

Grow: A Covidtide in Review

February 16th, 2021

Liturgy and Worship

2020 Accomplishments

- ★ Pre-recorded and produced Sunday liturgies from mid-March, 2020 through mid-July. In cooperation with the communications team, these pre-recorded services were sent out to the congregation via email each week and uploaded to the All Saints YouTube account.
- ★ All Saints celebrated a completely virtual Holy Week with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter all offered via Zoom. Over 80 households joined in for each online service.
- ★ Sunday services began streaming successfully from the nave in mid July.
- ★ In cooperation with the parish verger and safety coordinator, procedures for safe worship during the COVID-19 pandemic were developed and implemented.
- ★ Limited in-person worship began on our patronal Feast of All Saints Day (November 1, 2020).
- ★ Schedules for lay readers, altar guild service, and flower guild service transitioned to meet the needs of the current worship procedures.
- ★ The Director of Music developed creative use of music for worship in the absence of choir and congregational singing, creating many new arrangements and compositions, and developing the Offertory Hymn Meditation.
- ★ The Director of Music continued to lead Zoom Evening Prayer & Compline services for the choir, as well as recording music to share with the All Saints community via the Daily Moment with God.
- ★ God was glorified and the sweet and holy Name of Jesus Christ was praised.

Goals for 2021

- ★ Successfully and safely transition back to a more robust offering of in-person services.
- ★ Continue to support elegant, accessible live streaming of all services.

Challenges

- ★ The greatest challenge to most things worship-related remains the pandemic and its attendant restrictions.
- ★ Some additional technology may be required as the future of live streaming develops.

Adult Formation

2020 Accomplishments

- ★ All formation opportunities moved successfully into the digital sphere. Numbers of participants remained steady (when compared with in-person classes) for all offerings.

- ★ A study on the Acts of the Apostles ran from March through June averaging 14 participants.
- ★ A study on the *Confessions* of St. Augustine ran from June through September averaging 17 participants.
- ★ Three Bible sprints ran on Sundays from summer through late fall averaging 25 participants (though often blessed with more!).
- ★ During Advent, a Sunday course explored Art and the liturgical season and an evening retreat on the gifts of Christmas and Narnia ran for three weeks leading up to Christmas Eve.
- ★ A book club gathered for three monthly sessions to explore texts related to the Christian faith and life more broadly.
- ★ A pilgrimage to the Holy Land was completely planned and ready for engagement - while the pilgrimage could not safely take place, the materials remain available for future use.
- ★ Transitioned confirmation classes to Zoom. We eagerly await the chance to welcome Bishop Little again for confirmations.

Goals for 2021

- ★ Navigate the transition (God willing) to the future of formation at All Saints post-pandemic. A large part of this will be strategizing how to develop a hybrid model for teaching and learning both in person and online.
- ★ Engage digital resources to make formation content available online on demand as appropriate.
- ★ Develop a broader vision of formation curriculum such that all formation opportunities connect to and complement one another. This was in the works pre-pandemic, but our many pivots put these plans on pause.
- ★ Increase attentiveness to intergenerational formation opportunities.

Challenges

- ★ Developing and supporting a larger team of lay leaders and teachers for adult formation.
- ★ Pandemic uncertainty still makes long-term curriculum planning a challenge.
- ★ Some new technology will be required for hybrid online/in person formation (i.e. computers well-equipped for Zoom in the library).