

**~ St. John's Church ~
Weekly News
March 27, 2024**

**Very Rev. Diane Nancekivell, Officiant
The Resurrection of Jesus the Christ**

Holy Week Readings

**Thursday, March 28, 2024
Maundy Thursday**

**Exodus 12:1-14a
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:17, 31b-35**

**Friday, March 29, 2024
Good Friday**

**Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrew 10:1-25**

**Psalm 22: 1-11
John 19:1-37**

Sunday, March 31 Easter Sunday

**Isaiah 25: 6-9
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
Acts 10: 34-43
John 20: 1-18**

Loose Plate Offering

Operating Fund

Important Upcoming Dates

**March 28 at 5 PM- Maundy Thursday Service at St. John's
March 29 at 5 PM - Good Friday Service at St. John's
March 31st at 10AM - Easter Service and Holy Eucharist**

A Message from Bishop Jeremiah

This week, as the world turns and folks live out the ordinariness of life, we will follow Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem. Many in our nation, this week, will simply scan the internet for political headlines or tune into college basketball. We will offer our feet for washing and our hearts to the painful memory of the Cross. In a culture in which many have walked away from the Church, we will immerse ourselves in the ancient liturgies of Holy Week and Easter.

It is a strange and beautiful rhythm. This week in our churches our many and varied ministers will submit their energies and schedules to the demands of the Church calendar. Musicians will intensely rehearse; altar guilds will set up and clean up; acolytes and chalice bearers will don their robes; ushers and vergers will tidy our sacred spaces; church staff members will pray for the copy machines; clergy will plan and write and pray. The ministers of the Church, lay and ordained, will prepare and gather during this Holy Week to remember holy stories and experience holy mysteries.

We do this because we are Christian. We invest our time and efforts because we have vowed to “continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers.” We participate because we understand that it is historically and personally important.

But also we arrange this complex week of services because we know that the worship of this week transforms lives; the stories become the point of our stories. The passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus gives our lives meaning and purpose and hope. Because these liturgies have changed our lives, we know they have the power to change other lives as well. And so we make the space during this Holy Week for others to encounter Jesus in profound ways.

One year, following the Great Vigil of Easter, a young woman approached me and explained that her nephew chose to join her at the liturgy that evening. He was not an Episcopalian; I don’t think he was even churched. At one point in the service, this lady looked over at this 11-year-old and saw tears falling from his eyes. She asked him about the tears and he replied, “I don’t know why I am crying; it’s just so beautiful.”

This week matters. It matters that you set out the basins of warm water on Maundy Thursday. It matters that you kneel before the Cross on Good Friday. It matters that you gather in the darkness of the Great Vigil of Easter. It matters that you belt out “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” on Easter morning. We are the ones who tell the stories and keep the traditions. This Holy Week and Easter you will again meet Jesus. And because of you and your church, someone else will too – maybe for the very first time.

Your companion in Christ,

+Jeremiah





Palm Sunday Service

The beautiful, but heavy, spring snowfall abated just in time for us to be able to hold this important Anglican service in church, as well as by Zoom of course. Susan McGarry made her way safely from Middlebury and almost everyone in the usual congregation for this time of year also made it. It was a blessed, bright and sunny Sunday morning.

Palm Sunday is steeped in tradition and profound meaning for most of us and sharing the Passion with one another brought back a flood of memories as we gathered in Persell Hall. Susan blessed the palms and we made our way into the church singing the familiar "All Glory, Laud, and Honor". As we shared the Passion with one another it focussed our minds and spirits upon this period of Lent in which we will walk with Christ as he moves inextricably toward his crucifixion.

Sixth Lenten Study April 3, 2024; 7pm – 8:15

Zoom Link for the Sixth Lenten Study:

<https://mindmax.zoom.us/j/83298563882>

Meeting ID: 832 9856 3882

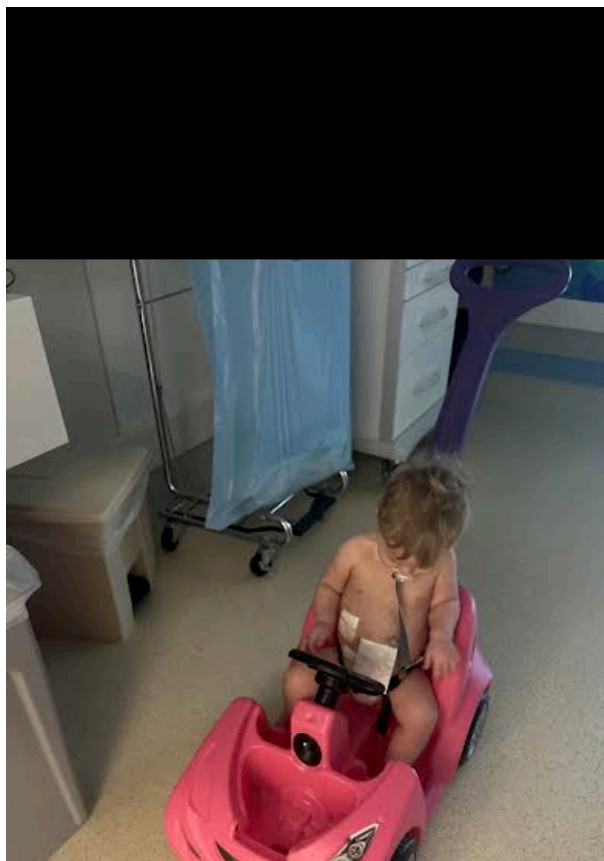
Readings and Questions will follow later. It will not take place during Holy Week.

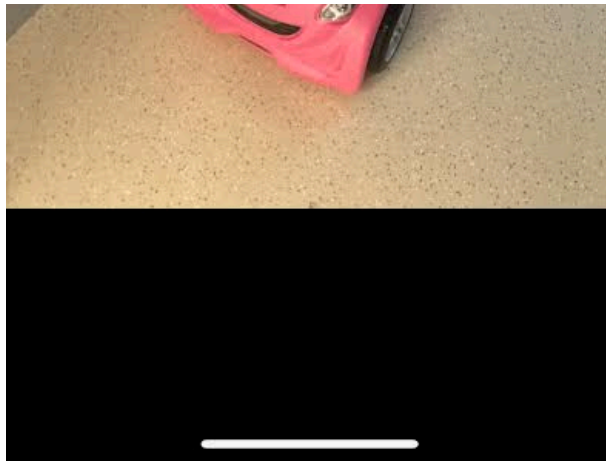




Thank you Boston Hospital Complex! Last Thursday, while Yvonne was in surgery donating her kidney to her grandson, Sarge was being prepared to receive it at Boston Children's Hospital. This is a miracle of modern medicine at its best. Both came through very well and have been recuperating since then. Here you see Grandmother and Grandson celebrating life together.

Sarge's doctors are pleased with his recovery and have said that they are very impressed with all of his labs and his strength. The pictures above tells the story so well. Five days after a kidney transplant he is pedaling around in a toy truck. Incredible!





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 Carolyn, Geoffrey, Lois, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Chris, Lynne, Eve, Ella, Louis, John, Arnold, Lee, Alicia, Charles, Dick, Nancy, Sarge, and Yvonne.

Hear us when we pray to you.

Lakeside Friends of Refugees Update

At 3:15 on March 21 - the first day of spring - Lakeside Friends of Refugees finally sent in the Welcome Corps application for its approval. This was a huge step forward.

Among the many questions that we had to answer was, “What is the physical location and phone number of the federal agency that can do the Refugee Health Assessment?” After following up on many leads we discovered that Troy, NY was the closest facility, although Plattsburgh might be a possibility. We chose Troy because it was a certainty.

The Refugee Health Assessment is designed to identify individuals with health conditions not observed during or developing after the overseas exam, initiate appropriate immunizations; ensure that refugees with identified problems are referred to primary or specialty care, to protect the health of the US population and to eliminate barriers to successful refugee resettlement.

Because learning English as a second language is critically important to the success of the refugee we have also been in close contact with Literacy Volunteers of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. Because it

is vital for refugees seeking resettlement in our area this organization offers on-line training to those interested in becoming Literacy Volunteers volunteers. There is no cost for the week and a half of training but interested individuals must make a commitment. Bob Harsh, who is a certified Literacy Volunteer and a member of Lakeside Friends of Refugees, has committed to 30 hours of tutoring for the refugees.

Lakeside Friends of Refugees will hold its first fundraiser by hosting a bake sale in Essex on Monday, April 8 - Eclipse Day. Contributions of baked goods will be gratefully accepted and can be left in Persell Hall on Sunday, April 7th. We truly appreciate everyone's support in making a difference in lives of two strangers who will be dependent on our good will and graciousness for a short time as they resettle.

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

Meditation

Meditation will resume April 3, 4-5 in Persell Hall and via zoom. Thank you Diana Lawrence for getting us back on track with zoom for Meditation, Contemporary Bible Study and Lakeside Friends of Refugees.

History Tidbit Part 20

December 27, 1913.

To the Vestry of St. John's Church, Essex, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I hereby tender my resignation as rector of St. John's Parish, to take effect January 14, 1914.

In leaving the parish I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my heart-felt appreciation & gratitude to the vestry for their sympathy, support & good will throughout the term of my ministry among you!

My relations with you & with the other members of the parish have been

singularly happy, & I trust that my labors have been, under God's providence, the means of blessing to my people. My interest in St. John's will always be a vital one.

I hope that you will have no difficulty in speedily securing a clergyman, to succeed me as rector. My prayer is, that when he becomes your spiritual leader, the parish may prosper spiritually & temporally – that the communicants & adherents of St. John's may ever increasingly grow in grace & in the knowledge & love of God.

With every earnest wish for my people of St. John's, whom, for many reasons I leave with sincere regret, I am,

*Faithfully yours,
Claude Soares*

Essex, N.Y. Dec 27th 1913

At a special meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Parish Essex, N.Y. held this date at the Rectory, Rev'd Claude Soares presented his resignation as rector of St. John's Church to the Clerk of Vestry.

Moved & seconded Vestry accept resignation of Rev'd Claude Soares to take effect Jan'y 14th 1914. Clerk to make suitable answer and enter same on minutes of this meeting.

Rev'd Claude Soares.

Dear Sir. Your resignation as Rector of St. John's Church Essex N.Y. is hereby accepted by the Vestry. Would say – we are very loth to have you leave us. As your actions as a man and Rector have met with the strongest approval of this Vestry and our Church people. In your new Parish and larger field of work, we trust you will meet with the same appreciation that you have had as our Leader in St. John's Parish. May the Good Shephard look over and protect both you and your family are the heartfelt wishes of this Vestry.

Rev. Alden L. Bennet, of Montclair New Jersey, having been engaged by St. John's Parish as Missionary Rector for the summer months commenced services on Sunday June 14th 1914.

Essex N.Y. July 5th 1914

John B. Burnham tendered his resignation as Treasurer of St. John's Church which was duly accepted by the Vestry.

Moved by H. H. Noble the Vestry hereby tender to the retiring Treasurer their appreciation of his work and good will towards St. John's Parish while holding the office of Treas.

Moved & seconded W. H. Cruikshank and John Noble be appointed a committee of two to audit the retiring Treasurer's books. Moved by John B. Burnham seconded by W. H. Cruikshank, John H. Noble be a nominee for Treasurer, John H. Noble was then duly elected Treasurer.

Note by Clerk of Vestry

Sept. 1st Rev. Alden L. Bennett having completed his engagements with this Parish Aug. 30th took his departure with the best wishes of officers of this Parish.

Rev. S. Ladd kindly occupied the pulpit of St. John's Sunday Sept. 6th 1914 by request of the Wardens.

Rev. Frank Bigelow kindly occupied the pulpit of St. John's Sunday Sept. 13th 1914 by request of the Wardens.

Essex N.Y. Sept. 18th 1914

**Mrs. W. C. Richardson
Dear Madam,**

On behalf of the Vestry of St. John's Church, Essex N.Y. allow me to express our heartfelt sympathy for you and family, in the loss of your husband. To know him as a man was to appreciate his sterling principles, a true Christian Gentleman in every sense (sic) of the word. May God comfort you in your time of sorrow in the wish of this Parish.

***(Insert: Thank you card from Mrs. William Clarence Richardson)
Mrs. William Clarence Richardson
and family desire to express their deep
appreciation of your sympathy***

Essex, N.Y. Jan 27th 1915

Rev. J. F. George formerly of Rockville Conn. commenced duties here as Missionary rector of St. John's Parish this date.

Essex N.Y. Nov 1st 1915

At a special meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church held this date at the Rectory Rev. J. F. George presiding:

Moved & seconded the Vestry of St. John's Church hereby extend a call to the Rev. J. F. George to be Rector of this Parish.

Rev. J. F. George with a few brief remarks accepted the charge with pleasure and appreciation of the manner in which it was extended.

Moved by H. H. Noble, seconded by H. H. Knapp this Vestry be empowered to purchase one share of stock from the Essex Water Works Co. at the nominal price of (175.00) one hundred & seventy five dollars. Carried unanimously.

Moved by H. H. Knapp seconded by J. H. Noble a committee be appointed by the Rector, to take charge of installing.....water at the Rectory, with the full power to build cesspool, put in bath at Rectory and all things necessary for permanent use of same.

Rev. J. F. George appointed W. H. Cruikshank, J. H. Noble and H. H. Knapp as committee above mentioned.

Moved by H. H. Noble, seconded by W. H. Cruikshank the Treasurer of St. John's Church be hereby empowered to draw the sum of (500.00) Five hundred dollars or such amounts as are necessary for the completion of the above-named work, for the Burlington Savings Bank. Carried unanimously.

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)
Dick Perez (Chair, Search Committee)

St. John's Episcopal Church | 4 Church Street, Essex, NY 12936



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