



May and June 2020

The Voice of St. Stephen's

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Cammy Warner Editor



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"Have faith and patience. Time works miracles. We must have the courage to wait for them."

— A.G. Riddle, [Pandemic](#)



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THE VICAR'S MOMENT..... FROM ALETHA, MAY 1

Dear Friends,

The Clergy of our Diocese has been meeting by Zoom for three weeks now to share events of our home churches, ideas for worship, problems we have encountered keeping the fellowship close and comforted, and any remarkable insights of the pandemic experience. Probably the most pervasive struggle everyone has is the lack of association and human warmth that we share on Sundays, passing the Peace, hugging, joining at the altar for communion, and sharing great food and conversation after the service. We miss the kids, too, the joy that bubbles up from their presence.

I have tried a few things: certainly the Zoom for Stations of the Cross was a powerful experience in our Good Friday solemnity in the Sanctuary - only Taylor and I were in the church, but there were 6 others on Zoom interacting with our liturgy. After that I provided scriptures and service liturgy and a homily or two, and pointed people toward the National Cathedral Easter Service, then to the Diocese of Spokane rotating Parish offerings for the past two weeks but I've noticed that we're no longer interacting with each other in these experiences. I hope you have had some joy in them.

Today we heard from the Bishop that we will not be gathering in our Parishes before mid-June at the earliest, and more likely mid-July. Then we will wear masks and not have communion and not shake hands and sit apart, and it will not be as it was before. So, Let's try to make something better until a vaccine comes along!

A few Parishes in our Diocese have offered youtube service, but I don't have the expertise for that—also, it is still not interactive. What I would like to do, is begin this Sunday is to gather on the Zoom app again, where we can see and respond to each other in real time, worship and pray. We cannot do communion per the Bishop but Morning Prayer will be celebrated. I'm sending an invitation to the link which will put you right in and a copy of Morning Prayer to follow. This is our first attempt, and as we progress we will assign scripture readings, Prayers of the People and other things, to once again experience community. We have at least two more months of this and I think we can evolve into a spiritual experience that brings us even closer together. People can come and go into the service, don't be shy, but it will only be live so we can grow the personal connection that we have missed for so long.

WATCH FOR INVITATION TOMORROW FOR SUNDAY SERVICE

The Editor's Moment...

By **Carmy Warner**

Pandemic

*What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath —
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Center down.*

*And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.*

*Promise this world your love —
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.*

— Lynn Ungar 3/11/20



Bread Ministry Continues to Serve During Crisis

Reported by
Maryanne Lovell

One of the more valuable commodities unavailable for much of this Corona pandemic has been bread. Aletha, Mike and Maryanne have all helped to retrieve bread from Safeway and Albertson's on Sundays during this time. For the most part, what we picked up on most of the earlier Sundays was scarce. During this period, the top priority was to our own food pantry kiosk in front of our church.

Suddenly, it seems there is bread again. Recently, Mike survived three days in a row of going after bread and getting it out to the first of the food banks we assist. In the space of a bit over a week, we have gotten bread out to the Catholic Cathedral's Food Bank, to Huntington Food Bank, to the Soup Kitchen at Calvary Baptist Church and to the Compassion Center at Nazarene Church plus we are able to stock more in our kiosk. We generally pick up bread on Sundays but we have responded to an unexpected call from Albertson's on Easter weekend for six (6) green bakery racks of bread. Charlene helped Mike save an additional seven (7) carts.

Our Food Pantry Kiosk is currently cared for by Aletha and Mike who alternate stocking days. Jim Tomlinson has helped with shopping for the Kiosk. Donations of easy to prepare and eat foods and non perishables are always welcome.

We hope to see bread remain available to us through these trying times to continue participating in the Corporal Act of Mercy of feeding the hungry.



Sanctuary

Shrouded Alters for Lent

Chapel



EASTER SEASON



Joel Bigelow preparing yard for Easter Sunday



Nature announcing Easter



Warner girls: Courtney, Hattie, Hazel, & Mackenzie
"Flower the Cross"
(Mom taking picture)



- May Birthdays**
 1 Betty Palmer
 7 Kassidy Calloway
 8 Sue Richard
 12 Ashlyn Calloway
 14 Beth Bigelow
 18 Patty Shukle
 24 Kyle Johnson
- June Birthdays**
 12 Barbara Prowell
 19 Nancy Buehler
 20 Courtney Crowell
 26 Hazel Crowell
 30 Lexie Johnson



- May Anniversaries**
 7 Doug & Connie Boone
- June Anniversaries**
 17 Fred & Cammy Warner
 20 Joel & Beth Bigelow
 22 Jay & Barbara Phillips

If you would like to have your name removed from or added to the prayer list, please call the church office at 541-523-4812.



Prayer Chain

- ♥ Beth Bigelow 856-3334
- ♥ Rev. Aletha Bonebrake 519-3255
- ♥ Marian Brown 523-4991
- ♥ Barbara Prowell 523-4813
- ♥ Sue Richard 519-7227

Virtual Church Services Until Further Notice!!!

May & June

- May 3 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- May 10 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- May 17 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- May 24 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- May 31 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.

Sunday School on hold until Bishop ok's and guidelines are established.



Vestry by Zoom TBA -

- Jun 7 Pentecost Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- Jun 14 Morning Prayer ZOOM 9 a.m.
- Jun 21 TBD
- Jun 28 TBD

Bible Study Fridays
On hold until further notice

