

A LITURGY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

Frances Brigham Johnson

SEPTEMBER 19, 1927 – JANUARY 27, 2024

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Episcopal/Anglican

ZABRISKIE CHAPEL 3606 Seminary Road Alexandria, Virginia



February 24, 2024 12 Noon

Prelude: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

"Sheep May Safely Graze"

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Annie Sherwood Hawks

Remembering Frances Srigham Johnson 1927 - 2024

written by her husband, Gordon

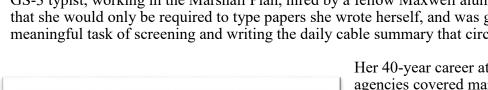
Frances died at home, on January 27, peacefully, in her own bed, with her daughter Susan and sons Gordon and Brigham all here for her final days, in the house we have lived in for 62 years. It was the end of a long process that started more than a year ago. Throughout, she maintained her faith and good spirits. She was a Christian. She was her own person, independent and loving. She loved her family.

She was 24 when we married and 96 when she left us. We started our careers together in 1950, working in the Marshall Plan, and we had 72 wonderful married years together. Susan, Tim and their three Gildersleeve children moved in with us "temporarily" in 1998, so we were blessed with two generations growing up here with us in our Alexandria home and attending Immanuel Church.

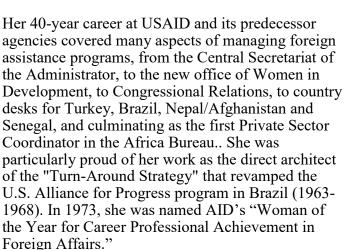
Frances made it clear before we married that she would continue her career working in the U.S. foreign assistance program and was remarkable in her ability to mother four children, manage our household, and take on continuously increasing responsibilities at work at a time when women still were not fully accepted in decision making roles, no matter their qualifications.

After graduating in 1949 with a BA degree in Government from Connecticut College for Women, followed by a year's graduate work at the Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, she launched her career as a

GS-3 typist, working in the Marshall Plan, hired by a fellow Maxwell alum. She took the job on condition that she would only be required to type papers she wrote herself, and was given the essential and meaningful task of screening and writing the daily cable summary that circulated throughout the agency.











Raising a family, and helping people in developing countries feed themselves and prosper ("Food for All through Enterprise"), were only two of her missions. She was passionately active in our community. Working with Helena Pratt and Dagobert Soergel, she helped to start, in 1984, the Network PreSchool, a hugely successful preschool for disadvantaged children in Alexandria. She served on the Board of the Urban League of Northern Virginia and, along with another esteemed friend, Isabel Crocker from the Urban League, she organized a state-wide conference on Preschool Education for Disadvantaged Children, held in Charlottesville. She also served on the board of Research for Better Schools, a five-state national research laboratory, and co-founded an International Property Rights Working Group in 2002.

She loved to ski, swim and play tennis, and traveled extensively, bicycling in Europe in the summer of 1948, a five-month "post-honeymoon" trip together to Asian countries in 1954-55, followed by later trips to Israel,

China (twice), Russia, Turkey, South America, Australia, New Zealand, Senegal, Mauritania and South Africa.

She is survived by our three children, Gordon F.B. Johnson and Susan C.J. Gildersleeve, both of Alexandria, and Brigham N. Johnson of Delray Beach, FL, nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by our youngest son, Christian Paisley Ball Johnson, who died at Stanford University in 1982.

No Christian ever says "Goodbye" for the last time. Her ship has simply sailed out of our sight, over the horizon, where our son, Chris, her four brothers and sisters, her parents and others were waiting for her.

"Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen"

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in honor of Frances to the following:





THE CHILD & FAMILY NETWORK CENTERS 3700 Wheeler Avenue Alexandria, VA 22304

https://cfnc-online.org/donate/

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE I

Page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. Numbered hymns can be found in The Hymnal 1982.

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

All please stand while the following anthems are said. (Book of Common Prayer, page 469)

Opening Sentences

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord. and if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Opening Hymn 379: "God is Love, let heaven adore him"

Abbot's Leigh

found in The Hymnal 1982

The Celebrant says the following Collect

Clergy: The Lord be with you. People: *And with thy spirit*.

Clergy: Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Frances, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson: Isaiah 40:6-8, 25-26

read by Ms. Isabel Crocker

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Psalm 147: 1-5,10-11 *Laudate Dominum*

led by Mr. David Ingold

- Praise the Lord!
 How good it is to sing praises to our God;
 for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.
- His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;]
- but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13

read by Mr. Gordon O.F. Johnson

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Psalm 23 Dominus regit me

read by Mr. Joshua Meyer

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Sequence Hymn 561: "Stand up, stand up, for Jesus"

Morning Light

found in The Hymnal 1982

The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6

The Rev. Susan D. Parsons

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John

Response: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.



Tributes from the Family: Mrs. Susan J. Gildersleeve, daughter

Ms. Kendall Gildersleeve, granddaughter

Mr. Brigham "Brig" Johnson, son

THE JOHNSON FAMILY SEPTET

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle morning rain.
And when you wake in the morning's hush,
I am the sweet uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.

The Homily: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

led by The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

Clergy: In peace, let us pray to the Lord

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. *Amen*.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. *Amen*.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen*.

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. *Amen*.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. *Amen*.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. *Amen*.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. *Amen*.

Grant us grace to entrust Frances to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy, and remember her according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. *Amen*.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. *Amen*.

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with the blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joan, Nicholas, and Joseph, and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Clergy: I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Offertory Hymn 662: "Abide with me: fast falls the eventide" verses 1,3, and 4 *Eventide*

found in The Hymnal 1982

Presentation Hymn 380: Doxology (verse 3)

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 340

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body doth lie in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus S130 (found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN*.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We include the "Alleluia" even during Lent, as funerals are a service of the Resurrection.

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei S164 (found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

Celebrant We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord,

and trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold
People: and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather

up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him,

and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your

hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

If you are physically unable to come to the Altar, please let an usher know that you would like to have Communion brought to you.

Hymn 671: "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound"

verses 1,4, and 5

New Britain

found in The Hymnal 1982

Hymn 416: "For the beauty of the earth" (see below)

verses 1,2,4, and 6

Dix



Hymn 711: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God" found in The Hymnal 1982

Sung, if needed

Hymn 335: "I am the Bread of Life"

found in The Hymnal 1982

I Am the Bread of Life

Seek Ye First

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we thank thee that in thy great love thou hast fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast given unto us a foretaste of thy heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be unto us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.



THE COMMENDATION

The Clergy take their places at the urn.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant, Frances, with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me,saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

The Clergy, facing the urn, say

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Frances. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. *Amen*.

The Dismissal:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

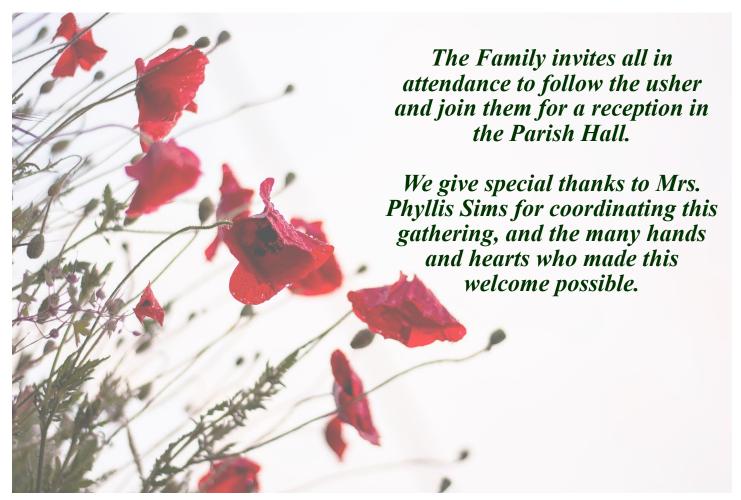
Closing Hymn 494: "Crown him with many crowns" verses 1, 2,3, and 5 Diademata

found in The Hymnal 1982

Postlude: "Ode to Joy" Ludwig van Beethoven

Interment planned for sometime in late spring, in the Johnson Family plot, at

PINE GROVE CEMETERY 145 Boston Street Lynn, MA 01905



SERVING TODAY:

Celebrant:

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. Rector, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Assisting Clergy:

The Rev. Susan D. Parsons, Associate Rector The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs, Assistant Rector Mr. Reggie Hayes, Postulant Intern

Crucifer:

Ms. Karen Besser

Readers:

Ms. Isabel Crocker, longtime friend Mr. David Ingold, longtime friend Mr. Gordon O.F. Johnson, husband Mr. Joshua Meyer, grandson

Intercessor:

The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

Tributes from The Family:

Mrs. Susan J. Gildersleeve, daughter Ms. Kendall Gildersleeve, granddaughter Mr. Brigham "Brig" Johnson, son

Musicians:

Vocals: The Johnson Family Septet

Ms. Barbara Archey, niece

Ms. Kendall Gildersleeve, granddaughter Ms. Zoë Gildersleeve, granddaughter

Mr. Gordon Johnson, grandson

Mr. Paul Johnson, grandson

Mr. Paul Taylor, grandson

Ms. Sharon Taylor, granddaughter

CONDUCTOR & INSTRUMENTALIST:

Dr. Tom Martin Conroy, organ

Music Director, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Ushers:

Mr. Wilton Corkern

Mr. Tom Kerns

Mr. Marcus Rarick

Dr. Dodd Sims

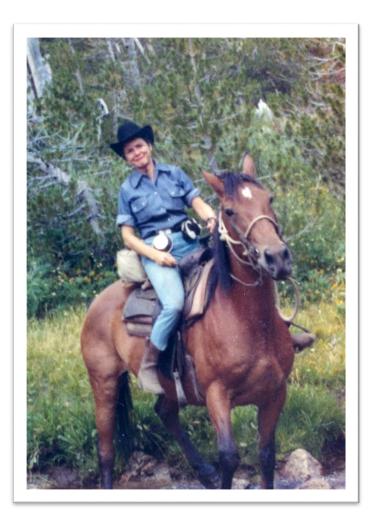
Mr. Shawn Whitman

Parking Managers:

Ms. Caroline Bergmark Mr. Shawn Whitman

Flower Arrangements:

Mrs. Kerry Kelly Wade Immanuel Flower Guild





AV Technicians:

Ms. Tamika Martin, AV Manager The Rev. Jan A. Maas, Priest Associate







SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Zabriskie Chapel 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

Online

www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org
Immanuel's YouTube channel

MISSION STATEMENT

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God's plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.

Parish Office

3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304 Telephone: 703-370-6555, Fax: 703-370-0837

www.icoh.net

