

May 2021

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# The Epistle to the Elizabethans

## News from the Senior Warden

### You Are Doing Your Best

Well, another month has passed, and we are closer to another stage of life. Many of us are looking forward to summer, some of us looking forward to the end of the school year. And still, some of us remain steadfast in what we are doing daily, be it work, chores, volunteering or just visiting friends and being able to see people in person. It has been a terrible year in many ways. We have had to rely on our faith more than in recent history it seems. We used our faith daily to just get us thru the day. I for one have expanded my faith in my own way. It has meant a lot to be able to feel the prayers for healing

from everyone and prayers of strength. I know that God has heard everyone's prayers and even though we have lost so many to this dreadful disease, to natural causes and in so many other ways, it is never easy. Remember to have your faith and be strong. God is with you every day in many ways. We at St Elizabeth's are grateful for His presence and that he is guiding us thru these times. There is so much we want to be able to do, but we can't due to fear. Fear of catching something, spreading something, people telling us to put a mask on, to take our masks off. What if our faith was like that? What if we were afraid of spreading

our faith, of catching the faith. Afraid of showing our faith or having to hide it. There are so many similarities today between spreading our germs and spreading our faith. Do not be afraid to show your faith and spread the word of the Lord.



<http://www.facebook.com/motivationquotesforyou>

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### From Fr. Norm



With the onset of the month of May, I was always reminded that this is the traditional planting season as we prepared the gardens and get the plants ready to go into the ground. Growing up in New England, we were finally assured that we had passed the last of the frost and the ground was warming and ready to receive the new growth of the season.

The first of May is also celebrated as May Day in many locations. I often wondered about its beginnings so I turned to Wikipedia for help. Here is what I found: "The earliest May Day celebrations appeared in pre-Christian times, with the festival of Flora, the Roman Goddess of flowers, and the Walpurgis Night celebrations of the Germanic countries. It is also associated with the Gaelic Beltane. Many pagan celebrations were abandoned or Christianized during the process of conversion in Europe. A more secular version of May Day continues to be observed in Europe and America. In this form, May Day may be best known for its tradition of dancing the Maypole and crowning of the Queen of the May.

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## Episcopal Church Women



A great big thank you to everyone for their donation to our Bakeless Bake Sale. We are buying a new gas leaf blower for the Grounds Ministry and we made a donation to Care Net. Thank you again!

## Search Committee

Hello brothers and sisters,  
The search committee is currently in the process of interviewing a prospective candidate. We had received a few names at the beginning of the year and a couple more at the beginning of this month. There were candidates we eliminated which we felt weren't suited to St. Elizabeth's. We are continuing to pray that God puts a good shepherd in our path that our congregation can support. Please continue to pray for God's will to be done in this process.

Search committee co chair  
Joanne Knott



## Did You Know?

We are still collecting different items for recycling, etc. Cans - drop off at area between Russell Bldg and Admin Building. Also household batteries and coupons (cut out would help) the coupons are sent to troops stationed overseas as they are good for 60 days after the expiration dates. Batteries and coupons can be dropped off and put on the desk in the Office Angel office.



## Looking to volunteer?

Do you have a couple hours a week to help out? We are looking for people to help out with the Office Angel staffing (especially to fill in when someone can not make it) if you are available 10-12 M-Th please call the church and leave your name and call back number.



**May 2021**

**Announcements May 2, 2021**

**Birthdays**

Gerald Crotts	May 5
Daisy Williams	May 6
Karissa Flynn	May 12
Robert Klueppelberg	May 12
Linda Dean	May 16
Evie Zaremba	May 17
Rick Zaremba	May 18
Janet Dordelman	May 19
Linda Pelchy	May 24
Diane Garrison	May 26
Karlie Patzlaff	May 27
Betty McNutt	May 29
Peter Cleary	May 31

**Anniversaries**

Edythe & William Clemons	May 6
Jerome & Athena Adams	May 7
Bernice & Frank Montefusco	May 7
Frank & Rae Klinzing	May 14
John & Christina Grimison	May 20
David & Danielle Farmer	May 21

**VBS Meeting:** Sunday May 16th after 10:00 AM Service.

**Fraud Awareness Class:** Sunday, May 9th after each service. Given by Justin Knott from the Sebastian Police Department.

**Projector:** Please bear with us, our projector is failing. We are getting quotes for replacing the current projector within the next few weeks.

**Quarterly Quarters:** Sunday, May 30th. Proceeds will benefit VBS.

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**The Source Sunday:** Will be feeding the homeless and handing out goodie bags, May 30th. The menu and donation items needed is coming. Stay Tuned. For more information contact Chrissie Grimison or call the church office.

**Seating:** There is an increase in attendance, which is great! We ask that if there is someone that you feel safe seating with, feel free to join them. We want to make sure that we have sufficient seating for all and still maintain our safety. We are so grateful to everyone for following the guidelines that we have in place and it is great to see many people returning to worship.

**Attention:** If you think you have been exposed or tested positive for covid and have attended church in the last 14 days - please notify us.

**Friendly Reminder:** We all get a little fatigue when it comes to following the guidelines set forth by the Diocese concerning COVID-19. Everyone MUST wear a mask. This includes anyone singing, all attendees, any group or ministry meeting, including Sunday School. If you have a medical condition that you can not comply, you then must stay home.

## Senior Warden continued



Everyone month I struggle with what “message” to write to our parishioners. I never expected to be in this position (especially for this long). I do the best that I can and hope it is good enough. Is it? What is good enough? Is it just getting by with as little work as possible or is it doing the best that we can? There have been so many questions during this last year and not enough answers. We are all striving for the best, but maybe we have to settle for good enough depending on the circumstances. I think many would look at our St. Elizabeth’s family and say, they are doing the best that they can under the circumstances, still others will look and say they are doing “THEIR BEST”. We have held our own, we haven’t collapsed, we haven’t given up. When you think back to where we were one year ago, we are doing our best! As we have seen many times on social media - If you have a family that loves you, a few good friends, food on your table and a roof over your head., you are richer than you think. St Elizabeth’s family is rich. We are full of love and friends and we even have the roof over our heads!

Keep this in mind as we go thru life and sometimes struggle. Remember you are doing your best!

We want to take this time to wish all the mothers an incredibly happy Mother’s Day. Whether you gave birth, gave help, are an aunt, a single male parent, or whatever the case may be, you have all done the job of “Mother” for some of us our mother is no longer on this earth and for others she is some distance away and still for others, she is here to help. Cherish her always.

Blessings to all  
Laurel Matthews  
Sr Warden

## From Fr. Norm continued

Various Neopagan groups celebrate reconstructed (to varying degrees) versions of these customs on May the 1st. The day was a traditional summer holiday in many pre-Christian European pagan cultures. While February 1 was the first day of Spring, May 1 was the first day of summer; hence, the summer solstice on June 25 (now June 21) was Midsummer. In the Roman Catholic tradition, May is observed as Mary's month, and in these circles May Day is usually a celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In this connection, in works of art, school skits, and so forth, Mary's head will often be adorned with flowers in a May crowning. Fading in popularity since the late 20th century is the giving of "May baskets," small baskets of sweets and/or flowers, usually left anonymously on neighbors' doorsteps.”

It is interesting how many pagan ceremonies turn to Christian celebrations over the years. The church has given honor to Mary in the month of May in celebration for all she contributed to salvation history. Easter has just been celebrated so maybe we should focus on the life of our Lord and give Mary her due. I guess that may be a contributing factor to the celebration of Mother’s Day in May. We honor the role of mothers everywhere for their sacrifices and unconditional love in the family. I hope we can pause this month to remember that, as new life begins in the garden of many of our houses so also new life begins with the mothers among us. Let us celebrate with mothers everywhere and rejoice in God who gives this wonder of life to us all.



Father Norman+