

THE GOOD NEWS

June 2021

St. Ignatius of Antioch
Episcopal Church
Walking in love as Christ taught us



A LETTER FROM FR. BRIAN

Dear Ignatians ~

As we begin June and transition from spring to summer, we are also approaching “herd immunity” and are transitioning from being “Covid-cautious” to being “relatively Covid-free!” We have in effect faced a “15 month Lent,” and now we’re all ready to enjoy a long and healthy “Easter.” And we are also in transition on Sundays.

Part One

The Church Year is divided into two halves:

The first half is “event” driven. It begins with Advent, leading to Christmas and Epiphany, then Lent and Easter, which leads to the Ascension, immediately followed by Pentecost and Trinity Sundays. During these six months every year we trace the life of Christ, as we his teachings anew and re-commit to become and live as his disciples.

We are now entering the second half of the Church Year. For 25 weeks we will once again follow the Lord through his early public ministry, hear his parables with fresh ears, encounter his miracles with wonder, and find ourselves accepted, cherished, and invited to enter into ever deeper discipleship.

This Season of Pentecost, is by far the longest of our liturgical seasons. Why? Because it’s our “growing season.” It takes time for the Lord to sow the seeds of his Word into our hearts, and it takes time for growth to occur. The Lord will certainly do *his* part, and we are called to be responsive for *our* part.

At the same time, this is when summer’s Sunday attendance becomes somewhat spotty. Invited by a Vestry member to re-consider adopting a summer schedule – combining our 8 and 10 o’clock Eucharists into one 9 o’clock Eucharist – a Sunday morning hand vote in church resulted in 85% wanting to keep the two services year round. This now is your opportunity to follow through on your vote with your attendance.

(Fewer folks are attending via zoom these days, however we will continue with zoom as long as our shut-ins or folks who are quarantined join us.)

And the question once again came up, “What about folks who are gone weekends?” So for the convenience of those who are away occasional weekends during the summer, we will offer an informal Wednesday evening Eucharist at 6pm. So we’re actually increasing our services by one rather than reducing them by one.)

I heard what you told us, and I’m most willing to accommodate your wishes and pray with you when you tell me you can make it. The “ooppps” factor from multiple services is reduced attendance at each – which is often discouraging and uninspiring for those attending. So we will proceed with a “summer schedule” of three services each week.

Part Two

Currently I attend the Lake County Health Department’s and our Diocesan Office’s zoom meetings for clergy:

The Health Dept. encourages us to “continue to protect the least protected by taking precautions for the sake of everyone.” “Since we do not know who is and who isn’t vaccinated,” all are encouraged to continue to wear masks inside church buildings and to keep social distance, “thinking of others.”

The Diocese, as a matter of policy, tells us: “Although the public health situation is changing rapidly, the bishop’s staff and diocesan Covid-19 response team ask congregations to continue following the reopening plan (masks and social distancing) while the state of Illinois is in its bridge phase.”

We’re told to “stay the course” – for now. The difficulty with the temptation to go maskless before we’re given the green light is: We would not know those who are fully or partially vaccinated from those who cannot be vaccinated for medical

reasons or those who never intend to receive a Covid vaccine.

(I’ve heard that the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago has told the priests in smaller parishes that if 100% of its members register their Covid vaccination information with the parish, they may gather without masks – but who of us wants to go down that road of registering? People are understandably protective of their health information.)

And so:

For now, let’s continue as we are. As soon as I hear otherwise – and since both Health Dept. and Diocesan zooms are on Wednesdays – I will let you know in my weekly Thursday *E-Announcements*.

- So please join us as you are able either on Sundays at 8 or 10am, and we will add a “more casual” 6pm Wednesday’s in-person Eucharist this summer to maintain our connection with those who are gone weekends. (Weather permitting, we can use the church patio for Wednesday Eucharist. You might put a folding chair in your trunk, just in case.)
- Please continue wearing masks and keeping social distance inside our buildings until the Health Dept. and the Diocese direct us otherwise.
- And please accept the Lord’s invitation to grow closer to him during this “summer growing season” as we “hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest” his healing and saving Word – and produce a seasonal harvest both to God’s greater honor and glory as well as a bumper crop of service to God’s people.

Blessings for a wonderful summer – we’re a year overdue!

~Fr. Brian



Outreach Summary

MAY and JUNE MISSION of the MONTH



May's Mission of the Month was The Cottages of Fox Lake Alzheimer Units and Assisted Living Units Among the 140 items collected and purchased during the month of May were: Puzzles, dice and games, poster boards

and painting canvases, CD's of hymns, hand lotion, lip balm, nail polish/remover, bubbles and 4th of July décor. Thank you all for another successful Mission of the Month.

June's Mission of the Month is Informed Choices which has centers in Grayslake and Crystal Lake. Executive Director Sarah Vanderlit is delighted that we chose them as our June Mission of the month. We will be collecting the following items through Sunday June 27th:

- Baby lotion/Diaper cream
- Sleepers/Layettes
- Receiving Blankets
- Bibs/Washcloths/Towels
- Infant books/Toys
- Baby nail clippers
- Gift bags to put items into

As always, cash or check donations can be placed in a Mission of the Month envelope located on the table near the church entrance. Please indicate Mission of the Month on the check memo line.

WE NEED YOUR BOOKS, GAMES AND GREETING CARDS!

Although August is a couple of months off, we need your help now! August 11th through August 14th from 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. St. Ignatius and Hillcrest Elementary School Booster Club will be partnering

to host a "good as new" books, games and greeting card sale. Half the proceeds will go to Hillcrest teachers to fund classroom items not covered in their budget.

From June 7th through August 7th we will be collecting the following items:

- Gently used or never used **books** for all ages
- Gently used or never used **board and boxed games**
- Never used blank or messaged **greeting cards**

Please bring donations to church on Sundays or to the church office Monday-Thursday 9:00-12 noon.

-Outreach Committee

GOD'S WILL RESALE SHOP

June Special:

50% off **ORANGE** sticker items!



Any questions call the shop at 224-321-4475



The Lord bless you and keep you. Amen. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. Amen. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Let's Celebrate!

June Birthdays

6-9 Keith Garrett
6-11 Fr. Bob Seay
6-16 Renee Heuser-Garrett
6-16 Aiden Nelson
6-19 Mildred Hamlin
6-20 Patricia Bletsch
6-23 David McCollough
6-27 Ernie Kraak

"Heavenly Father, look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life." (BCP, p830, #50)

June Wedding Anniversaries

6-9 Mike & Linda Mizwicki
6-18 Jim & Pat Bletsch
6-18 Gary & JoAnne Kriens
6-22 Keith & Renee Garrett

"O God, send your blessing upon your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may witness to your love, and their home be a haven of blessing and peace." (BCP, p431)

A BIG Thanks to Home Depot of Round Lake

Thanks to the help of parishioner Cathy Ehlers, Home Depot selected St. Ignatius as their monthly community outreach recipient. We received \$800 worth of various donations including: sanitizer, paper products, soap, masks, buckets, gloves, and more!

COMEDY CORNER

