



THE VOICE

The Rector's Desk

Happy New Year, everyone,

The twelve visitors from France were on a religious pilgrimage when they arrived here at St. Elisabeth's on October 17, 2018. They had done a lot of planning and prayer before they came. They had also self-selected for this trip: it was a group of people willing to be prepared for openness to others and to God's work within and among them. They each understood that it was not going to be a vacation or a cruise, but it would be a trip about learning and exchange. Travel is a spiritual challenge normally, and this one was an intentional one.



St. Elisabeth's will be working during 2019 to plan a reverse trip to Nantes, France to complete the "exchange" perhaps in June 2020 (not decided yet).

But before that, another shorter option for a pilgrimage will be offered. Parishioner Cliff Schwandner is hard at work, in consultation with me and with others, to plan a Lenten Pilgrimage for this spring to Montgomery, Alabama. The two possible weekends are either the last weekend of March or the first weekend in April.

Why Montgomery, Alabama?

The destination of the pilgrimage is to visit the brand new National Memorial for Peace and Justice, a place where victims of lynchings throughout the American South have been remembered in an architecturally stunning monument. If you have not heard of this place, you might google Oprah Winfrey's *60 Minutes* interview with Bryan Stevenson. We will make it a road trip, in cars, intentionally, because along the way we will stop for prayers and meals together. Other possibilities for the three-night trip would include worshiping in an historic church and/or visiting Selma. Pilgrims would be expected to share their experiences with the congregation, and the congregation unable to go on the pilgrimage would be expected to keep the pilgrims in their prayers.

Lent is a time for penitence and reconciliation. And American racial history certainly requires some of that! As a white person, I expect to have my heart stretched by this experience, and welcome the chance to go there with fellow St. Elisabeth's people.

Please see the announcement about this pilgrimage on page 2.

Blessings for 2019,

Daphne

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The Annual Meeting of
 St. Elisabeth's Church
 will be held on
 Sunday, January 27, 2019
 Following the 10:00 am service.
 Child care will be provided

The Warden's Corner



As my term of Warden ends in January, it's easy to start marking off the days for my last Vestry meeting, Warden's Corner, budget process, annual meeting report, giving campaign, and other similar events. While most of these things have not yet occurred, I realize that reflecting on what I learned from the experience is important to consider.

Over the last four years, which is the term for a Warden, I have gotten to know 16 or so church members very well. From monthly meetings to Vestry Retreats, I learned to appreciate that each Vestry person provides judgment and opinion unlike the others. Their participation is reflected in what we see and do at St. Elisabeth's from how we carry out our mission and inter-cultural, interfaith, LGBTQ and unaffiliated initiatives to how money is spent and participation and growth is encouraged. I found that as the membership of the Vestry changed the results of decisions were always thoroughly discussed and thoughtfully carried out. The breadth of experience and expertise of our Vestry is very evident.

I also saw my own understanding and behavior changed. As an attendee at most events and forums, I was faced with issues that I thought I had good reason to believe one way about. But with more information, some of which may have been antithetical to my opinions, I discovered a sensitivity that I did not know existed. Sometimes this additional knowledge led me down a new path. Even if my views did not change, this new insight gave me awareness of other perspectives to consider. This was a gratifying surprise.

As the countdown continues, I have mixed emotions about not being close to the planning that inevitably is done by Wardens and the Vestry. This participation in church governance is one that I encourage you to accept when invited. Getting to know our parishioners more intimately is also a very satisfying aspect of leadership. Overall the job of Warden has been a rewarding one.

--Glenna Foley, warden

2019 Lenten Pilgrimage

I'd like to invite St. Elisabeth's to join me and our rector Daphne Cody on a pilgrimage during Lent at the end of March/early April. It involves a road trip to Montgomery, Alabama where we would visit the newly installed National Memorial for Peace & Justice. A commemoration of African American victims of lynching from 1877-1950.



On our journey, and on the way, we would also like to worship at The 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham -- just a few miles up the road from Montgomery. We're looking at two possible weekends, either the last weekend in March or the first weekend in April.

We will have a brief presentation after the 10:00 AM service on Sunday, January 6 to explain the program. We would love to have as many take this journey as possible. It promises to be a moving and meaningful event where we'll experience reflection, reconciliation, remembrance, fellowship and worship - together.

--- Cliff Schwandner

Sunday Forums in January

January 6 – Introduction to St. Elisabeth's 2019 Lenten Pilgrimage (see page 2)

January 13 – Join Dillon Shipman and Anne Tuohy for a forum on art, images, and lighting in the church, continuing the conversation that was started at the All Parish Eyes on Worship Day in March 2018. This will be our next focal point from what was learned during the Worship Day discussions, following the outdoor Chapel Terrace worship we had with great excitement and participation in the late summer. Please come with creative and brainstorming hearts and minds!

January 20 – Bill Hansen, Executive Director of Family Service of Glencoe, will be our guest at church. Bill is a social worker with nearly four decades of experience in human services, primarily serving high need communities in Chicago's inner city. He is passionate in his efforts with the Glencoe community to reduce the stigma of mental illness and other barriers to seeking mental health services. Bill will speak at the 10:00 AM service that day, and convene our Sunday Forum at 11:20.

January 27 – Annual Meeting

New Year Greeting from Nantes

One of the French Dip visitors, Anne Calard, used Google Translate to send the following message to St. Elisabeth's from Trinity Parish in Nantes, France.

Happiness, peace and success are built every day. So let's start by believing it, to pull all the chances on our side. I wish you, in this year 2019, to be raised by a new enthusiasm and by a faith capable of moving mountains.

May this year be filled with beautiful encounters like the ones we had with you.

Happy New Year everyone.
Anne.



Thank you Note from Tim Murray



On September 30, Tim Murray, our diocesan representative to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) visited St. Elisabeth's. We recently received this thank-you note from him:

Dear Daphne and the people of St. Elisabeth's,

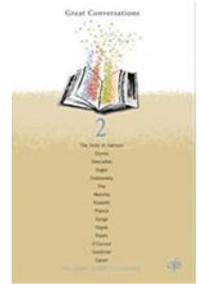
I appreciate your welcome to raise awareness about the efforts and impacts of Episcopal Relief and Development, thank you. Thank you particularly for your generous contribution of \$240 in the open offering that day.

-- Tim Murray

Great Conversations are happening at St. E's

In 2019, St. Elisabeth's book discussion group will continue taking a closer look at literary works presented in book two of *Great Conversations*, an anthology published by the Great Books Foundation. A loner copy is available in the office.

If you are interested in fiction and value discussing the compelling ideas that great literature explores, considering joining the discussion. The Book Group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am. in the parish living room. Drop-ins are always welcome. If you have any questions, email Joyce Newcomb at JoyceRNewcomb@gmail.com.



The selections and meeting dates through June are:

- January 8— “The Grand Inquisitor” (from *The Brothers Karamazov*) by Fyodor Dostoevsky
- February 12— “The Fall of the House of Usher” by Edgar Allen Poe
- March 12— “Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street” by Herman Melville
- April 9— “Goblin Market” by Christina Rossetti
- May 14— “Physics and World Philosophy” by Max Planck
- June 11— “The Playboy of the Western World” by John M. Synge

Soup Kitchen



Our next Soup Kitchen date is set for Thursday, January 10 (yeah, we know, you will have barely washed the dishes from Christmas and New Years!). Still, our diners don't put their appetites on winter break, so please help out. Our usual needs are for Sack Lunch preparation at St Elisabeth's at 3 p.m. and preparation and serving of a hot meal starting at 5 p.m. at the Methodist Church in Evanston.

Come one, come all....and thanks in advance for your aid.....

--John Tuohy and Chuck Chadd

Annual Giving Campaign Update

As of January 3, we have 54 pledges for a total of \$200,524. That includes 1 new pledge, the loss of 2 pledges and 3 restored pledges. Of the returning pledges from 2018, 15 were increased and 6 decreased.

Thank you to all who pledges for 2019 and for all the ways you contribute to the vibrancy of St. Elisabeth's.

It is still not too late to pledge if you haven't already. Pledge contact the office to do so.

ReVive Christmas Baskets

Congratulations to all at St. Elisabeth's!! It was again my pleasure to do this for another year. We succeeded in collecting 48 boxes for all the families that were initially assigned to us.

This year, any checks or Jewel gift cards were either in the boxes, sealed or delivered separately so were not explicitly calculable. We delivered the 48 boxes to: 19 families for a grand total of 62 people.

Very special thanks to Jennifer Van Cleve and Jill McOmber for their extra effort in support of this program. A special thanks to any of you who made extra donations to the Cathedral Shelter to defray the overhead costs of running this program.

--Rene Surgi



Thank You to the 2018 Coffee Hour and Lemonade Hosts

*Anne & Hall Healy
The Choir
Mac DuBose
Kara & Joel Superfine
Robert Fischer & Eve Thornton
Adrienne & Rod Zimmerman
Carla Arnell & Paul Lucas
Cathy & Mike MacKinnon
Sally Graver
Anne & John Tuohy
Robin Lake & Rich Lesperance
Daphne & Jason Cody
Vickie & Larry Handwerk
Aidan & Isabelle Thomson
Kathleen Marrin & Henry Reukauf
The French Dip Team
Polly & Jim Baur*

*Mark Tilton & Stephen Kobl
Dillon Shipman & Cody Cook
Kay & Peter Rossiter
Kristine & Cliff Schwandner
Susan & Chuck Chadd
Kathy Svetina & Tasker Generes Jr.
Tracy Hedstrom
Lynn Solner
Nancy & Sam Badger
Lauren & Andrew Edelston
LGBTQ Initiative Team
Linda Illes
Leslie & Jay Alter
Joyce Newcomb
The Vestry
Carrie & Courtney Mygatt
The Green family*

For the 2019 Coffee Hour, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall. We need your help to make sure this “*eighth sacrament*” of the church is offered on Sundays.

Newspapers for Pets



Reminder that you can bring your old newspapers to the church (coat closet, adjacent to the Living Room).

They will be transported to Orphans for the Storm, a no-kill animal adoption center.

And reusing paper is even better than recycling it!

--John Tuohy

Family Promise

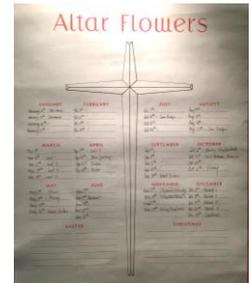


Next Family Promise hosting dates are:
February 17-24, 2019

More information coming soon at church and Thursday eReflection announcements.

Sunday Flower Chart

The 2019 Sunday Flower Chart is up in the hallway and available for you to choose dates. One time-honored tradition at St. Elisabeth's is for one donor per week to provide the Sunday altar flowers in honor or in memory of someone, or simply to the Glory of God. Please contact Polly Baur at polly.baur@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Fact correction from November 25: On the last Sunday before Advent, I preached a sermon about Pontius Pilate's "interview" with Jesus in the gospel of John. I mistakenly claimed that at that time Octavian was the Roman Emperor, who titled himself Caesar Augustus. I was mistaken. Caesar Augustus (Octavian) was the emperor when Jesus was born. Jesus would've been a teenager when Octavian's son Tiberius succeeded his father as the next emperor of Rome. I regret my error! -- Daphne Cody

Advent Wreath Making: December 2



Christmas Eve at St. Elisabeth's



Everyone who helped lead the Christmas Eve 4:00 PM service gather for a prayer and a photo in the sacristy before the service begins.

Saint Elisabeth's Calendar

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
9:45 AM Catechesis for age 3 – Grade 6
9:45 AM Nursery care available (first floor)
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Church)
11:00 AM Coffee Hour

Mondays

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesdays

7:30-8:30 AM Hometown Coffee Office Hour
8:30-9:30 AM Lectionary Study Hour
7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #28

Special Events

Sunday, January 6

8:45 AM Confirmation Information Meeting

Tuesday, January 8

10:00 am St. E's Book Group

Wednesday, January 9

7:15 PM Vestry Meeting

Thursday, January 10

Soup Kitchen

Tuesday, January 15

Deadline for submitting Annual Reports

Sunday, January 27

Annual Meeting

St. Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

556 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe, Illinois 60022

847-835-0458

www.steglencoe.org