

AROUND THE PARISH

April 15, 2019

St. Alban's seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community,
committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering people to grow spiritually,

COMING EVENTS

- 4/16 6:30pm, Girl Scouts, PH
4/17 7:00pm, Tenebrae Service
4/18 Maundy Thursday,
6:00pm, Agape Potluck
7:00pm, Foot/Hand Washing, Eucharist,
Altar Stripping
4/19 12:00/7:00pm, Good Friday Services
12:00-7:00pm, Stations of the
Cross in Labyrinth (self-paced)
4/20 9:30am, Altar Guild, Decorating
8:00pm, Holy Saturday Vigil
4/21 8:00/10:30am, Easter Services
Brunch between services
Easter Egg Hunt about noon
4/22 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
4/23 6:30-9:30pm, Girl Scout Meeting, PH
4/28 1:30-4:30pm, Private Event, PH
7:00pm, Taize Service
4/29 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH

PLANNING AHEAD

- 5/5 Cinco de Mayo/Mutual Ministry
5/6 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
5/7 6:30pm, Prayer Beads, Annex
6:30pm, Girl Scouts, PH
5/9 7:00pm, Vestry Meeting, PH
5/13 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
5/15 6:00pm, Evening Prayer
6:30pm, Soup Supper
7:00pm, Reflections

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 4/17 7:00pm, Tenebrae
4/18 Maundy Thursday
6:00pm, Agape Potluck
7:00pm, Foot Washing, Eucharist,
Stripping of Altar
4/19 12:00/7:00pm, Good Friday Services
12:00pm to 7:00pm, Stations of the
Cross in Labyrinth (self-paced)
4/20 8:00pm, Holy Saturday Vigil
4/21 8:00/10:30am, Easter Eucharist
Brunch, Easter Egg Hunt



By Greg Peters

It was Good Friday, a day of special devotion, and, as was tradition, our seminary observed a Quiet Day. That day there would be no classes. We attended services marking the hours of the day - 9 a.m., Noon, and 3 p.m. - the hour of Jesus' agony and death; the only words spoken all that day were within the context of worship.

I did my prayers, personal and corporate, contemplated the events and importance of the day.

Then at some point, I looked around my little studio apartment, at all the detritus accumulated over weeks of study and writing, and, having enough of quiet and clutter, began to clean. I put away books, organized papers, recycled this, threw out that, did the dishes, dusted, swept, opened the windows, and did the laundry. It felt great; finally I had time to put things in order and start fresh.

That evening at dinner, after the Quiet was broken, I sat with my friend Patty. At first, none of us really spoke much, still reveling the quiet, but slowly coming out of it. Finally, one of us, I don't remember who, asked what the other had done that day. "I cleaned my room." Then a knowing look, "Me, too." The bonds of our friendship deepened.

A simple thing, a simple moment of connection, but 25 years later, I still remember it with great fondness.

More importantly, I remember my friend with simple but deep fondness and affection.

There are many formative events in our lives. Events that shape, inform, and guide us; events that make us who we are; interactions

that change the course of our lives; some of them great and momentous, most of them small and easily overlooked.

Somehow cleaning my apartment that Good Friday was emblematic of Christ's reordering of creation – the clearing away of all the accumulated stuff that distracts me from living in the presence of God. I am in no way discounting the big sins - our open rebellions against God, blasphemies, intentional breaking of covenants, or our blatant worship of false gods - there's no denying these and they are participation in evil, and Christ clearly died for those. But so much more often, it's the great accumulation of those myriad little things that distract us from the love of God; the pervasive minutia that subtly and persistently distracts us from luxuriating in the presence of Divine Love.

There's a lot of evil in the world. And there's a lot more pernicious deception and distraction.

Somehow, the connection that Patty and I made in our shared experience is emblematic, too, of the bonds of affection that God wants so much with each of us, and that Jesus surrendered power, authority, honor, and life to remake, reestablish, and recreate it. We are bound in friendship and, without intention or communication, our actions confirmed it.

The absolute truth of Easter is that God will do absolutely everything in heaven and on earth to bring us back into the loving, covenantal, life-giving relations.

This Holy Week, I wish you blessed House-cleaning.



TENEBRAE SERVICE – April 17

St. Alban's Tenebrae service is Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00pm. Tenebrae is a Latin word meaning "shadows." It is a service of a selection of psalms and lessons. The distinctive

feature of Tenebrae is the gradual extinction of the candles in the church with the exception of one candle. The congregation leaves in silence.



MAUNDY THURSDAY **AGAPE POTLUCK - APRIL 18**

Agape love: brotherly love, love of neighbor.

A special evening of worship and sharing and an agape potluck are planned for Maundy Thursday, April 18. We will gather in the Parish Hall for a potluck dinner, followed by our Eucharist service and foot/hand washing. We will then process into the Sanctuary for the solemn stripping of the altar. We leave this service in silence and prayer.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for the Agape potluck – salads, side dishes, bread, drinks (wine, sparkling water, juices) and desserts. The main course of chicken will be provided. Please come whether you are able to contribute to the supper or not. There is always plenty of food and fellowship.



GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 19

We will gather at 12:00pm and 7:00pm in the sanctuary for Good Friday services.

In addition, between 12:00pm and 7:00pm, there will be Stations of the Cross (self-paced) in the Labyrinth.

Good Friday Offering: It is a long-standing practice of the Anglican Communion to have the Offerings collected on Good Friday go to the churches of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. The Funds are used to promote peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care and educational programs in the region. Please give generously.



EASTER VIGIL- SATURDAY, APRIL 20

The congregation will gather outdoors for a fire lighting, the lighting of the Paschal Candle and will process to the sanctuary for the Lessons and Eucharist. Please join us for this beautiful service.



EASTER DAY – April 21

Join us on Sunday, April 21, at 8:00am or 10:30am as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



EASTER BRUNCH – April 21 Between Services

Between services, we will gather in the Parish Hall for our annual Easter Brunch.



EASTER EGG HUNT – April 21

After the 10:30am service, St. Alban's will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please get the word out to your families, friends and neighbors! We will have bags available for those who forget their baskets.

Volunteers are needed to hide the eggs and to help our younger attendees as needed. We are also asking attendees to bring a donation for the food bank.

Your contributions of wrapped candy will help us make this a fun and happy time! Please contact Wendre Vaughan or Shannon Duggan if you are able to volunteer.

JOIN US FOR TAIZE SERVICE



Sunday, April 28, is the date for our next Taize worship service. The service begins at 7:00pm and is a quiet, calming service of candle light, music, prayers, lessons and silence.

John Lehrack, our gifted Music Director, prepares and presents this special worship event.

This is a great time to invite family, friends and neighbors to join with us at St. Alban's.

BOY SCOUT MAJOR YARD MAINTENANCE ON APRIL 20

Troop 300 will conduct its semi-annual yard maintenance at St. Alban's on Saturday, April 20. Maintenance will include trimming of the front entrance hedge (that suffered snow damage), weeding and general clean-up.

We are very grateful for the diligence of Troop 300 who maintains our property twice a year!!



CINCO DE MAYO and MUTUAL MINISTRY AGREEMENT REVIEW

On Sunday, May 5th, we will be celebrating the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo with fun food after both St. Alban's 8:00am and 10:30am services, along with a vestry presenta-

tion on the status of our Mutual Ministry Agreement (MMA) between Fr. Greg and our congregation.

The meeting is intended to provide updated information to and, more importantly, solicit input from the congregation about the MMA. The contributions of all members are important to help us stay focused on our goals for the future.

To entice you to join us, the menu will include “street tacos” with meat and vegetarian filling choices, tortilla chips, salsas and other tasty foods in a Mexican style. Feel free to bring your favorite salsa, guacamole or other spicy dish to share at this event!

A few words about the MMA: It is a process by which a congregation and its Rector can discern or assess the mutual work they have done in ministry together and set concrete goals for future mutual work. Our Bishop requests that this process be conducted annually within all congregations of the Diocese of Olympia.

VESTRY REPORT

Vestry members met on Thursday, April 11, and have the following information to report.

- The roofing is scheduled to begin on May 1.
- Vestry approved Life Scout’s Justine Reed’s Eagle Project to put in an accessible path to the Gazebo.
- The congregation will be invited to an Easter Brunch between services on Easter Sunday and will be asked to sign-up to bring food that compliments the eggs, sausage and French toast that Vestry is providing.
- The congregation will be invited to the Cinco de Mayo Celebration and Mutual Ministry Agreement Review on May 5. There will be special foods at coffee hour and a presentation about the MMA Goals.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As of March 31 we have raised \$182,000 towards our capital campaign goal. This goal was assisted with the initial roof fund we had accumulated and the matching funds from our endowment earnings. We are pleased that we have selected our contractor, Dr. Roof, and plans are underway to reroof the church buildings this spring.

At our Annual Meeting in January we discussed the need to repair and upgrade our heating system, utilizing some funds from our Capital Campaign. Watch for more information next month.

We still want to raise funds to redo our parking lot. If you haven’t made a pledge yet, you can still do so or make direct donations at any time. In addition the buckets will be passed every 4th Sunday. So far our 4th Sunday collections have raised \$705 in cash plus several checks. There are Capital Campaign envelopes in the pew racks; write Capital Campaign on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your support.



OUTREACH RESULTS FOR FIRST QUARTER

HopeWorks is the recipient of our 1st quarter outreach donations of \$668.70. HopeWorks Social Enterprises is an affiliate of Housing Hope, with the goal of helping families gain skills and training for in-demand jobs to enable them to start towards a living-wage career.

2nd QUARTER 2019

OUTREACH RECIPIENT

Domestic Violence Services (DVS) will be the recipient of our 2nd quarter 2019 outreach donations. DVS is a non-profit organization providing free and confidential services -- emergency shelter, legal advocacy, support groups and domestic violence education. We last supported DVS in 2015 with a donation of \$510.

BISHOP RICKEL TRAVELING FOR WALK AGAIN SURVEY

Eleven years ago, Bishop Rickel traveled throughout the diocese on his first walkabout, meeting the people of the diocese and visiting churches across Western Washington. Now, as we enter into a new phase of our life together, Bishop Rickel and representatives from our governing bodies will be traveling the diocese again for a series of conversations on our common vision and the road ahead. It will be a year of dialogue, a year of listening, and a year of growing together as the Episcopal Church in Western Washington.

For those unable to attend any of the WalkAgains, we have embedded two videos from the March 23 WalkAgain at St. Paul, Bellingham, and are including a survey to hear your reflections on the presentations.

Diocesan Vision

Locally Centered and Networked Communities, Forming Christian Leaders for Sacrament and Service.

Bishop Rickel's Goals

- Moving from maintaining to growing;
- Living into and owning our innovation and sharing it beyond ourselves; and
- Being a prophetic voice to Western Washington, to the Episcopal Church, and to our country and the world.

Below is the link to the two videos and the survey form to respond with your reflections. This is your opportunity to respond with your input to this process.

<https://ecww.org/walkagain-survey/>

2019 BISHOP SOCIETY EVENT

Please save the date for the Annual Bishop Society Appreciation Event!

The event this year will be on June 5, 2019 at 5:30 pm. The location is:

The Seattle Yacht Club
1807 E. Hamlin St.
Seattle, WA 98112

Members of St. Alban's Legacy Society are automatically members of the Bishop Society. Watch for your invitation and if you are interested in carpooling, please contact Maryellen Young at 425-776-2461 or maryelleny@comcast.net



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

APRIL 21 – EASTER SUNDAY

Psalm 118 ends, *“On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.”* May we strive to be rejoicing stewards not only in the Easter season but the whole year through - always thankful and grateful for our many blessings. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

APRIL 28 – EASTER 2

How often are we like Thomas the doubter? What does it take for us to say, *“My Lord and my God”*? Part of the steward's life is *consciously taking time to read the stories* in scripture, to be part of a faith community, and through prayer, to create a one-on-one relationship with our Saviour. Hopefully, then we will be thankful to call ourselves part of the faithful who *“have not seen and yet believe.”*

*Gratitude does not mean that everything in our life is perfect; it is choosing to be content with our blessings instead of obsessing about what is missing. Gratitude unlocks the possibility for happiness and connects us with the Creator. Meister Eckhart said, "If the only prayer you say in your life is 'thank you,' it will be enough.
Living the Way of Love, Mary Bea Sullivan*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

For a link to the weekly readings, click below: <http://www.lectionarypage.net>

April 17, Tenebrae

7:00 Mary Fowler
Reilly Mannery
Maryellen Young

April 18, Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12-4, [5-10], 11-14, Psalm 116:10-17
I Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35
7:00 Lector: Susie Nichols
EM: Reilly Mannery

April 19, Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:12, Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25, John 18:1-19:42
12:00 Lector: Reilly Mannery
7:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

April 20, Easter Vigil

8:00pm

April 21, Easter

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
I Corinthians 15:19-26, John 20:1-18
8:00 Lector: Sharon Joy
EM: Shannon Duggan
10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark
EM: Dan Mullene
Reilly Mannery

April 28, Easter 2

Acts 5:27-32, Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-31
8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden
EM: Jim Gilman
10:30 Lector: Carol Gordon
EM: Connie Forsberg

May 5 –Easter 3, Cinco de Mayo

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
8:00 Lector: Gretchen Munsey
EM: Sharon Joy
10:30 Lector: Carol Gordon
EM: Reilly Mannery

May 12 –Easter 4

Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
8:00 Lector: Judy Kistner
EM: Jim Gilman
10:30 Lector: Herman Siqueland
EM: Eric Hanson

