

AROUND THE PARISH

February 25, 2022

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

2/27 10:30am, Eucharist, Livestreamed only

2/27 Adult Bible Study, 9:15am, Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86545992628?pwd=d08vTmZNbmk1SW1PUXFybmdpMXNYdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 4599 2628 Passcode: SeekFirst

2/27 2:00-5:00pm, Templo Emanuel,

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

2/28 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

3/2 12:00/6:00pm, Ash Wednesday Eucharists
In-person, in church for those fully vaccinated
(Depending on decreasing Covid numbers)

3/3 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

3/4 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Annex

3/5 10:00am – 2:00pm, Drive-by Food Drive

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 – have bank send check to St.Albans
- Online go to www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click on "Donate Now."



Create in me a clean heart, O Lord.

Let nothing distract me from your presence.

Create in me a pure heart, O Lord.

Let my thoughts and my actions always
align with yours.

Create in me a just heart, O Lord.

Lead me to repent of injustices I contribute to.

Create in me a loving heart, O Lord.

Let me always work for unity, and break down
walls of hate and strife and bitterness.

Christine Sine godspacelight.com



ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 2

All things being equal, i.e., the Covid numbers continue to drop in our area, we will be returning to in-person church on Ash Wednesday, March 2! There will be ashes administered and Eucharist at both 12:00pm and 6:00pm services.

Our safety procedures will continue as before – masks worn, safe distancing, hand sanitizer used prior to communion, and communion at the steps to the altar. Fr. Greg will describe the dispensing of ashes at the services. All of this is intended to keep each of us safe and Covid free.

We hope you will feel comfortable in joining us for in-person services again. Should you wish to be at home, the service will be on Facebook.



DRIVE-BY FOOD DRIVE

On Saturday, March 5, from 10:00am – 2:00pm, we will hold our first Food Bank drop of 2022. The need is just as great. There are currently more families and individuals depending on food assistance than last year.

It is really heart-warming to receive a phone call at church from a neighbor asking when we will sponsor another food drive. Many people donate to food banks during the holidays; it's the time of year when generosity flows. Now it's mid-winter, and time for us to renew our ministry of helping those in need.

Lee Forsberg, our food drive coordinator, reports that a wonder crew of volunteers have offered to help have a super day on the 5th. Previously many of you brought donations in advance of the drive and left them in the Parish Hall. That would give us

a wonderful start! Ash Wednesday, March 2, would be a great time to offer our thanks to God for his blessings by sharing our blessings with our neighbors.

Join the drive on March 5 – any and all non-perishable food items are most welcome. Peanut butter, jam/jelly, cereal, canned chicken, tuna, pasta, beans, rice, Spaghetti-Os, soups, canned fruits and vegetables. And it's still hot chocolate time!

Thank you for your participation. See you on the 5th!

SERVICE FOR MAUREEN FORSYTHE

The life of Maureen Anne Forsythe will be celebrated on Friday, April 22, at 11:00am, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Bartlesville, OK. It will be live-streamed. More information closer to the date.

Love One Another

Last Sunday's Gospel (January 20) was Luke 6:27-38: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you." The following was posted on RenewalWorks, Monday Matters, February 14, 2022,

"A Knock at Midnight"; Inspiration from the Great Sermons of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Now there is a final reason I think that Jesus says, "Love your enemies." It is this: that love has within it a redemptive power. And there is a power there that eventually transforms individuals. Just keep being friendly to that person. Just keep loving them, and they can't stand it too long. Oh, they react in many ways in the beginning. They react with guilt feelings, and sometimes they'll hate you a little more at that transition period, but just keep loving them. And by the power of your love, they will break down under the load. That's love, you see. It is redemptive, and this is why Jesus says love. There's something about love that builds up and is creative. There is something about hate that tears down and is destructive. So love your enemies.



BISHOP'S BOOK SELECTION FOR LENT

by Maryellen Young

Each year Bishop Greg Rickel recommends a book or books as part of a Lenten discipline. This year he is recommending three books, but one of his recommendations is a book I just finished reading: Facing the Mountain by Daniel James Brown, the author of The Boys In the Boat.

It is described as a gripping World War II saga of patriotism and courage: the special Japanese-American Army unit, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team that overcame brutal odds in Europe; their families, incarcerated back home; and a young man who refused to surrender his constitutional rights, even if it meant imprisonment.

But this is more than a war story. Brown also tells the story of these soldiers' parents, immigrants who were forced to shutter the businesses, surrender their homes, and submit to life in concentration camps on U.S. soil. Woven throughout is the chronicle of a brave young man, one of a cadre of patriotic resisters who stood up against their government in defense of their own rights. Whether fighting on battlefields or in courtrooms, these were Americans under unprecedented strain, doing what Americans do best – striving, resisting, pushing back, rising up, standing on principle, laying down their lives, and enduring.

I found this book easy to read, even if the subject was difficult. I have heard a little about the impact of families losing their homes and businesses in the Puget Sound area when they were interned, but this book gave me much greater appreciation of what they endured during these times. This book gave me new insights and things to ponder.



LENT WITH INTENTION

Richelle Thompson is a mother of two children, the wife of a priest, and the deputy director and managing editor of Forward Movement. The following article was written in February 2013.

Growing up in a different denomination meant that my primary reference for Lent was something you might find in a belly button. Easter was big. Christmas too, of course. But Lent and Advent weren't players in that tradition's lexicon.

Over the past decade as an Episcopalian, I have warmed to these seasons of preparation. I still might let an Alleluia slip, and my tree goes up the first week of December. But I also am trying to be deliberate about my spiritual practices so that I might ready my heart and steady my mind. But I still have a long way to go.

Our children announced to us yesterday what they plan to give up during Lent. Our daughter, a connoisseur of fine steaks, is giving up red meat. And our son, with a serious sweet tooth, is forgoing candy. My husband, who has long held to strict Lenten disciplines, nodded appreciatively. I was incredulous. What will you do when we go out to eat, I asked my daughter, who never fails to find the most expensive flank on the menu. And what about the candy from your Valentine's Day party at school?

And from the mouths of babes, they pinned me to the wall: Aren't you supposed to give up something that matters? Something that you really like? I had been listening to the sermons – they were acting upon them.

I have two more days to look into myself, to figure out what would really be a sacrifice, something that would remind me each day of my dependence on God. Do I abstain from Diet Coke? Limit my social media time? Commit to daily exercise?

I don't know yet. But I do know that I'm thankful I won't be on this journey alone. And that I can draw strength and willpower not only from God but also from God's children.



NOTES OF GRATITUDE AND THANKS

The following letters of thanksgiving from our generous outreach programs also help us understand the number and extent of services our recipients offer. We are sharing God's love and his blessings to us when we reach out to help others!

Everett Gospel Mission

Thank you for your recent gift of \$788 for the men, women, and children we serve. Our ministry updates follow:

This winter we are running a 40-bed emergency cold weather shelter in Everett.

In addition to our Men's Shelter, and our Women and Children's Shelter, we continue to manage a 40-bed longer-term emergency shelter in Everett for Snohomish County.

In partnership with the City of Everett, we are running a 20-unit pallet shelter village next to our Men's Mission on Smith Avenue (think tiny homes). The village provides low barrier housing for single men and couples to help stabilize them while offering wrap-around services in guiding them to a promising future. Referred to us by the COET Team (police and social workers), these new clients were considered the most social service and institutionally resistant of our Everett area homeless neighbors. We are excited to report, once stabilized with good rest, safety and healthy meals, these clients are reaching out for services and Bible study.

The remodeling of all four kitchens in our Women and Children's buildings is completed. Our women and children are excited and feel blessed.

We share the Gospel daily in word and deed with full wrap-around services to provide a pathway to a better life. You may not know that in a typical year we serve nearly a quarter million meals. In a typical day, we serve approximately 220 men, women and children. We have the largest and one of only two men's shelters in the region comprising Island, San Juan, Skagit and Snohomish Counties.

From Chase Lake Community School

Thank you so much for your continued support of our food pantry. Our Bottomless Backpack program currently serves 22 families. With your help we've been able to help all of these families.

From Edmonds Food Bank

2021 was a challenging year for many of us. Our customers felt challenged in many ways from the significant increase in the cost of food and other basic needs, to uncertainty related to their jobs and reduced access to childcare. At Edmonds Food Bank the volunteers and staff continued to engage with our customers as we provided food, household supplies, personal products and a friendly smile. Thank you for your assistance as EFB continues to strive toward ensuring food security for everyone in our community.

We are so grateful for your generous gift and partnership in helping your neighbors access nutritional food in an atmosphere of dignity and

respect. Your support enables our customers to release the worry about feeding their families healthy food each day. With deepest appreciation.

FROM THE READER BOARD

Lee Forsberg



jokes

From Dave Wilson

Two city workers were out working one morning. One city worker would dig a big hole, the other worker would fill it back in. Then they would walk 10 feet and repeat the process. The first man would dig another big hole, and the second man fill it back in.

This went on a few times and caught the attention of a man who was watching them. He was very confused by the process and thought it was strange that they would dig a hole and then just fill it back in. So, he asked them why they did this.

“Oh,” they said, “it’s because the guy that puts the trees in the hole is home sick today!”



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

FEBRUARY 27 – LAST EPIPHANY

It is hard to believe that Lent begins this week. Have you considered yet what discipline you might assume for these next weeks? Rather than “giving something up,” what might you “take on” that will help you to grow as a steward and apprentice of Jesus?

MARCH 2 – ASH WEDNESDAY

There are two key steward’s reminders in today’s lessons. Psalm 103 urges us to “*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,*” and the conclusion of Matthew’s Gospel passage points out that we need to choose carefully what our life treasures are to be, and to whom or what they will be committed.

MARCH 6 – LENT 1

Deuteronomy 26 is all about “first-fruits giving.” Moses rehearsed all that had happened to the Israelites, and how they were strengthened and preserved, and tells them, “to *set your gifts down before the Lord, [and then...] celebrate with all bounty the Lord has given to you and to your house.*” Good advice for modern-day stewards as well!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FEBRUARY 27 – LAST EPIPHANY

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Collect for Last Epiphany

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

MARCH 2 – ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 103

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

MARCH 6 – LENT 1

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13



WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

1st week—Food Bank

2nd week—Discretionary Fund

3rd week—Outreach – Everett Gospel Mission

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 – 4:00 pm

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.
- Wear a mask.

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 kiwicat1@gmail.com 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.