

St. John's Episcopal Church

"Our mission is to know and to share the love of Jesus Christ"



Rector's Essay Entering the Passion with Jesus

From the cross Jesus forgives those who are torturing him to death. That moment of grace, love and truth in the Passion narrative is breathtaking for me. I have a hard time forgiving my dental hygienist during a painful session in the dentist chair! Yet, Jesus, who has every reason for self-pity, rage, and lashing out against his unjust, cruel, shameful annihilation, has the spiritual capacity and freedom to de-center himself and focus on the spiritual plight of his tormenters.

Under unbelievable duress, Jesus stays true to his character and mission: to love others who are lost.

To continue reading this essay, scroll down.

Senior Warden Report [Click here for the report](#)

The Veneration of the Cross

Good Friday, April 3rd, at noon join us for Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament.

The 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ composed by Joseph Haydn.

Join us on Good Friday, April 3rd, at 7:00 pm for seven movements of stirring musical reflection on the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the Cross performed by The Dirigo Quartet. As intended by Haydn, 7 brief reflections will be presented between movements.

The Dirigo Quartet

The 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ

composed by
Joseph Haydn

Seven movements of stirring musical reflection on the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the Cross. As intended by Haydn, 7 brief reflections will be presented between movements.

April 3, Good Friday, 7 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church
225 French Street, Bangor

StJohnsbangor.org
Dirigoquartet.com



Easter Services

We are excited to be offering two Easter Services on Sunday April 5th. There will be an 8:00am and a 10:00am service. The 8:00am service is a spoken service with one hymn sung at the end. The choir will be singing at the 10:00am service. Following the 10:00am service, there will be an egg hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

There will be a simple coffee hour following the 8 am service on Easter Sunday, and also following the 10 am service that day. If you want to come early to the 10 am service to enjoy refreshment, feel free! Coffee hour will go from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on Easter.

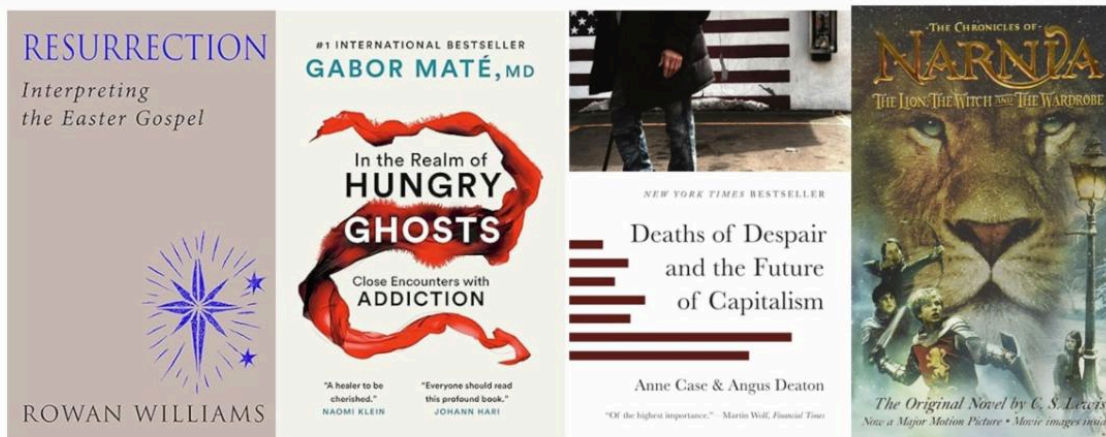
Following Holy Week, We Rest. . .

We've kept Fr. Kerbel busy during Holy Week, so he'll be off this week enjoying some R&R.

Do you know who else will be taking a break on the 12th? Our hard working Streaming Team. So if you want to catch the service, you'll need to attend in person! We hope you'll join us.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, the 6th and 7th of April. We will return on Wednesday the 8th.

Book recommendations from Fr. Kerbel for your Easter Reading



Resurrection by Rowan Williams - The best book on the Resurrection I know by the wisest theologian Anglicanism has produced in a long time.

In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts by Gabor Mate, MD - Hands down the best book I can recommend on addiction and street homelessness. Written in an engaging first-person style, the good Doctor relates his experience of treating people with addiction in the skid row section of Vancouver. If you want to understand the challenges facing our neighbors who are homeless and the people who give care to them, this is your book!

Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism by Angus Deaton and Anne Case - Why do so many Americans die of addiction and suicide, especially white people in economically distressed regions? Deaton and Case - married Sociologists at Princeton University - researched this question and came up with some surprising results. Why would I recommend this in the Happy Resurrection Season of Easter? Because, the GRACE, HOPE, and COMMUNITY that comes from the Risen Jesus are the cures for the torment of despair! We followers of Jesus know the cure and we need to get much better at sharing it to save lives and souls!

For Parents and Grandparents and Children:

The Narnia Books by CS Lewis! Read The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe out loud to your children and grandchildren or give it as a gift for them to read on their own. Watch the movie - after reading the book - and wonder out loud to the children, "I wonder who Aslan really is?" After a few minutes, blow their minds by telling them that Aslan is Jesus!

Great Wednesday

Great Wednesday is currently on hiatus. This includes the Wednesday 5:30pm Eucharist.

Rector Essays

Each week, the electronic newsletter, This Week at St. John's, features an essay by Fr. Kerbel. You can also find his essays at <https://stjohnsbangor.org/rectors-essays/> including all past essays.

8:00am Service Returns

We are so excited to announce that beginning on **April 19th**, we'll be offering a service at 8:00am and at 10:00am.

Celebration of New Ministry

We invite you to join us on April 19th at 4:00pm when The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown, Tenth Bishop of Maine, comes for the Installation of The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel as the Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church.



The Rector is Seeking a Focus Group

Over my thirty plus years of ministry I have helped many people make the transition from toxic versions of our faith to the healthy version that the Episcopal Church - at our best - offers. My new project is to go from one-to-one work to offering a group for folks "recovering from religion." Many have been harmed - indeed traumatized - by churches that use excessive guilt, shame, and fear, to control their church members. My long held belief is that the church needs to intentionally work at becoming a trustworthy and safe space where folks can detox from toxic faith and discover that they can have a relationship with God that is joyful, happy and free. What I need are people who can assist me in designing, offering, and leading such a group experience. If you have lived experience with recovery from toxic faith, all the better.



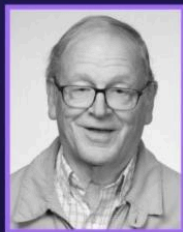
Presented by the
Rotary Clubs of Bangor,
Bangor Breakfast Club,
and Old Town



PRODUCED
BY
ROGER
GEORGE



STARRING
LOCAL TALENT
THAT YOU
KNOW & LOVE



JOHN
HASKELL

MUSIC OFF BROADWAY

REVIVING THE MIC!

SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH - 7:00PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH - 3:00PM

PEAKES AUDITORIUM, BANGOR HIGH SCHOOL



DARLENE
MOGUL



NANCY
DYMOND



Tickets are available
at the door, from Rotarians,
or using this QR code...



ROLAND
DUBE

\$15 - Youth \$25 - Gen.Admission \$50 - Patron



EMILY
CAIN



JEFF
FARRELL



JOHN
GROVER



BEN
LAYMAN



CHRISTIE
ROBINSON



DANNY
WILLIAMS

Proceeds benefit Rotary's service to our local communities

Announcements and Prayer Requests

Please be sure to submit all announcements and prayer requests to [the office](#) by noon on Thursday for them to be included in the weekly announcements and bulletins. Please submit photos / posters as a JPEG, and announcements in Word (not in a PDF).

Rector's Essay continued

The loving forgiveness of Jesus - the grace he offers his killers - is also a gentle word of judgment. The killers would not need forgiveness if they were not committing sin. Jesus knows, of course, that forgiveness has a sting and a salve. Even more, he knows that the best way to come to moral awareness and true self-knowledge is through mercy, i.e. being caught out and loved at the same time! He is blessing his killers with that opportunity.

During Holy Week, I invite you to enter the Passion with Jesus. Put your whole focus on him during the liturgies that mark this week and you will experience a great spiritual reward. What is that reward? The capacity to draw on the suffering Jesus as a resource for facing your own faithful suffering.

Many folks I encounter react to suffering as an offense against the way things should be, as if we are all somehow entitled to a life without suffering or challenge. Nowhere in scripture does God promise us a life without pain. The real question is this, "How will you live faithfully with your pain, especially the pain that comes with faithfully following God?"

For me, this is a revolutionary statement. The Gospel is a tremendous comfort for all of us who are blessed to be persecuted and reviled for the name of Jesus. When we depart into the path of discipleship we should expect opposition, rejection, and suffering as the cost of faithful witness. The Passion of Jesus gives us the strength we need to hold steady in those places of attack, and even more, to stay close to the love of Jesus in those places.

As the Jesuits say, "Jesus is a man for others." His defining characteristic is that he is love and his love is for others and for God in perfect balance. As we grow into the full stature of Christ, we receive grace that sets us free to live the faithful life he teaches and portrays.

I am a long way from the full stature of Christ! Oh my! However, my Baptismal Vows do help me stay on track. Please review them in the Book of Common Prayer as we will renew them as a congregation on Easter.

-Jarrett

Serving on Friday April 3rd at 12:00pm:

Lectors – Pat S. and Cindy L.

Acolytes – Robert F.

Chalice Bearers – Jacquie W. and Richard W.

Ushers – Jeff P. and Jim B.

Serving on Friday April 3rd at 7:00pm:

Ushers – Jim B. and Mary W.

Serving on Sunday April 5th at 8:00am:

Lectors – TBD

Acolytes – Robert F., Cindy L. and Scott B.

Chalice Bearers – Robert F. and Cindy L.

Ushers – Mary W.

Serving on Sunday April 5th at 10:00am:

Lectors – Hilary G., Jacqueline C. and Michele V.

Acolytes – Grant P., Isaac P., Eric G., Ruth G. and Edmund H.

Chalice Bearers – Cassy P. and Grant P.

Ushers – Jim B., Roger G., Sheila S. and Zach W.

Counters – Mary W. and Paul J.

Serving on Sunday April 12th at 10:00am:

Lectors – Jacqueline C., Ann H. and Kelsi H.

Acolytes – Dakota M., Scott B. and Robert F.

Chalice Bearers – Scott B. and Jacquie W.

Ushers – Katharine F. and Eric G.

Thank you to all who volunteer as Lectors, Acolytes, Chalice Bearers and Ushers. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please let the [office](#) know.

**Sunday's
Readings**

[Jeremiah
31:1-6](#)

[Acts 10:34-43](#)

[Matthew
28:1-10](#)

**Sunday
Worship:**
[Worship
Bulletin](#)

[YouTube](#)

**Morning
Prayer**
Monday -
Friday:
9:00am
Morning
Prayer
[Zoom](#)
[Facebook](#)

**Tuesday-
Friday:**
in person in
the Bethlehem
Chapel

**Evening
Prayer**
Monday -
Friday:
5:15pm
live on [Zoom](#)

What's Happening This Week

Friday, April 3rd, 12:00pm: Good Friday Service

Friday, April 3rd, 7:00pm: The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ

Saturday, April 4th, 7:00pm: Easter Vigil at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, located at 21 Holyoke Street in Brewer.

Saturday, April 4th, 7:00pm: Easter Vigil at St. Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church, 330 Hinckley Ridge Rd., State Route 177, Blue Hill (Where Fr. Jarrett will be going.)

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Sunday, 8:00am: Worship, in-person followed by Coffee Hour in the Undercroft.

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Sunday, 10:00am: Worship, in-person and [online](#) followed by Coffee Hour in the Undercroft. Also following the service will be an egg hunt. Nursery and Sunday School are available during the service.

Sunday, April 5th, 7:00pm: [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

Monday - Tuesday, April 6th-7th: The Parish Office will be closed.

Thursday, April 9th, 5:30pm: Choir rehearsal

Saturday, April 11th, 12:00pm: Second Saturday Community Meal. If you'd like more information or to volunteer, please contact [David and Rex](#).

Sunday, April 12th, 10:00am: Worship, in-person followed by Coffee Hour in the Undercroft. Nursery and Sunday School are available during the service.

Sunday, April 12th, 7:00pm: [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

For more information about these and future events, as well as ways to get involved, check out www.stjohnsbangor.org.

Nursery Care and Children's Chapel

Children should arrive between 9:45 and 10:00 am in the Undercroft on Sunday mornings for Nursery care, ages 0-3, and for Children's Chapel, ages 4-10.

In **Children's Chapel**, we celebrate the boundless curiosity and wonder of our young ones as we delve into the stories and lessons of the Bible. We aim to cultivate a nurturing and engaging environment that teaches our youngest members the stories of their faith and promotes spiritual growth and a strong sense of community. For inquiries or to register, please contact Mary-Frances Beesorchard at children@stjohnsbangor.org.

Opportunities to pray together:

Sunday Morning Eucharist, at 10:00am in person and on [YouTube](#)

Morning Prayer, Mon-Fri, 9:00am on Facebook and on [Zoom](#)

and in person Tuesday - Friday in the Bethlehem Chapel

Evening Prayer, Mon-Fri, 5:15pm on [Zoom](#)

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give. Looking for the right Ministry Opportunity for you? Just click the link below for more information.

[OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY](#)

Parish Prayer List:

If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact the church office or prayers@stjohnsbangor.org.

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed, and for those who have requested prayer: The Rev. Victoria Sirota, Our friends at Fresh Start, Robert H., Brian M., Fred K., Judy H., Finley G., and Janet M. **Continued prayers for** – Ross M., MarLynne M., Steve S., Kent C., Ann C., Esther R., Scott, Christopher, Marcia & Richard, Russell M., Kyra H., Donald K., Jane Z., John N., Donald H., The Hosmer Family, Brenda D., Susan J., Elena B., Jay B., Susan S., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Kelly M., D., M., L., and Katie B.

For our Homebound Members: Lilly P., Earlene B., and Eileen H.

For the World: for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in places of violence or oppression, and for the many places in our world where there is danger and desperation. We continue to pray for the people in Ukraine and for the innocent people in Gaza, Sudan and Iran. For those suffering in other countries in the Middle East. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced.

For our Nation: For the healing of divisions and the celebration of diversity; for the recognition that no single viewpoint on any issue, no matter how important, is without human error; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression and exploitation.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community: Donald J. Trump, President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills our Governor; and Susan Hawes our Mayor; for those who administer justice in the courts of this land, that they all may serve our nation and the world with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., and Joshua M. For all members of our military currently in harm's way. We pray for peace. We also give Thanksgiving for all veterans and their willingness to lay down their lives for our country.

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week including: Penelope B., Judy J., Karl S. and Deborah T.

For the Departed: Melissa Alleborn and for our service members killed in the current conflict.



St. John's Episcopal Church

225 French Street, Bangor, Maine 04401

207-947-0156

<http://www.stjohnsbangor.org>



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!