

WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, FAITHFULLY ANGLICAN SINCE 2012

Jesus said:

“I and the Father are one.”

John 10:30

MAY 1, 2022

Sharing the Good News

Father Tom will be out of town from May 9-12 for the diocesan clergy retreat in Wisconsin. He will be having cataract surgery on the 19th.

Here is the Lector and coffee hour schedule for May:

5/1 - Diane

5/8 – Elisabeth

5/15 - Kathy

5/22 – Sylvia

5/29 – All/Volunteers for coffee hour

Our church council will meet at 10 am on Wednesday, May 18. The meeting is delayed by one week this month due to the clergy retreat.

As is our custom, the first Sunday of the month (May 1) is designated as **Food Pantry Sunday**.

The jar remains on the welcome table near the front door for donations to support our friends in Nepal.

We are also accepting donations of used women's clothing for the women's shelter. You can bring them to church any Sunday and Fr. Tom will deliver the donations to Eric at the Knife Guy.

A big well done to Sylvia and all those who contributed for the beleaguered children of Ukraine. The total raised was \$269.08.

May Birthdays at St. Mary's:

April 22 – Diane McCoy

May 10 – Sylvia Swegle

And a Happy Mothers' Day to our mothers: Debbie Brown, Kathy Hahn, Tressie Kemp, Elisabeth Langford, Diane McCoy and Sylvia Swegle

FR. TOM'S SCHEDULE

Sunday 10:30 AM – Mass

followed by coffee hour

Wednesday - Office

hours 10 to 12:30 PM

1 pm, Bingo @ Holly

Brook

2 pm Bible Study @

Holly Brook

2nd Wednesday – 10

AM. Church council mtg.

Thursday

Reflections: Prayer

service @10 am; Bingo

follows

South Park; Prayer

service @1:30; Bingo

@2:00

Contact information

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stmarysanglicanchatham

Visit our webpage at

saintmaryanglican.org

Join us at 122 W. Walnut in

Chatham, IL

Here is our current parish prayer list as of April 28. As usual, please email Fr. Tom if you have any further additions or subtractions. You can offer up any of these names on Sunday, but I would ask you to pray for those on the list during your daily devotions.

For Foley, our Archbishop; Alberto, our Bishop; Tom, our priest; and for Deacon Tom

For those fighting cancer: Barb, Les, Penny, Alan, Debbie, Joan, Cindy, Karen, Carol, Lisa

For those in need of uplifting prayer: Diane, Deacon Tom, John, Sherry, Frank, Anita, Hannah, Barb, Jon S., Luke, Jerry, Donna, Jonas, Kathy, Karl, Michael, Melinda, Sara, Joan, Josh, Andrew, Margot, Terry, Susan, Carolyn, Gary, Kathy, Dan, David Morgan

For those in long term care: Gabriel, Grace, Danielle, the residents at Holly Brook, Reflections and South Park

For the Church's ministry in Nepal: Purna, Mahendra, Dipendra, Reshma, Tirtha, their families and churches; the Transformation Spiritual Church

For the victims of the war in Ukraine

For victims of the COVID pandemic worldwide

For persecuted Christians throughout the world

For the growth of St. Mary's Anglican Mission

Thoughts from the Vicar - With the arrival of Spring, thoughts turn to yard work like mowing and pulling weeds. Earlier this week as I was "encountering some dandelions, I thought, "Is there some connection between these weeds and our Christian journey."

Strangely enough, I found a blog written by Pastor Ron Harris from August of 2019 in which he addresses the question that I just posed. He wrote: "Anyone who has tried to uproot a dandelion knows the first characteristic I thought of. Dandelions have large, deep roots. This fact is why, while the lawn grass may be thoroughly brown, these little monsters can stay green the whole summer. Too often we find Christians who, when lean times come, forget God's promise." "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Pastor Harris continued, "Another feature of the dandelion is that its cheery flower keeps its face aimed at the sun (Son) as the earth spins like a pig on a rotisserie. A design that is seen on many plants, a complex system of heat and light-sensitive chemicals and structures accomplish this feat reliably, day in, day out. And if you are myopically biased you might believe that amazing feat of engineering happened by accident. I just say, "Wow, God you are amazing!" But if the little dandelion is wise enough to keep its face pointed at its source of life, we who are new creations in Christ could learn from its example."

I pray that we may become as rooted in Christ as the dandelion is in the soil and that we may keep our eyes focused on Jesus. *Father Tom*

As I finish this newsletter, I can't help but think back to April 28, 2018, when I was ordained to the priesthood.