraged by his ringing accusation of their sin. As believers, we must ask God for the courage to speak the truth and the grace to endure any unjust treatment that may result. When we consider the impact of Stephen's death -- the eventual conversion of the young man Saul (later called Paul) and the spread of the gospel (Acts 8.4) -- we see that even terrible persecution in God's hands can lead to great glory.

PCV