

The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

July 2021

PILGRIM PRIEST'S PONDERINGS

DAVID BAILEY

HOLY COMMUNION

Dear Friends,

For the last year and a half, the questions facing all churches, including the Episcopal Church, have regarded safety for ourselves and for those around us:

- Is it safe to gather – LIVE – in worship?
- Is it safe to NOT wear a mask in worship?
- Is it safe to sing?
- Is it safe to receive the Bread in Holy Communion?
- Is it safe to receive the Wine in Holy Communion?

As of this date (June 28, 2021), the answer to all of these questions has been a qualified yes, with the exception of receiving the consecrated Wine at Holy Communion. I met with the Vestry and other parishioners after worship on Sunday (June 27), and recommended for Vestry approval that we begin to offer the Chalice to worshippers starting July 14.

These are the specific guidelines. Both the Celebrant and the Chalice Bearer will sanitize our hands before distributing Communion. After receiving the consecrated Host in their hands, each worshipper may:

Choose NOT to receive from the Chalice by crossing their arms across their chest. This is clearly the best way to avoid any contamination.

Drink from the Chalice. This way of receiving the consecrated Wine is the most sanitary of all methods. There has been a LOT of scientific studies on this method of receiving Communion, and you can read a summary of these studies in the booklet "Sanitation in Communion" by James Orten and Alton Bailey (June 2020). The Chalice Bearer is trained to turn the Chalice after each communicant receives, and wipes the Chalice with a special napkin called a purificator, in order to minimize any cross contamination.

Receive the Wine by intinction. In this option, the worshipper will leave the Host in his or her hand, the

Chalice Bearer will take the Host, touch it to the Wine (this is called intinction) and place the intincted Host back in the worshipper's hand.

The common practice of having each worshipper dip his or her Host in the Wine is discouraged by the Diocese. The cross contamination of germs and viruses from hands touching the lip of the Chalice or the consecrated Wine is far greater than that of drinking from the Chalice. Yes, your mouth is far more sanitary than your hands!

Those of you who have received Holy Communion while I have been the Celebrant know that when I have placed the Host in your hands, I have said "the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life". It is part and parcel of our theology that when you can receive only the Bread or the Wine, you participate in receiving BOTH the Body and Blood of Christ (Book of Common Prayer, pg. 457. The theological term is Concomitance).

The Vestry has approved provisional use of this return of the Chalice to all who wish it for a two week trial period and will review and (as needed) modify their decision at the Vestry meeting on July 21. I will offer instruction about these changes during the July 14 Sunday service.

And I hate to say it but based on the growing concerns about the Delta variant of COVID-19, I must state that all the above is dependent on further guidelines and restrictions from the Diocese and the State.

Your fellow Ambassador for Christ,

David+

VESTRY

Vestry Report

John Joy, Sr Warden
 Charles Everhart, Jr Warden
 Richard Davis
 Judy Franklin
 Sandy Ferrell
 Andrea Harner

Newsletter editor—John Glaze
Submissions to THE RED DOOR are welcomed. © items cannot be published without consent of the owner.



Plans are being made to return Coffee Hour to our Sunday Mornings!

Watch for more details!

As we enter the summer season, much has been going on at St. Mary's. The best news I have is that singing has returned to our Sunday service! As a songwriter years ago wrote: "You don't know what you got 'til it's gone..." Mask wearing is still strongly encouraged, and we are still seating in a socially distanced manner, so please consider attending a Sunday service soon. We are planning on having a "guest" priest the first Sunday in July and August to fill in for two Sundays that Father David is scheduled to be off. Please take advantage of the thoughtful and inspiring sermons that we are once again hearing in our beautiful sanctuary, and we hope to see you all soon.

A couple quick updates on our HVAC issues and possible improvement to our audio visual systems. After meeting with an expert HVAC contractor from Cincinnati, it has been recommended that the best and right way to improve the heating and cooling in the sanctuary is to dig out under the sanctuary floor enough to run supply ducts to supply floor registers along the north and south inside walls on the north and south sides of the sanctuary. The return ducts will be on the floor in the middle aisle. This is the best configuration to properly circulate the air in the sanctuary for efficient heating and cooling, and the undersized and poorly installed outside unit will need to be replaced by a bigger unit. This is also the best option to keep the beauty and integrity of sanctuary intact. We want to avoid having to install wall units or other options that would detract from the beauty of our worship space. We are now waiting on an estimate of the work, as well as pursuing the contractor's insurance carrier for the damages we have incurred. This is a recommendation at this point and your comments are encouraged. Second, Charles Everhart, John Glaze and I met last week with Ron Thomas from the Diocese on the live streaming initiative. We applied for a grant to get updated cameras and supporting equipment and Ron is to send us his recommendations. We plan to ask for grant assistance on the expected five to seven thousand dollars it would cost to upgrade our cameras, cabling, and associated equipment. Again, I would like your feedback on this.

I said last month that I would talk more about the Reserve Advisors study this month and what it means for St. Mary's. There is a tremendous amount of detail and information in the report and I would encourage you to at least glance through it.....there are even pictures of many of the numerous maintenance items that must be addressed in the coming years! Maggie will have available a copy of the entire report, so please stop in and see her and look through the report. As noted previously, we have obtained approval for assistance from the Diocese in paying for some this work. To lessen the burden of fund raising on the congregation, the report recommends using some of the endowment funds to help pay for the work. As some of you may know, I have until recently resisted using endowment fund principle monies for church projects. I have had to rethink this, and am now of the opinion that it is time to transfer assets from the endowment fund to our church building. We see and worship in the building on a regular basis; the funds, while drawing appreciable interest, are not helping us preserve and maintain our church. The report details a schedule of repairs and work needed for years to come, and the sooner we start to work on these repairs, the greater the likelihood that St. Mary's will be preserved for generations to come. This is a critical issue facing the church, and let me close by again asking for your questions and feedback. Until next month, I hope to see you all again in church soon.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Joy
 Sr. Warden*

Who is this?



Answer next month

Last month: Deanna Flinn

NEW BOOKS for SALE at HCHS

BLACK HISTORY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY



Now available from Highland County Historical Society is BLACK HISTORY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY by Myra Cumberland Phillips, Kati Burwinkel and John Glaze. This begins with the settlement of the county, covers the first permanent Black resident and on up to present day activities. All income from the sale of these books goes to a \$500 scholarship for a Black student from the county.

\$20

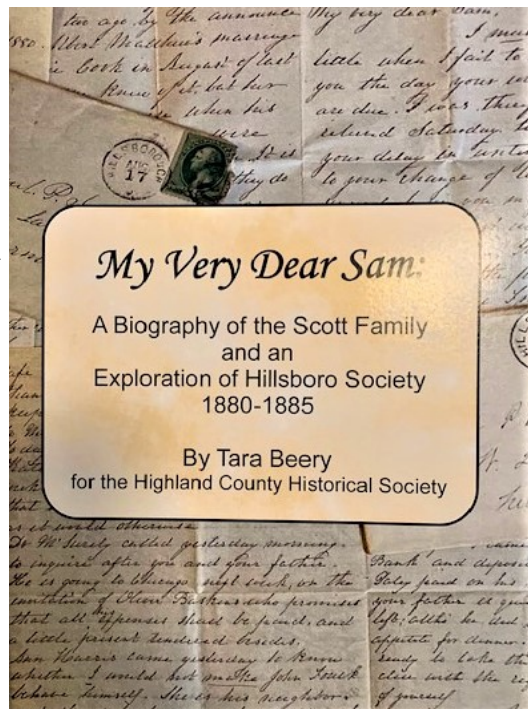


Receiving Holy Communion helps you feel a part of the Parish of St. Mary's. Rev. David will bring communion to you on Sunday following the service at the church. Call the office to request!

PARISH PRAYER LIST


Herschel Hook, Esther Russell, Nancy Orth, Mary Reynolds, Jim Shirkey, Maxine McGrath, Ann-Marie Ogden, Elsie Young, Tom Bright, Charlie and Martha Gorman, Bob & Dorothy Hodson, Susan Bright, Virginia Harewood, Dan Fisher, Jim & BJ Gee, family of Cindy Eigel, and the patients and staff at Georgetown Veterans Home as well as those serving in our armed forces: Macy Lyle, Henry Sherrill, Jaden Chin-Franz, Isaac Campbell, Ethan and Samantha Anderson and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

MY VERY DEAR SAM, by Tara Chambers Beery, is a biography of the Scott Family as well as much information on the Hillsborough Society in the 1880-1885 period. Included in the society folks will be found many names from the Episcopal Church. The title comes from the letters written to Samuel Parsons Scott by his mother during the time he spent on the east coast seeking relief from his allergies. Many of her letters are included, along with explanations of who the people are that are mentioned in the letters.



This book is also available at \$20 and all income supports HCHS.

*May God the Father bless you,
God the Son heal you,
God the Holy Spirit give you strength.
May God the holy and
undivided Trinity guard your body,
save your soul,
and bring you safely
to his heavenly country;
where he lives
and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.*



JULY

7—*Thomas Harner*
28—*John Glaze*
30—*Cary Weisenborn*

Happy Birthday!

If you or someone you know should be added to our Prayer List, please call the office.

The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St.
Hillsboro, OH 45133

Updated Guidelines!

Masks & Social Distancing Encouraged
Singing begins! (masks encouraged!)
Communion with host only
Coffee Hour will begin with social
distancing and/or outdoors!
(watch for start date)



**The first Sunday
of July and
August, we will
welcome Rev.
Elaine Silverstrim
as our Celebrant!
Please help us
make her feel
welcomed!**

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INFORMATION

The Diocese of Southern Ohio
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-393-2043

The Rev. David Bailey
Supply Priest

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 am
IN PERSON & Streaming on Facebook
COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND—
Sunday after service.

*(note: masks are encouraged continuously while in
the church buildings, with exceptions as explained
by Fr. David during the service. Hand sanitizer and
masks are available!)*

*We strive to be safe and make our parishioners and
guests feel safe and welcome!*

WEB SITE:

www.smehillsboro.weebly.com

Lector & Intercessor Schedule

1st week	Sandy Ferrell & Dea Flinn
2nd week	Betty & Jim Heathcote
3rd week	Carol & John Joy
4th week	Open
5th week	Sandy Ferrell & Dea Flinn