

Week of October 16 - 23, 2016

Sunday, October 16th

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30 am Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, nave
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Children's Liturgy
11:45 am Holy Spirit 101, rector's office

Monday, October 17th

6:30 pm Wisdom's Way, nave

Wednesday, October 19th

7:00 pm Choir Practice, nave

Thursday, October 20th

6:30 am Bunco (fundraiser for Beans & Rice), parish hall

Sunday, October 23rd

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30 am Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, nave
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:45 am Vestry Meeting, parish hall
Prayer Shawl Ministry, nave

Living in the Spirit

Dear Holy Spirit Family,

It is with a mixture of emotions that I inform you that I have accepted a call to serve at St. Luke's in Birmingham. My last Sunday at Holy Spirit will be November 6th.

Malcolm and I have treasured our time with you and appreciate the gracious way you have welcomed, loved, and supported us. It has been exciting to participate in the many new ministries, services, and outreach programs that you have created. I am inspired by the way you embrace new people and create loving community. This is at the core of who you are as a faith community and is one of the many reasons Holy Spirit is a growing, vibrant church.

I want to lift up the strength of the parish at this time. Under Peg's direction the choir is growing and is a vital component of creating beautiful worship. Educational offerings for our children and adult participation has expanded significantly with Julia's leadership. Tara provides extremely kind and competent stability in the office. Membership is increasing, and nearly everyone connected with Holy Spirit is involved in some type of ministry or formation program. Your vestry is engaged and will continue to provide great leadership. This is a healthy parish that will continue to be a beacon of Christ's hope and love.

My faith has deepened during this sacred time with you. You have been instrumental in my formation, walking with me as I transitioned from lay leader, deacon, and priest. Thank you for your gentle guidance and generous forgiveness as I learn my way.

Transitions can be challenging & it is natural to experience a wide range of emotions from sadness, to anxiety to excited anticipation. Malcolm & I are already grieving the nearing end of our season with you. In the meantime, we will savor & enjoy our time here at Holy Spirit, & forever carry you in our hearts & prayers.

Mandy Golightly, Senior Warden, and Adam Power, Junior Warden will keep you abreast of news regarding the transition as it becomes available. They have already been in communication with the diocese and there is a strong desire to continue the momentum you have built here at Holy Spirit.

Yours in Christ,
Mary Bea+

A Message from Mandy Golightly, Sr. Warden

As you already know, our beloved priest, Mary Bea Sullivan, has been called to serve at St. Luke's in Birmingham. I am fully aware we were in this same position just a few short years ago and that feeling of "not again" can be overwhelming. As your Senior Warden, I speak on behalf of the entire vestry to say to you we are in a much stronger position this go round and I can promise you that with God's help, "we've got this!"

Saying "we've got this" does NOT diminish how we feel about all that Mary Bea and Malcolm have done for us. Both have opened their hearts to us in beautiful ways. Sharing thought-provoking sermons, encouraging us to do even more for our community and supporting us through our own sorrows and joys. I won't deny that I have cried quite a bit. From my conversations with many of you, I know it saddens you too. I want to say to you, it is ok to feel this way. Our feelings of sadness are valid. As Malcolm said to me Sunday, allow the tears to come. This helps us process.

I want to convey to you that we have 2016 services covered. Largely due to our own Reverend Alison Carmody. We are so very grateful to her. The remaining days are being covered by Father Steve DeGweck. Father Steve was the associate rector for pastoral care at St. Luke's in Birmingham, and retired after 40 years in ordained ministry in 2015. (Yes, this is the same position that Mary Bea is now filling!)

I have been in communication with Sarah Sartain from the diocese and she will meet with the vestry October 23rd. We are working on finding an interim and will discuss the search process for our next rector. As the details of the search process are developed, the vestry and I will share this information with the congregation. If you are interested in being a part of our search committee, please contact Adam Power or me. (contact info is below)

The vestry and I welcome you to reach out to us with any questions, thoughts, discussions, etc. We know this won't be easy, but I can assure you we are capable we are a strong vestry, we are a strong church, we are a strong family- and we will land even stronger. Thank you in advance for your prayers for the Holy Spirit community and all of those impacted by this transition.

Peace, Mandy Golightly

Mandy Golightly mmgolightly@gmail.com 205-410-3013 and Adam Power APOWER@valspar.com

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Holy Spirit 101	Oct 16th	11:45 am	Rector's Office
Choir Practice	Oct 19th	7:00 pm	Nave
Bunco	Oct 20th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall
Vestry Meeting	Oct 23rd	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Women's Circle	Oct 25th	6:30 pm	Nave
Centering Prayer	Nov 7th	5:30 pm	Nave
Healing Eucharist	Nov 9th	11:00 am	Nave
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Nov 12th	8:00 am	Parish Hall
Daughters of the King	Nov 17th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Pack for Beans & Rice	Nov 18th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Nov 19th	9:00 am	Narthex

Save the Date

Sun, Oct 23rd	Living Generously Kick-off
Wed, Oct 26th	Bethany Village Update with Bishop Kee Sloan, 6:00 pm
Sun, Nov 6th	Mary Bea and Malcolm's Last Sunday, Living Generously In-Gathering
Sun, Nov 13th	Confirmation & Bishop's Visit, 10:30 am
Sun, Dec 11th	Lessons & Carols, 5:00 pm
Wed, Nov 9th	Healing Eucharist & Lunch, 11:00 am

Church Happenings

Holy Spirit 101 – October 16th, TODAY, at 11:45am

Come learn more about Holy Spirit with Mary Bea and a vestry member Sunday, October 16th after the 10:30 service. This is a great opportunity for visitors (but all are welcome) to gather once a month in the rector's office with refreshments and hear about the church and our offerings.

Wisdom's Way—a practical and spiritual exploration of the Bible's Wisdom Literature.

Mondays, October 17th – 24th at 6:30 pm

Join Mary Bea for this 6-week exploration of Wisdom Literature in the Bible focusing on Proverbs, the Book of Job, Ecclesiastes, and the Wisdom of Solomon. We will reflect upon the writings of these ancient sages and how they inform our spiritual life today. The format will incorporate lecture, group discussion, and spiritual practices that support our growing in wisdom. "Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her." Wisdom of Solomon 6:12. Drop-ins welcome!

Foundations of the Faith Sundays from 10/16 to 11/6 at 9:30 am

Have you wondered why we celebrate the Eucharist each week? What the different colors of the priest and altar's vestments mean? Why we use a Book of Common Prayer? Mary Bea, Alison, and Malcolm will share the teaching for this Adult Forum Series that focuses on the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. This course is required for those seeking to be confirmed or received during the Bishop's visit on 11/13. However, all are welcome to learn and share your experiences.

10/16	Worship & Liturgy
10/23	Sacraments
10/30	Anglican Theology/Creeds/Scripture
11/6	Living Out Baptismal Covenant and Episcopal Polity

Bunco, October 20th at 6:30pm

Do you want to have a great meal, fellowship and fun? How about joining us for Bunco! We play Bunco on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Cost is \$5 and all money goes to the Beans and Rice ministry. Please email Kim at kkj5165@charter.net if you want to be added to the email list for Bunco. (Adults only please-no childcare is provided for Bunco)

Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sunday, October 23rd at 11:45 am

Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to create prayer shawls to comfort those in need? If so please join us in the nave next Sunday as we gather for fellowship and to work on our shawls. Contact Tara Portney if you have any questions, tara@holyspirit-al.org.

Parish Luncheon for Mary Bea, Sunday, November 6th

We will celebrate Mary Bea's time and service with us with a potluck lunch following the 10:30 a.m. service on November 6. A sign-up will be available on PerfectPotluck.com by Oct. 17th. The organizer will be Greer and the password ECOHS.

All Saint's Sunday, Sunday, November 6th

If you would like to have the name of a loved one who has recently died sung in the litany of saints November 6th, please add the name to the list in the narthex or email or call Tara, tara@holyspirit-al.org.

Diocesan/Local Offerings

There are so many wonderful events happening throughout our Diocese. Be sure to visit the diocesan website, www.dioala.org, for details. Check out the bulletin board in the parish hall for a few highlights.

Happening #69, November 4-6, Church of the Ascension, Vestavia

Happening is open to youth in 10th-12th grade. HAPPENING weekend is a personal encounter with the living Christ as expressed in the traditions of the Episcopal Church. Hopefully, those who attend a Happening will join those who have gone before them in their desire to serve the Church, to continue in their commitment to Christ and to look for further opportunities to share with others what they have lived and learned. Registration deadline is Oct 21st. Contact Tara Portney if you have any questions, tara@holyspirit-al.org. <https://secure-q.net/EventQ/Event/Info?OrgID=dioala&EventID=2593>

Getting Ready to Get Ready, Saturday, November 19th

Join the Diocesan Commission on Spirituality and the Daughters of the King for a quiet day of reflection to prepare for the Advent season at St. Mary's on the Highlands from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Cost is \$15 (lunch provided) – register at <http://bit.ly/getreadyday>.

Financial Update

Contributions

Thank you for your generous support of our parish. Below is a summary of the contributions received during the week ending on Sunday, October 9, 2016.

Pledged.....	\$1,372.00
Unpledged	\$ 222.00
Bethany Village.....	\$ 200.00
Outreach—Hurricane Matthew Relief	\$ 120.00
Parish Life	\$ 10.00
Designated Gift.....	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
Total Contributions.....	\$4,924.00

Please pray for...

Bishops and Clergy: Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; **Michael** Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop ECUSA; **Kee** Sloan, Alabama Bishop; **Mary Bea** Sullivan, Rector; **Alison** Carmody, Priest Affiliate; **Malcolm** Marler, Priest Affiliate; **Stan** Wright, Priest Affiliate

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Our companion dioceses of Alaska & the Virgin Islands & their bishops Mark & Ambrose; Diocesan Department of Recovery Ministries; For all who suffer from addiction or effects of addiction; St. Luke's, Birmingham; St. Luke's, Jacksonville; St. Luke's, Scottsboro

Ministries and Programs within The Church of the Holy Spirit: Worship Team (Acolytes, Lectors, LEMs, Ushers); Mow & Clean Teams; Daughters of the King; Coffee Hour Ministry

For Nation and Local Community: Barack Obama, President; Robert Bentley, Governor; Communities of Calera, Alabaster, Helena, Maylene, & Pelham

For all people everywhere especially: Those impacted by Hurricane Matthew and violence and wars throughout the world.

Healing & Guidance for members, relatives and friends of Holy Spirit: **Doris & Richard** Smith (Victoria Knierim); **Carl** Raymond (Allyson Agee); **Jo** Cochran (Judy Dykes); **Roxie & Stan** Wright; **Debra** Dewees (Glenda Jones); **Shirley** Marshall (Allyson Agee); **Francie and Alan** Gardner; **Fred** Aldrich (David Aldrich); **Carl** Bruner; **Susan** Vincens (Janet Palmer); **Olivia** Kilgore; **Brandy** Carmichael (Debra Dickey); **Susie** Burnside (Mandy Curry); **Bud** Montgomery (Carol Smedley); **Betty & Baylee** Marek; **Barbara** Conyers (Mary Bea Sullivan); **Jim** Hamilton; **Dorothy** Powell; **Kim** Sloan (Nancy Musgrove & Katy Brooks); **Karen** Marshall (Alyson Agee); **Barbara** Carroll (Harriet & Bill Meeks)

For those serving in the armed services: **Hall** Graham (Julia Jackson), **Mark** McKay (Gladys McKay)

For all who have died, especially **Tom** Sloan, may light perpetual shine upon them.

Upcoming Birthdays: Bill Spencer (10/16), Bill Meeks (10/19), Ryan Leonard (10/21), Grace Golightly (10/22), Doug Smedley (10/23), Bill Sorensen (10/24), Jon Nash (10/28), Parker Agee (10/28), Mia Stephens (10/28), Buzz Palmer (10/30), Adam Power (10/31)

Upcoming Anniversaries: Carol and Doug Smedley (10/24)

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit ♦ Reverend Mary Bea Sullivan, Rector

Tara's Office Hours: Tues, Wed, & Thurs – 9:00am to 2:00pm

Rev. Mary Bea's days off are Friday & Saturday (but may be reached for emergency)

858 Kent Dairy Rd; PO Box 2365 Alabaster, AL 35007

205-621-3418 ♦ Emergency 205-329-4862

www.holyspirit-al.org ♦ office@holyspirit-al.org ♦ marybea@holyspirit-al.org