

Volume 56, Number 6

PENTECOST

JUNE 2013

To Our Dear Parish Family:

Thank you is not a big enough word! I cannot tell you how much we appreciate your helping my brother so much. Kathleen Ward touched my brother Kevin's heart—she did so much and the church did so much. Kevin did not worry once because his faith was so strong and he felt the love of his family at St. Bart's throughout his illness. continue to talk about their trips to the hose stables, the ice cream feast and more. And not to mention the numerous treats that they were showered with.

We all want to thank you for the generous provision that you are giving to Brian, Nathan and Kiersten, through the two benefits (May 18 and the BBC Band Concert May 31) and through all of your hard work. This will go a long way helping toward unseen expenses down the road for 3 ten year olds. God bless you!

Patricia Lapp Emmons





St. Bart's Web Information www.stbartston.org also see our Facebook page for more!

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Pro- Cathedral 2368 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150 Phone: (716) 831-1777

Global Missions Ministry

Our Mission is to equip and enable believers to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ by word and deed, both locally and abroad. Locally, Nationally and Internationally!



Mark Your Calendars!!!!

Rock, Rods, and Relationships will be on Saturday, August 17 from 2-7PM. We will have free food for our neighbors and friends. There will be music, entertainment, and a Holy Eucharist Service at 4:30 PM under the tent on our front lawn.

During the proceedings, we will have a special "Biker's Blessing" in which bikers may bring their motorcycles to receive the Lord's blessing.

On Sunday, August 18 after the 10 AM service, St. Bart's will have a blessing of the pets. Watch Parish Life for more details.

Your Global Missions Ministry met on Wednesday, May 15, at 6 PM. We are planning a "Night at the Ballpark" on Friday, June 28. This night will be to support the "Niagara Power" Christian Baseball Team. It will be St. Bart's Night at Sal Maglie Stadium in Niagara Falls,. Molly Sammarco will be singing the National Anthem and Fr. Commins will throw out the first pitch. and we want you to bring the family. Watch Parish Life for more details and ticket Information.

Sometime in the Fall we will have another M&M's Fund Raiser. Stay tuned for details!

Right next door to St. Bart's is **Integrity Bottle Recycling.** We have opened an account with them and if you like you can bring all of your bottles to them. They will donate the money to St. and send a check directly to us.

Saturday, September 7, will be St. Bart's Health Fair! This will; run from 10 AM to 1 PM in Fr. Amend Hall. Screening will be done for Blood Sugar, Cholesterol, Blood Pressure, as well as Flu and Pneumonia Vaccines available.

The next meeting of the Global Missions Ministry will be Wednesday, June 12, at 6 PM. You are invited to come and join the discussion. You do not have to be a missionary to attend!

To donate and support both Susan or the LeMarquands, send your check to SAMS (Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders) PO Box 399, Ambridge, PA 15003 (put their names in the MEMO line of check)

A Letter From Susan Morris in Uganda

Dear friends,

I am writing this with a heavy heart but sure of the way God is leading me. After much prayer and agonizing over this decision, it has become clear that due to health issues with my parents, I need to leave Uganda and return to Florida. My departure is this coming Monday, June 3rd.

As many of you know, my mother has been in a nursing home with advanced Alzheimer's disease for quite some time. My step-father has been visiting her twice a day and making sure she is receiving the care she needs. Since, for the past five or six years, she has not known me or is at all aware of when I would visit, I was confident in God's call to go ahead and come to Uganda. However, now my step-father's health is deteriorating so much that he is not going to be able to continue as he has been. He is 89 years old and still lives in their house, and the normal issues of home ownership are weighing on him as well.

Given that it had been a year since I was last in the U.S., I was unaware of how serious his situation was getting until I just recently visited in April. It was during my last visit with him and my mom that I learned more about his health, and this was just a week before I left the U.S. I was so focused on getting ready to leave that the reality of the situation didn't really sink in until after I had returned to Uganda and began settling in here again. Since there is absolutely no one else to help, I need to return to Jacksonville so I can be near him and help as he is less and less able handle his daily affairs and to visit and care for my mother.

I feel a bit like Jacob and that I have wrestled with God over this decision, but I am confident that I have received God's blessing to return and care for my family. I am disappointed and continue to struggle with having to return after serving here less than two years, especially after all it took to prepare to come, but I know that God has begun a good work and he will be faithful to complete it. What I have to do now is to walk the path set before me in faith, and see what God reveals in the future.

My hope and prayer is to be able to return to Uganda at some point in the future, God willing; whether as part of a mission team or even long-term again. During my time here I have learned so much about how the Lord is moving through The Church of Uganda and what some of the needs and opportunities for ministry are here. I pray that God will enable me to continue to tell the stories of what he is doing here and to encourage the building of ministry partnerships with our Uganda brothers and sisters.

I know that I am forever changed because of my time and experiences here. There are things about living in Uganda that make life a struggle at times, and I confess that I do look forward to the luxuries so readily available stateside, but there is so much more here that is so very good and that I regret to leave. Most of all, I will deeply miss the people here. God has brought many dear friends into my life and my heart and we will remain forever connected. I will miss the Uganda smiles. Please keep me in your prayers as I begin this transition. Once back in Jacksonville I will need to find a job, purchase a car, and reestablish my life there, starting over once again. There is so much to contemplate, but I'm doing my best to put everything in God's hands. He knows all the details! And, he is good, all the time!

On a practical note, may I ask that for the time being that you continue to provide your financial support as I walk through this transition? SAMS will be sending a letter to all of you who have been financial supporters that will further explain the process and needs.

I love you all and so appreciate your prayers and support during this journey.

Webare munonga, munonga! (Thank you so, so much!)

Yours in Christ,

Susan--

Susan Morris

Partnership Coordinator

Church of the Province of Uganda

P.O. Box 14123

Kampala, Uganda

Phone: +256 781 657 799



The Niagara Power, named for the Power that is made evident when admiring Niagara Falls, is a team in the New York Collegiate Baseball League (NYCBL) and is an Affiliate of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), a national, faith-based ministry. FCA partnered with Cal Kern (Grand Island, NY) and the city of Niagara Falls to establish the Niagara Power in 2007. They play at Sal Maglie Stadium in Niagara Falls.

Skill Development

FCA Baseball offers individual practice sessions in which players are given instruction and time to develop various aspects of their game.

Competition

The Niagara Power plays a forty game schedule that includes competing in the NYCBL, one of the best summer wood bat leagues in the country, as well as other collegiate teams in the U.S.

Character Development

Players have the opportunity to hear from FCA Chaplains, area pastors and sports ministry directors throughout the summer on issues like: "How to Make it to the Next Level" and "The Importance of Living a Life of Character on and off the Field."

Spiritual Development

FCA emphasizes the development of the whole player: body, mind and spirit. The Power conduct regular team bible studies that focus on growing closer to God and how to instill Christian principles into their baseball careers. Power players are also challenged to become positive role models and to share about their faith in Christ throughout the summer through various youth camps, clinics and community service projects.

Being a Team Player for Life

We firmly believe that after a summer with FCA Baseball players will report back to their collegiate programs trained to be better ball players and leaders on their teams, their campuses, and in whatever they do after college.

The Power strongly believes in being active in the community and participating in many service opportunities. We have established our program to be an instrument to give back to our neighborhoods and region.

Frederick Garrasi III 03/29/89 -5/03/13

"My Son"

When someone leaves us I find myself truly amazed to think of all the ways they have touched our lives. As I ponder today, here and now with you— I say with such deep sadness, that I never thought my son would leave us! But I do know that I was blessed to be his dad, my family was blessed, much more fortunate than others for having him with us for the short time we did. And that brings me great pause and some happiness. I feel so humble and thankful to God for giving us... Freddy! He was not ours he was a gift from God.

Thank you lord for the privilege of knowing him and having a chance to love him, the time we had with him was truly priceless.

Some have asked me and my wife, how we've been able to cope with his death this well... and I think of a line from the bible... Joshua 1-9 it's from the time that the lord spoke to Joshua after Moses' death as the Israelites prepared to cross the Jordan River. .. .and The Lord said... "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and Courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. And this gives us strength... and perspective... and understanding that keep our minds in a good place. The truth is... that... The Lord is with all of us... all who believe in him... he is with us all the time! I know this in my heart,... I knew it before this tragedy... and I'll know it for every day hereafter... My family and I are unapologetic Christians... we love God and try our best to live by his teachings. My son was a good Christian who had decided as a young boy to bring forth goodness and light rather than evil and darkness into the lives of all he met... We need more men like him.

Looking back from the day he was born till today, (just over 24 years ago.)

For those who don't know —He was born March 29th 1989. I reflect on all that he was exposed to ... good and bad.

I am and will always be one of the proudest fathers ever for all my children.

I get this great sense of pride from all the tough times. Let's face it,... the good times are easier than the hard. The hard times show you what we're capable of. And it's ... during these times, the ones that none of us would want to revisit that I think of how I tried, as best I could, to lead my family forward. Throughout all of it, I relied on my wife, my son and my daughters.

The truth is,... I faltered at times and they were all there,... to pick up the slack. <u>This</u> is where a father gets his pride!

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Through so much... so many highs and lows, the stuff this life is made up of. These hardships that we've endured, uniquely together as a family...MAKE ME SO PROUD. And because Freddy was the oldest, my son, often times had the most to do, THE HEAVIEST THINGS TO LIFT. He was my big helper, despite all the work that lied before us, I would watch him... his spirit never gave in, he was there to help his dad and his family and he knew there was no one else to do it, so he took care of it. I'd watch as he did even the degrading, menial jobs that no one wants to do, and he did what needed to be done. I know now that these were the times that built his strength of character and work ethic, after helping me,... everything else was easy.

Whether as my best worker, as a boy scout, a student athlete, a police officer or as someone's friend... my son gave of himself. Always trying to do his best and doing what he knew was right. Put another way.. .The darkness; try as it might, could never beat the "white knight" in him, the goodness from within.

He was always a good soul. Throughout his life he had seen much and helped many and always,... there was love..., all around him, from his family and friends certainly from the father who relied on him. He truly made his parents PROUD.. he served his family, his friends and his community the best he could allowing for him to be known by so many as a good person, a hard worker and a great friend. He was also a great son and brother!

Take heart everyone...We had the chance to say our goodbyes at the hospital we wanted him to know that we were there with him, we wanted him to feel all the love that we had for him and how we wanted God to take care of him.

...if you're wishing you had a chance to speak with him about something before he left us, I can assure you he already knows, a simple prayer is the easiest way to get a hold of him now-....

I stand before you as a father who has given back a son.. given him

Back to God. We will all cherish Freddy and the times that we are all so thankful for, all of the laughs, the special times he gave us. .and the sacrifices he made to make the people around him better people. I've spoken to him recently and I've asked him to watch over all of us, his friends and his family.

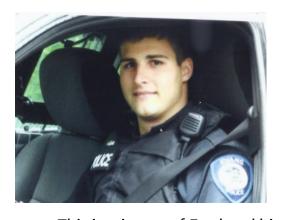
Fred....I know you can see us all here... and you feel the love for you from all these people gathered here. We know you've been promoted to an angel in heaven. And we know they must have needed you there to keep us safe from the forces of evil in this world. All I ask is when we need your guidance can you give us a nudge in the right direction. Or in some cases a poke, a slap in the head or a kick in the pants!

In short,...

Hug your children and cherish the time you have with your family, spend time in God's word because Hebrews 4:12 states The word of God is alive and active and sharper than any two edged sword it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

The Garrasi family wants to thank all of you for your support and prayers, as time goes on we'll need them both.

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This is picture of Fred and his Patrol Car - Car 50, in front of the Evans Town Hall. It was decorated in Fred's Memory.

Words cannot express my gratitude for all that my St. Bart's Family has done for us with Fred's passing. From the bottom of my heart - THANK YOU!

May God Bless You!

Connie Prohaska, Fred Garrasi's Grandmother

Pictures from Fred's Funeral, at St. Bartholomew's, Wednesday May 8, 2013



















Pictures from Fred's Funeral, at St. Bartholomew's, Wednesday May 8, 2013





















Pictures by Mike Wisz

PPC Corner

JUNE PPC News

PPC (Prayer for the Persecuted Church) – PPC – We will resume our meetings on September 9.

Please continue to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world. For details on prisoners, etc., please go to the Voice of the Martyrs website: www.persecution.com



prayer for the persecuted church



There are no words to express my appreciation for all you have done for my family. My heartfelt thanks for making this day so special and a memory I will hold close to my heart. With Love,

Pam Rusch



From the day planning for a benefit began until the day this special event took place it has been remarkable. This journey has shown as the kind hearts of people and their willingness to help. Whether you bought a ticket, made a donation, effered gift cards, prizes, made baskets to raffle, said a prayer, or helped volunteer the event, we are truly grateful?

The benefit was a success because of your efforts and we want you to know how mach we appreciate you!

Dince then, Joe has undergone surgery and it went wonderfully! He has a long recovery but each day he is getting better and we are thankful for our blessings.

Thank you again for making such a memorable day for ax!

THANK YOU! LOCEE

Parish Family News

Sunday School Ministry:

Important Dates:

Last day of SSM Classes is June 9.

We only have about **2 more weeks** for Scripture Memory Verses! Be sure your child continues to memorize them each week.

The end of the year Teacher Party for all teachers and subs will be held on Sunday, June 9 at the Commins' house.



RIDE FOR ROSWELL

This year Deacon Reitz and his wife, Cathy will be taking part in "The Ride For Roswell 2013" on Saturday, June 22. This will be in honor of family and friends who have been touched by cancer. We have once again formed "Team St. Bart's" which is open to anyone to join us and ride. Spaces are filling up fast so please register ASAP. Once registered, please see Deacon Reitz. Let him know your shirt size so you can order a Team St. Bart's T-Shirt.



VBS Starts Sunday Evening June 23 for 5 evenings.

Please come at 6:15 PM on the first evening for name tags and classrooms.

Programs run from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

Any questions, please speak with David Curtis.



Angels in Training!

Take a look at the future choir of St. Bart's!

Here is Terry Gamble and the Junior Choir celebrating the fine work that they did this year, and planning for the fall. Want to sing? Parents, if your child wants to be in the Junior Choir—see Terry Gamble.

Parish Family News

Birthdays In June

June 01	Mary	Krause
June 01	Linda	McGee
June 01	Lisa	Speaks
June 02	Abby	Hoy
June 02	William	Ruhland
June 02	Craig	Schwab
June 02	Kris	Wydro
June 03	Emily	Bush
June 03	Robert	Krieger
June 04	Pam	Machelor
June 04	Michael	Spence Jr.
June 05	Gloria	Caruso
June 06	Lee	Hilliker
June 06	Richard	Hubbard
June 06	Norma	Madigan
June 06	Ellen	Siegel
June 06	_	VanNorman
June 06	Gregory Edward	Zurzuski
June 07	MaryJane	Brzeczkowski
June 08	Connie	Eskridge
June 08	Frank	LoCicero
June 09	Julissa	Hill
June 09	Mary Kristin	Hillery
June 09		Poeller
June 09	Karin	Seymour
June 09	Gary	Zuefle
June 10	Marjorie	Saunders
June 11	Louis	Callari
June 11	Carol	Lower Soltis
June 11	Linda	
June 12	Karen	Heer
June 12	Carolyn Truth	Ley Woolcott
June 13	Carlina	Richner
June 14		
June 14	Maureen	Sileo
June 16	Thomas	Daniele
June 16	Mary Ann	Fahs
June 16	Beverly	Graber
June 16 June 17	Brenda	Small Derrett III
	Robert	
June 17	Debra Richard	McGuire Colguhoun
June 18		
June 18	Leslie	Horvath
June 18	Chelsea	Swiantek
June 19	Neal Dillon	Hodgson
June 19		Lobdell
June 19	Carol	Nelson
June 19	Griffin	Poeller
June 19	Christopher	Szymanski
June 19	Stephen	Tarapata
June 19	Mary Ellen	White
June 20	Kyle	Brunner
June 20	Fr. John	Commins
June 20	Madeline	Crosby
June 20	Doreen	Flatley

June 21 Ryan

Burck

June 21	Brett	Kyser
June 21	Audra	Lakeman
June 21	Anna	Salviski
June 23	Maryellen	Anello
June 24	Ann Marie	Rudin
June 25	Christopher	Abramo
June 25	Juliette	Cleary
June 25	Grace	Giambanco
June 25	Barbara	Hubbard
June 25	Ann	O'Farrell
June 26	Jason	Crosby
June 26	Megan	Kincaid
June 27	Nicole	Buchanan
June 27	Jonathan	Merrick
June 27	Andrew	Welkley
June 28	Blanche	Borkowski
June 28	Babe	DeCourcey
June 28	Dawn	Kincaid
June 28	James	Schwartzmye
June 29	Jacob	Colosanti
June 29	Elijah	Osmon
June 30	Jennifer	Bly
June 30	Kathryn	Bly
June 30	Natalie	Burck
June 30	Samuel	Burck
June 30	Carl	Calabrese
June 30	Anita	Will





Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Armed Forces.

- · Micah Gray US Marines
- Tony Driskill US Navy
- Jason Duffy
- Jason Driscoll
- Brandon Schessl
- · Ian Paul
- · Andrew Arway US Army
- · Andrew Welkley US Air Force

If you know of any others that we need to include in our prayers, please let the church office know.



On Saturday, May 18, St. Bartholomew's literally erupted in love as over \$40,000 was raised to help the Lapp Triplets in the days ahead. Immanuel played, and Christian Music rang throughout Fr. Amend Hall. Hundreds of baskets were auctioned off, with many people and businesses donating so much for this remarkable event.

Thanks also to the many volunteers who made this incredible benefit event possible. Part 2 of the Lapp Family Benefit is Friday Night, May 31 at 7 PM as the BBC Band performs a Benefit Concert for Nathan, Brian, and Kiersten. See their picture below as well as pictures from the May 18th Benefit. (pictures of May 18 by Mike Wisz)

























































Pictures by Mike Wisz

Bishop Scaife Guild News

Our tour of Forest Lawn Cemetery on May 4 was very informative. We had a very knowledgeable guide and the weather was beautiful!

Our Spring Banquet will be Thursday, June 6 at the "Windows on the Green", Westwood Country Club, N. Forest Rd. and Sheridan Dr.. SIGN UP SHEET WILL BE IN THE GIFT SHOP with details of the dinner choices. Cash Bar is 6:00, Dinner at 6:30 and at 7:30 we will be entertained by the "Sweet Sixteens" from Amherst HS.

COMING EVENTS:

October 4 & 5: Kenmore Quilters Patch Show - BSG will have a baked goods sale and serve refreshments

November (date to be announced) - Soup Sale

Our Gift Shop is open Sundays and Wednesday mornings. Stop in and check our books and gifts. Donations are always welcome!

Baby items for Cornerstone are always needed. Please leave them in the Gift Shop.

The box for linens, kitchen items and small appliances in good condition for "Threads of Hope" is in the Fr. Amend Hall. Please do not put clothing in the box because they don't accept clothing. Any questions call Carol Siock (835-2105).

May Vestry News

As of April 30, 2013, \$680,756.70 has been received in actual donations or 92% of our goal of \$743,126 from 236 "Let Us Arise and Build" commitments. Fr. Ward will be attending the 2013 ACNA Council meeting in Milwaukee, WI. June 17-19 as a clergy delegate representing the International Diocese.

The annual Church Picnic will be Sunday, July 21 at Ellicott Creek Park.

Rock, Rods, and Relationships is scheduled for Saturday, August 17 if enough parishioners volunteer.

The original chairs that were in the building are being replaced by new chairs at a cost of \$12,000. Donations of \$25 are being accepted from parishioners.



32 bags of food were taken to the Food Pantry in **May**. Thank you for your generosity!

The Food Pantry is in need of personal care items. Food items most needed are cereal, pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut butter, jelly, tuna fish, small cans of soup, dry soup mixes and mac & cheese.

Please bring your items on the **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** so that our "Food Pantry Delivery Angels" only have to make one trip.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						KAZAKHSTAN Pray for Kazakhstan's Christians, who live under strict religious restrictions.
KAZAKHSTAN Pray that Christian summer camps will continue to be allowed and for lasting fruit among youth.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray for Aleksei Asetov, who was fined for leading a church group in his home.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray that Kazakhstan will be flooded with God's Word, despite the government's attempts to restrict it.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray for the safe delivery of Bibles and Christian materials under Kazakhstan's religious-literature censorship regulations.	G KAZAKHSTAN Pray for President Nursultan A. Nazarbayev.	KUWAIT Pray that many parliamentarians will come to know Christ and that Shariah will not be implemented.	KUWAIT Pray that Christians will continue to proclaim Christ boldly as anti-Christian regulations increase.
KUWAIT KUWAIT Pray that many within the Kuwaiti royal family will become Christians.	KUWAIT Pray that expatriate Christians will be effective witnesses to Kuwaiti nationals.	KUWAIT Pray for pastors and for the encouragement of new Christian converts.	KUWAIT KUWAIT Pray for Amir Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray for the effective distribution of religious materials, which is banned under a 2009 law.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray for the house church movement. Church registration. requires 200 adult Kyrgyz members.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray for God's blessings on ministries to children, the future of the church.
KYRGYZSTAN Pray that oppressive teachings of Islam will cause Muslims to seek forgiveness and freedom in Christ.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray that Christian radio broadcasts will help ground and establish new believers.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray for President Almazbek Atambaev.	LAOS Pray that Jaeh, his wife and 26 other Khmu Christians will remain strong in faith.	LAOS Pray for 11 orphan boys who were threatened with expulsion from school for evangelizing.	LAOS Pray for Hmong Christians who have been forced from their villages because of their faith.	LAOS Pray for VOM's distribution of bicycles and motorcycles to pastors who work in remote villages.
LAOS Bounchan Kanthavong spent almost 13 years in prison for telling others about God. Pray for his continued witness.	24 LAOS Pray for President Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason.	LEBANON Pray for a VOM-supported evangelist who is reaching out to Muslims.	LEBANON Pray for peace and stability. Christian persecution is easily overlooked amid political and civil turmoil.	27 LEBANON Pray for unity among Christian groups in Lebanon.	LEBANON Pray that Christianity will flourish in this only Arab state that is not officially Muslim.	LEBANON Pray that the love of Christ will heal this nation that has been traumatized by wars.
30 LEBANON Pray for President Michel Sulayman.						

June 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 4:30pm HE
2 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS	3	4 7pm Vestry	5 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Sr. Youth 7pm Jr. Youth	9	7	8 9:00am LEM meeting 9:30am Kitchen Cabinet meeting 4:30pm HE
9 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS	10	-	9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Global Missions Meeting 6:30pm Sr. Youth 7pm Jr. Youth	13	4	15 4:30pm HE
16 SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS 8 & 10am HE	17 6pm BARRA	18	19 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study	20	21	22 RIDE FOR ROSWELL 4:30pm HE
23 8 & 10am HE VBS BEGINS 6:30 - 8:30pm thru 6/27	24 6:30-8:30pm VBS	25 6:30-8:30pm VBS	26 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:30pm VBS	27 6:30pm-8:30pm LAST VBS	28	29 4:30pm HE
30 8 & 10am HE 9:30am Bible Study						