

AROUND THE PARISH

December 15, 2016

St. Alban's seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community,
committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering people to grow spiritually,
deepening our relationship with Christ and living out our faith in the community and the world.

COMING EVENTS

- 12/19 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
12/24 **Christmas Eve Service**
6:30pm, Carols
7:00pm, Eucharist
Refreshments following service
12/25 **10:30am, Christmas Day Service**
1/1 **10:30am, New Year's Day (one Service)**

PLANNING AHEAD

- 1/29/2017 Annual Parish
9:30am, One Service
11:00am, Light Brunch
11:30am, Annual Parish Meeting
2/12/2017 Selah Service



UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

Sunday, January 29, is the date for our Annual Parish Meeting. There will be one service at 9:30am, followed by a light brunch, with the meeting scheduled for approximately 11:30am.

Fr. Greg Peters will not be available for services on January 1 (New Year's Day) and January 22.

Since January 1 is a Sunday and we are having a guest priest, it was decided to have one service at 10:30am. Fr. Scot Wright will officiate at this service.

Fr. Jerry Shigaki will be our guest priest at both 8:00am and 10:30am services on Sunday, January 22.

LETTER FROM THE DIOCESE OF OLYMPIA TO PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP

Bishop Rickel recently shared a letter with the Diocese that he will be sending to President-Elect Trump, joining our voice with the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania and other faith communities. Below is a brief excerpt of the letter, along with a link to read the entire letter. Below also is a link if you would like your signature to the letter.

“As our new President-Elect, we want you to know that we are now praying and will continue to pray for you. We are Republicans, Democrats, Independents, and other political parties. We comprise a cross section of America; we are a variety of political beliefs and opinions. We are those who voted for you and those who did not. Although we are diverse, we share in an unshakable common faith in the transformative and life-giving power of Jesus Christ.

“As you are a professed follower of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we believe you have empathy in your heart and want the best for our nation and the people of the United States. Thus, we ask that you affirmatively and unequivocally condemn any instance of hate, violence, intimidation, harassment, aggression against any of our brothers and sisters with whom we share this country. We are asking that this be done through a public pronouncement ...”

To read the entire letter go to:

<http://ecww.org/letter-diocese-olympia-president-elect-trump/>

To add your signature to the letter, go to:

<https://resources.ecww.org/sign-our-letter-president-elect-trump>

Signatures are requested by December 20th.

DECEMBER OUTREACH

Pat Chandler

I was pleased to learn that our Outreach for the 4th Quarter will benefit **Cocoon House** in Everett. Recently, I attended a viewing of the award-winning documentary film, "The Long Night." It highlights the true story of a 15 year-old girl who runs away from her home in western Washington to escape "the pressures of being a teen." She arrives in Seattle, lives on the streets and falls in love with a man who is kind to her. He is actually a pimp, and she finds herself forced into a life of drugs and prostitution. The film is difficult to watch as you see actual footage of her living conditions and drug use.

This story mirrors that of so many young girls and boys in the Puget Sound area. One of the evening's speakers at the viewing (the only full-time Snohomish County Sheriff's Department detective working in sex trafficking) asked the audience if anyone had a daughter or granddaughter attending a local high school. For every school named, the detective responded, "I have cases with girls in that school."

Cocoon House provides a safe, dry place where a homeless teen can go to take a shower, change into clean clothes and eat a warm meal. No questions asked. When the teen is ready, there are social workers and others who can help her/him get off the streets.

Our donations will be gratefully accepted and put to good use.



Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude.

Denis Waitley

CHRISTMAS CELTIC CONCERT REPORT

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Celtic Christmas Concert on Monday, December 5.

As you can tell from the list below, this concert was possible thanks to the help of many hands. We are able to donate \$1500 to the Safety Net Program, plus 360 food items. We had 151 attend the concert. In addition, with the advertising and articles in the Beacon, Herald and www.myedmondsnews.com we were able to publicize the Safety Net Program and St. Alban's. Thanks to everyone for making this event possible. Thanks also to every-one who attended.

- Lee Forsberg, Brad Goergen—ushers and greeters
- Jim Gilman—parking
- Shirley Clark—pre concert help
- Lila McDonald—cookies
- Heather Small, Mary Fowler, Barbara Halterman—taking money and greeting
- Cindy Goergen, Emily and Mary—food donations
- Jan Melloy—publicity articles Beacon and Herald
- Judy Kistner—publicity ATP
- Roger Anderson publicity—Constant Contact
- Kay Hardie—refreshments and cleanup
- Reilly Mannery—logistics and cleanup
- Carrie Cone –MC
- Connie Forsberg—decorations
- Calvary Chapel—parking (Jennifer)
- Jeff Jones & Explorer Scouts—parking
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Editorial Note: An enormous Thank You also goes to Maryellen Young for all of her time, effort and expertise in coordinating the many individual tasks that went into presenting the concert for the enjoyment of so many parish-ioners and visitors.

PLEDGE REPORT

There are still a few pledges that are outstanding. As of December 13th, we have received pledges equivalent to 88% of the revenue pledged for 2016. However, we currently are looking. Every pledge is important and no amount is too small. The pledges will determine our budget for next year, including how many hours we can afford to pay our new priest.

Pledge cards are available in the pew racks, if you haven't had a chance to turn in your pledge yet. If you need us to mail you a pledge card, please call the church office on 425-778-0371.

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted a pledge card. Thank you for your support of our church family.....your Stewardship Committee: Carrie Cone, Jeannie Wells, Maryellen Young

CHASE LAKE COMPASSION AWARD

By Maryellen Young

I was really touched to receive Chase Lake's Compassion Award at the student assembly on December 14th. I received this award because of the support St. Alban's has contributed to the Safety Net program over the past two years from the Celtic Christmas Concert, as well as my service with Homework Club and helping to recruit others to volunteer at the school. I was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers by Principal Sean Silver.

Attending this assembly was a positive experience as I was able to observe the positive values that the school promotes with its Character Education Program --

CARES—Cooperation, Assertion, Respect/Responsibility, Empathy, Self Control.



SELAH SERVICE

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 7:00pm

Jeff Johnson, whose musical group performed a beautiful concert of Celtic music for St. Alban's and guests, also leads a Selah worship service, which combines silent prayer, simple choruses and hymns with readings from Scripture and prayers on the Christian Celtic tradition.

You are invited to attend this special service on Sunday, February 12, 2017, at 7:00pm. Please bring family and friends to share this unique service.

Funding for this service comes from St. Alban's Endowment Fund.



CHASE LAKE CHRISTMAST GIFT CARD DONATIONS

St. Alban's is again providing Fred Meyers gift cards to support families at Chase Lake.

If you were not able to donate by early December, your gift cards still will be greatly appreciated and used to fulfill last-minute requests and other emergency situations,.

If contributing by check, please designate your check as "Chase Lake" on the memo line. You can also put cash in an envelope and label it "Chase Lake." If you add your name, we will give you credit for your contribution.

As of December 15, St. Alban's had donated \$625 for these gift cards, which translates to 25 - \$25 cards for Chase Lake families. As noted above, additional monies received will be used for last-minute needs.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Christmas flowers are donated by parishioners in remembrance, thanksgiving or in celebration, as well as to help decorate St. Alban's for our Christmas services.

If you would like to contribute, please use the Christmas Flower donation envelope in the pew shelf. Donations received by December 20 will be included in Christmas bulletins. Donations are welcome after that date, but remembrances will not appear in the bulletin. Make checks payable to St. Alban's and indicate "Christmas Flowers" on the check memo line.

IS THIS ONE FOR YOU?

Do you enjoy working in the background?

by Donna Hoffman

Needed: Some new face and helping hands

Wanted: Folks who like to serve behind the scenes

Required: An interest in learning and serving

One weekend a month to help

Six or seven meetings a year

Help during Lent and Advent

Rewards: Learning new skills

Seeing the results of your efforts to serve others and your church

Good social interaction and a celebratory dinner in May

Join the Team:

Contact: Karen Ford, 425-361-5444

or

Judy Kistner, 425-379-9209

What I it? St. Monica's Altar Guild

PRAYER FOR

OUR CALL COMMITTEE

**Almighty God, giver of every good gift:
Look graciously on your Church and so
guide with your Spirit the hearts and minds
of those who shall choose a priest for this
parish, that we may receive a faithful priest,
who will care for your people and equip us
for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen**



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

December 18 – Advent 4

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” If we truly believe these words, as Mary witnessed she did (through the best and the worst), how are our love of God and response to His commission to us reflected in our daily lives and interactions with others – not just at this “official” season of giving, but all year through?

December 25 – Christmas Day

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth to those whom he favors.” And we are among the favored ones. He has showered us with blessings too many to count – and now at Christmas time, we remember the glorious gift of his Son. In how many ways can we offer thanks and gratitude for this awesome gift?

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 18 – 4th Sunday Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25

8:00 Lector: Phil McClelland

EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Mary Fowler

December 24 – Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96,

Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

7:00 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Dan Mullene

December 25 – Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:6-7, 10-12; Psalm 97

Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:(1-7) 18-20

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Reilly Mannery

January 1 – 1st Sunday after Christmas

New Year's Day

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8

Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 2:15-21

10:30 Lector: Karen Ford

EM: Mary Fowler

January 8 – 2nd Sunday After Christmas

Feast of the Epiphany

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Eric Hanson

EM: Susan Hanson

Also serving as Crucifer/Acolyte

1st Sunday at 10:30: Sam Wells

Other Sundays at 10:30: Emily Goergen



*Merry Christmas
To you and yours*

WHO TO CONTACT:

The person(s) to contact about putting an article in the ATP or the bulletin are as follows:

Judy Kistner or Susie Nichols for ATP

John Lehrack for the bulletin.

Notices for the bulletin need to be emailed to the church office:

stalbansedmonds@gmail.com.

Articles/information for ATP should be sent to office.