

AROUND THE PARISH

September 29, 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 – October 1

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=d08vTmZNbmk1SW1PUXFybmdpMXNYdz09>

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



SAINT FRANCIS AND THE BIRDS

Seamus Heaney

When Francis preached love to the birds
They listened, fluttered, throttled up
Into the blue like a flock of words

Released for fun from his holy lips.
Then wheeled back, whirred about his head,
Pirouetted on brothers' capes.

Danced on the wing, for sheer joy played
And sang, like images took flight.
Which was the best poem Francis made,

His argument true, his tone light.

Seamus Heaney is the winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature, and was one of the most celebrated Irish poets of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. In this playful take on Francis' playful sermon, one poem imitates another — not so much describing the saint's famous sermon as invoking it, bringing it into the present, fluttering wings around our heads.

As Francis' feast day approaches (October 4), pair this poem with Galway Kinnell's "[Saint Francis and the Sow.](#)" The fresco above is by Giotto, and may be found in the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, Assisi, Italy.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

9/30 10:00am-12:00pm, "Celebrating You," Parish Hall
1:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

10/1 Blessing of the Animals, both services
Michael and All Angels Day

10/2 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

10/3 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall

10/4 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook

10/5 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

10/6 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

10/7 10:30am-12:00pm, ECW, Debbie Dimitre
2:00-6:00pm, Private Event, Parish Hall

10/8 Indigenous Peoples Day, Services

10/9 6:30pm, Vestry Meeting, Zoom

10/12 1:00-3:30pm, Small Group, Parish Hall

TWO CELEBRATIONS ON SUNDAY - OCT 1

Blessing of the Animals – We honor and celebrate St. Francis with a blessing of our pets, no matter what form they take. You are invited to bring your dog, cat, guinea pig, plant or rock pets, borrowed pets, etc., for a blessing. Or bring a picture of your pet. These "creatures" are companions and part of our families. Let's remember and honor them.

Feast of St. Michael and All Angels: You are invited to bring your pictures, icons, and statues of angels to decorate the altar on Sunday, October 1. On this day, we celebrate messengers of the Divine One, the servants of the Most High, and the heavenly host gathered around the throne.

prayer

God, sometimes I hold something small in my hand, a piece of moss or a budding twig and, peering closely at this tiny world, I feel a sudden wonder. Help me to remember that you made these worlds and countless others and, in remembering, come closer to you.

("Creation," from Forward Movement Personal Prayers)



WHY ATTEND SEPTEMBER 30 EVENT?

Jan Skidmore, Peoples' Warden

Celebration calls attention to the honor of a person(s) or things which were gained from their important actions or positive traits.

Celebrate – to assemble, to honor. Celebration brings people together to recognize something that matters.

Researchers are finding that people who celebrate others are more grateful, happier, and have lower stress. It's not how much you do but how much love you put into what you do that counts.

Each of us have a role to play and each of us has much to gain from being a part of a unified Christian Community.

Recognition is about what we do. Appreciation is about who we are. Both of these things are important and motivating. And, appreciation runs deeper and cuts to the core of who we are and our relationships with one another.

Please come and be a part of our **celebration on Saturday at 10:00am**. It would not be the same without you.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

THE BEAUTY OF CREATURES ALL AROUND US

Rev. Maureen Killoran

For the blessing of animal companions we give thanks.

For the beautiful ones, those whose fur is silky and whose tails are long; whose feathers are brilliant or whose voices are splendid... we give thanks.

For the frantic ones, the runts and the hungry, who run for a food bowl or a pat as though this is life's last possible gift, we give thanks.

For the obnoxious ones, the heads that butt against us as we're trying to sleep; the bodies that refuse to learn discretion as they make digestive gifts... we give thanks.

For those who bark and purr and growl and mew, for all who squeak or squawk or snarl or hiss, we give thanks.

For the animals unknown to us, those whose niche in life's web is fragile; whose lives are insecure; For all who care for them and wish them well, we give thanks.

Blessed are the animals.

Blessed are the creatures who live with us and need our care.

Blessed are the mammals and the reptiles and the birds who teach us we are not alone.

Blessed are all living things from whom we learn to love.



ECW COFFEE, FRIENDS & GREAT VISITOR PRESENTATION

Saturday, October 7, from 10:30am – 12:00pm, is the date for our next ECW coffee and fellowship event. We are

looking forward to a presentation by our guest, Debbie Dimitre and "Patchwork Politics." This is the daring story of Mrs. Bertha Knight Landes, who in 1926 became not only Seattle's first woman mayor, but the first woman mayor of any metropolitan city in the United States. Debbie Dimitre is a gifted actor and storyteller with her presentations of historical and dramatic events. You loved her during her previous visit, and you will love this event also.

Coffee, tea and some light refreshments will be offered. Invite a friend or family member to share this event with us.



Conversation

DEAN JULIA Trinity Cathedral has a long history of welcoming Latino worshippers, but I feel like we still have so much to learn about being stewards of our community's diversity.

CANON FILEMON Yes, being rooted in abundance means caring for the whole tree. Not just the visible parts, but also the roots. It's not enough to just see Latino people in church. We need to understand what's going on with them at a deeper level. In Latino ministry, caring for the roots comes

through deep listening, and the abundance of our hospitality.

CANON FILEMÓN Abundance is a blessing. I can never give enough to God. Whatever I give, God gives more. The tree of life is a very powerful image for us. When God is present in our lives, our roots are deep, and we have more to give.

DEAN JULIA I hope that we can learn to recognize abundance and practice generosity even when we don't see or feel it. Trees have an extraordinary resiliency for bearing fruit in good times and in hard times.

CANON FILEMÓN Agreed, and—as a gardener—I also know that an abundance of fruit is subject to rot or pests if it's not shared.

DEAN JULIA We're in what we call stewardship season in most of our English-speaking churches. I like that term when we talk about our care for relationships or for the earth and its trees, but I'm not always convinced that stewardship is the best word for church fundraising.

CANON FILEMÓN It's actually a problematic term in Spanish because it means something like “power over others” rather than “care for others.” I prefer to talk about making promises (promesas), which implies a mutuality of relationship.

DEAN JULIA Like the roots of trees, our promises to our each other, within diverse communities, allow us to share abundance with each other.

Questions for Reflection

Imagine you have a fruit tree in your garden or yard. Assuming you don't keep all the fruit for yourself, how would you handle an abundance of fruit? Within the metaphor of stewardship, would you give away the best fruit, picked fresh? The fruit that falls to the ground but is still good? Or the leftovers after you have picked what you wanted?

Dean Julia McCray-Goldsmith and Canon Filemón Díaz are partners in ministry at Trinity Cathedral, San Jose, California.



ANNUAL STEWFEST – OCTOBER 18

Fall has returned to Edmonds and brought the rain we have been missing. One of our fall traditions at St. Alban's is the StewFest where we gather to eat delicious stews (with and without meat), crispy salads, warm breads and, of course, yummy desserts. Also a

tradition is the offering of beer and wine, along with non-alcoholic options.

Unlike many of our gatherings, this one is not a pot luck. You can relax and come enjoy the food without having to cook something to bring.

I hope you will join us for a wonderfully warm evening that begins at 6:00pm with Evening Prayer followed by dinner and our guest speaker who will be expanding on our stewardship theme of Rooted in Abundance. I will write more about our speaker in the next issue of the ATP. Please note you will not be asked to complete a pledge card during this event. Our gathering is focused on fellowship, growth, and as always food.

I hope to see you there.

Warm regards to you all,

Liz Bee, Senior Warden



RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

There seems to be confusion about the differences between Composting, Recycling and Garbage. We are in the process of creating new signs with pictures to be placed above the bins to help. Please help by following these guidelines. Sorting through the various containers to remove items put in the wrong category is not a fun job.

RECYCLING:

ONLY CLEAN, EMPTY AND DRY items-- Paper, Cardboard, Metal Containers, Glass Bottles & Jars, Plastic Bottles Jugs & Tubs--(i.e., yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream).

NOTE: Plastic glasses or other plastic containers are **NOT** recyclable!

COMPOST:

“COMPOSTABLE” cups, plates, utensils; Plants & Yard Waste, Food Scraps, Food-soiled paper—uncoated (no shiny paper), paper towels and napkins, coffee grounds and filters.

Cedar Grove-approved compostable bags are ok.

GARBAGE:

Mixed Packaging (food-soiled or plastic wrap), Foam, Plastic Bags, Soiled foil, Kleenex, Plastic containers; (i.e. trays, covers, etc.).

When in doubt, throw it out!



PARISHIONER INFO UPDATES:

Addition:

Ed Murphy & Claire Norris
4301 236th St SW, Apt D
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
Phone: 510-326-5712
Email: songsparrow22@yahoo.com

Corrections to Current Parish Directory

Denise & Tom Robertson
Email: trobart9351@gmail.com
Bob & Wendy Chaffee
Email: robertgchaffee@gmail.com



ENDOWMENT BOARD MEMBERS

There are several opportunities to serve on the Endowment Board. We are grateful to Mona Carter upon the completion of her six years of service (two terms of three years each). Also, with two Board resignations for personal reasons, we have two partial terms – one with two years remaining and one with one year remaining.

The Endowment Board consisting of five members meets quarterly (February, May, August, and November). The Board oversees the funds invested in the Diocesan Investment Fund.

If you are interested in filling one of the three Board positions, please contact Maryellen Young, 425-776-2461 or maryelleny@comcast.net.

THANK YOU NOTES

I just wanted to reach out and say thank you for the donation of school supplies. We were able to meet the needs of all of our students who requested supplies. What a blessing! We are so thankful for your community’s continued support!

Megan Heuer
Chase Lake Community School

Dear St. Alban’s Episcopal Church,

During these challenging times, “thank you” seems somewhat inadequate as a response to your donation of \$822.84 on August 11, 2023. Now more than ever, each thoughtful gift is a reflection of the extent to which our community is willing to help support those who have experienced trauma of domestic violence....

Donations have allowed us to serve more and more adults and children through emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal advocacy and individualized personal advocacy. In addition, they have allowed us to increase our domestic violence training within law enforcement, dating violence prevention training with our schools, and outreach and collaboration with other agencies which serve those in need. Our clients are truly blessed to live in such a responsive and understanding community.

We truly thank you for our donation. Your generosity does make a difference in the lives of many of your neighbors.

Sincerely,
Lauren Stiger
Development and Volunteer Manager
Domestic Violence Services

FROM THE READER BOARD

Jim Gilman



Reminder for Flower Donors

Oct 1	M. Carter	Nov 26	Christ the King
Oct 8	C. Forsberg	Dec 3	P. McClelland
Oct 15	J. Palmer	Dec 10	P. Chandler
Oct 22		Dec 17	
Oct 27		Dec 24)
Nov 5	J. Kistner	Dec 25) Christmas
Nov 12	S. Reidburn	Dec 31	
Nov 19			

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

OCTOBER 1 – PENTECOST 18

There's another vineyard parable which is also reflected in a favorite hymn, "Come Labor On" (Hymnal #541). Stanza 2 says in part: "Come labor on...no arms so weak but may do service here. By feeblest agents may our God fulfill his righteous will." There's plenty of work and support needed. All of us are called. And the hymn ends with the promise of a wonderful commendation: "...and a glad sound comes with the setting sun; Servants, well done." Isn't that what we all hope to hear?

OCTOBER 8 – PENTECOST 19

And then there are the unfaithful and murderous tenants in the vineyard. Jesus's parable says in part that the vineyard will be given to new tenants who will produce a good harvest and be loyal to God, the landowner. Christ, rejected by the hierarchy, is the new cornerstone, and both the early Christians (and those of us who call ourselves Christians today) are called to be the new tenants and faithful servants. What are you doing in your life to be a good and faithful servant? How do you live and serve God and those around you.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OCTOBER 1 – PENTECOST 18

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Mathew 21:23-32

Collect for Pentecost 18

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

OCTOBER 8 – PENTECOST 19

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- *Mail check – 21405 82nd 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 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
- 5th 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 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
Cell: 206-778-1506

SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at sheilahreidburn@comcast.net or 206-427-1920.

Prayers of the People:

Prayers of the People are used during 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.

