

All Saints Weekly
January 6, 2019 – January 12, 2019

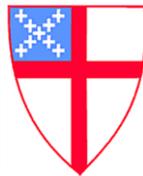
All Saints Episcopal Church
Bringing People to Jesus!
Sunday Worship-Holy Eucharist, 9:30am



All Saints Episcopal Church
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Round Lake, NY 12151
Phone: 518-899-5510
Website: www.allsaintsroundlake.com
Fr. Scott Evans-Priest in Charge
Karla Banach-Parish Administrator

Sunday Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12



The Epiphany



Petals of Thanks
(By: Kristin Spengler Zerbe)

One of the most difficult realities about the teaching profession is that we seldom know if we have made a difference. When I become frustrated with my job, my students or myself, I often think back to one particular day of my teaching career.

My first year of teaching was almost over. I taught junior English at Milford High School on a one-year temporary contract, and I worried that I would not be able to find a job the following year. However, I had a bright and conscientious group of students that year, and I was grateful for that. I made it clear to them that they were special to me and that I would never forget them, my very first students. However, as the end of the school year drew to a close, my students continually asked if the regular teacher would be returning. I answered professionally that, of course, she would be back next year as planned. I tried to respond with little emotion, regardless of their reaction. Deep down, though, I was more bothered by leaving than I admitted.

Inevitably, the day came to give my last final exam. The exam was to begin at the start of school and last the whole morning. I passed the office before the bell rang and saw a couple of the students from my class, and I thought how difficult saying good-bye would be. There was a group with whom I could joke, have fun, share ideas and be serious, all within one class period. Teaching them was a pleasure, and we all had learned a lot that year. But, as successful students do, they were moving on to twelfth grade, and I doubted they would remember much about me after a few more years of their academic careers and busy lives.

Just about this time I was on hall duty outside my classroom, and I noticed the crowds thinning out and classroom doors shutting. I looked in my room to find only two students in attendance. When I commented that it was awfully strange that their classmates were so late, they agreed and then quickly asked to get a drink from the water fountain. Naturally, I allowed them to go since I needed to wait for the majority of my class to arrive. I looked at my watch and was upset when I noticed the time. A teacher across the hall asked, "Aren't your students there yet?" When I relayed the situation, he shrugged his shoulders and went back into his own classroom. The hallway was awfully quiet, and I was eager to give that final exam. I walked down the hall several times - to no avail - to see if anyone was coming. My stomach was turning when I thought about what could have happened. 'Was there an assembly I had forgotten about? Were they watching a fight somewhere that none of the teachers could hear? Did I have the right exam time?'

Before I could run back in my classroom to check my schedule, I heard footsteps coming down the hall. I was annoyed that after such a great year with these kids, I would - on their last day with me - have to give them a lecture about responsibility. I sighed and then observed how peaceful the steps were coming toward me. There was no commonly heard loud conversation or resounding laughter. As they rounded the corner and came into sight, the kids were in single file, "shushing" each other with their hands behind their backs. They looked at me with purpose, and then, as they turned to enter my classroom, the first student handed me a single rose. And then the next student did the same. And then the next, and the next, until each student walked into my classroom for the last time.

Attached to each long-stemmed rose was a personal message and the signature of that student. Messages said things like: "Thank you for teaching me so much this year," "I'll miss you," and "You're the greatest." The roses were all different colors: red, yellow, pink, and white hues. I was having trouble holding so many individual flowers, but the last student silently offered me a large basket and a card signed, "With love from your fifth-period class," and then she went into the room.

I stood alone outside my classroom and tried to wipe the tears from my face. I had to express to them how touched I was by this wonderful gesture, but I did not want to cry in front of my students. It took me several minutes to compose myself. Nevertheless, I took a deep breath, walked in my room and put the basket of roses on my desk without looking at any of them. I knew they were waiting for my reaction, but I also knew that if I had tried to say anything, I would not be able to hide my emotions.

At last, out of the silence came a meek voice, "Are you mad at us, Miss Spengler?" With that, I looked up at my class and surrendered to the tears streaming down my flushed cheeks. My students bounded from their desks and surrounded me with hugs and praise as I tried to voice my thanks through sobs.

When I catch myself thinking that teaching is a thankless profession, I recall those students and their roses. Though they gave their gratitude in silence, that "thank you" was the loudest and best I have ever received.

The Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You for being my Favorite Teacher!

We ALL are Within the Infinitely Loving Embrace of our Universal Parent
www.churchwithin.org

"I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. I ended up by asking God to do His work through me."

— Hudson Taylor

Healing Prayer Requests

Kathleen Hayes, Robert Hayes, Ben Evans, Pat Merriam, Debra, Karen, Kathy, Larry, Nick, John, Gary Cornwell, Carol, Dixie, Stephen, Jack, Andrew Gravelle, Russ Adams, Michaela, Tom and Muriel Campbell, RaiLee Ford, Aimee McDonald, Thomas O'Sullivan, Jean Sisson, Aida Reyes, Connie Murphy, Dave, Cheryl, Payton and Seth Reynolds and Irene.



Friends and Loved Ones

Sunday Ministries



Nursery Care/Sunday School
January 13
Ben Harwood
Stephanie Evans



January 13
Peg and Bruce Newell



Karla Banach 1/7
Nancy Bellamy 1/10
Marlene Counterline 1/10
Placid Duheme 1/11



Service for January 13
Reader 1-Barbara Oberdieck
Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Reader 2-Lucia Harwood
Acts 8:14-17
Chalice-Ben Harwood
Crucifer-Lucia Harwood
Altar Server-Fran Kane

Vestry Meeting: There will be a vestry meeting **Sunday, February 10, 2019** after coffee hour.

Women's Bible Study: Bible Study will meet **Monday, January 14, 2019** at 2:15pm in All Saints Parish Hall. The reading that will be discussed is Psalms 9-12. Call Trish Tirone at 518-225-4977 for more information.

Annual Meeting: The All Saints Annual Meeting will be held **Sunday, January 27, 2019** after our morning worship. At the meeting we will be electing two members to the vestry. Marlene Counterline and Placid Duheme are running for reelection for three year terms. Plan to come to our annual meeting and lunch. Hear about the State of the Church, the budget for 2019, vote for new Vestry members and enjoy some fellowship. All are invited.

Annual Meeting Pot Luck Luncheon: There will be a sign up sheet in the parish hall for the annual meeting luncheon. Sandwiches will be provided by the church. Side dishes and desserts will be needed.

Evening Bible Study, Women's Group, Men's Group: Thursday Evenings are Back! Beginning **Thursday, February 7,** we will resume our Thursday evenings with a combination of Bible study and women's and men's groups. The tentative plan is to hold Bible study on the first Thursday of every month. The study is entitled Pen-Pals with Paul based on the letters written by Paul. Everyone is invited to participate.



Military Prayer List
SPC Brady Campbell
Sgt. Michael Donovan
Lt. James Franks
Capt. Christopher Love
Sgt. Paul Parsons
WO Matthew Starr
SPC Justin Webber

Prayers for our All Saints Parishioners:
Each week we pray for members of our own congregation. This week we pray for Peggy Latham.

The other weeks the will be divided into the men's and women's groups. The women will be reading and discussing "Healing the Soul of a Woman" written by Joyce Meyer. Karla Banach and Karrin Campbell will be leading the women's group. Fr. Scott will be leading the men's group. All are invited and welcome to participate. Please see Fr. Scott, Karla or Karrin if you are interested. Books for the women's group will need to be ordered soon. More information will follow regarding meeting places and times.



An Epiphany Prayer

Lord Jesus

*may your light shine our way,
as once it guided the steps of the magi:
that we too may be led into your presence
and worship you,
the Child of Mary,
the Word of the Father,
the King of nations,
the Saviour of mankind;
to whom be glory for ever.*

Frank Colquhoun

