

## 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](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

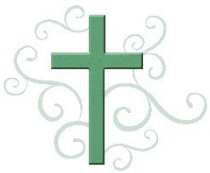
The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

**Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 761-4601 Office: 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 can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.**

**Wardens: Betty Vail: 639-1201 Tracey Tallmadge: 343-1301**



### *From Fr. Dave*

It's natural enough for folks to look to their pastor for the right words at the right time. My hope as a pastor is that I can learn the Prayer Book well enough to be able to share the healing words it has accumulated through centuries of use.

As we begin another season of Lent, let's consider the words that have been given to us from our Prayer Book's Ash Wednesday service:

"Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put to mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith."

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. "

More than just fine words, here we are invited by the distilled wisdom from the earliest ages of Christianity to share in the continuous, on-going life of Christ.

**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!

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Mar 5	HC	R.Felldin	T.Tallmadge	RF	JR	Tracey/B.Vail
Mar 12	MP	Girl Scouts	Girl Scouts	BV	----	D.Wieber
Mar 19	HC	A.Wieber	M.Harding	TV	MH	D.Wieber/B.Vail
Mar 26	MP	C.Cimini	J.Rettberg	AC	----	A.Cimini
Apr 2	HC	R.Felldin	J.Rettberg	RF	CC	Tracey/B.Vail
Church School						
Church School			Morning Prayer		Food Pantry	
Mar 5	M.Harding			Mar 13	B.Vail/T.Tallmadge	
Mar 12	B.Vail	T.Vail	T.Tallmadge	Mar 15	M.Kelly/J.Rettberg	
Mar 19	T.Tallmadge					
Mar 26	K.Vail	R.Felldin	J.Rettberg			
Lectionary (Year A)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
Mar 5	HC	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	Psalm 32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11	
Mar 12	MP	Genesis 12:1-4a	Psalm 121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17	
Mar 19	HC	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42	
Mar 26	MP	1 Samuel 16:1-13	Psalm 23	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41	

**Altar Duty** for the month of March is Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301. No flowers on Alter during Lent.

~~~~~ **Girl Scout Sunday** will be celebrated at St. Ann's on March 12<sup>th</sup>. ~~~~~



**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** will be held on Wednesday evenings at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bainbridge. Stations of the Cross will begin at 5:30; Meal at 6:00 and Program at 6:30. All are invited to attend. There will be no Bible Study at St. Ann's during the Lenten season.



March Coffee Hour Sign Ups

March 5 - Marissa Harding  
 March 12 - Girl Scouts  
 March 19 - Amy & Denise Wieber  
 March 26 - Robin



To everyone who supported our Parish during 2016 and returned “intention” cards for 2017. If you have not returned a card and would like to do so, there is still time. Your vestry thanks everyone for their generous financial support.

NOTE: Daylight Savings Time begin on March 12<sup>th</sup>



If you are interested in Sunday, please contact Betty or Tracey



purchasing an Easter Lily for the Altar on Easter

“A Place at the Table” free lunch Sponsored by the Afton Presbyterian Church, March 11, 2017 at the Church 11am to 1 pm All are Welcome!!



### St. Ann's Prayer List for March 2017

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. Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.

#### Long Term

Carol  
Peter  
Joyce  
Mya  
Holly  
Cindy  
Lois  
Clifford  
Richard  
Derek  
Annika  
Declan  
Sasha  
Sharon  
Bill & Linda  
Diane  
Fr. David Hanselman  
Fr. Bruce MacDuffie  
Deacon Kay  
Pastor Becky

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. Matthew's Church  
St. Peter's Church

#### Short Term

Genine  
Pastor Sue  
Caitlin  
Marsey  
Sarah G.  
Marion  
Leigh MacDuffie  
Rev. Don Matthews  
Rev. Gurdon Brewster

The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School.

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, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen*

## CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH



6<sup>th</sup> Connie Beames  
7<sup>th</sup> Nancy Setford  
16<sup>th</sup> Alan Seacat  
25<sup>th</sup> Jody Proffitt  
27<sup>th</sup> Melrose Kelly  
28<sup>th</sup> Tracey Tallmadge and Laurin Felldin



**Please send your birthday/anniversary dates to me @ [cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com) or advise me at church.**

### Our Sacred Trust

Not too long ago, most parents trusted that the values and ethics for leading “the good life” were clear to their children. They trusted that church and society were in basic agreement about morality. They trusted that young people would learn the most important lessons through the cooperative moral agreement that appeared to be a part of a broad social contract. They trusted that the details of denominational belief could be learned at Sunday school, and that the full engagement of life would bring about formation of the soul.

Today, many act as if the same arrangement exists. The connection between what our young people learn from surrounding culture and what they learn from the gospel has changed. The work of God is always alive and active in the world, but the capacity to discern it has faded to an all-time low, not just in our society but also in the church. We have to ask ourselves: in our hyper-connected, media-dominated culture, how will the soul be formed? What will it look like?

**One of our responsibilities to God is to pass on knowledge of the sacred. Though faith is a path that each of us must choose individually, it is a sacred communal trust that must be renewed by every generation. It is an essential aspect of the command and gift we call love.**

**When Jesus called Peter to the task of sharing his faith, to live for others, he asked, “Do you love me?” Like Peter, we may be surprised to find our responsibilities to others begin with intense self-evaluation. Do you love Jesus? Do you love God? What is truly important to you? What is your ultimate commitment.**

**The society in which we now live demands a renewed commitment to the sacred trust that compels us to share our spiritual knowledge and traditions with each other and with the generations to come. This is clearly one of our most urgent tasks as a community. It begins by a fearless searching of our individual hearts.**

The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada



## FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

1. **Outreach:** Voted to send \$200 to the Afton Interchurch Council for the benefit of the Afton School “backpack” program.
2. **Old Business:** Bible study will start March 8<sup>th</sup>. to be held this year at St. Peter’s, Bainbridge. Stations of the cross at 5:30, soup & sandwich at 6:00, bible study at 6:30.
3. **New business:** Robin and Brianna Felldin are considering going to El Salvador with the Mission of Miracles program of the Diocese. Possibly Denise Wieber as well. If one or all of these individuals make the trip, it was decided to subsidize their expenses with the funds that are currently in the Youth Group account. This program helps people in El Salvador with health and wellness issues. **Additional financial contributions are welcomed and may be sent to St. Ann’s marked “El Salvador project.”**
4. Voted to continue our membership in the Afton Chamber of Commerce and also to support the chamber financially by purchasing an ad in their new brochure.
5. Chris and Yan Vail thanked for providing the music on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
6. Discussed what St. Ann’s might do to support the “war against addiction” that is going on in the area. It was suggested that we ask Logan Tallmadge to speak at a coffee hour about her work with victims of addiction. Also to ask Dan Vail to speak about the addiction situation in the Binghamton area. The date of May 21st. was tentatively selected.
7. **Treasurer’s report:** We are operating “in the black.” The parochial report is nearly completed and will be done before the March 1<sup>st</sup>. deadline. The final report for 2016 for Fr. David’s salary and expenses and our share paid. Estimated payments will be made to Zion Church, Greene, and any differences adjusted on a quarterly basis. The final payment from the Fay Todd Estate should be received in the next 30 days.

## From The Joyful Noiseletter

### Humor for the hard times

Dr. John Morreall collected examples of poor medical communication, things that doctors have written on patients' charts:

- "On the second day her knee was better, and on the third day it disappeared completely."
- "Patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 1996."
- "Patient has two teenage children, but no other abnormalities."
- "Patient refused an autopsy."
- "The patient is a 79-year-old widow who no longer lives with her husband."
- "Discharge status: alive but without permission."

—from *Laughing All the Way* by John Morreall

### God's kids say & do the funniest things

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny responded, "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

—via Joan Pfister Portage, MI



"Today's hymn is on page 2 of our website at [religion/net@hymn.com](mailto:religion/net@hymn.com)."

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**The Final Word**

*Let not sin control the way you live; do not give in to its lustful desires. Do not let any part of your body become a tool of wickedness, to be used for sinning. Instead, give yourselves completely to God since you have been given new life. And use your whole body as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God.* Romans 6:12-13

This month, specifically March 1st, we begin our observance of Lent, traditionally a season of penitence and fasting. An Exhortation in our Book of Common Prayer contains the following directive that would serve us well as a Lenten discipline. “Examine your lives and conduct by the rule of God’s commandments, that you may perceive wherein you have offended in what you have done or left undone, whether in thought, word, or deed. And acknowledge your sins before almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life, being ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs done by you to others; and also being ready to forgive those who have offended you, in order that you yourselves may be forgiven.” Having recognized our sin and being assured of forgiveness, what remains is for us to repent and amend our life so that we become, as St. Paul puts it in his letter to the Romans, “a tool to do what is right for the glory of God.” As we observe Lent and the awesome event to which it is leading us, let us ask ourselves the following question. Is there something I have or something I’m doing (or not doing) that is keeping me from giving or accepting the love of God and others?

May God grant us the grace to ask that question and to act upon the answer. PCV

**St. Ann’s Episcopal Church  
P. O. Box 22  
Afton, New York 13730**

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COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY  
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**Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman**

**Wardens: Betty Vail  
Tracey Tallmadge**

**Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am**

Address Label Here

