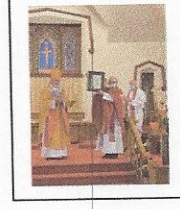


SMC Newsletter May 2021

Hello everyone! This is our first newsletter and although aesthetically basic I hope it is informative and worthwhile. Please give me feedback so that I can improve it for next time! Many blessings, Patty

Father's Lou's Ordination. Father Lou was ordained on April 25, 2021. It was a beautiful service due to the hard work of St Mary's Church and members of the clergy and the Diocese. We were blessed to have Fr. Dave & Barbara Beaulac and Bishop Bill & Karen Love there to celebrate with us. Fr. Lou and I wanted to thank everyone involved. Here are some pictures of that wonderful day.



An Update from Barbara Breen on the Maxfield Food Pantry

The Maxfield Food Pantry is experiencing a unique period in its history, along with many other similar organizations which serve those in need. Because families are currently receiving much greater governmental assistance (in the form of stimulus checks, increased and extended SNAP benefits, extended unemployment insurance payments, and expanded child tax credit), the use of the Pantry has slowed considerably in recent months. Whereas in the past we have served as many as 60 to 70 families a month, we are now seeing numbers in the 30's. This change is most likely temporary but is expected to last for some time, since the various benefits have been extended until September of this year. At present, our shelves are quite well-stocked, though donations of cash or goods—especially of personal care items—are always appreciated and put to good use.

St. Mary's Church and Holy Trinity Anglican Church, working in teams of 3, continue to staff the Pantry on Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm. While Food Pantry procedures have changed due to COVID guidelines, the important thing is that we are open 5 days a week to help put food on the tables of those families and individuals who do need it. Our current volunteers include Kathy Crannell, Cathy Littlejohn, Barbara Breen, Chris Roe and Barb Beaulac. Please feel free to speak with any one of us if you have questions. Thank you for your past, present and future support of this important community ministry!

An Update from Peter and Nancy on the ECW

The Episcopal Church Women (and Men) have been selling baked goods every Sunday as a fundraiser. It is ongoing. The sign-up sheet to bake is in the back of the church on the glass case, as are the baked goods. There are no set prices, so donate what you can. One or two bakers per week would be great.

The next ECW meeting, an organizational meeting, is Sunday, May 16, after church in the Parish Hall.

Barbara Breen is organizing meals for Peter and Nancy Watts. The response has been so positive Barbara has had to scale back the number of meals per week given to them. Please contact Barbara for more information.

The ECW is collecting size 3 diapers. Donations can be placed in the plastic tub in the back of the church.

An Update from Meryl on Birthdays.

The birthdays for May are:

Patty Midura May 4th, Jan Goodwin May 4th, Cheyenne Bala May 9th, Barbara Beaulac May 28th.

Please give Meryl your birthdate so we don't forget anyone's birthday! You do not need to give the year!

Please notify Meryl of any upcoming anniversaries or graduations also. Photos are also welcome from these occasions.

**An Update of Prayers and Blessings
From Ruth Merkle.**

Thank you for your past, present and future support of this important community ministry!
I want to PRAISE GOD for bringing my family and myself through this very rough year;
with all the surgeries and car crashes etc.

Also' to THANK HIM so much for curing my oldest granddaughter from COVID with
double pneumonia complications!!

From Father Lou.

"To all those in Rome, who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed
in all the world. (Rom.1:7-8)

I thank God for you all....

Those words should have a very familiar ring to you. They are the words Saint Paul wrote to the saints in Rome, but they will be familiar because they are the words Paul uses- more or less- to open all his letters to the saints. And who are the saints? You are the saints! The saints are all who call on and believe in the Name of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and stand before God as His holy ones.

Those are the very first words I thought of as I began to write this quick thank you note to the saints, of St. Mary's Church. **I thank God for you all.** I thank God that he has placed me here, in the midst of His saints, in such a loving and caring community of believers.

Yesterday I said my first Mass as a member of the Sacred order of Priests, in God's One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I celebrated using the chalice and paten, the Sacred Vessels, that the Saints of St. Mary's presented to me. I will never forget it. I will never forget who was with me in this celebration! You all- the Saints of St. Mary's.

Thank you so much
In and with the love of Jesus Christ
Father Lou+

St. Mary's Prayer List for May

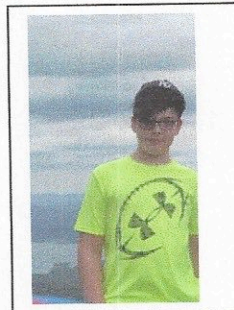
****Please Pray for:** Mary T's unborn grandchild, Alex, John and Jane., Mark M, Peter & Nancy W., Marika J, Nancy, Claudette, Delia R-D, Geoff M., Jessica R., John G., Joycelin H., Rita & Tony G., Robert B., Sonia, Ted G., Wendy A., the family of John F., for our community's youth and the men and women in law enforcement and in the armed forces of our country, the victims and families of the COVID-19 pandemic, those who need healing from the virus, healthcare workers and first responders who are confronting this disease, and those who are struggling with isolation or emotional distress due to the pandemic.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Bishop William Love and his family. For the Standing Committee and for Holiness of life in every Episcopalian. Additionally, please see: <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/prayer/jnm>

Please contact Erich Kaminsky by email at erichkaminsky@yahoo.com or by phone or text at 518.502.4075 with updates.

Odds and Ends.

Ruth Merkle states she has two safety bars to give away. One is three feet long and the other about 9" long. Sandy Williams has pictures of her grandsons Nolan and Christopher. Meryl Dawes sends a drawing by her granddaughter Lucy who loves flowers. Patty sends a picture of Maggie and Marley. Attention Snowbirds! Tell us when you are arriving for the summer!

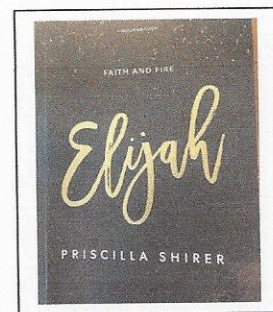
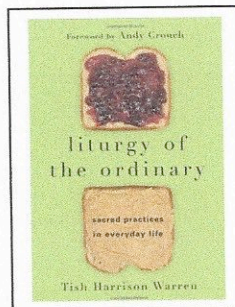


Bible studies/Book Club.

Fr. Lou, starting this Wednesday, will have a service at 10am followed by a bible study in the Parish Hall. He will also have a bible study on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. It will be on going and All are welcome.

Karen Love continues to have her bible study on Elijah on Tuesday afternoons at 4pm at the Parish Hall.

The DOK continue to read Liturgy of the Ordinary.



An Update from the Daughters of the King.

The national DOK's are doing an international prayer program from Ascension (May 13) to Pentecost (May 23). They are praying for 5 people every day in this time period that they may (re)encounter Christ. They recommend you pray for people that you wouldn't normally pray for.

To find out more about the program please see the following links. You can also download the app on your phone called "Thy Kingdom Come". They are also on YouTube and FB for adults and kids.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/new-2021> all resources

<http://bit.ly/cheeky2021>. Kids program

<http://bit.ly/tkc-novena2021> Daily Novena

<http://bit.ly/tkc-journal2021>. Prayer Journal

Our next meeting is Sunday, June 13, after church in the Parish Hall.

