

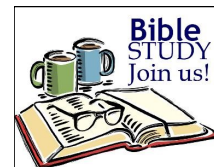
**St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Syracuse, New York**

April News & Inspiration

Sunday Morning

**8:30 a.m. Bible Study (not April 7)
In Rector's Office and on Zoom**

* Zoom Code and Password
835 9000 0245 and 562087



**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Spiritual Communion on Zoom and Facebook
(To use your phone for Zoom, dial 1-646-558-8656)**

* Zoom Code and Password
826 9515 6305 and 446765

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

EVERY TUESDAY-Morning Prayer at 10 a.m. on Zoom.
Codes: 849 7442 6644 & 031228

EVERY WEDNESDAY-Bible Study at 2 p.m. on Zoom.
Codes: 840 0349 8213 and 586548
(Repeated the following Sunday.)

Celebrate Mother Julie's Birthday & Secretary's Day with Lisa

April 23 at Noon at Olive Garden (please sign up!)

**Second Thursday is
April 11th**

6:00 pm Dinner (\$7) Please sign up.
7:00 pm Healing and Eucharist,
also on Zoom



Priestly Pondering for Easter: A Day of Unbridled Joy

The Collect of the Day begins: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with JOY - Do you? Celebrate with JOY? The day of Jesus' resurrection is an occasion for great JOY. The women and the disciples move from fear to sorrow to confusion, until they see their risen Lord. Then, and only then, comes the JOY. He is risen! Christ is alive! Death is defeated and God reigns victorious.

The resurrection was a certainty because it was wrought by the power of God. It is how God chose to deal with a creation under the pall of sin and death. On that first Easter morning God reached into the tomb and raised Jesus from the dead. Unlike the resurrection, the crucifixion was not a certainty. There could have been a different outcome, this abomination brought about by human hands. Judas didn't have to betray Jesus. Caiaphas could have protected Jesus instead of turning him over to the Romans. Peter could have been brave instead of cowardly and rallied Jesus' followers to seek his release. Pilate could have been less cruel and appreciate the value of every human life. That is why God took control of human destiny. Only God can save us. Only God can decisively defeat the power of evil.

Early on that first Easter morning Peter and the disciples were in a state of shame, shock and grief - as far from JOY as they could possibly be. Jesus' death had happened so fast they were still reeling from it. All of their hopes and dreams for a new future were suddenly gone. Added to that, Peter had to cope with his three time denial of Jesus, and all of the disciples had to live with the shame and guilt of abandoning him, and all the while fearing for their very lives. What a potent mixture grief, shame, guilt, and fear can be. So, what should the disciples make of Mary's news? - She has seen the risen Lord! It is the only news that could have suddenly replaced Mary's unbearable grief with JOY.

On this day God has acted as only God can. Jesus placed himself under the power of sinful humanity knowing that God would have the final word, that the power of God far surpassed any power humans can lay claim to, or even the power of death itself. Good Friday is about the unparalleled love of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Easter is about the power of God All-mighty. Through the blood of the cross our sins are forgiven. There is no sin that the cross does not cover - not a single one. Through the power of resurrection Jesus invites us to share with him eternal life in heaven.

While we are here in this present life, our Risen Lord invites us to be a community of believers who live with the JOY of his resurrection in our hearts. As Hymn 304 puts it:

I come with JOY to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

St. Alban's is one of at least 10 churches sponsoring the following event:

Christian Nationalism: Why It's Dangerous for Democracy and the Gospel

When: Wednesday, May 15, 6-8 p.m.

Where: Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church, 5299 Jamesville Road, DeWitt

Why: Christian Nationalism has been all over the news lately, but many people don't know what it means or why it matters. This presentation will introduce what it is, how it works, and why it poses a danger to democracy and to Christianity itself.

Who: Dr. Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament at Lancaster Theological Seminary

Presented By: The InterFaith Racial Equity Network in CNY,
of which Mother Julie is a member.

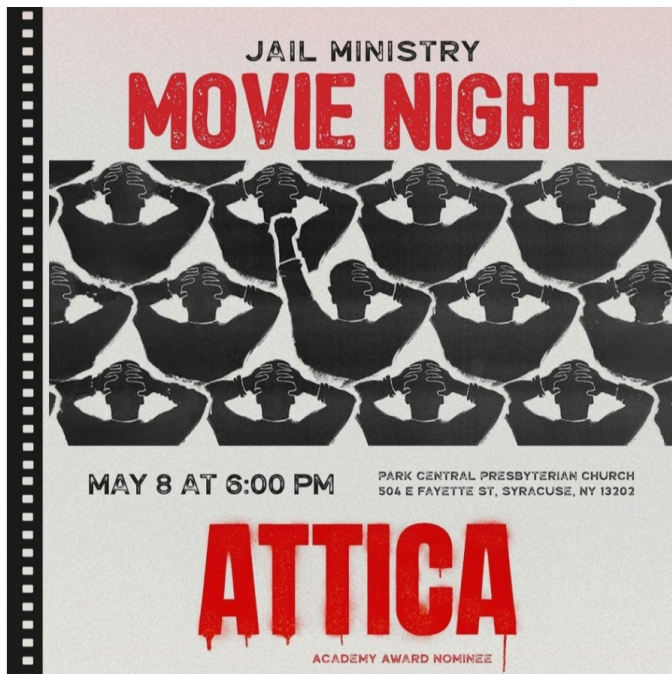
The event is open to the public at no cost.

**AA Groups Meet
the Following Nights:**

**Wednesday
Thursday
Saturday**



**Tuesday,
April 16
6:30 p.m.
on Zoom**



From Ministry Volunteer Grace Joseph

The movie will be shown
May 8 at 6:00 p.m.
Park Central Presbyterian Church
504 E. Fayette Street, Syracuse

“The documentary ‘Attica’
will rattle and upset you.
And it should.”
- Los Angeles Times

Admission is free.
Donations are welcome.
A reception will be held after.

Confirmation Classes, Part 2

Please keep the class members in your prayers.

St. Alban's
Donald Money
Teddy Morris
Anthony Necerato
Carson Richardson

Mother Julie's Niece & Nephew
Robin Losito
Gabriel Losito

Emmanuel
Lauren Wojtalewski

Sunday in Mother Julie's Office at St. Alban's or on Zoom
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

April Zoom Codes - Meeting ID: 871 3932 1946 Passcode: 299595

April 14: The Book of Common Prayer
April 21: The Episcopal Church
April 28: The Episcopal Church

May 12 at St. Alban's

**Confirmation Service with Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe
and East Side Episcopalians**



Let's Get a Group Together to see Godspell

redhouse arts center in Syracuse

Discount tickets are \$35 if we have at least ten people from both churches.
Friday, May 10 at 2:00 p.m. - **R.S.V.P. quickly!**

**AA Groups Meet
the Following Nights:**

**Wednesday
Thursday
Saturday**



**Tuesday,
April 16
6:30 p.m.
on Zoom**



**When at the store please pick up a brick of cheese
or box of cookies for coffee hour on Sunday.**



Some Fun Things to Celebrate in April
(April is National Humor Month!)

National Frog Month
 International Guitar Month
 National Poetry Month
 National Kite Month
 Keep America Beautiful Month

- 2-Peanut Butter and Jelly Day
- 3-Don't Go to Work Unless it's Fun Day
- 4-World Rat Day
- 7-No Housework Day
 National Beer Day
- 10-Golfer's Day
- 12-Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day
- 13-National Peach Cobbler Day
- 14-National Dolphin Day
- 15-Rubber Eraser Day
- 17-Bat Appreciation Day
- 18-International Juggler's Day
- 22-National Jelly Bean Day
- 25-World Penguin Day
- 27-Morse Code Day
- 29-International Dance Day
- 30-International Jazz Day



* * * * *

Are you ready for the Eclipse on April 8th?

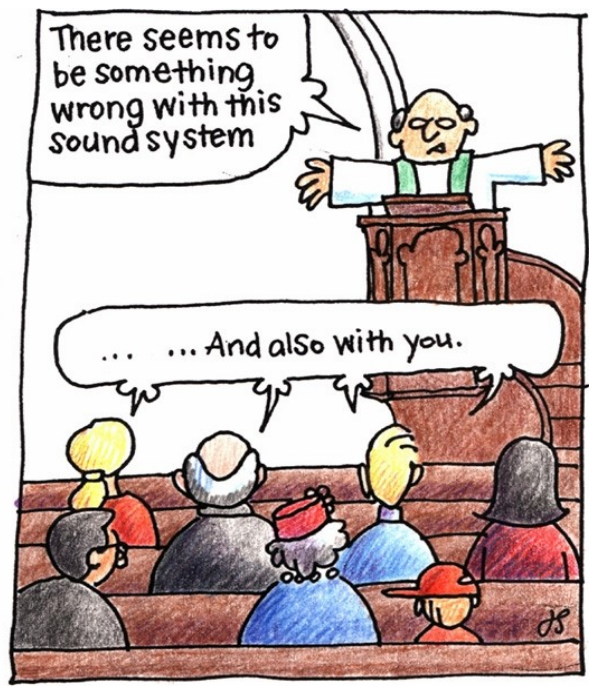
Central and Northern New York will be directly under the path of this once-in-a-lifetime experience! Eclipse viewers and/or glasses are available at many retail outlets and public libraries. Make sure they're ISO certified!

You can also make pinhole viewers to safely project the eclipse images. NASA's YouTube channel has good video tutorials on the subject.

You can find more viewing and safety tips at www.science.nasa.gov.

Please remember-It is NEVER safe to look directly at the sun!

* * * * *



St. Alban's Lead er's

Rector: The Rev. Julie E.
Calhoun-Bryant

Wardens

Senior: Mary "Kiki" White
Junior: Gina Odell
Emerita: Gelene Lewis

Vestry Members

David Houston
Bobbi Lombardo
Steve Pekich
Art Pichette
Wendy Wickenden
Fred Wilson

Kate Bell, Vestry Clerk

Parish Secretary

Lisa Wojtaszek

Organist

Cynthia Bromka-Skafidas

Treasurer

Kathleen Eckermann

Financial Secretary

Fred Wilson

Ministry Team Leaders

Communications Team

David Houston

Congregational Life Team

Kiki White

Mission Team

Grace Joseph
Dottie White

Property Team

Steve Pekich

Spiritual Life Team

Mother Julie
Altar Guild: Bobbi
Lombardo
Music: Jan Bookhout



April Birthdays

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

Giving to St. Alban's

Send us a check or to give online go to
cnyepiscopal.org/give-to-my-parish

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

1308 Meadowbrook Drive
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718
(315) 446-3490

Website: stalbansyracuse.org

Facebook: [stalbanschurchsyr](https://www.facebook.com/stalbanschurchsyr)

Secretary's Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 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.