

## Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

**St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY**  
(Member of the Chenango District)

### **The Parish News**

[www.stannsaftonny.org](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

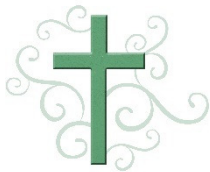
The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

**Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman   Cell: 761-4601   Office: 656-9502**

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at one of the numbers above.

**In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.**

**Wardens: Betty Vail: 639-1201   Tracey Tallmadge: 343-1301**



### *From Fr. Dave*

Lent is nearly upon us. Ash Wednesday this year is also Valentine's Day - February 14.

Shrove Tuesday this year, we'll be having a 3 parish pancake dinner. From 5:30-6:30, we'll gather in the dining hall at Zion, enjoy delicious pancakes and at 6:30 we'll have a short imposition of ashes service. Following that, I ask that folks remain to help clean up.

We can make a good start to this Lent by sharing in the ancient tradition of Shrove Tuesday and imposition of ashes. As we begin another season of Lent, let's consider the words that have been given to us from our Prayer Book's Ash Wednesday service:

"Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put to mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith."

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. "

May this season of prayer and preparation for Easter be a holy and blessed time for all of you!



### SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

**Note to all who serve:** It would be most helpful if, when you cannot make your assigned date, you would arrange for a substitute. If you are unable to do that, please notify a warden. Thanks for your cooperation!

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Feb 4	HC	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
Feb 11	MP	A.Wieber	R.Felldin	MH	----	T.Tallmadge
Feb 18	HC	A.Wieber	M.Harding	RF	MH	B.Vail/D.Wieber
Feb 25	MP	T.Vail	J.Rettberg	BV	----	A.Vail
Mar 4	HC	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
Feb 4	M.Harding			Feb 12	B.Vail/T.Tallmadge	
Feb 11	K.Vail	D.Wieber	M.Harding	Feb 14	J.Rettberg/M.Kelly	
Feb 18	T.Tallmadge					
Feb 25	B.Vail	T.Vail	D.Vail			
Lectionary (Year B)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
Feb 4		Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-12, 21c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39	
Feb 11		2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9	
Feb 14	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2	Psalm 103	2 Cor. 5:20b—6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	
Feb 18		Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-9	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15	
Feb 25		Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:22-30	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38	
Mar 4		Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22	

**Altar Duty** for the month of February is Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301. If you are giving flowers in memory a loved one, please notify Peter Vail 607-639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

### St. Ann's Prayer List for February 2018

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201. Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.

#### Short Term

Duane  
Marsey  
Marion  
Hailey  
Dakota  
Eli  
Judy  
Pastor Sue  
Connie  
Trisa  
Chuck  
Russell  
Dawn

#### Long Term

Fr. David Hanselman  
Fr. Steven White  
Fr. Bruce MacDuffie  
Deacon Kay  
Pastor Becky  
Fr. Geoff Doolittle  
Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe  
Bishop Michael Curry  
The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph  
Emmanuel Church  
Epiphany Church  
Zion Church  
St. Paul's Church  
St. Andrew's Church  
St. Matthew's Church  
St. Peter's Church  
Carol  
Peter  
Joyce  
Mya  
Holly  
Cindy  
Lois  
Clifford  
Richard  
Bill  
Kevin

*We always thank  
GOD for all of you  
and continually  
mention you in  
our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

We also pray for The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church and the Episcopal Divinity School. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

*Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.*

**grat-i-tude**

[grat i tood]

noun

the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness

**THANK YOU TO:**

Woodie Robins in making arrangements for the Active Shooter program. It was an enlightening program and well attended.

Pete Vail and Tom Vail for putting our Sunday program and music together each week.

**Shrove Tuesday: Zion Episcopal invitation to our parishioners to Supper, Tuesday, February 13. 6:30p.m.**



**Church in Greene has sent an join them for their yearly Pancake This begins at 5:30 and runs to**



**Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a service at St. Ann's beginning at 7:00p.m.**

**On Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Bible Study will be held at St. Ann's beginning at 6p.m. with a light meal. The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis will be presented by video and discussion afterwards. If you desire to sign up for a meal which can be either soup, sandwiches or whatever you care to make, it would be most appreciated.**



*Chris Vail, son of Peter and Carol Vail, will be providing music for the service on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.*



## **Are You Able?**

The Chenango County Board of Elections is recruiting poll workers to work on Primary and General election days.

- ❖ Duties are to help prepare polling sites on the days of election.
- ❖ Guide voters on how to mark ballots and answering questions they might have.
- ❖ Communicating with the CC BOE staff about Election Day issues.
- ❖ Attend yearly training on your duties as a poll worker.
- ❖ Be paid for your time.
- ❖ If you are interested or have any questions please call us at
- ❖ (607) 337-1760 or email us at [boe@co.chenango.ny.us](mailto:boe@co.chenango.ny.us)

2/2 Tom Vail  
2/7 Marion Diehl  
2/18 Carol Tarvin



None recorded. Please advise if you have an Anniversary in February

[cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com)

**Law of Moses  
The Rev. Robert Godley  
St. Barnabas, Ardsley, N. Y.**

The Christmas season ends as Jesus, the Light, is brought to the temple by Mary and Joseph in compliance with the Law of Moses which required a male child to be presented to God on the 40<sup>th</sup>. day. (Celebrated liturgically on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>. as The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple.) While there, they are given further testimony to the child's Messianic mission by Simeon. Holding Jesus in his arms, he prayed the words recorded in Luke, "Lord, you have now set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised. For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior whom you have prepared for the entire world to see, a Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel."

To Mary, Simeon directed the following prophetic words that were the directional headings for the journey that would follow over time to Calvary and Easter. "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." Simeon had the faith sight to see the Light he was holding, but you and I are bearers of that light. Jesus himself identifies us as "The Light of the world." He tells us what we must do with that light in order to make it visible for others. "Let your Light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

On Ash Wednesday, the source and substance of that light, Jesus of Nazareth, will begin to direct our attention to the ultimate purpose of God coming among us in flesh. We will start the yearly journey to Calvary and Easter.

Our hungry, sick, bleeding, broken, and terror-stricken world is dying from the consequences of self-will run riot. The burden of our collective sin is so great and its pain so disorienting that we seek only relief from the symptoms of our disease. The thought of an ultimate remedy is dismissed more often than not as the impossible dream of fools. But that is exactly what Jesus offers and begs us to accept. Yet we, as bearers of the light, through which others come to recognize their need and the Savior who has addressed it, have we accepted the remedy, or are we still interested only in relief from symptoms too?

Take Lent and its God-given purpose to heart this year. Take God at his Word, Jesus Christ. Accept the remedy his atoning death provided. Come to grasp more clearly the biblical story that explains the gift and the reason we each so desperately need it.



**Vestry Highlights      January 2017**

**No meeting due to active shooter presentation. We will resume our monthly meeting on February 18, 2018 during coffee hour.**



# Puzzle!

Search for these words that are all associated with the Lenten journey.

crown donkey hosanna penance Pilate sins  
colt crucifixion forsaken kiss prayer suffer  
confess death Gethsemane lots repent thorns  
cross denial Golgotha palms silver vigil



## The Final Word



***“But I say to you, love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. If you do this, you will be true children of your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:44-45a***

Three Gospel readings for Year A Propers in February are taken from Matthew, Chapters 5 and 6. If you check out these chapters (and Chapter 7,) you will find that they consist entirely (except for two sentences at the beginning and two at the end) of Jesus speaking to his followers. In fact Jesus was doing more than just speaking to his followers, he was teaching them. These 3 chapters might well be called a User’s Manual for Life! The verses quoted above are a very small example. Jesus also teaches about the Law, anger, sexual sin, making promises, giving, prayer, worship, the value of money versus God, worry, judging others, asking God for what you need, the “Golden Rule,” entering heaven, being known by our actions and, finally, the difference between people who obey Jesus’ words and those who don’t. This would be an excellent portion of Scripture to bookmark and read regularly. It might well be something we could take on as part of our Lenten discipline. Let’s give it a try. It might just change our lives... both individually and as a parish family!

PCV

A Christian is...

- A mind through which Christ thinks
- A heart through which Christ loves
- A voice through which Christ speaks
- A hand through which Christ works

**St. Ann’s Episcopal Church**

**P. O. Box 22**

**Afton, New York 13730**

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COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY  
AND ACTION**

**Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman**

**Wardens: Betty Vail**

**Tracey Tallmadge**

**Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am**

Address Label Here

