

ARChive

FEBRUARY 2021

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Church of the Holy Apostles
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**Official Monthly Publication of
Church of the Holy Apostles**

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**Deadline for submission is the 3rd
Tuesday of the month.**

*Welcome to our new Holy Apostles'
ARChive newsletter.*

*We hope you enjoy this new format
and we look forward to your
feedback.*

A Message from Deacon Gary Harmeyer

Dear Holy Apostles' Friends,

Recently a mother at the Church of the Ascension lamented to me how bad it was that the diocese had imposed so many limitations upon the parishes and that her child doesn't even want to attend Mass right now because no one smiles. In the past, I expect the child saw church as a happy place. The child was no doubt used to seeing sociable people greeting the family at the door. Like at Holy Apostles, the chatter of the families before Mass was at a fairly high decibel level as they caught up on events since the last time they saw each other. After the music started, the congregation would settled down for the start of Mass. Before the readings, the children would have been invited to come to the front of the church and together they, with their peers, would go off to hear the Sunday readings at their level. They would discuss the readings with an in-person catechist. Once they returned to Mass they would likely have walked up to Communion together with their parents and would have received a blessing. After Mass it was more social time and donuts! With all the restrictions now, any wonder the child doesn't want to go to church!

No doubt that mother was frustrated by a lot of things in addition to her child not wanting to go to church. I'm sure the mother sees church attendance as important and doesn't want her child to get out of the habit of going. I responded to the mother with the following:

"As 'strange' as the setting at Ascension is (as compared to normal), a VERY positive thing is that in-person Mass attendance is an option. As mentioned (earlier in the email), I am assigned to Ascension, but work part-time at Holy Apostles (an ecumenical community of Catholics and Episcopalians). As such, we are governed by two sets of diocesan guidelines, and therefore go with the most restrictive. The Episcopal Bishop had decided to use as her guide the positivity rate. When it hit 8% in late November, she put her pastors on notice that if it climbed to 10%, no in-person liturgies would be allowed - 10% was hit on December 8th (and the rate has stayed above that ever since). As a result, the Catholics and Episcopalians at Holy Apostles have had to settle with Masses and Episcopal Holy Eucharist liturgies on Sundays, Christmas and New Year's, by watching them online without the option of receiving the Eucharist. As you can imagine, their members are very frustrated."

I went on to say: "Since I am involved with many funerals and one of the readings often selected by the families for their loved one's from the Old Testament is Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. You have heard it - 'there's a time for everything...a time for war and a time for peace...a time for love and a time for hate...etc.', (continues on page 2)

We choose love over division, unity over separation and Christ above all things.



Liturgy Volunteers

Feb	7	14	21	28
LECTOR FOR LIVESTREAM	B Startt	N Nichter	N Ragland	J Lucas
READERS FOR EVENING PRAYER	J Blessing J Arnold	L Carpenter B Kimpan	P Russo J Tucker	L Startt B Startt
ALTAR GUILD	Startt	S Delaney	Frey	Nichter
COUNTERS	M Cherwa M Mills	L Startt M Meehan	K Nichter S Stanley	L Pace M Rucker

Readers, Lectors, Altar Guild, Eucharistic Ministers, Counters

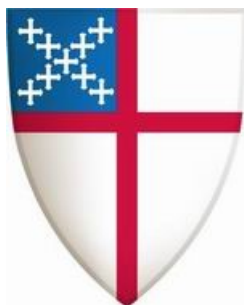
Whoever you
are and
wherever you
are in your
spiritual and
personal life,
we welcome
you to the
Ecumenical
Community of
Holy Apostles.

If you would like to be on the schedule for any of these ministries, please send in your **Time and Talent** form (if you have not done so already). It is most helpful to have a full compliment of volunteers for scheduling the workings of the church. You are what keeps us going. Even though we are not open for in-church worship right now, we need you. Thank you to those who have already sent in their Time and Talent forms. - - Linda Carpenter & Nicki Felton

**Watch our Livestream Mass or Holy Eucharist
Sundays at 10 am**

**Watch our Livestream Evening Prayer
Sundays at 5 pm**

on our Facebook page



A Message from Deacon Gary Harmeyer Continued

but the one we are in right now is there's 'a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.'" I assured her, "We will get through this, but we will all have scars as a result." I told her I appreciated her input in trying to lessen the negative influences that we find ourselves in.

It is a tough time for all of us, but there is hope (because of the vaccines) and God asks us to be patient.

In Christ,

Deacon Gary



Highlights from Vestry Council January 19, 2021

Financial Update: 19 January 2021

YTD Income: \$ 268,927.57
YTD Expense: \$ 208,748.87
YTD Excess: \$60,178.70

November Income: \$ 25,548.86
November Expenses: \$19,820.51
Net Income: \$5,728.35

December Income: \$61,357.83
December Expenses: \$23,014.61
Net Income: \$ 38,343.22

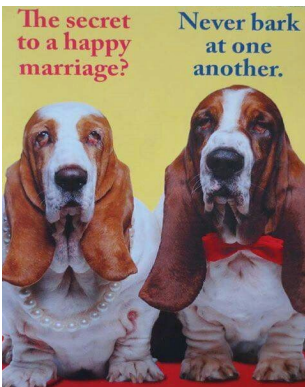
- Our finances improved in 2020 despite the pandemic, because of the generosity and commitment of our members! HA entered late March, when the pandemic first hit, at a financial low. The roof project depleted much of our savings and collections were running behind. But members continued to fulfill their pledges, plus more! With last year's total income up by 30% while expenses were up only 7%, we are entering 2021 on a much firmer financial footing. Your Vestry Council THANKS YOU!!!
- The audio-visual improvements made were covered by generous gifts and did not impact the General Fund.
- There has been positive feedback on the audio-visual improvements. The consensus is the livestreaming is a much better quality now. Thank you for being patient as we moved through the slow improvement process.
- Fr. Mario will look into posting our livestreamed liturgies onto YouTube.
- Fr. Mario has started Sunday Evening Prayer and restarted Saturday afternoon coffee hours. The goal is to build community and include a spiritual component. VC members are encouraged to participate in these opportunities and asked to encourage others to join.
- A new seating plan will be submitted to both dioceses for approval. Since we don't need an audio-visual table in the front, a fourth row of chairs is being proposed to increase capacity. Additionally, the Fellowship Hall has been set up for overflow (where attendees can watch the service livestreamed and would be able to receive the Eucharist). We hope to not require reservations to attend.
- At the next Liturgy Committee meeting members will discuss plans for Ash Wednesday and Lent. The clergy are awaiting directions from the two dioceses.
- Holy Apostles will again apply for the E-Diocesan multimedia grant for small parishes. If received, the money would cover ongoing expenses like Constant Contact and the additional software needed to support livestreaming of liturgies.
- The Vestry Council members will break into two groups to discuss finalizing the wording of the two goals for 2020-2021 (Ecumenism and Membership/Outreach).
- Vestry Council members will continue to call parishioners to keep in touch with them.
- VC members were encouraged to participate in the activities supporting the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan 18-25, and to invite others to do the same.
- The 129th Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia will be held virtually Feb 22-27. There will be a community report given by Fr Mario and Whitney McDaniel (Holy Apostle's delegate to the Council). Kim Nichter is the Alternate.
- In December, Holy Apostles' Social Ministry received a \$2,000 grant from the Richmond Diocese 2021 Fuel and Hunger Grant.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Kimpan	2	Stephanie Lewellen	17
Mona Lucas	2	Adam Stanley	18
Dona Mitchell	5	Kelly Hormuth	20
Aaron Hormuth	14	Jeannette Stover	24
Harry Felton	15	David Dickerson	25
Cliff Hatt	17	Norma Ragland	27

Prayer for a Birthday: O God, our times are in your hand: 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 lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Asalone
February 5, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Salisbury
February 18, 1983

Prayer for a wedding anniversary: We join these couples in their joy and gratitude for the blessings they are to each other. God set them among us as a sign of his love and perseverance; they have endured life's ups and downs yet remain committed. We give thanks for the favors you have bestowed upon them. May God keep them ever in love with each other. *Amen.*

In our Prayers

Pray for the sick, for inpatient children at CHKD,

Pray for or all infected or in quarantine because of Covid-19.

Pray for those suffering job losses, those feeling isolated and frightened.

Pray for health care workers, especially Catherine Meléndez, Andrea Whyte, Kelly Hormuth, Katy Fabila

If you want to place someone on the prayer list, please notify the office.

Individual prayers are published weekly on Thursday by email.

Message from Lynne Larson

Many, many thanks for the prayers and kind thoughts. My leg surgery went well and I'm on the mend.

Peace, love and joy to this wonderful parish. Lynne Larson

Your Feedback Please

Your feedback on our new ARChive format is appreciated. Please email to Julia Hatcher at hatcherjmw@yaho.com or Dianne Marzec at admin@holypostlesvb.org



The Church Geek Corner

By Fr. Mario

If you go to a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Holy Mass) in the Episcopal Church or the Roman Catholic Church, you will notice a lot of similarities in the liturgy; there is a typical structure of prayers, collects, readings from Scripture, etc., in a particular order. You will also find similarities in the celebration of Holy Baptism and other events in the life of our traditions. There are a few noticeable differences. For example, in the Anglican rite, during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, The Peace (when you hear the priest say “The Peace of the Lord be always with you”) occurs just before the offertory and beginning of the Eucharist prayer. In the Roman Rite, The Peace occurs before the **Agnus Dei** (Lamb of God) when we hear the words “Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.” Before the unification of the rites in the Western Church, there were many different local rites. Distance and lack of communication caused and allowed for variations that naturally developed –that is, in terms of ceremony, though never in the essential Consecration. I will be introducing elements from some of these rites to the liturgy of the Episcopal Holy Eucharist, starting with additions from the **Mozarabic Rite**; this rite (officially called the Hispano-Mozarabic Rite and also known as the Visigothic Rite) goes back to the ancient liturgies of the Christian church in Spain. You can find echoes of this ancient rite in the Book of Common Prayer. Due to some fascinating historical events, it is one of only a few rites that have survived completely intact. The Roman Catholic Church in the area of the medieval city of Toledo still has a few parishes that use the *Mozarabic Rite*.



A form for religious ceremony. It includes both what is said and what is done in the religious observance. Rite expresses the church's relationship with God through words, actions, and symbols. It orders the church's common worship. Rite enables the community to share its faith and experience God's presence in a particular liturgical and pastoral context. Divine transcendence is to be known through participation in the specific and finite realities of rite. Rites are prescribed for various sacraments, offices, and occasions in liturgical churches such as the Episcopal Church. The rites of the Episcopal Church are found in the BCP.

Toledo.



Liturgy Committee meeting, Wednesday, February 10 at 2 pm

Office closed, Monday, February 15 - Presidents' Day

ARChive Deadline, Tuesday, February 16

Vestry Council Zoom meeting, Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 pm

Annual Council, Saturday, February 27 via Zoom



2020-2021 Vestry Council

Focus on Ecumenism and Membership/Outreach

Jackie Lucas (RC 2022) - President

Whitney McDaniel (E 2023) - Warden

Kay Ashby (RC 2021)

Mike Cherwa (RC 2022)

Joann Mancuso (RC 2023)

Carolyn Ferguson (E 2021)

Andrea Whyte (E) 2022)

Charlie Mills (E 2023)

Kim Nichter (E 2021)

Matthew Wood (RC 2023)

Secretary - Julia Hatcher

Clergy - Fr. Mario Meléndez and Deacon Gary Harmeyer

Committee Liaisons

Administration: Andrea Whyte (E) and Mike Cherwa (RC)

Christian Formation: Charlie Mills (E) and Kay Ashby (RC)

Fellowship: Kim Nichter (E) and Jackie Lucas (RC)

Liturgy: Matthew Wood (RC) and Carolyn Ferguson (E)

Social Ministry: Joann Mancuso (RC) and Whitney McDaniel (E)

Membership / Outreach

Saturday Morning Men's Group

Can you help with winter projects?

Paint the Chapel and Sacristy, Paint exterior doors and metal plates,
Caulk exterior vents, Repair plate on light pole, trim trees around light pole,
Wrap exterior HVAC lines, Remove rotted wood around building.

Join us Saturdays anytime between 8 am and 11 am.

For more information, please contact either Brent or Jim.

Brent McDaniel: brent@beachautooutfitters.com; 757-375-2170

Jim Byrd: bjbyrd1@verizon.net; 757-467-5150

Stay Connected

For pastoral care, please call or email your clergy

Fr. Mario: 706-631-6299 - mpmelend@bu.edu

Fr. Boat: 757-759-1345 - Frankboat13@gmail.com

Deacon Gary: 757-735-2227 - garyharmeyer@gmail.com



Membership / Outreach

Manna Pantry February 8th—12th

Your donations of food items or monetary donations are greatly appreciated.

The food items most urgently needed are listed on the “Manna Shopping List”. Financial donations are used to purchase fresh foods such as meat, cheese, butter, and Food Lion gift cards.

Make donations to “Manna” through online giving or by check.

Please drop off food donations during office hours. Thank you for supporting the Manna Program and helping our neighbors in need.

MANNA SHOPPING LIST

- ⇒ pasta & sauce
- ⇒ canned fruit
- ⇒ canned vegetables
- ⇒ rice
- ⇒ Tuna
- ⇒ Peanut butter & jelly
- ⇒ Granola bars
- ⇒ Ground coffee/tea bags
- ⇒ Oatmeal packs
- ⇒ Canned ravioli/spaghettiOs
- ⇒ condiments

\$2000 Grant Awarded from the Catholic Diocese of Richmond

We were awarded a \$2000 grant from the **2021 Fuel & Hunger Fund**. This grant will be used toward our Utility Assistance and Manna Programs.

Many thanks to Nick and Kim Nichter for their work on the grant application.

Utility and Rent Assistance

We provide \$50 once a year for residents of Virginia Beach who need assistance with their water, gas or electric bills and now, \$100 once a year for rent assistance. These funds are provided by the **Discretionary Fund**, grants from Catholic and Episcopal Dioceses and generous donations from members of Holy Apostles. **Your donations to The Discretionary Fund are greatly appreciated.** And many thanks to Nick Nichter for his ministry.

Utility and Rent Assistance is provided the 2nd & 4th Wednesday from 1-3 pm.

Hats Sales Support the Discretionary Fund

Holy Apostles ball caps are on sale for only \$25.

Contact Jim Byrd

bjbyrd1@verizon.net

757-467-5150



Virtual Coffee Hour

Join us every Saturday at 2:00 PM

Join via Phone: (312) 626-6799

If you are asked for the “Meeting ID” it is: 816 0683 8172

Join via Video--Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81606838172>

If you need the “Meeting ID”: 816 0683 8172



Membership / Outreach

Lent: February 17 - March 27

ASH WEDNESDAY – February 17

Distribution of Ashes: Pending Diocesan approvals, the plan is to distribute Ashes outside between 1-2 pm. Clergy will also be available for distribution by appointment during their regular Wednesday office hours – between 10 am and 12 noon.

Prayer Service: A virtual Livestream Ash Wednesday Prayer service will be planned for 12 noon.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION: Holy Apostles will likely still be closed for in-person services. We will publicize Roman Catholic services at surrounding area churches. Holy Apostles clergy will be available for individual reconciliation/confession by appointment during their regular Wednesday office hours – between 10 am and 12 noon.

PRAYER PARTNERS: As a Lenten activity, we will again have our Prayer Partner Program. It is a helpful Christian activity of praying individually and anonymously through the 40 day Lenten season for the needs and intentions of a specific person at Holy Apostles. On Easter Sunday, April 4, you will reveal your Prayer Partner with an Easter card, note, or small gift to the partner for whom you have been praying. It is a worthwhile and appropriate Lenten practice in which everyone can participate.

If you would like to participate, please email or call the office.

admin@holyapostlesvb.org or 757-427-0963

RICE BOWLS: is a Lenten faith-in-action program that offers daily opportunity for your family to pray, fast, and give. This year, we will email to you a Lenten calendar so you can practice the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **At the end of Lent, please send your donation by check to church on Palm Sunday, March 28.** Your donations will be **split between Catholic Relief Services and Episcopal Relief and Development** which both provide invaluable relief and development services at home and abroad.

LENTEN MEDITATIONS: You are invited to meditate daily and to engage the “Four Steps of Lament,” by resting, reflecting, repenting and ultimately being restored to God and to one another. Many of the authors share deeply personal and painful experiences related to a variety of issues including disease, violence, racial injustice and poverty. You are invited to come to these meditations with an open heart. What you read may challenge you and give rise to unexpected or uncomfortable feelings. **If you would like to subscribe to receive these meditations daily in your inbox, please subscribe at <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>**

ADULT FORMATION SERIES: We will continue our popular series of “**Being a Christian in a Time of Pandemic**”. Join us on Zoom Wednesday at 7 pm, February 3 & 17 and through out Lent.

