

St. John's Holiday Newsletter

November ~ December 2016



From the Rector...

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am intrigued by the journey motif. Journeys are made and followed in Homer, Chaucer, *The Faerie Queen*, *The Name of Rose*, to name but a few. But there are no journeys as great as those recounted in the Bible.

While the Bible provides rich and full reading (from several viewpoints - including a literary standpoint) there is much more to be learned through it from a spiritual and sacramental point of view. It is the Bible, among other things, that can teach us how to begin our own journey within.

We seek the Christ Child lying in a manger. Not far into our Advent journey we come upon John The Baptist. We learn that it is John's awesome duty to prepare the path for Christ. The big picture is Christ and his journey. But, as readers, we are focused on John and his journey. In anticipation of Christ, John's duty is to travel ahead to prepare people by baptizing them with water. But it is the lines in Scripture which follows that fascinates me: The journey John takes to aid his preparations. John's journey to the wilderness was deliberate. He begins his quest with nothing - nothing except one very important thing: faith.

In the classic paradigm, there is a pursuer and a pursued. John does not fit this paradigm exactly, as he is not pursuing Christ. However, his story does put forth the elements essential in journey motif. John prepares the way of Christ, and uses his journey in the wilderness to help him clarify his role...his faith, his belief.

In this world of global instantaneous communications, I long to run away to some obscure island off the Bahamas and society, and journey into the woods to live. And yet, in these moments of seemingly quiet despair, I find solace and comfort in knowing that it is my faith in God which carries me from one journey to the next. And, perhaps it is the faith that our Lord has in his people that lifts me up as on eagles' wings. Just as John used his journey to prepare, relying upon his faith that God would see him through, I must keep my faith and continue to have space in my life for God. Perhaps when I drive my car and come to a red light I can recognize God in my midst. I've realized that I need not journey to the wilderness to receive heavenly benediction. Rather, my journey is all about preparing for "One" who is greater than I. And this "One" will be born into our midst - known as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Kings of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Joyfully, *Father Ron*



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Newsletter Editors

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CHURCH STAFF

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MINISTERS - People of St. John's

Altar Guild

Pauline Boyer (908-722-1832) & Doreen Franko (dmf0505@yahoo.com), *Co-Directresses*
Dee Britt, *Treasurer* (brittchey@aol.com)

Kay Halsted, *Flowers, Weddings, & Funerals* (chalsted1@verizon.net) (908-526-0243)

Karen Whitmore, *Votive Candles* (dawit@optonline.net) Joan Sammartano, *Supplies* (908-526-0148)

Bread & Wine and Altar Candles ~ contact the parish office (stjohnsomerville@verizon.net)

Adult Choir: John Plesniarski, *Director & Organist* (johnples82@gmail.com)

Junior Choir: Tracey Jameson, *Director* (tkayj@aol.com).

Church Library: Deacon W. Keith McCoy (kmccoy1@optonline.net)

Church School: Marielena Cardinale, *Superintendent* (jcardinale123@comcast.net).

Daughters of the King: *President position - OPEN*

Endowment Committee: Greg Pasquale, *Chair* (gpasquale@shainlaw.com)

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EYC (Youth Group): *Adult Advisors:* Fr. Ron, Anja Pendergraph, Kevin Buchanan

"From the Heart" Thrift Shop: Judith Marine (Jmarine5@verizon.net)

Mary & Martha Guild: Marcia Bower, *President* (marciab6@verizon.net)

Mission Outreach: Father Ron (frronpollock1@verizon.net)

Parish Treasurer: Sam Galpin (samgalpin@aol.com)

Co-Treasurer: Anne Tom (annetom@comcast.net)

Red Door Ministries:

Baby Blankets for newborns and those baptized: Pauline Boyer (908-722-1832)

Casseroles for people in need: Marcia Bower (marciab6@verizon.net)

Loose-Change for Discretionary Fund, to help those in need: Andrea Dalrymple (adal227@verizon.net)

Planned Giving: Sam Galpin (samgalpin@aol.com)

Stewardship Committee Members: Sam Galpin, Dee Britt, Diane Sireci,

Jose Ceden0 (joced4@gmail.com) | Fr. Ron

The Wardens

(class of 2018) Diane Sireci (dianesireci@comcast.net)

(class of 2017) Steve Mandraccia (Smandraccia@optonline.net)

The Vestry

(class of 2018) Sarah Pendergraph (pendemom@yahoo.com)

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(class of 2019) Rich Neff (rwnsail@yahoo.com)

(class of 2019) Leigh Meaders-Robinson (lmozelle@aol.com)

(class of 2019) Millie Barry (Mdbarry10@gmail.com)

Pastoral Care Notes from the Rector

- ✦ Congratulations to parishioners Carlton Greenawalt and Deanna Russo who were married on Sept 4.
- ✦ Congratulations to parishioners Brian Boyle and Silvia Dizenzo-Boyle who were married on Sept 10.
- ✦ Congratulations to parishioners Millie Barry and A.J. Smith who were married on Sept 24.
- ✦ Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joanne O'Donnell, mother of parishioner Janet Eager, whose funeral was held on Sept 26 at St. Bernard's Cemetery in Bridgewater.
- ✦ Please pray for the repose of the soul of Diane Stull, a friend of many parishioners here at St. John's, whose funeral was held on Oct 10.
- ✦ Please pray for those who are preparing for baptism on All Saints Sunday, Nov 6.
- ✦ Please pray for those who are preparing for Confirmation or Reception into the Episcopal Church on Sunday, November 13 when Bishop George E. Cuncell will be here for an Episcopal Visitation.

Welcoming The Right Rev. J. Neil Alexander on Sunday, December 11 as our Guest Preacher

The Right Reverend J. Neil Alexander will join us on Sunday, December 11, to preach at our morning services. He is currently Dean of the School of Theology at Sewanee, The University of the South. He is also professor of liturgy and the Charles Todd Quintard Professor of Dogmatic theology



Previously, Dean Alexander was elected the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta and served from 2001 to 2012. During his time as bishop, he focused on growing new congregations and ministries and developing an efficient communication strategy for the diocese. He led multiple pilgrimages and mission trips to dioceses in Africa and placed a special focus on relationships with global-south dioceses.

Dean Alexander has served in a variety of parish settings and has taught at The General Theological Seminary, Yale University, Drew University, and Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. He has been a board member of the Episcopal Preaching

Foundation and a faculty member and chaplain of the Preaching Excellence Conference of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation. He is the president of the Board of Directors of the College for Bishops. He serves as the chair of the board of the Archives of the Episcopal Church.

The author of numerous publications in the fields of liturgics, homiletics, sacramental theology, and pastoral practice, his most recent publication, *Celebrating Liturgical Time: Days, Weeks, and Seasons* is a commentary on sacred time as expressed in the rites of the Book of Common Prayer.

Watchung Convocation Meeting

Wednesday, November 16, from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

At All Saints Episcopal Church: 559 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 | 908-322-8047

All Watchung Convocation representatives are asked to be present and represent St. John's Church. ALL are cordially invited to learn more about what's going on in our Convocation and Diocese.

Holy Baptism at St. John's Church

by Father Ron

Holy Baptism is one of the two major sacraments by which God adopts us as the children of God and makes us members of the Body of Christ, the Church, and inheritors of the Kingdom of God. It is an occasion, also, for the entire congregation to renew its own baptismal covenant and to promise to share with the parents and sponsors in the Christian nurture of the person being baptized.

A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. The outward and visible sign in Baptism is water, in which the person is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The inward and spiritual grace in Baptism is the union with Christ in his death and resurrection, birth into the family of God the Church, forgiveness of sins, and new life in the Holy Spirit.

Because Baptism represents the most decisive moment in any person's life, we rejoice and give God thanks for the decision to make this step forward in faith.

When Baptism is held - Because Baptism is an act of initiation into membership in the Body of Christ, Baptism is always administered within the Eucharist at the main service for those feast days when the church celebrates those gifts and graces which become ours in Baptism or when the church is celebrating in thanksgiving its life as a community of faith:

- † The Great Easter Vigil, when we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, in which we share through our Baptism.
- † The Day of Pentecost, when we celebrate the pouring out of the Holy Spirit in which we are endowed in Baptism.
- † The Sunday after All Saints' Day, when we celebrate the one communion of saints in which we are members through Baptism.
- † The Feast of The Baptism of Our Lord, when we celebrate Jesus' confession at his baptism in the Jordan to be the Christ in whom we have our Christian ministries.
- † The Episcopal Visitation of the Bishop of New Jersey, who is the chief overseer of our Christian ministries and by loyalty to whom we are united as one Church.
- † There will be other times designated by the Rector during the year when, as a community of faith, we shall observe the joys of Christ's Church and celebrate the reality of our faith and baptism.
- † Baptisms are administered at other times only in rare situations of extenuating circumstances, such as an emergency (*someone near death*).

Being Baptized - All desiring to be baptized must notify the Rector so that there is ample time for baptismal instructions to be held with the person being baptized or the parents of the child being baptized.



Where There's a Will, There's a Way

by Sam Galpin

My father wasn't always good at planning. Like many of us, he would procrastinate in taking care of those things that made him uncomfortable. So when he passed away, it became my job to see that his intentions were carried out.

My parents will was written in 1962. It was a one-page affair that turned out to be difficult to probate because it didn't conform to contemporary legal standards. It became a lengthy and expensive process to ensure that everything my parents worked so hard for over the years was distributed as they had intended. An updated will would have lessened the burden of that task significantly.

As Christians, we are called upon to be faithful stewards of God's gifts to us. We tend to think of that calling in terms of "today", but what happens "tomorrow" when we're not able to make those decisions? Will our choices be carried out? Will they reflect our values and intentions?

Writing a will and having appropriate medical directives in place are essential if we want to control what happens to our family and possessions if we become incapacitated or pass away. Appointing trustees and executors, naming guardians for young children and deciding how we'd like our worldly goods distributed will give us peace of mind and relieve our loved ones of the burden of those decisions.

If we die without a will, the state will make all those decisions for us without regard to cost or intentions, and it will ensure that the estate pays as much tax as possible. The State will also make *no charitable contributions* to deserving organizations of our choice such as St. John's or other charities.

Getting started is the hard part, especially if we chose to do it alone. That's why the Episcopal Church Foundation has developed the materials necessary to help us organize our thoughts and to prepare the rudimentary documents that reflect our values and wishes. For copies of these publications or additional information, please contact Sam Galpin, Planned Giving Committee, at samgalpin@aol.com or leave a message with the church office. You don't have to do it alone!

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

The Columbarium at St. John's Church

by Father Ron

The Columbarium provides a beautiful and reverent opportunity to claim the church as a sacred place of burial. Burial within the church has been a respected tradition throughout history. Some of the world's most historic churches are known for their cemeteries that adjoin the church.

St. John's continues that tradition with our own Columbarium. Today, churches throughout the world are finding that columbaria contribute to a feeling of church community. Be it Christmas or Easter Sunday or regular Sabbath Eucharists, the congregation -- past and present -- are the "Living Stones" together in body and spirit in history. For further information regarding Columbarium interments, please speak with Father Ron.

*"The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
their bodies are buried in peace, but their names live for evermore."*

What kind of background do you need to be a monk?

Question: What do the following people have in common?

A librarian, A parish priest, A psychotherapist,
A landscape gardener, A clerk with he police department,
A college professor, A radio talk-show host

Answer: They all used to do these things. They are now monks in the Order of the Holy Cross.

Whatever your background, whatever your training, you can consider the life of a Benedictine Monk. The most important qualification for our life is a desire to offer your life to God in a community of worship and service. If you love God, if you love prayer, if you love people, the life of Holy Cross may be for you. Why not find out?

Contact us at: (the Americas)
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The Scarcity Assumption

The following article is from a book entitled "The Promise of Paradox: A Celebration of contradictions in the Christian Life." written by Parker Palmer.

More than we know, our lives are governed by rules - not the rules of civil society, but rules which flow from the assumptions we make about life. Each of us is filled with such assumptions, with beliefs about "how things are" and what we can expect. More than we know, our attitudes and behaviors are shaped by these beliefs, beliefs we hardly ever examine because we think they simply reflect reality. If we think life is a jungle, then that's the way life is likely to be for us - not because life really is a jungle but because the assumptions lead us to act in ways that cause the jungle to grow up around us. The paranoid person eventually creates the very enemies that began only in his or her imagination. These prophecies come true not because they are inevitable, but because we bring them to life by acting as if they were true.

So it is with scarcity and abundance. Are the basic goods of life plentiful or in short supply? It depends. It depends on your assumptions. What do you assume those basic goods to be? If diamonds are vital to you, or if you absolutely must have mangoes, then scarcity becomes a problem. And what do you assume about the sources of supply. If all life's goods must be obtained through cash exchange with others, it will be hard to see the abundance that lies beyond dependence on the market.

Most people seem to assume that scarcity is a simple fact of life. How else can one explain the obsession with acquiring, consuming and hoarding which permeates our society? We live in constant fear of the future - the fear that money will run out, that food supplies will dwindle, that housing will be unavailable. And as we act on those fears, the assumption becomes reality! As we consume more than we need, as we hoard against the future, then stores do dwindle and prices do rise and there will be too little to go around.

The tragic victims of this self-fulfilling prophecy are, of course, the "have-nots" of the world who lack the capital to act out their economic fears. For them, scarcity is no assumption at all: it is a hard and cruel fact of life. But that fact is created by people who have a choice - the choice to assume scarcity and grab for all one can get, or the choice to assume abundance and live in such a way as to create and share it. For these people - for those of us who are affluent and educated - the matter of choosing assumptions is more than academic. Our souls and the lives of others hang in the balance.



Laundry Love Update

Thank you to all who made our Sept. 29 Laundry Love community outreach event such a big success. Five volunteers (including Fr. Ron) served 49 community members at the Somerville Laundry.

Their stories were moving -- single moms who walked there with their children to do loads of laundry; families who hadn't been able to wash blankets in more than year; people who just needed a little helping hand.

We plan to do this again on **Thursday, Nov.17, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.** Based on the number of people we served in September, it would be helpful to have a total of six volunteers there on Nov. 17. The start-up times between 5 and 6 p.m. are particular, based upon our first two events. If you can help, even just for 30 minutes or so, please email pgrzella@verizon.net.

Because of the number of people we served over the first two Laundry Love events, we have expended the initial \$500 donation from the ECW. So, to continue this important community outreach, we really could use YOUR help. If every family in the parish picked up one of the empty \$10 quarter rolls found in the vestibules, filled it up, and returned it by **Nov. 13**, we would have enough funds for not only the November event, but also for one in January as well!

So please consider picking up a roll up, filling it up, and returning it to the collection plate on any given Sunday through **Nov. 13**.

Through our service, we are making Christ known to others in the community.

Paul Grzella

Vestry Announces a New \$5000 Proposal Grant !

"The Vestry is happy to announce that \$5,000 of the estate of John Wood Goldsack given to St John's Episcopal Church will be utilized in a new grant program. The Vestry welcomes any person (s) or group within the St. John's community to submit a written proposal for use of the \$5,000 in a way that furthers the mission of St. John's Episcopal Church: *To Know Christ and to Make Him Known*. **The proposal deadline is 12/1/16.**

Please submit proposals to Father Ron, Steve Mandraccia, Diane Sireci, or the church office and contact them with any further questions about the grant program." (*Contact e-mails are on page 2 of this newsletter*)

Millie Barry

An Autumn Lectionary Analysis Workshop.

Enphase on "The Second Coming of Christ" and "Anticipating God in the Christmas Season."

In the Guild Room, from 9:15 until 10:00AM,

A seven week happening, starting on November 6, 20216.

Sign up sheet on . . .

Any questions contact Richard Lake at "I-am-my-calling.org."

Richard Lake

Ushers & Greeters

Good afternoon Ushers and greeters. First of all, I want to say that it has been a really great experience working with all of you.

That said I finally built up enough courage to go back to one of my first loves in the church and that is singing. I have been praying on this and made the decision to join the St John's choir.

Although I wish I could do both ministries unfortunately I cannot. As a result I looking to see first of all if someone can fill in for me next week as I make the transition.

Secondly I need to ask one of you to take over the reigns of scheduling long term starting with Q1 2017. If you decide to take on that responsibility know that I will continue to be available sometimes in the summers when there is no choir. You will also have until mid December to complete and submit the Q1 2017 schedule to Lillie and everyone.

Please let me know and call me if you would like to discuss the role.

Sincerely,

Paul Aikens

paikens01@yahoo.com

A Note to the Youth Group!

Hey everyone,

I am sure you all know that after 16 years heading the youth group, I have stepped down to focus on Vestry and to give others the opportunity to take the youth group in new directions.

The youth group is alive and well! *Anya Pendergraph* is taking the lead right now, so please direct any questions or suggestions to her and keep the youth group going!

Thanks,

Steve Mandraccia

Seasonal Outreach - "Adopt-A-Family"

In this outreach ministry, anyone is invited to "Adopt-A-Family", especially during the Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, or Easter holidays. This may be in the form of supplying food baskets; providing toys or clothes for children and/or adults; providing gift cards (\$25 grocery gift cards to ShopRite) or \$25 gift cards, movie tickets, etc., etc.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in doing, contact the church office or Fr. Ron. For details about specific individuals or families, please speak with Fr. Ron. Families may be from within St. John's parish or beyond in the community.

It is good to give thanks.



November - The Month of *Thanksgiving*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Albert Einstein, whose anniversary of death draws near, said some interesting things about God:

Concerning purpose vs. accident or chance, he said, “*God doesn’t roll dice.*”

Concerning meaning and pain, he once said, “*I believe God is sophisticated but not malicious.*”

His fundamentally thankful attitude with respect to his own intellectual and artistic gifts is reflected for me in the following quotation: “*I have been the recipient of excessive admiration and respect from my fellows through no fault of my own.*”

Maybe thanksgiving is at the heart of genuine spirituality. In other parts of the country, churches are much fuller on Thanksgiving than in the northeast, but I do hope you’ll try to be in church on Thanksgiving morning at 9 am. Every Sunday is, of course, an opportunity to offer thanks but Thanksgiving, our only national religious holiday (holy day) is special.

Please come if you can- just for the peace of it!

Faithfully, and lovingly, Fr. Ron

United Thank Offering

Sunday, November 20, is our United Thank Offering Ingathering at both services.

If you have a “Blue Box” at home, into which you have been putting your “thankfulness” money, please bring it to Church. If you would like to keep the blue box, simply empty the money into an envelope marked “UTO” and bring that. If you do not have a box, perhaps you could bring some extra money or a check. Special envelopes for UTO will be available in the pews. It is a great reminder to give thanks to God for the gifts that have been given to us. The Ingathering offerings will be used to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the Church throughout the world.



Rector’s Pick of the Month by Father Ron

The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work by John Gottman, Ph.D.

This New York Times Best Seller is used by many couples here at St. John's as one tool for discussion as they prepare for the sacrament of marriage. If you have never read it, try it -- no matter how long you've been married. The book highlights issues such as sex, money, power, children, religion, in-laws, and communication. Happy reading



Happy Thanksgiving!





An Advent Message from our Rector

*"May the Son of Righteousness shine upon you, and scatter the darkness from before your path."
(Advent Blessing, from the Book of Occasional Services)*

Advent is a special time of the year, isn't it? There are the symbols, the hymns, the excitement, the anticipation, gift buying, hearing from friends in Christmas cards, parties. Shorter days, expanding darkness, cold nights -all signs that winter is nestling in. It is an evening time of year. The season has a life all by itself that really isn't common to any other season. Advent is the season of waiting. It is living in the "meantime."

How do you experience waiting? For some of us, it is the inconvenience we experience in the "meantime." We can't wait to grow up. We can't wait until school is out. We can't wait to get married. We can't wait until payday. We can't wait until retirement. Children can't wait for Christmas. Adults can't wait until it's over. I dare say we usually view waiting as an inconvenience, a void to be filled as quickly as possible. Waiting is the red light when we are in a hurry. It is the line at the bank, the layover between flights. Waiting is all that life should not be. It is the waste of time between now and then. Waiting can also be an opportunity to do something creative. The layover between flights can be an opportunity to read the book you've been meaning to read. The line in the bank can be the opportunity to have a conversation with someone who is lonely. Waiting at the red light might be an opportunity to pray for someone in your thoughts

If Advent, then, is the time of waiting, it can either be the burden of time until Christmas or it can be the opportunity to be creative in the moment. One is a drag, the other something that produces life- giving energy. Create life in your waiting. Have Advent be an empowering time.

Christmas will then come with all its joy and wonder. I heartily recommend attendance at traditional Advent Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday, December 11 at 5PM. There will follow a dessert extravaganza in the Parish Hall. This is a not-to-miss event ! The Christmas Eve schedule will look familiar, with a children's pageant and Festive Holy Eucharist with special music at 4:30 PM; and then special music from the Sr. Choir at 11 PM followed by a A Vigil for The Christ Mass: Feast of the Nativity Eucharist with music and candlelight . On Christmas Day there will be only ONE SERVICE, Feast of the Nativity, at 9 AM!

I hope many will attend these services and observe the most important part of Christmas which is Christ !

The carols and festivities, the gifts and love shared among family and friends - enjoy it, with faith and devotion as well as feasting and fun. And to each and every one, a most blessed, joyous, Christ-filled Christmas.

Peace and Blessing,

Fr. Ron

Three Wise Women

Do you know what would have happened if there had been Three Wise Women instead of Three Wise Men?



They would have:

1. Asked for directions
2. Arrived on time
3. Helped deliver the baby
4. Cleaned the stable
5. Made a casserole and
6. Brought practical gifts.

-Anonymous Contributor -

Holy Pitchers, Cruets, Flagons & Ewers

by the Rector

The vessels used in the Eucharist have special shapes as well as function. Here's the difference:

Cruets are containers for water and wine prepared by the Altar Guild and placed on the credence table in the narthex to be handed to the priest to pour into the chalice for consecration and communion. Water is placed on the credence table at the altar. Cruets are usually made of glass or crystal so that the acolyte or Lay Eucharistic Minister can easily tell which is water and which is wine. Cruets hold extra water and wine if needed for a large service. The chapel uses glass cruets with sterling silver toppers.



Flagons also hold water and wine but are larger than cruets. One flagon is placed before the service on the credence table in the narthex. During the offertory anthem they are carried up the aisle to the altar by two parishioners (called oblation bearers) following the ushers, who hold the alms basins or plates, and are handed to the priest. St. John's flagons are silver, kept well polished by the Altar Guild. The bearers are careful to keep the flagon with water on the left and the wine on the right. Some parishes, to avoid confusion, place a little red dot on the base of the wine flagon. At St John's we count on knowing the left from the right.



A Ewer is a vase-shaped pitcher. Some are made of silver or brass and are frequently used to hold water for the baptism prior to its being blessed and poured into the font. Ewers can also be used to hold water and wine for the Eucharist. At St. John's we have a particularly lovely ewer reserved for baptisms.



Funny

Funny how a \$100 looks so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the mall.

Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays 60 minutes of basketball.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.

Funny how we get thrilled when a baseball game goes into extra innings, but we complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.

Funny how hard it is to read a chapter in the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a best selling novel.

Funny how people want to get a front seat at a game or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church.

Funny how we need two or three weeks advance notice to fit a church event into our schedule, but can adjust our schedule for other events at the last moment.

Funny how we believe what the newspaper says but question the Bible.

Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they don't have to believe, or think, or say, or do anything.

Funny how you can send a thousand jokes via e-mail and they spread like wildfire, but when you start sending messages regarding the Lord, people think twice about sharing.

Submitted by *Linda Olson*

Ship's Galley at St. John's

Please remember that St. John's assignment for Ship's Galley is Wednesday, **November 9** and Wednesday, **December 14**. Our assignment is always the **Second Wednesday** of the month.

Clients at the Soup Kitchen have told us how much they look forward to *our* day, as they enjoy the food we serve. We like to provide a variety of dishes that makes some choices available. This is a small but welcome pleasure for folks who have not had many choices available to them. Here, they receive not only nourishment for their bodies, but also an hour of fellowship and rest in a safe place. The entrees, soups and casseroles that have been brought in are outstanding and enjoyed by all. Thanks to all those who have been supplying the food and to everyone who volunteers to serve on our day.

For those who don't like to cook there is always an opportunity on the day of the Galley to help out in the kitchen or the serving line. We have had a successful year in serving those in need. We would encourage anyone to please add your name to the list and make your favorite casserole or dish to share with those who come to the Soup Kitchen. Remember that the sign-up sheet contains suggestions but if anyone has a favorite they would like to make please feel free to do so. Just write it in on the sheet. This support is truly a generous outreach by the parishioners of St. John's. To those who provide the food, those who work the kitchen and those who give moral support.....



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Any questions please contact **Dot Spolarich 908 526-3987**.



From the Heart Thrift Shop

The next From the Heart Thrift Shop is November 3

We hope to help many clients enjoy a warm holiday. If you have any coats, hats, gloves, scarves or boots please consider donating them. We accept infant's, children's, men's or women's clothes. Donations can be placed on the stage. Please help us keep our customer's warm. Four of Somerset County agencies send people that are really in need of clothing and we have supplied them with free clothing. We like to offer them coats if we have them available.

December 1 is the date for December

The From the Heart Thrift Shop sets up the day before (always a Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Thrift Shop is open on the first Thursday of each month from 11:00 am. to 6:30 pm.

We are always looking for help on Thursdays to clean up. Teenagers are always welcome and bring a friend. Any questions speak to JoAnn Ivas or Judy Marine. Please join us for an hour or longer on either day.

Any questions please contact Judy Marine (908-722-5531) or jmarine5@verizon.net.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

2016 November/December Newsletter

ECW HOLIDAY CHOCOLATE SALE

Don't Miss Out! Great Gift Ideas!



ECW will once again sponsor a sale of delicious *Homemade Chocolates* made by the women of St. John's Parish. Both milk & dark chocolate will be sold in Christmas molds, chocolate covered pretzels, almond bark, non-pareils, peanut butter cups and coconut cream cups.

Order forms are in the Parish Hall and on the Main bulletin board.

Deadline for pre-orders is on Sunday, Nov 1st. *Pick up an order form today!*

Chocolate orders will be filled beginning Sunday, Dec 4th.

Candy makers are needed on Tuesday and Saturday mornings in November from 9:30am-1:00pm. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

For more information about our Chocolate Sale, please contact Paula Windus at 908-526-7150 or paulawindus@verizon.net

ECW NOV & DEC Meetings



Mon. Nov 7th:

7:00PM - Regular Meeting in the Guild Room



Mon. Dec 5th:

7:00PM - Holy Eucharist in the Church, followed by a brief meeting in the Guild Room, then our traditional *Yankee Swap game*. Please consider bringing a \$15 wrapped gift to share in the game. All St. John's Parish Women are invited to join us.

Respectfully submitted by,
Joan Nazarenko, ECW President
jnaz777@comcast.net - 908-581-0075



FROM THE RECTOR

*Christmas is coming but, first it's Advent!
And the Word became flesh and lives among us. (John 1:14)*

As St. Paul the Apostle has it, we are running a race. We are taking on a kind of training that will shape us into the image of Jesus Christ. Christmas, which could be called a decisive moment extended in time, offers us a great opportunity to seek this kind of transforming love. We yearn for a specific opportunity for grace, a disciplined way that will give us direction. Yet, this yearning is realistic, not so outrageous or mock-heroic that we can't experience and live it. Christmas is that generous commitment to relationship with God: one that, despite false starts, stumbling, and all the different aspects of our humanity, will nevertheless act by grace, to form us in Jesus Christ.

But how do we get there? How can we experience once again all the joy and wonder of a baby lying in a manger? How can we come to terms that this baby is our "Mighty God?" Have you every watched a baby learning to walk? Or a young bird learning to fly? The mother and/or father and/or friend and/or lover can't do it for the child. The child has to learn by taking chances, gaining balance, swaying. When you learn to walk, your parent is training you, egging you on, then reproaching and correcting, moving ahead of you on the path to show you that great love they have known in Jesus Christ.

The liturgical season of Advent is about God educating us; and that's why we must never drop out. God is treating us as loved children along a journey of faith. And when we fall (as we all most surely do) it isn't punishment, it's training - a normal experience of children. It's been said before that those who invest in Advent will be paid handsomely in their experience of Christmas. It's the well-trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God.

Exercise and nurture your "soul" this Advent. Come to Church. Get involved. Give to the poor and needy. Roll up your sleeves. Pray. Only together do we make up the Body of Christ. But take heart, at Christmas, God is not above and beyond our need and reach. God is revealed by a manger stall and swaddling clothes, the Angels and shepherds. In Christ, God loves us and is with us, wherever we are. Emmanuel, God is with us! Merry Christmas!

In great expectation and love, I remain faithfully yours, *Father Ron*



Advent Wreath Making!

Please join us for Advent Wreath Making on Sunday,
November 27, after both the 8:00 am and 10:15 am service, in the
Parish Hall.

This is the perfect opportunity for the entire family to learn more
about the season of Advent as we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child.

Some supplies will be provided: purple and pink candles, metal wreaths, pipe cleaners, fresh cuttings of greens, etc. You are invited to bring in some supplies as well on the same day.

Questions, please ask Fr. Ron

*Don't Forget to pick up your Advent Booklets after both services on
Sunday, November 20, in the Narthex and the Parish Hall.*





Christmas Music & Christmas Flowers

Christmas is a time when God's greatest gift came into the world. Christmas is a time to be joyful, a time to be thankful for all that God has given us, a time to share with others, a time to celebrate with those who are close to us, and a time to remember those who have passed from our lives. Christmas is a time of love.

Nothing says "Christmas" quite so much as seasonal music and flowers!

You can fulfill your own Christmastide outpouring of love by honoring those who are with us or remembering those who have gone before, by contributing toward special Christmas Flowers to adorn the altar and/or special "Brass" music at our Christmas Eve Eucharists. Undoubtedly, brass compliments our special Christmas music and brings untold joy to those who listen and experience its richness.

If you would like to contribute money for Music:

If you wish to honor a loved one, please write that it is given "in thanksgiving" or "in memory of" someone and then list their names. Please mail your contribution directly to **Fr. Ron (158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ, 08876), hand it to him on Sunday, or put it in his mailbox at Church.**

Checks should be made out to: **St. John's Memorial Fund, memo - "Brass"**

If you would like to contribute money for Flowers:

Please use the envelopes you will find in the narthex or the parish hall. Or you can send a check with a list of the names you wish to have remembered in the Christmas bulletins to **St. John's Episcopal Church, 158 West High St., Somerville NJ 08876.** Be sure to neatly list the names of those you are acknowledging, indicating if it is "in thanksgiving for" or "in memory of." Place the envelope with your donation in the Parish Secretary's mailbox in the Parish Hall, or mail it to the Parish Office.

Checks should be made out to **St. John's Memorial Altar Guild, memo - "Christmas Flowers"**

Thank you for your generosity! *Fr. Ron*



**The DEADLINE for ALL contributions for music and flowers is Monday, December 12.
NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

A Prayer for the World

God in whose love we are made,

When bread is before us, remind us of the hungry.

When our key is in our door, remind us of those who have no home.

When we enjoy the opportunities of money in our pockets, remind us of those who only know poverty.

When the laughter of friendship fills our hearing, remind us of those who know only loneliness.

When the love of our family keeps us safe, remind us of those whose family was the place of their pain.

When we wonder what it is we can do, remind us that you said:

Whenever you feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, visit the prisoner, you do it to me.

May prayer feed our actions and may our actions feed the world.

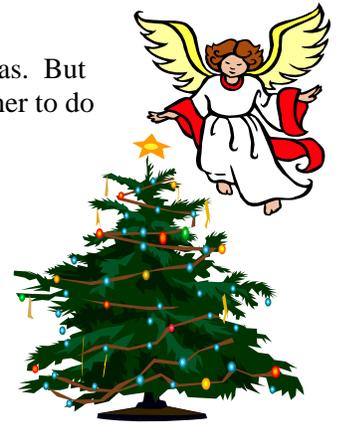
The Iona Community

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

No child should be lost in the cracks of our society. No child should be forgotten at Christmas. But that's exactly what might happen to many, many kids this year unless you and I come together to do something about it.

Christmas can be one of the toughest times of the year for many children - boys and girls who through no fault of their own have been deprived of a parent, aunt or uncle, or grandparent, guardian, foster parent or other adult figure during one of the most important times of their lives.

***Prayerfully consider your participation in the
Christmas Angel Tree!***



We are asking for your kindness to help children and older youngsters (1-18 years old) right here in Somerset County who may not otherwise have a smile on Christmas morning. We are talking about the young people who live at the ***Somerset Home For Temporarily Displaced Children***, the children of ***Somerset County Jail Inmates, Agape House***, and lots of other children we know as a result of ***Soup Kitchen, Thrift Shop, Laundry Love*** and other ministries.

Quoting from The Children's Home newsletter, "*It is difficult for some of us to imagine what a holiday might be like without our loved ones — no place to call home, no one to share in the excitement, joy and love. The holidays for our residents, who are victims of abuse, neglect and abandonment, have often meant loneliness, sadness and anger.*"

St. John's would like to make this Christmas a memorable one for these young people. We, who are so fortunate, would like to share some of our bounty. It is this spirit of giving, exemplified by Christ, that makes us Christians, just as the birth of the Christ Child gives true meaning to Christmas.

On the stage in the parish hall will be our Christmas Angel Tree Simply take an angel from the tree clearly labeled "boy" or "girl" and age, wrap the present and label it with the age and sex, and place it under the Angel Tree. Bring your gifts to the Parish Hall on or before **Sunday, December 11**. If at all possible bring your gifts in at the beginning of the month! The gifts will be delivered to the Home and the jail.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and for instilling in our children the real meaning of Christmas and Christ's love for all of us.

We pray that many members and friends of St. John's Church will support this ministry and provide children with toys and gifts that they ordinarily would not receive.

Gratefully yours, *Father Ron*

**Please remember to deliver your presents to the church
no later than Sunday, December 11!**

A Prayer

Lord, give us courage to be helpful even when the world is dark.
Help us to dare to challenge the values of the world and to be honest.

Enable us to love even when we are urged to hate.

Teach us to serve each other although those around us may be grasping for power.

Open us to the mind of Christ that His grace may work through us.

And bring us at the last into your Kingdom. Amen

from: Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, N.Y.

St. John's Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 15, 2017



The Annual Meeting of St. John's Parish will be Sunday, January 15 in the Parish Hall following the 10:15 am Eucharist. Come cast your vote for your Warden, Vestry Members, Diocesan Convention Deputies and Watchung Convocation delegates.

All submissions for the Annual Report are due in the Parish Office by January 9.

The Canons of the Church (49:1) wisely require an Annual Meeting of every congregation in which to elect those whose duty it is to protect the church property, and see that all things needed for the orderly worship of God and for the administration of the sacraments and Ordinances of the Church be provided. And further, to see that the funds of the Parish are expended properly (50:2,3). Those elected to the Vestry, and those elected to represent the parish in Diocesan capacities are expected to be faithful in their attendance at worship and to set an example in stewardship.

The Episcopal Church provided for a democratic method of governing itself and the annual elections are proof of that method. It takes seriously the responsibility laid upon people to support, to suggest, to extend the Kingdom of God through the Church. Canon 49:2, 4 defines the qualifications of votes and officers to be elected:

The voters shall be baptized, at least 16 years of age, domiciled in the Parish, of good moral character, adhering to this Church and to no other religious body, regular attendants at the services of the Church in said Parish, meaning thereby those who are more frequently present than absent, and regular contributors to the current expenses of the Parish in the manner prescribed by the Vestry.

The qualified voters shall elect such officers who shall be communicants in good standing. The term "communicant" shall be taken to mean a person who has been confirmed by a Bishop of this Church or by a Bishop of a Church in communion with this Church, or has been received into this Church by a Bishop of this Church, and who shall have received the Holy Communion at least once during the preceding year.

Join us for St. John's Annual Meeting on January 15. Child care will be provided during the meeting.

Please plan to attend!

To all heads of organizations and their treasurers:

Heads: Please prepare a written report about the ministry and activities of your group or committee and have it to Lillie Hardingham, the Parish Administrator in the parish office no later than **January 10** (preferably before that date).

Treasurers: Please prepare your financial report including: Receipts - opening balance, receipts, (list categories, not single items), total receipts, balance and total. Disbursements (list categories, not single items), total disbursements, year's closing balance disbursements, and closing balance. Treasurers must include reports of monies in all saving accounts using the same information above.

Thank you in advance for your continued leadership, cooperation, and timeliness.

Faithfully, *Fr. Ron*

Nominating Committee Members this year are:

Father Ron Pollock, Chair: frronpollock1@verizon.net

Steve Mandraccia, warden: Smandraccia@optonline.net Richard Neff, vestry: rwnsail@yahoo.com

Millie Barry, vestry: Mdbarry10@gmail.com

Member at Large: TBD

Leigh Meaders-Robinson, vestry: lmozelle@aol.com

Member at Large: TBD

November Altar Flowers

November 6 ~ by Mr. & Mrs. Gimbut in honor of *All Those who Served their Country*

November 13 ~ by Lynn & Matt Giordano in loving memory of their mothers, *Frances K. Powers & Eleanor Giordano*

November 20~ by Florence Mindos in loving memory of her husband, *George Mindos* and father, *Michael Lachowin*

November 27 ~ by The Rev. Ronald N. Pollock in thanksgiving for *The People of St. John's: Past, Present, and yet to be*

November Altar Candles

November 6 ~ Open

November 13 ~ Open

November 20 ~ by Alice Marshall in loving memory of her daughter, *Sharon Marshall*

November 27 ~ Open

November Bread & Wine

The offerings of bread and wine for the month of November are given to the Glory of God

by Neva Rae Fox in loving memory and thanksgiving for
All Members of the Fox & Horwath Families

Lectionary for November

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>LESSON</u>	<u>EPISTLE</u>	<u>GOSPEL</u>
November 6	Haggai 1:15b-2:9	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38
November 13	Isaiah 65:17-25	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
November 20	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43
November 27	Isaiah 2:1-5	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44

December Altar Flowers

December 4 ~ by Marianne Jalali in loving memory of her parents, *Fred & Elise Kiekhoefel*

December 11 ~ by Mrs. Kenneth Osinski in loving memory of her husband, *Kenneth* and her son, *Michael*

December 18 ~ by Miss Nancy Haring in loving memory of her parents, *Myrtle & Clifford Haring*

December 25 ~ Christmas Flowers

December Altar Candles

December 4 - Open

December 11- Open

December 18 - Open

December 25- Open

December Bread & Wine

The offerings of bread and wine for the month of December are given to the Glory of God

by Lillie Hardingham in loving memory of her mother, *Lily S. Pangborn*,
grandmother, *Lillian C. Lehn*, and cousin *Nancy P. Stulb*

Lectionary for December

SUNDAY

LESSON

EPISTLE

GOSPEL

December 4 Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

December 11 Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

December 18 Isaiah 7:10-16

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

December 25 Isaiah 62:6-12

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2:[1-7], 8-20

Worship & Events Schedule for Advent, Christmas and New Year's

November 27, I Advent: 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I / 10:15 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Please join us for Advent Wreath Making after both services in the Parish Hall.

Some supplies will be provided: purple and pink candles, metal wreaths, pipe cleaners, fresh cutting of greens, etc.

December 4, II Advent: 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I / 10:15 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 5, Monday: 7:00 pm - Episcopal Church Women's Advent Holy Eucharist:

All are welcome! Business meeting and Yankee Swap follows.

December 10, Saturday: 9:30 am - Daughters of the King Eucharist **All are welcome!**

December 11, III Advent: 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I

(*Gaudete Sunday*) 10:15 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II

5:00 pm - Advent Lessons & Carols. A Festive Reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

December 18, IV Advent: 8:00 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I / 10:15 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II,

Help decorate the church for Christmas after the 10:15 am service.

December 24, Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm - Children's Christmas Pageant & Festive Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
(*Feast of The Nativity*)

11:00 pm - Special Christmas Music sung by the Senior Choir and congregation followed by Festive Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with music and Brass.

Feast of the Nativity: Vigil for the Christ Mass.

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day: 9:00 am - Festive Holy Eucharist with Carols, Hymns, Sermon

(*Feast of The Holy Nativity*) **ONE SERVICE ONLY!**

Saturday, December 31, New Year's Eve: 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Weekday Eucharists: Tuesdays 7:00 pm - Chapel

Thursdays 10:00 am - Guild Room or Church



Merry Christmas!

Submitted by Carl Spolarich

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

*A*cccept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen*

from the Book of Common Prayer p.836

St. John's Episcopal Church

158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

Parish Office (908) 722-1250

Fax (908) 541-0705

Office: StJohnSomerville@verizon.net

Rector: FrRonPollock1@verizon.net

www.StJohnSomerville.org



“To Know Christ and to Make Him Known”

NOVEMBER ~ 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 All Saints Day 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist	2 All Souls Day SHIP'S Galley 7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal	3 10 am- Holy Eucharist Mary & Martha Guild meeting "From the Heart" Thrift Shop: 11 am - 6:30 pm.	4 SHIP'S Galley	5 3 pm Wedding -Robert Ford & Kayla Abbatiello
6 All Saints Sunday <i>Loose Change Sunday</i> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist w/Baptism.  <i>Turn back clocks!</i>	7 SHIP'S Galley /AA Meeting AA Meeting 7pm - Episcopal Church Women Meeting	8 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist	9 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting SHIP'S Galley - St. John's 7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00 am Eucharist Mary& Martha Guild Meeting	11 Veteran's Day 11 am - Memorial Service Veteran's Plaza Invocation & Benediction by Fr. Ron All are Welcome!	12 9:30 am - Daughters of the King Holy Eucharist 10 :00 am - Confirmation Class Rehearsal
13 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Church School 10:15 am - Confirmation Service with The Rt. Rev. George E. Councill	14 SHIP'S Galley AA Meeting	15 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist	16 7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal SHIP'S Galley 7-9:30 pm Watchung Convocation meeting All Saints Episcopal Church -559 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains	17 10:00 am Eucharist Mary& Martha Guild Meeting Fr. Ron's 18th Anniversary here at St. John's!	18 SHIP'S Galley	19
20 United Thank Ingathering 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist	21 SHIP'S Galley AA Meeting	22 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist	23 7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal SHIP'S Galley	24 9:00 am Holy Eucharist in church, with music. Happy Thanksgiving!	25 Office Closed SHIP'S Galley	26
27 I Advent - Year A 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist Advent Wreath making after both services in the Parish Hall	28 SHIP'S Galley AA Meeting	29 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist	30 7:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal SHIP'S Galley			

NOVEMBER ~ INTERCESSIONS



Birthdays

November 3 ~ Peter Tom-Wolverton, Anthony Apgar-Fehring,
Gregory Krueger
November 5 ~ Susan Mathews
November 6 ~ Danielle Barry, Olivia Massey
November 7 Zachary Hillman, Ronald Szumigala
November 8 ~ Joan Nazarenko, Emery Pierson
November 9 ~ Nancy Spolarich
November 10 ~ Joseph George Hoff III
November 12 ~ Allan Tom-Wolverton, Charles Halsted II,
Mark Jameson, Katie Agins
November 14 ~ Cecilia Lande, Isabelle Thorpe, Kayleigh Cookingham
November 15 ~ Kurt Jelinek
November 16 ~ Jeff Daugherty, Tia Maria Viola Yingst
November 17 ~ Ed Edwards
November 19 ~ Anais De LosSantos, Damien Dodds
November 20 ~ Emma Dupuis
November 21 ~ Margo Ellis Christou, Julianna Barkin
November 23 ~ Douglas Mathews
November 24 ~ Thom Boyer, Linda Gimbut, Derek Pasquale
November 26 ~ Elizabeth Morrison
November 27 ~ Charlotte Newton, Marie Teresa Vendettuoli,
Bradley Pendergraph, Amber Leibold,
Wayne Westmoreland
November 28 ~ Jane Henderson-Glick
November 29 ~ Traci Kinst
November 30 ~ Antonio Saunders, Jesse Smith,
Michael Marshall



Wedding Anniversaries

November 1 ~ Howard & Michelle Barkin
November 3 ~ Rafael & Gretchen Rivera
November 10 ~ Greg & Valerie Gibson
November 11 ~ Christine & Jon Anobile
November 12 ~ Thomas & Traci Kinst
November 22 ~ Dick & Barbara Meier
November 25 ~ Lynn & Matteo Giordano III
November 26 ~ Robert & Patricia Potts



Anniversaries of Death

November 1 ~ Robert Yingst
November 2 ~ Russell Bedford
November 4 ~ Carol Caufield
November 5 ~ Wilbur Wood Goldsack, John H. Croll
November 8 ~ Frances Powers
November 9 ~ Colleen Goldsack
November 10 ~ David Robert Andricsak, Rose Kletz
November 11 ~ Clara Weill, William McCoy
November 12 ~ Dorothy Kenvin
November 16 ~ Caroline Chandler Hewett
November 17 ~ Marian Crooler
November 19 ~ Joseph G. Hoff, Sr.
November 21 ~ Mary Rozenberger
November 24 ~ Raymond Frazer, Sr., James Streeter

DECEMBER ~ 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 World Aids Day  <i>Thrift Shop 11 am - 6 pm</i> <i>10:00 am Eucharist</i> <i>Mary & Martha Guild Meeting</i> <i>Deadline for toys going to Somerset County Jail.</i>	2 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	3
4 II Advent <i>8:00 am Holy Eucharist</i> <i>9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal</i> <i>10:00 am Children's Chapel</i> <i>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</i>	5 7 pm - Advent Eucharist <i>7:30 pm Episcopal Church Women Meeting (Yankee Swap)</i> <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>AA Meeting</i>	6 <i>7:00 pm Holy Eucharist</i>	7 7 pm Vestry Meeting <i>St. John's Assignment to SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>7:00 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal</i>	8 10:00 am Eucharist <i>Mary & Martha Guild Meeting</i>	9 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	10
11 III Advent <u><i>Gaudete Sunday</i></u> <u><i>Deadline for Angel Tree Gifts</i></u> <i>8:00 am Holy Eucharist</i> <i>9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal</i> <i>10:00 am Church School</i> <i>10:15 am Holy Eucharist - Guest Preacher-Bishop Alexander</i> 5:00 pm - Advent Lessons & Carols - Dessert Extravaganza Reception	12 <u><i>Deadline for Flower & Brass Gifts</i></u> <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>AA Meeting</i>	13 <i>7:00 pm Holy Eucharist</i>	14 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>7:00 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal</i>	15 <i>11:30 am - Mary & Martha Guild</i>	16 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	17 <i>Fr. Ron's 22nd anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood!</i>
18 IV Advent <i>8:00 am Holy Eucharist</i> <i>9:30 am Adult Choir Rehearsal</i> <i>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</i>	19 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>AA Meeting</i>	20 <i>7:00 pm Holy Eucharist</i>	21 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>7:00 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal</i>	22	23 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	24 Christmas Eve <i>4:30 pm Children's Pageant & Festive Holy Eucharist</i> <i>11 pm Vigil for the Christ Mass: Feast of the Nativity Eucharist</i>
25 Merry Christmas! ONE SERVICE ONLY! 9:00 am Holy Eucharist <i>Feast of the Nativity</i>	26 Office Closed <i>SHIP'S Galley</i> <i>AA Meeting</i>	27 <i>7:00 pm Holy Eucharist</i>	28 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	29	30 <i>SHIP'S Galley</i>	31 New Year's Eve 5 pm Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER ~ INTERCESSIONS



Birthdays

December 1 ~ India Mester, Michelle Hernandez

December 2 ~ Stephanie Kennedy

December 3 ~ T. Robert Vaucher

December 5 ~ Bob Disko, Claire Kinst

December 6 ~ Debbie Drury

December 7 ~ Timothy Windus

December 9 ~ Connor Elliston, John Newton

December 10 ~ John Daniel, Romir Tonk, Larry Manziano

December 11 ~ Alison Manko

December 12 ~ Christopher Spolarich,
Kathryn Helen Van Arsdale,

December 13 ~ Jack Agins

December 14 ~ Lisa Moor, Charles Kletz

December 15 ~ Gavin Williams, Sean McTernan, David Edwards,

December 16 ~ Elizabeth Foreman, James R. Richart, Eva Dalrymple

December 17 ~ Elizabeth Hollingsworth, Deirdre A. Kramer,
Jagger Bachman, Thomas Burton Kelly,
Florence Kendall

December 18 ~ Christine Anobile

December 19 ~ Michelle Barkin

December 20 ~ Christopher Foreman

December 21 ~ Jonathan Martin, Kevin Hewett, Julian Anobile,
Lisa Vandever

December 22 ~ Marika Foreman

December 24 ~ Charlotte Bradley, Tom Kothe, Jason Yingst

December 26 ~ Ashley Bowden, Keith Bowden, Tammy Harimon

December 29 ~ Shirley Lyken, Emily Todd, Rafael De LosSantos,

December 30 ~ Logan Billy, Rana Keefer

December 31 ~ Christine Kutlow



Wedding Anniversaries

December 5 ~ Ed Edwards & Paul Grzella

Anthony & Danielle Liberatoscioli

December 23 ~ Gregory & Karen Krueger

December 27 ~ Jonathan & Christine Kutlow



Anniversaries of Death

December 2 ~ Gladys Henderson, Sylvia Smith

December 3 ~ William C. Ellis

December 4 ~ Robert T. Bonham, John Francis deVoe, Frank Agins

December 7 ~ Hazel McConnell, Emma H. Degler

December 8 ~ Daniel Casey, Sr.

December 9 ~ Michael Osinski

December 14 ~ Julianna Nagy

December 20 ~ Jennie S. Kosensky

December 25 ~ John Wood Goldsack

December 27 ~ Pattie Sherwood Smith

December 28 ~ Robert Otis Pennell, George Lloyd Snyder,
Sophia Rodriguez

December 29 ~ Lois Schmelz

December 31 ~ Margaret Hicks, Gertrude Vanderbeek