

# Time Together

## *While We are Apart*

Wednesday,  
March 25, 2020

Good day, dear church communities,

Many thanks for the coffee mugs! We have had such fun responses from many folks. Feel free to send yours along; it is never too late! Featured today are:

This mug is from Donna Curran, who served as our interim parish administrator before Paula joined us. Donna and her husband Mark moved to Florida a few years ago, hence the “Conch Republic” mug! Note the swimming pool in background! Donna remains on our email list and sent love and prayers to all at the churches.



These mugs come from Jane and Roger Fortin, SMWC. The cat mug is Jane's and the sailboat, Roger's. When I visit Jane and Roger at home, their cats always come around for a visit, one even blessing a prayer blanket I brought by immediately taking a nap on it! And Roger and I inevitably end up talking about sailing and boats at some point as we visit. Many thanks for sharing these, Jane and Roger!



I must admit that I am not a person for whom technology is a natural match...I often, in fact, refer to myself as a technological dinosaur! The first time I had to be on a Zoom call (Zoom, in case you don't know, is a mysterious technology that allows a group to meet on their computers or phones and talk and see each other) was a bit of a disaster. I had to use Zoom for a meeting for the Diocese. I could get on the call and others on the call could hear me, but I could not figure out how to get the computer to show me, rather than the floor in my home office! The call was an emergency gathering of the committee I was on a few years ago about the election of a suffragan bishop. So, through this very serious call, the group could see 14 faces, and Megan Limburg represented by a throw rug on her office floor!! As I said, technology is not my first language.....

But these unusual days have pushed me to try new ways and new technologies. I made my first video on Sunday and Paula posted it to Facebook. I want to send videos to you all as another way to connect, and to offer a bit of comfort and care in these tense days. Paula and I are aware that a lot of folks are not on Facebook, so now Paula will be posting my videos to the Trinity webpage ([trinityva.org](http://trinityva.org)) Just go there and you will see a listing on the opening page for “Megan's Videos to the Churches,” listed by date. Hope you can find them and enjoy them, and if I do one showing not me, but a throw rug, try to understand!

Now, onward to a little more, “Time Together.” -Megan

## **Announcements:**

1. Glenn sends me videos and cartoons to keep my spirits up and I wanted to share with you a wonderful one from our brothers and sisters in the Rotterdam Philharmonic. A beautiful and favorite hymn to lift our spirits, and a reminder of how we are all coping in this pandemic, and need one another, all over the world. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eXT6orbBVk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2kNTBl3392S2sJqr3MfmbfANxmBPDUEjDvy2n8hGBXncjvaXrbRFbFPQ>
2. Many thanks to all who have been mailing in their pledges. Please continue to do so as you are able, in this so unusual time.

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## **Prayer Notes:**

A few notes for this week:

- Please continue in prayer for Bishop Susan; her surgery for breast cancer is on for this Friday, March 27. However, because of the coronavirus restrictions at the hospital, her husband must drop her at the door of the hospital, but can not come in and be with her before and after surgery. Her surgery is a day surgery, so her husband will not see her again until she is brought back to the car later in the day. Please pray for Bishop Susan during the day on Friday as she, like so many others right now, must go through medical procedures without the comfort of family and friends nearby.
- Please, of course, keep all medical personnel and EMTs in your prayers as they work such long hours and struggle with the shortages of needed supplies.
- Glenn was able to receive his eighth chemo treatment this past Monday. Please keep him in your prayers as he rests and heals this week.
- Nancy Brandon will complete her third week of her cancer treatment this Friday, arriving at that half-way point of three weeks done, three weeks to go! Please keep Nancy in your prayers as she receives those daily treatments.

## **Prayer Lists:**

**St. Mary's Whitechapel:** Sherry Mann, Susan Goff, Jori Keckman, Nancy Brandon, Ron Okrasinski, Sally Flanigan, Alexa Frisbee, R. W. Courtney, Tammy, Dorsey Ficklin, Glenn Courtney, Terry Thompson, Wendy Burnett, Nora Pennell, Lin Greene, Jake Cobb, Dave Petersen, Dan Ficklin, Marie Beringer, Donna Alexander, Rose, Cecil Courtney, Mimi Chace, Donna Brayton, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Howard Hanchey, Jennifer Cassell Cole, Karen Woodruff, Roger Fortin, Wier Harman, Gina Adams, Brad Quillen, Jessica, Joanne and Michael.

**Nursing Home Resident:** Lancashire - Mary Sue Courtney

**Armed Forces:** Joshua Green, Aimee Budzinski, Mark Medina, Kathryn McCormack Akacem, Mehdi Akacem, Anderson Sale, Thomas Mackie, Pia Mackie, Tate Young, Spencer Fortin.

**Trinity:** Susan Goff, Janice Shanks, Sherri Carter, Terri, Nick Slaughter, Fran and Dick Davis, Sally Flanigan, R. W. Courtney, Frances Bush, Delford Walthall, Glenn Courtney, Barbara Nunnery, Keith Elswick, Fred Eddowes, Steve, Rick Bateman, Jenny Dunaway, Earline Tomlin Kelley, Ed Borer, Dean Haine, Donna Alexander, Mary and Karen Jackson, Cecil Courtney, Berkeley Kellum, Wendy Boswell, Preston Bryant, Craig Smith, Michael, Mel and Frances Ercelino, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Karen Woodruff, Joey Coker, Michael Dunaway, J.W. Boone, Brad Quillen, Ian Larmore, Brandon Dunaway.

**Armed Forces:** Giovanni Elhordoy, Ward Gavin, Paul Price and Michael Stout.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** St. Philip's, Richmond; St. Peter's, Richmond; St. Patrick's, Falls Church

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Church of England

## March and April Birthdays and Anniversaries

### **St. Mary's Whitechapel:**

**Birthdays:** Kimberly Wood, March 8; Sue Johnson, March 12; Page Henley, March 12; Glenn Courtney, March 19; Megan Limburg, March 23; Gloria Romaine, March 24; Mary Chilton Senell, March 31, Charles Dwight Deale, April 4; Betty Thornton, April 23; Sue Ramsey, April 24; Sparky Marsh, April 25

**Anniversary:** Bill and Jannine Pennell, April 5.



### **Trinity:**

**Birthdays:** Lane Hayden, March 4th; Dave Whitlow, March 6th; Jane Dunaway, March 9th; Hannah Kellum Herbert, March 10th; Jock Chilton, March 11th; Kelly Brent Kellum, March 15th; Ellen Tracey, March 16th; Glenn Courtney, March 19th; Ian Dunaway, March 22nd; Michael Dunaway, March 23rd; Megan Limburg, March 23rd; Adam Tyler Dunaway, March 27th; Nancy Chilton, April 7th; Madeline Withers, April 11th; Catherine Chilton Ford, April 15th; Meredith Brent, April 16th; Bill Hayden, April 20th; Diane Smith, April 21st; Sandra Walker, April 22nd; Emmett Christopher, April 23rd; Alexandra Cornwell, April 23rd; Carter Christopher, April 25th; Melissa Dunaway, April 25th; Elizabeth Anne Kellum, April 25th; Joanna Hyde, April 27th

## Reflection

In so many conversations over the past weeks, folks have been reflecting on times past when our communities have gone through similar disease outbreaks/tragedies/disasters, that too so altered our everyday lives. For example, many of us have reflected on the September 11th attacks, and remembered those dark days nineteen years ago, when no planes came across the skies, and the world was so quiet and so grief-stricken.

Two additional observations have stuck with me from my many conversations. My dear friend Lisa, in Richmond, asked her mother and her aunt, both ladies in their mid-80s, if they remembered similar times to these of social distancing and quarantines. This question led to an outpouring of stories from their childhoods. Lisa's Mom remembered being quarantined in the 1940s due to the polio outbreaks, when no one under 16 years old would be allowed beyond their house and yard. Lisa's Aunt Mae remembered the children being lined up on the front porch when the public health nurse visited and needed to give them their typhoid and diphtheria vaccines. Aunt Mae recalled the nurse sterilizing the reusable syringe in front of the children as she prepared for each shot! Lisa added with humor, "And we worry about our children being traumatized by shots!" Nothing like having to watch that needle coming for your turn!

The second conversation that has stayed with me was with Janice Shanks, of Trinity, who remarked to me in a phone visit that this time reminded her of a World War II song, and she quoted a bit of the lyrics: "When the lights go on again all over the world...." The song refers to the blackouts required then all over the world, and especially in London during the war.

I was taken with these poignant lyrics and looked the song up. The song reached number one on the charts in 1943. The chorus holds the line that came to Janice in our talk:

"When the lights go on again all over the world  
And the boys are home again all over the world  
And rain or snow is all that may fall from the skies above  
A kiss won't mean "Goodbye" but "Hello to love."

The song of course expresses a longing for an end to the war, and a return to ordinary days. I found myself identifying with that longing, and maybe you do too.

I'll end with a prayer "For Quiet Confidence" from our Book of Common Prayer, as we wait together.

*"O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Amen.

## St. Mary's Whitechapel

Office Hours: W & TH, 8am-1pm, F 8am-4pm

**Closed Monday and Tuesday**

**Please visit our website:**

**[www.stmaryswhitechapel.org](http://www.stmaryswhitechapel.org)**

**Rector:** The Rev. Megan Limburg

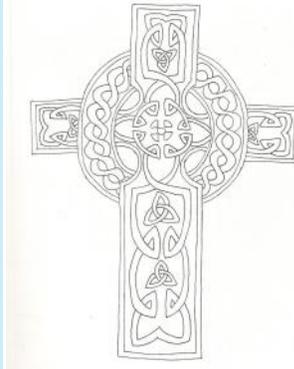
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### **Vestry 2020**

Senior Warden	Bill Pennell
Junior Warden	Ernie Greene
Members	Pat Ficklin
	Richard Gill
	Connie Horne
	Gloria Romaine
Register	Alison Towles



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Senior Warden	Frances Callaghan
Junior Wardens	Jock Chilton
	Fred Ripley
Members	Chris Cammarata
	Jane Dunaway
	Craig Giese
	Stan James
Register	Carol Roscher

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