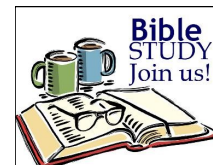


**St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Syracuse, New York**

March News & Inspiration

Sunday Morning

8:30 a.m. Bible Study
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



Sunday, March 17 is St. Patrick's Day

**Brian's corned beef dinner
will be served after the service.
Please sign up to attend.
(free will offering for cost of food)**



**Lenten Food Drive for
InterFaith Works 20+
Food Pantries**

Pasta and Sauce
Canned Fruits
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Canned Vegetables
Soups/Ramen
Ensure
Cake mix/frosting
Diapers



Canned Tuna
Canned Chicken
Vegetable Oil
Cereal/Oatmeal
Baby formula
Pancake mix/syrup
Flour and sugar
Mayo
Shelf Stable Milk

Lent and Holy Week

Tuesday Night Lenten Book Study (also on Zoom)

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge,
and the Teachings of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer

5:30-6:15 pm Simple Supper, \$5
5:45-6:15 pm Eat and Chat on Zoom
6:15-7:00 pm Book Study: Sections 3-5, one section per week

March 5: St. David's

March 12 and 19: Hosted by Emmanuel; St. Alban's provides dinner March 19

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 24 at 9:30 a.m.	Blessing of the Palms, Holy Eucharist, and Reading of the Passion of Christ
Holy Tuesday and Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom
Maundy Thursday, March 28	6:00 p.m. Dinner, Foot Washing (optional) and Holy Eucharist at Emmanuel
Good Friday, March 29	12:00 p.m. St. Alban's 7:00 p.m. St. David's



Easter Day

Baptism and Holy Eucharist

Bert Bookhout's Trumpet Ensemble

Cake & Coffee after the Service to greet Carson!



Second Thursday is March 14

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

Priestly Ponderings

On the last Sunday of February the Gospel lesson was about taking up your cross. “Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the Gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The original audience was, of course, Jesus speaking to the disciples and the crowd. Up to this point all they had to do was receive from Jesus - his authoritative teaching and healing mercies. Now Jesus lays a requirement on his followers: take up your cross. People dying on crosses were placed in well traveled places as a warning from the Romans not to rebel against them. What does Jesus mean by take up your cross?

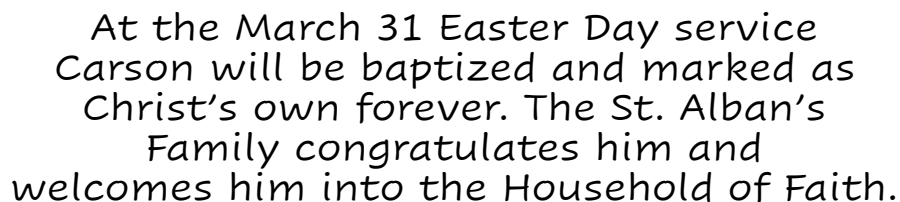
Mark wrote his Gospel in Rome at a time when Christians were being persecuted. If Christians publicly confessed their faith in Jesus Christ they could be arrested, imprisoned, and put to death. When Jesus said those who lose their life will find it he meant that those who died because of their faith would be welcomed into eternal life. Those who recanted their faith would save their earthly life, but lose their eternal one. It was a stark choice.

Taking up your cross is always a choice. Coping with a bad thing that has happened to you is not taking up your cross. When I broke my neck and pelvis in the car accident that was not my “cross to bear.” What matters when something bad happens to you is how you respond. Do you rail against and blame God, or do you turn to God and say, “Please help me with this bad thing that has happened,” and place yourself in God’s loving care? God is looking for us to ask for help and trust help will come.

Your “cross to bear” is an action you choose to do out of love of God and neighbor. Some examples include caring for people infected with a contagious disease, or a parent choosing to go hungry or without medical care because there is not enough money to feed and care for both themselves and their children. It is refusing to hide your faith from those who would harm or ridicule you. It is going out of your way to assist someone who needs your help at a cost to you. It could be taking care of someone God has put in your care.

A caveat: God is not calling us to be martyrs. God is calling us to be faithful. Many of us know someone who takes pride in “martyring” themselves. To paraphrase St. Paul, if you’re going to boast, boast in the Lord. We have nothing to boast about before God, and boasting to others is not honoring God.

continued



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

March 3, 10, 17: What We Believe

March 10: Approaching the Bible and

March 17: The Nicene Creed, Part 2

April 14: History

April 21 and 28: The Episcopal Church Today

The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe, or Bishop DeDe, likes to meet with those being confirmed before the service. You will probably need to be at St. Alban's by 8:45 a.m.

During Holy Week, March 24-30 this year, we will watch Jesus take up his cross. Jesus engaged in hugely significant and courageous actions when he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday in the manner of a Jewish king and, acting in prophetic fashion, the next day cleansed the Temple. He knew that these two actions would lead to his arrest and execution. He choose to do them out of obedience to God. On Easter God vindicated Jesus by raising him from the dead. Jesus took up his cross willingly and with tremendous bravery, despite his fear of being crucified. What cross has God asked you to bear?

Mother Julie+

CALENDAR

- March 3 Confirmation class, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
March 10 Confirmation class, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
March 14 Second Thursday: Dinner & Healing Eucharist, 6-8 pm
March 17 St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Boiled Dinner after church
Confirmation class, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Holy Week

- March 26 Holy Tuesday Morning Prayer, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom
Vestry, 6:30 p.m.
March 27 Holy Wednesday Morning Prayer, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom
March 28 Maundy Thursday at Emmanuel: Dinner and Worship, 6:00
March 29 Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at noon
St. David's service is at 7:00 p.m.

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

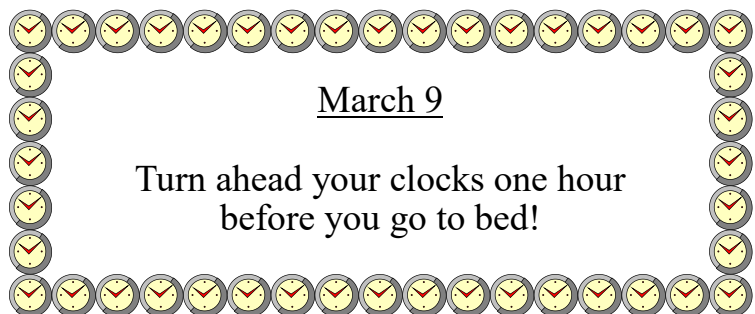
EVERY WEDNESDAY-Bible Study at 2 p.m. on Zoom.
Codes: 840 0349 8213 and 586548
(Repeated the following Sunday.)



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



**Vestry meets
Tuesday, March 26
at 6:30 p.m.
on Zoom**



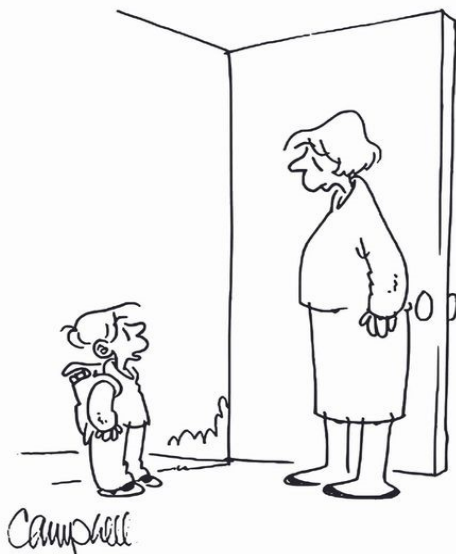
March 9

Turn ahead your clocks one hour
before you go to bed!

St. Patrick

The dates of Patrick's life cannot be fixed with certainty, but there is general agreement that he was active as a missionary in Ireland during the fifth century. According to tradition dating from the early Middle Ages, Patrick was the first bishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland, and is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland, converting a pagan society in the process. He is well known for using the ubiquitous three leaf clovers as a symbol of the Trinity.

According to Patrick's autobiographical Confessio, when he was about sixteen, he was captured by Irish pirates from his home in Britain and taken as a slave to Ireland. He writes that he lived there for six years as a shepherd before escaping and returning to his family. After becoming a cleric, God called Patrick to return to Ireland, where he spread Christianity in northern and western parts of the country. By the seventh century, he had already come to be revered as the patron saint of Ireland.



"I'm playing St. Patrick in the school play.
I need a miter and ten thousand snakes
by Friday."

CS447949
St Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland.



Well, here's the ferry terminal, fellas.
That'll be 20 euro, please.

Tax Time Is Here!

The East Syracuse Free Library and Tax Department employees are offering in-person tax help and e-filing every Tuesday from 10-4 through April 9th. Anyone earning \$79,000.00/year or less with an active e-mail account qualifies for this FREE service! You may use your own device or the on-site computers. Appointments are necessary and may be made by calling the library at 315-437-4841.

The Library is located at 4990 James Street in East Syracuse.

St. Alban's Leader'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

Bobbi Lombardo
Dottie White

Property Team

Steve Pekich

Spiritual Life Team

Mother Julie
Altar Guild: Bobbi
Lombardo
Music: Jan Bookhout



March Birthdays

3 Emera Bridger Wilson

9 Louise Laughton

16 Sue Grosso

19 Betsy Watson

31 Kate Bell

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.**