



# JOURNAL

April 2020

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The Episcopal Diocese of  
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## Worship Schedule

### Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist I  
9:15 am Church School  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist II

### 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month:

**Tuesday**  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer  
**Thursday**  
10:00 am Morning Prayer

### Remaining week day services:

**Tuesdays**  
5:30 pm Healing service  
w/Eucharist

### Thursdays

10:00 am Eucharist Rite I



## Greetings from SuzeAnne

As we make our way through this strange and very challenging Lenten season we are being tested in ways most of us have never experienced. At St. John's we entered into Lent with a scheduled series of Wednesday evening gatherings focused on practicing courage with all our heart, soul, strength and mind. One of the contributors to this program is the Rev. Jan Kwiakowski who writes this: "We are called to let our most protected selves be vulnerable to God's transforming love." In this most uncertain of times with everyone feeling vulnerable to one degree or another, let us pray that we might practice courage in allowing God to transform us even as we face uncertainty.

While we don't yet know the timetable, **the day will come when we can gather again at St. John's and no matter what that date is we will have a Eucharistic celebration of Easter. And we will say together: Alleluia Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the meantime, know that you are all in my prayers daily.

In Christ

SuzeAnne+

## Rector Search Committee Report

Your Rector Search Committee is awaiting candidate names from the diocesan office. Canon Bolt has decided to extend the deadline for accepting names. This is a time to be focused on our personal health and well-being, as well as supporting care for our congregation in increasingly stressful and unknown circumstances. Because of these circumstances, and because there is a limited amount of work we can actually do at the moment, we are suspending our work as a committee until after Easter. That way, we can focus on Lent with compassion, patience, and preparation for us all, as we seek God's guidance and blessing during this process. We will be ready to work again as soon as it is possible and safe to do so. During this time of being apart from each other, please pray this prayer for St. John's Rector Search: *God of all wisdom and understanding, guide us during this time of listening to each other and to you, to discern your will for us in the process of bringing a new rector to St. John's. Grant us patience, kindness, faithfulness and trust in your presence. Guide us in service to you, to each other, and to the larger community.*

Amen



## Senior Warden's Report

Greetings to all in quarantine and just staying at home as instructed. I'm sure we are all missing our services and seeing each other. The vestry and various committees and ministries are staying in touch with Zoom online meetings and although it is tedious, we are learning to use it effectively. I haven't talked on the phone and emailed and texted this much in recent years. In some ways I think communication is better, at least I am more mindful to check on friends and loved ones.

It is essential that if you need pastoral care in any way, you must let someone know, either at the church or have a friend call for you. Even if we can't come see you, we will stay in touch in any manner that is allowed. If you are alone and need meals or prescriptions picked up, please let us know.

My fervent hope is we will be back to normal soon and talking about this for the rest of our lives. I can imagine talking to my great-grandchildren someday and saying, "You should have been around during the Covid-19 pandemic back in 2020. Can you believe we didn't have toilet paper?"

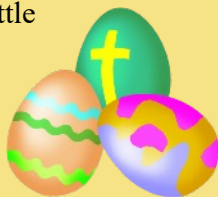
Last month I wrote about Lenten discipline. Wow, I didn't know how much I would have to give up during Lent 2020. Easter will happen even if we don't have a service on April 12<sup>th</sup> and we can celebrate together in our hearts. I look forward to writing a totally different message for the May Journal. God bless everyone.

*Suzanne Donaldson*

### Easter Egg Hunt

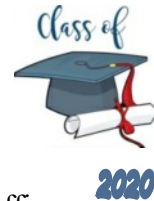
It may be a while yet, but when we are able to meet to celebrate Easter, we WILL have an egg hunt that morning before the 10:30 service. All children from toddlers through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the narthex at 9:00 am for the traditional group picture before being led downstairs for the fun. Stay tuned for the date – I cannot wait to see all our little people again!

Blessings,  
Rae Grosserode



### Calling all 2020 Graduates!

**You made it!** Graduation is just around the corner and your St. John's family wants an opportunity to recognize your achievement. Please let us know who – you or your family member – is graduating in 2020. Send the graduate's name, school they are graduating from, major if applicable, parent / family names, and future plans for the graduate. Send your information to Lynn McCoy [lotnta@gmail.com](mailto:lotnta@gmail.com) or to the church office.



### St. John's YTD Financial Report

	Feb 2019 Actual YTD	Feb 2020 Actual YTD	Feb YTD Budget	Variance YTD 2020 Vs 2019	Variance YTD Vs Budget
Plate Offerings	\$1,622.00	\$1,111.53	\$1,700.00	-\$510.47	-\$588.47
Pledge Payments	\$71,095.27	\$98,053.10	\$72,600.00	\$26,957.83	\$25,453.10
Prior Pledges	\$870.00	\$285.56	\$1,000.00	-\$584.44	-\$714.44
Contributions	\$6,091.00	\$13,514.00	\$5,400.00	\$7,423.00	\$8,114.00
Misc. Income	\$328.00	\$180.00	\$186.66	-\$148.00	-\$6.66
Prepaid Pledges	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$81,006.27</b>	<b>\$113,144.19</b>	<b>\$80,886.66</b>	<b>\$32,137.92</b>	<b>\$32,257.53</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$60,772.35</b>	<b>\$58,910.93</b>	<b>\$57,544.02</b>	<b>-\$1,861.42</b>	<b>\$1,366.91</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$20,233.92</b>	<b>\$54,233.26</b>	<b>\$23,342.64</b>	<b>\$33,999.34</b>	<b>\$30,890.62</b>

## 2020 Inquirers' Class "Zooming" Along!

Fred Mackara

Notwithstanding the restrictions on in-person group meetings at St. John's, the 2020 Inquirers' Class continues to meet – in cyberspace!

This is made possible by the on-line meeting platform known as Zoom. If a participant's computer has a microphone and a camera, he/she can be seen and heard by everyone else in the group. You may also call in via phone without seeing everyone but you still can participate.

I was totally unaware of Zoom until East Tennessee State University closed its campus and mandated that all courses be taught on-line, using Zoom. So, I've been frantically learning how to use it. Fortunately, it is relatively easy to get acquainted with the basics, and all of our current Inquirers are getting along quite well with it!

Much of the credit for this goes to Ted Jackson. Despite all of his other activities at St. John's (including membership on the Rector Search Committee), Ted has somehow found the time to be the Inquirers' Class Zoom Meeting Manager. Ted makes sure everyone is connected and able to communicate.

If you want to "attend" an upcoming 2020 Inquirers' Class meeting, let me know at [MACKARA@mail.etsu.edu](mailto:MACKARA@mail.etsu.edu) or 423-773-4776. I'll have Ted send you the contact information, so you can Zoom with us!

Here is the list of upcoming Inquirer's Class sessions:

- March 29** - An Episcopalian's Tool Kit (The Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, and the Hymnal) - Fred Mackara
  - April 5** - Eucharist & the Real Presence of Christ – Dr. John Nash
  - April 12** - Easter Sunday / No meeting
  - April 19** - Sacraments & Relationships – Canon SuzeAnne Silla
  - April 26** - Foundations of Faith – Fred Mackara
  - May 3** - Ministry & Stewardship – Deacon Cathy Johnston
  - May 10** - Church History & Governance – Dr. John Nash
  - May 17** - Preparation for Bishop Cole's Visit – Canon SuzeAnne Silla
- 

## Pledges & Ministries

Although we can't gather for worship services at St. John's for now, our everyday expenses continue. Some of you have been asking about the best process for maintaining your pledges and other contributions during this time. If you routinely deposit your pledge or contribution in the plate on Sunday, you can go to [stjohnstn.org](http://stjohnstn.org) and give online. You can designate your donation as a pledge or a contribution or even designate a particular fund that you want to contribute to, for example: the St. John's Discretionary Fund or Capital Maintenance or Friends of Music. You may also mail your check to St. John's Episcopal Church, 500 N Roan Street, Johnson City, TN 37601.

It is very important that we remember those in need during this time. You may not be aware that the plate offerings on the first Sunday of the month go into the St. John's Discretionary Fund. During this time of increased need, there is increased demand on the fund and we should be mindful to make contributions at any time directly to this fund. For checks, list St. John's Discretionary Fund on the memo line. As we continue minister to those in need through outreach, St. John's will be participating with Melting Pot in April although we will not be cooking and serving. At this point we do not know the nature of our participation. We must meet safe guidelines as we continue this ministry. A donation was made from the Discretionary Fund to One Acre Cafe to help feed those in need.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Grant, Almighty God that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and show respect to all.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Brian our Bishop, SuzeAnne our interim Rector, Cathy our Deacon and for all the clergy and people as they seek to meet our spiritual and physical needs during these uncharted climate.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, especially remembering our local and state leaders throughout the United States, Donald our President, our military men and women, and all national leaders as they make decisions for our safety and care.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as He loves us, especially remembering, all on our prayer list and give us extra grace and patience as we learn to live together, or apart, in new ways.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succor. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril, give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom, especially lives lost to COVID-19, and those that have died alone without loved ones by their side.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our rector search committee and parish, saying together,

*God of all wisdom and understanding, guide us during this time of listening to each other and to you, to discern your will for us in the process of bringing a new rector to St. John's. Grant us patience, kindness, faithfulness, and trust in your presence. Guide us in service to you, to each other, and to the larger community. Amen.*

### Prayer List

Kitty Adams, Allen Family, Guy Briggs, Shirley Cloyd, Charlene Haas, Evelyn Huyck, Duke Ingram, Joan, Randy Lacy, Ed & Charlene Lilly, Carolyn Ledford, Amanda Mackara, Christy McMahan, Shelly Mowers, Coleman Parks, Peg Pickens, Harry Rauch, Ricky & Karen, Danielle Schagh, Lauren Simpson, Silas Simpson, Dee Steeves, Theresa, John McDermott, Ebele Ume-Nwagbo, Clem Wilkes, Bill Yoder



## This Week @ St. John's

### Parish News and Updates



Dear parishioners and friends at St. John's,

Please join me this Sunday for Morning Prayer via Facebook live at 9:00 am. If you do not have a Book of Common Prayer at home, you can access the online version [here](#). If you are not able to watch in the morning, the video will be archived to the St. John's Facebook page and can be viewed at any time. As we continue this unprecedented Lenten journey, please continue to reach out to one another and know that all of you are in my daily thoughts and prayers. If you have any pastoral needs or concerns, please call/text me at 574-200-4340 or email at





## Mardi Gras 2020



First ever vestry Zoom gathering March 2020





Wednesday in Lent



# Happy April Birthday

1	Benny Baird	7	Lisa Lange	20	Linda Webb
2	Haynes Wilkes	7	Phyllis Tuthill	20	Alexander Collins
3	Mike Grosserode	10	Becky Morrison	20	Jim Fakonas
3	Laura Davidson	11	Jan Sparks	21	Martha Montgomery
4	Samuel Miller	12	Bonnie Stanley	22	Rebecca Paluzzi
4	Lee Phillips	12	Frances Jackson	24	SuzeAnne Silla
5	William Morrison	12	Rick Gordon	24	Savannah Church
5	Clem Wilkes	15	Andy Ford	30	Chris Newby
6	Jim Hunter	19	Thomas Ward	30	Tara Thomas
6	Alison Maddux	20	Jon Lau	30	Judy Moss



## Happenings

### Special events in April

Inquirer's Class: Reborn, Renewed, Received	Sun, Apr 5, 19 & 26	♦ 6:00 pm	Zoom video gathering (Please contact Fred Mackara at MACKARA@gmail.com for an invitation to join conference.)
Sunday Morning Prayers - Canon Silla	Sun, Apr 5, 19 & 26	♦ 9:00 am	St John's Episcopal Church Facebook page
Lenten program on Courage	Wed, Apr 8	♦ 5:30 pm	Zoom video gathering (Please contact church office if you do not receive email invitation.)
Maundy Thursday Service - Canon Silla Homily Deacon Cathy (recorded)	Thu, Apr 9	♦ noon	St John's Episcopal Church Facebook page
Good Friday Service - Canon Silla	Fri, Apr 10	♦ noon	St John's Episcopal Church Facebook page
Holy Saturday Service - Canon Silla	Sat, Apr 11	♦ noon	St John's Episcopal Church Facebook page
Easter Sunday Morning Prayer - Canon Silla	Sun, Apr 12	♦ 9:00 am	St John's Episcopal Church Facebook page
Webcast: <b>Easter Day Festive Holy Eucharist</b> Washington National Cathedral	Sun, Apr 12	♦ 11:15 pm	<a href="https://cathedral.org/event/easter-day-festive-holy-eucharist/">https://cathedral.org/event/easter-day-festive-holy-eucharist/</a>
Office phones not available. Please contact Canon Silla for emergencies.	Mon, Apr 13 & Fri, May 1	♦	Call for emergencies: 574-309-4340

### Monthly Scheduled Meetings

Finance Committee (on-line meeting)	TBD	♦	Zoom video gathering
Staff Meeting	Tues, Apr 1	♦ 10:00 am	Zoom video gathering
Vestry Meeting (on-line meeting)	Tues, Apr 21	♦ 7:00 pm	Zoom video gathering

### Weekly Scheduled Meetings

Tuesday Evening Prayer with Litany for Healing	Tuesdays	♦ 5:30 pm	Zoom video gathering (Please contact church office if you do not receive email invitation.)
Centering Prayer Group (on-line meeting)	Tuesdays	♦ 6:00 pm	Zoom video gathering (Please contact the office if you would like an invitation.)
Morning Prayer	Thursdays	♦ 10:00 am	Zoom video gathering (Please contact the office if you do not receive an invitation.)
EfM	Sundays	♦ 5:00 - 7:30 pm	Gathering electronically





Zoom gathering

*Stay connected*

Wesley Buerkle shared a link.  
March 22 at 10:00 AM



YOUTUBE.COM  
A message from Canon Silla 3-21-2020

**Facebook**



Tuesday evening healing service  
Zoom gathering

### Subscribe to St. John's Communications

**Email:** Everyone's help is needed in allowing the entire parish to be connected during this unusual time. If you communicate with any parishioners who are not receiving email communication, please email the church office at [office@stjohnstn.org](mailto:office@stjohnstn.org). Please also check your spam and junk folders from time to time as some emails unfortunately end up there instead of your regular inbox. Thank you!

**Facebook:** Check in on "St. John's Episcopal Church" Facebook page for information regarding church activities and on-line services. Be sure and "Like" the button so you will receive notifications of updates.

**St. John's Website:** St. John's has a new website at [stjohnstn.org](http://stjohnstn.org). During this time, take a few minutes and explore this site. Color copies of the Journal are available under "Publications".

### Subscribe to Diocesan Communications

To receive emails and important updates from the Diocese of East Tennessee, please go to [www.dioet.org](http://www.dioet.org). Scroll all the way to the bottom of the home page, there is a sign-up box to Subscribe to our Newsletter.

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