

Hello St. Philip's family!

I hope this week's newsletter finds all of you well and prospering. St. Philip's continues to inch closer to near-normalcy with regard to the late pandemic. Here's what to expect Sunday:

- There has been a fair amount of debate over whether or not we should return to singing and adding wine to our communion experience. Please know that absolutely no one is required to receive wine, sing or do anything they feel uncomfortable with.
- If you wish to receive wine at the communion rail, we do insist upon intinction (that is dipping the host in the cup) rather than drinking from the chalice. I agree that the common cup experience is beautiful, meaningful and closest to what Jesus and the disciples experienced at the Last Supper. However, we also want every person (visitors and regulars) to feel safe. So, please either decline the wine, or, intinct. Put another way – be a dipper, not a sipper!
- The Christian Church has – throughout the centuries – taught that receiving communion in one kind (host only) is every bit as spiritually efficacious as receiving in both kinds (host and wine). This is established teaching and one should never feel “less than” or incomplete when receiving bread only.
- Yes, you are welcome to sing the hymns! However...the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago recommends that anyone who sings wear a mask while doing so. The reason for this should be obvious. That said, I am not comfortable INSISTING that all singers wear masks. I am leaving it up to the individual. The only mandate I will apply is this: If you have NOT been vaccinated, you must wear a mask to sing. This is for our safety and yours.

- For now, all the music will come from the 1982 Hymnal, which is in the rack in your pew. We will be adding music from *Gather, Lift Every Voice and Sing* and other sources as we learn how to incorporate those scores into our bulletin. But if it's a 1982 Hymnal selection, you will need to use the book.
- Sunday is the Baptism of Hannah DeMeyer! Please join us to welcome our dear sister in Christ into the family of faith. Remember that we ALL promise, during a baptism, to help prosper the newly-baptized in the faith. It really DOES "take a village".
- Continue to rely on the weekly eBlast for updates on various activities at church. Thanks to Dolores Kampert for putting the eBlast together.
- Please visit the church's outer office. It is really taking shape. The Allord and Kampert families have donate their time, labor and material to this remodeling project so be sure to say thank you. We are so blessed to have these families as part of St. Philip's!
- St. Philip's is still looking for a new Office Manager. We thought we had someone lined up but it didn't work out. Let folks know there is still an opening. And please pray that God will bring just the right person to us.

Prayer Concerns and Thanksgivings...

- Please pray for Kim McDonald, who has recently been hospitalized.
- Add Roberta Butler, mother of Ida, to your prayers. She has recently been struggling with health issues.
- Robert Oles had surgery on his hand Tuesday. I have not been able to make contact with him but I know he would welcome your prayers that the procedure was effective.

- Give thanks that Jack Notzen, who was recently and briefly hospitalized, is now home and is vastly improved. May God continue to bless and care for our brother!
- Give thanks for those parishioners who step in when someone is in need and demonstrate Christ's love!
- Pray for our members who live alone. Some struggle with depression; borderline poverty and loneliness. We MUST pray for each other. And if you can, please read through the parish directory and call anyone the Lord lays on your heart. For those of you who DO struggle with loneliness and depression, please know you are not alone. I have battled depression my whole life and it is NOT a shameful thing. It does NOT indicate spiritual or emotional weakness. If you ever need to talk, call me. You are NOT alone and you are loved! Jesus Himself was "a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief". I'd say we're in good company!
- Give thanks for the music ministry of Michelle Webb. May God continue to use her for His glory and for the welfare of our community.
- Please pray for the victims of the recent building collapse in Florida. May those who died rest in peace. May those who mourn be comforted. And may God bless and prosper the work of the wonderful rescuers who are still attempting to find survivors.
- Pray also for the victims of a terrible fire at a martial arts school in China. May God comfort their families.
- Pray for the families affected by recent storms in our area.
- Give thanks for first responders here and everywhere. May God protect and bless them!
- As ever, please remember in prayer the members of our parish (as well as their relatives and friends) who are in need of ongoing care.

Whether the need is physical, financial or otherwise, we commit ourselves to praying for them. May God bless Ken and Janie Jossen; Linda Purcell; Jill Hill; JoAnn and Bob Miller; Michelle Webb; Andreas Kistner; Molly and her parents – Laura and David; Christina Guzman; Kelly Scolnick; Levi Tsu and his parents; Sarah McCready; Joe and Toni Saladino; Lillian Conway; Fr. Tom Janiec; Fr. Henry Randolph; Kurth Horner; Tim Zierer; Bishop-Elect Paula Clark; Faye; Marge; Aury and Peggy & Don.

In the wider Church, please pray for...

- The Hispanic Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago
- St. Simon's Episcopal Church in Arlington Heights and Mother Jenny Hulen, rector. Pray also for Rev. Diane Shields, pastoral care coordinator.
- New Light Christian Church on Rand Road

Quiz Time...

This week's quiz is a little different. It's a True/False questionnaire about various statements that may or may not be part of the Bible. Have fun! Answers at the end of the newsletter...

1. The Bible says "God helps those that help themselves". (True/False)
2. The Bible says "God never gives you more than you can handle". (True/False)
3. Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (True/False)
4. Scripture declares that "money is the root of all evil." (True/False)

5. The Bible tells us that one day “the lion shall lie down with the lamb”. (True/False)

How'd you do?

This Day in Christian History...

- On June 20th, 1926: Minnie Kennedy, mother of Aimee Semple McPherson, tries to end speculation about the evangelist's sudden disappearance by holding a memorial service for her at Angelus Temple. Three days later McPherson reappears with a tale of having been kidnapped.
- On July 21st, 1834: Cyrus McCormick, a Christian inventor and businessman from Virginia, patents the world's first truly workable reaper. He will make a fortune from it, much of which will go to charity.
- On July 22nd, 1535: St. John Fisher is beheaded by command of King Henry VIII of England because he has openly rebuked Henry's divorce from Catherine of Aragon and refused to accept Henry as head of the Church of England.
- On June 24th, 64: Emperor Nero begins the first imperial persecution of Christians.
- Also on June 4th, but in 1885: Consecration in New York of Samuel David Ferguson, the first African-American Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church.
- On July 25th, 1938: Pope Pius XI orders American anti-racist priest John LaFarge to draft an encyclical against racism because of the growing Aryanism of Germany. LaFarge will do so, but Vatican politics

will prevent its promulgation before the pope's death the following February.

➤ On July 26th, 1928: Death in New York City of Isabel Florence Hapgood, who had translated many French and Russian works of literature into English. Love of Russian Orthodoxy and its liturgy had prompted her to translate its rites into English, too. She had also worked to bring together Russian Orthodox and Episcopalians in the United States.

With thanks to the Christian History Institute

News Briefs...

(BRANSON, MO.) – Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker has been ordered to pay 156-thousand dollars in restitution to viewers of his television program, *The Jim Bakker Show*. Bakker is further prohibited from marketing what he calls his “Silver Solution” formula – which he claims protects users from Covid-19. The substance was offered to those who donated over 80 dollars to his so-called ministry. Lawyers for the Branson, Missouri-based televangelist say the ruling by the Missouri court is tantamount to “persecution of Christianity” and is an attempt to shut down the Christian message. Officials with the National Center for Complimentary and Integrative Health tell *Christianity Today* magazine that Bakker’s potion not only fails to protect users from illness – it also contains colloidal silver, which can have serious side effects.

Christianity Today

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(UNDATED) -- The Lutheran World Federation has elected the first woman to head its global communion of churches. Religion News Service reports the Rev. Anne Burghardt, an Estonian theologian, was chosen by the LWF Council as the next general secretary of the federation, which includes 148 denominations in the Lutheran tradition from around the globe. She received 58% of the vote over the Rev. Kenneth Mtata, general secretary of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches. "I am humbled by this great honor and deeply grateful for the confidence that the Council members have shown in me," Burghardt said in a [written statement on the LWF website](#). Burghardt, 45, currently serves as head of development for the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church's Institute of Theology. She also is an adviser to the church for international and ecumenical relations and a governing board member of the Conference of European Churches, according to the LWF. In addition to being the first woman, her election makes her the first pastor from Central and Eastern Europe to lead the LWF. Burghardt previously served as study secretary for ecumenical relations at the LWF Geneva Communion Office and coordinated content for the LWF Assembly in Windhoek, Namibia, and the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, both in 2017.

Religion News Service

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(BIG SUR, CA.) -- A group of firefighting monks was ready to defend a Buddhist monastery being threatened this week by a wildfire burning in the rugged central coast mountains south of Big Sur, California. According to the Associated Press, seven monks have been clearing brush from around the Tassajara Zen Mountain Center and running a sprinkler system dubbed "Dharma rain," which helps keep a layer of moisture around the buildings, said Sozan Miglioli, president of San

Francisco Zen Center, which operates the monastery. “The blaze is about a mile away but we’ve been lucky with the weather, it has really cooled down,” Miglioli said. The fire was climbing uphill among chaparral, grass, and scrub. The steep, remote area meant that the 500 firefighters had to hike in to battle the flames. They were aided by water-dropping aircraft. Most people evacuated the Buddhist center but members of the fire crew stayed. Other firefighting monks joined them from the San Francisco Zen Center and the Green Gulch Farm Zen Center, a third monastery in the Marin County mountains. The group of firefighting monks was created after a 2008 blaze reached the Tassajara monastery and a dozen stayed behind to defend it. They got their name from a book titled “Fire Monks” about those who stayed to fight that blaze, Migliogli said. The monks train every year with professional firefighters and reside in the three monasteries. They travel to centers where they are needed, he said. Despite all the work, they are still meditating every morning and holding service, Migliogli said. On the eastern flank of the Sierra Nevada, the Inyo Creek Fire in the Whitney Portal area near the town of Lone Pine thwarted hikers planning to climb Mount Whitney, the tallest peak in the contiguous United States. The fire was officially estimated at 640 acres.

AP

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(WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA) -- Anglican leaders in Canada have joined bishops across the Anglican Communion in calling for a Canadian company to halt oil drilling in the Kavango Basin—an ecologically sensitive protected area in Namibia. Archbishop Linda Nicholls, primate

of the Anglican Church of Canada, and National Indigenous Archbishop Mark MacDonald both signed a petition calling for an immediate stop to drilling by Canada-based firm Reconnaissance Energy Africa (ReconAfrica). Thirty-four Anglican bishops and two other archbishops also signed the petition, launched by Luke Pato, bishop of Namibia. The Kavango Basin supplies water to the Okavango Delta. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the delta is known for its biodiversity and is a sanctuary for 400 bird species and Africa's largest remaining elephant population. ReconAfrica has purchased rights to drill for oil in more than 35,000 square kilometres of the basin.

Anglican Journal

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That's it for this week's newsletter. I hope it was helpful and I hope you enjoyed it. Below, please find the answers to this week's TRUE/FALSE quiz... blessings!

1. FALSE – the Bible teaches nothing of the kind.
2. FALSE – the Scriptures DO teach, however, that God will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able to resist.
3. TRUE – Jesus said this, but not in the Gospels. St. Luke tells us in his Acts of the Apostles that our Lord made this statement.

4. FALSE – A bit of a trick question, I guess. No, the Bible does not say money is the root of all evil. It DOES say that the *love* of money is.

5. FALSE – Another tricky one. There is no promise that lions and lambs will lie down together when the Kingdom of Christ is fully consummated. The actual phrase are that “the wolf and the lamb will graze together (Is. 65:25) and that “the wolf will dwell with the lamb and the leopard with the kid” (Is. 11:6). The latter passage also promises that the “calf and the young lion and the fatling shall be together and a little child shall lead them”.