GRACE NOTES—February 2021



Mother Cathy's Corner

Lent Calling

Believe it or not, it is almost Lent. Ash Wednesday is fast approaching on February 17th. The word "Lent" comes from the season, in which the days are lengthening toward the spring equinox, but given our weather this year, it is difficult to believe that we are now more than halfway to spring! Usually Lent is associated with practices of penitence, fasting, additional time for prayer and study, and a certain austerity in our liturgical observances, leading to the solemn observance of Holy Week and the joyful and festive celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord at Easter. In this pandemic year, although our options for gathering together in one physical place are still limited, we can still make room for God's Holy Spirit to move in and through us; to renew and restore and empower God's people and God's church, as the Holy Spirit is constantly seeking to do. We just need to be a bit creative about how!

In the Acts of the Apostles, right after Pentecost and the baptism of three thousand people, the fledgling church community is described,

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Mother Cathy's Corner-cont.

As we see, the alchemy of transforming the newly-baptized into the community that is the church is grounded in an array of practices: private prayer and communal worship, study and learning with mind and heart, actions in service, evangelism and stewardship and our common life of conversation, care and listening. How might we each recommit ourselves to these practices? How might we accomplish them this year? And what is the Holy Spirit calling you to this Lent?



WEDNESDAY IN LENT

Beginning February 24, we will have a short Wednesday evening online worship service beginning at 6:00 PM. Watch our weekly e-news *Grace Community This Week* for details.

LITURGY ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Are you interested in helping with recorded/livestreamed services from church? One household (i.e., those who live in the same home) is needed to read lessons, psalm and prayers of the people, and to make the responses at each service. Only those essential to the recording/livestream are permitted to attend in person. Physical distancing and masks are required. Please contact Mother Cathy if you are interested in helping out.

ASH WEDNESDAY-FEBRUARY 17

Since we cannot yet all assemble in person, this year we will have variations on "Ashes to Go". Those on our regular mailing list will be sent a small envelope of palm ashes, and a brochure with an abbreviated Ash Wednesday service for you to use at home with your household. A Zoom Ash Wednesday service will also be held at 7:00 PM. (watch our weekly enews *Grace Community This Week* for meeting information). If you prefer, you may drive to church between

11:00 AM and 1:00 PM or 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and receive ashes while remaining in your car. There is also a diocesan worship service from 7:30-8:15 AM, either by zoom, https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckcu6gqD0pE9WSiymU_ovOIaQNhrDCK22h, or Facebook live,https://www.facebook.com/cnyepiscopal/live

JANUARY VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Observed a moment of silence and prayer for the repose of Garth Foster (forever "The Reverend BillieBobJoeRay")
- Stacey Wolf unanimously and enthusiastically appointed clerk
- New members recognized: Ash McNamara, Nancy Fredette, and Barb Reeves
- PPP Loan Forgiveness notice received, and PPP second draw application approved
- Affirmed email vote regarding DCI audio equipment and ID funding source
- Ash McNamara will coordinate a draft of an accurate Treasurer's job description (to include input from the treasurer and Finance Committee)
- We will change over our phone and internet systems from DSL to FiOS
- Please affix your name to your pledge envelope, even if it is numbered.
- Diocesan Ministry grants are available to raise up ministry efforts throughout the Diocese that further the mission goals of the entire Diocese. Parishes, parish organizations, and individuals may apply with vestry endorsement. Applications are due Thursday, March 1, 2021 (Vestry meets February 24). Details available at https://cnyepiscopal.org/resources/funding/ministry-grants/

WINTER FOOD DRIVE

The Outreach Committee is once again doing a winter food drive to be delivered to the Baldwinsville Food Pantry. It seems that donations drop off right after Christmas and the pantry has asked us to fill the gap. All non-perishable food items are welcome. However, the Baldwinsville Food Pantry has expressed a special need for the following



items:

Jellies and jam (not homemade), peanut butter, hamburger/tuna noodle helper, pasta/mac & cheese, hearty soups, canned veggies/stew/tuna, box of instant hot chocolate, cereal, and paper products.

This is an on going collection and items can be brought to the office during regular office hours, but we would like to make a delivery to them at the beginning of March.

BALDWINSVILLE CHRISTMAS BUREAU

Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau 2020





To

Once again due to the overwhelming generosity of groups and individuals, the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau was able to help over 145 families in Baldwinsville have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season! This year, the outpouring of donations was exceptionally generous in a year that has been impacted by the COVID -19 virus! Without your support, over 500 individuals would not have received a Christmas dinner complete with a turkey, as well as extra food, clothing, coats, boots, hats and mittens, house wares, books, and toiletries. Most importantly, Christmas Bureau was able to "assist" Santa Claus by providing toys and a filled stocking for every child! Children under 3 received a baby bag filled with items such as blankets, diapers, clothes and toys.

We could never accomplish any of this without. The entire Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau committee and our parent organization, the Baldwinsville Volunteer Center would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks. Every year, we are amazed at the generosity and compassion of donors such as yourself! We also hope you will think of us again next year! Please like our Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau Facebook page for information on the 2021 Christmas Bureau!



Lauri Bernstein, Christmas Bureau Coordinator mrsb4126@gmail.com or (315)727-5435

Janet Therrien, Christmas Bureau Chairperson

Stephanie Pelcher, Christmas Bureau Assistant Co-Chair

REMEMBERING

As the new year begins we want to take a moment and remember the ones that have recently departed from us: Dave Gentry, Linda Savacool, the mother of Andy Spitler, and Garth Foster.

External Lord God, you hold all souls in life: Give to your whole Church in paradise and on earth your light and your peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of those who have served you here and are now at rest, may at the last enter with them into your unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



When God sends a cardinal, it's a visitor from heaven. Cardinals appear when loved ones are near.

SAMARITAN MEAL

Due to the continuing pandemic, Outreach feels that volunteering as a church is still impossible. The committee has chosen to honor our commitment by donating the cost of the meal. Your contributions are essential to this effort. You may drop off or mail

your gift marked "Samaritan Meal" or donate online via our website. To donate securely online go to our website,

GIVE

GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org and click the

green GIVE button. You will be redirected to our online giving partner, Tithely. Be sure to select the "Fund" item "Samaritan Meal" so your gift is credited properly.

Thank you!

Online Annual Meeting Highlights

- This year we welcomed three new members onto the Vestry: Ashley McNamara, Barb Reeves (Junior Warden), and Nancy Fredette. Three members stepped down: Jeannie LaMere, Phyllis Brown, and Linda Savacool (of blessed memory).
- The continuing vestry members are Brad Pettit, Pam Griffo, Allen Wolf, Ruth Frey, and Laura Moreau.
- We voted for the first time using Zoom, and even had a practice vote. It went smoothly.
- We went over the financials from 2020 and the vestry-approved 2021 budget.
- A big thank you to Properties, Parish Life, Altar Guild, and Outreach for keeping up with everything, and thank you to volunteers who helped out with unusual tasks!
- Thank you to parish staff, Mother Cathy, Cate Griffo, Jeff Wise, Cathy McClain and Jonathon Howell for above and beyond.

Hot Cross Buns

Ingredients:

3/4- cup of milk

1 package (1/4 oz.) of active dry yeast

½- teaspoon of granulated white sugar

3 ½- 4 cups of flour

1/4- cup of light brown sugar

1 teaspoon of cinnamon

1/4- teaspoon of cloves

1/4- teaspoon of allspice

1/4- teaspoon of nutmeg

½- teaspoon of salt

¹/₄- cup (4 tablespoons) of unsalted butter at room temperature

2 large eggs

½- cup of candied fruit and peel mix

1/4- cup of raisins or currants

Egg wash:

1 large egg

1 tablespoon of milk or cream

Glaze:

½- cup of confectioners (powdered or icing) sugar, sifted 1 tablespoon milk or cream

Directions:

- 1. In a small saucepan or in the microwave heat the milk until lukewarm. Add the yeast and ½- teaspoon sugar and stir to combine. Set aside for about 10 minutes or until the yeast is activated and is foamy.
- 2. Meanwhile in the bowl of your electric mixer, combine the flour, brown sugar, spices, and salt.
- 3. Once the yeast is foamy, add to the flour mixture and beat to combine.
- 4. Add the eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. With the mixer on low, gradually add the butter, mixing until the butter is incorporated and the dough comes together. With the dough attachment, knead the dough until it is smooth and elastic (about 5 minutes).
- 5. Transfer the dough to a lightly floured surface and, by hand, gradually knead in the candied and dried fruit.
- 6. Place the dough in a lightly greased bowl, turning the dough once, so the top is lightly greased.
- 7. Cover with plastic wrap or a clean dish towel and place in a warm spot to rise until it has doubled in size (about 1 1/2 hours). When the dough has doubled in size, punch it down, and divide into 12 equal pieces.
- 8. Form each piece into a small round ball and place on a parchment lined baking sheet (Place three buns to a row, four rows altogether. They should be spaced so they have enough room to double in size.)
- 9. Make an egg wash of one beaten egg with 1 tablespoon milk, and brush the tops of the buns with the wash.
- 10. Cover with plastic wrap or a clean dish towel and place in a warm spot until almost doubled in size (about 30 60 minutes).
- 11.Preheat oven to 400. Brush the tops of the buns with the egg wash again and, with a sharp, lightly greased knife, make a cross in the tops of each bun.
- 12.Place the baking sheet in the preheated oven and bake for about 15 minutes, or until the buns are nicely browned and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.

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Sunday Rite 2 11:00 A.M.

Sunday Rite 1 8:00 A.M.

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