

AROUND THE PARISH

April 24, 2020

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.

VIDEO SERVICE INFO

Sunday Eucharist is on Facebook, 10:30am
Wednesday Evening Prayer is on Facebook at 6:00pm
Sunday Zoom Coffee is at 11:30am

NOTE: Link to join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79794334892?pwd=YUc4UUI1b3F1bUNlWV1vTXQ3MmtYUT09>
Meeting ID: 797 9433 4892 Password: 3953r2

NOTE: If you don't have a Facebook account, you can watch the Sunday service later as a video on the Facebook link.

All events and activities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice.



Fr. Greg Peters

I get it. We all want to go back to our normal lives, to the “way things were,” to the way things “ought to be.”

I mean, when this whole pandemic started and our governor closed recreational fishing, I thought what are you talking? That's one of the best ways to be outdoors and keep a safe distance. Then, I saw the picture in the paper from some lake on the Eastside with fishers lined up cheek to jowl, and I thought, “okay, you're right. But come on you guys, you ruined it for the rest of us.”

Or when the mayor closed that whole long list of big parks over the Easter/Passover weekend. I thought again, “really, you want us to stay home, but also get out and get some exercise at a safe distance, but you close the parks where people can actually get out of the house?” Lincoln Park, our nearby park, was a little busy the few times I had gone down there, and some people clearly have no idea about how far 6 feet is, but really, close the parks? Then I saw the pictures from another park, and sure enough it looked just like any other day with joggers, walkers, kids on bikes, dog walkers, cat walkers, and all the merry others, and I knew she was right.

Now, I don't really know what day of the week or month it is. I'm even a little shaky about what year it is. And some days my outdoor activities consist of getting paper in the morning and taking the garbage, recycling, and yard waste out.

I feel fortunate to get to the church once a week. I am fortunate to be able to work from home, but it's a whole lot less focused than when I was able to go to my office.

I get it, I am going a little stir crazy. I'm restless. We're all getting along pretty well, most of the time. Somethings are clearly better. Sarah, for example, is doing really well with her studies. We are

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

Mail check to church

21405-82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026

Drop off through the slot in Greg's door.

Bank Bill Pay – ask bank to send check to St. Alban's

Online donation, go to

www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click on “Giving” and then “Donate Now.”



FOOD BANK “DRIVE-BY”

There will be a “Drive-By Food Drop” at church on Saturday, May 2 from 11:00-4:00pm. Please bring non-perishable foods—soups, tuna, peanut butter, spaghetti, etc.

As has been noted in previous ATPs, on the news, etc., Food Banks are running very low. The need for food assistance is truly great at this time. Many are out of work and/or working fewer hours. This is a great opportunity for us to help our neighbors. Serving each other is serving God.

learning new stuff ourselves; all of us. We're cooking together, all four of us at once, and if you knew the size of our "built in 1946 right after the war and we need housing for the soldiers coming back – and fast! – and designed so that one woman could run the whole show without having to take a step, turning, yes, but stepping, no need" kitchen, you would question the fundamental laws of physics. And we're generally having a blast doing it.

But still, we are not professional teachers. We are not our children's peers. They are not our peers!

I get it, people want to go back to work. People need to bring in some money. People need to contribute to society, to feel essential, to have a sense of personal worth. As one Indian man said, "the pandemic has taken our dignity."

People are going buggy staying in, staying so abnormally still, with nothing to do but worry and fret and powerlessly watch the economy and society crumble.

We are all impatient to get back to normal, normal where we generally call the shots. But this virus - this sniveling little virus, which has no brain, no central nervous system, no skeletal structure, to which we have no resistance - calls the shots now. It has its way with us.

Until there is a vaccine and reliable, abundant, and readily available testing, our impatience will only serve the purposes of the virus – its proliferation, evolution, and domination.

I get it, everyone wants to get back to normal. I am absolutely positive that Governor Inslee wants to get the economy back up and running. I am absolutely positive that Major Durkin wants to get the economy and society back up and running and every resident and visitor to the city back out running in the parks. I am absolutely positive that Bishop Rickel wants our churches back up and doing what churches do. Believe me, I want our congregation to be back meeting, praising, singing, praying, and serving together, in person, alongside each other.

I get all that, and I'm sure you do too. I just don't want to get Covid-19. I don't want you to get Covid-19. I don't want my neighbor or my worst enemy for that matter to get Covid-19. I don't want people to get ill, harmed, maimed, or die so we can feel normal.

Here's a crash course in the Cardinal Virtues, all of which we are in particular need right now. They are:

- **Prudence**, discerning appropriate action and taking it at the right time.
- **Fortitude**, forbearance strength, endurance,

that overcomes fear and uncertainty.

- **Temperance**, restraint, self-control, keeping one's head in anxious times.
- **Justice**, righteousness in one's relationship with others – true love of neighbor.

At this point, it seems to me that our society is most in need of fortitude. A more in-depth look at it indicates that fortitude is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the gift that enables prophets to speak uncomfortable truths and martyrs to bear witness to their faith regardless of the cost. As Paul would say, the Holy Spirit gave him the fortitude to run the race, to complete the course, to speak truth to power for the Glory of God.

I pray you all a good, heady, mindful, enriching and empowering draft of fortitude. Please pray for me, too.



WHAT CAN I DO?

Chase Lake Family Support

Our neighbor school's Family Support Team is asking for assistance to provide needed help for their students and families. The team is requesting \$20 Fred Meyer gift cards, which allow families to purchase anything they need. If you would like to help these neighbors, mail a check (designated Chase Lake) or drop off a donation through Greg's mail slot. Also "Chase Lake" has been added on our online donation page www.StAlbansEdmonds.org/Giving and then "[Donate Now.](#)"

Food Banks

All food banks are in desperate need of funds and/or foods to assist the growing number of people and families who have lost their jobs or are unable to work at this time. Donations for the Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace and Edmonds Food Banks can be made through St. Alban's or direct to the organization. Checks can be sent to St. Alban's, designated Food Bank, or can be dropped off in the slot in Greg's do

CHURCH FRONT PARKING LOT

Steve Forsythe

The parking lot is ready for paving. Everything else is done, including the two walkways into the church. Unfortunately, the asphalt for our project is not considered as “essential” as street projects and the like are (a corona virus effect). At this time, the contractor, A&M, estimates it will be late May before asphalt is available. The good news is that A&M will not charge us more for that asphalt, even though the 84th Street project is all paved.



BACK (SOUTH) PARKING LOT

The covering on the south parking lot is “crushed concrete aggregate (CCA), and it is a bit dusty at times. We have been advised that over time the water from rain and/or wetting it down will help control the dust. Driving slower over this area will minimize the dust.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks from Altar Guild to those who have faithfully donated flowers in the past and to those who have signed up for future services. We had altar flowers for Easter, but will not in the future while the church is closed. Several parishioners donated money for Easter decorations. These contributions will be credited to you for your next flower donation. If you have questions, please contact Sharon Joy.

Again we thank you for your support in decorating our church. Flowers are essential to our worship and will be back.

PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATES

Addition:

Margaret Stafford
2200 James St #405
Edmonds, WA 98020

Change Phone Number:

Janet Niece
206-949-7335



MARCH 2020 FINANCIALS

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

We are very grateful to our church family for continuing to support our church during these challenging times.

Income for March was \$16,126 compared to the budget of \$12,935, or \$3,191 over budget. Part of this income is from rent for our facilities from Templo Emanuel and West Edmonds Cooperative Preschool. We are not charging rent during this time when our facility is closed, so some of this income will become credits for future rent.

Expenses for March were \$13,706 compared to a budget of \$15,495 or (\$1,789) under budget. Although much of our budget is for fixed expenses such as utilities and salaries, we are also under-running other expenses.

Total Actual Income (year-to-date)	\$45,413
Total Budget Income (year-to-date)	\$43,499
Total Actual Income minus Budget	\$ 1,914

Total Actual Expenses (year-to-date)	\$43,720
Total Budget Expenses (year-to-date)	\$46,661
Total Actual Expenses minus Budget	(\$ 2,941)

Net Totals: Income minus Expenses	\$ 1,694
Actuals Minus Budget	\$ 4,856

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Faith sustains our confidence that a crisis is not the punishment of a vindictive God but the intrusion of a God who leads us down strange paths toward new life.

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James Whitehead: Priesthood:
A Crisis of Belonging, in Being a Priest Today, p.18
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A Poetic Reflection on the Gospel by John Updike

Make no mistake: if He rose at all
It was as His body;
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse,
the molecules reknit, the amino acids rekindle,
the Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
Each soft Spring recurrent;
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled
eyes of the eleven apostles;
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes
The same valved heart
That-pierced-died, withered, paused, and then
Regathered out of enduring Might
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence;
Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the
Faded credulity of earlier ages:
Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché,
Not a stone in a story,
But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow
grinding of time will eclipse for each of us
The wide light of day.

And if we have an angel at the tomb,
Make it a real angel,
Weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair,
Opaque in the dawn light, robed in real linen
Spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
For our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are
Embarrassed by the miracle,
And crushed by remonstrance.

Poetic reflection: John Updike, "Seven Stanzas
for Easter," 1960

1st QUARTER OUTREACH DONATION

Housing Hope combines affordable housing with tailored services such as life-skills training, childcare, case management, and employment services. Housing types include emergency shelter, transitional housing, affordable rent units and homeownership opportunities.

Nominated by Barbara Lagozzino, our 1st quarter outreach donation to Housing Hope was \$546. A check for this amount is being mailed to this organization. Thank you for your generosity, especially in this time when we haven't been meeting.



EARTH DAY 2020

Earth Day is celebrated each year on April 22, and this year celebrates its 50th Anniversary. It began thanks to former US. Senator, Gaylord Nelson, Wisconsin. Senator Nelson felt the need to help the environment following the 1969 California oil spill, along with the anti-war movements across the nation. He assembled a team to help bring his idea of dedicating a day towards advocating for the environment to fruition.

The small staff grew and took on the task of planning and creating conservation events and demonstrations across the nation.

On April 22, 1970, Earth Day began with 20 million Americans protested for healthier and more sustainable environment. Twenty years later, Earth Day went global.

The birth of Earth Day launched a wave of action, including passage of landmark environment laws in the U.S., The Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. Many countries followed suit. Climate Action is the 2020 Earth Day theme.

While the coronavirus may force us to keep our distance, there is still a lot we can each do in our own homes to protect our environment. No matter where we live, we can make a difference.

Easy Earth Day Suggestions:

- Reduce, reuse and recycle all day long.
- Reuse or donate household items.
- Pick up litter.
- Adjust Thermostat to save energy.

- Use earth friendly cleaning products—
Check on the internet to find “recipes” for your own all-purpose cleaner, glass cleaner, non-abrasive cleaner, mold and mildew cleaner, floor cleaner, grease cleaner.

Day 22 of the stay-at-home order diary entry:

Today I had two eggs, some fruit and a muffin for breakfast. The fruit was mostly grapes..... actually, it was grape juice. Ok, it was wine. I had wine for breakfast.

The two eggs were Cadbury eggs. What am I supposed to do with these four bags of Cadbury eggs I bought for the grandchildren for Easter anyway?

The muffin was a cupcake that I licked the frosting off. A muffin is just a cupcake without frosting, right?



**A QUICK PEEK INSIDE
FR. GREG’S VESTMENT CLOSET!**

Dan Mullene

Many of us see the vestments worn at our services by Fr. Greg and perhaps don’t really think anything about them. But perhaps you would like to know their names and what they look like.

Here’s a bit of information to let you know what the various garments are and why they are worn, and also a bit of history (courtesy of the Episcopal Church website: <https://episcopalchurch.org/>).

Most Episcopalian priests wear just a few traditional liturgical garments at the celebration of the Eucharist. That wasn’t necessarily the case in medieval times in the western church, when priests officiating at the altar wore six garments over the cassock. These were the amice (a loose collar or hood), the alb (a full-length sleeved gown), and girdle.

Over them was the stole, the maniple on the left wrist, and most conspicuously the chasuble (a robe covering front, back, and shoulders). These three were usually of fine fabric with ornamental needlework, with different liturgical colors being used for

different days. In medieval times, symbolic meanings were attached to each item.

Although they were disallowed in England in the sixteenth century, they were revived in the nineteenth century following the Oxford Movement. Evangelicals opposed them, preferring the customary Anglican surplice with tippet or stole.

Today, eucharistic vestments are widely used in most Episcopal parishes. The maniple and amice are now typically omitted. The amice may be replaced by a hood attached to the alb and the girdle omitted.

So, just what are these various items worn by a priest?

Cassock: This is a long, close-fitting garment with narrow sleeves worn by clergy and other ministers. Cassocks are typically black but also may be blue, gray, or red. Bishops may wear purple cassocks. It may be worn under a surplice. Historically, cassocks were the street garb of a person in clerical orders. It was part of the outdoor dress of Anglican clergy until the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Amice: A rectangular piece of white cloth that may serve as a hood or be rolled down to serve as the collar of an alb. The amice is tied beneath the alb by attached strings. Many modern albs have replaced the amice with a collar or an attached hood.

Alb: An alb is a long white garment with narrow sleeves, which is the basic garment worn by ordained and lay ministers at the Eucharist and at other church services. The alb (from Latin alba, meaning white) is derived from the undertunic of the Greeks and Romans of the fourth century. It may be girded at the waist.



Girdle: Also known as a “cincture,” this is a rope-like or ribbon-like article sometimes worn with certain vestments, encircling the body around or above the waist. There are two types of cinctures: one is a rope-like narrow girdle or rope-like belt around the waist. The other type is a broad ribbon of cloth that runs around the waist and usually has a section that hangs down from the waist; this type is often called a “band cincture.”

Stole: The stole is an article of enormous importance, which, more than any other garment, indicates the state of ordained office. It is not uncommon to see a priest wearing only a stole in less formal services.

The stole is usually a band of colored cloth, formerly usually of silk, about seven and a half to nine feet long and three to four inches wide, whose ends may be straight or may broaden out.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

APRIL 26 – EASTER THREE

In the Road to Emmaus story, Jesus appeared and walked with the disciples, but they did not recognize Him. How often is God with us, and we fail to recognize His hand in our lives? Their recognition came later when He blessed and broke the bread. Our faithful attendance at the Eucharist can be an “eye opener” for us, too. As Hymn 343 says, “*Be known to us in breaking bread.*”

MAY 3 – EASTER FOUR

(They) devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Sound familiar? Faithful stewards try to live those words, more often heard now in the Baptismal Covenant. Review the Covenant (Prayer Book, p. 304) frequently. Better still, copy it and put it where you’ll often be reminded of the commitment you have made to live a God-centered life.



LESSON READINGS

APRIL 26 – EASTER THREE

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

I Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

MAY 3 – EASTER FOUR

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

The center of the stole is worn around the back of the neck and the two ends hang down parallel to each other in front, either attached to each other or hanging loose. The stole is almost always decorated in some way, usually with a cross or some other significant religious design.

When a stole is used by a deacon, it is worn by him or her over the left shoulder.

Maniple: Not commonly seen in our church, a maniple is a liturgical vestment used occasionally by some clergy. It is an embroidered band of silk or similar fabric that is hung over the left arm. It is used in the context of communion (mass).

Chasuble: This is sleeveless outer vestment worn by the celebrant at the Eucharist. The chasuble and cope are both derived from the outdoor cloak worn by all classes and both sexes in the Greco-Roman world. The chasuble may be oval or oblong, with an opening for the head. It typically reflects the liturgical color of the day. Chasubles vary widely in fabric and style.

Surplice: This item is in the form of a tunic of white linen or cotton fabric, reaching to the knees, with wide or moderately wide sleeves. It was originally a long garment with open sleeves reaching nearly to the ground. The surplice can also have shorter, closed sleeves and square shoulders. At St. Alban’s our eucharistic ministers usually wear a white surplice over a black cassock.

Tippet: This is a large black scarf worn by clergy over surplice and cassock at the Daily Offices. It resembles a stole and is worn around the neck with the ends hanging down the front. It may be ornamented by emblems such as the Episcopal Church seal or the insignia of the wearer’s seminary.

So, the next time you feel like you’re a bit warm in church, remember that Fr. Greg is probably even warmer than you, especially if he’s wearing many of the vestments described above!



