

St. John's Episcopal Church

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



Rector's Essay Small Joys

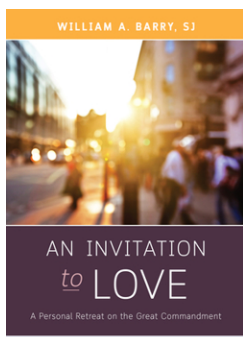
Gardening gives me joy, great and small. Just yesterday, on my day off, I sat in the cool shade next to our perennial garden recovering from hot and heavy yard work. On the unfurling cone flowers, daisies, and bee balm, butterflies flitted about gracing the garden with the colorful mottle of their wings.

During my short spell in the shade I observed a pair of Great Spangled Fritillaries, a Northern Crescent, and a Canadian Tiger Swallowtail. Bees buzzed around the bee balm as well.

The dance of these insects against the colorful fireworks of the blooming garden touched my soul. Joy rose up in my heart like the tickle of fragile butterfly wings in my chest.

Taking time for small joys revives the soul and balances our moods. It is no wonder that the butterfly was adopted as a symbol of the resurrection. God's goodness is everywhere and we know it when our hearts are uplifted and our love for life enriched.

-Jarrett



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. Generally, anyone between the ages of ~25-35 is welcome to participate. For questions and to RSVP, please email [William Somes](#).

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.

Vacation

It's summer and a perfect time for a few weeks of vacation. Fr. Kerbel will begin his summer vacation on July 20th and return on August 11th. The Parish Office will be open during most of his vacation (it will be closed on Monday August 10th).

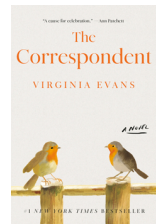


Morning Prayer

Our weekday Morning Prayer service will be taking a three week summer break and will not meet July 20th -August 7th. They will return on Monday August 10th.

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.



Brown Bag Encyclical Study

On August 19th and 26th at 6:00 pm the Rector will host a lively study of Magnifica Humanitas, the first encyclical of Pope Leo. The encyclical is a remarkable document that summarizes the best of Roman Catholic Social Teaching and applies it to the rising challenge of Artificial Intelligence to basic human dignity. Roman Catholic Social Teaching is an amazing resource for disciplined Christian moral reflection, the deliberate exploration of what it means to "Love God and neighbor and enemy" in our current moment. You can access the encyclical here: www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html. Please join the class by emailing the Rector at jarrett.kerbel@stjohnsbangor.org.

Memorial Service for Lewis "Lew" Phillips

A memorial service for Lew Phillips will be held at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Cape Elizabeth on Saturday September 19th at 11:30am. Please see the obituary in the [Bangor Daily News](#) for more details.

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).

Serving on Sunday July 19th at 9:00am:

Lectors – Shannon W., Kelsi H. and Michele V.

Acolytes – Robert F., Dakota M. and David C.

Chalice Bearers – Richard W. and Robert F.

Ushers – Mary W. and Zach W.

Counters – Marsha C. and Don L.

Serving on Sunday July 26th at 9:00am:

Lectors – Ben O., Richard W. and Zach W.

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

[Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19](#)

[Romans 8:12-25](#)

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#)

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

Saturday, July 18th, 4:00pm: Young Adult Group Gathering. For more information please email [William Simes](#).

Sunday, July 19th, 9:00am: Rite II Eucharist, in-person and on [YouTube](#), followed by Lemonade on the Lawn.

Sunday, July 19th, 10:30am: Vestry Meeting

Sunday, July 19th, 7:00pm: [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

Tuesday, July 21st, 2:00pm: Women's Book Group on [Zoom](#).

Thursday, July 23rd, 6:30pm: Invitation to Love Retreat on [Zoom](#).

Sunday, July 26th, 9:00am: Morning Prayer, in-person and on [YouTube](#), followed by Lemonade on the Lawn.

Sunday, July 26th, 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: Jane M., Kurt K., Sean C., Judy A., The Kosciusko Family, Mikenzy, Laurel, Roy G., Robin S., Brian M., and Cindy K. **Continued prayers for** – Ann C., Esther R., Marcia & Richard, Russell M., Perry D., Donna W., Leith W., Earlene B., Donald K., Jane Z., Joan P., Susan J., Elena B., Jay B., Susan S., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Henry L., Kelly M., D., M., and L., Katie B., Ross M., MarLynne M., and Kent C.

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: Meredith A., Arlene F. and Virginia F.

For the Departed: Georgia and Dennis Kosciusko 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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