

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

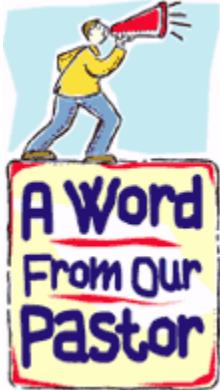
The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

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



It's February! At the end of February, we begin Lent. I hope that you all take this time to put some thought to observing Lent through considering some Lenten discipline. I know, "discipline" can be such an ugly word for some folks, but in this sense, it really is just simply resolving to make some change to your usual routine. Some of you may recall that I sort of scoffed at making New Year's resolutions, so you might be wondering what the difference is between making New Year's resolutions and deciding upon a Lenten discipline.

Well, simply, it's the difference between time – New Year's resolutions are intended for a whole year (and possibly a lifetime) whereas Lenten disciplines are simply 40 days.

Who knows what will happen after that, whether your chosen discipline continues or not? 40 days is so much more manageable than a whole year.

And as the infomercials say, "But wait! There's more!" With Lenten disciplines you always have a weekly respite. In other words, you can have Sundays off from your discipline. Well, that is, depending upon the discipline you choose. There's come to be many different disciplines people avail themselves of and "Sundays off" really comes from the common historical practice of fasting.

You see, historically, Lenten discipline was often a matter of fasting, but Lent also calls us to other things as well. As our Ash Wednesday service puts it (Prayer Book, p. 265): "...self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word".

Now I hope it comes as no surprise that you don't get "Sundays off" from prayer, but some of these other things you can take a break from on Sundays. "Why?" you might ask. Just because every Sunday is a commemoration of Easter.

Every Sunday is a reminder and a celebration of Easter. The very first Easter Sunday, the day when Jesus Christ was resurrected and the tomb was empty, marks the first day of God's new creation and establishes God's promise that God's justice, firmly established in love, will be made manifest and present in the whole world. So, please, take on some Lenten discipline, but know that Easter is at the center of all things. Blessings to you all!

**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
Feb 2	HC	B.Vail	B.Vail	TV	JR	Tracey/B.Vail
Feb 9	MP	A.Wieber	A.Wieber	AC	----	D.Wieber
Feb 16	MP	J.Rettberg	J.Rettberg	----	----	B.Vail
Feb 23	MP	T.Vail	T.Vail	D.Vail	----	D.Vail
Mar 1	HC	T.Tallmadge	T.Tallmadge	BV	CC	Tracey/B.Vail
Church School	Morning Prayer			Food Pantry		
Feb 2	T.Vail					
Feb 9	R.Felldin	B.Vail	T.Tallmadge	Feb 10	B.Vail/T.Tallmadge	
Feb 16 – No CS		D.Wieber		Feb 12	M.Kelly/J.Rettberg	
Feb. 23	K.Vail	C.Cimini	A.Cimini			
Lectionary (Year C)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel	
Feb 2		Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40	
Feb 9		Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]	Psalm 112:1-9, (10)	1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]	Matthew 5:13-20	
Feb 16		Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Psalm 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9\	Matthew 5:21-37	
Feb 23		Exodus 24:12-18	Psalm 2 or Psalm 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9	
Feb 26	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2,12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	Psalm 103 or 103:8-14	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21	Matthew 6:1-6,16-21	
Mar 2		Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	Psalm 32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11	



Altar Duty for the month of February is Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Peter Vail, 607-639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

St. Ann's Prayer List for February 2020

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  
Robert  
Jeannette  
Jennifer  
Rhiannon  
Kathy  
James  
Jody

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	Dakota
Mya	Nate
Holly	Marion
Cindy	Amaya
Lois	Bill
Clifford	Rachel
Richard	Hailey



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.*



## St. Ann's Vestry Synopsis January 2020

1. St. Ann's monthly outreach amount was increased to \$300 from \$200, starting this month. The Christmas offering was sent to the General Theological Seminary and was increased by the amount of our December outreach of \$200 for a total contribution of \$580.25. Many thanks to everyone for their generous Christmas offerings. A letter of thanks has been received. The January outreach of \$300 will be sent to the Episcopal Relief and Development earmarked for Puerto Rico relief.
2. Fr. David reported that Deacon Kay will be presenting an opioid program at St. Ann's, part of it in place of the sermon and the balance of it during coffee hour after the service.
3. It was voted to proceed with a repaving of the parking lot to be done by Stone Kote Construction, two coats of stone and oil.
4. Lenten bible study was discussed. It was suggested that we try holding a discussion after church during the coffee hour, instead of an evening event. Fr. David will think about what we might do.
5. It was voted to renew our membership in the Greater Afton Chamber of Commerce.

It was discussed how we might handle requests for gas money, of which there have been several in recent weeks. It was voted to re-establish a rector's discretionary fund with an initial deposit of \$200 with the funds accessible by either warden or Fr. David. Fuel purchases would be done with a voucher system. We have been requested to increase the "dwell" time on the LED sign so that the messages may be read more easily. The treasurer's report was presented and by the grace of God we are solvent.

# VESTRY will meet February 16th, 2020

LINK TO DIOCESE OF CENTRAL NEW YORK 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

2/2 Tom Vail  
2/7 Marion Diehl  
2/18 Carol Tarvin

Please email [cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com) to be added to our birthday/anniversary list.

Church Terms: **FISH – ICHTHUS** is the Greek word for “fish.” The letters of this word are the initial letters for “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior” in Greek. It was a code---the sign of the fish--by which early Christians identified themselves to one another in the days of persecution. It also recalls the Sacrament of Holy Baptism (a fish must live in water) and is thus a symbol of Christian regeneration.



Sign seen in a Christian bookstore in Michigan: "You relax on a plane, even though you don't know the pilot. You relax on a ship, even if you don't know the captain. You relax on a bus, even though you don't know the driver. Why don't you relax in life knowing that God is in control?"



February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes.

I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.



Daniel 9:3



### The Other 10 Commandments

These words have been called The Paradoxical Commandments and The 10 Rules for Living and were written some years ago by a man named Kent Keith when he was 19 years old. After penning these lines, they have shown up in many places including the Ann Landers column, the South Carolina state legislature and on the website of Wally Amos, the chocolate chip cookie entrepreneur. They have also been called the "Anyway Commandments" and are meant to inspire decency in what can be a mean world. They are still appropriate.

- 1) People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.
- 2) If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.
- 3) If you are successful, you will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
- 4) The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
- 5) Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.
- 6) The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.
- 7) People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.
- 8) What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.
- 9) People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.
- 10) Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway.

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## Morning Prayer

"The Light of God surrounds me.  
"The Love of God enfolds me.  
"The Power of God protects me.  
"The Presence of God watches over me.  
"Where I am, God is."

– James Dillett Freeman  
via Apple Seeds

**A bishop invited to preach at an Anglican church joined the rector's family for Sunday dinner after church. The rector's small daughter said, "A person must be very brave to go to church these days." "Why do you say that?" the bishop asked. "Because," the child said, "I heard Papa tell Mama there was a big shot in the pulpit, the canon was in the vestry, the choir murdered the anthem, and the organist drowned everybody." – Cambridge (England) Daily News**

**A young girl was asked to play the devil tempting Jesus in the wilderness in a church play. She refused, suggesting that the pastor ask her little brother instead. "He'd make a great devil!" she said.**

**After an election in which he had retained his seat in Parliament, a reporter asked Winston Churchill, "I presume we may expect you to continue to be subservient to the powerful interests that control your vote." Churchill replied: "I'll thank you to keep my wife out of this." – via Rev. Bernard Brunsting Stuart, FL**

The Final Word



**Perseverance:** "Let this encourage God's holy people to endure persecution patiently and remain firm to the end, obeying his commands and trusting in Jesus....." **Revelation 14:12**

"Whether you are an athlete undergoing grueling physical conditioning, an employee struggling under a mountain of work, or a Christian suffering persecution, the key to perseverance is a clear vision of the goal. While the goal of an athlete is to win the race and the goal of the employee is a job well done, the goal of the believer is nothing less than eternity in the presence of the Lord. The writer of Revelation encourages Christians to keep their eyes on Jesus, who will reward the faithful, and to obey his Word to the end. When you feel like giving up, remember the glory that awaits you as a child of God" NLT - GZ

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

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 COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER. STUDY  
 AND ACTION**

**Clergy:** The Rev. David A. Hanselman

**Wardens:** Dan Vail  
 Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

