

Saints Alive

At the "Little Brown Church"

Summer 2020



Rector Reflection



From your Interim Priest:

The last time we sent out a newsletter we were looking ahead to Lent and then Easter. Little did we know how much our lives would change after that. As our Bishop has often said to the clergy – we have never done this before and there are no rules as to how to proceed. And so, we are learning, day by day and week by week how to be the Church even when we are separated physically.

Our Bishops have been working hard with daily meetings from early morning until evening from their homes. The clergy have frequent meetings with the Bishop, the Regional Canons and Bill Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary, who helps us to understand all of the directives we are being given. Bishop Alan is closely following the directives from our Governor. But, as he has said to the clergy, the re-opening of our church buildings is Bishop Alan's decision to make. We will not re-gather in our church buildings until it can be done safely – and that will take time to implement. And not all of us will re-gather at the same time, depending upon our local needs.

It is now 10+ weeks into this 2020 pandemic of COVID-19. For some people – and most often those with little resources – this has been a time of very great stress and worry. It will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. For those who live alone it can be very stressful. Many of us have been working at home which meant learning new technologies very quickly. Parents often are working at home and also helping their children with their school work. Thank you to those of you who reach out to one another to keep in touch. That is so very important during these days.

Since the end of March, we have been doing Sunday and Wednesday worship using Zoom. It can be accessed through a computer (with camera and microphone), laptop, tablet or through a smart phone. (You can call in to the service if you have extended calling on your plan.) I am looking into having our services aired on local TV, but that would only cover Whitman and Hanson, I believe. As you all know, I email out the lessons and my sermon to try to reach all of you with something each week. Regina mails them to folks without computer access. Each week we hear from one of our bishops.

Like most clergy, I will continue to work from home for the foreseeable future. If you would like to chat – or need anything - please call my cell: 617-584-2737, between 9 am and 3 pm/ Mon. – Fri. If I don't answer leave a message and I will return your call. (I may be in a Zoom meeting, which we have frequently with the diocese and CPF)

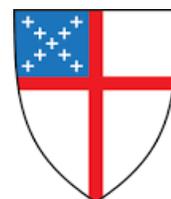
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**We are
All Saints!**



A.

We miss you and we look forward to seeing you in church real soon.



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WE MISS OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Rector Reflection, cont.

So in the midst of this strange new world we are now in, I have a question for you. In this time of enforced isolation and physical distancing from people what have you learned about yourself? Do you like what you have learned? Are you surprised by it? I would be interested to hear from you about that.

Personally, I have learned that I can be quite patient and calm for long periods of time. But only if I can see a possible end to being isolated from family, friends and parish. First it was 2 weeks, then a month, then 2 ½ months. Now I find it harder to be patient. I am sad that I haven't seen my son and daughter-in-law for months now. Especially, I am sad that I could not visit my brother before he died – and could not attend his funeral mass. That is an experience that many people have gone through in these past months. How do we properly grieve when we can't even be together?

I am sad that I may not get to vacation in Maine this year. I have already cancelled one trip there this spring. I know that many people are disappointed about vacation plans being cancelled this year. As your Interim priest I am sad I cannot be with all of you and do the things I love most – celebrating the Eucharist together, visiting the shut-ins and all the other things that are part of my priesthood. I miss all of you who have been part of my life for almost a year now – and yet – we are still the Church! The Church did not close – only the church building is closed! (Notice the capital C and the small c!)

Somehow, in the midst of this strange new world we are presently living in, we must not lose sight of who we are. We are Christians and nothing changes that. As Christians we are charged with loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Each time we have ended a service at the church, or in our living rooms, we are commanded to go and serve the Lord – or similar words. Our work begins when the service ends.

What does that look like for you? Perhaps it means taking care of elderly parents or neighbors by seeing that they have food and medicine. Perhaps it means taking time to call family and friends and parishioners to say hello and ask how they are doing. Perhaps it means just sitting quietly and praying for others – which is so very important in these days.

I encourage those of you who are able to be generous in donating to the local Food Pantries. Send them a check if you are able. I know that they are seeing more clients than ever before. This is a time we really see how important it is to love and care for our neighbors. And, of course, please continue to support your parish as you are able. The bills continue on.

We have asked this before: if you need help with food or medicine, please let me know. We have funds set aside to help you and someone has kindly offered to help with shopping for anyone who needs it.

Blessings to all of you – trust that in time the parish will be together in person to worship – but not until it is safe to do so. Pray for one another without ceasing – and pray for all who are suffering during these days.

Love and peace, *Rev. Billie+*



B.



OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

Priscilla Connors, who has taken charge of our outreach, reminds us that the All Saints' collection of non-perishable items for the Whitman Food Pantry has been suspended until we all return to services.

There are still many families in need of help, however. Priscilla suggests that those who can assist their local food pantries at this time.

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW RECTOR



NOTES FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE



Your Search Committee

Diantha Meagher, Jim Walker, Rosemary Botelho, Pat Delaney, Allison Akarsu

RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

Due to the concerns for coronavirus limiting the ability to connect directly with potential rectors, the Diocese elected to put all parish job postings on hold in March, including ours.

The Search Committee is excited to report that our job posting has since become active and is being seen by potentially interested parties. The posting will remain active for eight weeks, after which the committee will begin to review the applicants for potential match(es). We are excited to be entering in this next phase of the search and hope you are excited as well!

*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."



Zoom Church!

Do you have a computer? Tablet? Cell phone? If so, join us for church on Sunday via *Zoom!*

Watch for Rev. Billie's invitation every week.

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: bvcbosslady@gmail.com

Pat Delaney: designquilter@yahoo.com

Diantha Meagher: meags55@comcast.net

Jim Walker: jlwjr77@hotmail.com

Alfonse Wildfred: 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)

I spent half an hour trying to talk with them, wanting to learn about their culture



until the bartender cut me off and told me they were patio umbrellas.

A SMILE FOR YOU: 😊

Read this on Facebook this week:
"2020 is a unique Leap Year. It has 29 days in February, 180 days in March, 9 months in April, and so far we're 6 years into May!"
Yep – that sort of says it all!

Rev. Billie+

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



In Honor of Memorial Day All Saints World War II Honor Roll

William J. Achilli
Karl Baresel
Richard Bell
Ralph Binns
Dave Binns
Frederick Binns
Converse Blanchard
Raymond Brown
Bryant Carter
Ralph Cole
Herbert Corliss
Norman Clark
Paul DiMestico
George DiMestico
Donald Dunbar
Walter Gassett
Ralph Hall
Donald Hevrin
James Hix
David Kennedy
Turner Littlefield
Kirby Manson
Robert Morgan
Walter Morgan

★ Harry Morgan
William Morgan
John O. Morgan Jr.
George Morse
Maltha Neilson
Lewis Norwood
Lewis Nutter
Walter Phister

★ Daniel Riley
Sumner Robbins Jr.
Winslow Robbins
Charles Shurtleff
William Tirrell
Herbert H. Tingblad
Kenneth Vining
J. Perry Vining
Robert Wales
Shirley White
Warren Wright
Walter Wright
Kenneth Wolfe
John Yaney
Clarence Young

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

from Sarah Doyle and Kristen Brodeur, Directors



Like many of us, we had no idea what Zoom was three months ago. Sarah and Kristin are very grateful for Zoom, for allowing us to meet with our students from school, and many of the Sunday School kids. We have held weekly Zoom meetings after the church service. It has been so good to see the kids, parents and often family pets! We look forward to our Sunday School Zoom time as a chance to talk with the kids about how we are all dealing with the current situation.

We are finishing up the year, and ready to welcome summer. We cannot wait until we can all be together again.

Sarah and Kristin



C.

D.

A Note from Sarah (& Brian):

I know many people have wondered about our planned wedding and we truly appreciate your thoughts and prayers. We did reschedule our April 19 wedding and at this time are hoping to marry in July. We realize things may not be back to “normal” by then either, so we are still waiting to see where we stand at that point. We can’t thank everyone enough for all the support we have received. We can’t wait until we can be together again and celebrate with our church family.

**ZOOM
SUNDAY SCHOOL**
Sundays @ 11:00 a.m.
Check your email!

FROM YOUR JUNIOR WARDEN

Tom Rudolph



While the church is quiet and no services are being held, the management of the building continues. Bills are paid, cleaning is done, the grounds are tended, and projects are completed.

The vestry allocated funds in the spring for reconstructing and paving the driveway and handicapped parking area. In late spring, when construction resumed, the project was underway. No bumps and a smooth entrance and exit are the result. See pictures below or drive by for a better view.



Game on!

Have you noticed that some of the pictures in this issue have letters underneath them? They are parishioners who are missing our church family as much as you are. Can you name them all?

(Answers on page 8)



We miss our All Saints' family!

E.

A NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER

Thank you to all those who have kept up their pledges during this time when our building is closed.

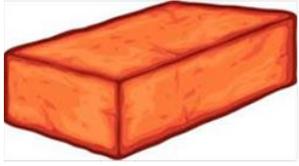
This is a difficult time for many of us. Because of your dedication to All Saints Church, we have been able to keep up with the needs of the building and our responsibilities to those we serve.

*Thank you,
Barbara Wight, Treas.*



F.

*Add a Brick
to the
Memorial Garden*



Pat Eunice, chair of this fundraiser, has determined that we will resume the purchase of memorial bricks once things return to normal.

Watch for more news about the Memorial Bricks.



FUNDRAISING
with Dick Tingblad

FUNDRAISING CALENDAR 2020

Please Join Us!

January 25	1-4 p.m.	Trivia Night
February 15	9-3 p.m.	Winter Yard Sale
March 7	5-8 p.m.	Corned Beef Supper
May 23	Online	Plant Sale

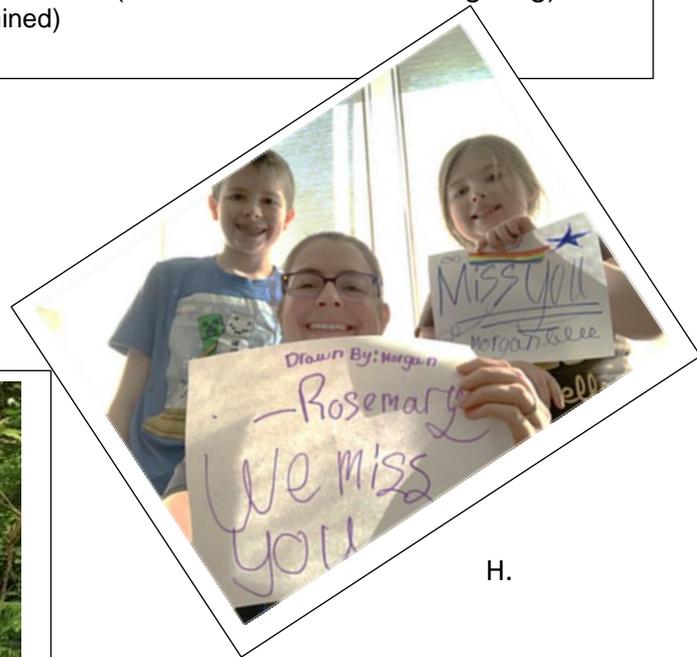
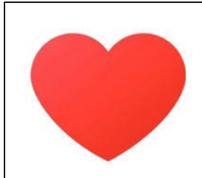
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Upcoming:

September ?		Spaghetti Supper (see Leslie)
September ?	5-8 p.m.	Church Auction
October 24	9-3 p.m.	Craft Show (weekend before Halloween)
November 20	4-7 p.m.	Friday Church Fair
November 21	9-3 p.m.	Saturday Church Fair (weekend before Thanksgiving)

(? = Date to be Determined)



G.



H.



I.



J.

Stay safe and know that we will have communion and prayer and Sunday school and nursery and coffee hour and picnics and music and events and YOU and all that makes All Saints great soon!

Meet the Saints of All Saints

Patricia (Tirrell) Delaney's All Saints' roots run deep – six generations deep. Her great grandmother, Jennie Wales (see the window in her memory over the choir stalls), was a founding member. Her grandmother Della (Wales) Tirrell sang in the choir at the laying of the church cornerstone. From Della and the flurry of aunts who made sure Pat was raised in the Episcopal church tradition to her two daughters, Sara and Beth, and her grandson Eli (that 6th generation), she is All Saints through and through.



Pat Delaney

Although Pat was not baptized at All Saints, she was confirmed and married there. She attended Sunday school from age three in the nursery through YPF as a teen, even teaching Sunday school. She recalls the sand table in the “undercroft,” junior choir with friends Mary Ann (Beland) O’Hearn and Linda (Gassett) Lawson, the 75th anniversary celebration of the church (she and Matt portrayed Cher and Sonny Bono in the decades’ remembrance), progressive dinners and excursions with young church couples, etc.

Raised in Whitman and graduated from Whitman-Hanson Regional High School, Pat went on to study fashion design at Massachusetts College of Art in Boston. She met and married Matthew Delaney; and the young girl, who first learned sewing on her father Bill Tirrell’s lap and the art of dressmaking from her Aunt Ginny, searched for work that fit her degree and her pre-learned sewing skills. She secured positions as a shoe designer and as a fashion clothing illustrator, both in Brockton.

As a young mother, Pat replaced an old sewing machine with a luxury \$700.00 model and stitched up a storm. She had always made her own clothing, but now created outfits for her husband and daughters, including suits, prom gowns and ski outfits. Yearly, she co-chaired the children’s table for the All Saints’ Holly Berry fairs, filling it with hand-made toys and accessories. Pat has been on many church committees including one that made an annual raffle quilt, a fun endeavor that ran for a number of years. A craft business, the Country Mouse, followed and Pat’s work with fiber grew.

Twenty-five years later while on a shopping trip to upgrade that “luxury” sewing machine, she bought a quilting book, thinking it would be fun to try. She made four quilts from the book’s patterns before trying her hand at creating her own designs. She entered a quilt show and won first place! Pat began teaching classes in her home, entered more shows, won more prizes and was asked to teach at national shows.

Today, Pat still teaches from her home in Abington as well as at national shows and guilds all over the country. She has been featured in quilting magazines, created a teaching video for Craftsby, had her quilts displayed in annual AQS calendars and was a solo artist, speaking and displaying her lovely art quilts at the Lowell Quilt Museum. This year for the first time, she will present her quilts using a webinar format.

Is it nature or nurture that makes Pat who she is? Pat was certainly nurtured at All Saints and in the arts through the generations that came before her: from the Jennie window, her father’s patient tutoring and grandmother Della’s Friday lunches with family and Rev. (Rudy) Rudderham. Her natural gifts, enhanced by education, are evident in the work she does, including the talent she donates to All Saints: a hand-made quilt for a church raffle, a stole for The Rev. Colette Wood, choir kneeler repair, to name a few. I think the kneelers speak to this best as they incorporate a familiar hymn: “I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true... And one was a (quilter,) and one was a queen, And one was a shepherdess on the green.”

Answers to Game On! A. The Rev. Billie Mae Gordon, B. Jennifer and Tom Rudolph, C. Kristin Brodeur and Snoopy, D. Sarah Doyle and Brian Perkins, E. Leslie Bresnahan and Janice Blades, F. The Akarsu and Wight Families: Mahir, Hannah, Allison, Barbara, Leyla and David, G. Regina and Mal Gurney, H. The Botelho Family: Ben, Rosemary and Morgan, I. The Eunice Family: Wes and Pat, J. Dick Tingblad