



~ **St. John's Church** ~
Weekly News
February 21, 2024

Readings for Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Romans 4:13-25

Psalm 22:22-30

Mark 8:31-38

GENERAL FUND

Mark the Date

Saturday, Feb. 24 at 11am Consecration of Jeremiah Williamson (remote access available)

Breaking News from the Diocese

As we approach Consecration weekend, please keep Fr. Jeremiah and his family in prayer as well as those who have been working to prepare for

this special day in the Diocese of Albany.

We will be sending an email out on Thursday that will include helpful information for attendees and also those who will be watching from home, including a link for streaming and the service booklet.

We will forward this information when we receive so that you can attend the ceremony online if you wish.

First Lenten Study
February 21st , 2024; 7pm – 8:15

Zoom Link for today's time together :

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

These are some of the things on my mind/heart:

- 1/ How do you react to the whole notion of submission “the laying down of resistance to the One who loves me infinitely more than I can guess”? (p. 5)**
- 2/ So what about freedom being gained ONLY through exposure to the truth? I love the notion of “unhiddenness.” What does that make you think of? ...the covers of illusion stripped away (p.5)**
- 3/ “being open to the Spirit also means open to humanity in all its fractured confusion and poverty and ARDENT reaching for fulfillment” (pg. 10)**
- 4/ Let's talk about “failed humanity” (p 11)**
- 5/ “Only in silence and loneliness can Jesus hammer out the question of who he really is.” (Pg.12)**
- 6/ “Hidden God” (pg. 12)**
- 7/ “But the Spirit is within us, and the place of encounter with our truth is within our own hearts.” ... “the meeting place with the Spirit is within our own selves. (p.15)**
- 8/ The home of the Spirit is not in the intellect, the realm of concepts and ideas, not in a refined interior sanctum of spirituality, but in the guts, the deep core where our passions have their spring, the place of conflict, confusion, vulnerability and desire.” (p.16)**

9/ How is reluctance showing up in you? Resistance to keep the Spirit at “arm’s length” (p.21)

10/ I love the notion that intimacy with God goes hand in hand with compassion with suffering world, including ourselves. (p.23) ...”the anesthetic begins to wear off”

11/ “compunction” let’s talk about the difference between compunction and remorse....(p. 26)

12/ “all things in heaven and earth exist in oneself” (p.29)

13/ ...”they stayed in the desert to experience in their own selves the full force of God’s redemptive presence and ACTIVITY.” (P.31)

Jesus in our Hearts



Bobbi's grandchildren, Olivia and Micah and their dog, Coda spent Saturday night and they asked if their dog Coda could come to church Sunday School with them. Megan Pero gave them permission to go to her family’s property to look for wood vines to make a Lenten wreath. That was the project #1. They gathered the vines behind the church and discovered the Christmas tree lying there. Thinking it was an appropriate link from Epiphany to Lent, they cut short pieces from the tree to place on each table in Persell Hall. Purple ribbons will be added this coming Sunday.

For children who don’t go to church regularly it was a meaningful combination of “hands-on” activities that even allowed their dog to

participate in our God's beautiful nature. During coffee hour Coda decided to lie happily under a table while members of our faith community socialized above his head.

Alicia

Alicia Kelly cleans for the church and has recently had a hip replaced. She would very much appreciate it if parishioners would prepare a dinner for her. If you wish to do so please contact Bobbi Perez who is coordinating this endeavor. Thank you.

Pastoral Outreach

St. John's regularly engages in weekly visits and twice monthly chapel services at the Champlain Valley Senior Community in Willsboro.

Recently two members of our Pastoral Outreach Committee made over 20 Valentine's cards for residents in their Memory Care unit and delivered them on Valentine's Day. They received a lovely thank you card in recognition of their thoughtfulness.

Prayers

For Those in Need or Any Kind of Distress

O compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle: we pray especially for Geoffrey, Lois, Joyce, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Chris, Lynne, Eve, Anne, Ella, Louis, John, Arnold, Lee, Alicia, and Charles.

Hear us when we pray to you.

Prayer for the Bishop-Elect

Prayer for the Bishop-Elect. Eternal God, our Shepherd and Guide, we bless and thank you for your servant, Jeremiah, Bishop-Elect of your Episcopal Diocese of Albany.

By the working of your Holy Spirit grant him grace and every spiritual gift

as he prepares to take up his role as our chief pastor and teacher.
Make him a shepherd after your own heart,
who will walk in your ways and watch over your people with loving care.
Strengthen and guide him to lead in vision.
Fill him with courage to teach your truth.

Prepare our hearts to welcome Father Jeremiah, Jennifer, Oscar, and Isaiah joyfully into our Diocesan community.
Continue to purify our intentions, and lead us into holiness,
that we may bear witness to your Son without shame or fear,
in unity, humility, and mutual charity, devoted to your will for the good of the world.

Search Prayer

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

History Tidbit Part 15

Essex N.Y. April 29 – 1898.

On motion, the Treasurer was directed to pay Harry Knapp \$3. extra for care of Church during the past lent, and S. D. Derby, \$8.40 bal: due him for repairing the rectory.

Essex N.Y. May 5, 1899.

On motion, Rev: Hobart B. Whitney was duly elected Rector of this Parish. Adjourned.

Essex N.Y. April 27, - 1900

At the annual meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church, held at the Rectory, due notice thereby having been given.

Anthony J. B. Ross, was duly elected Clerk, and Andrew J. Tucker, Treasurer, for the current year.

Andrew J. Tucker, Treas: made report of incidental money for the year ending May 1, - 1900. Showing, \$24.26 balance. – Report received and adopted.

Stephen D. Derby. John R. Burnham. and Henry Harmon Noble. were duly

Stephen D. Derby, John D. Burnham, and Henry Harmon Noble, were duly elected delegates to the annual Diocesan Convention, to be held in November next.

The Rector and Stephen D. Derby were duly elected a committee on repairs to the Church & Rectory. Adjourned.

Anthony J. B. Ross, Clerk.

From the "Diocesan of Albany," issue of June, 1900.

Anthony J. B. Ross, Obituary

Sat. May 26, 1900.

Our Parish and community have been profoundly saddened during the past few days by the death of our dear friend and brother, Anthony J. B. Ross, which occurred on Saturday night, May 26th, from an attack of typhoid, complicated with troubles of much longer standing. For three weeks the whole village hung upon the reports of nurses and physicians, hoping against hope that in answer to our prayers he might be spared to us, as all in one way or another depended upon him whose learning and ability, whose unselfish goodwill, and whose unswerving integrity placed him in the position of our leader, counsellor and helper in the most essential affairs of our wellbeing. But since – as he himself expressed it – he had “just got ready to live,” God had “granted him a long life, even forever and ever.”

“Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.” [Sudden death from disease always lurked - waiting to pounce upon an unsuspecting innocent. Th

Essex, Whitsunday, June 3, 1900.

Minutes adopted by the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. John's Church,

In view of the deeply lamented departure of our brother, Anthony J. B. Ross, in the prime of this life, into the true Life of the World to Come:

We, the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. John's Church, Essex, desire to record our appreciation... ..of his character and life, during the many years in which he went in and out among us.

He stood preeminent in our community for ability and attainment of mind; for goodness, honesty and kindness of heart; for the highest ideal of virtue, earnestness, and integrity of conscience.

All who had the privilege of contact with him, in daily life, in business, or social acquaintance, felt the power of his life, - “a life whole and sound, and pure from evil.”

Especially upon this Parish, so dear to his devout and faithful heart, does this loss fall with heavy severity. We shall miss him from our councils, from his place in the congregation, the choir, and the steps of the Altar. From among our small and decreasing number, where every member is of so great value, it seems to us that we could least of all spare him.

We can only submit in humble resignation to the will of the All-Wise and All-

we can only submit in humble resignation to the will of the All-wise and All-Loving Father, in the confident realization that since our brother had been “faithful until death,” the Lord “hath given him a crown of life,” of “a more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,” and “that fadeth not away.”

Resolved: that this Minute be spread upon the records of the Parish; that a copy be presented as a token of our sympathy, to his afflicted family; and that the same be forwarded for insertion in the columns of our Diocesan Journal.

Essex, New York, Nov. 2nd, 1900, 8 P.M.

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John’s Church held at the Rectory, pursuant to due notice given.

Rev. Hobart B. Whitney, Rector, presiding.

The office of Clerk being vacant by the decease of Mr. Anthony J. B. Ross, the chairman requested Dr. Henry H. Knapp to act as secretary pro tem.

On motion of the Mr. Tucker, the secretary was instructed to cast the ballots for Ervin G. Lyon to serve as Clerk of the Vestry for the remainder of the term. Motion carried and Mr. Lyon was elected. There being no other business, the meeting, on motion, adjourned.

Essex, N.Y., Easter Monday, Apr. 8, 1901.

Minutes of the Regular Annual Meeting of the Parish of St. John’s Church; held at the Chapel 10 A.M. pursuant to due notice given. Present Messrs. Derby, Tucker, Knapp, Lyon, Burnham.

The meeting was called to order by the Rector, presiding.

Dr. H. H. Knapp was duly elected Clerk. Polls were opened at 10 o’clock.

The following named were nominated for Wardens and Vestrymen for the ensuing year, viz: Sr. Warden, S. D. Derby; Jr. Warden, A. J. Tucker; Vestrymen, Ervin G. Lyon, Lyman R. Thompson, Henry H. Knapp, John B. Burnham, Cornelius M. DuBois, Henry Harmon Noble, Edward W. Richardson.

The Polls having remained open for one hour, and there being no further nominations, at 11 o’clock a motion was made, seconded and adopted that the Clerk be instructed to cast the ballot. [Interesting that they had formal polls for nominations.]

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>

Buildings & Grounds Committee

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

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

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 4 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 Anne Zilch (Members)
Darcey Hale (Clerk)
Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)