

SMC Newsletter May 2022

What a wonderfully Holy but busy last month! Make sure to check out the pictures from all the events at the end. May should bring warmer weather and longer daylight. Please send me any information you would like included for next month. Many blessings, Patty



ECW update including May baskets

ECW officers for this year are Ruth Merkle and Barbara Breen, Co-Presidents; Donna Reynders, Vice-President; Valerie Malkus, Recording Secretary; and Lorraine Newton, Treasurer. We are grateful to Nancy Watts for her many years of faithful and capable leadership.

In conjunction with the DOK and under the leadership of Paula Hughes and Barbara Brewer-LaMere, ECW members participated in making and filling 22 beautiful **May baskets** which were blessed by Fr. Lou and delivered on the 1st. In addition to Paula and Barbara, we thank Peter and Nancy Watts for inspiring this project, the students in Andrea Palmer's H-L HS art class for collecting and decorating the stones that were included, all those who contributed to supplies and items for the baskets, and everyone who worked on them.

It's still early but mark your calendars—the ECW will be sponsoring a **ham dinner** for the community on **Friday, June 17**. Details (and sign-up sheets!) to follow!

The **next ECW meeting** is this **Friday, May 6, at 10:30 am** in the parish hall. We hope you will attend!

National Day of Prayer

National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5th. The theme is "Exalt the Lord, who has established us", based on Colossians 2:6-7 NASB. The National Day of Prayer was signed into law in 1952, and it is a day when people of all faiths are asked to pray for our nation.

An Update from Meryl on Birthdays and Anniversaries.

The birthdays for May are:

Patty Midura May 4th.

There are no anniversaries for May.

Please give Meryl your birthdate so we don't forget anyone's birthday! You do not need to give the year! Please notify Meryl of any upcoming anniversaries. Photos are also welcome from these occasions.



Maple In April Festival

The Maple in April Festival was very well attended. Thank you to everyone who baked, prayed, setup, broke down, or volunteered in any other way. The 100 treat bags were gone by 11:30am, several people were prayed for, and we gave away children, teenager, and adult bibles.



Altar Of Repose & The Tenebrae Service



Sunrise Service

SMC Studies, and Services

Fr. Lou will continue his Facebook morning prayer on Thursday mornings at 8:30am.

The liturgical color from now until Pentecost, June 5th, is white.

Thank you to everyone that served, volunteered, or participated in any manner during Holy Week. It was a glorious week that was made special by all of you. Thank you Eric for the Tenebrae service, it was very moving.



Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter egg hunt was well attended. Thank you to all the volunteers that stuffed and hid eggs. Thank you for the help at the craft stations. Thank you Jennie, Anson, and Kathy for coordinating the big day.

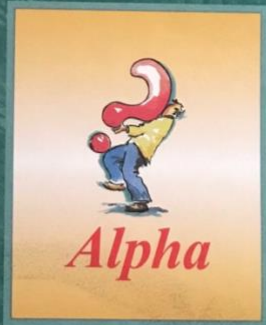


DOK

The meeting for the DOK on Friday, May 13th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.

The DOK class for new or rededicating members will have their last meeting on May 23rd at 10:00am. The induction will be in August!

THE ALPHA COURSE



An Opportunity to Explore
the Meaning of Life

- What is the meaning of life?
- What happens when we die?
- What relevance does Jesus have for our lives ?
- How do we deal with guilt?

If you would like to explore questions like these, then Alpha is for you.

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is for:

An anyone interested in finding out more about the Christian faith. Adults of all ages are welcome.

Learning and laughter. It is possible to learn about the Christian faith and to have fun at the same time.

People meeting together. An opportunity to get to know others and to make new friends.

Helping one another. The small groups give you a chance to discuss issues raised during the talks.

Ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is seen as too simple or too hostile.

WHO IS ALPHA FOR?

Alpha is for everyone! It's especially geared to:

- People interested in investigating Christianity.
- Newcomers to the church.
- New Christians.
- Couples preparing for marriage.
- Christians who want to brush up on the basics.

WHAT HAPPENS AT ALPHA?

There is a series of talks on topics such as:

- Who Is Jesus?
- Why Did Jesus Die?
- Why and How Do I Pray?
- Why and How Should I Read the Bible?
- Who Is the Holy Spirit?
- How Can I Resist Evil?
- Why and How Should I Tell Others?
- Does God Heal Today?
- What about the Church?

After each talk there is a small group time for everyone to discuss any questions or issues they have. This gives an opportunity to get to know each other and to learn together.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The Alpha course meets every week for ten weeks. See the back of this brochure for exact times and place.

Alpha is Coming!!

Alpha is starting Wednesday, May 25th at 6pm. Please join us.

The Alpha course is an opportunity for anyone to explore spirituality from a Christian perspective. Relaxed, non-threatening, low-key, and fun, Alpha is a place to ask anything – no question is considered too simple or too hostile.

Over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions, Alpha guests share meals, listen to a series of talks, and then have small group discussions. Each talk covers a fundamental question, such as “Who is Jesus?” “Why and How Do I Pray?” and “Does God Heal Today?”

Everyone is welcome on an Alpha course! Some people want to investigate whether God exists and if there is any point to life; others are concerned about what happens after death. Still others may have attended church but feel they have never really understood the basics of the Christian faith. People come from different backgrounds and hold many different viewpoints, but most come with the same basic objective: to establish whether God and Jesus Christ have any real relevance for their lives.

The Alpha course is free. Guests may be asked to make a voluntary contribution toward the food.

Contact Father Lou if you are interested and find out more at www.alphausa.org

Prayer Requests

***Please Pray for:** We pray against all evil. The situation in Ukraine, and all people in harm's way as a result of war, Jacquie W., Alan and the family and friends of Shaunna, Bruce Young's family, the Hayes family, Mary & Mike S., Linda & Mason, Amy H. & Maddie, Sylvia C., Sharon K., Carol, Jackie L., Joyce L., Mary Carol and Alan, Jennifer, Judy, Kailee and Dante, Claudette, Bob and Schuyler, Michelle, Paul B., Mary W. and family, Vanessa, Mark M., Marissa, Marika J., Sharon M., Eduard & Mariana, Kathy, Joyce & Jackie L., Jack G., Sonia, Carole, Greta H., Peter & Nancy W. and their family, Larry & Rita, the Bennett family, Sue Ellen R., our community's youth, the men and women in law enforcement and in the armed forces of our country, the victims and families of the COVID-19 pandemic. All those whose needs are known only to our Lord.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for Bishop Smith, the Standing Committee, the Profile and Search committee, and for Holiness of life in every Episcopalian. Additionally, please see: <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/prayer/jnml>

****It is time to update the prayer list. Please contact Erich Kaminsky by email at erichkaminsky@yahoo.com or by phone or text at 518.502.4075 with updates.**



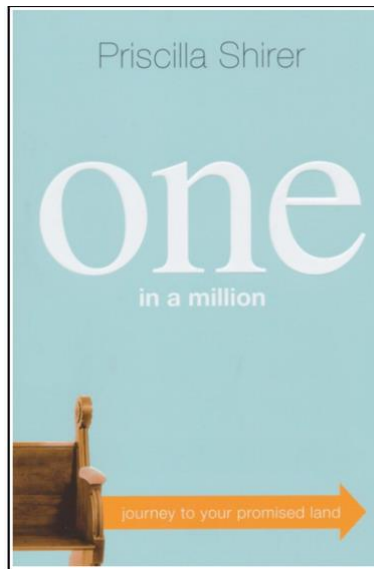
Sock Ministry

Cathy Littlejohn would like to thank all who participated in our sock drive. With the help of St. Mary's Church, the community of Luzerne/Hadley and the surrounding communities, we collected a total of **2,081** pairs of socks.

The socks will be distributed to Luzerne/Hadley Elementary and High Schools, and to The Open Door Mission in Glens Falls. More specifically; 1,688 pairs of socks are for the Elementary School, 292 pairs of socks for the High School, and 101 pairs of socks are for the Open Doors Mission.

We hoped for 1,500 pairs of socks to cover only the Elementary school children, with 4 possible pairs of socks each. The community once more has gone way above our expectations, and we give you our Humble thanks. God has surely blessed this project. May God Bless each student and everyone who did anything to help, including raising those wonderful children.

Sincerely, Cathy Littlejohn - Project Coordinator



Karen Love - Bible Study

The current ecumenical women's Bible study is **One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land with Priscilla Shirer, April 19th – May 31st on Tuesdays from 4-5:30pm. The workbook is \$19.** Please pray about joining us. Please let your friends and church family know as well. All ladies are most welcome!

God bless, Karen Cell 518.260.2391

Ukraine Care

Thank you to everyone who donated to Ukraine Care for Olive Branch International (OBI). Here are two websites for more information:

US website: <https://www.olivebranchintl.com/>

Ukraine website: <http://olivebranch.org.ua/en/>

Odds and Ends.

Fun pictures of some of the volunteers during the assembly of May baskets and Maple in April treat bags.

Wonderful photos from Fr. Lou's ordination anniversary party. Father Lou is so grateful for the presents, the Orthodox Easter food, and the loving congregants.

Wonderful photos from the Easter Egg Stuffing and the Easter Egg Hunt Activities.

Please contact Patty if you didn't get the Parish Directory.

Mary Davis would like help washing the weekly church linens. Anyone interested?

A big thank you to Gary for cleaning up the church yard and trimming trees after the storm!

A Note from Ruth:

A MOTHER'S PRAYER

I THANK YOU GOD FOR BLESSING ME
WITH MOTHERHOOD ON EARTH;
AND I ADORE AND PRAISE YOU FOR
THE MIRACLE OF BIRTH.
I PRAY I MAY BE ALWAYS WORTHY OF
YOUR WONDERFUL GIFT TO ME;
AND MAY
I DO MY PART IN LIFE
FOR ALL HUMANITY.
THAT I MAY RAISE MY CHILDREN RIGHT
AND TEACH THEM WHAT TO DO.
TO GROW IN STRENGTH AND CHARACTER
AND ALWAYS HONOR YOU!
FOR THEY BELONG TO YOU-- AND
ARE ONLY IN MY CARE.
TO HELP THEM AND PROTECT THEM
AND HELP THEM LEARN A PRAYER;
AND THAT IS WHY I MAKE THIS PLEA
FOR WISDOM AND FOR GRACE;
THAT I MAY DO YOUR HOLY WILL
AND FILL MY HUMBLE PLACE.



May Baskets, Maple in April Treat Bags



Welcome Home Initiative, Ordination Anniversary







Easter Egg Hunt Event



Easter Egg Stuffing



Timothy Keller ✓

3d · 🌐



Jesus was the temple to end all temples, the priest to end all priests, and the sacrifice to end all sacrifices.