

THE GOOD NEWS

January

A LETTER FROM FATHER BRIAN



Dear Ignatian Family ~

Terry and I certainly hope you enjoyed a blessed Christmas Season and are on the brink of a wonderful, happy and healthy New Year.

1. In a couple of weeks we'll gather for our 105th Annual Meeting as a Congregation. There will only be one Eucharist on January 26th at 9am. The Annual Meeting will take place in Church following the Service, and Lunch will be served in the Hall right after the Meeting. Our Wardens, Commissions, Treasurer, and a few others have highlight reports for us. And we will elect three

new Vestry Members, plus three Delegates and Alternates to this year's Diocesan Conventions. Please plan to be with us.

2. Our Worship Committee met January 6th to begin to evaluate the Advent and Christmas Seasons. We welcome your feedback regarding:
- The four meditative Sundays of Advent;
 - The 5pm half-hour of scripture and song on Christmas Eve;
 - Our 5:30pm Christmas Eve Eucharist (particularly the children's Christmas Pageant);
 - The 10am Christmas Morning Eucharist;
 - The 10am New Year's Day Eucharist;
 - Our Epiphany Celebration (including "Chalking the Door" and the "Epiphany Proclamation");
 - And our 6pm Epiphany Vesper's (Evening Prayer) Service . . .
 - Let us know what you think: Fr. Brian, Kathy Kraak, Ernie Kraak, Bill McElligott, Chris Brown.

3. In addition to preaching about the Advent challenges posed to us by the Prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist, and the Virgin Mary . . . I especially enjoyed preaching about the significance of “that Child” on Christmas, the “Icon of the Nativity” gracing our sanctuary wall the Sunday after Christmas, and the “gifts” of gold, frankincense and myrrh that you and I can offer the Lord through the “gifts of self” we offer others.

Now that we have begun the New Year, I'd like to offer a condensed version of an on-line article written by Fr. Jay Sidebotham, President of “Renewal Works,” as he reflected on the Epiphany verse: ***“They left for their own country by a different route.”***

In the Epiphany story of the magi who came from the east in search of the Christ child, once they encountered him, they returned to their homes, though apparently not by the route they had originally intended. Their story brings us to the conclusion of the Advent and Christmas seasons filled with stories of people of faith whose spiritual journeys involved course correction.

The elderly Zechariah and Elizabeth all of a sudden had to find room in their house for a nursery. Mary got the unexpected news that she was expecting. Joseph has encounters with angels that make exemplify the saying: “Life is what happens instead of what we plan.” Shepherds and innkeeper and even Herod find holy interruption in their plans, courtesy of the Christmas story. And then the magi, traveling from afar, following yonder star, find that after they meet Jesus, it was time to find another way home.

Epiphany coincides with the beginning of a new year, filled with opportunity for resolutions, intentions about how things might be different, how things might be made new. Maybe you've already made and broken New Year's resolutions?

The question is: Are we open to the new things God has in store for us in this coming year? Are we ready to accept that our journey home may cause us to travel some other way, maybe some uncharted way?

Maybe it's a decision to take a big risk, taking a leap of faith, leaving something secure for something uncertain. The Bible is filled with stories like that.

Maybe it's a matter of bringing a new attitude to a current situation. Maybe it's having a change of heart.

Maybe it's a set of circumstances beyond our control that gives us little choice but to chart a new path.

One way or another, the whole Christmas Season teaches us that encountering Christ changes us. The news that God breaks into our world in ways we might not expect, tends to shake things up. One way or another, it's just not same old /same old. The news that we are loved without condition frees us for new possibilities. The news that we are not alone, that “God is with us” gives us courage to do and be some-thing new, to chart a new path – to take a different route.

Open your heart this year to the new thing God has in store for you. In the spirit of New Year's resolutions, perhaps make it a daily practice to ask God to show you that way, and to strengthen you for it.

Wishing you all the Lord's best in this New Year, remember: Grace has brought us safe thus far and grace will lead us home – perhaps by a different route.

~ Fr. Brian

STEWARDSHIP What were the Results?

Thank you to all who participated in the stewardship exercise with the milking stool. Over the four weeks of being presented with a different view of the stool and asking for a thought on what was depicted, sixty-nine responses were turned in. Three responses were rather imaginative, as I was hoping for.

One response was, 'top of a butter churn'; a second, 'something that would be donated to God's Will Resale Shop - a broken foot stool'. And the third one (and most imaginative), 'inorganic chemical compounds filling the small spaces of your mind'. I got a real chuckle out of that!

Now to the dollars and cents results of the stewardship campaign. As of this writing twenty-seven family units have committed to the financial support of St. Ignatius, with four units that have not yet made their intentions known as. In total, then, the dollar amount pledged for the year 2020, totals \$77,278.00. This represents an increase of \$13,908.00 over last year's commitments.

Thanks to all who are making this a successful stewardship year!

Roger Van Patten

CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new church directory will be coming out at the end of the month. We would really like to include pictures of all members in the directory. Larry Ward has been so kind in taking photos on two occasions, but we are still missing a few. He has agreed to set up one last time on January 19th to catch those few who we are missing. If we are missing your photo and you are not able to attend church on January 19, you can certainly forward a selfie to the office for our use.

There are also information sheets in the social hall available, so we have all your correct information –

for both the directory and birthday/anniversary lists. Thanks in advance for your help in this regard.

Faye Nash

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, Jan. 19

- Vestry Meeting after 10:00 service
- Last chance pictures for church directory

Sunday, Jan. 26

- One service @ 9:00 a.m.
- Annual Parish Meeting following 9:00 a.m. service

QUARTERLY COMMUNITY FAMILY FUN DAYS FOR 2020

St. Ignatius will host 4 Community Family Fun Days from 10:00 to Noon on the following Saturdays:

- **Sat. February 1st**
- **Sat. May 2nd**
- **Sat. August 1st**
- **Sat. November 7th**

Attendees are invited to come for the entire 2 hours or any part of that time frame and participate in any or all of the themed activity centers. **Valentine Fun Day** will include:

- Valentine Snowman Magnet Craft
- Valentine Card Making
- Valentine Storytime
- Make and Take Heart Game
- Valentine Wall Hanging
- Heart Cookie Decorating
- Take a Break Snack
- Valentine Bingo
- Surprise Activity

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: No set up or take down required, just interest in having fun with children and parents. If you are interested in volunteering on Saturday February 1st for one or two hours between 10 and noon, please contact Terry Hansen-Beno at (920) 904-7026 or thansenbeno2@gmail.com and she will sign you up. Join the party as together we reach out to our community and **celebrate the us in St. Ignatius.**

Terry Hansen-Beno

KID'S CORNER

What's a puddleduck?

By Nancy McConnell

"Dad, what's a puddleduck?" Jeremy asked his dad.

"A puddleduck?" his dad said, "Why, it's a duck in a puddle."

"No, it's not," his mother said, coming into the room. "It's a duck who makes puddles."

"How did he make the puddle?" Jeremy asked.

"He spilt his glass of milk, of course," his mother answered.

The next morning Jeremy was watching his grandmother sewing buttons on a shirt.

"Oh, fiddle faddle," she said, as her threads got tangled.

"What's a fiddle faddle, Grandma?" Jeremy asked.

"It's when a fiddly thing gets all tangled up." Grandma said, trying to unravel the mess.

When Jeremy was getting ready for bed, the dog and cat had a fight.

"What a kerfuffle!" his mother said shooing the animals away.

"What's a kerfuffle?" Jeremy asked his mother.

"That's when your handkerchief gets all fluffed up," Grandma said sorting through the laundry. "Happened all the time before we got the dryer."

"It's a big commotion," his mother answered, smiling at Grandma.

All day long weird words were popping up everywhere. Jeremy stuffed his socks into his drawer. "That drawer is chock-a-block with socks." His mother said as they pushed and pushed the drawer closed.

The doorbell rang and Jeremy ran to answer it. It was his friend Matt. "Hey bugalug." Matt said. Jeremy smiled.

That night at dinner, it was spaghetti. Jeremy's favorite! He had one plate, he had two plates, and he had three plates. "I have a stomachache." Jeremy said. "Three plates of spaghetti are enough to give anyone the collywobbles." His dad said.

Jeremy was cleaning up the kitchen after dinner and he knocked the milk jug right off the counter and the milk spilled into the dog's bowl and all over the floor. Rosie the cat and Toby the dog ran through the milk in a flurry of barking and mewing. Just then the phone rang, it was Matt.

"I'll call you back." Jeremy said. Jeremy's stomach sank as he looked at the mess in the kitchen. He grabbed the mop and began to clean it all up.

"What happened in here?" His grandma said coming into the kitchen.

"I went into the kitchen and saw a puddleduck. Then Rosie and Toby came in and there was a kerfuffle over the spilled milk, which had filled the dog's bowl chock-a-block. The phone rang, "Oh fiddle faddle," I thought, but I answered it and it was

my bugalug Matt. “Call ya back Matt.” I told him. The mess in the kitchen gave me the collywobbles. I grabbed the mop and cleaned up the milk lickety-split and everything was hunky dory.

“My what a load of codswollop that is!” Grandma said.

Crazy Words You Might Not Know

Kerfuffle – a big commotion

Fiddle faddle – an expression of frustration

Bugalug – a friend

Chock-a-block – full to overflowing

Collywobbles-- feeling of nausea usually associated with nervousness

Hunky dory – everything is okay

Codswollop – nonsense

Lickety-split – very fast

Puddleduck – you decide....

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

As much as I enjoyed all the holiday treats, it’s now time to reign it in and focus on some healthy “treats”. This is a recipe that is healthy and so yummy!

Avocado Salad

1/2 tsp. black pepper
1 tsp. salt
2 medium avocados (roughly chopped)
2 tbsp. lime juice
1 cup chopped tomatoes
1/3 cup chopped cilantro
1 cup chopped sweet red pepper
1 tbsp. diced jalapeno pepper
1 can corn (rinsed)
1 can black beans (rinsed)
1/4 cup chopped red onion

Combine all ingredients except avocado. Chill at least two hours. Fold in avocados before serving. Works well as a dip with tortilla chips or serve as a salad.

Enjoy! *Faye*