

NEWS FOR ALL THE SAINTS

All Saints' Memorial Church, Navesink, NJ

www.allsaintsnavesink.org

April 30, 2020

Alleluia, Christ has risen! The Lord has risen indeed, Alleluia!

If we were gathering together in worship, this would be our opening acclamation throughout the month of May, as we celebrate Easter season (which ends with Pentecost on May 31). And while we continue to gather online on Facebook live each Sunday at 10:15 am, it doesn't have the same feel. There is something to the energy of being in community, singing and praying together in the same space, breaking bread together, that feels all the more precious now. I imagine that the early church felt the same way—as oft times gathering safely was in question.

I don't know when our buildings will reopen or what worship will look like as we transition (the decision is up to the Bishop, and a newly formed advisory committee). Likely it will be a slow process, and we will keep you posted. For now, our buildings are closed through May 31—and we will see what June brings. I know that there are many in our communities who are feeling tired of being restricted, tired of gloves and masks and washing hands and 'social distancing', tired of daily press conferences full of case counts, death tolls, hospital bed occupancies, tired of losing pay or business. There are few, if any, who feel like this is the way we want to live. But that's the whole point here—it's about <u>living</u>. As in, ALIVE (not dead). And not just about you or me not getting sick or possibly dying—but about the larger community being afforded the same chance. And that speaks to the some very basic Christian principles: sacrifice, love, and care and compassion for the other. Which are harder to practice than we may like to acknowledge.

But also embedded in our Christian ethos is gratitude, faith, and hope; as well as the baptismal promises of seeking and serving Christ in ALL persons, striving for justice and peace among ALL people, and respecting the dignity of EVERY human being. This means assuming the best of persons—even when we don't want to; keeping in mind that getting through this is a community effort, not just an individual one. Translation?—be kind, be patient, look at this crisis time through a longer lens (for me, I look through the lens of my grandparents life—and God's timeline and perspective are even longer). Previous generations have gone through far worse, to my eye. As a species, our big enemies are not just rogue viruses (which have done considerable damage over the centuries)—but how we react to and manage them. Nothing—not even facing death—is worth losing our humanity, our faith, our capacity to love and see one another as fellow children of God. This is Jesus' example from the cross: he forgave his persecutors, he did not return violence for violence, he did not lash out or write people off, he still saw us through the eyes of love. This is who we follow. I, for one, know I do this poorly on my best day, and I need the aid and comfort of the Holy Spirit to do even that.

We will come through this—that, I trust. My deepest prayer is that we come through this without losing our capacity to care, to share; to not 'circle the wagons' and put up economic or even health-related walls. That would be our biggest loss—to lose our sense of who we are and are called to be. That is my prayer for all of us—not only for our physical health, but also our spiritual health.

I am grateful for all of you—for your reaching out to one another, for your cards, and notes and donations and pledge payments; for your joining as you are able in our online worship (or viewing it on our YouTube channel)—and then sharing our Facebook videos with others! I am thankful for Deacon Michelle setting up the conference line and encouraging us to call in; for Julia Nagy's tireless guidance with our finances and in filing for a Payroll Protection Program loan; for Mrs. Shanley's online Sunday school; for Bonnie's work on getting us set up for online donations and for Mary-Michele working the phones on behalf of our 50/50 Raffle which we are still legally obligated to pull on May 9th. I am thankful for your donations to food pantries and the Pet pantry, and for those working with the same. I am deeply appreciative of your many prayers, and thankful for my family, fellow clergy and colleagues, and most of all, for my Lord by whose grace I'm still able to somehow form a coherent sentence or two! I pray you are able to find things that you are thankful for, to even celebrate, to share laughter, to hold onto love. For in the end, that's what matters.

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

(1 Corinthians 16:13-14)

Peace,

Mother Debbie+

Save time (and frustration)....Please use these links!

Website: All Saints' Memorial Church

https://allsaintsnavesink.org/

Visit here for updated worship bulletins, worship times, information on online giving, events, calendar, etc. There are also links on our front page to Covid related sites and Legal Aid.

Facebook: All Saints' Memorial Church

https://www.facebook.com/allsaintschurchnavesink/

Visit here for Live worship, updates, shared information from the Diocese, and other articles.

YouTube: All Saints Church Navesink

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0pU9QNLtwkh0Gu70twAshQ

Visit here for uploads (after the fact) of our worship services. Future offerings via YouTube coming soon.

IOIN US FOR ON-LINE WORSHIP!

Find us on Facebook Live

https://www.facebook.com/allsaintschurchnavesink/

Sunday Morning Prayer at 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Healing Service Prayers at 10 am
Tuesday and Thursday evening Compline at 9 pm

Find bulletins and links at: https://allsaintsnavesink.org

Not comfortable with Facebook?

Sunday and Wednesday services uploaded to YouTube shortly after completion at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0pU9QNLtwkh0Gu70twAshQ

Parish Finances

First—a BIG THANK YOU to all those who have send cards, notes, and donations—we are grateful for your sharing your news, good wishes, prayers and resources!

Thanks to the good record keeping and work of Julia Nagy, who serves as our Assistant Treasurer, we applied for and hope to close soon on a Payroll Protection Program forgivable loan. These monies, if/when awarded, will help us continue to pay staff through the end of June, as well as help with some utilities. However, other regular expenses continue (insurance, property maintenance, office equipment lease, some office expenses).

If you submitted a pledge for 2020, we respectfully ask that you try to keep it up as you are able. All donations are welcome. You can mail your payments to the All Saints' address at:

P.O. Box 326, Navesink, NJ 07752.

OR

USE OUR ON-LINE GIVING OPTIONS

USING TEXT-TO -GIVE

One on-line option we have is a text-to-give system, which is handled through our new Church membership data base system, called *Breeze*. Breeze is a cloud based system through which ministry leaders can manage communications, where we can take event registrations, and process on-line giving, among other things. Here is how to go about it:

- Text GIVE to 732-400-5774
- If this is your first time, it will direct you to a screen to setup a giving method—either via credit card or using ACH (from your bank account). Whatever method you pick will be the method Text-to-give continues to use for subsequent donations.
- Enter the information and pick your amount.
- For future donations, text GIVE to the same number, answer the prompt for the amount, and the donation will be processed.

Rather do this from your computer? Go to:

https://allsaintsnavesink.breezechms.com/give/online

It will ask you for the same information, but you can change your payment method each time. If it asks you to pick a fund, please pick the **GENERAL FUND**.

Please let Bonnie Roberts or Mother Debbie know if you have any questions or problems.

AUCTION UPDATE CHANGE THE DATE—AND SAVE IT! Saturday, October 3rd, 2020

Due the pandemic of Covid19, The Auction Committee has moved the Auction Date to October 3rd. Save the Date! New postcards have gone out. We are also working on options for an on-line auction.

But...THE 50/50 RAFFLE IS STILL ON FOR MAY 9TH! This is another way to help raise funds during a challenging time. If you like to purchase tickets, send Jim Cook an email at jimcookjr47@yahoo.com, and he can mail tickets to you. Tickets are \$5 each, or sold in books of five for \$25. All ticket stubs with accompanying payment need to be returned by May 5th so we can get an accurate count. Thank you to Mary-Michele for her phone calls and for all those who have sent in monies for raffle tickets.

We will pull the Raffle, as scheduled, at 9:30 pm on May 9th—watch on Facebook Live!

PASTORAL CARE AND OTHER NEEDS

While Diocesan guidelines and shelter-in-place laws have restricted clergy visitations, please know Deacon Michelle and Mother Debbie are available by phone, text, Zoom video conferencing or email. All weddings, baptisms, etc. will need to be postponed until we can safely gather again in some format; funerals are to be grave-side only, for immediate family. Some clergy have done Livestream services on Zoom or Facebook Live (from a remote/home location) so that more people can 'attend'; some funeral homes are facilitating virtual services. At this point, I do not think New Jersey is allowing virtual weddings, but we will keep you posted.

If you need assistance with mental health, legal, financial, food, or other needs, please let us know. The Diocesan website and the NJ Covid 19 site (links to both are in this newsletter) have an abundance of resources. The Mental Health Association of Monmouth County has an abundance of links as well at https://mhanational.org/covid19.

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO IS Pre-K THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

JOIN MRS. SHANLEY FOR ON-LINE ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Contact Mrs. Shanley for the Zoom link at evanemshanley@gmail.com

CONFERENCE CALL CHECK-IN

Missing everyone?

Deacon Michelle has set up a weekly conference call on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm. Join in! All you need is a phone!

Call: 701-802-5499 When asked for an access code, enter: 4263545

If you get a busy signal, hang up and try again! More people joining every week!

Reminder

All campus buildings are closed until further notice.

The grounds and cemetery are open; please maintain the recommended minimum six foot distance between persons.

Office phone, mail and email continue to checked on a regular basis; please call/contact Mother Debbie for immediate assistance at mother.debbie@comcast.net or 732-492-1943 or contact Deacon Michelle at moquendo737@gmail.com.

USEFUL COMMUNITY LINKS

New Jersey Government Covid19 Site: https://covid19.nj.gov/ (or Call: 211)

Diocese of New Jersey Covid19 site: https://dioceseofnj.org/covid-19-guidance/ Includes links to Resources, On-line worship and studies

Legal Aid Society of Monmouth County: https://monmouthlegalaid.com/

Centers for Disease Control (CDC): https://www.cdc.gov/