

The Cross & the Sword

The monthly newsletter of Saint Alban's Parish
Family

Vol. XXXVI No. 11

November 2018



Then 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.' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Matthew 25: 34-36, 40



On Sunday November 25th we will celebrate 'Christ the King' Sunday. It should be a wonderful day. It is the Sunday after Thanksgiving and unfortunately can get lost in the midst of the Holidays. We spend much of our energy focusing on what gifts we have been given and perhaps forget the King of Kings who gives them. We may be thankful, but are we thankful to God?

I have often pondered the question, "What would it be like if we really allowed Jesus Christ to be Lord and King of all?" I have often wondered what it would be like if we elected no government and trusted God as Sovereign Ruler. Is it even possible? Wouldn't we descend into chaos?

In the book of Exodus we read of how God hears the people of Israel crying out. By using his servant Moses,

God led them out of slavery, into the Desert, and finally to the promised land. Through the giving of His Law, God forged a covenant relationship with the people of Israel. In the Old Testament God establishes His law and constantly works through individual prophets and judges. It is only in the book of Samuel where we hear God sadly and reluctantly give in to the people's desire for an earthly king. God however does warn them that they will not be treated as well by an earthly king.

Is it possible for Jesus to be King and Lord here and now? Are we stuck where we are until "He comes in glory to judge the living and the dead?" These are tough and deep theological questions on which to ponder. I would submit that Jesus Christ is Lord and King of all right now, even though it may not be readily apparent. Further, His Kingdom is the most powerful of all. It is just not a kingdom as we understand kingdoms. Jesus even tells Pilate, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." (John 18:36) Jesus' love

still moves out from the empty tomb with unspeakable power by way of the Holy Spirit, and is in fact the most powerful force of all. The challenge for us is to see God at work. The challenge for us is to let God's love lead. Now we see through a mirror dimly, but by the grace of God we can and will see the wonders of God's power face to face.

In the above passage from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus gives us many signs by which to be guided, and we are given a clear view of what His Kingdom is like. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these

who are members of my family, you did it to me." For God's Kingdom is more about being a servant than becoming entitled. It is more about the power of love than climbing the ladder. It is more about praying for all to be led by God's grace and wisdom than it is about our side or views winning out. I pray we all may remember, "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done!" Let us be thankful to the one who deserves our thanks.

God bless,
Dan +

Special MEETING

Open Forums for Grace/Saint Alban's Collaboration

As I stated in the letter sent out to the congregation. We are continuing our talks with Grace about a possible collaboration surrounding sharing a rector. We will have two open forum meetings, the first one here at Saint Alban's on Sunday November 4th following the 10:15 a.m. service, which should begin around 11:30 a.m. The second will be held at Grace on November 18th following their 9:30 a.m. service, which should begin around 10:45 a.m. Please prayerfully plan on attending at least one of these forums. Missioner Terri Bays (Diocesan office), Sally Thomas (Grace's Senior Warden) and I will attend both forums to be able to answer as many questions as possible and to hear any suggestions that you may have. Let us all continue to pray for the collaboration and the future of both congregations.
Cindy Spice Senior Warden



All Saints' Day, a commemoration of the martyrs and giants of the faith, and All Faithful Departed Day, when we remember all the Christian faithful, both known and unknown, will be observed on **Sunday, November 4.**

In the Apostles' Creed, used in the Episcopal Church in the service of Holy Baptism, we confess, "I believe in...the holy

catholic Church, the communion of saints.” As we worship together on All Saints’ Sunday, let us remember that we are part of that communion whose inheritance is among the saints in God’s eternal kingdom, where we will join those already departed

Christians saying with a loud voice, **“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”** Revelation 5:12



Care Connection Commission

[Hebrews 13:16](#) And do not forget to do good and to share with **others**, for with such sacrifices God is pleased

MEALS MINISTRY. Through St Alban’s Meal Ministry, we plan to cook and deliver meals to families or people in our parish when having a difficult time in their life. For example, people who have surgery, a hospital stay, an extended illness or following the birth of a baby. We will be reaching out to Parish members to make this happen. The plan is to provide a dinner meal for approximately three to five days. If you have a need, please make us aware by calling the church office. This awesome ministry is a huge blessing to both the giver and the receiver.



THANKSGIVING
SERVICE

Thanksgiving Eve Service - November 21

Thanksgiving is a way of life. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we know our loving Father, and his gracious provision for all our needs. We know that all good things come from God, that we are his dear children, and that what we have in life is meant to bless us and enrich all of life including, most importantly, our spiritual life. Faith enables us to live a life of thanksgiving, focusing not on things, but on God’s love, and how we are blessed with the opportunity to live an eternally meaningful life in loving service to our Savior.

Join us as we gather for Thanksgiving Eve worship this year at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21** to praise our God for His numerous blessings to us.

THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY is upon us. It is now the time of year when we will be selecting six families for our traditional Thanksgiving turkey basket. The turkey tags are on our church doors. Please select one or two tags and bring the item(s) and tag to the church by **Sunday, Nov. 11**. Basket assembly will be **Tuesday, November 13** and basket distribution will be **Thursday, November 15**. Frozen items go in the chest freezer in the Food Bank. Refrigerator items go in the upright refrigerator in the boiler room. Turkey tags can be put on the desk in the Food Bank. The tags will be put on the doors the week of October 28th. Thanks you all for sharing your blessings with those less fortunate." Joyce Mayer, Food Bank Coordinator



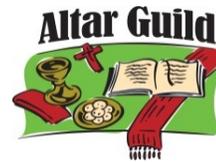
Thanksgiving Flowers and Decorations



Envelopes for Thanksgiving flowers and decorations will be in the pew card holders on the Sundays of November 4, 11. You may contribute any amount for these flowers. Please note whether you would like the flowers in thanksgiving for an important event in your life or in memory of a loved one. Envelopes must be received by November 16 to have information listed in the bulletin.

Altar Guild

Altar Guild members will prepare the sanctuary for Thanksgiving on November 18 at 11:30 am and will prepare for Advent on Sunday, November 25 at 11:30 p.m. after the service.



Altar Flowers and Candles for 2018



Altar Flower and Sanctuary Candle charts are posted in the narthex. Just sign for the Sunday when you would like to have the flowers or candle - in thanksgiving for an important event in your life or in memory of a loved one. More than one family may sign for the same Sunday. Make your check payable to St. Alban's and place it in the offering plate. Special envelopes are found beneath the charts in the narthex. As you provide flowers and candles to beautify the altar during our worship service, you also allow

your church family to share in the special occasions of your life. Cost of altar flowers is \$35.00. Cost of sanctuary candles is \$5.00.

Please include on the chart in the narthex the information you would like listed in the bulletin. During Advent, your contribution will be used to purchase the greenery decorations, and your information recorded in the bulletin.



Christmas Families

“Adopt-A-Family” Christmas Program

It’s that time of year when we sponsor and help two families have a good Christmas. The Daughters will be heading up this project beginning Sunday, November 18th. A Christmas “giving” tree will be in the narthex and filled with ornaments that have gift requests on the back. Daughters will be nearby at a table to register the ornament you choose.

We have been given two families from the Lutheran Social Services of Indiana. One family has a father and mother (both age 34), girl (age 17), boy (age 4) and girl (age 2 months). The other family has a mother (age 21), adult female (age 45), boy (age 2) and girl (age 1). Food and miscellaneous items are also furnished, along with a \$50.00 gift card to be used for meat, potatoes, bread, and perishables.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Daughters of the King at St. Alban’s Rose of Sharon Chapter



Food Bank

In September we served 18 families, 63 individuals, and 945 meals.

Food Bank will no longer be having Saturday hours due to lack of client participation. Phillip and Joyce Meyer would like to thank everyone that has volunteered on Saturdays. Food Bank will still be open every Wednesday from 9:30 – 11:30.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES



Wednesday Bible Group meets on Wednesdays mornings at 10:30 for a study of the next Sunday's Bible readings. We set aside time for prayers and at 12:00 for Holy Eucharist. Please consider joining us for this wonderful time of sharing and learning.

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, November 13 at Cork N Cleaver, 221 E. Washington Center Road. Please see poster on board in the narthex for more information.



Daughters of the King meet at **10:00 a.m.** on **Tuesday, November 20.**

Bible Study and Fellowship Group meets at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, November 15** at the home of Jack Rademaker.



The Heart and Hands group meets at **10:00 a.m.** on **Fridays** except the 23rd due to Thanksgiving holiday.

Women's Bible Study Fellowship, will meet **Thursday, November 8.** The **Women's Bible Study** group meets twice a month on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm. at the home of Marilyn Rafter.



Vestry Stewardship

Operating Fund

Operating income Sept,	\$ 25,247.59	Operating inc. for 2018	\$119,976.03
Operating expense Sept.	13,507.24	Operating exp. for 2018	122,257.78
		Transfers for 2018	3,750.00
Net gain for September	\$11,740.35	Net gain for 2018	\$ 1,468.25

Vestry Highlights

At the regular meeting of the Vestry on October 16



it was noted that

- a) the Gazebo and Playground are covered under our insurance policy as outdoor structures in case any damage would happen to them. We are also covered under our insurance policy for any injuries caused by accidents on the playground as long as we are not negligent in keeping up the equipment and proper signs are posted.
- b) It was noted that Melissa Renner is very close to finishing her Diaconate studies. The vestry was asked to prayerfully consider a vote to recommend Melissa for ordination to the Diaconate at next month's meeting.
- c) It was also noted that Church Insurance recently made cyber protection as part of all insurance plans without an increase to the premium.

It was moved to:

- a) designate a \$1,000.00 check given to the church to be designated to the memorial fund. **Motion passed.**
- b) to authorize Dan+ to enter into a better CD rate at First Merchant Bank for the CD that was formerly kept as Nisource stock. **Motion passed.**
- c) to accept an icon painting gift Of Mary with Baby Jesus from Rosemarie Tinder-O'Brien. The Icon will be mounted on the wall at the back of the sanctuary next to the statue of Mary and baby Jesus. **Motion Passed.**

The deadline for the December issue of *The Cross and the Sword*
is **Tuesday, November 13**

Please note the earlier deadline because of Thanksgiving

November Birthdays

2 Julie Zeider
5 Sandy Ritchie
6 Gary Michael
8 Louis Stephan
10 Katelyn Naunas
10 Bill Townsend
13 Landon Diver
17 Ivy McLimans
21 Laura Birchfield



22 Sue Dirrim
22 Karen Stath-Tracy
23 Alex McLimans
26 Rose Tinder-O'Brien
27 Chris Renner
27 Larry Sanxter
30 Anna Layden
30 Janice Mullins

8 Ray & Peggy Brandes



*If your birthday or anniversary has not been listed,
please notify Debbie at 485-8022, so that we may add your date to our record*



Paul Barker
Ray Brandes
Dick & Bonnie Camp
John Diver
Rachel Diver
Dick Donnelly
Alexa Foland
Denise Frede
Marion Frid
Abbie Gillig

Greg Gillig
Tammy Gillig
Norm Grams
Cindy Spice
Rick Spice
Bill Townsend
Carlen Trujillo
June Williams

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sunday School (Sept-May)

Wednesday

10:30 a.m. Bible Study
12:00 noon Holy Eucharist

Vestry

Cindy Spice	Senior Warden
John Lorenzen	Junior Warden
Norm Grams	Property
Tammy Gillig	Fellowship
Pat Stath	Worship
Josh Miller	Finance
Jordan Trendelman	Membership
	Stewardship
Phil Mayer	Outreach
Megan Spice-Frede	Christian Formation
Judy Wall	Care Connection
Christina Connelly	Communication Director

Church Staff

Rector	The Rev. Daniel K. Layden
Office Administrator	Debbie Grosjean
Organist(s)	Judith Palmer & Pat Stath

Office Hours

9:00 - 1:00
Monday through Friday

Office phone	485-8022
Fr. Layden's cell phone	579-5555