On the mind of the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser…

The other morning, I had my daily devotional time, which normally runs 30 minutes to an hour. I usually start by reading Scripture or religious poetry, then use a prayer or meditation app, and close by sitting in silence to listen for God. During today's listening portion, I asked God if it would be okay to reach out to someone from my past. My relationship with this person ended badly years ago, but there was lots of love there. They have been on my heart in recent weeks, and I've been writing and rewriting an email to them in my mind. When I finally asked God about sending the email, I got a very clear message – "It is finished."

That's not what I wanted to hear, especially if I might never see or communicate with this person again. But as I reflected on these words Jesus spoke from the cross, I felt a sense of peace in God's "no." I nailed whatever sin, hurt, fault and messiness from that relationship breakdown to the cross years ago. In turn, God has used the experience to teach me, draw me closer to Jesus, and help me bear good fruit in service to others. This is a form of resurrection, and it's quite typical of how God works through our weaknesses. In the words of Richard Rohr, "Salvation is not sin perfectly avoided…; salvation is sin turned on its head and used in our favor."

Okay, God. Message received.

A few hours later, a Christian friend just happened to speak to me about the power of asking God the right questions. We can get so caught up in making plans for what we want to do – or even what we think *God* wants us to do – without ever directly asking for God's permission, opinion, input or desires.

Is there a question you need to ask God? Maybe a question you've been avoiding because you're afraid of the answer? If nothing comes to mind, perhaps the question is simply, "God, what should I be asking you about?"

Then take your time, settle in, get "prayed up" and go for it. You may or may not hear a direct answer, but chances are there will be an inkling and, more importantly, an invitation to return to the conversation.

Adrian+

TODAY AFTER CHURCH

12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Come to the Parish House Dining Room to help make sandwiches for delivery to a nearby homeless drop-in center.

HYMN SING POTLUCK

Thursday, April 23, **7:00 to 8:30 p.m.** We warmly invite you to the Assembly Hall for *A Celebration of Hymns and Faith* led by Seminarian Romy John Abraham. Romy trained in voice at Trinity College of Music, London, and has served as pianist, organist, singer, and choir conductor in Episcopal churches in Albany and Long Island. He currently directs Euphony Chorus, a voluntary choir in the New York region.

This evening will center on the beauty and power of sacred music, bringing us together in worship, song, and shared spiritual experience. We will be using 1982 Hymnal and taking requests, so come ready to sing your favorite hymns.

It's a potluck! You are welcome to bring a dessert or other refreshment to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, April 26, 10:00 to 10:40 a.m. Join Fr. Greg for the last in a three-part series on "The Post-Resurrection Appearances of Jesus." Read and discuss the major passages describing these events as we re-discover them through the pages of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Bibles will be provided.

Our next Bible Study series will be on Paul's letter to the Ephesians and will begin May 3. Led by Seminarian Romy John Abraham.

DALTON CHORALE SPRING CONCERT

Tuesday, May 12, 7:30 p.m. The Dalton Chorale performs Duruflé's Requiem, plus works by Pärt and Lauridsen. The Dalton Chorale is a mixed choir of some fifty voices, founded in New York in 1991 to give members the opportunity to sing significant sacred and secular music. Pieces are by well-known and less well-known composers, from the 17th century to the present day. Originally drawn from alumni, parents, and faculty from Dalton School, the members of the Chorale are now a diverse ensemble of serious amateurs who grow in ability under the excellent musical direction of Claudia Dumschat, Music Director at Church of the Transfiguration.

Tickets are $35 at the door or $30 in advance. Go to daltonchorale.org to purchase yours and learn more.

SPRING STEWARDSHIP – GIVING FOR GOD'S HOLY PURPOSES

Jesus called disciples to follow him, to learn from him, and to work alongside him for God's holy purposes. Together they bore witness to God's reign of justice, mercy and peace, making manifest in tangible ways God's light and love. Do you have a practice of regular giving for the spread of God's kingdom?

To date, **58** households have pledged to give a total of **$247,472** in 2026. We invite you to join them and help us reach our goal of $275,000. Fill out a Commitment Card at the back of the church or pledge online by scanning the QR code below.

Let's deepen our journey together with Jesus as we move into Eastertide. Thank you for your commitment to the life we share in Christ.

Please note that any recurring online gifts made in 2025 do not roll over and must be set up anew in 2026. Go *to churchoftheincarnation.org/donate to set up your recurring donation today.*

EVERY WEEK AT INCARNATION

Sunday Bible Study: Bible Study is held in the Parish House from 10:00 to 10:40 a.m.

Sunday School for Children: During the 11:00 a.m. service, children ages 3 to 9 (pre-K through 4th grade) depart the service with their teacher for Sunday School in the Parish House. Learn more about Family Ministries at Incarnation, including offerings for older children, on the church website.

Wednesday Holy Eucharist: Join us each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. for this Rite I spoken service of Holy Eucharist, which includes a brief homily, organ music, and healing prayer with holy oil.

Thursday Candlelight Communion: Join us each Thursday at 6:15 p.m. for Candlelight Communion, a service of Holy Eucharist that incorporates chant and silence as well as elements of contemporary worship. This service is informal and contemplative, with music led by a cantor and a brief reflection by one of the clergy. You can also stream this service at youtube.com/churchoftheincarnation.

Daily Office: Services of Morning Prayer and Compline are held via Zoom. To view the weekly schedule, go to churchoftheincarnation.org/worship.