

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: 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**



Welcome May! Welcome Easter season!

This month I'd just like to highlight some of the things I said on Easter and 2d Easter - as I've been going through this Easter season, these couple things have

remained on my mind.

A comment I made on Easter was that as much as I might be consumed by curiosity in trying to understand the utter and complete strangeness of Jesus' resurrected body, the first disciples were not so focused on that. To be sure, the utter and complete strangeness of Jesus' resurrected body, was recognized by the first followers and they experienced shock, fear and amazement. But the shock, fear and amazement was quickly replaced by sheer, unadulterated joy.

If the first disciples could quickly overcome the shocking strangeness of Jesus' resurrected body and embrace the profound meaning of God's actions through it, then can I maybe focus a little bit more on the one and less on the other?

Then, on 2 Easter, I shared some words from former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams fascinating book, *Resurrection: Interpreting the Easter Gospel*.

In considering the pivotal importance of the resurrected Jesus showing the evidence of crucifixion, Williams writes, "So far from pain and death being bypassed or 'transcended' in the usual sense, [pain and death] are presented to us as now interwoven with God as we encounter him."

And another statement by Williams that has occupied my mind and prayers: "To find the crucified one exalted as Lord is to know that the problem of suffering is never going to leave us alone: it cannot be caught and sealed and buried... In the resurrection, it is presented as ... the universal question."

And finally, another idea that seems to me to offer a profound and faith-filled idea to ponder, Williams writes, "I shall not be asked at the last day whether I have 'suffered well', I shall be asked how far I have allowed Christ's questioning to transform my life into compassion, and how far, therefore, I have allowed compassion in me to transform the world."

Brothers and sisters, may God's love and peace be with you always. Amen



SERVANTS OF GOD

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
May 5	HC	A.Cimini	C.Tarvin	AC	CC	B.Vail/A.Cimini
May 12	MP	C.Cimini	R.Felldin	RF	----	A.Cimini
May 19	HC	C.Tarvin	D.Vail	BV	JR	D.Vail/A.Vail
May 26	MP	C.Tarvin	J.Rettberg	----	----	B.Vail
June 2	HC	B.Vail	C.Tarvin	TV	JR	A.Cimini/B.Vail

Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry	
				May 13	B.Vail/T.Tallmadge
May 5	T.Vail			May 15	J.Rettberg/J.Seacat
May 12	B.Vail	D.Wieber	M.Harding		
May 19	K.Vail				
May 26	T.Vail	B.Vail			

Lectionary (Year C)					
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading
May 5		Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
May 12		Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 19		Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
May 26		Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29
June 2		Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53



Altar Duty for the month of May, Pat Tucker – 639-1984.

St. Ann's Prayer List for May 2019

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.

Short Term

Raevin
 Bill
 John
 Pat
 Chuck
 Lucian
 Duane
 Alan
 Aggie
 Lisa
 Tina
 Cindy
 Julie
 Pauline
 Alex
 Janet
 Adelaide
 Linda
 Jackson

Long Term

Fr. David Hanselman
 Fr. Steven White
 Deacon Kay
 Pastor Becky
 Rev. Elizabeth Gillett
 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. Matthew's Church
 St. Peter's Church
 Carol
 Peter
 Joyce
 Mya
 Holly
 Cindy
 Lois
 Hailey
 Clifford
 Richard
 Bill
 Kevin
 Dakota
 Nate
 Marion
 Amaya
 Bonnie



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 eep. 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.*



National Day of Prayer - May 2, 2019

May Friendship Day - May 3, 2019

National Family Week - May 5-11, 2019

Mother's Day - May 12, 2019

Vestry Meeting – May 19, 2019

Memorial Day - May 27, 2019

Ascension of the Lord - May 30, 2019



PASCHAL CANDLE - A large white candle symbolizing the risen Christ. It is placed on the Gospel side of the Altar, lighted on the Saturday evening before Easter and kept burning until Ascension Day.

The United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church



The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO is entrusted to promote thank offerings, to receive the offerings, and to distribute the monies to support mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. UTO Sundays are typically in May and November, with May 26th. being the Spring “ingathering” for 2019. The Sunday closest to

All Saints Sunday is typically he “ingathering” for fall. Many people find satisfaction in supporting this mission and ministry of the Church, in thankfulness for all the blessings they have received.



- 5/3 Adleigh Noone
- 5/5 Pat Tucker
- 5/11 Betty Vail
- 5/20 Kathy Vail
- 5/22 Allyson Vail
- 5/26 Burke Wright



No Anniversaries that I am aware of.

Please let me know if you have one so I can add next time.

cttallmadg@aol.com

Please note that the men will prepare the usual

Mother's Day breakfast on May 12th. Why not plan to attend and support their efforts.

There is a sign up sheet on the counter in the Parish Hall



There is no Vestry report for this month as the Bishop's visit fell on the March Vestry meeting Sunday and the Vestry meeting Sunday for April fell on Easter.





This article has been run before, but it has become a tradition to publish it every couple of years.

A Parable on Motherhood

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is the way long?" she asked. And her guide said, "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children and gathered flowers for them along the way and bathed with them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then night came, and storm, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle and the children said, "O mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come," and the mother said, "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed and when they reached the top, they said, "We could not have done it without you, mother." And the mother, when she lay down that night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage, today I have given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth—clouds of war and hate and evil—and the children groped and stumbled and the mother said, "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Glory, and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

And the days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old, and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong and walked with courage. And when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was a light as a feather; and at last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.

And the mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates."

And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a Living Presence."





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PUZZLE

Handiwork to do good works

God has a special plan and purpose for each of us.

Directions: Use the finger-position clues under the blanks below to complete Ephesians 2:10, NIV.

For we are God's _____, _____ in _____ to do _____, which _____ in _____ for us to do. _____ 2:10, NIV

Finger clues: L pinky, R thumb, L pointer, R middle, R ring, L thumb, R pinky, L ring, R pointer, L middle

Answer: handiwork, created, Christ, Jesus, good, works, God, prepared, advance, Ephesians

PUZZLE

RESURRECTION HOPE

Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.

Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.

2+2 = ___ united 2x3 = ___ death 7+6 = ___ resurrection
 3x3 = ___ certainly 18-16 = ___ have 4-1 = ___ been
 0+1 = ___ if 2x4 = ___ we 13-1 = ___ him
 2+3 = ___ in 20-6 = ___ like 2+5 = ___ his
 2x5 = ___ be 8+3 = ___ with

"For _____ we _____ with him _____ a _____ like _____, _____ will _____ also _____ united _____ in a _____ his." Romans 6:5, NIV

Blank numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV



The Final Word

It was now winter, and Jesus was in Jerusalem at the time of Hanukkah. He was at the Temple, walking through the section known as Solomon’s Colonnade. The Jewish leaders surrounded him and asked. “How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus replied, “I have already told you and you don’t believe me. The proof is what I do in the name of my Father. But you don’t believe me because you are not part of my flock. My sheep recognize my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me and he is more powerful than anyone else. So no one can take them from me. The Father and I are one.”

John 10:22-30

In this excerpt from the Gospel of John, Jesus is confronted by the Jewish leaders who accuse him of putting off answering their question. He responds by pointing out to them that he has already given them the answer that they sought and they refused to believe him. In fact, they accuse Jesus of being crazy and possessed by demons. Furthermore, they are so angered by the words of Jesus that they pick up stones with the intent of killing him. Join me in reading further in John 10 to find out what Jesus has to say about sheep and shepherds. Then ask yourself: Do I recognize the voice of Jesus? How do I know that he is speaking to me? May God’s grace give us the ability and the desire to Listen to what Jesus Would have us do.

PCV

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

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

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Wardens: Betty Vail
Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

