

## AROUND THE PARISH

May 2, 2025

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 – May 4

#### Easter 3

8:00 & 10:30am, Eucharist Services in Sanctuary

9:30am, 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



Fr. Greg Peters

Now that Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Day are behind us, I am catching up on some things around the house, especially around the yard. With fewer days of rain, it's a good time to prune our fruit trees.

The Italian Prune has needed a good thinning out for some time. There was some dead wood that simply needed to go. Most of that was either little withered twigs that bore fruit last year or small branches that were just too crowded and didn't let in sunlight or allow for air circulation. There were also a couple of bigger branches that had leaves and fruit up until last year but were completely dead now. And lastly, there were three bigger stubs of what were once main branches that were cut off and nonproductive that I've been trying to figure out what to do with for the better part of a decade. They were dead but not really in the way.

I spent an afternoon this week with a saw, pruners, and shears, going through that tree and took care of all of it. It looks so much more open and clear and kempt (if that's a term one can use with trees).

That tree is at least forty years old. I think my father and mother-in-law planted it, but it may have come with the house when they bought it. I don't really know.

It's already bloomed, leafed out, and beginning to set fruit.

The girls have had a rope swing in it for much longer than they've swung on it. I can't bring myself to take it out. Hanni put it there, and I guess Hanni is the one who should rightfully remove it. It's probably not safe to swing on anymore, it's just an old rope attached to a piece of 2x4; one or the other is likely to give way under any kind of weight or force. But nostalgic me, hears joyous and delighted girl laughter when I see it.

Some of the branches hang too low to the ground for optimal fruit production, but, like the swing, I choose not to cut those back - so those of shorter

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 5/3 9:00am-12:00pm, D. Hahn, Annex  
10:30am-12:00pm, ECW Coffee, PH  
5/10 9:00am-12:00pm, D. Hahn, Annex  
10:00am-2:00pm, Food Drive, Parking Lot  
10:30am, Men's Circle, Parish Hall  
5/11 12:00pm, Vestry Meeting, Annex  
5/14 3:00pm, Food Bank Distribution, Park Lot  
5/15 1:00-3:00pm, Thursday Discussion Group, PH  
5/17 10:30am, Indigenous Circle Meeting  
5/28 5:00-7:00pm, WECP Graduation, PH if rain

### RECURRING EVENTS

- Mondays: 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall  
Tuesdays: 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
6:00-9:00pm, Girl Scout Comm. Camp, PH (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
Wednesdays: 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube  
Thursdays: 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary  
Fridays: 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary  
Sundays: 6:30pm, AA Meeting, Parish Hall

Next ATP Issue: Friday, May 16

Article Deadline: Wednesday Noon, May 14



stature and fewer years can easily pick those deep purple, slightly sour, sugar balms in late August. Our girls are young women now, but there are other children in the neighborhood who might still want to reach them. I guess I want to be the kind of neighbor who welcomes fellow fruit lovers. (I wonder if Amos, the pruner of sycamore trees, was like that?)

As you can see, I love this tree. I love this tree, so I prune it; opening it up, letting light in and air flow through. Removing dead wood before it becomes rot. Each snip a kind of prayer.

This may be more of a Lenten meditation. But Lent was too busy and the weather too wet for pruning. Now is the time of Resurrection and new life. That's what Lent prepares us for anyway. It's not the Lenten disciplines that are the goal, but renewed Resurrection Life.

I love this tree. I love to climb it, to care for it, to sup from it, to sit under it, to enjoy the flowers that Erika has planted under it, to hear the girls' laughter whispering through its branches, to ponder growing old with Erika in its shade. Maybe one fine day, what's left of me will rest under it, becoming part of it, as it is already part of me.



### CELEBRATION OF SARAH BURNS' LIFE

There will be a celebration for Sarah Burns on **Saturday, May 3, 12:00-4:00pm**, at The Canal in Ballard (5300 34th Avenue NW.)

Sarah was a long-time member of St. Albans. She died on February 24. Her daughter Keri invites all who knew and loved her to this celebration of her life and ministry.

### MEN'S CIRCLE GATHERING

Jim Gilman



The Men's Circle will be meeting on **Saturday, May 10 at 10:30am**. Come for fellowship, food, stories, and help plan for Summer and Fall. Perhaps a Mariners game?? See ya soon.

### INDIGENOUS CIRCLE MEETING

Jim Gilman

The Indigenous Circle meets **Saturday, May 17, at 10:30am** in the Parish Hall. Our agenda includes:

- \*Latest Indigenous News,
  - \*Sharing impactful thoughts and ideas from our first two years,
  - \*Planning for summer field trips to Powwows and Cultural Centers,
  - \*Schedule and topics for Fall 2025.
- All our Welcome. Join us.



### OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY

Jim Gilman

Our outdoor Food Pantry has served our neighborhood for almost a year. So many local families depend on it to supplement their food supply. You have done an amazing job of helping feed those in our area in need of food supplements.

The pantry could use an injection of food right now. Canned foods are not needed as much as healthy cereal, rice, apple sauce, packaged fruit/vegetables, noodle soups, tortillas, toiletries, etc.

Thank you, St. Albans.



### BASKET DONATIONS FOR MAY

- 1<sup>st</sup> week—**Food Banks** for Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace Food Banks
- 2<sup>nd</sup> week—**Discretionary Fund** to help people who contact the church for assistance with gas cards, utility bills, rent and other emergency aid requests
- 3<sup>rd</sup> week—**Outreach for Domestic Violence Services**, a non-profit organization providing free and confidential services - emergency shelter, legal advocacy, support groups and domestic violence education.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Week—**International Relief for World Vision** who responds quickly to humanitarian crises

worldwide, ensuring access to critical necessities like food, clean water, hygiene and cooking kits, cash vouchers, child protection services, and more.

5<sup>th</sup> week— **Indigenous Women** for WomenSpirit coalition. Our next 5<sup>th</sup> week is August.

Donations can be made at any time by placing your donation in an envelope and designating category for your donation.

### **I Will Not Stop Caring**

I will not stop caring, whatever the cost.  
I will not cease loving, no matter the consequences.

The political winds may howl above me  
Scattering people like leaves in a storm  
But I will hold fast to the common ground  
The wisdom that once formed us.

Difference is not a crime.  
Diversity is not a threat.  
Disagreement is not a failure.

Community requires of me what it requires of  
others:

A commitment to share in the process of justice.

There are no expendable human beings in that  
process

Only a sacrifice of privilege.

For the sake of the many,

I will not stop caring for the few.

*(From the publication "Spirit Wheel, Meditations from an Indigenous Elder".) Steven Charleston has served as the Episcopal bishop of Alaska. He is a leading voice of justice for Indigenous peoples, the environment and spiritual renewal. He is a Choctaw elder and spiritual explorer, who taps into the universal questions that draw us to prayer, no matter our spiritual background: Why am I here? Where do I belong? Where am I going?*



**WESTERN WASHINGTON CONVENE 2025 –**  
**Saturday, May 31, 2025 – 8:30am-4:00pm**  
**Everett Community College**

Reconnect with Episcopalians from across the Diocese and join us for this exciting event open to everyone!

Gain new resources and support and spend time learning from and networking with churches from

every corner of Western Washington! Convene 2025 will feature multiple workshop sessions throughout this day-long opportunity for learning and connection, preparing us all for the future of our communities, helping us discover (and rediscover!) new ideas, and giving us the time and space to share information about programs and ministry opportunities.

Convene 2025 is designed for leaders, potential leaders in congregations, and interested others – clergy, staff, vestries and bishop’s committees, administrators, members of convention, and anyone who wants to reconnect with others in the Diocese over ways to strengthen our congregations. So put together a team from your congregation and get ready to join us on May 31 as we Convene at Everett Community College.

Have questions about the 2025 Diocesan Convene? Please contact Matt Koski, Resource Coordinator [mkoski@ecww.org](mailto:mkoski@ecww.org).

**REGISTER TODAY**

### **ST. MARK, THE EVANGELIST**

**Saint’s Day – April 28    Died C 68 AD**

Tradition holds that Mark (sometimes John Mark) was the boy who lost his clothes when Jesus was taken in the Garden of Gethsemane (see Mark 14.51). It is also thought by many that the “upper room” where the Last Supper was held was in Mark’s parent’s home. Mark’s mother, whose name was Mary, was a follower of Jesus and a friend of the disciples.

The Apostle Peter seems to have taken young Mark under his wing. Mark is listed by Paul as one of Peter’s followers in the early controversies in the Jerusalem Church. Mark was also a missionary companion to Paul and a lifelong friend of Barnabas.



He was in Rome with Peter and Paul but escaped the Neronian persecution. According to the historian Eusebius, he traveled to Egypt and found the great Alexandrian Church there. Also, it is believed that he was martyred there by a mob of angry pagans.

Mark is generally regarded as the author of the second gospel, which bears his name. It is sometimes called the “Gentile Gospel” because it seems to be directed more towards a Gentile than a Jewish audience.

*Almighty God, we thank you for the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ, committed to his Church by the hand of*

*your evangelist Saint Mark; and we pray that, being firmly grounded in its truth, we may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

(Forward Movement publication, Calendar of Saints)



### **MESSAGE FROM ALTAR GUILD**

All those who attended our services on Easter Sunday and the members of Altar Guild are grateful for your generous donations for the beautiful spring flowers decorating the Sanctuary. The mums, lilies and tulips were amazing and added to our celebration of the risen Jesus Christ.

**Altar Guild also invites you to sign up on the Flower Chart in the Parish Hall to donate flowers for future Sundays.** Flowers can be donated as a memorial, in thanksgiving or to celebrate a special occasion. If you have questions, please contact Sharon Joy, Altar Guild's Directress and flower chair -- Cell 425-489-6844.

### **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

#### **MAY 4 – EASTER 3**

Psalm 30 ends, *“Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing: O Lord, my God, I will give you thanks forever.”* As faithful stewards know that giving thanks forever means more than singing. How are you doing with the Holy Habits – prayer, study, worship in community, and generous giving? Cultivating them may make your songs more joyful indeed!

#### **MAY 11 – EASTER 4**

Jesus outlines some promises for those who hear Him and believe. *“My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my*

*hand.”* How can our gratitude and corresponding generosity to God and others not be heightened if we trust those words? What blessed relief to know that our future with God is insured.

#### **MAY 18 – EASTER 5**

Jesus gives a new commandment – *“Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another ... everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another.”* How better can we affirm that we are stewards and disciples than by loving God in return, and by using our gratitude and generosity to serve the needs of others.

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **MAY 4 – EASTER 3**

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

#### **Collect for Easter 3**

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to His disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold Him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

#### **MAY 11 – EASTER 4**

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

#### **Collect for Easter 4**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear His voice, we may know Him who calls us each by name, and follow where He leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

#### **MAY 18 – EASTER 5**

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

### Collect for Easter 5

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

### CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- \*Collection plates and baskets on Sunday.
- \*Mail check – 21405 82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026
- \*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- or use pictured QR code



### WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

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

### ST. ALBAN’S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

- |           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| Monday    | 2:00 – 4:00 pm |
| Wednesday | 2:00 - 4:00pm  |
| Friday    | 2:00 – 4:00pm  |

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

- Tuesday Church Office 10:00am – 2:30 pm
- Wednesday Church Office 10:00am – 2:30pm
- Thursday Home 10:00am – 2:00pm  
(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 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.

