

June 28, 2018

“Our mission is to celebrate God’s transforming Love in Jesus, by following where Jesus’ Love is calling us to serve the community”

There will be one service
On Sunday, July 1

—9 am Sung Eucharist.

—10:15 Coffee Hour

— Mother Rhoda will be our Celebrant, Deacon Bill will be our preacher

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**God loves you.
No exceptions.** 
The Episcopal Church Welcomes You. www.dohio.org

Ascension This Week

Taking Summers Off Deacon Bill Baker



There will always be competing interests—summer vacation, Sunday brunches, our children’s sport’s practice or a friend inviting us to sail on their boat for the day. As the summer vacation for our children begins, they stay up later and sleep in, even on Sunday. Let’s face it, there might be more compelling reasons NOT to come to church, than to make it.

We make excuses. Church of the Ascension will always be there. I can miss a week or two and it’s not a big deal. Or is it? I would like to suggest that missing Sundays is more than a big deal. It is a matter of being spiritually healthy or not. We would not eat a lot of candy and cookies and expect our bodies to be physically healthy. Worship and fellowship are vital to our spiritual health.

As seminarians, we were all assigned to churches to serve in during our time in seminary. The parishes are called field education sites. The Seminary designated the first Sunday of May as the official last day of serving in our field education sites for this academic year. A lot of my friends reported to me that they were going to take a few weeks off from church after finishing at the field education site before starting their new positions as clergy. Still other of classmates told me that although they might “church shop” for the month of May to check out a few of the DC area churches before leaving the area.

Even though the seminary no longer required me to serve in the parish after the beginning of May, I served in my field education until I moved to Staten Island. I wanted to stay in the parish I had served in until I moved. I felt part of the community and I wanted to worship God and fellowship with the people who were part of my church family.

There are important reasons to not take summers off from church. The first is that we are a community. Communion is from the same root word as community, which is “common”. It means “that which we all in have in common” or “oneness”. When the community comes together for communion we are all made one in Christ.

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When one of our members are missing, we are missing their vital contribution to the oneness and common life of Church of the Ascension. Also, as the new Curate, I really want to get to know all of you. I can only do that if I see you. Coming to church is a great way to meet and get to know me and for me to get to know all of you!

I really hope that you will consider coming to church every week. We really need and want you to be part of the oneness here at Church of the Ascension. I truly hope and pray that our desire to worship and fellowship with our parish family will lead all of us to church this summer. I believe that being together builds each of us up and makes us spiritually stronger and that in turn, builds up the Church and the world. We might even help build the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth.

Blessings.

Deacon Bill

Can You Help —

Altar Guild can use your help. We have a few Altar Guild members on the disabled list—and we were a small group to begin with! If you want to join in this service for the church, please contact Nancy Murphy.

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the garden and grounds of the church and rectory. If you have a green thumb or a little spare time, please contact Beverly Sorensen at 718-698-23490.

Coffee Hour is a wonderful time to enjoy fellowship with your friends at Ascension! And your help is both needed and appreciated. Bring your baked goods, or any purchased items of your choice. We continue to provide rolls, butter, coffee and tea. Please contact Nancy Williamson for more information (718) 448-9508.



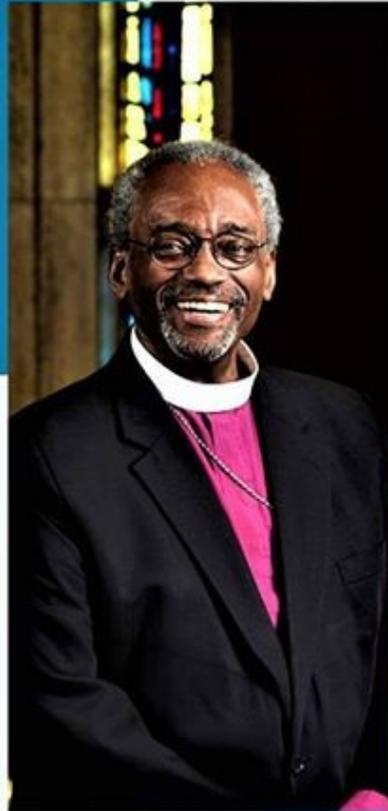
“But if a person carries his or her own light within them, they need not be afraid of the darkness.”

-Martin Buber

#RECLAIMINGJESUS

Love the neighbor you like, and the neighbor you don't like. Love the neighbor you agree with, and the neighbor you don't agree with. Love your Democrat neighbor, your Republican neighbor. Your black neighbor, your white neighbor. Your Anglo neighbor, your Latino, your LGBTQ neighbor, love your neighbor. That's why we're here.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry,
The Episcopal Church



Save the Date: Meetings and Church Services for the next few weeks --

Deacon Bill will be ordained a priest on **Saturday, September 15, 2018**. A Church Picnic will be held in honor of his installation on **Sunday, September 16th**, after a 10:00 mass. We look forward to having him with us for years to come!

Sunday, July 1: 9am Holy Eucharist, 10am Coffee Hour, 2:30pm Service at Lakeside Manor, 6pm AA

Wednesday, July 4: There will be no Morning Prayer service on July 4.

July 23—July 27: Vacation Bible School will be hosted by the Church of St. Andrew (718-351-0900, or email at churchofstandrew@mac.com)

“Brother, Give Us A Word.” Every day, on the SSJE website, one of the brothers gives a word that we might use as a focus in our prayer and meditation. Today (June 28), the word is “Lean In”. *Courage and faith don’t mean the absence of fear. They mean stepping into the fearful place. They mean action, leaning into the situation as we are.* — Br. Luke Ditewig, SSJE. You can see his full page of comments on this word on SSJE.org.

Richmond Episcopal Ministry Clergy Rota --- July, August, September
(Note: The first name on the list is the Celebrant, the second name, if there is one, is the preacher.)

July Ascension	July St. John’s
1 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Bill Baker	1 Fr. Cole (and Bishop Andrew St. John - Confirmation)
8 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Bill Baker	8 Fr. Mark Brown
15 Fr. Cole and Deacon Geri Swanson	15 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Bill Baker
22 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Bill Baker	22 Fr. Cole
29 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Geri Swanson	29 Fr. Cole and Deacon Bill Baker

August Ascension	August St. John’s
5 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Geri Swanson	5 Fr. Mark Brown
12 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Bill Baker	12 Fr. Mark Brown
19 Fr. Cole and Deacon Bill Baker	19 Fr. Mark Brown
26 Mother Rhoda and Deacon Geri Swanson	26 Fr. Cole and Deacon Bill Baker

September Ascension	September St. John’s
2 TBD	2 Fr. Cole and Deacon Bill Baker
9 Fr. Cole and Deacon Bill Baker	9 Fr. Mark Brown
16 Fr. Bill Baker and Fr. Cole	16 Fr. Mark Brown
23 TBD	23 Fr. Bill Baker and Fr. Cole
(Saturday)	29 th 175 th Anniversary. Bishop Glasspool Celebrant and Preacher
30 Fr. Bill Baker	30 Fr. Cole and Deacon Geri Swanson (175 Anniversary Weekend)

