St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Sunday November 22nd - Dedication Sunday

November 22nd, this Sunday, is Christ the King Sunday and will also be when we come together and bring our 2027 pledge cards for dedication. Additional pledge cards are available on the table to the right when you enter the Church, on the table by the name tags and in the hallway between the Church and Chapel.

Rector's Essay
O What a Week!

Beloved members of St. John's, what a week we had. In one week we hosted a profoundly moving program for Veteran's Day, our wonderful Second Saturday Community Meal, and a gangbuster of a Dinner Auction as well. To cap it off, we enjoyed a serene Contemplative Evensong in the Chapel on Sunday evening.

Well done good and faithful servants of Jesus at St. John's!

Color me massively impressed by the industry, ingenuity, creativity, dedication, organizational ability, good will, and determination that went into the creation of these high quality events. Significant funds were raised at the Dinner Auction, but of equal importance was the community building fostered by that fun and freewheeling evening of togetherness.

Scroll down to continue reading.

Choral Evensong

St. John's Episcopal is pleased to invite you to our first Choral Evensong of the 2026-2027 season on Sunday, November 22nd, at 5:00 pm. This will be a particularly special presentation, as this weekend hosts the commemorations of Thomas Tallis, John Merbecke, and William Byrd, three giants of English sacred music, as well as St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music, and the author C.S. Lewis. The music team at St. John's has crafted an Evensong service that has each of these venerable artists represented in our music and readings. Please join us for this celebration of English music and literature!

Second Saturday

November's Second Saturday was a phenomenal success! The menu this month was glazed ham, stuffing, green bean casserole, homemade mashed potatoes, cranberry sauces, rolls, and assorted cookies and pies. Our luncheon served in the Undercroft was very well attended with many unhoused neighbors appreciative of the warm welcome and space. Later in the evening we served the same menu for the dinner service at the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter with many sharing what a treat the meal was for them. Thank you to everyone who came and volunteered time and cooking skills! Special thank you to Tommy and Ruthie who made beautiful art that graced our Undercroft tables.

The Advent of Advent

We have some wonderful materials to help you and your family observe a spiritually rewarding Advent. They are available on a table in the back of the Church and in the Undercroft. We have a day by day devotional guide for Advent called "Gospel Voices: Advent with Matthew, Mark, Luke & John." We have an Advent calendar with daily prompts for prayer and reflection. And, as always, we have Forward Day by Day. Please make a donation as you are able to defray the cost of these excellent devotional aids.

Christmas Baskets

St. John's is organizing a special Christmas project through Penquis Cap to provide turkey dinners, groceries, and toys for needy families. Donations from St. John's parishioners entirely fund this initiative, and we are reaching out for your support to help cover the costs of food and gifts.

This year, we aim to assist around 12 families, benefiting approximately 20 children in total. Each basket of food costs about $170, so helping these 12 families will cost $2,040. If you would like to contribute, please give a check to the church and include "Christmas Basket Project" in the memo line.

We are also welcoming donations to help needy families pay for heating oil. Please direct heating oil gifts to the Rector's Discretionary account.

Starting on November 29, there will be a giving tree in the Undercroft. You will be able to pick the name of a child and buy a gift for them, or donate oil to the Salvation Army for needy families.

Vestry and Delegate Nominations are Open

The Vestry is seeking nominees for four open Vestry positions for three year terms that begin in 2027. If you would like to nominate someone or self-nominate please submit names to the Rector, Wardens or any Vestry member. A Nominations Committee of the Vestry will receive all nominees and create a slate that will be presented to the Annual Meeting for a vote. We are also seeking four members to serve as delegates to our Annual Diocesan Convention. All nominees must be regular in attendance, Baptized Christians, and pledging members of the congregation.

Give Thanks on Thanksgiving Eve

All are welcome at our Holy Eucharist celebrating the Fall Harvest Festival gifted to us by the original inhabitants of this land on November 25th at 7:00 pm.

Make an Advent Wreath for Home

Lighting Advent Candles at the dinner table is a lovely Christian practice! The four candles help us countdown to Christmas and focus our prayer for the coming of the Light! On November 29th, the first Sunday of Advent we will host Advent Wreath Making during coffee hour. We will supply a variety of evergreen cuttings and the oasis ring-forms which come with candle holders. Please feel free to bring other adornments to share like pine cones, winter berries, ribbon etc. The ring-forms cost $25 each so please use this link to sign up and reserve one for your family https://forms.gle/9qj7aqMyoa62v3EH9. We will have 25 rings, so sign up soon.

Wednesday Eucharist in Advent

Join us for healing prayer on Wednesdays in Advent (Dec. 2nd, 9th and 16th) at 12:30pm in the Chapel. We'll be offering a serene, contemplative Eucharist as we progress through this season of Advent.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Advent Tea, following Lessons and Carols on December 13.

We need sweet, savory, cheese, crackers, fruit, and finger sandwiches. Items should be **ready to serve finger food delivered in a disposable container**. The up sheet will be with Emma Perry in the Undercroft after service. This year we will also host a children' s tea party in the children's area. Come join us!

The Saint Adrew's Guild

A Second Salvation Army Meal Team

Our new team will serve on the second Monday of each month, gathering next on December 14, from 9:30am-1:00pm at 65 S Park Street in Bangor. As churches have gradually stepped back from volunteering at the Salvation Army, we'd like to help fill some of those gaps and ensure this important ministry continues. If you're interested in cooking, serving, or simply lending a hand, we'd love to have you join us! Please contact **Alison B.**

New Year's Resolutions for Coffee Hour!

Alison and Brian need backup! Alison will train you on how to do Coffee Hour for double the normal salary. Please **contact her** so we can plan for January absences!

Fresh Start

LAST CHANCE to buy Fresh Start raffle tickets and help new Fresh Start residents with their rent as they find their feet and obtain employment! Today is the last Sunday for purchase. Please see **Alison B**. at coffee hour.

Rector's Essay continued

I could try to thank everyone involved but that list might include more than half the congregation! Many people pitched in to make each of these events a success and that all hands on deck attitude is a beautiful virtue of this church community!

I could not be more grateful.

Putting on big events can be stressful and the details overwhelming. Over and over again I saw adaptability, grace, and good will overcome all obstacles. I saw sober judgment, wise leadership, generous giving of talents, the give and take of compromise, and a clear focus on the objectives at hand.

I have said it before, and I will say it again; what a marvelous community of able leaders we have at this church! It really stokes my belief that God has equipped us well to do His will in this place and time.

Behind the scenes some church members were rescuing people experiencing homelessness from the streets and lodging them in warm motel rooms at night until the shelter's open. Others were walking the sidewalks and inviting folks to Second Saturday, handing out warm clothes and praying with our neighbors on the street. Once again, what a blessed ministry.

Once again, I am grateful beyond words.

-Jarrett

Announcements during the Sunday Service

This fall, the announcements will be made after the Prelude and before the Processional Hymn. If you would like to make an announcement or have the Rector make an announcement for you please let him know by the Friday before Sunday. We are making this move so our worship can be one unbroken focus on God.

Printed 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 email weekly announcements and printed bulletins. Please submit photos / posters as a JPEG, and announcements in Word (not in a PDF).

*****Announcements for the November 29th service bulletin or e-newsletter must in by noon on Tuesday November 24th due to the Thanksgiving holiday*****

Serving on Sunday November 22nd at 10:00am:
Acolytes - Grant P., Isaac P. and Evelyn S.
Chalice Bearers - David C. and Grant P.
Counters – Hilary G. and Mary W.
Lectors – Hilary F., Katharine F. and Michele V.
Ushers – Katharine F. and Mary W.

Serving November 22nd at 5:00pm Evensong:
Acolytes - Eric G., Robert F. and Ruth G.
Lector - The Rev. James Haddix
Ushers – Jim B. and Mary W.

Serving November 25th at 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve:
Acolytes - Grant P., Isaac P. and Eric G.
Chalice Bearers - Nancy D. and Cindy L.
Lectors – Nancy D.
Ushers – TBD

Serving on Sunday November 29th at 10:00am:
Acolytes - Dakota M., Edmund H., Matilda H.
Chalice Bearers - Nancy D. and Jacquie W.
Counters – Jim B. and Roger G.
Lectors – Brandon M., Emma P. and Chris M.
Ushers – Roger G. 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

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday Worship:
Worship Bulletin

Evensong Bulletin

YouTube

What's Happening This Week

Sunday, November 22nd, 10:00am: Rite II Eucharist with choir, in-person and on **YouTube**, followed by Coffee hour in the Undercroft. Sunday School is available during the service.

Sunday November 22nd, 5:00pm: Choral Evensong

Sunday, November 22nd, 7:00pm: **AA** meeting in the Undercroft.

Tuesday, November 24th, 9:30am: Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen. For more information contact **Claudia and Jim**.

Tuesday, November 24th, 6:00pm: Investment Finance Meeting

Wednesday, November 25th, 7:00pm: Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist

Thursday & Friday, November 26th & 27th: The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sunday, November 29th, 10:00am: Rite II Eucharist with choir, in-person and on **YouTube**, followed by Coffee hour with Advent Wreath making in the Undercroft. Sunday School is available during the service.

Sunday, November 29th, 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.

Morning Prayer

Monday - Friday:
9:00am Morning Prayer
Zoom
Facebook

Tuesday-Thursday:
in person in the Bethlehem Chapel

Evening Prayer
Monday - Friday:
5:15pm live on **Zoom**

Children's Chapel

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

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
10:00am in person and on YouTube
Morning Prayer
Mon-Fri, 9:00am on Facebook and on Zoom
and in person Tuesday - Thursday in the Bethlehem Chapel
Weekday Meditation
Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30am, 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 Sanchez family, Holly M. and her family, Kent and Sallie, and Bill and Ann. **Continued prayers for** – Charles L., Nancy M., Sean C., Kent C., Ann C., Earlene B., Donald K., Jane Z., Frank B., Kimberley M., Marsha, Veronica Y., Susan J., Laurel, Ann, Elena B., Jay B., Susan S., Loretta, David B., Debby, Kenny B., Jane P., Henry L., Kelly M., D., M., L., Donna W., Mark M., Amber, David, Bonny, Shawn, Robin S., Katie B., Ross M., MarLynne M., and Russell M.

For our Homebound Members: Bonnie A., Kathy C., Ginny F., Carolyn L., Evelyn L., Roberta D., Carolyn S., 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 Daniel Carson 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: Spencer S., 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: Deacon Ann and Eli S.

For the Departed: Hugh Morrison and for our service members killed in the current conflict.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Wendell Livingston
by Ann Holland

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