

All Saints' Memorial Church
674 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

September 27, 2018
e-Parish Messenger

Come and worship
Rejoice in fellowship
Love and serve the Lord!

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The Rev. Dr. Judith Mitchell
Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Dr. Julianne Hanavan
Assistant Priest

Fearless Faith and Boundless Love: Deaconess Anna Alexander

This week in our church calendar we remember the life and ministry of Deaconess Anna Ellison Butler Alexander. I became interested in Deaconess Anna when a seminary classmate from Georgia shared her remarkable story. Deaconess Anna was born on St. Simon's Island, Georgia (1865-1947), the youngest of 11 children born to recently emancipated slaves. She founded a mission church and a school in the town of Pennick, Georgia in a period when the Georgia diocese would not help fund schools for black children. Deaconess Anna raised funds to buy land and build the church, a school that averaged 40 day-school attendees between the years 1902-1914. In the early 1900s, she became the only African American woman consecrated or set aside in the Episcopal Church order of deaconess. In 1998, she was named a "Saint of Georgia" by the Diocese. The Georgia Diocese says of Deaconess Anna, "In a calling of more than 60 years, her indomitable spirit and fierce devotion to God still illuminates our understanding of ministry." Deaconess Anna taught about Christian love to all peoples. Despite hunger and hardship in rural Pennick, her church delayed their own building plans in 1923 to aid the victims of a horrendous earthquake in Tokyo-Yokohama where 140,000 people died.

I was curious about the order of deaconess in the Episcopal church. I discovered that between 1855-1970,

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April Donahower

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about five hundred Episcopal women were "set aside" as deaconesses either by prayer or the laying on of hands to care for the "sick, afflicted, and the poor." Recognized by their blue habits, deaconesses served in urban and rural areas. Some trained in schools for deaconesses in New York and Philadelphia. The church did not allow deaconesses to perform liturgical functions. In 1970, when the Episcopal church first ordained women deacons, deaconesses were assumed into the diaconate. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry held a revival at Deaconess Anna's home church this past January, preaching a message of "fearless faith and boundless love."

Deaconess Anna, no doubt, had moments of fear and uncertainty yet her faith told her otherwise. She encountered hostility, injustice, and resistance to her education mission yet her faith told her love. May we approach uncertainties and divisions of our time with the same fearless faith and boundless love.



Peace,
Julie

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UPCOMING ALL SAINTS' MEETINGS/EVENTS

September 30: Fall Brunch, following the church service

- October 2:** Knitting/crocheting, 6:00 p.m.
- October 7:** Outreach Committee Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
- October 7:** Blessing of the Animals at the 9:30 a.m. church service
- October 7, 14, 21 and 28:** Adult Education Forum: "Henry VIII and the Four Thomases" following the church service
- October 14:** The James F. Burgess, Jr. Memorial Concert, 5:00 p.m.
- October 16:** Knitting/crocheting, 6:00 p.m.
- October 21:** Vestry meeting, 11:00 a.m.
- October 21:** Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Revival Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Worcester - see details below

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FALL BRUNCH

A Fall brunch will be held on Sunday September 30 following the church service. People are invited to donate food. Donated food should be given to the kitchen staff before the church service.



The Fall brunch is sponsored by the Outreach Committee. Donations are welcomed and will be used to support Thanksgiving baskets.

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ADULT EDUCATION FORUM: HENRY VIII AND THE FOUR THOMASES

Our mutual friend, Father David Ames, once suggested that an apt subtitle for this offering might well be "Why we are not

still Catholics, or Lutherans." So, in affectionate acknowledgement of David's contribution, we'll use that, noting that the Thomases are Thomas Wolsey, Thomas More (Saint), Thomas Cranmer and Thomas Cromwell. Taken together, given their relationships with Henry VIII, they provide a way into the early stages of the Reformation in England. (And they are a fascinating and diverse collection of men who combine sanctity and pragmatism.) All are welcome.

Mark the dates: After church, Sunday mornings

October 7, October 14, October 21, October 28

No homework! Bring coffee! Share your thoughts and insights!

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**ALL SAINTS' MEMORIAL CHURCH TO HOST THE
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE CHORAL PROGRAM IN
THE JAMES F. BURGESS, JR. MEMORIAL
CONCERT**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 5:00 p.m.

The James F. Burgess, Jr. Memorial Concert on Sunday, October 14, will feature the Rhode Island College Concert Chorus, Chamber Singers, and Women's Chorus. A wide variety of music is planned with selections including *To Hear Men Sing* by Michael East, *Only in Sleep* by Sara Teasdale, *What'll I Do?* by Irving Berlin and arranged by Deke Sharon, *Prayer* by Morten Lauridsen, *She Weeps Over Ragoon* by Eric Whitacre, *Let My Love Be Heard* by Jake

Runestad, Jack Lowe's arrangement of *Mary Wore Three Links of Chain*, and movements from *Haydn's Missa Brevis No. 7 in Bb*. The concert will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will be just over an hour in length. Free - donations to the James F. Burgess, Jr. Endowment Fund appreciated.

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**HEAR PRESIDING BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY
PREACH AT WORCESTER REVIVAL**

SUNDAY OCTOBER 21 at 5 p.m.

**Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts in
Worcester**

You will hear emotional music and a memorable sermon from Bishop Curry, who's being billed as "The Royal Wedding Preacher" due to his address at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meaghan Markle.

Julie will be attending the Revival and has several additional tickets. Please speak with her if you are interested in carpooling.

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PRAYERS

Those for whom prayers have been asked:

We pray for John Angell, Robert Angell, Derek Badio, Yabome Bash-Taqi, Marie Baylis, Trish Blake, Harriet Choi, Madhia Cooper, Jeanne Corneau, Paul Cummings, Florence Depatie, Rick Edwards, Anthony Eke, Margaret Flynn, Liam Gohring, Dorothea Evans Gordon, Jim Greene, Claire Hanavan, Effuah Harris, Carolyn Hirsch, Barbara K., Jeffrey Knapton, Katie Lawton, Fiona McDevitt, Rita Medave, Margaret Mirin, Munah Pelham, Robin Poché, Pamela Preston, Eric T., Virginia Thompson, Mary Tryforos, Brenda White, Jack, Roy, Bendu and Jasmine, Edwina, Renée, Tete, Mark and April Beth.

Altar flowers on Sunday September 30 are given in memory of Meredith Thayer and James F. Burgess, Jr. by Charlotte Burgess.

Remember those who work for peace and members of our armed forces, especially Raymond Tanguay and Matthew Degree.

UPDATED PRAYER LIST

There is a list of everyone currently on the Prayer List in Rose Hall. Please highlight anyone you wish to remain on the list, which will remain available until September 30. After that, any name not highlighted will be removed from the Prayer List. As always, you may email or call the parish office with your request. Thank you.

KNITTING, CROCHETING



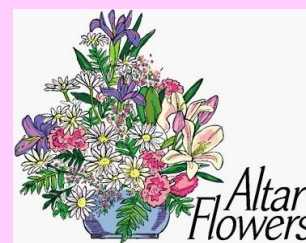
The knitting and crocheting group meets every other Tuesday at 6 PM. This group is open to anyone in the parish. You are welcome to come as often as you can and you are welcome to bring a friend. And remember that this group is not just for ladies and is open to all.

Next meeting is **Tuesday, October 2**

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR

2018

Altar flowers are a wonderful way to remember a loved one who has passed away or to give thanks for someone special. You may reserve dates for Sundays in 2018 by using the forms in Rose Hall. If you would like a form mailed to you, please call Kathy in the Parish Office.



FOOD COLLECTION



Each week All Saints' collects food to be distributed monthly to food pantries in our area. You are asked, as you are able, to bring one item on the monthly list each Sunday: September, soup/stew; October, hot cereal; November, boxed mac and cheese. As always, thank you for your generosity.

PARKING LOT AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS

The parking lot adjacent to the church lot is once again available for additional parking, during Sunday services only. If you are the last car leaving the lot, please lock the gate after you leave. Thank you.

SCRIPTURE READINGS AND MINISTRY SCHEDULES

September 30, 2018

First Reading: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Marybeth Hanavan

Second Reading: James 5:13-20; April Donahower

Prayers: Monika Kraemer

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

Chalice: Harrington Evans

Greeters/ Ushers: Marsha Mott

Altar Duty: Gloria Perry and Patricia Fahnbulleh

Coffee Hour Team: Gloria Perry and Dirk Hennessey

October 7, 2018

First Reading: Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Rosetta Evans

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Barbara Badio

Prayers: Anne Tait

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Chalice: Dan Mechnig

Greeters/ Ushers: Marsha Mott, Musa Goll

Altar Duty: Dan and Kathy Mechnig

Coffee Hour Team: April Donahower and Alex Perdue

NEXT E-PARISH MESSENGER

The next edition of the e-messenger will be emailed on October 4. The deadline to submit information and articles for this edition is Tuesday, October 2. Please submit any articles/info you may have to Kathy at asmcri@verizon.net.

Contact Information:

Email Address: asmcri@verizon.net

Telephone: 401-751-1747

The Rev. Dr. Judith Mitchell: juthnami@aol.com

The Rev. Dr. Julianne Hanavan: revjulhan@gmail.com

Kathy Mechnig: asmcri@verizon.net

Parish Administrator

Website: allsaintsmemorial.org

