

Saints *Alive*

At the "Little Brown Church"

September 2019



Rector Reflection

From Your Interim Priest:



I have now been here 2 months. I always find it a bit unsettling to start a new position in the summer time! People are often away on vacation and it is hard to have a real sense of the parish. Soon September will be here (whether we are ready or not!). I hope to welcome many of you back at that time. Please introduce yourselves and join us at coffee hour if you are able.

This is, of course, a time of transition for this parish. I know that, for some of you, it is also a time of grieving. There have been several goodbyes this past year – beginning with your rector, Rev. Colette last November, then your Bridge priest, Rev. Dee in early June and finally, in late June, Rev. Phil, who had been your deacon for 3 ½ years.

Change is never easy and goodbyes are hard. But don't forget the "hellos" yet to come! When the search is completed you will once again have a rector. I pray that it will be a time of new beginnings, hopes and dreams for all of you in this parish. But meanwhile, work together, pray together and play together as a parish – keeping this parish alive and welcoming to all who come to visit and worship here.

From *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*:

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate;

A time of war, and a time of peace.

This is your time of transition – with all that entails. Pray that whatever sadness you now have will turn to joy, that doubts or fears you may have will turn to certainty and confidence. Pray for the future here at All Saints' with joyful hope – and especially pray for your next rector.

While I am with you as your Interim priest feel free to call or visit at the office if you need to talk about that – or anything else. In September I will begin programs for the parish to help you through this time of transition.

Rev. Billie Mae Gordon

**THEY'RE
BACK!**



Come back to church and enjoy the LaFarge windows. Watch for re-dedication celebration in November.

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SPAGHETTI SUPPER
Saturday, September 21
All welcome!

FALL SCHEDULE

** On Sept. 8th we will also have a **BLESSING OF BACK PACKS** for the youth of the parish. Please bring them to church with you that day (you can leave all your books home!). Teachers, feel free to bring yours, too, for a blessing!

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS: We have several people already trained in this parish. If you are also interested in learning more about this ministry, please speak with Rev. Billie. Parishioners are trained to visit and bring Holy Communion to shut ins of the parish. You are trained and licensed by the Diocese. There will be several diocesan trainings in the fall. The first is on Sat., Sept. 7th at Grace Church, New Bedford. A later one is about to be scheduled. You must register ahead of time to participate. (I am newly trained to teach this ministry).

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – These are the people who serve at the altar on Sunday to assist the priest. The priest is authorized to do that training in the parishes and then you will be licensed by the diocese. Part of your job is to help with the readings, the prayers and to assist the priest in setting the table (the altar) for Holy Communion – if there is no acolyte scheduled. You may be asked to carry either the processional cross or the Gospel Book in procession. If you would like to know more about this ministry, please call or speak to Rev. Billie on Sunday.

ACOLYTES – If any youth in the parish are interested in serving on the altar this fall, please call or speak to Rev. Billie. I am happy to train you if you have never done so before – or would just like a refresher training. I would like to start having acolytes each Sunday, if possible. Please be in touch so that I can schedule you.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – Beginning on September 1st, and each first Sunday of the month, I will invite anyone who has an anniversary or birthday to come forward during announcement time. If you are shy you may remain in your seat – or even remain anonymous! I will simply offer a prayer for each of you at that time.

OFFICE HOURS – Rev. Billie will post her hours each week in the Sunday leaflet and in the email notice. Keep in mind that sometimes during those hours she may be visiting parishioners! They may change in any week depending upon other meetings or appointments. Please call to schedule an appointment (617-584-2737 - leave a message if I don't answer)

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

From Leslie Bresnahan



We continue to do well despite being closed for two weeks! We remain on budget and continue to serve six families from the Whitman Food Pantry.

Recently we took 890 pounds of clothing to Savers (thank you, Peggy, Ginny and Dave!).

If you wish to make a donation of good, clean clothing, we accept all seasons year-round and could also use paper bags with handles.

Watch for our semi-annual request for help making the switch from summer to winter inventory.

Thanks,
Leslie

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY!

September 8, 2019



Sunday School Sign-up
&
Back Pack Blessing



Breakfast between
Services



Canon Kelly O'Connell
from our Diocese
Visits
All Saints

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW RECTOR



NOTES FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who took the time to pray and to submit your surveys as we prepare the search for our new priest. The Search Committee has been working through the summer to review both written and online surveys. We have found some trends for what our parish is seeking. This is an involved process and we hope to get our parish profile done by the end of the year so we can begin the process of accepting and reviewing applications by early 2020.

We are also planning a few “town hall” style meetings, both at All Saints, as well as one at the home of Allison and Mahir Akarsu in Weymouth and one at the home of Jim and Emily Walker in Bridgewater. We hope this will give the opportunity for parishioners to delve a little deeper into what they envision for our next priest. These meeting dates, times and addresses will be announced at services as we finalize them. Our first meeting will be a family friendly potluck dinner at the Akarsu home (68 Courier St, South Weymouth) on Saturday September 14th, then town hall meetings after both the 8AM and 10AM services on Sunday September 15th. More information to come!

Allison & Rosemary



Your Search Committee

Diantha Meagher, Jim Walker, Rosemary Botelho, Pat Delaney,
Allison Akarsu
(missing from the photo: Maureen Murphy and Alphonse Wilfred)

A final word about the search and the Search Committee's work from Co-Chairs Allison Akarsu and Rosemary Botelho: “Be patient; we are working in the background. We want to get it right.”

All Saints Search Committee

Please see the list below of the members of the Search Committee and the emails for each member. If anyone would rather speak to one of us over the phone, please reach out to Pat Delaney at 781-878-3125 (or 617-733-9410) or Jim Walker at 508-942-4856. We plan to have at least one of us available at coffee hour each week should anyone have anything to discuss in person. The Search Committee will be putting together a survey as well as holding small group meetings to get everyone's input in the process of choosing a new rector for our parish.

Allison Akarsu: awight6180@yahoo.com

Rosemary Botelho: bvcboss lady@gmail.com

Pat Delaney: designquilter@yahoo.com

Diantha Meagher: meags55@comcast.net

Maureen Murphy: maureen-murphy@comcast.net

Jim Walker: jlwj77@hotmail.com

Alfonse Wilfred: runner4life42@aol.com

Prayer for the Search Process

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of All Saints.

Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church.

We ask your direction and guidance for those who shall choose our new spiritual leader; that we may receive an upright and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.

Grant us perception, faithfulness and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations. Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.

Come Holy Spirit.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Edited from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
Terre Haute, Indiana)

SYRIAN REFUGEE MISSION

Syrian Mission of New England Update

Thank you all for your generous contributions. The gray tubs will be available to take additional contributions until the end of September. I shall deliver everything to St. John's in Beverly Farms early in October.

New refugees, the vast majority of whom are women and children, arrive regularly at the two camps in northwestern Syria near the border with Turkey sponsored by NuDay Syria, needing shelter, clothing, food, education, and health care. The Mission and its supporters are proud to be able to provide some help through the contributions of parishes like ours. The refugees themselves work to support each other and care for all the children, their own and others. As you have heard recently on the news, more refugees are fleeing their homes and the destruction of infrastructure, which has been brought about by the escalating conflict in the country.

Another cycle of contributions will be solicited by the Mission for NuDay Syria in the Spring of 2020. In the meantime, please remember those folks here at home who are also struggling by contributing to the Whitman Food Pantry and to other local appeals.

Priscilla

HOW CAN I HELP?

Syrian Mission Project collects the following:

Nonperishable Food Items:

Dried lentils, peas and beans
Powdered milk
Cereal, protein bars
Rice, pasta and noodles
Boxed soup mixes
Raisins, nuts
Peanut butter in plastic jars
Powdered baby formula
MRE (meals ready to eat)

Art Supplies:

Plastic Collage
Colored feathers
Popsicle sticks
Paper punches
Mod Podge, scissors
Tissue, craft paper, colored cello
Pastel crayons
Collage art supplies



Do you have a pastoral need?

To reach our interim priest Rev. Billie Mae Gordon call 617-584-2737. Or email her at billiemaegordon@gmail.com

To reach Senior Warden Regina Gurney, please call her at 781-335-5838 or email Regina at reginamg56@comcast.net



From the All Saints Church Archives

One hundred ten years ago this fall, the infant All Saints congregation even as now was in need of new leadership. This excerpt from the church history book was written by Mary Kalor Hutchinson.

"During the summer, another season of despondency swept over the few workers. The idea of closing the Mission was again discussed and was carried to Archdeacon Babcock. He came to Whitman in September, 1909, and told of having engaged, as a new lay reader, Mr. Clayton M. Legge* whom he recommended very highly, and declared to be a man worthy of being kept for two years as a lay reader with a possibility of calling him as the first Rector of the Parish at the end of that time. He assured the Mission that Mr. Legge was a man of ability who could lead the people during the time of building a new church, and promised assistance from the Diocese for a building fund.

"Mr. Legge came in October and from the start inspired the workers to new life and to undertaking things which would, under any other leadership, have seemed utterly impossible. In January he managed a society vaudeville which brought to the treasury of the Lawrence club sufficient funds for making improvements which turned the machine shop into a comfortable, sightly chapel at a cost of about \$300."

(*Clayton McKenzie Legge (pronounced "leg" according to his great-grandnephew) was a very interesting person not only a clergyman but an actor, playwright, and author. From 1900 to 1904 he performed on Broadway in "Bird Center," "The Consul," and "L'Aiglon." He was the author of the book *Highland Mary* (1906) about the romance of the poet Robert Burns.)

From Church Historian, Richard Tingblad

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

from Sarah Doyle and Kristen Brodeur, Directors



Happy Fall!

How is the summer over already? As I write this, the first day of school is creeping closer and closer. By the time you read this, the kiddos will all be completely thrilled to be back at school, right? (Well, at least moms and dads are thrilled!)



This means that we are back in the swing of Sunday School! This year is going to be a wonderful one. As everyone knows, this year I am thrilled to be joined by Kristen Brodeur as co-director of Sunday School. Kristen and I will teach through the month of September together and as the year goes on will alternate months of lead teaching with our wonderful volunteers. We are very excited to see where this year will take our amazing kids!

This year we will continue to use the *Dig In: Life of Jesus* curriculum that we obtained last year. This program allows for a variety of methods and activities to help our kids deepen their understanding and love of Jesus and what their faith means. The program was very successfully implemented last year and I look forward to seeing where the kids take us this year!

This year, the Sunday School schedule will be similar to last year. Beginning in October, Sunday school will run the first 3 Sundays of the month and the 5th Sunday where applicable. Welcome Back Sunday is September 8 and all children are encouraged to bring their back packs for a blessing during church. Sunday school will officially begin September 15 and will run **every** week in September (since we will start late in the month, we will **NOT** take off the 4th Sunday in September). Nursery services will be available the first 3 Sundays of each month for infants through preschool students with Miss Judith. Students who are in kindergarten or older are welcome in Sunday School. Sunday School students will join their parents in "the big church" for communion as in previous years.

This year for communication, Judith, Kristen and I will be using the app "Remind" to communicate with Sunday school parents. This app allows email and text communication within groups and individually and will allow us to streamline messages about scheduling, activities and signups, updates, etc. Parents please visit the link below or scan the QR code using your cell phone camera to join our remind group to make sure you remain up to date! Our group code is @3g3c48. Many parents are already familiar with this service as it is very popular with local elementary schools.

REMIND APP

<https://www.remind.com/join/3g3c48> or text the code @3g3c48 to the number 81010



FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH BREAKFAST

Ernie Morgan, Dan and Donna McElroy make up a breakfast crew serving French toast, waffles, eggs to order, bacon, sausage and potatoes between our services every first Sunday of the month.

This best breakfast in town asks donations of \$5 and has so far this year raised \$488.25. Thank you to Dan, Donna, and Ernie.



Best Breakfast in Town!

FROM THE WARDEN'S DESK

With Senior Warden Regina Gurney



“But the Lord says, “Do not cling to events of the past long ago. Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already – you can see it now!” Isaiah 43:18,19

It has been 9 months since Rev. Colette left to take a new position in North Carolina and, in order for All Saints to move forward, we do have to look towards the future. The first thing everyone wanted to know was what was going to happen to us without her. My answer was we would be alright - God has a plan for All Saints. The first month was hard but it was Advent and we made it through to Christmas and celebrating Jesus' birth.

As we started the new year, the Diocese sent Rev. Dee Woodward to be our Bridge Priest. I knew God had not forgotten us for Rev. Dee was just what we needed. She led us through the next 6 months with her understanding and smiles. Rev. Dee helped us realize that we could “not cling to the events of the past long ago”.

Again, God was watching over us as the Diocese has sent Rev. Billie to be our Interim Priest. She was a familiar face to some of us as she was the Interim Priest for All Saints when we were in search, before Rev. Colette came. Rev. Billie is familiar with our church and has given us the feeling that things are moving forward.

Remember in Isaiah 43:19 it says “Watch for the new things I am going to do. It is happening already – you can see it now!” Well it is happening, our Financial Assessment was done and accepted. The Search Committee was appointed, and they have been meeting regularly. They have put together a survey and have passed them out. They are now collecting the surveys and will be going over them. Along with the results of the surveys, they will hold a few small meetings with the church members to gather other information and concerns. With all this information they will put together a Parish Profile. When it is accepted by the Diocese it will be used for information for candidates to look at. When you see a Search Committee member thank them for all the time and work they are putting into this process.

Yes, God does have a plan for All Saints, and we must keep the Faith. Hebrews 11:1 says “To have Faith is to be sure of the things we cannot see”. So, we must not look back, believe that God does have a plan for us and keep the Faith that God does have a rector picked out for us. When the time is right, he will reveal it to us.

Regina M. Gurney
Senior Warden

Want to be an Acolyte?



Rev. Billie is looking for and will train anyone interested in serving on the altar this fall. Young people of the parish are especially encouraged to serve as acolytes.

Interested? Call or speak to Rev. Billie about it.

617-584-2737 or billiemaegordon@gmail.com



Reminder:

September 8

Some Dates to Remember

September 5 – Senior Lunch at the church hall: You bring a sandwich, we provide chips, soup and dessert.

September 8 – Welcome Back Sunday: Breakfast, Canon visit, Sunday School registration, Back Pack Blessing

September 25 and every last Wednesday of month: 7 pm Service of Healing and Recovery in the Sanctuary

MEMORIAL BRICKS



We are adding remembrance bricks to our Memorial Garden!

Want to give a lasting memorial? Buy a brick and have it inscribed and placed in our garden.

Bricks cost \$50.00 each and can include up to three (3) lines of text and up to 20 characters each line, including spaces and punctuation. You may also include clip art.

To remember someone special, order a brick from Pat Eunice at ja1aj2to3@aol.com

PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you would like to be added to our parish prayer list, please contact Pat Eunice.

If you would like to pray for those in need, contact Pat.

Pat can be reached at ja1aj2to3@aol.com



FALL FUNDRAISING

with Dick Tingblad

We will be finishing up our summer "tax" calendars at the end of August. You may write a check, turn in your coins, or convert them to cash. We hope you had fun with this.

The 50/50 Raffle will be drawn in late September.

We are planning three big Fundraisers this season:

- September 21, we are planning a Spaghetti Supper under the direction of Leslie Bresnahan. Volunteers are needed to work and to donate items. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.
- October 26 is our 9th annual Craft Show. This is the one in which we rent tables to Crafters and Artisans, who sell their own creations. We have space for 14 tables in the Parish Hall and 3 on the front lawn. As of August 15, we have 10 tables rented. We do not have fleas or commercial vendors.
- November 22 and 23 is planned for our 109th Church Fair. At this event, the All Saints Congregation is totally responsible for making or donating everything we sell. Please be working now to make theme baskets, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations, knitting, sewing, woodworking, jewelry, or anything you can make. We will need donations of items for the Antiques department and for the Attic Treasures department. Also, we will need Harvest Soup and baked goods. We will need lots of workers as well.



YOU ARE INVITED TO A PUBLIC SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2019

Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Place: All Saints Parish Hall, 44 Park Avenue, Whitman

Donation: Adults - \$9.00; Children under 12 - \$5.00

Who: You and all your friends



Tickets available at the church Thrift Shop – Wed. 10-1; Sat. 10-2

RSVP by phone at 978-701-3228 or 781-447-6106

The Kitchen is Clean!

The kitchen cleaning crew has been busy and asks your help in keeping the area looking sparkly. If everyone chips in to wipe up and put back, the kitchen will stay reasonably neat until the next scheduled wipe down.



**WOW!
WHAT
A
CLEAN
FRIDGE!**



Beware of kitchen police!