

St. John's Episcopal Church

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



9:00am Summer Service time change starts THIS SUNDAY, July 5th

Serving the Community since 1835

Join Us For

SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sundays at 9:00am

Starting July 5th

www.stjohnsbangor.org

Rector's Essay **Magnifica Humanitas**

On Sunday, I had the pleasure of attending a discussion of Pope Leo's encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas* with Pax Christi at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Our open and thoughtful conversation covered the introduction and the first chapter. I walked away with a grateful heart.

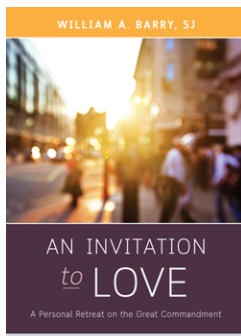
It is so refreshing to sit down with fellow Christians of goodwill who are eager to learn and seek God's guidance together. People of all ages gathered around the table and everyone had insights to share.

I hope you will add this very well written and accessible encyclical to your summer reading list!

One thing I admire about the church based in Rome is their biblical, reasoned and disciplined approach to social teachings. Even when I do not agree with the conclusions at least the effort has been made to be clear! *Magnifica Humanitas* begins with a very helpful review of past social teaching encyclicals, and as such is a primer for applied Christian ethics.

To continue reading this essay, scroll down.

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Pride Parade last Saturday. We had a fabulous time and can't wait to do it again next year!



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)

We meet on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm on [Zoom](#). Our guide is : [An Invitation to Love by William Barry, SJ](#). We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, please contact Pat at formation@stjohnsbangor.org.

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.

Fresh Start

Scott Pardy, founder and president of Fresh Start, is grateful for all of the support they are receiving from St. John's. Here is some current information on the [Fresh Start program](#):



Fresh Start continues to expand its vital footprint in Maine's recovery community, providing the stable, supportive environments necessary for individuals to rebuild their lives. By focusing on accountability, community, and safety, we help residents transition from the challenges of early recovery to independent, fulfilling lives.

Our Current Footprint

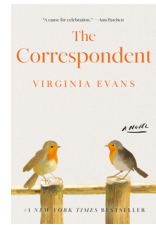
- Total Homes: 22 certified recovery residences across the region, offering safe and stable living environments.
 - Capacity: 180 residential beds, serving as a critical resource to meet the high demand for structured recovery housing north of Augusta.
 - Standards: Proudly maintaining full certification by the Maine Association of Recovery Residences (MARR), ensuring the highest ethical and operational standards.
-

Final Disposition of +Lev Sherman's ashes

Pastor Elaine Hewes will preside at a brief service on Sunday, July 19, 2026, at 9:30 am at St Brendan the Navigator in Deer Isle, Maine, after which the remaining ashes of the Reverend Levering B. Sherman, Jr. will be interred in the Memorial Garden of the churchyard. All are welcome.

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.



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 - Magnifica Humanitas - Continued

I am passionate about Christian Ethics and Christian Social Teachings so I will be offering a discussion of *Magnifica Humanitas* in August. The encyclical addresses the key Christian testimony about human dignity grounded in our creation as image bearers of God, and the role that meaningful labor plays in expressing the creative power we share with God.

At one point in the discussion, the participants all agreed that the Tech Billionaires driving AI seem to dislike collaboration with actual human workers and want to replace us with robots and AI. Moreso, the Trans-Humanist thinking that drives this sector puts the transcendence of a few select humans above the good of humanity in general. Essentially, we are facing a form of tech driven eugenics, and that is frightening, immoral, and opposed to God's will.

Here is the document at this link! Can't wait to talk about it!

https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html#INTRODUCTION_

-Jarrett

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

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

Acolytes – Grant P., Isaac P., David C. and Evelyn S.

Chalice Bearers - Grant P. and Jacquie W.

Ushers – Ken H. and John H.

Counters – Jim B. and Paul J.

Serving on Sunday July 12th at 9:00am:

Lectors – Ben O., Ann H. and Nancy D.

Acolytes – David C., Obi O. and Eric G.

Chalice Bearers – Cassy P. and Nancy D.

Ushers – Andy H. and Patty H.

Counters – Hilary G. and Don L.

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

***[Zechariah](#)
9:9-12***

[Romans 7:15-25a](#)

***[Matthew](#)
11:16-19, 25-30***

***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, 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.

Monday, July 6th, 2:30pm: The Parish Office will be closing early.

Thursday, July 9th, 6:30pm: Invitation to Love Retreat on [Zoom](#)

Saturday, July 11th, 12:00pm: Second Saturday lunch for the community. For more information on how to get involved, contact [David C.](#)

Sunday, July 12th, 9:00am: Rite II Eucharist with Choir, in-person and on [YouTube](#), followed by Lemonade on the Lawn.

Sunday, July 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 Beesorchar at children@stjohnsbangor.org.

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

Opportunities to pray together:

Sunday Morning Eucharist

9:00am 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: Laurel, Roy G., Robin S., Brian M., Cindy K., Perry D., Donna W. and Leith W. **Continued prayers for** – Joan P., Susan J., Elena B., Allison S., Jay B., Susan S., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Henry L., Kelly M., D., M., and L., Katie B., Ross M., MarLynne M., Kent C., Ann C., Esther R., Marcia & Richard, Russell M., Earlene B., Donald K. and Jane Z.

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 including: Aella C., Ruth G., Ken H., Obi M. and Obi O.

For the Departed: Fred Knuth and for our service members killed in the current conflict.



St. John's Episcopal Church

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<http://www.stjohnsbangor.org>



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