

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Oakland & Franklin Lakes

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 2021

WEEKEND UPDATE



This Sunday we will be holding In-Person Worship at 10 AM.

WE WILL BE INDOORS WITH PLENTY OF ROOM FOR DISTANCING, PLEASE WEAR A MASK FOR SINGING, AND BE CONSCIOUS OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

PLEASE JOIN US!!!

No preregistration is necessary but there will be a sign-in book upon entrance.

The Zoom Information and Sunday Bulletin for the service will be forwarded in a separate email.



What Happens Now?

Now that Kathryn has announced that she will be concluding her ministry among us at St. Alban's, what happens now? Well, the first thing is that we will take the next few weeks to let the news settle in, give thanks for all that has been, and be intentional about saying good-bye to each other. We all are embarking on a new time in our lives as we continue to faithfully serve Christ but will be doing so in different places.

Bishop Carlye Hughes and Canon Margo Clark are fully aware of the transition time ahead and are committed to partnering with us so that we can plan and step boldly into the future that God envisions for us. But just as important will be the discernment that we will enter into to assess what future we hear God calling us into as well as what we want for ourselves and our beloved church family. Even if we were not entering a clergy transition this would be a time of transition for us because we are completing the sale of the property, retiring the debt, and ... oh yes ... there is the pandemic still hanging around and impacting nearly every aspect of our lives!

Canon Clark's area of ministry responsibility is clergy deployment and parish transition. She brings important skills and experience to working closely with congregations in just such times as these. **Canon Clark will be at St. Alban's on Sunday, October 24th to preach and preside. She will engage in conversation and next-steps to engage the process moving forward.**

Until then, please keep our parish family as well as Kathryn and Nicholas in your daily prayers. May we all find a lively sense of God's presence with us as we journey forward into all that is yet to be.

The Reverend Canon Margo Peckham Clark, Canon for Congregational Life, will be at St. Alban's on Sunday, October 24th at 10 AM to preside, preach, and begin the conversation about what is next for us as a parish.

Please be sure to be either present in-person or on Zoom to be part of the conversation and learn about the path forward.



**The Reverend Canon Margo Peckham Clark
Canon for Congregational Life**


“Every Perfect Gift” 2021 Year B

We are called in this moment to reflect on the cycle of abundance sparked with the first light and made manifest in the Creation, in the calling of prophets, and in the gift of God’s own son on Earth. As we share our gifts through the Eucharist and through our service to the world, we participate in the ongoing creation of abundance and generosity.



Jesus looking at him and loved him – Mark 10:17-31

Some years ago there was a Cracker Jacks commercial. In it a grandfather is enjoying a box of the popcorn snack. He hears his grandson enter the house and hurriedly hides the box. He asks his grandson, “What did you learn in school today?” The grandson responds with an expectant look on his face, “sharing”. Grandpa who is not quite ready to share his snack then asks, “Did you play any games at school today?” The grandson repeats “sharing”. Grandpa reluctantly shares the box with grandson who then pours some into his own hand and turns to leave until Grandpa asks “sharing?” and extends his hand. Grandson happily shares.



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

If we were asked, What did you learn in Christ today?, would our answer be “sharing?”

When I was a child, this was just one example of what it looks like to consider the needs of others and our response to them. No matter where we lived, our home was a haven of rest or refuge for those with varying degrees of need. It could have been giving food to Miss Florene to assist her in feeding her family; or serving as a temporary home for Miss Alice’s children when their parents were engaged in domestic abuse situations; or caring for newborn twins experiencing narcotics withdrawal due to a mom who struggled with addiction. It could have been providing our living room as a guest room for someone in need. Or it could have been ensuring there was always a place at our table for the unexpected guest. How often do we look at another and love them?

The love of God comes to us in various and sundry ways. When we look at our neighbors, family and friends through eyes of compassion and love and act with a spirit of gratitude and generosity, we recognize with God all things are possible. When we acknowledge the personhood of the other, particularly those who society would deem the least or the last person one would offer a place at one’s table, then that person becomes the first to receive an invitation. We experience God’s love most fully when we are able to give of ourselves for the good of others. | TENS.org

The Rev. Debra Bennett is rector of Our Saviour, Akron, Ohio and serves on the TENS Board of Directors.



THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP



Just a reminder to please continue to send in your pledges either by mailing them into the church office or through our online giving on our website at <http://www.stalbansflow.org/> Your support is greatly appreciated!

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If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email the parish office stalbansofl@optimum.net .

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ALTAR CANDLE WEEKLY DEDICATIONS AVAILABLE

St. Alban's will be again offering an opportunity to remember your loved ones with a weekly dedication of the lit sanctuary candle. For a \$10 donation, your loved ones will be remembered in memory or thanksgiving during our weekly prayers and bulletin as well as dedicating the lit sanctuary candle to them for the week beginning on the Sunday Service of your choosing.

If you are interested in making a donation, you can either mail in your check with the names of your dedication or make a donation directly on our website <http://stalbansflow.org/> All dedications must be made by Thursday of the week prior to the date of your choosing.

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 201-337-4909.



Don't forget to choose St. Alban's as your designated charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3802711 to generate donations for Rector Wardens Vestrymen of St Albans Episcopal Church in OfI and check out our [AmazonSmile Charity Lists](#) to donate items we need most.

