

## AROUND THE PARISH

June 23, 2023

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.

### SUNDAY – June 25

**8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services. Masking is no longer required, but is strongly recommended.**

**9:15am, Adult Bible study, Annex & Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86545992628?pwd=d08vTmZNBmk1SWlPUXFybmdpMXNYdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 4599 2628      Passcode: SeekFirst

**2:00-5:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Parish Hall**

NOTE: No Facebook account? Watch the Sunday service on YouTube or later as a video on Facebook

NOTE: Around the Parish is taking a short vacation. There will be an issue on June 30, and no publication on Friday, July 7. The next scheduled newsletter will be on Friday, July 14.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 6/24 All day, St. Alban's Celebration Set up and 5:00-7:00, Celebration of St. Alban's Event
- 6/25 Legacy Sunday
- 6/26 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 6/28 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
- 6/29 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 6/30 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 7/5 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
- 7/12 3:00-4:30, Food Bank Distribution, Park Lot
- 7/15 10:00am, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall
- 7/23 5:00pm, St Hilda/St Patrick BBQ
- 8/6 8:00am, Breakfast Picnic following service  
10:30am, Outdoor Picnic following service



### FR. GREG'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Join us for a very special coffee hour after both services on July 2 celebrating Greg's ordination anniversaries. He was ordained to the diaconate June 28, 1997, and to the priesthood on June 20, 1998.

There is a card in the Parish Hall for all to sign, and there will be a basket for those who would like to bring a personal card.



### BIG DATE FOR YOUR CALENDAR!!

Circle **Sunday, August 6**, on your calendar for our annual St. Alban's Picnic. The 8:00am group will enjoy a special Breakfast Picnic after their service. The 10:30am folks will be having hot dogs, hamburgers, non-meat alternatives, along with chips, cold beverages and coffee.

AND, we'll be looking for volunteers to help set-up, bring salads, sides, and desserts, and help clean up after the picnic. Watch for more details in ATP and the bulletin.



**Don't miss the big Celebration of St. Alban's gathering on Saturday, June 24, from 5:00-7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

The Endowment Board and the Vestry have planned a wonderful fellowship time for us to enjoy each other and to pause and appreciate all the things that have been accomplished at St. Alban's.

Appetizer, wine, beer and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this event.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

### Email Address Change

Judy Fleenor  
jsfzee111@gmail.com

## HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday, June 18, Fathers Day, we participated in and celebrated the baptism of Theresa and Clark Chase's grandson, Conrad Jensen. As you can see from the photos, Conrad was a delight, very enthusiastic about the water and interested in all the activity going on. What a blessing for our congregation to share in this event!!



(Photos from Jeannie Wells)

## ALTAR FLOWER CHANGES

Sharon Joy, Altar Guild Directress

I have been making sure that St. Alban's has flowers on Sundays since Dusty's Floral closed in 2019.

I am no longer able to do this without assistance.

Altar Guild has become too small in number to take on this weekly task, but will continue to arrange Easter and Christmas.

I am willing to stay involved, but am asking for volunteers to form a team to take on this ministry. This would involve shopping for flowers,

arranging them and setting them in the sanctuary. It would also include helping others who have signed up to dedicate flowers should they request assistance.

If you are signed up to dedicate flowers any time during the remainder of this year, and you wish assistance with flowers and/or dedication, you will need to contact me **two weeks** ahead of the date you have chosen.

Remember: Nothing says we have to have flowers on Sunday, we just seem to like them. You may choose flowers, 1 or 2 bunches, or 1 or 2 plants. These are then yours to take home or donate to others.

Thanking you for your support, Sharon Joy,  
(425) 478-6844



## THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST The Herald of the Christ

The prophet and forerunner of Jesus was his cousin, John, the only child of Elizabeth and Zechariah. He is sometimes called, "the last and the greatest of the prophets."

John lived very plainly, wearing "camel's hair and a leather girdle" and eating "locusts and wild honey." He preached repentance and called upon people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. He baptized his followers to signify their repentance and new life. Hence he was called John The Baptist. Jesus himself was baptized by John in the River Jordan.

John had many followers, at least some of whom became Christians. He preached strongly against the notorious sins of King Herod and was finally beheaded by the King at the request of his daughter Salome.

John figures prominently in the New Testament and Luke gives us a account of his nativity. His parents were elderly at the time of his birth. His father, a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem, was struck dumb in a vision foretelling John's birth and did not speak again until the baby was born. The magnificent canticle, *Benedictus* (BCP, pp. 50, 92), is attributed to Zechariah, the joyful father.

John is particularly remembered during Advent as a prophet and during Epiphany as the baptizer of Jesus.

(Forward Movement publication, Calendar of Saints.)

**MIDSUMMER'S DAY –**  
**JUNE 24**



MIDSUMMER'S Day, which in the ancient calendar was celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> July, was for centuries one of the main festivals in the country. It marked the half-way point of the year and celebrated the abundance and mystery of Nature.

This has always been a time for gathering special flowers and herbs with magic properties from the fields and hedgerows. These plants were believed to ward off the attentions of mischievous spirits and were woven into garlands and worn on the head or around the neck, and even placed around the necks of favourite farm animals.

It was especially important to pick the pungent yellow herb St. John's Wort (known by some as "chase-devil") on Midsummer's Day, as it was believed to repel evil as well as being an effective cure for many ailments. In Wales, it was customary to place a sprig of St. John's Wort above the door of the house on Midsummer's Day as a protective measure. Rowan (*European Mountain Ash*) was also powerful against witches, and was burned for safety in parts of Cumbria on this day.

Many of the customs traditionally associated with Midsummer have now died away, although it is still a very popular date for fairs and summer fetes.

(Catteren Cakes & Lace Book)

**DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS**

The following is from Forward Movement publication, Forward Through the Years. It was written in 2015, the author unknown.

*John 13:33 – Little children, I am with you only a little longer.*

My children are both now in college. Since they were young, my parting words to them have always been "I love you." Headed to kindergarten. Off to summer camp. To a friend's to play. These days, it's the final salutation of text messages.

In this passage from John, we remember Jesus' final hours with his friends. A lot is packed into one evening: the foot washing, the Lord's Supper, the command to love one another, the betrayal, the arrest. And Jesus saying goodbye might have been at the deathbed or at the end of a relationship. It can be

heartbreaking. The word goodbye can leave a vacant place in our hearts that is never filled.

Did the disciples get the chance to say goodbye, or were they haunted later by the things they never said? When they got to the Mount of Olives, did they realize these were their precious final hours with him? Did they know that Judas' kiss of greeting was a goodbye masquerading as a hello?

Whether it was stated aloud or communicated through a long and loving look, I think I know Jesus' parting words: I love you.

O Father of light, shine upon my path, that the way before me may be illumined by your brightness. Lift from my heart all anxiety and fear, and teach me to trust you both for what I see and for what is hidden from me. So evermore lead me in your way and keep me in your peace; through Jesus Christ my Lord.

Amen.

**Humor Shared from "Dragon Scoop"**

As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

From the back seat I heard this earnest voice, "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."

(Contributed by Jeannie Burpee from St. George Church, Roseburg, OR, newsletter.)

**FROM THE READER BOARD**

**Jim Gilman**



## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### JUNE 25 – PENTECOST 4

And then there is that so-hard-to-believe phrase, “*even the hairs of your head are all counted.*” How can that BE? Does God really have time for such trivial details? But God truly does value and care for every aspect of His creation...that’s part of what makes him God! And the hair counting is meant to be some hyperbole to stress just how very important you and all of us are to Him. The world cannot offer that kind of blessing. What an incomprehensible gift he has given each of us who are willing to accept it.

### JULY 2 – PENTECOST 5

“...*that we may be made a temple acceptable to you...*” When we think of temples, we tend to think mostly of special, consecrated buildings. Perhaps we need to focus more on the “special and consecrated,” and not be trapped in the actual building image. Why not think outside the box, and work at seeing yourself as a very particular temple – full of thankful love and praise for your Creator?

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### JUNE 25 – PENTECOST 4

Genesis 21:8-21  
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 10:24-39

### Collect for Pentecost 4

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

### JULY 2 – PENTECOST 5

Genesis 22:1-14  
Psalm 13  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

## CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- \*Mail check – 21405 82<sup>nd</sup> Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98926
- \*Drop off through slot in Fr. Greg’s door.
- \*Bank Bill Pay – have bank send check to St. Alban’s
- \*Online, go to [www.StAlbansEdmonds.org](http://www.StAlbansEdmonds.org) and click on “Donate Now.”

## WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

- 1st week—Food Bank
- 2nd week—Discretionary Fund
- 3rd week—Outreach
- 4th week—Ukraine Refugee Offering
- 5<sup>th</sup> Week—Indigenous Women Support

## ST. ALBAN’S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:30 - 12:30pm; 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
Wednesday 2:00 - 4:00pm  
Friday 10:30 - 12:30pm; 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Please contact the Office, (425) 778-0371 or [stalbansedmonds@gmail.com](mailto:stalbansedmonds@gmail.com) to make an appointment.  
In case of something urgent or an emergency, please call Greg Peters on his cellphone at (206) 778-1506.

## GREG’S OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30am – 2:30 pm, Home  
Wednesday Church Office – 10:00am – 2:00 pm  
(Available by appointment)  
Via email: [gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com](mailto:gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com)  
Cell: 206-778-1506  
SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm  
(Available by appointment)

## PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at [sheilahreidburn@comcast.net](mailto:sheilahreidburn@comcast.net) or 425-745-1390

### **Prayers of the People:**

Prayers of the People that are used during the Sunday worship.

### **Prayer Chain:**

About a dozen people pray regularly for members of the congregation or other friends and relatives as requested.

### **Prayer Shawls:**

Prayer shawls are available for those in need of comfort during challenging times.