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***All Saints' Episcopal Church***

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***Priestly Perusings***

***Thank you!!*** to all who helped make the Holy Week and Easter services so meaningful this year. Thanks to Roberta and the Choir; to all the acolytes, Altar Guild members, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers; to all those who took parts in the Passion narratives on Palm Sunday and Good Friday; to Judy Richard and her family for overseeing the Maundy Thursday Simple Soup Supper; to Mary Pepides for officiating at Morning Prayer on Good Friday, at the close of the Maundy Thursday Watch before the Altar of Repose, and for all those who participated in that all-night silent prayer vigil; to all those who contributed toward the beautiful Easter flowers, and to Donna Lydem, Joelle Lamontagne and the toddler division of the Church School for making and processing the bright Easter banner. The Great Fifty Days of Easter continue until the Feast of Pentecost, June 4. I encourage each and every parishioner to find some way to celebrate resurrection each of the fifty days. In my house, as many of you know, that sweet reminder is jelly beans on the dining room table, but it could be anything that helps you remember the meaning and special nature of this season celebrating the gift of divine forgiveness and new and everlasting life, given to all through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Savior.

**THE RT. REV. LAURA AHRENS, SUFFRAGAN BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT, WILL MAKE HER VISITATION TO US ON SUNDAY, JUNE 18. BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION will be offered as part of that Visitation.** Our current Youth Confirmation Class has been preparing for this throughout the Church School Year, and attendance at those classes is critical. If you or yours is desirous of being Baptized, Confirmed, or Received at the time of Bishop Ahrens’ Visitation, or of making a public Reaffirmation of Faith, please let Susan know immediately. An Inquirer’s Class will be offered **Saturday, May 13 , from 10 AM – 3 PM for those Youth and Adults** preparing for Confirmation and Reception into the Episcopal Church (see more below), as well as for ongoing “continuing education” for lifelong Episcopalians who just want to learn more about the Episcopal Church. All are welcome, but please sign up on the bulletin board so we know for how many to prepare materials and lunch.

**BECOMING A MEMBER OF ALL SAINTS’** is really very simple. If you have been Baptized with water in the name of the Trinity in any Christian tradition, all that’s necessary is that you register your Baptism with us – this makes you a member of All Saints’ Parish, but Baptism makes one a Christian; it does *not* make you an Episcopalian! If you are already an Episcopalian, please just ask Mother Davidson to request your Letter of Transfer from your former parish. In order to become an Episcopalian, you must be Confirmed (for those who have been raised in most Protestant traditions, as well as other Episcopal churches) or Received by a bishop in the Episcopal Church (for those who have been raised and Confirmed in the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox Churches). Preparation for Confirmation/Reception of youth and adults will be offered through Inquirers’ Class, Saturday, May 13, 10 AM – 3 PM. For more information on all of this, and to apply for Baptism for adults or children, please speak to Mother Davidson. Eastertide is the perfect time for Baptisms!

**CAMP WASHINGTON** is offering a number of attractive activities in this, their 100th year, in addition to summer camp opportunities for children and youth. Please see the bulletin board for information. Registration forms for summer camp sessions are available in the church office.

**THE WOLCOTT NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** event will take place on **Thursday, May 4, at 6 PM** in the Pavilion at Peterson Park. The theme for this year (from Daniel 9:19) is “For Your Great Name’s Sake! Hear us… Forgive us… Heal us!” If you are planning to attend and available to help represent All Saints’ at that event, please contact Mother Davidson.

**APPLICATIONS FOR THE MARILYN ALTMEYER SCHOLARSHIP** are available in the church office for graduating high school seniors.

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY** After many years as a church school teacher - the last several years as Lead Teacher in the church school - **Rhonda Mazur** has decided to retire from that very rewarding ministry. We are grateful for the ministry she has exercised with such grace, and are now seeking a successor to her very responsible and nurturing leadership with children ages 6 -14, to begin in September. That person should be one who loves working with children, is compassionate but firm, and is willing to learn along with the children. Fear not - we have great kids and training is available! He or she must submit to a background check and participate in the one-day Diocese of CT Safe Church training. If you are interested in using your gifts in this manner, please pray about it and speak to Mother Davidson or to Rhonda.

**CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE**

Our 2016-2017 school year will close on Pentecost, which is Sunday, June 4, 2017. Don’t forget to wear RED! On this day, we will celebrate with our annual church picnic, and we will also acknowledge and pray for all those who will graduate from high school and college this spring.

Our confirmation class under the direction of Jackie Pineau and AJ Perras will continue through the month of May. We are excited and look forward to their confirmation on Sunday, June 18th. Please join us on this special day!

Looking ahead to next year…if you have an interest in working with the youth of our church please consider becoming part of the teaching team. No experience is needed. YOU can make a difference in the lives of our future! Please talk to any of the teachers or Mother Davidson for more information.

Thank you to the parishioners of ASC for your continued support of our church school program!

~Rhonda Mazur rhondamazur@snet.net

(860-583-8584) home (860-995-8918) cell

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

The 2017 All Saints’ Golf Tournament is being held this year on Saturday, September 9, at Hawk’s Landing Country Club in Southington.

Proceeds generated from the tournament are used to provide *outside of classroom activities* and other needed items to Wolcott school children. We work closely with a School District Social Worker who is assigned to assess and determine a student’s specific need. In doing so, we have helped numerous students over the years to obtain various articles or participate in class trips they otherwise could not afford. This year we have also made a significant donation to the Wolcott Food Pantry.

To ensure a successful tourney this year we are seeking assistance with the following:

**GOLFERS** – If you can play golf, the “scramble” format used allows any skill level golfer to participate.

**BANQUET & RAFFLE** – Immediately following the tournament, all are invited to attend this good buffet food & fun event.

**RAFFLE DONATIONS** – You need not attend the event to donate a prize for the raffle table.

**SPONSORS** – Either become a sponsor, or obtain a sponsor donation from an organization or business you know or may be associated with.

If you would like further details or information regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact Red Smith, Henry Curtiss or Peter Marcisz.

Pam Lindvall, Peter Marcisz, Roberta Stocksdale and Mary Pepides are members of the Southington Festival Chorale.  Please support us in our upcoming concert.  You may see any one of us for tickets. See the attached flyer.

