

ST. JOHN'S HERALD

St. John's Episcopal Church
518.274.5884 | 146 1st St., Troy, NY 12180

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2021

"God has blessed St. John's by assembling a group of people with just the right set of skills, talents, and aptitudes who willingly work together selflessly to further His kingdom." pg. 2

CONTENTS

Editor's Note	2
Ministry: Cantor	3
A Look Back	5
Deacon's Den	7
Pictorial Directory	7
Children & Youth	8
Daughters of the King	10
Welcome to Maggie	11
Ordination	11
In Memoriam	12
Adult Education	13
Calendar Links	14

A Message from the Rector

As I write this, we are about to re-open. New York has moved out of the dark red zone that precipitated our current closure, and our county has followed suit. Around the country on the COVID map, states are turning from red to orange to yellow. Twenty-five parishioners have begun their vaccinations and some have received their second doses. It is difficult for me to imagine—although this year has been full of the unimaginable—a scenario in which we would close again.



During this period, we have necessarily become accustomed to distance. Last summer, when we visited my lovely mother-in-law, she greeted us all with hugs. I found myself thinking, oh my goodness, what is she doing? Is this alright? My reservations gave way as I surrendered to the luxury of this sweet and generous embrace. It had been six months since I had been greeted like this by anyone outside of my household. And it has been six months more.

As we emerge from this pandemic, when we have been so deprived of human company, what will it be like for us? I am reminded of Psalm 126. This is one of the songs of ascent that pilgrims sang as they climbed up the hill to the city of Jerusalem. It was a reminder of the time when, after they had been held captive in Babylonian, they could return to Jerusalem. "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, at first we were like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy."

The fortune of gathering without fear. The luxury of a hug. We had no idea how rich we were. In gradually giving us back these treasures, let us recognize that the Lord has done great things for us, and be glad indeed.

Mother Judith+

A Note from the Editor

Merriam-Webster defines unity like this: "the quality or state of not being multiple: oneness"; and another way I like better, "a condition of harmony." Unity is the opposite of being divided and we yearn to be united, not divided. In the midst of strife and rancor, we are challenged to think about what unity looks like, how does it work? Is it even possible or is unity just a lofty, unattainable idea?

I was able to attend one of St. John's recent Zoom conversations, facilitated by Dr. Rene McGovern, about Francis Collins' book, *The Language of God*. In preparation for the discussion, I also read bits of another book, *Questions of Truth: Fifty-one Responses to Questions about God, Science, and Belief* by John Polkinghorne and Nicholas Beale. John Polkinghorne is an English physicist, theologian, and Anglican priest, and I have enjoyed reading his books in the past. One of the ideas suggested in the book is the relationship between evolution and cooperation. This quote expresses the idea:

It is increasingly clear that almost nothing of scientific interest really consists of isolated pieces, each "selfishly" acting without regard for others.

Examples of collaboration, interaction, and cooperation are cited from the fields of chemistry and biology, and astounding interdependencies in ecosystems are described. Interestingly, before St. Paul describes the characteristics of love in 1 Corinthians 13, he uses a biological metaphor in Chapter 12 to illustrate the cooperation of different parts of the body, "that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another."

Lofty stuff, but what does cooperation look like in our lives? Can we see it in action? For the past several months, I have been working in St. John's office as interim parish secretary, and I see cooperation in action every day. God has blessed St. John's by assembling a group of people with just the right set of skills, talents, and aptitudes who willingly work together *selflessly* to further His kingdom. What I find most hopeful about cooperation in this context is that it is a choice: we can be intentional and choose to cooperate with each other—putting aside self-interests—and foster a spirit of harmony and oneness. May the cooperation alive at St. John's inspire unity in each aspect of our lives. ✝

Jennifer Firth

Schedule for Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

Palm Sunday, March 28, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Watch for details about in-person and live-streaming options!

A Day in the Life of a Cantor

Tiffany Dzembo

Cantor:

A person who leads the singing in a church or synagogue.



7 a.m.

Today is Sunday and I am to be cantor for the service. This is not a responsibility I take lightly, so I wake up early to make sure I have plenty of time to warm up my voice and body. I do some vocal warm-ups and then do some stretches. While I make my breakfast, I run through the hymns for the day. I have sung these hymns before, so I can get away with a quick review of each instead of a full study. Without a choir to sing with, every note is exposed and there is no one else to listen to if you lose your way. I have to be confident of every note: from time to time, I go over to my piano to spot-check that I'm staying on pitch, or to make sure the interval I'm singing is correct. Today there will be no pre-service choir rehearsal, so I am blessed to have the ability to practice and prepare on my own.

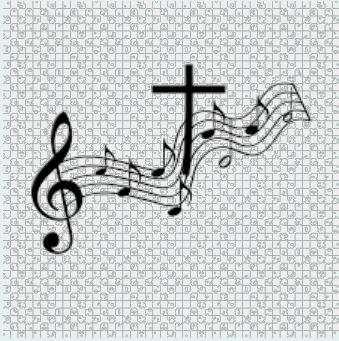
9:15 a.m.

Before leaving the house, I make sure I have my athletic-mask and a bottle of water with me. The athletic-mask is important because the synthetic fabric is easier to breathe through and it is structured with layers so that the fabric doesn't move when you are breathing in and out. I will never forget the first time I sang wearing a regular cotton mask. I felt as if I were inhaling the whole mask with each in-breath. I will never do that again! The last time I was in Church, I was allowed to sing without my mask on; but with COVID-related precautions constantly changing, I want to make sure I'm prepared. I jump in my car and continue to do some warm ups while I drive the short commute through Troy. Thankfully, there aren't too many people out to witness me pretending to chew a jaw breaker (in order to loosen up tension in my jaw), or buzzing my lips together repeatedly—a sight I am sure would make a stranger question my sanity.

9:30 a.m.

I find a parking spot easily enough and I make sure to put my mask on. I enter the church at the main doors so that I can check in. My temperature gets taken and I complete the necessary screening. I grab a bulletin just in case I need one, although usually Mother Judith has left me one from the 8 a.m. service. I walk through the hall to the choir lockers and after putting on my robe, I check in with our organist, Ted. Once again, experience is on my side. Ted and I have been working together for a long time and we each have an innate understanding of how each chant or hymn will be performed. I ask him a few questions about his tempos or omitting a descant and with that, I am ready. I make my way to the designated cantor spot. It is shielded by a clear plastic barrier behind which is a lectern (as music stand) and a dedicated microphone. I also have at my disposal a dedicated kneeler and chair. I like this spot because it happens to be right next to a heater that is usually piping hot!

A Day in the Life of a Cantor (continued)



I see the clergy begin to line up and I wave or say "Hi" as they pass by. I turn my microphone on. This plastic barrier in front of me is surprisingly effective at keeping anything from traveling into the church, including sound. This is where the microphone comes in. Singing with a microphone can be slightly different from singing without one, but we are really blessed to work with Jason Smith who sits in as an audio engineer and seamlessly adjusts levels as needed throughout each part of the service. While the microphone adds one more thing to remember, the plastic barrier allows me to sing without a mask. However, I am quick to replace the mask whenever I am not singing. As someone who takes their social distancing pretty seriously, even I feel safe being a cantor at Church, thanks to all the precautions that are put into place.

10 a.m.

The organist starts playing the first hymn and the procession begins. The first note is always the hardest, even for someone who has done this time and time again. Despite all my preparation and experience, I am still a little surprised when my voice comes out on pitch. In addition to just plain old nerves, I can't see Ted from where I stand. It is by listening to his organ and reading the music that I know when to come in. There is no head nod or hand gesture to cue me in or cut me off. Any deviation by either one of us could lead to disaster (and has). By the second verse, we have found our groove and I am able to relax into the music. I can faintly hear people singing under their masks. While this is a comforting change from when we were not allowed to sing at all during the service, I still wish the rest of the choir were here.

11:20-ish a.m.

The service is done and I head back to the choir lockers to take off my robes, put on my coat and scarf, and go on with my day. On a good day, I'll get to chat a little bit with a member of the clergy or one of the acolytes, but today I am alone. In pre-COVID times, this area would be bustling with people warmly greeting each other as they moved to coffee hour. Today it is quiet and cold. Honestly, it makes me sad. This isolation is so symbolic of the pandemic and the changes we have all had to make because of how this virus spreads. Music making for most musicians is a collaborative act. Singing in a choir is not just about making music, but also about building relationships through music. I know in my heart of hearts that singing in church for me is not just about building a relationship with my fellow congregates but more importantly, it's about building a relationship with God.

And for that, I am eternally grateful. ✝

A Look Back

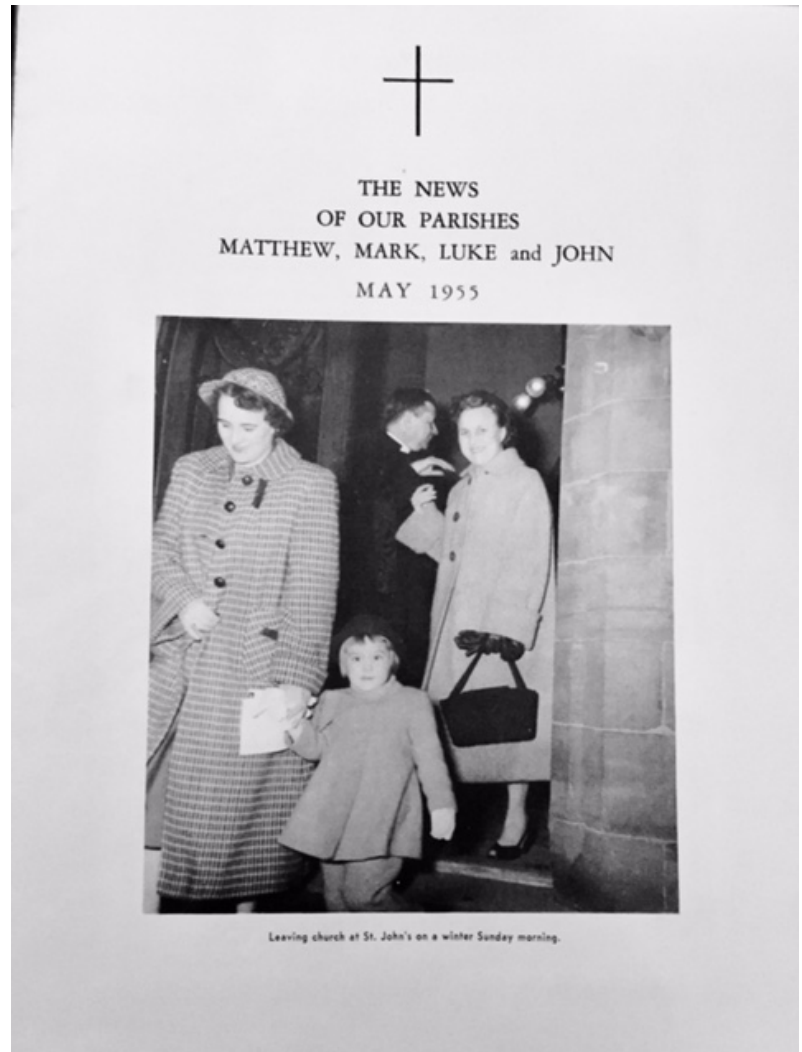
Donna Rem

Over the years, St. John's has formed close relationships with other churches. One such example is the connection with the Episcopal parishes of St. Matthew's Church in Latham, St. Mark's Church in Green Island, and St. Luke's Church in South Troy. Why did these four parishes come together?

Due to World War II, gasoline rationing became a problem for parishioners who drove a distance to church. St. John's was authorized by Bishop Oldham to organize a mission chapel in the Latham area and services began with 25 families in November 1943 in a firehouse. To help with the additional responsibilities, St. John's vestry approved the hiring of a curate in December 1946, but he was not found until the summer of 1948. Two years later, a representative from the Latham congregation was invited to hold a seat on the vestry. After the war, the Latham congregation expanded and in 1951 moved into the Colonie Grange Hall. By 1953, they had raised ample funds to build a chapel on Old Loudon Road and its cornerstone was laid the following year by Bishop Barry. The building was consecrated as St. Matthew's Church, and three years later a Church School wing was added. In 1961, the parish was healthy enough to become independent with the former vicar, Rev. Stephen Gillepsie, as rector.

There had been pressure in early 1865 to establish a south Troy mission among the iron workers. In late 1866, St. John's, along with St. Paul's agreed to support the new congregation that had begun worshipping in the Mechanics Hall on Mill Street. St. John's members contributed \$6,000 towards the construction of the new church and annual donations by the parish were made until 1886. St. Luke's Church was completed in 1868 on land acquired on First Street and Burden Avenue. St. John's pulpit was loaned to St. Luke's in the early 1930s. In 1952 when St. Luke's was unable to afford a new minister, Bishop Barry asked St. John's rector, the Rev. Bradford Burnham and the vestry to assume responsibility for the neighboring church and they agreed. However, upon the retirement and departure of Mr. Burnham, the satellite church relationship was ended in May 1970. Sadly, St. Luke's Church did ultimately close and the building was demolished in 1974.

At nearly the same time that St. Luke's became a satellite church, St. John's also took on a similar role with St. Mark's Church on Hudson Avenue in Green Island. Although St. Mark's, built in 1866, had not been a mission church of St. John's, the new relationship was encouraged by a longtime member and vestryman, Uri Gilbert. It continued until September 1969 when the rector of St. John's announced his retirement. St. Mark's Church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 and closed in 1979. The building currently houses the Village and Town Offices for Green Island and is the Green Island Power Authority headquarters. ✚



A Look Back (continued)

The work of the year in all four of our Parishes has been very good. Possibly the prize should go to St. Matthew's. Their new Chapel has been bursting its seams. At times there has not been room enough for all of the people who wish to come to the services. The Church School at St. Matthew's is growing by leaps and bounds. The Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Gillespie, and his Superintendent, Mr. Purdy, are wondering where to find the space to accommodate the children. St. Matthew's is certainly on the move.

St. Mark's too has had a very fine season. Not for many years has the Parish had such a feeling of prosperity. The gifts to the church have been most generous. The Endowment Fund this last year was increased substantially, and more and more people are coming to the Parish services.

St. Luke's has been earnestly and courageously facing the necessity for more and more repairs. All of the organizations of the Parish have turned to in loyal fashion to make this possible. The results show in a completely renovated church roof, and new equipment in the Parish house kitchen, and in a number of smaller items which had to be taken care of here and there on the Parish property. People of St. Luke's are keen on meeting their highest missionary apportionment this year. This splendid, loyal, earnest Parish deserves our sincere commendation.

The month of May this year marks the One Hundredth Anniversary of the consecration of St. John's Church building. Bishop Wainwright came from New York on May 31, 1855, for the ceremony. St. John's is justly proud of its beautiful Gothic structure. A simple celebration of the occasion is being held on Tuesday evening, May 31, 1955, with dinner in the Parish House. Bishop Barry will be our guest on that occasion and all of the members of our Parishes are invited to attend.

St. John's is fortunate to have had in the legacy left to the Parish by Miss Josephine Hare the fine piece of property on Locust Avenue which is to be used as the Rectory. When the necessary renovations are completed the house and grounds will meet the need of the Rector and his family in a very substantial and in all ways desirable manner.

On two occasions this last season at St. Luke's and at St. Mark's all of the Parish have met for choir festivals. It is the hope of the clergy that such occasions may increase, and that all of us will find many other ways of getting better acquainted, and of giving willing support to one another.

The members of the clergy staff send you their very sincere greetings.

REV. BRADFORD H. BURNHAM, *Rector*
REV. STEPHEN W. GILLESPIE, *Vicar*
REV. FREDERIC C. GUILLE, *Curate*

The winter stair image on the previous page and this narrative are taken from the front and inside cover of a 1955 issue of a Parish Magazine that showed 25 photographs from the four parishes.

The narthex photograph below is a candid winter scene from the same time.

If you recognize anyone in the two photos (apart from our rector, Mr. Burnham), please let the church office know for the archives' records.

The wisemen in the photograph from our December/January article have been identified as Bob Montgomery and Arthur Stuarts III.



From the Deacon's Den

I can't believe that it's time to pen another article for **St. John's Herald**. It seems that the time goes by very quickly. I never know what to write, but I would think that by now you all know what I'm all about. My favorite part of my ministry is Pastoral Care. With many deaths this past year, we certainly had our hands full. As you know, besides that there was keeping track of everyone during the period when we were first closed for church services. We have a long list of parishioners and Mother Judith and I did our best to keep in contact. If we missed anyone, I apologize. With that said, I am looking forward to 2021 as we bid farewell to 2020. I guess that many of you are as glad as I am that the election is over and that the Inauguration has taken place peacefully without any violence. I hope this article finds each and every one of you in good health. We have been very lucky so far, dancing around the COVID-19 virus, and I hope it stays that way.

On a more personal note, Marilyn and I have moved into our new home at 702 Anthony Street, Troy, NY 12180. Although we have a Troy mailing address, we are still in North Greenbush, about a mile from our old house. Marilyn and I are enjoying the new

home tremendously. We have a triple window in our living room that overlooks a screened-in porch where Marilyn sits daily, awaiting the arrival of turkeys, deer, and various birds. We were very lucky to pick one of the first building lots that backs up to the woods—it will be forever wild. For me, the best part of the new home is that I don't have to do any of the outside maintenance. We moved here in June and the lawn was cut all summer long. Then when we received our thirty inches of snow, I just looked out the window and watched as they worked through the night removing it. At our old house that would have been me out there all night long. Thank you, Lord, for snow-removal. As I close, I pray that each and every one of you has a safe and healthy New Year.

Blessings! ✚

Deacon Paul



Parish Pictorial Directory on Its Way!

After many hours of very hard work, our new pictorial directory will be ready for our annual parish meeting on February 28!!! We are so grateful to have this resource available to parishioners and staff, especially after the social distancing of the last ten months. Our previous directory was distributed in 2014, so was in great need of an update. The project was begun in 2019 under the direction of Lisa Thorn, put on hold during our rector transition and the pandemic, and given renewed attention in the last few months.

We are pleased with the talents of our parish photographers Brian Thomson, Sandy Hutchinson, and Dave Hunn, and grateful for those who sent "selfies" our way. Robin Prout has been responsible for the design which features 150 photographs of individuals, families, church groups, and archival treasures. The book will be printed by Prout Printers, under the able direction of Bill and Lissa Prout.

Copies of the new pictorial directory will be available starting on February 28 along with an updated parish list that has been lovingly brought over the finish line by Jennifer Firth. Plans for distribution to all parishioners are underway. The directory is an impressive accomplishment that will bring us closer together in 2021! ✚

Ringling In the Joy!

Katherine Brillat

As soon as the Halloween event, Trunk or Treat, was over, I started pondering and praying about Christmas and the kids. Several weeks went by without even a viable inkling in this time of social distancing. Then it hit me....

Bells! Yes, bells!

I give full credit to Holy Spirit for planting this idea in me, as I wasn't even thinking about it when the thought came to me. I immediately started looking online and found the sets I liked. I ran the proposal by Mtr. Judith who wholeheartedly supported it.

I remember the day that the bells arrived at my home. Like everyone else, I didn't have much going on in my mostly-quarantined life. I tore into the box and began to play, uh, practice. "Hmmm, I'm definitely going to need more people to figure this out," I thought. Sam and I were blessed to have my daughter, Tara Mae, and her husband, Ben, stay with us over the Thanksgiving break. That was just the crew I needed. We all went to work. Initially frustrated, I thought, "What did I get myself into?!" But with prayer, perseverance, and the patience of my posse, we finally got there!



Next step—recruiting the chimers! After a few emails and shout-outs from Mtr. Judith, I was thrilled to have fifteen participants! Awesome! But how was I going to keep them six feet apart? With God's help, of course. (Did I mention, lots of prayer went into this?) We started in the gym, grouped in families, in preplaced assigned chairs, with markers to represent the lectern, choir pews, and pulpit. We practiced with the CD at first. I was amazed at how quickly they picked it up. It was such a moving moment for me that I got teary. This was a real LIVE face-to-face happening after so many months of separation! My joy grew even more when the gifted Lydia Smith joined us and led us on her cello. That is when it all came together. For the next few weeks, we practiced five songs: "Silent Night," "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Jingle Bells," "Joy to the World," and "O Holy

Night." The process/rehearsal was an enormous part of this blessing from God. We played "Silent Night" and "Angels We Have Heard on High" at the early (family) Christmas Eve service for our gracious church family.

Our goal was to glorify God, share joy, and enjoy! Mission accomplished! ✚



Ringin' In the Joy! (continued)



Thanks to all the parents.

Thanks to Lydia.

Thanks to all the Chimers:

Mona Bruce, Ava Ferriero, Carson Ferriero, Lila Ferriero, Brendan Fisher, Cameron Fisher, Seamus Hoback, Conner Keenholts, Ellie Keenholts, Saige Keenholts, Clara Littlefield, Elaina Littlefield, Madeleine Mizer, Ariana Shuluwa, Oliver Wallace, Tate Wallace.



Daughters of the King

Jennifer Firth

Krisita Jackson, National President of The Order of the Daughters of the King, recently announced that, much to her dismay and that of the others on the National Council, the Forty-eighth Triennial—originally planned for June 2021—is postponed until June 2022. Krisita shared that it had been her “most fervent prayer that the COVID-19 pandemic would end so we would be able to meet in Baltimore for Triennial 2021.” This was also the fervent prayer of Daughters throughout the world, who yearned to gather together this June to rekindle sweet friendships, establish new ones, and draw strength and hope from one another. But this was not to be. Rather there was another disappointment, another happily-anticipated occasion when carefully-made preparations had to be to put aside, and possibly never happen.

At times such as these, my first inclination is to withdraw, retreat, and isolate. And this is precisely why I am a Daughter: because as a Daughter, I am surrounded by a community of sisters who will pray for me and with me, encourage and comfort me, and shine the Light of Christ through the darkness. Daughters commit to pray--for each other, for our church families, for our communities, and for the world. Together we celebrate each other's joys, bear each other's burdens, and support each other through the messiness and confusion we face.

Here is a prayer a Daughter offered to pray during the pandemic:

*Lord, we ask Your Presence with us this day. When normally we gather and hug and clutch hands and enjoy each other's company, we now must keep our distance and communicate by phone and electronics. Lord, we are grateful that we have these technologies and that we can continue to hold each other up during this stressful time. We ask that You be with each one of us as we go about our daily lives helping us to fulfill our vows of prayer and service. Help us to do what we can for others and remind us that You are with us, in our lives, in our joys, and in our fears. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen***

So, we are grateful for the technologies we have as they allow us to continue to gather together during this difficult time. Our chapter has been meeting via Zoom throughout the pandemic. If you would like to learn more about the Daughters of the King, please contact Cindy Tysiak (cintys@aol.com) or Linda Muller (lmuller2@nycap.rr.com) +



St. John's Daughters chapter--The Daughters of the Holy Spirit--presently conduct their monthly meetings via Zoom. The next meeting will be Monday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to join us.

Welcome to Our New Parish Bookkeeper!

With joy we welcome to our staff Maggie Hasslacher! She is remarkably well qualified not only for this position of bookkeeper, but also for this moment in the life of our parish. She brings to our parish not only educational and professional training and experience, but also a wealth of history with and understanding of the Episcopal Church and our diocese.

Maggie Hasslacher has more than 20 years' experience in business management and non-profit management, and specializes in assisting churches in setting up and maintaining best practices in business finances. Having been employed by the Diocese of Albany since 1999, at both the 68 South Swan Street offices and for seven years as Assistant Director of the Spiritual Life Center, she has worked in many capacities for three Bishops and two Deans of the Cathedral.

Because she recognizes that good stewardship is a Biblical imperative, she focuses on developing strong financial controls that foster ways in which the office staff work more effectively and efficiently.

Maggie has an MBA, with Nonprofit focus. She is the Executive Director of *Healing a Woman's Soul, Inc.*, is a leadership development consultant, a Notary Public, a Crown Money Map Mentor, and an experienced social media strategist. She walks, reads, and makes jewelry in her spare time.

She and her husband, Stephen, have more than 20 nieces, nephews and godchildren whom they love and pray for every day. The Hasslachers enjoy a good baseball game, have taken up hiking, and look forward to climbing Mt. Marcy together this coming summer.

Welcome aboard, Maggie!

Mother Judith+



Candidates Ordained to the Diaconate

Five candidates were ordained to the Sacred Diaconate at the Cathedral of All Saints on Saturday, January 23, 2021, four of whom have connections to Saint John's. Amy Lewis first discovered her vocation here in our community, before she left to minister at Oaks of Righteousness. Helene Patterson served as parish administrator for a number of years here. Jonathan Beck, who recently preached here, has been meeting with a discernment team that includes Deacon Paul and was organized by Jennifer Firth. And David Carlson is the father-in-law of Katie Brillat's daughter, Tara Mae. Deacon Amy will be assigned to St. John's in June, after completing her training. +

Seen before the Ordination: Deacon Paul with candidates Helene Patterson and Amy Lewis.

May They Rest in Peace



John "Johnboy" Ballard
(September 15, 1951
to November 22, 2020)

John was a devoted husband who dearly loved his wife, Florence; a very proud father to Tabatha, Lucinda, and Jeannie; and ecstatic about his grandchildren: William, Jimmie, Ariana, and Ace. He was a happy-go-lucky guy, with a spirit that could not be broken even in the toughest of times. John shared his experiences and imagination through paintings, poems, prayers, many letters, and homemade cards. His resilient spirit will inspire us always. ✚

*"...I am the
resurrection
and the life..."*

John 11:25



W. Harry Prout
(August 2, 1933
to December 11, 2020)

Harry was beloved husband for 63 years of Elissa Robison Prout. He was the loving father of sons William and James, daughters Carol and Alison, and their families. He had resided in the Troy area all his life and was active in numerous local organizations. Harry was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He was a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology with a degree in Graphic Arts and Printing Management. In 1953, Harry began working with his father at their Troy business, The Prout Printers, Inc. The business is now run by his son, Bill.

A member of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association, Harry had a love for woodworking and teaching his grandchildren the art. Wooden sled ornaments that he created for the annual St. Nicholas Fair at St. John's were always a popular favorite. Harry's endurance and cheerful outlook will forever inspire us. ✚

Adult Christian Education

Mother Judith

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. in 2021

Since mid-January, about a dozen of us have been gathering for adult education via Zoom. For our first two weeks, we enjoyed a delightful discussion led by Dr. Rene McGovern, on Francis Collins's *The Language of God*. Rene, who is a psychologist by training, led a wide-ranging conversation about genetics, evolution, the big bang theory, the biblical creation narratives, and spiritual evolution, all informed by our various academic backgrounds and faith journeys. I am so grateful to Rene for setting such a gracious and inviting tone for these lively evenings!

Our evenings continue in a series on the Anglican tradition. We are approaching this historically, beginning with the planting of the church in England during the time of the Roman Empire and arriving at the current time. Each period had its wonderful people, holy reforms, spiritual writings, beautiful music, missionary activity, new institutions, and architectural developments. All of these deposits continue to influence how we worship and live in community as part of the global Anglican Communion. This series is in a lecture/discussion format. Part of the pleasure of these evenings is that we come to understand how each of us has arrived in the Episcopal Church, and what gives us life here.

Evenings will focus on:

- The founding of the church in England; its pre-Reformation life
- The Reformation
- The Elizabethan period
- The period of the Caroline Divines, including John Donne and George Herbert
- The Wesleyan revivals
- The "Reform of Manners"
- The Oxford Movement
- The British Empire and Missionaries
- The 20th Century



We will take a flexible approach to this, breaking for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Watch the mid-week e-blasts for links, and join us for some engaging discussion!

Each of these evenings can stand alone, so jump in any time—especially if you are drawn to a particular period.

And if you have never accessed Zoom, you are not alone. Many parishioners have been there before you. Please give the office a call, and we will do all that we can to make sure that you are able to join us. +

ST. JOHN'S HERALD**Editor** Jennifer Firth**Associate Editor**

Gail Richardson

Header Design/Template

Rebecca Rem

Published every other
month online bySt. John's Episcopal
Church

146 First St.

Troy, NY 12180

518.274.5884

Print copies available
by request.Story contributions are
welcome. Please contact
an editor with your ideas!**CONTACT ST. JOHN'S****Interim Parish Secretary**

Jennifer Firth

Email:

office@stjohnstroy.org**The Reverend Canon**

Judith W. Malioneck, Rector

Email:

rev.jmalioneck@stjohnstroy.org**Deacon Paul Carney**Email: hamn2uzr@aol.com**Children's Ministries**

Katherine Brillat

Email:

kbrillat@stjohnstroy.org**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

www.stjohnstroy.org

Save the Date

These parish items are in the calendar:

Vestry Meeting, February 9, 5:30 p.m. online and open to the parish

Ash Wednesday Service, February 17, 7 p.m.

Candlelight Meditations, Fridays February 26 - March 26, 5 - 6 p.m.

Annual Parish Meeting, February 28, 11:30 a.m. Watch for details.

Vestry Meeting, March 9, 5:30 p.m. online and open to the parish

Palm Sunday, March 28, Watch for details.

PLEASE NOTE:Watch for email messages from the office for details and other
upcoming events.**You will find other events at these websites:**Cathedral of All Saints <https://www.cathedralofallsaints.org/special-events>Christ the King Center <https://ctkcenter.org/events>Christ the King is offering a four-part virtual monthly seminar, "The Place
of the Heart," Saturdays, beginning February 27. (Details in the link
above.)**ST. JOHN'S PARISH CALENDAR**For the current version of our February Calendar: click [here](#)For the current version of our March Calendar: click [here](#)**THE MISSION OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS:***TO WORSHIP AND GLORIFY JESUS CHRIST,
TO PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE JOYOUSLY, AND
TO SERVE THE WORLD THROUGH GOD'S GRACE*