

St. Alban's Episcopal Church **The word**

May 2017 Volume 16, Issue 4

From the Rector

All the planning and preparations for Holy Week and Easter this past month made me think back to my liturgics class at seminary. "Liturgics" class is just what it sounds like--it's the study of *liturgy* (rites, rituals and practices that are part of public worship). We're a liturgical church: our liturgy is what sets us apart from many other churches, and so we plan and practice to do liturgy--our worship--well.

As I thought back to my liturgics classes I was reminded of the first cardinal rule of liturgy planning. The liturgy of Sunday worship (the celebration of the Eucharist) does not begin with the Opening Acclamation (in Easter, "*Alleluia, Christ is Risen!*"), nor does it begin with the opening hymn and procession. No, liturgy, our act of worship, begins before all that, with the gathering of the people. *Liturgy*, after all, comes from the Greek *leitourgia*, which literally means "work of the people."

The *work* we do on Sunday is the communal worship of God. Gathered together with friends, family, neighbors and visitors, we are all of one mind as we stand, sit, kneel, bow, listen, sing, pray and approach the altar to receive the spiritual nourishment of the Body and Blood of our Lord. Our act of worship begins with the coming together of God's faithful people. In worship we praise God together, and we hold each other up in prayer. But even after all that, our worship is not done until our Deacon has dismissed us with encouragement and the charge to head out into the world, sharing Christ's love with all we meet.

With so many distractions these days, worship is often an afterthought. It can be very tempting to "sleep in, just this once" on a Sunday morning. Here's a few reasons why you shouldn't: there are countless Christians living under conditions where they are not permitted to worship, or where they worship at risk of their very lives; any one of these would gladly trade places with you and go to church. In our worship, we join with a "great cloud of witnesses," those who have gathered and worshiped God in Christ for two millennia, and we are part of the more than 85 million Anglicans around the globe--our worship reminds us that we are part of something greater. Our worship is both beautiful and familiar, and our worship provides an anchor for our lives. In those times when chaos or tragedy reign in our lives, the strength of God revealed in our worship provides stability and the assurance that you are loved and supported by this community, and through the never failing presence of Christ.

-Fr Jeff



Fr. Jeff at April 15 Easter Vigil service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Falls Church.



Easter April 16, 2017-more photos inside!

The Warden's Pen

Your Vestry is monitoring plans for three important projects which will improve our efforts and experiences at St Alban's. **Betsy Anderson** chairs both Kitchen and Parking Lot Committees.

In late March the Kitchen Committee travelled to St Luke's Mount Vernon to tour their renovated kitchen and, by the time you read this, they will have made a visit to the Falls Church kitchen. The committee has met with an architect and kitchen consultant, and plans to interview others. Ideally we would like to have plans to submit to the parish in the fall. A kitchen "is the most complex component" of our church property, and these visits and interviews are very instructive.

Likewise, the Parking Lot Committee has met with professionals, and it's possible this project will be completed in several phases. This committee is also in the information-gathering stage.

We have plans ready to go for improvements to the lighting in Frizzell Hall. However, work won't begin on this project until the electrical needs for the kitchen are known. The helpful folks at St Luke's told us it's best to review all our projects so that things like electrical and plumbing needs can be coordinated. We want to be efficient with time and resources.

Our yearly Vestry member phone calls to parishioners have begun and will continue into May.

Best wishes to you, Linda



Senior Warden **Linda** and husband **Casey Cummings** on Easter Day

Stewardship

Planned Giving (Now):

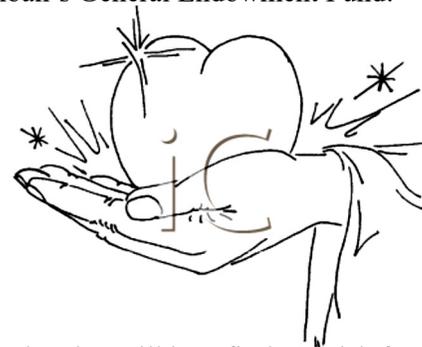
Planned giving is a vital part of St. Alban's stewardship program. It can generate current gifts to support our annual operating budget and capital campaigns as well as long term gifts. However, to generate current gifts, we need to have a larger principal in our General Endowment Fund.

A common misconception about Planned Giving is that it's something you only do when you're older – perhaps at or after retirement. That's simply not true. You can give a gift to St. Alban's General Endowment Fund right now! So why wait?

Here are your options, all of which should be designated to St. Alban's for the St. Alban's General Endowment Fund:

Best Assets for Gifts Now:

- Gifts of Cash
- Gifts of Stocks/Bonds
- Gifts from Retirement Assets/Distributions (e.g., IRAs, 401k's, 403b's, Thrift)
- Gifts from Insurance Policies, (i.e., those that accumulate value)



As you can see, you can easily give a gift to St. Alban's General Endowment Fund today that will benefit the parish for years to come.

At St. Alban's we fully understand all of the calls that tug at your heart and we know we're not the only institution that needs your financial support. From that standpoint, we're no different than the university you attended or your favorite non-profit organization.

What differentiates us from those organizations is our membership, leadership, and our mission. We at St. Alban's serve a higher cause. Please consider giving a gift to St. Alban's today to support St. Alban's General Endowment Fund.

God Bless!

-Shawn Clune, Member, Stewardship Committee



CHOIR NOTES



May 7. For three of the four Sundays in May we will be singing selections from George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*. Born in Halle, Germany in 1685, Handel shares a birth year and birth country with J.S. Bach, but the two apparently never met. Handel first came to London in 1710 and settled there in 1726, quickly becoming a British citizen. *Messiah*, his most well-known oratorio, was composed in 1741 over a period of just 24 days—quite an accomplishment for such a large-scale work. We will be singing *Behold the Lamb of God*, the opening chorus of Part II, which focuses on Christ's Passion and ends with the *Hallelujah Chorus*. The text is from John 1:29.



George Frideric Handel

May 14. This Sunday we will give Mr. Handel a rest and shift our focus to the contemporary composer, arranger, and music educator, Kirby Shaw (b. 1942), who directs the Jefferson State Choral Coalition at Southern Oregon University. Shaw has composed or arranged close to 3,000 works in various genres, including jazz, popular songs, and sacred music. His arrangements in the popular genre include such diverse tunes as *Bridge over Troubled Water*, *Fly Me to the Moon*, and *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*. (What would Handel think?) Shaw's original compositions include a musical, *SCROOGICAL*, based on the Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*, and co-composed with his wife, Markita. We will be singing another of Shaw's original works, *Plenty Good Room (On the Glory Train)*, a jazz-infused work in the spiritual tradition.

May 21. *And with His Stripes We Are Healed* is another chorus from Part II of Handel's *Messiah*. The text comes from Isaiah 53:5.

May 28. Our concluding *Messiah* chorus, *Lift Up Your Heads*, likewise comes from Part II. The text is Psalm 24:7-10.
-Clarence Zuvekas



Choir processing on Palm Sunday from parish hall to sanctuary.

Victoria Wyatt in Concert

Victoria Wyatt (in photo 5 people from left) was our Hulda Muldoon concert series performer this month, along with several notable local musicians. They played to a full capacity audience; all our chairs were occupied, along with the side pews!

Victoria is celebrating 50 years of teaching piano. She and her son Brian Slaymaker on classical guitar played *Fantasia* by Castelnuovo-Tedesco. Christina Kim, mother of three of Victoria's piano students over 17 years, was featured on cello with a *Sonata in E minor* by Brahms. Mariko Hiller, a Fairfax County music teacher, was included as a four-hand partner on the *Bach Organ Fugue in G minor*. A string quartet featuring Ji Hyun Bae and Jennifer Wade on violins, Miranda Blakeslee on viola, and Christina Kim on cello, performed the *Chopin Piano Concerto in E minor*. Ms Wyatt demonstrated her musical versatility with the opening selection of *Sonata no. 1* by Alberto Ginestera. The finale to the afternoon was *Sonata for Piano* by Charles T. Griffes.



Muldoon concert goers experienced a wonderful concert in honor and celebration of a golden anniversary of Victoria's 50 years of teaching.
-Larry Hodgins

From the Deacon



Deacon Theresa with Seminararian Adam at the April 15 Easter Vigil, St. Paul's.

Each day between Easter and Pentecost I receive an email titled "50 Days of Fabulous." Each week's author is focused on Beatitude from Luke's Gospel through the lens of Jesus' resurrection. How are we changed by this rebirth? How will we live a resurrection life? The Eastertide Gospels tell us about the disciples' reactions to Jesus' post-resurrection appearances and Jesus' reminders about who we are called to be and how we are called to be in relationship with God and with each other. Our rebirth through Jesus' resurrection gives us a new way of seeing.

In March, a group of parishioners met to discuss some possibilities for developing different relationships with local houses of worship. During Eastertide, we will be exploring new ways of being in community with our neighbors. The Diocese of Virginia and the Fairfax County Interfaith Council each offer opportunities for learning, service, and relationship building alongside other faith communities. My participation has given me a new way of seeing the community and our role in it.

As I share event information with you through SAM, I invite you to join me as we visibly live the faith we profess. -Deacon Theresa

From the Seminararian

As part of my training and one of the steps along the way to ordination for all those seeking it, I am required to complete a credit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). CPE is essentially a chaplaincy internship. It can be done in a hospital, a prison or with any other institution that would have need for chaplains such as a police department. Traditionally most students complete CPE during the summer between their first and second year of seminary. You will remember, fondly no doubt, that I was with you all this past summer. Because of this, I will be doing CPE this summer at a hospital in Pensacola, Florida.

From what I gather from friends who have gone ahead of me, this experience can be pretty demanding as you often find yourself stretched out of your comfort zone, thrown into peoples' lives at the point of crisis, or find yourself in ambiguous territory.

I am eager to see the ways in which God stretches me and smooths my rough edges. I am eager to learn more fully about myself as someone who provides pastoral care.

Because of these anticipated demands, **Laurie, Aleca, Hazel** and I will be living with family in Pensacola. I ask that you keep me and my family in your prayers this summer. We look forward to sharing this experience with you when we return in the fall. -Adam Pierce

Bob Ensinger and **Peter Larson** (and **Heath** and **Robby**) welcomed two new temporary additions to their family in January. Look for foster brothers **Carter** (2 1/2) and **Elias** (1) at an upcoming 10:15 am service.



Palm Sunday April 9



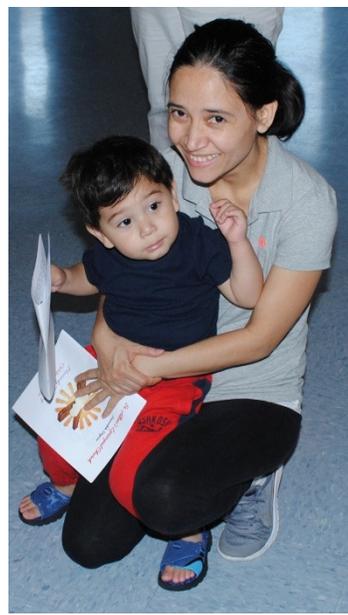


Easter Sunday April 16 2017



Maundy Thursday Children's Service April 13

Children and many adults learned the symbolism of the Passover meal, and sampled some of the Passover foods like matzoh crackers and salted boiled eggs. Following was a traditional Maundy Thursday foot washing and an Eucharist by Fr. Jeff using the matzoh crackers. Thanks to **Donna Groves** for preparing the feast and leading lessons.



More Easter Pictures



Congratulations to Gail Coleman and Kitty Wildes!

Gail Coleman has been honored with this year's Mason District Community Champion Award at an April 21 awards breakfast. Gail was recognized for her service to ACCA and for raising awareness of pancreatic cancer.

Kitty Wildes was also recognized as a nominee for her work with the Mount Vernon Meals on Wheels Program.

This recognition is part of the Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award Program.

Congratulations to Gail and to Kitty on this prestigious honor and thank you both for all you do for our community to reach people in need.

Shown below are **Fr. Jeff, Deacon Theresa, Gail Coleman** and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross at the volunteer service awards breakfast.



Muldoon Concert Series 2016-17

May 14
Mikyoung Cho
Piano

Concert at 4:00 p.m.

Passages

Mary Matthews, mother of **Rick Weinberg**, passed away in April.

Please keep Rick and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



Publisher: The Very Rev. Jeff Shankles; Managing Editor,
Photo Editor, Design & Layout: Barbara Hallman
Production and Distribution: Tammy Gaines; Sharon Belanger.
Contributors: The Very Rev. Jeff Shankles; Shawn Clune;
Bob Ensinger/Peter Larson; Linda Cummings; Larry Hodgin;
The Rev. Theresa Lewallen; Adam Pierce; Clarence Zuvekas.
Photographers: Barbara Hallman; Bill and Nancy Calvert;
Elizabeth Howton; Martha Romans

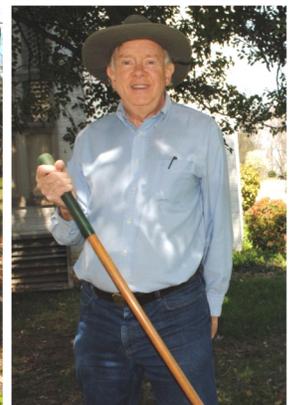
Next Edition June 2017 Articles/photos welcome!

Submit by May 15 to bhallman1@cox.net

St. Alban's Episcopal Church 6800 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003
703-256-2966 www.stalbansva.org

Sprucing up for Easter

On April 2, parishioners attended church services in casual clothes, had a hardy lunch and went to work beautifying our building and grounds. **John Clements** was the director of the effort. Many leaves were blown, gardens were weeded, windows were washed, the kitchen was organized, the nursery was freshened, the classrooms were renewed, the pews were polished, the tables were washed and repaired and so much more. All fresh and clean as we await the glory of Easter day.





Kitty and Dave Wildes, with helper Sam Jillson, spruce up tree beds on parish clean up day, April 2. The Wildes had three trees planted in memory of their son Jonathan. The trees are planted along the playground area.



Actors and their moms: John and Jane Lesko, Olivia and Laura DePasquale and Jackson and Nell Dillard.

ful ladies surrounding these fine young actors are the hard working Drama Boosters, moms **Jane Lesko, Laura DePasquale** and **Nell Dillard**. Congratulations to these aspiring young actors!

St. Alban's Youth Star in Spring Play, "Holes."

St. Alban's youth parishioners **John Lesko, Olivia DePasquale** and **Jackson Dillard** starred in a play called "Holes" at Annandale High School in April.

John and Olivia played two youths (X-Ray and Zero) who have been sent to Camp Greenlake as punishment for crimes committed. Jack is Mr. Sir, the angry and mean head of the detention camp. The youths must dig a hole each day supposedly to "build character," but they are really digging holes to find buried treasure. The beauti-

May Birthdays

Carlos Guzman Alfaro	1
Mel Daymont	3
Audrey Spencer	3
Sam Jillson	4
Ethan Krafft	4
Karen Smith	4
Abby Cook	5
Joan Jurenas	5
Mariana Hershner	6
David Spencer	6
Justin Traum	6
Julian Devereux	7
Rick Weinberg	7
William Peck	9
Bryan Campbell	10
Alec Albergottie	11
David Conrod	11
Emma Cheek	12
Brenda Nakato	12
Grace Trollinger	12
Queenie Foard	13
Luke Nassar	13
Ginny Peters	13
Molly Andrews	14
Joyce Aument	14
Ben Hite	15
Ben Rosse	15
Larry Hodgins	16
Edward Watson	16
Angela Leersnyder	18
Nathan Albergottie	19
Martina Hyde	20
Matt Dillard	21
Will Shankles	21
Scott Stern	21
Audrey Beccles	22
Bobby Brinkema	22
Mary Lou Cooper	23
Joann Phillips	23
Steve Peck	25
Rich Rosse	25
Joe Cook	27
Finley Devereux	27
Phil Huheey	27
Carolyn Krafft	27
Fritz Gilbert	28
Rose Broberg	30
George Irish	30
Virginia Shea	30
Jane Howard	31

Austin Kyle O'Sullivan baptized by Fr. Jeff at Easter Vigil

Austin was baptized by **Fr. Jeff** on April 15 at the Saturday night Easter Vigil held as a joint service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bailey's Crossroads.

Austin's parents are **Stephanie** and **Ian O'Sullivan** and Godparents are Leo and Jennifer Thomas. Congratulations to our new little Christian Austin!

Save the Date:
Parish Weekend
at Shrine Mont
September 29-October 1



Vacation Bible School

Save the Date!

July 31-August 4

Digging for Treasure
The Parables

Please contact
Molly Chilton
chilton.molly@gmail.com
or the parish office
to volunteer and
for questions.



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
6800 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
Annandale, VA
Permit No. 38

May Calendar Highlights

May 5 **Lunch Bunch Chevy's**
11:30am RSVP **Martha Kelley**

May 14 **Muldoon Concert Mikyoung Cho**, piano, 4:00 pm

May 13 **Introduction to Godly Play**
9:00 am to 12:00 pm Room 13

May 21 **Youth Group end-of-year event**

ACCA Furniture Ministry

Would you like to be a part of this very edifying community ministry?
Please contact **Debra Schrag** at debraschrag@msn.com

The Word needs your help!

Looking for help taking photos of St. Alban's events.
Very little time commitment; and tips and camera provided!
Teens welcome! Contact Barbara Hallman at bhallman1@cox.net

First Friday of the Month Lunch Bunch

May 5 11:30 am
Chevy's

Come celebrate Cinco de Mayo!
Contact **Martha Kelley**
to reserve your spot!
ralmarkel@cox.net



Easter Egg hunt!