

The Cross & the Sword

The monthly newsletter of Saint Alban's Parish Family

Vol. XXXVI No. 9

September 2022



Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Dear People of St. Alban's,

By now most of you have probably heard me say, either in the context of a homily or a Bible Study, that "life is best lived by looking forward but best understood by looking backward." I have always found this to be true but have just recently had it confirmed by lived experience. As always, it's encouraging to have a theory backed up by reality.

During the vacation that I just returned from this week, I was blessed to have had conversations, visits and interactions that gave me a renewed understanding and sense of acceptance about the trajectory of my life as well as a deep feeling of gratitude about the journey—thus far! If that's not a powerful spiritual experience, I don't know what is.

Whenever I spend time with my second cousin, Kathleen, as I did while I was away, we normally end up wandering down memory lane for at least a little while and it's always both fun and illuminating. Because she is somewhere between the generation of me and my siblings and that of my mother and father, it almost feels like I'm having my own memory extended when I talk with her. Memories get reinforced or corrected and people dear to both of us who are unfortunately now dead, feel like they get brought back into the conversations of lives that are still unfolding. A deeper understanding, not only of my own life experience but of others as well, seems to take place as memory illuminates the present and even—sometimes—gives a hint to what the future might hold.

My time away also included a brief visit with a recently-widowed friend from my days in New York City, prior to seminary; some time with the bishop who ordained me in 2001 and a 90-minute drive around the town where I grew up in Bergen County, NJ—a place I hadn't been to in 25 years! Each and every one of these experiences was, first and foremost, a gratitude-enhancing event. When I realized I was experiencing these blessings and I thought of all of you, back here in Indiana, it struck me that we are all made up of our pasts—that what is true for me applies to each and every one of us.

Bishop Whitmore always used to speak of the central role that memory plays in the life of the Church, especially as that Church moves into the future and

struggles to discern what to hold onto and what to reinvent as it moves through time. We do this most often and perhaps most profoundly in the act of celebrating the Eucharist. “This *is* my Body (Blood), which *is* given for you. Do this for the *remembrance* of me.”

The past and the present dance with each other as they propel us into a greater future within this simple act of worship and praise.

When we remember, we don't just simply recall—we *re-member* (as in reassemble) the various, scattered parts of ourselves. It is those disparate fragments that God yearns to reunite under the banner of His love so that we can move towards the wholeness He intends for us all. May this work and aspiration be part of our vision—both individually and corporately—as we move into the autumn season of 2022.

In the Peace of Christ,
Fr. Michael r.+

STEWARDSHIP

If you are unable to regularly attend Sunday services you can donate at your convenience through [Tithe.ly](#). Also, please link St. Alban's to your Amazon Smile account and your Kroger plus card.

This is easy money to St. Alban's and it helps both of these companies put their donations in the direction you want. We are also eager for volunteers to help as acolytes, ushers, altar guild, A/V, nursery and coffee hour so please call the office to be put in touch with the right person. Thank you everyone for keeping this community strong.

David Birchfield

FINANCE

While our income in June was under budget, we made up the shortage in July. Our income for July was \$11,535.97. Our expenses ran slightly over budget at \$11,874.10.

You may have noticed that there have been dark streaks on our Sunday Bulletins lately. Our printer has outlived its life span and must be replaced. Quotes to replace it were considered and the vestry chose to lease a new one from ABM a well known and reliable Fort Wayne business. In fact they have been in business for 68 years. This printer will cost us \$117 a month increasing our Office expense budget. Please prayerfully consider this and the general increase in costs of everything when you consider 2023 pledges as our Stewardship campaign begins this fall.

The support you give St. Alban's is awesome!

Marilyn Rafter

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION

Sunday school and Nursery will resume on September 11. Again we are looking for volunteers to help out in the nursery and with Sunday school, Anyone interested and especially volunteers from the previous year may get ahold of me at (260) 435-9403. Volunteers should expect a lighter schedule than last year. At this time we only have one student and he does not want to attend alone.

Curriculum is a process and we will send out one request for craft per month. I know how our congregation loves to give to the children and I am looking forward to seeing what you come in with. Every now and then I will ask of your talents as well.

For our first Talent Request and Donation Request (if you are the talented and savvy shopper that I am not) is for biblical puppets. We are looking for sturdy

play items, please no paper puppets. Thank you again for all of the support you give our children.

Amanda Fazzaro

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES



Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall – come join us on Wednesdays as we delve into the Book of Exodus! Our Bible Study is always followed by a celebration of the Eucharist. **ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

The **evening Bible Study and Eucharist** that takes place on **Thursdays** in the Parish Hall at **6:30 p.m.** will resume on September 15th.

Tuesday September 13th lunch bunch will be dining at the Friendly Fox located at 4001 S. Wayne Avenue, Fort Wayne. All are welcome and need to be there by 12:30 a.m. Please signup if you would like to go. Reservations have been made. If you have any question please contact Rose T-O'Brien.



Vestry will meet on Tuesday, September 20th at 7:00 p. m.

Men's Night Out will be on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, September 21st. Watch for more information to follow on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



Daughters of the King committee will meet on Thursday, September 8th at 10 a.m.

Rescue Mission meets Tuesday, September from 4:15 –5:30 p.m. **Team I** from St. Alban's will be on hand to help serve dinner, 404 E. Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne.



Sunday, October 9th we will be celebrating the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with our annual Pet Blessing! More details to follow soon, but save the date!



Save the date, October 15, for the annual wiener roast and chili cook off! Mark your calendar now and watch for more announcements to come.

The Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana will take place from Friday, September 30th – Sunday October 2nd, 2022 at Valparaiso University. This year's Convention will have the added blessing of the presence of the Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church! There will be a hymn sing on Friday night at 7 p.m., an opening Eucharist at 9 a.m. on Saturday and a closing Eucharist on Sunday morning at 9 a.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Valparaiso. All are welcome at these events, so mark your calendar!

Electronic Media



If you have an e-mail address, and have not signed up to receive our monthly newsletter electronically, please consider doing so. It saves the church the cost of paper and postage, and you see the newsletter in color.

Access all our current information on our website any time of day or night to see what's happening. If you have misplaced your calendar or your ministry schedule, find all the information you need at

<https://saintalbanfw.org/>

A Reminder

All quarters placed in the offering plate are sent on to the Matthew 25 Clinic. This clinic helps the poor and the working poor in our area with free medical, dental and prescription services. Thank you for all your quarters because they do add up.



OLDIE BUT STILL TRUE

Pull, Dusty!

A man whose car was in a ditch went to a local farmer for help.

"I have an old horse named Dusty, the farmer said. "She is old and blind, but I think she can pull your car out of the ditch."

The farmer hitched Dusty to the car and yelled, "Pull, Patches." Nothing happened. Then he yelled, Pull, Brownie." Again, nothing happened. Finally, he yelled, "Pull Dusty," and the old horse pulled the car out of the ditch.

"Why did you call those other horses' names?" asked the man.

The farmer replied, "So Dusty wouldn't think she as pulling alone."

We are reminded that we Christians must always pull together, and that at no time are we ever pulling alone, because Christ pulls with us and wants only our good.

Vestry Stewardship

Operating Fund

Operating income July	\$11,535.97	Operating income for 2022	\$73,667.56
Operating expense July	11,874.10	Operating expense for 2022	\$78,862.89
Net loss for July	\$ (338.13)	Net loss for 2022	\$(5,195.33)

Vestry Highlights

At the meeting of the Vestry on August 16:

It was noted that:

- a) A St. Francis Day Celebration and Blessing of the Animals is scheduled for October 9th.
- b) Fall Stewardship campaign: in gathering scheduled for end of September.
- c) Wiener roast potentially scheduled for October 15th at the home of Marilyn Rafter.

it was motioned that:

- a.) John moved and was seconded by Marilyn to get a new lease from ABM for a new printer at \$117.51 per month for 60 months. Passed unanimously.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Larry Hade
4 Micah Spencer
5 Andrew Stath
10 Sam Naunas
10 Jaelyn Pontius
11 Dana White
17 Abbie Gillig



19 Carolyn Townsend
22 Amanda Fazzaro
24 Mary Brooks
26 Lydia Layden
29 Cindy Spice
30 Dick Ritchie



6 Jordan Trendelman & Christina Connelly
7 Jon & Amanda Fazzaro
10 Rick & Jane Spice
13 Glen & Carolyn Grate
26 John & Julie Naunas
28 Gary & Laura Michael

*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: REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ESPECIALLY: Alexa, Ellen Anderson, Zach Armstrong, Simon Becker, Mindy Blech, Neal Birchfield, Bonne & Dick Camp, Vincent Carboni, Jimmy Clark, Marilyn Crewe, Jane Davidson, Kari Doepke, Ethan, Joey Fazzaro, Denise Frede, Karl Frick, Marion Frid, Brook Gresback, Cam Irvine, Aerika Katip, Julie Lieb, Jo McMahan, Francis and Bobbie Mustapha, Steve Potosky, Canon Henry Randolph, Mark Sowder, Cindy Spice, Ginger Spice, Rick Spice, Mariane Sumners, Melissa Surlles, Blu Turner, Bishop Keith Whitmore.

Military: Kaylee Collins, Sean Collins, Matthew Michael, Danny and Robert Scribner, R. J. Smith,

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

John Lorenzen	Senior Warden
Julie Naunas	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
Megan Spice	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