
Saints Alive!: News & Announcements for the week of April 7, 2019

All Saints' Episcopal Church <allsaints@allsaintspontiac.org>
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Saints' Alive!

News & Events for the week of April 7, 2019

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 4/7

8:00a Celtic Holy Eucharist
9:15 Adult Forum
10:30a Holy Eucharist

Monday 4/8

7:00p Movie Group
7:00p AA

Tuesday 4/9

4:00p Bound Together
6:00p Spirituality Group

Wednesday 4/10

4:00p Bound Together
7:00p Lenten Program
7:30p Choir

Thursday 4/11

4:00p Bound Together

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Readings for this Week:

Isaiah 43:16-21
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8
Psalm 126

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Chris Johnson

Friday 4/12

11:00a AA

Saturday 4/13

8:00a Community
Breakfast
10:00a Preparation of
Palm Crosses
10:00a
Resale/Produce/Book
Shop

Future Events

Apr 14 Palm Sunday
Apr 15 Ordering deadline
for Easter lilies
Apr 18 Maundy Thursday
Apr 19 Good Friday
Apr 20 Great Vigil
Apr 21 Easter Day

Walkabout Schedule



Walkabout Schedule

Everyone is invited to attend the Walkabouts, which are opportunities to meet the candidates for our 11th Bishop, hear their responses to questions, and help them to learn more about our Diocese. Learn more about the candidates at edomi.org/candidates.

Please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before the event starts in order to find parking and a seat. Walkabouts will begin promptly at the appointed times.

Friday, May 17, 7:00 PM

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit
4800 Woodward Ave, Detroit

Saturday, May 18, 4:00 PM

All Saints', East Lansing
800 Abbot Rd., East Lansing

Sunday, May 19, 3:30 PM

St. Clare's, Ann Arbor
2309 Packard St., Ann Arbor

Videos of the Walkabouts will be posted following the sessions and will be posted at edomi.org/walkabouts.

Save the Dates

Special Convention to Elect a Bishop

June 1, 2019
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit

Consecration of the 11th Bishop

February 8, 2020
Location TBD

Questions? Contact Canon Jo Ann Hardy at jahardy@edomi.org

. . . from the Rector

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

There is an old familiar saying, "Many hands make light work." And no doubt most of us have been in situations that welcomed that appeal. There really are two dynamics at work here. One is the task itself and the second is companionship. The tasks may simply be monotonous and time-consuming activities or they may be complex processes with many moving parts. In either

case, when our peers are willing to "step up" and help, progress that leads to completion happens much sooner. The only sure-fire way to sabotage that progress is to ask for help without trusting those who accept the call to do so. To labor in this case, means for the person asking for help to be willing to release control and to accept the gifts of others with the knowledge that the final outcome will probably be different, but not necessarily wrong, than if they had done the work themselves.

Similarly related is our commitment to companionship - or community. When we trust our companions with work we value, we are placing our trust in the strength of our community rather than our own self-reliance. God certainly gives us gifts, but those gifts are for building up the community - for the common good. It is hard for others to share their gifts if we don't welcome them to do so. On the other hand, our community becomes stronger when we trust ourselves to one another because in so doing our relationships grow and all our gifts flourish.

There is much labor to be done here if All Saints' is to fulfill its potential as a Christian community serving God through worship, prayer, stability and service. Our practice of unconditional hospitality begins with how we participate in the relationships that are already present. The growth of those relationships will be the witnesses of our maturing faith individually and as a faith community. So now is a good time to reflect on how it is that you invite people to help with the tasks you are committed to completing. Are you allowing others to make your burden easier? Are you focused on strengthening the bonds of relationship that hold us together?

If your words affirm your desire to do so and your actions tell another story, then remember that Jesus calls us to bring the anxious burdens of our labor to him. And when we do, there we will find rest also.

Preparation of Palm Crosses

The annual preparation of palm crosses will take place on Saturday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rose Kneale Room.

The Altar Guild invites you to join them to help with the preparation of the palm crosses for Palm Sunday. No experience is needed; instruction will be available. Even if you think you are "all thumbs" there is a job for you! Pins need to be inserted in the crosses. No talent needed. Everyone is welcome!

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

The 1979 Book of Common Prayer put its emphasis on the ministry of all the baptized. This emphasis marked a decided shift away from clergy centric ministry. Liturgies instituting new priests as rectors today even reflect that shift as they incorporate echoes of the baptismal liturgy right from the beginning with the familiar words:

	There is one Body and one Spirit;
People	There is one hope in God's call to us;
Bishop	One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People	One God, Creator of all.

And even more directly the bishop later asked of us during my institution as rector:

Chris; people of All Saints': in Holy Baptism we receive full adoption through God's grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit. Will you work together as partners in the mission of the Church, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?

To which we replied together

We will with God's help.

Today, in 2019, we continue the long, sometimes fast changing, while at other times the slow shift, towards a fully developed ministry of all the baptized. As rector of All Saints', I believe that intended shift is reflective of a wider cultural shift away from a directive culture of autocratic institutional leadership towards a more inclusive collaborative culture of shared leadership.

As one more step towards the reinforcement of that intended shift, I would like to draw attention to the Episcopal Church's provision for Lay Eucharistic Visitors. LEVs as they are frequently referred to, are baptized members of the congregation who visit and bring the Sunday Eucharist into the homes of shut-in congregants. This ministry not only allows the shut-in parishioner to hear parts of that day's worship service and to receive the consecrated elements of bread and wine, but it also reminds us as members of the congregation that we are with each other spiritually even in our physical absence. That connection itself strengthens our community. The 2016 Parish Profile reported that All Saints' had six Lay Eucharistic Visitors, though I only know of two today. I would like to ask us to consider changing that reality as an intentional act of pastoral ministry that is committed to both empowering our lay leadership and to strengthening

the bonds of love that bind us to each other as a congregation.

Please pray about Lay Eucharistic Visitor ministry as it might be here at All Saints'. If you believe someone you know would serve our community well in that capacity, please ask them if they would consider this as an opportunity to discern that possible call further. I will seek training for our members through the resources of the diocese and plan to commission those ministers during our Pentecost worship, June 09th.

As always, feel free to ask questions.

Chris Johnson

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum offering for April 7th:

Journaling as a Spiritual Practice
By Michelle Lane

The topic of journaling often triggers very mixed reactions. Those of us who develop this practice in our lives can attest to its deep value, but many people feel a sense of resistance, often because of the perception of past "failures". In this session, I will provide encouragement and share suggestions that can support you and lead you toward a personal practice of journaling for spiritual growth. I invite you to come and open to the possibility of discovering an approach that may be fruitful. If you are already a journal writer, you may have your own unique strategies to add and I hope that you will feel affirmed in your practice through our discussion.

(Rescheduled from March 10)

On April 14 Deb Johnson will be doing a session entitled: "Exploring the History of Palm Sunday".

Lenten Programs

Study Opportunities during Lent

Sunday morning.
Adult Forum from 9:15-10:15 Topics vary weekly.
Contacts are Jim Lewis at jameswmlewis@earthlink.net
and Michelle Lane at michelle.lane@roeper.org.

April 07th Spiritual Growth

April 14th Contemplative Practice

Monday evenings.

7:00-9:00pm 2nd Mondays Movie Group. Contact is Lisa Uchno at uchnoj@yahoo.com. The April 8th movie choice will be "Finding Vivian Maier".

7:00-9:00pm (usually) 3rd Mondays Book Group. Contact is Ginny Meyer at jpmeyer9194@comcast.net. The May 6th book study will discuss, The Ninth Hour by Alice McDermott.

6:00-8:30pm Exploring Spirituality group (includes a light dinner). Contact is Mary Beth Tygielski at tally_mb@yahoo.com. This group will be discussing the book, The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Final Days in Jerusalem, written by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.

Wednesday evenings.

7:00-8:00pm An Introduction to the Episcopal Church. Contacts are Chris Johnson rector@allsaintspontiac.org and Chris Berg jcberg5301@comcast.net. The Revs. Chris Berg and Chris Johnson will enter into a discussion based on their experiences of the Episcopal Church and inspired by conversation in the recently released book, Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices, written by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe.

Name Tags

If you would like to have a new or replacement name tag prepared, please email the office at allsaints@allsaintspontiac.org with your request. You may also drop a note in the offering plate.

Pastoral Care, Notes & Birthdays

Prayers

For those who have asked for our prayers: Ali, Alicia, Annamary, Becky, Bob, Bruce, Charles, Chris and Lisa, Chris and Margie, Connie, Cory, David, Delphine, Ernie, Glenden, Gordie, Greg, Harry, Jan, Janet, Jean, John, Larry, Lenora, Lewis, Linda, Lisa, Lori, Micah, Michelle, Paul, Reatha, Sarah, Shari, Shirley, Steven, Susy, Sydney, Tim, Twyla, and Warren.

Birthdays:

Notes

Deadline for ordering Easter lilies is April 15

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Church e-mail Contacts

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Norma Warner - allsaints@allsaintspontiac.org

Bound Together

Jane Porter - director@boundtogetherpontiac.org

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