

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
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Syracuse, NY 13224-1718
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August 12, 2020

Dear Friends,

Yesterday was the Feast Day for St. Clare of Assisi. You might recognize her name as the source of the blessing that I give at the end of Holy Eucharist:

The Blessing

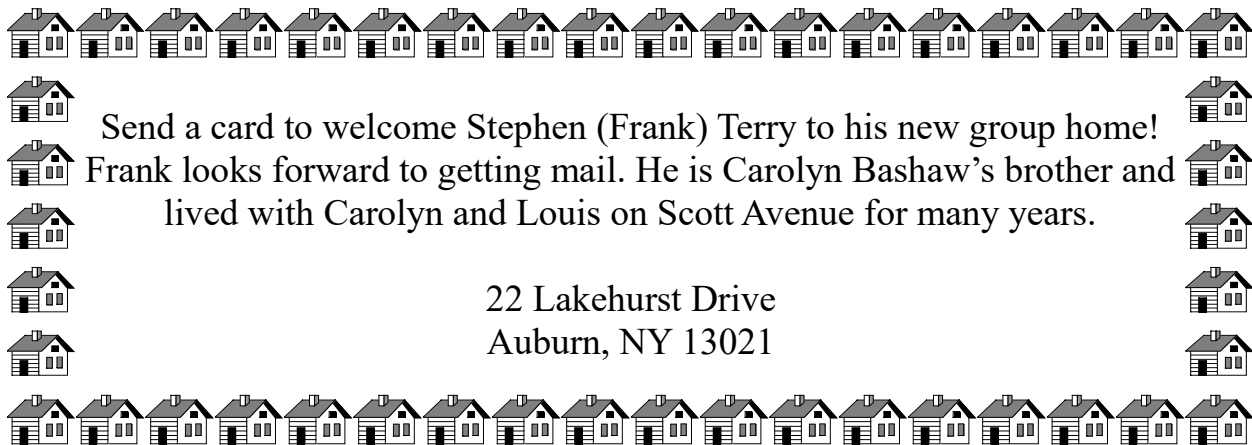
Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you like a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always.

Clare was a wealthy young woman who followed St. Francis of Assisi's example of renouncing his wealth, taking a vow of poverty, and serving God as a monk/nun. She went to see Francis and he placed her in a Benedictine convent. There her family came to see her and tried to persuade her to return home with them, but she would not be persuaded. Soon after she was taken by Francis to a poor dwelling beside the Church of St. Damian at Assisi. Several other women joined her. Clare became Mother Superior of the order, which was called the "Poor Ladies of St. Damian." They observed the Franciscan rule of absolute poverty and spent their lives in service to the poor and neglected. Clare herself was a servant, not only to the poor, but to her nuns, for forty years. She died in 1253. (Lesser Feasts and Fasts, page 290)

As Christians we need heroes of the faith like St. Clare to inspire and remind us that we all are called to dedicate our lives to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. While we might not be called to a life of absolute poverty, we are called to give at least a tenth of our income/wealth to the glory of God. Instead of buying another sweater, give the money to the Church or to an agency that assists the poor and needy. Do you really need a new iPhone every year while people laid off due to COVID-19 are facing hunger and homelessness?

The poor and neglected were a primary focus of Jesus' own ministry. In the parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25) Jesus says at the final judgment "the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'" Then the righteous will say, "Jesus we never did this for you," and Jesus replies, "just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

God bless you,
Mother Julie+



Send a card to welcome Stephen (Frank) Terry to his new group home!
 Frank looks forward to getting mail. He is Carolyn Bashaw's brother and
 lived with Carolyn and Louis on Scott Avenue for many years.

22 Lakehurst Drive
 Auburn, NY 13021

The "Drive-By", flowers, cake. All those wonderful cars. All over the top but so appreciated. It is a wonderful day for me to leave but packed with memories I will never forget. Thanks so much and with it I send love. Del



Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Bible Study in the Fellowship Room and also on Zoom

9:30 a.m. In-person Holy Eucharist (no singing or exchanging the peace) - 15 people maximum
 6-9 people have participated to date. There is room for you!

10:30 a.m. Zoom service led from my office

Zoom Code and Password for Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. - 817 9328 0104 and 400978

Zoom Code and Password for Worship at 10:30 a.m. - 870 3167 4090 and 923019

Zoom Code for Tuesday Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. - 868 3084 1089 and 114552

Use your telephone for Zoom on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656
 When prompted Enter 87031674090#
 When prompted Enter#
 When prompted Enter 923019#
 That will put you in Zoom's waiting room
 and I will let you in.

Bible Study Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656
 When prompted Enter 817 9328 0104#
 When prompted Enter#
 When prompted Enter 400978#
 That will put you in Zoom's waiting
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Thursday Evening Zoom Class

On August 13 the class on Original Sin will continue as we go through the 39 Articles of Faith at the back of The Book of Common Prayer.