

AROUND THE PARISH

May 7, 2021

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 ACTIVITIES

Sunday Eucharist on Facebook or YouTube, 10:30am

Adult Bible Study, 9:30am; Romans led by Eric Hanson. Link through April

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765370758?pwd=OEFMd20xL0NjNkzQ0xJbHdaRGJlZz09>

Meeting ID: 847 6537 0758 Password: SeekFirst

Zoom Coffee Hour, Link through June

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85174822634?pwd=aW0vdTYrNGtZTGVBQmdzbEJQYm9BZz09>

Meeting ID: 851-7482-2634 Password: 657057

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



By Father Greg

Saturday is the Feast of Julian of Norwich, the 14th Century nun who had beautiful visions of God's great love for all creation and for every human being therein. She is famous for saying in response to all the challenges small and large of this life, "All will be well and all will be well and all manner of things will be well."

Julian is also famous for her vision of the Motherhood of God and Jesus. Yes, Jesus the divine Mother! She compares a mother's love for her children with Jesus' love for human-kind. This love includes letting a child try and fail and try again without rescuing the child, so the child can learn on her or his own. This she compared with Jesus' love for sinners, not stopping them through divine omnipotence, from sinning, but loving us through mercy and forgiveness.

The language is bit of a challenge, but here are some excerpts of her writing.

"So Jesus Christ who sets good against evil is our real Mother. We owe being to him – and this is the essence of motherhood! – and all the delightful, loving protection which ever follows. God is as really our Mother as he is our Father." (Chapter 59)

Jesus is our true Mother by nature at our first creation, and he is our true Mother in grace by taking on our created nature." (Chapter 59)

"A mother can give her child milk to suck, but our dear mother Jesus can feed us with himself, and he does so most courteously and most tenderly with the holy sacrament,

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

5/11 Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm

5/15 ECW, 10:30am, Zoom link in article

5/16 Taizé, 7:00pm, Facebook and YouTube

5/18 Becoming Beloved Community, 6:30pm, Zoom link through June

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84587330526?pwd=amo2Y0dldlUxUmXUb2pGcUNuMGFpdz09>

Meeting ID: 845 8733 0526 Passcode: BBC

5/19 Evening Prayer 6:00pm, Facebook

Soup Supper, 6:30pm, Zoom link thru June

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86376914554?pwd=Zm02Y0xkMmFjVGZRaVc0bFVBL1htdz09>

Meeting ID: 863 7691 4554 Passcode: Soup

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 go to www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click on "Donate Now."

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

Zoom Coffee begins at 12:00pm. Click on Zoom link above. OR go to "zoom.us" on Internet, click on "Join A Meeting" in upper right hand side, at the prompt enter meeting code and then password (noted above). Next prompt is "Enter Meeting." Click on "Join" with audio.

which is the precious food of life itself . . .
The mother can lay the child tenderly to her breast, but our tender mother Jesus, he can familiarly lead us to his blessed breast through his sweet open side . . . (Chapter 60)

From Julian of Norwich's, *The Revelation of Divine Love*, Chapter 60.

The God who created (gave birth to) all things and everyone, the God who nurtured (through love, mercy, and forgiveness) all things and everyone, and the God who leads us to our full mature selves (through the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit) is both Father and Mother of all.

We celebrate mothers this weekend. Let us consider how we are made in the image and likeness of our Divine Mother.



An Irish Blessing

There is but one and only one,
Whose love will fail you never.
One who lives from sun to sun,
With constant fond endeavor.

There is but one and only one
On earth there is no other.
In heaven a noble work was done
When God gave us a Mother.

Author unknown

DRIVE-BY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Last Sunday, May 2, the weather was just right, so we had our first Drive-by Communion. As planned and when the weather permits, we will be holding actual pop-up worship services on the lawn following the 10:30am telecast services. Keep your eyes and ears open for Announcements!



ECW FELLOWSHIP ON MAY 15

Get a cup of coffee or tea and a little something to snack on for our ECW Gathering on **Saturday, May 15, 10:30am**, via Zoom. Hopefully, we can all share what has been going on in our lives, books we've read or are reading, garden plans, walks we've taken, etc. We all miss seeing each other in person, and this gives us the opportunity to see the friendly and loved faces of our sisters at St. Alban's.

Be sure to tune in on May 15.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88340149726?pwd=M01RU25LVUVGL3pBcTd6b3dOMDRmQT09>

Meeting ID: 883 4014 9726 Passcode: ECW\



BLESSINGS AND THANKS FOR FOOD DRIVE!

Congratulations to St. Alban's and our neighborhood donors who made the Saturday, May 1, Food Drive another smashing success. Lee Forsberg reports:

"We were very well blessed today as the number of donors was down, but the amount of weight per donation was up. We collected 1,145 pounds of food items and \$428.69 in contributions. The success of the day was also how our crew so graciously dealt with the donors. They made the day and the event one that I'm sure the good Lord looked on and smiled as did the

members of the crew. Thanks to Him for blessing us and the event. Thanks to all the crew for doing such a good job. You are a real treat to work with!!”

Adding the May 1 weight total to the previous totals for 2021 gives us 4,200 pounds this year to help our friends and neighbors at this tough time for so many! That new total is 300 pounds shy of all of last year’s donations. What a great start!!

Additionally, we have a little over \$2,100 in our food bank account from donations to the food bank first week basket. As a result, we’ll be sending \$1,128.69 to the Edmonds Food Bank and \$700 each to the Mountlake Terrace and Edmonds Food Banks.

PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE

New Addresses:

Claudia Walker
18700 44th Ave W #A101
Lynnwood, WA 98037

Dee Thompson
19815 Scriber Rd, Apt 309
Lynnwood, WA 98036



ROGATION SUNDAY – MAY 9

“Rogation” is connected to the Latin word for “asking” and refers to a traditional time of praying for agriculture. Traditionally celebrated on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the Sixth Sunday in Easter, Rogation Services have been a time to pray for planting and for those working with the land.

Rogation days originated in Vienne, France, in the fifth century when Bishop Mamertus introduced days of fasting and prayer to ward off a threatened disaster. In England they were associated with the blessing of the fields at planting. The vicar “beat the bounds” of the parish, processing around the fields reciting psalms and litany. In the United States, they have been associated with rural life and

with agriculture and fishing. The Propers in the Book of Common Prayer have widened their scope to include commerce, industry and the stewardship of creation.

For the Harvest of Lands and Waters

O gracious Father you open your hand and fill all living things with plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; send forth your breath, and renew the face of the earth; show your loving kindness, that our land may yield its increase; and save us from selfish use of what you provide, that the poor and needy may give thanks to your Names; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

(episcopal church.org;letallcreationpraise.org.)

MEET JIM NICHOLS

Jim was born in Port Angeles, Washington, as James Nichols. He prefers to be called Jim, and that is how most of his friends and his St. Alban’s family know him.

Jim found his way to St. Alban’s through his wife Susie and prefers to attend the 10:30am service. Like everyone else, he looks forward to the day we can meet again in person rather than via the computer screen.

It probably wouldn’t be a surprise to anyone that Jim considers St. Alban to be his favorite saint. He has no favorite scripture verse, but enjoys reading and learning from all scripture. He and Susie are avid readers and have the books to prove it!

Jim says he felt called to consider serving on Vestry because he served previously and understands what is required of a member. He looks forward to serving again with the hope of helping Vestry make St. Alban’s a better place for its members and those who have not yet had a chance to join with us.

Currently Jim serves along with Phil McClelland as Building & Grounds liaison. He has put many miles on the power mower to keep our property looking neat and cared for. Jim has been instrumental in spearheading the Christmas Gift Card Drive to the benefit of Chase Lake Community School.



MEMORIES OF PICKING BLUEBERRIES

“For the Beauty of the Earth” is a Forward Movement publication dedicated to the beauty and wonder of nature. Its contributors are parents, priests, scientists, teachers, farmers. The author of the following is Alyssa Finke, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, writer, hiker and cook. “Currently raising a tomato plant, a cactus and several geraniums, her green-thumb aspirations are a work in progress.”

Every summer when I was a child, my mother took me, my brothers, and a few friends blueberry picking. It was always a big adventure. We had a sleepover the night before because we had to wake up early before the day grew hot and the berries had all been picked. Our van only had two extra spaces, so you knew you were a Finke family favorite if you snagged an invitation to our blueberry picking excursion.

There were rows upon rows of blueberry bushes – some sweet, some tart. Each of us had our own bucket, but it’s hard to say how many blueberries fell victim to our mouths instead of our buckets. We picked until our buckets were nearly full or we sounded too many complaints about being hot and tired. We ended the day with an apple cider popsicle, and we had frozen blueberries available for months to come.

As I reflect on my childhood blueberry picking, I realize how grateful I am for my mother, who was brave enough to take a carload of children on these adventures and who planted the seeds of this favorite summer experience in my heart. I appreciate those who regularly plant and harvest the food I eat, those who toil day in and day out to provide what ends up on my table. I am thankful for fertile land and fresh fruits and vegetables that keep my body fueled and full.

And above all, I’m grateful for God who provides!

There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind. Fred Rogers

SAVE THE DATE OF MAY 19
 The next “Soup Supper” via Zoom will be on **Wednesday, May 19**. The event begins with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm via Facebook, followed by 15-20 minutes of the “Getting to Know You” fellowship at 6:30-7:30pm. This program features an individual parishioner talking about their lives, hobbies, family, travel, profession or other aspects which would allow us to know them better.
 Zoom link noted in Coming Events.



WASHINGTON KIDS IN TRANSITION

Washington Kids in Transition will receive our Outreach donations for the 2nd quarter 2021. Washington Kids in Transition is committed to providing basic needs to homeless children residing in Washington State, including food, emergency closets, motel vouchers and transportation vouchers.

We received \$420 in April for this organization. Because of the amount of the contributions, we’ll send this portion of our quarterly donation in May so that the money can be put to work immediately.

Their Summer Art Program gives students an opportunity to participate in art and stem projects throughout the summer. The June pack will include sidewalk chalk, a jump rope, a magnifying glass. What started as a grass roots organization has grown into a full service distribution center. Director Kim Gorney has invited the public to tour and see all the wonderful projects they are working on. To schedule a tour, please call Kim at 206-697-3385. <https://washingtonkidsintransition.org/>



DAY-BY-DAY REFLECTION

The following reflection was written by Nia McKenney, a vocalist and musician in Indianapolis. Her favorite things are music technology, her cats and her sisters.

Luke 8:16 – No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a

lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

We are, each of us, a lantern, and God's light shines through everything we are and everything we do. This light shines from the moment we decide to live a life for God with purpose and intention.

And yet isn't it so much harder to keep our own lights shining than to feed the flames of the ones that we love? Sustaining the flame in our own lamps is a test of self-recognized worth each and every day, of seeing ourselves the way Jesus sees us, as beloved and valued. Jesus calls us to care for and love others, but we must first see value within ourselves.

It's hard to believe in ourselves the way that God does. But take comfort: God has never doubted the flame sustaining our lamp.



Contributed by
Dave Wilson

Good Samaritan

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?"

A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

Did Noah Fish?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied Johnny. "How could he with just two worms?"

Higher Power

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, "We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?"

One child blurted out, "Aces"!



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

MAY 9 – EASTER 6

"You did not choose me, but I chose you." On a much more trivial scale, can you remember the childlike elation of being chosen for a team, for a part in a play, for a special class project? Shouldn't it be a natural and gladsome thing, then, to love and serve the Holy One, the Creator of the Universe, who first loved and chose you as special to Him?

May 9 – Easter 6 Collect for Rogation Sunday

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

MAY 16 – EASTER 7

Part of Acts 1 talks about the naming of a new apostle to replace Judas. The Disciples named two men who *"went in and out among us,"* and asked God, who knows all hearts, to assist them in their choice. Suppose you were in that situation today. What in your heart would tell God about your love and giving and service to Him?

READINGS

MAY 9 – EASTER 6

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

MAY 16 – EASTER 7

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

GREG’S HOME OFFICE HOURS
 Monday to Thursday 8:30am – 2:30 pm
 Via email: gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com
 Cell: 206-778-1506
WEDNESDAY in CHURCH OFFICE—discontinued for
 now due to increase in Covid cases.
SUNDAYS—after church coffee hour until 2:00pm
 Available by appointment.

WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS
 1st week—Food Bank
 2nd week—Discretionary Fund
 3rd week—Outreach – Washington Kids in Transition
 4th week—Capital Improvements
 5th Week—One Thousand Days of Light (ERD)

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 – 4:00pm

The office isn’t open on Sundays, but there are people around from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Before and after services, people are available for quick business activities.

To maintain social distancing and minimize any possible exposures to Covid-19, please observe the following:

- Please contact the Office, (425) 778-0371 or stalbansedmonds@gmail.com to make appointment.
- Call the Office to inform them that you have arrived.
- Wait in car, outside in the garden or under the eaves.
- Wait for further instructions – to be let in, to meet your party, to pick up or make a delivery.
- Wear a mask.

In case of something urgent or an emergency, please call Greg Peters on his cellphone at (206) 778-1506.



ST. ALBAN’S YouTube CHANNEL



There is an alternative option for viewing our Worship services, and you now have two options for your viewing: Facebook or YouTube. In the center of our website front page, there is a link to YouTube, pictured above. If you have problems with Facebook, try YouTube.