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Ballston Spa NY YouTube

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Dear Friends,

I love the summer but it sure seems to fly by. I hope you had a great summer and for some of you that have been on vacation and we haven't been seen much, welcome back. When we've been away it's usually great to be back, which reminds me of this beautiful story I read from Philip Parham.

A young mother had just bought a beautiful party dress for a very special occasion. She laid it out carefully on her bed before taking her bath that evening. When she reached for her dress, she saw that it was torn and slashed into shreds! Her little girl, in anger, not wanting her mother to leave the house, had ripped and cut her mother's dress. Instead of reacting in anger, the mother fell across the bed, her torn dress in her hands, and sobbed. The little girl realized what she had done and tugged at her mother's arm, calling out, "Mommy, Mommy." Her mother ignored her as she continued to cry. Finally in desperation, the little girl screamed, "Mommy, please!". At last her mother rose and asked, "Yes, what do you want?" Her daughter pleaded, "Mommy, please take me back!"

This is the heart of healing. This is the soul of forgiveness. The church calls it redemption, reconciliation, and atonement (at-one-ment). The little girl knew where she needed to be – back. She needed to be back in relationship, to be at-one, with her mother again. She didn't say, "I'm sorry" or "I won't do it again" or "I did it because." All that mattered was to be in her mother's arms. Apologies, promises, or excuses could come later.

Perhaps you need to be "back" in relationship with God. Perhaps you've moved far away. Perhaps you've caused God pain. Perhaps you've grieved him. Whatever it is, cry out in your heart "Please take me back" and the good news is – He will!

If you've been gone a lot from church this summer, welcome back! More importantly, if you've moved away from God – He's waiting for you to cry out, "Please take me back!" and He will.

Faithfully yours,
Father Derik J. Roy



Vacation Bible School

We had a successful week of VBS this summer! In total, with KidsFirst, we had around 80 kids participate. This year's theme was Scuba, where kids experienced a Super Cool Underwater Bible Adventure and discovered, God is a real friend who loves them forever. Thank you to all who had donated & volunteered!

A huge thank you to
Melissa Miller and her
VBS team!



Sunday, September 8 at 10am

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

To kick things off as summer recedes and our fall programs and ministries pick up, we invite you to join us for our *Church Family Worship and Picnic*. Our 10am Worship Service will be held Sunday, September 8, at 10am at Saratoga State Park. We will meet at the Carlsbad Pavilion in the Park. Our picnic will follow our Worship Service. There will be games planned, hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks provided by the church. If you are able, we would love to have you bring a dish to share. More important, bring a friend or loved ones to join with our church family. Our 8:00am worship service will still be held at the church.

Wednesday, September 4 at 10-11:30am

Wednesday Morning Study Group

The Case for Heaven by Lee Strobel
In this five-week study, you and our small group will join Lee Strobel via a DVD presentation as a Journalist investigates evidence for the life after death. The following outlines the subject title for each week.
Can We Really Know There's a Heaven?
What's the Evidence for Heaven?
What Will Heaven Be Like?
Is There Really a Place Called Hell?
How Do We Live with an Eye on Eternity?

Sunday, September 8 - Holy Communion

Starting Sunday, September 8, we will be returning to the pre-Covid practice of allowing people to drink from the chalice if they prefer. Of course, people can still dip the host in the wine or just not take the wine. I have been hesitant to go back; however, I have come to realize we are one of the few churches that has not gone back to the practice the church has had for centuries.

September 15

Ministry Training in the Church

9:15am Lay-reader and Lector Training - If you are currently a lay-reader or lector, please make every effort to attend this training session. We will be introducing some changes, including using *Prayers of the People* from our new Bishop, Jeremiah Williamson's book titled *Praying the Scriptures*.

Sunday, September 15 - Sunday School

Christ Kids (**PreK to Grade 5**) children will be dismissed from Church at the beginning of the 10 am service and will return during The Peace. Our volunteer teachers will take the students upstairs to the Sunday School room. Students will listen to the Bible readings for the day and complete a small activity. All children in grades PreK to Grade 5 are welcome to attend!

Middle School Bible Study (Grade 6 - Grade 8)

Our Middle Grade students will meet their volunteer teachers upstairs in Sunday School Room 6 at 9 am each Sunday for their lesson. This year the Middle School kids will be focusing their studies on the New Testament. Be sure to bring your Bibles!

Registration: To register your child for Sunday School, email Katie (mkcb.skane@gmail.com), or call the church directly (518-885-1031).

We need your help! As always, volunteers are welcome and needed! Our Sunday School leaders are available to help you plan a lesson with as little or as much help as you need. Please consider volunteering as a teacher or assistant once a month, every other month, or during your favorite Sunday! If you have any questions, concerns, or if you would like to volunteer to lead or assist in one of our classes, please speak with Fr. Roy or email Katie Skanes (mkcb.skane@gmail.com).

High School Bible Study (Grade 9 - Grade 12) will meet Sundays after the 10 am service

TEENS: You, a guest, and your family are invited to an Open House & Blessing of the newly decorated 2nd floor Teen Lounge at Christ Episcopal Church after 10 am service until 12 noon on Sunday, September 15th. Refreshments will be provided.

Don Rohr, Jean Shelton, and the teens will meet weekly. After church pick up some lunch in the Parish Hall and bring it on up to the lounge or bring your own snack (as long as we keep food off the floor and sofas to avoid friendly mice). This will be a relaxed catch-up time. Example of activities:
11:30 – 11:40 will be a discussion of the Lectionary Readings, Psalm, Gospel, and/or Sermon. (No canned recordings or weekly programs unless you beg us.)
11:45 -11:50 – written and/or verbal prayer requests
11:50-12:00 – planning for service projects or social events, singing a couple songs, playing a quick game.



September

- 1 Elaine Osgood
Elijah Roy-Urmston
- 2 Al Moser
Donald Kinne
- 3 Jean Simpson
- 4 Brandon Schmidt
Wendy Perreault
- 6 Jenna LaRosa
Cameron Rapelje
- 9 Naomi Roy
- 11 John Polson
Dylan Whitt
Chris Cuddihy
- 12 David Guynup
- 13 Joseph Bruno
Emalyn Smith
Bryan Peck
- 17 Brittney Koster
- 18 Ian Bailey
Maddie Roy
- 19 Jason Constant
Bryan LaRosa
Nancy Cairns
- 21 Morgan Miller
Richard Reed
Edison Roberts
Brad Roy
- 22 Emma Popkoski
- 29 Rachel Smith
Chad Thomas
Cody Thomas
Fred Iannon
- 30 Alan Greenspan

October

- 1 Danielle Bailey
- 2 Victoria Perrault
Danielle Auspelmyer
- 3 Derik Roy
Josh Bush
- 4 Lane Smith
Sloanie Campbell
Austin Hawkins
Elizabeth Odasz
- 7 Alexis Guilbault
- 8 Lois McGee
Joan Moore
- 9 Nancy Doud
- 10 Stacia Bonnano
11 Alanis Odasz
Jacob Sleight
- 14 Debbie Igoe
- 15 Wendy Campbell
Allyson LaRosa
Ralph Ruiz
- 16 Shari Thomas
- 17 Bill Pearson
- 19 Anne Jensen
Kate VanBuren
- 21 Ian Lanning
Ryan Odasz
- 22 Beverly Baker
- 24 John Boyd
Alexandria Miller
Greg Schmidt
- 25 Melissa Miller
- 28 Kelsey Ruiz
- 28 Kendall Whitt
- 29 Cathy Hughes
Asa Decker
- 30 Charles Kubus, Jr
- 31 Sue Ann Dubois



September

- 5 Ashley & Josh Bush
- 8 Mark and Andrea Breslin
- 13 Cathy and Jeff Hughes
- 14 Peter and Joanne Champagne
- 15 Linda and Doug Allen
- 24 Jessica and Keith Demling
- 27 Father John and Nancy Cairns

October

- 7 Rich & Christine Osgood
- 13 Sarah and Jeremy Wood
- 16 Tim and Amanda Russell
- 16 John & Wendy Perreault
- 17 Greg and Kelly Howell
Mike and Ruth Perkins
- 20 Don & Julie Rohr
- 23 Garry and Wendy Campbell
- 24 Ralph and Paula Ruiz
- 29 Paul and Donna Sausville

In Memory of

Noel Drindak
Jayne Schmidt
Curtis Niemeyer

To the family of Christ Church:
Thank you for your support through prayers and many kind gestures during the recent loss of Curtis in our lives here on earth, with the realization that we shall see him again. We can never open our arms wide enough to express our gratitude.
The Niemeyer Family

Keep in your Prayers

Erin, Tim, Gary, Peg, Deacon Bill, Carla, Dorothy, Ann, Joshua, Dylan, Robert, Richard, Brian, Beverly, Celeste, Asa, Betty

Mark Your Calendars

Sunday Mornings at 9:30am

Choir Practice

Wednesday Evening Men's Zoom

Lectionary Study at 7pm

Each Wednesday we study the upcoming Gospel reading for Sunday. Led by Deacon Paul Guilmette. If interested, email Deacon Paul at pag@nycap.rr.com; he will send you the zoom link each Wednesday prior to the study. This is a wonderful way to learn more about the Bible and be better prepared for Sunday Worship. It is also a way to build friendship with other men and have each other's prayer support.

Save the Date A GRIEF WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 4, 2025

The holidays can be difficult for many of us because we miss our loved ones at that time. Deacon Lynne will lead a Grief Workshop in the Parish Hall from 9:00 to 2:00.

There will be coffee, tea and snacks at 9:00 and lunch will be served at noon. There is no charge. If you are grieving any kind of loss, mark your calendars for January 4.



What's Happening at KidsFirst Childcare?

Here at KidsFirst Childcare, we are gearing up for the New School Year! Our teachers and children are SO excited. We had so many fun activities planned for the summer for our children. These included a trip to the movies to see Despicable Me 4, bowling and laser tag, the science museum and a visit to the pool. Our daycare children enjoyed ice and water play days! We are sad to see summer go but we are so excited for what the new school year has in store. Here at KidsFirst, we have the opportunity to change the lives of the nearly 75 children that attend our program.

Thank you to Cathy Roy for her years of leadership at the Food Pantry and all the time and energy she gave. Under her leadership we joined "Food Pantries of the Capital District", which benefits us greatly. She updated our technology and lots more!

Thank you to Brian and Bonnie Horrocks, Nancy Cairns and Laurie Engle for mowing our church lawns.

FYI: Please be aware that if you have a nycap email, when the church sends out a church wide email these emails bounce back as unable to deliver.

Thursday, September 19

The Chosen

Calling all Chosen Fans! We will begin watching Season 4 of The Chosen on Thursday, September 19th at 10 am in the Fireside room. The workbook/Biblical roundtable discussion study program will begin at a later date following the Season 4 viewing.

Saturday, September 21

Quilting Ministry

Do you have a sewing machine and a few spare hours? If you do, we would love to have you join our quilting ministry. You do not have to have quilting experience. We will be happy to work with you to show you how to make our simple patterned quilts. We meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month in the Parish Hall from 10 AM until noon. Our next meeting will be on September 21st. Please come and meet with our happy group to find out how we work, how much enjoyment we get from making a quilt.

If you would like to request a quilt for a loved one in need of healing, please fill out a form and place in the box in Welcome Center. Also, don't forget that we continue to collect "Jesus" dollars that are used to support the quilting ministry.



What is a "Jesus" dollar? Anytime you have a dollar bill with the letter J in the serial number you have a Jesus dollar. If you want, you can then place it in one of the envelopes found in the welcome center that are designated for Jesus

Dollars and either place it in the offering or drop it off at the office. This money will be set aside to use to purchase supplies for the Prayer Quilt Ministry. Start checking your dollar bills!

If you have any questions please contact Joyce Reed at 518-369-7928 (call or text) or jerror@aol.com

Sunday, September 29 at 9:15am

Adult Bible Sunday

Come join Deacon Lynne as she leads an adult Bible Study for 8 Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:00am Fall is a great time to start something new! Deacon Lynne is inviting you to take THE FIFTY DAY BIBLE CHALLENGE: A JOURNEY through ACTS

Acts of the Apostles tells of the earliest people who dared to follow the way of Jesus. Many of us have watched The Chosen and have seen how Jesus's disciples followed him as he walked on earth.

Acts tells how the disciples acted after Jesus' death and resurrection. It is an inspiring read for all us as we try to continue the Jesus movement that began over 2,000 years ago.

The Bible study will begin on Sunday, September 29 at 9:15 in the Fireside Room. Then books will be handed out for everyone to see if they wish to purchase it for \$12. The book has a short reading for fifty days from Acts, followed by a short reflection for each day. You may decide not to buy the book and do the readings on your iPad, iPhone, Kindle or other listening devices. The purpose of the Bible Challenge is to support one another in our daily readings as we join together each week for 8 weeks to ask questions and share how these readings are affecting our lives. Also, to have fun and find spiritual peace and joy which God desires for all of us as we read His word. Finally, if you cannot attend every Sunday, just keep reading Acts at home and come when you can.

Sunday, September 29

11:30am Acolyte Training - This training is for the 10am worship service for those who have begun to acolyte and those who would like to learn.

Wednesday October 2 at 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Newcomers/New Members Class

This class is for those new to the church who are interested in learning more about the church and the Christian faith, with this being an important step in helping a person determine if they would like to become a member. The course is six weeks long and is taught by Fr Roy. It will focus on such things as, what is church membership, who is Jesus, The Bible, the church, church history, why do we worship the way we do and what's expected in living the Christian life. Childcare will be provided if needed.

Sunday, October 6 at 8:00 and 10:00am

Canon Meghan Keegan is one of Bishop Williamson's Canon to the Ordinare. Mother Meghan is an amazing and inspiring priest and it will be a blessing to have her join us. She will be our guest preacher on this day. Bishop Jeremiah Williamson will be with us Sunday, February 2, 2025.

Sunday, October 6 at 1:00pm

Blessing of the Animals

St. Francis Day is celebrated in early October. Francis was known to be a lover of animals. In honor of him and because of our love for our pets, it has been the tradition in many churches to have a "Blessing of Animals" service. We have scheduled this for October 6 at 1:00pm. It will take place in our parish hall (or maybe the parking lot-weather dependent). Just bring your pets to the church for a simple service and blessing of each animal presented.

Ordinations

Now that we have a Bishop, the ordination door, closed when we had no Bishop, has been reopened. A meeting was held in July for those feeling a call to ordained ministry. Three people from our parish have submitted their application and have begun the journey. Please pray for them. They are:
Kate VanBuren – Deaconate
Jason Constant – Priesthood
Richard Russo – Priesthood

Diocesan Update

There are many opportunities for growth, worship, training and fellowship through our Diocese. The Christ the King Center is only about a forty-minute drive from our church. Here are two websites to explore what is available: Diocese Website: albanyepiscopaldiocese.org and CTK website: ctkcenter.org
You could also call the Diocese and ask to be on their email updates.
Albany Episcopal Diocese phone: 518-692-3350
Christ the King phone: 518-692-9550

Stewardship

A fancy word pointing to how we use our time, talent, and treasure. Our use of these says a lot about who we are and what matters to us. Over the fall season, we will be exploring this subject. There will be video testimonies given by different members of our church, teachings, sermons and even some fun activities to help us reflect on our own personal giving. It's not a subject we like to talk about and yet so important to our own spiritual health and our ability as a church to do all the ministries we do and to continue to do God's Kingdom work.
Our stewardship team is excited for our whole faith community to learn, grow, and be blessed as we go forward.

Giving Envelopes

We have a group of dedicated people who work in teams to count the Sunday offerings. The counting procedure can be a lengthy process which you can help to speed along by remembering a few points:

Use your envelopes, and write your envelope number on your check.

If you just don't want to use your envelopes, PLEASE use the Envelope Number on your check

If you don't have envelopes, put a note on the plate and Jeanne will see that you receive them.

If you have your pledge automatically sent to the church from your bank, ensure your envelope number is on the check.

Write the amount you've enclosed on the outside of your envelope along with "check" or "cash" as it pertains.

If you miss church for a few weeks you don't need to fill individual envelopes, but you can put it all into one envelope.

A great big "thank you" from the counters!

You can also **Give on-line**. Please find the give online app at the top of the webpage. Click on that app and there are directions to tell you how to give online. Please note that a small percentage of your giving goes to pay the online fee.

Food Pantry



Are you looking for a way to help our food pantry? Well, here it is! We are holding a "Welcome Fall" drive during the month of September. Our stock of personal hygiene products, laundry detergent, dish soap, coffee, tea, hot cocoa, juice boxes, condiments, salad dressing, cooking oil, jelly, saltine crackers, spices, baking supplies, baby wipes, sizes N-4 diapers, large sized adult incontinence briefs (Depends), and toilet paper are very low or non-existent. When shopping, if you could pick up an item or two for our pantry, that would help us greatly. Throughout September, you will see a drop off location for your items in the Welcome Center.

Noah's Attic

Noah's continues to serve our community and its proceeds continue to help us support the many ministries of our church. The summer months have been very busy and productive. Lots have been given away and our donations have been the highest for the summer ever.

Many thanks to our volunteers and workers, Wanda Closson our director and Linda Allen the chairperson of our board. The Noah's workers also have new shirts to designate that they are part of the Noah's staff.

Soon we will be installing security cameras. This is to help protect our workers and to hopefully stop unnecessary drop off when we are closed.

This time of year, Noah's could especially use kids coats.

We can always use more volunteers. If interested, contact Wanda at 518-885-9455.

Mark your calendars for the famous Christmas Sale!
November 14-16.

Daughters of the King

The CROSS

A symbol of Christianity, the cross has been cherished by many, and worn as a symbol of our faith. The one that I hold dearest to my heart is the DOK Cross, a symbol of our Lord's crucifixion, but also of the significance of the Latin inscription, "Magnanimitate Crucem Sustine." The meaning is "With heart, mind, and spirit uphold and bear the cross." At the base are the letters "FHS" which stand for the motto of the Order of the Daughters of the King, "For His Sake."

Through prayer, study and the support of other Daughters, I became part of this Order of women back in the early 90s, following the mission of "Prayer, Service, and Evangelism." Through prayer we are called, and as each member is able to serve, the response is made, quietly and with the knowledge that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is our guide.

As we start the fall season, it can be a time to explore the gifts that God has given each of us, and how the Order of The Daughters of The King can become part of your life, through Prayer, Service, and Evangelism.

If you want to explore your Faith through the DOK, please contact me. I'd love to visit with you.

JoAnne Niemeyer, President
St. Agnes Chapter, DOK
(585) 749-5820 joinie67@gmail.com



October Mission

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Lord God, my child's vision for his life is not big enough. You have so much more in store for him than he could ever ask or imagine. I long for him to see You in every classroom, every dorm room, every dining hall, in every person and every idea he encounters. May his mind and his heart be consumed with an eagerness to seek You and know You in all of his comings and goings. May he be invited by, drawn into, and built up in a community of peers who know and follow You. And may that community be characterized by great JOY, great HOPE and great LOVE. As he seeks and finds You, may he be a conduit for others to do the same,

that others would know the joy, hope and love You want to pour out on the campus and beyond. I entrust my child, and the other 1.2 million college students in NY & NJ, to Your loving and capable care. Thank You for loving our kids more than we ever could. In Jesus' name, Amen.

As a mom of a college student, and a missionary to college campuses, my worlds have collided in some significant ways in the past year. I believe the ministry of InterVarsity, for whom I have worked for the last 24 years, is part of God's answer to the prayers of moms (and dads and families and friends) like me, who long to see the kids they love know the deep love of God. InterVarsity is a mission to college campuses. We establish and advance communities of students and faculty who point the campus to Jesus, and His love for them. Because we want every college student to know how much they are loved by God, we introduce students to Jesus, we teach them to study His Word with their friends, we teach them to talk about what God has done in their lives, and we teach them to know and share God's love for their campuses. We long to see the day when every college in the country has this kind of community, who will love the campus with God's love.

The beginning of the school year is the season that we call NSO – New Student Outreach. In the region in which I work (NY & NJ), we have staff on over 60 campuses who are currently working with student leaders to meet new students and welcome them into caring, diverse communities, where they can build friendships and explore Christian faith.

Thank you for your generosity toward the October missions offering, which will support and advance InterVarsity's ministry on campuses all over NY & NJ. InterVarsity is not a campus church. Our campus staff ministers, in partnership with students and faculty, are sent by the Church to the campus, to be a witness to Jesus there. The faithful financial and prayer support of individuals and churches, like our Christ Church community, sends InterVarsity ministers to campuses across the country, so that, when students step foot on campus, someone is there to receive them and tell them that God loves them. Thank you for sending us!

With love and gratitude,
Danielle Bailey