



~ **St. John's Church** ~
Weekly News
November 8, 2023

Readings for Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023
24th Sunday After Pentecost

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16

Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

Loose Plate Offering
AFRI

Holy Eucharist This Sunday

The Very Rev. Diane Nancekivell will be our officiant.

Breaking News!

Bishop-Elect Jeremiah Williamson will be our supply priest on January 28th. What an honor for St. John's to have been selected as one of a very few parishes that he will visit and serve as our celebrant prior to his formal installation as the Bishop of the Diocese of Albany. Mark your calendars for this momentous occasion at our small but mighty church.

Prayer for the Search

Dear Lord, grant us your wisdom and guidance as we embark upon our search process. Help us to humbly discern and accomplish your will for St. John's. We know this will be a challenging journey for all of us, but we pray that it will strengthen our faith and our respect and love for each other. Help us to share more deeply our faith in you as we learn to listen to each other with open hearts and minds and to hear your voice in all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Search Update

The St. John's Parish Profile has been accepted by the Office of Transition Ministry and will now be circulated to Episcopal seminaries, and other appropriate entities where the notice of our search for a rector will be posted. Early in the new year an ad will also be placed in selected publications. The next stage of the search process has now begun!

Thank you to Dick Perez, Chair of the Search Committee, and the Vestry for all that they have done to bring us to this point. We also wish to thank Mother Elizabeth Papazoglakis, the OTM Chair, who has been a truly remarkable guide as we have embarked upon this critically important process for the future at St. John's.

Prayers for Those in any Kind of Need or Distress

We pray especially for: Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Sally, Chris, Lynne, Eve and Nancy.

Website Changes

As we all know, the first place to which any of us turn for information about an organization - and almost anything else - is its website. Now that we are in

an active search for a rector, we are spending considerable time and effort improving our website because it has to serve an additional very different purpose than it did in the past. We know that prospective clergy men and women will go to our website and, as in most cases, first impression is very important. As we make changes or additions, we will alert you regarding these but we also urge you to visit our website during its reconstruction. You can access it at www.stjohnsessexny.org.

Welcome Core

The Welcome Core Committee will meet again on Thursday Nov. 16th to begin working on its Welcome Plan document which includes five main areas: Finance and Employment, Housing and Basic Necessities, Benefits and Health Care, Education and Language, Welcoming and Local Orientation. Sample forms that describe these areas are available at the back of the church. These will be included in next week's Weekly News for our parishioners who are not in the area currently. Please contact Bobbi Perez at 518-837-1015 if you would like to be part of any of these initiatives.

Each member of the Welcome Corps Committee is asked to participate in Sponsorship Essential Training and at least one person must take the course for certification. Bob Harsh and Bobbi Perez will complete this online course.

The amount to be raised to support the two refugees that St. John's is sponsoring is \$4,950. We have already received a generous donation of \$2,375, and at its meeting on Nov. 7th AFRI voted to donate \$415 to our Welcome Core endeavor so we have now raised 60% of the funds that our sponsorship requires. This is very exciting and we have just begun. We welcome additional contributions! You may also send a check to St. John's that is earmarked for the Welcome Core.

History Tidbit Part 1 Our Story Begins

March 21, 1853

Fernando C. Putnam, a missionary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, officiated at services of Divine worship in Essex that were held in the basement of the Baptist Church. On the 7th and 14th of March he gave notice that male persons of full age were to meet at 6 PM on March 21st for the purpose of incorporating themselves as a Religious Society under the acts of the Legislature of the State of New York, organizing a parish and choosing

two wardens and eight vestrymen. Rev. Putnam presided at the meeting. Henry H Ross and Asa P Hammond were elected wardens. William H Low, Henry H Gould, Ezra Parkhill, H.A. Palmer, Elihu Gilbert, Seth Crossman, Peter Chamberlain and William E Fuchs were elected to the vestry. Henry Gould was appointed secretary. At that meeting it was then resolved that the Monday of Easter week would be the day on which the said offices of Church Wardens & Vestrymen would annually hereafter cease and their successions in office be chosen. Susanna M Ross, John Ross, F.C. Putnam, William Low and Henry N. Gould were subscribing witnesses to the incorporation of our church.

Thereafter the church and congregation were to be Known in Law by the name of the “Rector Church Wardens & Vestrymen of St. Johns Church Essex”. The papers were recorded in the Essex County Clerk’s Office on March 24, 1853 at 3 P.M and they were recorded in the Book of Incorporation of Religious Society pages 77.78.79. The incorporation was certified by the Bishop of New York on April 23, 1853.

God's Calling to Global Mercy Ships

On Sunday we will have our usual Coffee Hour and all the goodies as well as time to visit with one another. It so happens that Dick Perez's brother, Taylor, who is the Captain of a Global Mercy ship will be with us and if you are interested in learning about this he will be happy to share with you the journey he has taken in response to God's calling.

Mercy Ships is an international charity based in Christian values that operates the largest non-governmental hospital ships in the world that are staffed by volunteers from around the world. Their mission it to provide free surgical care and improve surgical delivery systems to the forgotten poor; especially those in African nations. They also provide education and training to improve the medical capacity of the nations they are invited into. Taylor's ship, the Global Mercy, was delivered in 2021, and is its largest and newest vessel. It is currently onsite performing surgeries and education in Freetown Sierra Leone.

Jesus in our Hearts Sunday School

This past Sunday we began making a collage of those people and things for which we are grateful. We also welcomed back our former acolyte Gavin Coonrod and his girlfriend, Taylor who widened our prayer circle and helped to expand our hearts.

St. John’s Zoom Passcodes

St. John's Sunday Service

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/worshipmeet>

Morning Prayer

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/morning-prayer>

Vestry Meetings

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/vestrymeet>

Finance Committee

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/financemeet>

Contemporary Bible Study

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/biblestudy>

Meditation

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/meditationmeet>

Sunday Service Zoom Recording

stjohnsessexnyzoom@gmail.com

Passcode: +W2t+Fwu

AA 12-Step Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 817 7797 4233

Passcode: 123456

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday Contemporary Bible Study (Zoom) 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Tuesday Community Potluck Supper 6 PM

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 5 PM

Thursday Morning Prayer (Zoom) 10 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/in person)

Sunday AA Meeting (Zoom/In Person) 7 PM

Your Vestry

Scottie Emery-Ginn and Bill Tribou (Wardens)

Louise Baietto, Bruce Hale, Diana Lawrence, Jon McBride

Bruce Stephan, and Julie Wever (Members)

Darcey Hale (Clerk)

Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)