

March 21, 2019

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

On Sunday, March 24

— 8 am Said Eucharist

—10 am Sung Eucharist

Sunday School meets in the Undercroft at 10am

—11:15 am Coffee Hour

—2:30 pm Service at Lakeside Manor

—6 pm AA meeting

Inside this issue:

—“Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen” - Fr Bill Baker

—Meetings and Events for the next few weeks

—IPC Youth Lock-In information and permission form

—Readers needed for the Richmond IPC Lenten Program



Ascension This Week

Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen – from Fr Bill Baker

I moved to New York City when I was 18 years old. I graduated high school and I left Nebraska. Throughout my junior year and part of my senior year in high school, I thought that I would go to the Roman Catholic seminary after I graduated. Halfway through my senior year I started to feel uncertain about attending Roman Catholic seminary. Even though it wasn’t a thing to do, I decided I wanted to have a “gap year” before going to college instead of seminary.

At the time, my uncle was working in a soup kitchen in Manhattan. The name of that soup kitchen is Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen. Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen (HASK) operates out of an Episcopal Church in the Chelsea section of Manhattan and is the largest soup kitchen in the United States serving more than 1000 meals per day. I will spotlight this feeding program later in this newsletter article. It offers a wonderful opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters, but first I want to tell you a little bit about my experience there.

After I talked to my mom about not going to seminary, or at least not right away, I asked her if she thought her brother could get me a job in the soup kitchen. My mom called her brother and within a couple of days, I spoke to The Rev. Liz Maxwell, who served as the Program Director at HASK, and she interviewed me over the phone. She told me that she could offer me a position at HASK as an intern working in the Counseling Department, but first she would need to meet me in person.

A few days after graduation, I packed a few items into a duffle bag and boarded a Greyhound Bus for New York City. 52 long hours later I arrived in the City and my uncle picked me up at Port Authority. I was tired and a little shell-shocked from the hustle and bustle of the big city, but he took me right away to serve in the soup kitchen. The operation amazed me!

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The original plan was for me to come to New York City and interview for the position at HASK, find housing and then go back to Nebraska to pack my belongings and then, if I got hired, to move to New York City. However, after traveling on a bus for 52 hours, I hardly wanted to go back to Nebraska the same way. So after I interviewed and was offered a job, I decided to stay. I have lived here ever since, except for my 3 years in seminary.

For the first couple of months, I lived in New Jersey with my uncle and aunt, then I found a room in a Christian dorm in Manhattan near Columbia University. My work at HASK centered around helping the soup kitchen guests getting connected to other services like pantries and clothing centers and advocating for immigration and public assistance rights. I mostly filled out paperwork and City forms for the guests receiving services, but I heard lots of stories and started to feel a call to serve the most vulnerable.

The meals at HASK were delicious. Big plates of steaming hot casseroles, vegetable, fruit and an overabundance of bread with gobs of butter! I do not know exactly where the bread came from, but I remember hearing that local bakery donated all their day-old bread. While working there I learned something very important. A tray of food at HASK could contain 2000 calories in case it was the only food that some of our guests ate that day. I had to learn portion control quickly and recognized that the sauces and bread with butter contained a lot of calories.

In the 1980's and 90's the meals were served in the mission house for the church, which could seat 69 people at one time. When you are serving 1000 meals per day, that means that guests need to eat and run. I remember, my Uncle Mike, who was the Volunteer Coordinator used to go around the dining room yelling. "Ladies and gentlemen, we need seats! Seats, we need seats!" It amazed me that HASK could serve so many in such a small space.

In the early 90's the church had a major fire and needed to be rebuilt. As part of the rebuilding process, the narthex was redesigned to include cathedral seating which could be taken out. When the renovations were completed, it made it possible for the soup kitchen guests to eat in the much roomier church. More space, more seats, more time to sit and eat without being rushed. Today, that is where the guests eat—in the church, around the altar of Christ. Each day they need more than 20 volunteers to make the soup kitchen and the bag lunch program work. I thoroughly enjoyed my time as part of the soup kitchen team.

Would you like to serve at HASK as part of your Lenten devotion? Most days, Monday through Friday, volunteers arrive at either 9:00 am to assist with packing food for the bagged lunch program or at 9:30 am to serve in the soup kitchen. If you would like to serve you can use the link below to go and sign up to serve. <https://hask.volunteerhub.com/>

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

The Richmond Inter-Parish Council Wants you!

Readers needed for the 2019 Lenten Program "Stations of the Cross"

We would like at least 14 readers to participate in the IPC Lenten Program on Sunday, March 31. Deacon Joanne Depue will narrate the program, and each of the 14 stations utilizes a pair of readers.

The readers will need to attend a rehearsal on March 31 at 2:30 pm.

Please contact Fr. Bill Baker or Deacon Geri Swanson if you would like to participate.

Fr. Bill—wbaker@vts.edu

Deacon Geri — deakswam@aol.com



Save the Date: Upcoming Events for Richmond Episcopal Ministry:

***Thursday, March 21:** Adult Forum/Lenten study at Ascension, 7pm in the rectory. A light supper will be served. Meetings continue through Lent.

***Sunday, March 24:** Adult Forum/Lenten study at Ascension after coffee hour. Meetings continue through Lent.

Sunday, March 17 through Sunday, March 31, at St John's: LENTEN SERIES, "The Way of Love" Held during coffee hour, 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM, Eccleston Hall/ Community Room

Sunday, March 31: "Stations of the Cross", written by the Rev. Deacon Joanne Depue. Annual IPC Joint Lenten Service at 4PM, Church of St Andrew, Hemsley Hall, 40 Old Mill Road, Staten Island, 10306. 718-351-0900. Readers needed—see above box.

Saturday, May 4: *Mothers' Day Off.* More information to follow

Saturday, May 4: Spring 2019 Youth Lock-In presented by Richmond Inter-Parish Youth Council. Christ Church at 5PM. Worship! Games! Music! Food! Friendships! Grades 6th—12th. Permission Forms Required—submit by March 28.

See flyer and permission form in this newsletter.

For more information or questions, please contact:

Christ Church NB: Catherine Barnett, cgb1@hotmail.com

St. Albans: Chris Gerard, christian.girard@msnbc.com

St. Andrews: Pam Mullane, pamelamullane46@gmail.com

Saturday, June 8: St John's community yard sale. More information to follow.

**RICHMOND INTER-PARISH
COUNCIL YOUTH COMMITTEE
PRESENTS**

**SPRING 2019
YOUTH LOCK-IN**

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 @ 5:00 PM

**WORSHIP!! GAMES!! FOOD!!
FRIENDSHIPS!! MUSIC**

**Location:
Christ Church
New Brighton
76 Franklin Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10301**

**For grades 6th—12th
Permission forms
are required by April 28th.
PICK-UP AFTER
10:00 AM MASS ON
SUNDAY, MAY 5**

**For more information or questions, please contact:
Christ Church NB: Catherine Barnett, cgb1@hotmail.com
St. Albans: Chris Gerard, christian.girard@msnbc.com
St. Andrews: Pam Mullane, pamelamullane46@gmail.com**

Richmond Inter-Parish Council
Spring 2019 Youth Lock-In | May 4-5, 2019
Christ Church New Brighton | 76 Franklin Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301
Permission and Medical Release Form
For Use By Congregations

Full Name: _____ Grade _____ M ___ F ___

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Daytime phone _____

Evening Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Parish _____ ParishCity/Town _____

I give permission for _____ to participate in the following event **Spring 2019 Youth Lock-In** sponsored by the **Richmond Inter-Parish Council** on the following date: **Saturday, May 4 – Sunday, May 5, 2019**. I give my permission for him/her to engage in all activities except as noted on the back of this form. I understand that I am responsible for arranging this young person's transportation to and from the event (even if dismissed prior to the official end of the event because of unruly behavior).

In case of medical emergency, I understand that every effort will be made to contact the parent or guardian. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby authorize and consent to any x-ray, examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision of any licensed medical personnel on the staff of any licensed hospital. This authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment or hospital care required, but is given to provide authority and power to render care which is deemed advisable in the best judgment of the physician. I am responsible for payment of all fees incurred.

I hereby indemnify, agree to hold harmless, and waive any claim against the Congregation named above, the Episcopal Diocese of New York, its members, representatives, officers, agents, employees, directors, and each of them for any and all past, present or future loss to property, and/or bodily injury resulting from any activities engaged.

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____ RELATIONSHIP _____

(page one of permission form—to be filled out by responsible parent or guardian, See page two next page—with agreement to be signed by the participant.)

BIRTHDATE OF MINOR _____ DATE OF LAST TETANUS SHOT _____

FAMILY PHYSICIAN _____ PHONE _____

FAMILY DENTIST _____ PHONE _____

MEDICAL INSURANCE COMPANY _____ POLICY# _____

NAME OF POLICY HOLDER _____

ANY DRUG OR FOOD ALLERGIES _____

SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING DIETARY) _____

IF CANNOT BE REACHED, PLEASE CONTACT _____

PHONE _____ RELATIONSHIP _____

COMMUNITY AGREEMENT FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

Throughout this event, I agree:

- 1) not to bring or use alcohol or any illegal, non-prescription drugs. My parent/guardian will be notified and I will be sent home at my own expense if I violate this agreement.
- 2) to respect the needs and property of others and not to participate in any inappropriate sexual or violent behavior
- 3) not to leave the event site without the permission of an adult advisor and
- 4) not to use any tobacco products unless my parent/guardian has given me written permission.

I understand that these agreements are meant to make this event the best, safest and most fun possible for everyone and that if I violate any of them, the leadership team will have the authority to determine appropriate consequences. I have read and agree to live by these standards.

Participant's signature

Date

