

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week...

Let there be LEGO

Miniature Washington
Cathedral to be created with
Lego bricks

Weekly Parish Schedule

Add your group's event to
the calendar: email
stthomassooffice
@googlegroups.com

Miriam Sagan

featured poet
at the next
Poet's Corner
10/19/19

At the Washington National Cathedral, brick by brick a LEGO replica of the iconic Northwest D.C. church takes shape with the help of visitors. The cathedral hopes the project will bring in more than \$800,000 to help with repair costs from the 2011 earthquake. "It's an opportunity to raise funds but also to help visitors engage the building, to understand how it comes together and hopefully connect with the institution in some new ways," said Charles Fulcher, director of visitor programs at the Washington National Cathedral.

In the gift shop, visitors purchase bricks for \$2 apiece and then are directed to a table in a room where the foundation of the 13-foot-long cathedral sits. With a detailed guide handy, a church staff member helps visitors put their bricks in the correct place. "A model this massive can seem a little intimidating but it actually is put together very logically and is broken down into small modules," Fulcher said. After enough bricks are purchased for a module to be completed, the module is then affixed to the model. The cathedral is slowly taking shape as the walls come up around a LEGO lectern which is already in place.

The idea for the LEGO cathedral came from a similar project that took place at the Durham Cathedral in England a couple years ago. After traveling to the cathedral, Fulcher brought the idea back to D.C. "It took about two years of work, to work out the details, to fundraise the initial costs for this and we estimate that the project for us would take about two to three years of building," Fulcher said.

The money raised by the project will go toward the \$19 million bill, which remains, for damage caused to the cathedral by the 2011 earthquake. "It's so good to mix the LEGO spirit of building and getting together with the cathedral and a good cause," said Margarida Botelho, of Portugal, who purchased a brick while visiting the cathedral. For visitor Phyllis Wilkerson of Canton, Michigan, she plans to come back to D.C. in the summer with her young grandchildren and looks forward to bringing them to the cathedral to help build the model. "This will really engage them with the cathedral because they have helped build a LEGO cathedral," said Wilkerson. For those who can't come to the cathedral, donations can be made online for bricks, which volunteers will then add to the replica.

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Miriam Sagan is coming to
St Thomas next week.
She will be the featured poet
at the next Poet's Corner,
Saturday 10/19 at 4pm
in the Nave.
ALL are welcome!

Clothespins

Ordinary day—the news is bad, the weather
Fine for January. Emptying the compost
In the backyard, late afternoon
I see the little white bag
For clothespins on the line
Has finally rotted through.
You hung it here almost twenty years ago
And since you've gone—I've neglected it
Although what exactly could I do
Given how much care
To those insignificant wooden pins
With metal latch springs
Mouths that open and close
Like a need I didn't know I had.
Inside the house, forced bulbs
Bloom lavish red and red and white.
The pins are almost gone to rot
They lie on the ground like bulbs or seeds
That planted, won't grow, only
Disintegrate to earth.
Often, toward morning, I dream of you
Your shape gone
Like laundry taken down...
I toss the clothespins into the compost bin
In the evening's east, the moon, renewing itself
Rises like a paperwhite narcissus.

Miriam Sagan

Miriam Sagan is a U.S. poet, as well as an essayist, memoirist and teacher. She is the author of over a dozen books, and lives and works in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She is a founding member of the collaborative press Tres Chicas Books.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, October 13 **Rally Day 9am**
8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00am (U) Youth Confirmation
9:15am (P) Anglican Way
9:15am (DO) Novel Theology
9:15am (U) Nursery
9:30am (GH) Breakfast Club
9:45am (U) Children's Worship
10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:45am (GH) Coffee, Fellowship
2:00pm (C) Girl Scout Troop 513
7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

Monday, October 14
6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
7:30pm (GH) Scottish Dance

Tuesday, October 15
6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
4:30pm (U) Girl Scout Troop 719
5:00pm (CO) AIDS Delaware
6:00pm (P) Pastoral Care meeting
6:00pm (U) Girl Scout Troop 513
6:30pm (C) Finance Ministry meeting
7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance
8:00pm (U) KIS AA meeting

Wednesday, October 16
6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
10:30am (C) Bible Study Group
4:00pm (C) Blue Hen Bounty
5:00pm (C, N) ECM
5:45pm (P) Centering Prayer
8:30pm (GH) South College Speakers AA

Thursday, October 17
6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
10:00am (U) Newark Music Makers
7:30pm (MR) St Gregory's Choir

Friday, October 18
6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
12:00pm (C) Al-Anon
6:30pm (P) Women's AA

Saturday, October 19
4:00pm (N) Poet's Corner: Miriam Sagan

Sunday, October 20
8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00am (U) Youth Confirmation
9:15am (P) Anglican Way
9:15am (DO) Novel Theology
9:15am (U) Nursery
9:30am (GH) Breakfast Club
9:45am (U) Children's Worship
10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:45am (GH) Coffee, Fellowship
12:00pm (P) Vestry meeting
2:00pm (C) Girl Scout Troop 513
7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

location key:
(C) Classroom (MR) Music Room
(GH) Great Hall (U) Undercroft
(N) Nave (DO) Deacon's Office
(P) Parlor (RO) Rector's Office