

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Syracuse, New York**

April 2019 Newsletter



Sunday Morning Schedule:
Rector's Bible Study 8:30 a.m.
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m.



Thursday Evening Lenten Program

The Way of Love
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

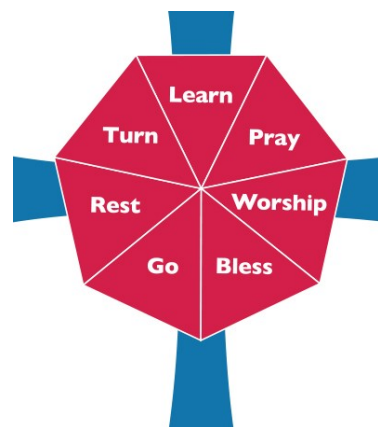
Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m.

April 4

6:45 p.m. The Way of Love: Bless and Go
7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

April 11

6:45 p.m. The Way of Love: Rest and
Final Presentation
7:15 p.m. Healing and Holy Eucharist

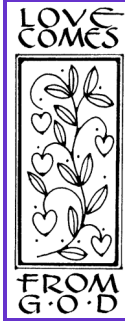


HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- April 16 **Holy Tuesday** 10:00 a.m.
- April 17 **Holy Wednesday** 10:00 a.m.
- April 18 **Maundy Thursday at Emmanuel Church in East Syracuse**
6:00 p.m. Dinner
7:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar
- April 19 **Good Friday Liturgy** 12:00 noon
Stations of the Cross 5:30 p.m.
- April 21 **Easter Sunday** 9:30 a.m. Festive Holy Eucharist



Remember to pray for your Lenten Friend every day!

On **Easter Day** we will reveal our identities to our Lenten Friends with a card and a small gift. If you won't be here on Easter Day please bring in your gift beforehand and give it to Mother Julie or Sue Grosso.

Priestly Ponderings: Embracing Your Brokenness

Lent begins with the words of Ash Wednesday: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We are not gods, but mortal creatures who were created by a loving God. However, hand in hand with human life comes sin and brokenness. No one is without sin; no one is "good enough" to earn their way into heaven. The price of admission was paid by Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for the forgiveness of all humanity's sins.

Why then embrace the brokenness? First, let's take a look at what we mean by brokenness. The person in the news arrested for a crime is broken. The person who lies, steals, cheats or gives out a tongue lashing - that person's obviously broken. But who among us has never felt anxious, afraid, discouraged, or inadequate? That's a kind of brokenness too. And who among us has never been arrogant, impatient, bigoted, or judgmental? Created in God's image, yet subject to the power of sin, we know we our frailties and faults, but cannot overcome them perfectly. Thanks be to God there is One who can overcome them, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We embrace our brokenness when we use it as a reason to turn toward God and away from self-sufficiency.

All who believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God receive forgiveness of their sins by his cross and are raised to new life with through his resurrection on Easter morning. But to receive forgiveness you have to ask for it, and to know that you need to be forgiven by God means acknowledging your brokenness. We embrace our brokenness when we use it as a reason to turn toward God and away from self-sufficiency. When we cry out, "Lord, help me, I cannot do this on my own," we admit our weakness and look to God for strength. When we say, "God, I want to do your will, but am in a deep pit and can't climb out," we turn toward God's grace and mercy and away from sin and despair. God will supply whatever is needed; ask we ask, so shall we receive.

St. Paul embraces his own weakness when he writes to the Corinthians, "I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom, but on the power of God." (I Cor. 2:3-5) Aware of his frailties, Paul relied on the power of the Holy Spirit rather than on himself. When I find myself feeling helpless and overwhelmed by my son's medical conditions, I know it's time to turn to Jesus and give him thanks for entrusting this precious soul into my and Brian's care and for sending us help.

Use your weakness and frailty as a reason to turn to Jesus for help. You don't have to - you're not meant to - go it alone. Go with God.

Mother Julie+

Kitchen Renovation

On March 13 the Vestry voted to take \$30,000 out of our investments to renovate the kitchen and bring it up to code. Scott O'Grady, who has already done a good deal of work for us, was hired as the contractor and he has been busy gutting the kitchen and building frames for new walls to hide the plumbing and electrical work behind. Once the City of Syracuse okays the extensive electrical work already done, Scott will put up sheetrock and then the new cabinets and countertops. After the new floor is installed on April 9 an island will be placed in the middle of the room. The current double sink, stove and fridge will be reused. A second stove, dishwasher, and microwave will be added. A second sink for hand washing at wheelchair height will be added, per Health Department code. Scott and the electrician have been fixing health code violations. Once completed, our kitchen will be certified by the Health Department. The kitchen has not been certified since before I arrived in 2006, meaning we have been limited to its use for members only.



St. Alban's has two long term investment funds. The 1964 Permanent Endowment Fund, which is restricted to income, and the 1964 Endowment Earnings Fund, which is not restricted. It is the second fund the money has been taken from. On February 28 the Permanent Fund had a balance of \$187,573, up from \$173,692 on January 1. The second fund had \$240,480, up from \$222,979 on January 1. After our 2018 building projects were completed we returned \$15,000 in donations to the second fund last fall.

If you would like to make a donation to the kitchen renovation you are most welcome to do so at one of the following levels. One donation of \$5000 has already been received.

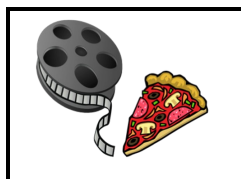


Angels	\$1000 and above
Saints	\$500-999
Apostles	\$100-499
Disciples	\$20-99

With an updated, Health Department certified kitchen, possibilities for ministry and hospitality abound. At the April meeting I am going to ask the Vestry to form a group comprised of both Vestry members and parishioners to explore these possibilities. St. Alban's is at the beginning of a new life cycle and it's time to embrace our future. On April 21 I will joyfully proclaim, "Alleluia! Christ is risen," to which the People will respond, "The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!" Let us move forward into the future with the hope of new life grounded in the power of resurrection.

In Jesus' Name,

Mother Julie+



April 28
Movie & Pizza Sunday
Movie: Green Book

Clean and Shine
Saturday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Decoration of Church for Easter
Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 a.m.



ALTAR GUILD



*You may sign up for Easter Flowers in memory of or in
thanksgiving for loved ones at the back of the church, or by
contacting Sue in the office.*

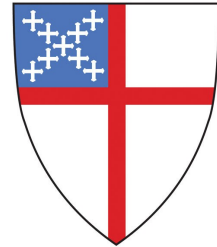
A minimum donation of \$20 is requested.

Please sign up by Palm Sunday.

From our Presiding Bishop

I greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am writing to you as we look ahead to Holy Week, with its focus on our Lord's sacrificial offering of love on the cross. The Good Friday Offering of our Church is one way to help connect the love of Christ on the cross with our support of the ongoing ministry of love and compassion carried out by our Anglican sisters and brothers throughout the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

The Episcopal Church



Whether funding a hospital in Gaza or the West Bank, or an eye clinic in Aden, or women's programs, or summer camps and leadership training for young people, the Good Friday Offering is making a difference in the lives of so many. I have witnessed this Jesus-inspired compassion and commitment at work with my own eyes. I believe our partnership with those who keep the faith of Jesus alive in the region, where our Lord walked and began his movement, is a significant aspect of our work as part of the church catholic. I hope you will participate in this effort. Please visit www.episcopalchurch.org/good-friday-offering. [There will be an offering basket in the church from Palm Sunday through Good Friday to collect your offering. Make checks to St. Alban's with "Good Friday Offering" on the memo line.]

Thank you for considering this important witness to the love of Jesus across our Church. May God bless you and keep you always. I remain

Your brother in Christ,

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church



**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH**

**Wednesday, April 10
7:00-8:00 p.m.
at St. Alban's**

Bob Gardino invites us to attend the next Scott Avenue Neighborhood Association meeting at St. Alban's. The guest speaker will be Syracuse Chief of Police, Kenton Buckner, who will be accompanied by two other officials.

An invitation from Christ Church and Pastor Jonathan

Join us for an evening of songs and stories with Jeremy Casella on **Saturday, April 27 at 7.00 p.m. at St. Alban's**. Jeremy is a Nashville-based performing songwriter who writes music that guides people towards a deeper relationship with God. Drawing from scripture and his own life experience, Jeremy has toured throughout the United States & Europe for over 15 years, sharing his songs and stories in churches, colleges, and anywhere else people are gathered. The cost is free.

Warmly,
Rev. Jonathan E. Hood
Pastor, Christ Church



**Celebrate Sue Grosso
on Secretary's Day**
April 24 at
Olive Garden at Noon
Please call the office with your
reservation.



**St. Alban's
Leadership**

Rector: The Rev. Julie E.
Calhoun-Bryant

Wardens

Senior: Grace Joseph
Junior: Emera Bridger Wilson
Emerita: Kiki White

Vestry Members

Bert Bookhout
Jan Bookhout
Gelene Lewis Dorr
Meg Houston
Margo Kowalczyk
Fred Wilson
Kate Bell, Vestry Clerk

Parish Secretary

Sue Grosso

Organist

Della Holtzapple

Treasurer

Kathleen Eckermann

Financial Secretary

Fred Wilson

Property Chair

Margo Kowalczyk

Ministry Team Leaders

Communications Team

David Houston

Community Service

Ministry Team

Bobbi Lombardo
Dottie White

Congregational Life Team

Kiki White

Spiritual Life Team

Mother Julie

April Birthdays

1	Art Pichette
4	Donald Keefe
7	David Houston
19	Alex Wilson
20	Carolyn Bashaw
23	Julie Calhoun-Bryant



**Vestry
meets
April 17
at 7 p.m.**

St. Alban's is
a Community founded in **CHRIST'S LOVE**,
Joyfully seeking to live our faith,
reaching out to **ALL** God's people.

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

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(315) 446-3490

Website: stalbansyracuse.org

Facebook: Click the link on the website home page
or go to St. Albans Church Syracuse.

Secretary's Office Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Secretary's Email: stalbans.syr@gmail.com

Contacting Mother Julie

- Call the secretary during office hours.
- Email: julieatalban@gmail.com
- 315-416-7133 (cell)

**Please don't leave urgent or time sensitive
messages on the church answering machine.**