

The Cross & the Sword

The monthly newsletter of Saint Alban's Parish
Family

Vol. XXXVI No. 2

February 2021



February 17th at 7 :00 p.m.

As we (pardon the pun) ZOOM through the Season of Epiphany this January and February, with the solemn observance of Ash Wednesday and the beginning the Lenten Season coming up quickly before us on February 17, I've been thinking a lot about how it is we are all called to live out the task of making Jesus Christ known to ourselves and to the world around us, even while we still remain very much within the hibernation mode of mid-winter. Those of you who are more native to this part of the world than I have already duly warned me that, in reality, the winter season around here lasts longer than I'm probably used to.

Of course, we are always called to make Christ known and to deepen our inward relation to God but the Season of Epiphany gives us the opportunity to make that continual work perhaps just a bit more intentional. I must say that I'm still on a bit of a spiritual high from this past Sunday where we nearly doubled our in-person attendance from the previous Sunday and—thanks to many, many people—followed our weekly celebration of the Eucharist with a positive and unified Annual Meeting. While the challenges before us as a parish are real and significant, I remain utterly convinced that we are in a position to meet the tests that are in our pathway in a manner that will leave us stronger than we were before we had to deal with them. In fact, if my experience of life is any indicator of how things often work, it is most likely that embedded within the very acts of overcoming our difficulties we will find—personally and corporately—that we've been given a built-in set of opportunities to show forth the power and love of Jesus Christ to the world.

Following God's call to be his hands and feet in a world where they are so badly needed is not always easy work and sometimes it can be a downright hard thing to accomplish. If we could ask the nearest and dearest to Jesus during his earthly pilgrimage about this matter, I think they would back me up on this. I am also sure that they would all—from Peter to Mary Magdalene to the Beloved Disciple and everyone in between—tell us that they never regretted having made the choice to get out of their comfort zones and follow their Lord.

You, as a congregation, have already shown your willingness to do the hard and often uncomfortable work of being "Jesus Followers"—again and again. On occasion, this can entail doing things we'd honestly rather not do (think of our recent Sunday Old Testament reading about Jonah) or interacting with people we'd just as soon not have to think about let alone work with in pursuit of a common goal. We all have situations like these that come up repeatedly during the course of our existence—they are just part of life and in fact they provide a

common thread of experience that actually bind us all together in an odd form of unity. What I think we don't often realize or acknowledge is that overcoming these challenges is where we most often show forth the best parts of ourselves as well as how powerfully God is working in our lives.



In the aftermath of this past weekend's Annual Meeting I would like to again hold up everyone in this "mighty and faithful congregation of God's people" who continually "show up and show forth" for the betterment of this place, with special thanks to the retiring Vestry members Megan Frede, Judy Wall and Jordan Trendelman (also retiring as Jr. Warden); the newly elected Vestry members Jane Spice, George Shamp and Amanda Fazzaro; and our new Jr. Warden, John Lorenzen, and continuing Sr. Warden, Cindy Spice.

Again, like Jonah, I'm sure most of these folks didn't particularly need yet one more commitment to add to their already busy lives. Yet God and this parish (and certainly me, as your new Priest) are so grateful that you said the perhaps unlikely "YES!" to the call to serve in this way and show forth God's love in this work.

In the Peace and Gratitude of Christ,
Fr. Michael+

STEWARDSHIP

Donations jumped up past \$11,400 for December but we were still behind expectations by \$7,500 for 2020. We are doing well with our expenses being well managed but we still need to keep up our donations to keep our St. Alban's community going. We are very grateful to Marion Frid for cleaning up the storage room in the basement. We are also thankful for Norm Gram and his plumbing skills because he fixed our toilets. Let's keep up our church and community.



David Birchfield

FELLOWSHIP

Vestry Retreat – February 13th, 2021



Our new vestry will have its annual retreat Saturday on February 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. At this retreat they reflect, discern, organize, and set goals for the coming year. Please keep our vestry members in your thoughts and prayers.



Father Michael will be starting a Bible Study every Wednesday at 10 a.m. starting on February 24th. More information will follow.

WORSHIP COMMISSION



The month of February brings us the beginning of the Lenten season. Ash Wednesday will be February 17.

Worship Committee There will be a Eucharist with imposition of ashes at 7:00 p.m. on that day. As has been our custom, **we will have the service of Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. every Friday throughout Lent, beginning on February 19.** Covid restrictions will require those who attend that observance to remain in their seats this year. Only the Crucifer and LEM will process through the stations.

It has come to our attention that we are missing a green frontal which we believe we previously had. If anyone who has served on the altar guild in the past has any knowledge about this item we would like to hear from you. A project which we will be starting in the near future is a photographic inventory of all of the vestments we have, so that we can more accurately track these things.

May we all experience this Lent as a season of greater reflection and renewal after the many challenging events of 2020.

Elaine Fazzaro

FINANCE

We are in a new year, a new journey with our Lord. None of us know what this year will bring, but I do know that with prayer and faith, we will have a good year. We are running a large deficit budget so I am asking that we all stay faithful to our pledges. Be assured that the Vestry and Finance committee will be looking for ways to offset as much of the deficit as possible.

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess; grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Marilyn Rafter, Finance

Minutes of the Annual Meeting January 24, 2021

The meeting was opened with prayer by Father Michael Roeske at 1:12 PM. Proof of notice of this meeting was published in the January issue of the newsletter, three weeks prior in the bulletins, posted in the narthex and announced at services multiple weeks before the meeting.

There were 34 (40 pre-registered) members in attendance.

Megan Spice was appointed Clerk. Robbie Frede and Rose Tinder O'Brien were appointed as judges. No appointed tellers due to virtual sign in.

It was moved by John Naunas to approve the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting as printed in the booklet. Seconded by Jordan Trendelman.

Passed unanimously.

It was moved by Elaine Fazzaro to approve the amendments from meeting in December 2020, seconded by Amanda Fazzaro. **Passed unanimously.**

A budget report of the parish financial position was given by Cindy Spice.

Nominating Committee Chairman John Lorenzen presented the nominations: He moved each of the following names as candidates:

Senior Warden – Cindy Spice

Moved by George Shamp to close the nomination, seconded by Jordan Trendelman.

Junior Warden – John Lorenzen

Moved by Jordan Trendelman to close the nomination, seconded by Elaine Fazzaro.

Three-year Vestry terms – Amanda Fazzaro, Jane Spice, George Shamp

Moved by Elaine Fazzaro to close the nomination, seconded by Jordan Trendelman.

Two-year Vestry term - N/A

One-year Vestry term- N/A

Endowment Fund Trustee – John Naunas

Moved by John Lorenzen to close the nomination, seconded by George Shamp

Diocesan Convention Delegates – John Lorenzen, Megan Spice, David Birchfield

Moved by Amanda Fazzaro to close the nomination, seconded by Marilyn Rafter.

Diocesan Convention Alternate – Julie Naunas

Moved by Amanda Fazzaro to close the nomination, seconded by Marilyn Rafter.

The Senior Warden Annual Report was given by – Cindy Spice

Vestry Presentations: N/A

Miscellaneous reports: N/A

Meeting adjourned at 2:08 PM

Vestry Stewardship

Operating Fund

Operating income for Dec	\$11,435.60	Operating income for 2020	\$110,073.53
Operating expense for Dec	7,955.14	Operating expense for 2020	76,697.38
Net gain for December	\$ 1,698.90	Net gain for 2020	\$ 31,594.59

with transfers of (1,781.56)

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

At the regular meeting of the Vestry on January 19 It was noted that:

- a) Fr. Michael is going to start a bible study the Wednesday after Lent
- b) Decrement Committee being formed for Jordan
- c) preparing for the Annual meeting scheduled on Sunday, Jan 24th at 1:00 p.m.
- d) Inventoried the linens in the sacristy, will dispose of those that need disposed of appropriately at a later time.
- e) Planning on emergency snacks/juices for those in need
- f) creating a birthday board is in the planning process
- g) Valve on the boiler was replaced
- h) two restroom problems have been fixed
- i) Usher's Training Date – TBD
- j) Vestry Retreat February 13th will be a hybrid meeting

The deadline for the March issue of *The Cross and the Sword* is **Thursday, February 25.**

February Birthdays

1 Betty Wiseheart
5 Jeff Diver
6 Vicki Irvine
10 Tony Trujillo
11 Susan Diver



18 Dick Camp
19 Jacob Fazzaro
19 Alicia McLimans
22 Marilyn Rafter
26 Andrew Michael
27 Andrea Pink



and Anniversary

1 Tony & Carlen Trujillo

*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*

Jerry Anderson, Cheryl Banks, Brittany Barker, Mindy Bleck, Toby Bleck, Kayla Bianchini, Neal Birchfield, Ray Brandes, Anne Butler, Rita Carney, Dick Camp, Pete Cola, Christina Connelly, Elliot Culwell, Ruth Ford, Chris Foreman and family, Denise Frede, Paula Hanlin, Sharon Haynes, Barb Huer and family, George Imhausen, Claire Irvine, Vicki Irvine, Matt Kiel, Donald and Shawna Kipp, Julie Lieb, Kris Lorenzen, John Jeffries, Suzanna Johnson, Sue Maley, Norma Michael, Anne Muhl, Francis and Bobbie Mustapha, Lynn Principe, Canon Henry Randolph, Melissa Renner, Sandra, Brenda Smith and family, Rick Spice, Jennifer Foland Strantz, Mariane Sumners, Cole Taylor, Jordan Trendelman and family, Carlen Trujillo, Betty Wiseheart, Brooke Wyse and the Zavalla family.

For those unable to worship with us: Shirley Johnson, LuAnn Kleinschmidt.

Military: Kaylee Collins, Sean Collins, Matthew Michael.

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday Eucharist Service: 9:30 a.m.

Live streaming Service from Saint Alban's YouTube channel! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATo1XzD8KUK>

It will also be posted on our Facebook page and it will be archived on our YouTube channel.

Vestry

Cindy Spice	Senior Warden
John Lorenzen	Junior Warden
Laura Michael	Fellowship
Elaine Fazzaro	Worship
David Birchfield	Stewardship
Marilyn Rafter	Financial
George Shamp	Outreach
Kenny White	Property
Amanda Fazzaro	Christian Foundation
Jane Spice	Care Connection
Christina Connelly	– Communications Director

Church Staff

Rector	The Rev. Michael Roeske
Office Administrator	Debbie Grosjean

Office Hours

9:00 - 1:00
Monday through Friday

Office phone

485-8022

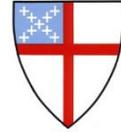
SAINT ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

7308 SAINT JOE RD., FORT WAYNE, IN 46835-1596



Lent begins

February 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Tony & Carlen Trujillo Betty Wiseheart	2	3	4 Worship Mtg (Zoom) at 2:30 p.m.	5 Jeff Diver	6 Vicki Irvine
FIFTH SUNDAY after EPIPHANY 7 9:30 a.m. Eucharist open: Jordan close: Cindy	8	9	10 Tony Trujillo DOK Mtg (Zoom) at 10:00 a.m. Finance Meeting at 7 pm	11 Susan Diver	12	13 9 – 1 p.m. Vestry Retreat
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY 14 9:30 a.m. Eucharist open: Jordan close: Cindy	15	16	17 LENT STARTS ASH WEDNESDAY 7 p.m. Eucharist	18 Dick Camp	19 Jacob Fazzaro Alicia McLimans 6:00 Stations of the Cross	20
FIRST SUNDAY in LENT 21 9:30 a.m. Eucharist open: Jordan close: Cindy	22 Marilyn Rafter	23	24 10 a.m. Bible Study – Fr. Michael	25 Newsletter deadline	26 Andrew Michael 6:00 Stations of the Cross	27 Andrea Pink
SECOND SUNDAY in LENT 28 9:30 a.m. Eucharist open: Jordan close: Cindy						