

July 12, 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 15

—9 am Holy Eucharist.

—10:15 Coffee Hour

— Fr Roy Cole will be our Celebrant, Deacon Geri Swanson will be our preacher

Inside this issue:

— Build Up the Church — Deacon Bill Baker

— Deacon Bill’s weekly schedule

— Meetings, Events and Church Service schedules for the next few weeks

— Vacation Bible School at St Andrew’s

— Can you Help? Opportunities

— Brother, Give Us A Word (SSJE,org)

— Richmond Episcopal Clergy Rota for July, August, September

## Ascension This Week

### Build Up the Church Deacon Bill Baker



*“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” —Ephesian 4:11-13*

On Sunday, I proclaimed that God is moving on Church of the Ascension. I believe that is true. Not that this a new thing. God always stands ready to help his Church and people grow in unity, spiritual strength and numbers. That is the nature of the love that God has for the Church. What inspired me was the response that I received from so many of you about how you hear God calling either you or us to use our gifts and grow this church.

Many of you expressed hope. A hope that you either have an idea or are excited about helping us grow. A few people told me about their gifts. A number of people told that they want to be part of the building up of Church of the Ascension. The energy here feels strong—it is palpable. Did you feel it? Are you also excited about helping our church grow?

What can you personally contribute? Are you an apostle? A prophet? An evangelist, pastor or teacher? Are you a supporter? Can you cook for a pantry or have an idea for a way that we could serve our neighbors? We need all of that and more. We need every single member’s contribution. We need prayer warriors and those who have a gift for healing and those who can fix things and those who can help us envision. I guarantee if you have a gift that God equipped you with, and I know that all of us do, someone in this church can help you discern how to use it. (Next Page)

God needs all of us. Building up of Christ's body in the church takes the work and prayers of all of us. I hope that you will start discerning how you can contribute to doing to the work of Christ here at Church of the Ascension. I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss how you can help us grow. I will end this article with the final words from my sermon on Sunday. Are you ready? Are you ready to strengthen this place in Spirit and numbers? Are you ready to hear what Jesus is saying to us today? Are you ready?

Blessings, Deacon Bill

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### Deacon Bill's Schedule for the Week Ahead:

Sunday--At Ascension or St. John's and then 2:30 at Lakeside Manor

Monday--In the field or in rectory office

Tuesday & Thursday--In the Ascension office all day; unless I am at a meeting or visiting someone in their home or hospital

Wednesday--Morning Prayer at Ascension and then at St. John's for supervision with Fr. Cole from 11am-5pm.

Friday is my day off

Saturday--Available for events; Finish sermon, generally in the rectory office

**Please note:** In the event of a pastoral emergency or personal need, Deacon Bill welcomes calls to the rectory (718-447-4501) or his cell (917-863-1516).

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### Can You Help —

**You are always welcome to join Deacon Bill at Lakeside Manor on Sundays at 2:30pm.**

**Altar Guild can use your help. If you want to join in this service for the church, please contact Nancy Murphy.**

**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.

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Healing Prayer was offered at the Wednesday morning service this past week. The service was well attended. Coffee hour in the undercroft afterwards offered enjoyable fellowship.

Please consider joining us for mid week mid morning prayer and companionship.

*The Church of St. Andrew*  
*presents*  
**The Fruit of the Spirit**  
**Vacation Bible School Program**

July 23, 2018 - July 27, 2018

10:00am - 12:00pm



Join us this summer for our Vacation Bible School Program. This year we are exploring all of the fruits of the spirit that God gives us to give to others.

Register online at [bit.ly/vbscsa2018](http://bit.ly/vbscsa2018)

Call the parish office at **718-351-0900** or email us at [churchofstandrew@mac.com](mailto:churchofstandrew@mac.com) for more information

There is a suggested registration fee of \$20 to help offset costs. Scholarships are available.

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**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 15:** 9am Holy Eucharist, 10am Coffee Hour, 2:30pm Service at Lakeside Manor, 6pm AA

**Wednesday, July 18:** 9:30am Morning Prayer, 10am Coffee Hour

**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](mailto:churchofstandrew@mac.com))

**Friday, August 10:** Lucky Draw Auction, St John's church, 6:30pm

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**“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. **“Grow”.** *Tension and friction are inevitable especially with companions we didn’t choose, but this is a gift. We help each other grow. Strangers and enemies, just as family members and colleagues, keep offering us instruction on giving and receiving mercy.* — Br. Luke Ditewig, [SSJE](http://SSJE.org) You can see his full page of comments on this word on [SSJE.org](http://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 <sup>th</sup> 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Bishop Glasspool Celebrant and Preacher
30 Fr. Bill Baker	30 Fr. Cole and Deacon Geri Swanson (175 Anniversary Weekend)

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