



# *The Cross & the Sword*

The monthly newsletter of Saint Alban's Parish Family

Vol. XXXVI No. 7

July 2021





Here, in the “in-between time,” with Diocesan Youth Camp behind us and Senior High Mission Week still before us, I find myself very full of the midsummer spirit as well as an immense sense of gratitude for the gift of being able to participate so fully in ministry to the young people in our diocese. In this vein, I feel that my first priority must be to thank the parish as a whole for your willingness to spare me for two whole weeks of the year so that I may participate in the larger life of the Diocese of Northern Indiana in this particular way. It says a great deal about the values of this place that we are able to collectively demonstrate our support of this vital work on behalf of our younger brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you, also, to everyone who contributed to defraying the monetary cost of both Youth Camp and Sr. High Mission Week.

Directly following upon these thoughts I must also acknowledge the pride and thankfulness I feel with regard to the leadership in the summer camping ministry of our diocese that come from St. Alban’s in the persons of Cindy Spice and Megan Spice-Frede (two of the four Camp Directors this year); Robbie Frede (who served on the support staff, aka “the folks who do WHATEVER needs to be done, WHENEVER it needs to be done!”); Vicky Irvine (a counselor for the girls in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade age group); Emma Irvine (a counselor for the girls in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade age group); and Lamar Spencer (a counselor for the boys in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade age group). They all did St. Alban’s proud not only in the actual week of Youth Camp but in the many months and weeks of preparation throughout the year leading up to it.

And last, but certainly not least, there comes our valiant and hearty St. Alban's campers: Jacob Fazzaro, Roman Pontius, and Oliver Spencer who each in their own way made the week so worthwhile and special—I know, because I was lucky enough to have all three of these guys in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade age group, where I was privileged to serve as their chaplain.



Looking ahead to Senior High Mission Week (Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>), please keep Ani Fazzaro (St. Alban's camper) and Cindy, Megan and myself (St. Alban's staff)—as well as everyone else from around the diocese who will be present and participating—in your prayers as we get ready for this week of fellowship and service with our Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana Senior High youth.

Finally, and on an admittedly very different subject matter, I want to extend a heartfelt word of gratitude to each and EVERY member of the "Rose of Sharon" chapter of *The Daughters of the King* here at St. Alban's for all the hard work they did to make Shirley Johnson's memorial service and luncheon so special for Shirley's family and everyone else who attended on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. I received a moving and beautiful note from Shirley's niece, Janet Davis, which once again reminded me of how committed and faithful the people of this parish are when they are asked to act as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in this present world. This is the job of each and every one of us, no matter the time of year or the season of life, and the People of St. Alban's never disappoint when it comes to fulfilling this aspect of The Great Commission.

*Thank you and God bless you all.*

Peace,

Fr. Michael+

## WORSHIP COMMISSION



Before the Covid lockdown of all long-term care facilities, St. Alban's had a small number of members who were confined to such facilities, and a regularly scheduled ministry of Lay Eucharistic Visitors, teamed with DOK members, who were bringing communion to those members. During the past year while we were unable to maintain that ministry, most of the people we had in this program have passed away. One of the original members of that group survives and George Shamp has expressed an intention to survey other members of St. Alban's who have not yet attended in-person services to determine if there are other persons who should be receiving home communion visitations. I would like to hear from the Lay Eucharistic Visitors and DOK members who were formerly a part of this ministry and who would like to resume providing this service for our parish. Thank you for your input.

Elaine Fazzaro



From George Shamp, Chair of the Outreach Commission:

Attention Parishioners,

Now that we are able to take Communion to our homebound households, I would appreciate your help in identifying who would be interested in having the Sacraments brought to them. This group would consist of anyone unable to attend one of our in-person services, those that have been attending online, or anyone unable to attend online or in person.

I know that each of us receives a great blessing from participating in the reception of Communion, and we are eager to make this happen.

Thank you for your help. My phone number to contact and request a Communion visit is: George Shamp, 260-633-1938. Again, thanks.

## STEWARDSHIP



Donations were over \$7,800 for May which is comfortably above budget. We are also over \$8,800 over budget which is helping secure our future and significantly reducing our planned deficit for 2021. Our expenses as always continue to be managed frugally, so together with good management and faithful donations we continue to thrive.

We thank Laura Michael for getting our fellowship up and running again and we want to thank Elaine Fazzaro for adjusting and growing our Lay ministry.

David Birchfield  
Stewardship Chair

## FINANCE

During the month of May our income exceeded our budgeted amount by nearly \$1,000. We are watching this very closely as is necessary since we are in a year with a deficit budget. We are still running a deficit for the year, but Kudos to everyone for not only keeping your pledges current but also for supporting our need to cover the cost of necessary repairs to our sign on St. Joe Road. Your generosity covered the \$2,500 cost of bringing that sign back to life.

It is such a pleasure to see Saint Alban's life returning in so many ways after our long period of not having a priest (thank you Fr. Michael) and not being able to meet in person for such a long period during Covid 19. There is much joy at Saint Alban's every Sunday. Thanks be to God! Marilyn Rafter.

**The Return of Coffee Hour!!** – We are continuing with a *modified* version of post-Communion Coffee Hour/Fellowship with the following qualifications: there will be limited, occasional snacks and we can begin brewing coffee in the building; we will be using lidded coffee cups. *If you are able, please sign up to bring treats to this treasured and returning tradition at St. Alban's!* If you have any questions please contact Laura Michael at 710-0746.



### July Activities



Fr. Michael continues to lead a Bible Study of the Gospel of Mark, followed by an informal Eucharist every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall. **Dates excluded are July 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.** ALL ARE WELCOME!!

**Meeting of Daughters of the King** is scheduled to meet once a month on Thursdays, at **10:00 a.m.** Next meeting will be on **July 8.**



## Getting Requests to Start Up the Lunch Bunch !!



We had to stop having the Lunch Bunch due to the Covid 19, but those who were regulars are "frothing at the bit" to start up again. Everyone gets a chance to choose where we will dine at each month. We usually meet on the second Tuesday each month at 12 Noon, but there are times when we go earlier or later to miss the crowd. We're flexible!

It would be nice to hear from those who are interested in joining us for lunch and it will give us the chance to know each other better. Please give me a call or see me at church, if you are interested. We would love to see more people come! A flyer will be posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex at least two weeks before every luncheon with all the info you will need to know: **Where? Time? Sign-In Sheet? Need a Ride?**

Anita Grams, Coordinator  
Home Phone: 260-449-9682  
anigram55@comcast.net

From Madina Village School

Subject: Your Madina child, Emmanuel Bockarie. News flash to sponsors of Madina Village School students and teachers: We (Francis and Bobbie) are flying back to Sierra Leone on August 2, 2021. It's time to send that encouraging letter or card to your students and teachers. Include a photo of yourself or your family if you want, but no gifts this time.

Send it to our house in Fort Wayne, where we will be packing our suitcases. It needs to arrive here by July 15, so don't delay. Don't let your child be left out! They all love to hear from you!

Send to: [Francis and Bobbie Mustapha](#)  
[5914 Hallowell Place](#)  
[Fort Wayne, IN 46815](#)

Thank you for your care and support for the 400 students at Madina Village School. God bless and keep you in His care. Bobbie

## Vestry Stewardship

### Operating Fund

Operating income for May	\$ 8,077.81	Operating income for 2021	\$49,929.63
Operating expense for May	11,103.15	Operating expense for 2021	55,533.53
Net loss for May	(\$ 3,025.34)	Net loss for 2021	(\$5,603.90)

---

### Vestry Highlights

At the regular meeting of the Vestry on June 22, it was noted that:

- a. The training of LEM's, Servers, and Readers was scheduled on June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Bishop Doug Sparks attended the meeting virtually.
- c. General Convention scheduled for July 2022.
- d. There will be a St. Francis service and Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- e. Amanda Fazzaro currently has 4 lessons completed for Sunday school.
- f. A new video of Father Michael has been posted on YouTube.
- g. George wrote a letter to help identify those who are unable to worship with us in person.
- h. Reminder for people to sign up for coffee hour.
- i. Roger Till is coming on Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup> to check the cooling system for the Sanctuary.
- j. Marilyn Rafter has volunteered to re-paint sign in parking lot.

it was discussed:

- a) Father Michel is looking to start an evening Bible Study in the fall.
- b) about creating sign slogan's for the sign out front.
- c) To be able to restart LEV
- d) Reach out to Rescue Mission about volunteers
- e) Reach out to various places about potentially donating items.

it was motioned:

- a) by Cindy and seconded by John for Marilyn Rafter host the Wiener Roast on October 16<sup>th</sup> again. Motion was passed unanimously. More information to follow.

**A NOTE OF**



A special thank you to those who prepare articles/provide information each month for our parish newsletter.

The deadline for the August issue of *The Cross and the Sword* is **Thursday, July 22**

## July Birthdays

6 Tammy Gillig  
9 Marilyn Crewe  
9 Melissa Townsend  
14 Paula Hanlin  
17 Robert Frede II  
18 Neal Birchfield  
19 Cayley Townsend



20 John Naunas  
22 Carlen Trujillo  
27 Kenny White  
29 John Lorenzen  
31 Bonnie Camp

## and Anniversaries

9 John & Susan Diver  
11 Dick & Sandy Ritchie  
16 Todd & Melissa Townsend

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

---

REMEMBER IN PRAYER ESPECIALLY: Jerry Anderson, Cheryl Banks, Mindy Blech, Neal Birchfield, Ray Brandes, Denny & Anne Butler, Dick Camp, Pete Cola, Christina Connelly, Elliot Culwell, Jane Davidson, Kari Doepke, Donna, Dale Edington, Kathie Edington, Joey Fazzaro, Susie Foley and Greg Gillig family, Chris Foreman and family, Denise Frede, Brook Gresback, Gary, Paula Hanlin, Sarah Haverstock, George Imhausen, Claire Irvine, Vicki

Irvine, John Jeffries, Suzanna Johnson, Rick McMahan, Pat Kerlin, Matt Kiel, Julie Lieb, Kris Lorenzen, Maureen McMahan, Meek family, Carl Michael, Sean Michael, Francis and Bobbie Mustapha, Steve Potosky, Canon Henry Randolph, Melissa Renner, Sandra, Larry Shaw, Rick Spice, Mariane Sumners, Melissa Surles, Gianna Tinker, Carlen Trujillo, Laura and Mark Welt, Carol White, Betty Wiseheart, Brooke Wyse.

**For those unable to worship with us: LuAnn Kleinschmidt, Peter and Marilyn Crewe.**

**Military: Kaylee Collins, Sean Collins, Matthew Michael.**

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday Eucharist Service: 9:30 a.m. In person or on-line.

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 Formation
Jane Spice	Care Connection
Christina Connelly	Communications Director

Church Staff

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Michael Roeske
Office Administrator	Debbie Grosjean

Office Hours

9:00 - 1:00  
Monday through Friday

Office phone 485-8022