

## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

The month of May promises to be filled with great Easter joy. While every Sunday is a celebration of our Lord's Resurrection, we will witness the on-going transformative power of the Resurrection in the life of the Church as we celebrate two adult Baptisms and a Confirmation mass. Emily Sterk and Jeff Wilson will both be baptized (at separate Sunday masses) in May. On Saturday, May 14, teens and adults will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation as they confirm the faith and grace given to them in Baptism.



This Easter joy will be further augmented by our second Choral Evensong & Benediction service of the year on **Sunday, May 22**: Rogation Sunday. If you attended our first Evensong & Benediction in February, you know that you're in for a treat. Erik Clayton and our choir offered a fine service, and I look forward to the next one.

That same day, we have the pleasure to welcome back Ted Christopher, who by then will be the Rev. Ted Christopher, to Saint John's pulpit. Ted will preach at both our 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. masses. The latter

will include an outdoor blessing of the parish garden and coffee hour for Rogation Sunday. A few days later, on **Thursday, May 26**, we will celebrate Ascension Day with Low Mass with organ and cantor and a parish dinner. There is more information on all these



offerings later in this issue of *The Herald*. It will be a festive month at Saint John's.

As we celebrate the feasts and Sacraments of the Church, we do so while remaining keenly aware of the various tragedies that plague the human family of God. As I write this letter, our breakfast fundraiser for Ukraine is scheduled to take place on Saturday. While I don't have any figures or comments to share

with you at this time, I pray that it will be a success. I hope that we will raise as much money as possible; and that our contribution, no matter how small or large, will serve the most vulnerable in Ukraine.

Through our Lord's death and Resurrection, we're able to celebrate Christ's victory over death *while* we grieve for the suffering and dead. We're able to do this because we believe that Christ's resurrection has filled all human grief—in small and large quantities; immediately or in due time—with hope. This hope is rooted in one of the central outcomes of our Lord's Resurrection: God's vindication of Jesus on the third day. Through the Resurrection event, Christ's vindication over the evil forces of this world and death itself becomes ours.

Earlier this week, I witnessed this great Easter hope in news reports of Easter celebrations in Ukraine. Even in the midst of war, churches were full—Christians shouted “Christ is risen!” and offered their prayers and lit votives. As we continue to journey through this Easter season, let us join our Christian siblings in Ukraine and celebrate God's victory over death, and pray that we may more fully see Christ's victory in our day.

Easter blessings,  
~Father Carlos †



### **FROM THE DEACON'S PERCH**

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him,*

*“Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.” (John 21:15-17)*

Dear Friends,

We have had quite a journey these many weeks with Lent and the crucifixion, and now we are witnesses to the risen Christ. What shall we make of this: we renewed our baptismal vows, we lit our candles at the vigil, and lit the Pascal candle to commemorate our new journey toward Pentecost. On that day, Sunday, June 5, we will celebrate the descent of the holy spirit. What are we to do in the meantime? We hear scripture stories of Jesus in the upper room breaking bread with his apostles (the women were also present). We also hear stories of the apostles healing and preaching. One of my favorite stories in the gospels is from John

quoted above. You have heard me say many times that I resonate with Peter, but I feel especially connected to Jesus's words paraphrased, "Alex, do you love me?" I reply, "Yes, Lord! I Love You." "*Then feed my sheep.*" "Feel free to add your own name: "[Your Name], do you love me?" "Then feed my sheep."

One of the beautiful things about our parish is that we are not so big that we lose track of each other. As a church family we accomplish so much. We call on each other in many ways, and we do ministries as Jesus would have liked it: "Feed my sheep." The youth of St. John's are working on projects for Out Of The Cold, as well as for PAWS. This is how we are feeding our sheep.

I will resume visiting Centre Care on a regular basis beginning in May. The men's spiritual group will be starting a new book on **May 2**, meeting outside at my home each

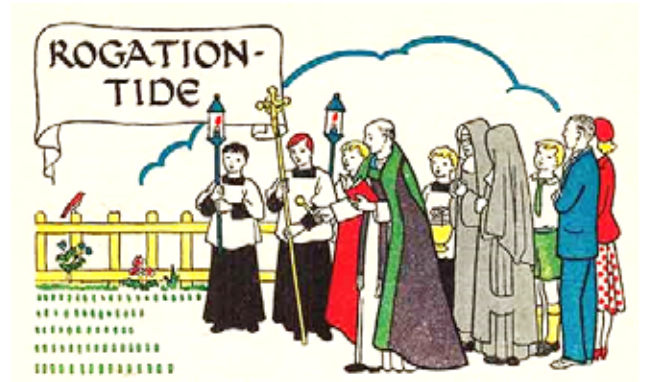


Monday night at 7 p.m. I invite you to come and join us for this study.

I remind you that we hold services of Evening Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:15, followed by Low Mass at 5:30. Take

a break from the world and join Fr. Carlos and me in prayer. ~Dcn. Alex †

**BLESSING OF THE GARDEN**  
**Sunday, May 22: Rogation Sunday**



The Sixth Sunday of Easter is designated as Rogation Sunday, a day to offer prayers for the summer harvest. On **Sunday, May 22**. (Rogation Sunday) we will conclude the 10:30 a.m. mass with an outdoor Blessing of the Garden. A festive coffee hour will follow.

**CHORAL EVENSONG & BENEDICTION**  
**Sunday, May 22: Rogation Sunday**



A Service of Choral Evensong & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be offered on



**Sunday, May 22**, at 5:00 p.m. Evensong is one of the jewels of Anglicanism. The service consists of chanted Psalms, readings from the Bible, traditional canticles and a Marian anthem, and prayers both said and sung. Evensong is directly followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, a service of prayers and hymns offered in praise of our Lord's presence in the sacred mysteries of his Body and Blood. Please mark your calendars for our second Evensong & Benediction of the year.

***GUEST PREACHER: MR. TED CHRISTOPHER***  
**Sunday, May 22: Rogation Sunday**

On **Sunday, May 22**, Rogation Sunday, we welcome back Mr. Ted Christopher (who will then be the Rev. Ted Christopher, Deacon) to



Saint John's pulpit. Ted will preach at both Sunday masses and officiate at Evensong.

***EATING AND PRAYING FOR UKRAINE***

Our corned beef hash, egg, and pancake breakfast was gratefully attended by about 50 people, many of whom are not parishioners. We raised ~\$1300, all of which will be designated to assist the displaced in Ukraine, through Episcopal Relief and Development. Huge thanks to Deacon Alex, Jeff and John



Wilson, and the crew of helpers who made this possible.

***CONFIRMATION MASS***  
**Saturday, May 14 | 11:00 a.m.**



On Saturday, **May 14**, Bishop Audrey Scanlan will celebrate a Confirmation mass at Saint John's. Come and support our teen and adult confirmands and those who will be received into The Episcopal Church. We encourage all to attend as a sign of support for their fellow parishioners and to welcome back our Bishop. Veni Sancte Spiritus!

## FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

As a family who attends church, you have certain values that are not always reinforced for your children in other places. If serving others, giving of yourself, and sharing the



love of Jesus with others is important to your family, then Sunday school is the perfect place for those values to be

emphasized. You may discover that topics taught at church lead to conversations at home, which allow you to discuss those things your family holds important and why. Please consider regular attendance in our Sunday School Program. We welcome your family.

Our partnership with Bellefonte Youth Center kicked off



on April 24 with preparation of the gardens and early plantings, followed by (in true St.

John's tradition), a cookout for the kids. Thank you, David King, for organizing and leading this activity.

## LET US KEEP THE FEAST!

### Ascension Day

Thursday, May 26 | 5:30 P.M.



*Let us keep the Feast!* is a monthly worship and dinner series that celebrates feast days of the Church that would otherwise go unobserved. Join us this month as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension. We will begin with Low Mass accompanied with organ and cantor in the church, followed by a festive parish dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

**Worship - 5:30 p.m**

**Dinner - 6:00 p.m**

If possible, to assist with meal prep, please RSVP for dinner on our Facebook event page, or by contacting the parish office:

[office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org](mailto:office@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org)



**PENTECOST PARISH COOKOUT**  
Sunday, June 5 | 11:40 a.m.



The Day of Pentecost is observed on the 50th and final day of the Easter season. We will celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues upon the disciples, which appeared to them as flames resting over their heads. Following the 10:30 a.m. mass (approximately 11:40 a.m.), a parish cookout will be held in the backyard of Deacon Alex and Ellen Dyakiw's house. Stay tuned for more details on how you can contribute to our party; and please remember to bring your own picnic blanket or lawn chair(s).

**WEEKDAY WORSHIP NOTICES**



**May's Parish Requiem has been rescheduled.** This month's Low Mass of Requiem will take place on **Saturday, May 21, at 9:30 a.m.** Please join us as we remember the faithful departed on the month of their year's mind (the anniversary of their death).

Evening Prayer and Low Mass will be canceled on Tuesday, May 24. Please join us the following **Thursday, May 26**, for our Ascension Day *Let us keep the Feast!* celebration at 5:30 p.m.: Low Mass with organ and cantor, followed by a parish dinner.

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

May 01	Avery	North
May 03	Genavieve	Clayton
May 03	Bette	Shugert
May 06	Karen	Harvey
May 07	Elizabeth	Helms
May 19	Andrea	Skirpan
May 20	Michael	Duminiak
May 28	Erik	Clayton
May 28	Abby	Fetters
May 30	Jeffery	Wilson



## HELP WANTED: COFFEE HOUR



We have enjoyed several coffee hour gatherings in the past month. As you can see by the photo, they have all been well-attended and obviously enjoyed by the participants. Now for the “Help Wanted” part 😊: While we post the link to sign up for hosting every month, the same few names continuously appear on the list. If you have been enjoying this time of fellowship (and food), won't you step up to help? We need volunteers to set up, serve beverages, and clean up afterwards. Drinks and food items are provided by the church, so *you don't even need to prepare anything*. You can also speak to Trish Weidemann, Deb Cree, or Carol Fyfe for guidance on the logistics of hosting. To sign up, please visit our sign-up link, <https://bit.ly/3um2fBp>, or contact the parish office. Thank you for your help!

## AROUND THE PARISH FAMILY TABLE



**Mark Eminhizer, Jr.** will graduate from Westminster College with a Bachelor's of Science in biology on May 14. He is planning to be married July 31 and will reside in Morgantown, West Virginia. Mark is the son of Heidi and Mark, Sr.

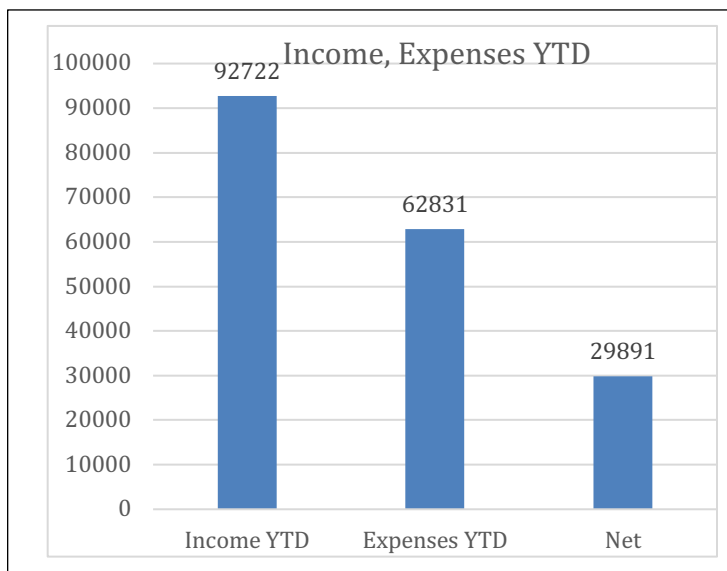
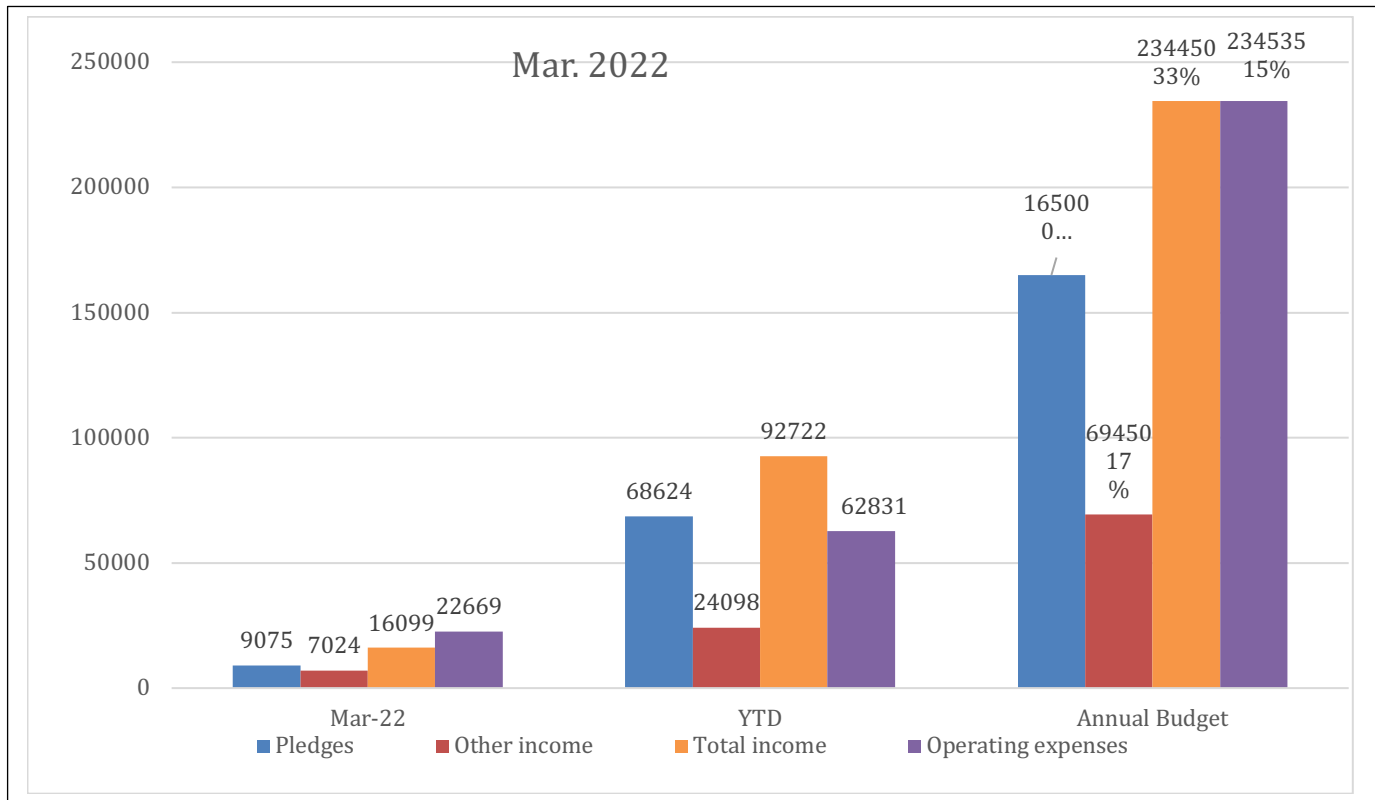
**MJ Lucas**, of Lynn Haven, Florida, will graduate from A. Crawford Mosley High School on Friday, May 20. She will then further her education by attending Troy University, in Troy, Alabama, to pursue a degree in Music Education. MJ is the daughter of Bethany and David Lucas of Lynn Haven, Florida. She is the granddaughter of Scott Mauger and Josy Lyons. The proud grandparents will be traveling to Florida to attend MJ's graduation ceremony.

**Andy Youstic** graduates from Penn State on May 8 with his Master's Degree in Information Sciences, with a concentration in Cyber Security and Information Assurance. He will continue his career at Penn State as a Linux System Administrator while looking for his first "gig" in the security space.



**FINANCIAL:**

	Mar-22	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Pledges	9075	68624	165000	42%
Other income	7024	24098	69450	35%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>16099</b>	<b>92722</b>	<b>234450</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>22669</b>	<b>62831</b>	234535	27%
<b>Net</b>	<b>-6570</b>	<b>29891</b>		<b>-4%</b>



Expenses		
Income YTD	YTD	Net
92722	62831	29891

Numbers do not include investments, savings, or checking acct. balance.

**Vestry Members:** Larry Roberson (Sr. Warden), Matt Perkins (Jr. Warden), Liz Helms, Carol Fyfe, Debra Cree, Susan Christy, Peggy Jackson, Thomas Quigley, David King, Charlotte Zmyslo



# MAY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>01</b> <b>The Third Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn Mass	<b>02</b> <b>Sts. Philip &amp; James</b> 7:00pm Men's Group	<b>03</b> <b>Invention of the Holy Cross</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>04</b> <b>St. Monica</b>	<b>05</b> <b>Conversion of St. Augustine</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>06</b> <b>St. John before the Latin Gate</b>	<b>07</b> <b>St. John of Beverly</b>
<b>08</b> <b>The Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn Mass	<b>09</b> <b>Feria</b> 7:00pm Men's Group	<b>10</b> <b>St. Damien de Veuster</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>11</b> <b>Feria</b>	<b>12</b> <b>St. Pancras</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>13</b> <b>Feria</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Feria</b> 11:00am Confirmation Mass
<b>15</b> <b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn Mass	<b>16</b> <b>Feria</b> 7:00pm Men's Group	<b>17</b> <b>Feria</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>18</b> <b>Feria</b> 7:00pm Vestry	<b>19</b> <b>St. Dunstan</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass	<b>20</b> <b>St. Alcuin</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Feria</b> 9:30am Monthly Low Mass of Requiem
<b>22</b> <b>The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday</b> 9:00am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn Mass & Blessing of the Garden 5:00pm Choral Evensong & Benediction	<b>23</b> <b>Feria</b> 7:00pm Men's Group	<b>24</b> <b>Feria</b> <b>NO EVENING PRAYER &amp; LOW MASS</b>	<b>25</b> <b>St. Bede the Venerable</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Ascension Day</b> 5:30pm Let us keep the Feast! Low Mass & Parish Dinner	<b>27</b> <b>St. Augustin of Canterbury</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Feria</b>
<b>29</b> <b>The Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn Mass	<b>30</b> <b>Feria</b> 7:00pm Men's Group	<b>31</b> <b>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> 5:15pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Low Mass				