

We are back in our church! Deo Gratia!

The Church of the Ascension and St. Agnes has been closed for six months, but not the people and parish of the Ascension and St. Agnes.

Under the leadership of Fr. Dominique and with Mother Sarah, Fr. Charles Hoffacker, Deacon Mary, and Deacon Fred, we have been spiritually well-fed over the past six months--if via zoom and e-mail rather than in person. They provided for home worship, regular sermons, and other devotions. And the School of Theology and Prayer went from strength to strength. Collin even pursued our music ministry.

Throughout this difficult period, Mark administratively kept the trains running on time, while Treasurer Susan watched our pennies. Amanda navigated for us the strange, strange world of tech. And then there were the flourishing ministries led by lay people.

The past six months have been hard, but also a period of growth. Reflecting on that period, the words of the fourteen century mystic Dame Julian of Norwich sums it up for me: (She is remembered throughout the Anglican Communion on May 8.)

In the period of the Black Death and social unrest, she proclaimed, "The enemy is overcome by the blessed passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ." And, therefore, "all shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well."

Thanks be to God. a

John Campbell