

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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



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### Rector's Essay **The Permeable Self**

When I endured the ordination process in the Episcopal Church, a full psychiatric screening was required; The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). Questions on the test included, "Do you ever hear voices?" and "Do you ever talk to people who are not there?" As I took the test, I thought to myself, "St. Francis would fail this exam!"

What a pickle for a young person of faith aspiring to serve the church! If I am honest and say, "Yes I do pray to God and I hear responses," will I be rejected as a crazy person?

In short, here is the dilemma of faith in the modern age. Our basic permeability to a living God who guides us, speaks to us, listens to us, moves through us, inspires us, and urges us to Christ-conformity is insanity from a secular perspective, i.e. the perspective of exclusive humanism and the buffered self.

**To continue reading this essay, scroll down.**

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### Celebrate Pride at the Pride Parade in Bangor

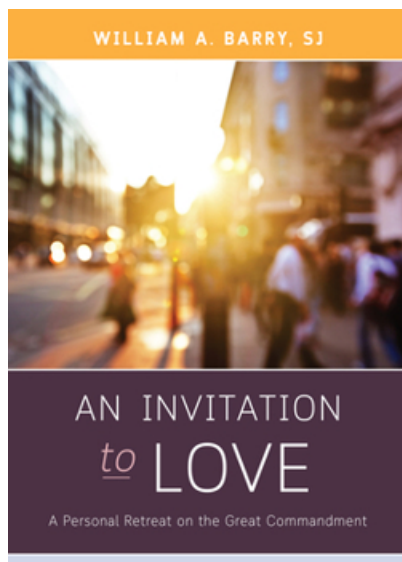
St. John's will be marching in this Saturday's Bangor Pride Parade and we hope that you will join us. The weather app is predicting a partially cloudy 75 degree day, perfect for marching in a parade. Put on light summer clothing (don't want to overheat), bring your water (staying hydrated is important), and let's help to make Pride a special and inclusive event for the entire community.



We'll be lining up on Main Street. Parade organizers, located at Davenport Park (on the corner of Cedar and Main St) can direct you to our group - Greater Bangor Episcopal Churches. We are in Group 3, and we'll be lining up on the right hand side of Main Street behind group 1. Lining up begins at 10:00am and we start marching at 11:00am. Between 10:00am and 11:00am is a wonderful time to get to know our fellow Episcopalians and catch up with those we haven't seen in a while.

The photos here show the last few years of the local Episcopal Churches marching together. We've always

had a great time at the Pride Parade. Let's make this year's group the largest we've had yet!



### **A Summer-Long Retreat: AN INVITATION TO LOVE, a retreat in real life on the Great Commandment**

Jesus' Great Commandment to each Christian was and is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind". This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 27:37-40)

Doesn't it seem increasingly true that the first part of this passage is relatively easy in comparison to the second? Do you think – or hope - we're given a pass on either part just because – in our opinion - so many of our neighbors are thinking and acting so very WRONG? Hmmmm...

Please consider joining a group of your fellow parishioners as together we attempt to find a bit of spiritual renewal and strength over the summer. We will be following a set of readings and meditations in [An Invitation to Love by William Barry, SJ](#) who was one of the most

experienced and best-loved spiritual directors of our time.

"An Invitation to Love provides a practical and adaptable sequence of prayer sessions on the great commandment of the Christian faith: to love God and love our neighbor. All other aspects of a healthy and hopeful life grow from our practices of love. When we experience God's love for us, we can respond with a growing love for God. Loving God will transform us into people who can love our neighbors, too, whoever they are. The voice that speaks in these pages so personally and warmly is that of William A. Barry, SJ, who for decades has gently accompanied people in their prayer. His understanding of Scripture, expertise in nurturing spiritual growth, and joyful confidence in God's desire for our friendship prepares a welcoming and walkable path to conversation with God and renewal in our hearts." - Amazon.com

Class will begin on Thursday, July 2nd at 6:30-7:30pm on [Zoom](#). We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, please contact Pat at [formation@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:formation@stjohnsbangor.org).

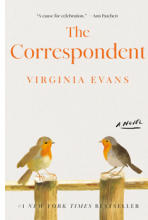
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### **St. John's Young Adult Group**

On **July 18th at 4pm**, the **Young Adult Group** will be gathering at Jarrett and Alison's house in Hancock. We will enjoy a variety of (optional) outdoor activities (hiking, kayaking, swimming, etc.) and conversation, followed by a communal dinner. Additional upcoming event include the [Summer Sidewalk Art Festival \(July 11th, 10:00am\)](#) in downtown Bangor. Generally, anyone between the ages of ~25-35 is welcome to participate. For questions and to RSVP, please email William Somes at [WilliamLauringSomes@gmail.com](mailto:WilliamLauringSomes@gmail.com).

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### **Women's Book Group**



The Women's Book Group invites you to their next meeting, on July 21st at 2:00pm, to discuss "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans. The group meets on Zoom and all are welcome. Please contact the office with any questions. The group meets on [Zoom](#) and all are welcome. Please contact the [office](#) with any questions.

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### **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).

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## **Summer Service time change is coming July 5th. . .**



**Serving the Community since 1835**  
*Join Us For*  
**SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
*Sundays at 9:00am*  
*Starting July 5th*  
[www.stjohnsbangor.org](http://www.stjohnsbangor.org)

### **Rector's Essay - The Permeable Self - Continued**

When it came time to hear the results of the MMPI, I went to see a psychiatrist at St. Luke's Medical Center in New York City. Sitting in his stuffy, over-heated office listening to the results, I could feel in my body the heavy gray cloud of depression hanging on this man. As an empathetic, feeling and permeable person who is no stranger to depression, I could feel his feelings without him telling me.

Ironically, the permeability that is key to priesthood and discipleship showed up in a conversation designed to make sure I did not experience unspoken messages.

Tanya Luhmann, the great American Anthropologist, explored the modern dilemma for people of faith in her book, "[When God Talks Back](#)." By embedding herself in a charismatic church on the South Side of Chicago she studied the direct reports of spiritual experiences of the church members. She did this with great sympathy but also with the distance that comes from social-science observation. She concluded that communities of

faith represent strange islands of permeable people within a larger culture that only recognizes the buffered self of modernity.

And to that I say, thanks be to God. We have a real (in fact the most real) gift to share in a lonely, despairing, atomized age. We exist in communion with God and each other. Our lives unfold under the loving care of our God who subtly moves in us and around us to shape our lives and redirect us to our full humanity in Christ!

-Jarrett

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**Serving on Sunday June 28th at 8:00am:**

**Lectors – TBD**

**Chalice Bearer – Cindy L**

**Serving on Sunday June 28th at 10:00am:**

**Lectors – Ben O., Richard W. and Chris M.**

**Acolytes – Dakota M., Gavin F. and Robert F.**

**Chalice Bearers – Patricia S. and Jacquie W.**

**Ushers – Ken H. and John H.**

**Counters – Marsha C. and Jim B.**

**Serving on Sunday July 5th at 9:00am:**

**Lectors – Jacquie W., Nancy D. and Chris M.**

**Acolytes – TBD**

**Chalice Bearers - Grant P. and Jacquie W.**

**Ushers – Ken H. and John H.**

**Counters – Jim B. and Paul J.**

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.

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***Sunday's  
Readings***

[Genesis 22:1-14](#)

[Romans 6:12-23](#)

[Matthew 10:40-42](#)

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

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***Morning  
Prayer  
Monday -  
Friday:***

**What's Happening This Week**

**Saturday, June 27th, 10:00am:** The Bangor Pride Parade.

**Sunday, June 28th, 8:00am:** Rite II Eucharist spoken service, in person, followed by Coffee Hour in the Undercroft.

**Sunday, June 28th, 10:00am:** Rite II Eucharist with Choir, in-person and on [YouTube](#), followed by Lemonade on the Lawn.

**Sunday, June 28th, 7:00pm:** [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

**Thursday, July 2nd, 6:30pm:** Invitation to Love Retreat on [Zoom](#)

**Friday, July 3rd:** The Parish Office is closed in observance of Independence Day.

**Sunday, July 5th, 9:00am:** Rite II Eucharist with Choir, in-person and on [YouTube](#), followed by Lemonade on the Lawn.

**Sunday, July 5th, 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](http://www.stjohnsbangor.org).**

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**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.

9:00am  
Morning  
Prayer  
[Zoom](#)  
[Facebook](#)

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

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

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](mailto:children@stjohnsbangor.org).

**\*\*\*Nursery Care and Children's Chapel is on Hiatus and will resume on September 13th\*\*\***

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### **Opportunities to pray together:**

#### **Sunday Morning Eucharist**

8:00am in person and 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](#)

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**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](#)**

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#### **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](mailto:prayers@stjohnsbangor.org).*

**For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed, and for those who have requested prayer:** Joan P. and Allison S. **Continued prayers for** – Susan S., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Henry L., Kelly M., D., M., and L., Katie B., Ross M., MarLynne M., Kent C., The Robbins family, Ann C., Esther R., Marcia & Richard, Russell M., Will, Neal, Carl H., Earlene B., Donald K., Jane Z., Susan J., Elena B., Doreen W., Mikenzy, and Jay B.

**For our Homebound Members:** Bonnie A., Kathy C., Ginny F., Carolyn L., Evelyn L., Roberta D., Carolyn S., Esther R., Gary S., Deborah T., Lee W., Donna W., Lura W., 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 people in the Middle East and Sudan. 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.

**With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week.**

**For the Departed:** 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>



St. John's Episcopal Church | 225 French Street | Bangor, ME 04401 US

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