



York

August/September 2019

St. John's Church—The Eagle



Ogdensburg, New

## Words From the Wardens

The Vestry continues to work diligently on the search process for a new Rector at St. John's with the support of the Diocesan Transition Officer, Mtr. Elizabeth Papazoglakis. We thank you for your ongoing prayers and support.

Richard O'Donnell has resigned from the Vestry and as a member of St. John's. As a result, the Vestry has decided that our theater ministry under the name "St. John's Conservatory Theater" will end. We have witnessed the growth of the St. John's Conservatory Theater Ministry and enjoyed the shows produced over the last five years. With the closing of SJCT, the opportunity to continue a theater ministry emerged and we have established a new covenant agreement with ACT Children's Theater at St. John's. Please see the article in this newsletter about this exciting new ministry focused on young people.

We are very grateful for the support of the congregation of St. Paul's in Waddington who changed their service time to allow Fr. Art Garo to serve as our supply priest. This is truly a "homecoming" for Fr. Art who grew up at St. John's and served many years here as a deacon. Keeping our service at 9 am supports our radio time on WVNQ, 92.7. Did you know that we have been on the radio continuously since 1945? Next year we will celebrate 200 years for St. John's, 150 years for our church building and 75 years of broadcasts!

We have enjoyed a summer of fantastic weather. Summer is always a unique time in the life of a church – the long season of Pentecost is considered "ordinary time" in the church calendar, Sunday School and the choir are on a break and many parishioners take vacations. One event at St. John's that livens up the summer is Vacation Bible School and this year's Pandamania was no exception.

Rally Sunday on September 8<sup>th</sup> will mark the return of fall routine. The choir and Sunday School will be set to resume. This is an opportunity for everyone to “rally” together and celebrate all that is St. John's.

As part of the search process, we conducted a survey that solicited individual feedback. The displays at Rally Sunday will focus on the things that St. John's does. But what is it that shapes the identity of St. John's as a community? The Vestry is planning a fall event that will bring everyone together to consider this question as we prepare to welcome a new Rector.

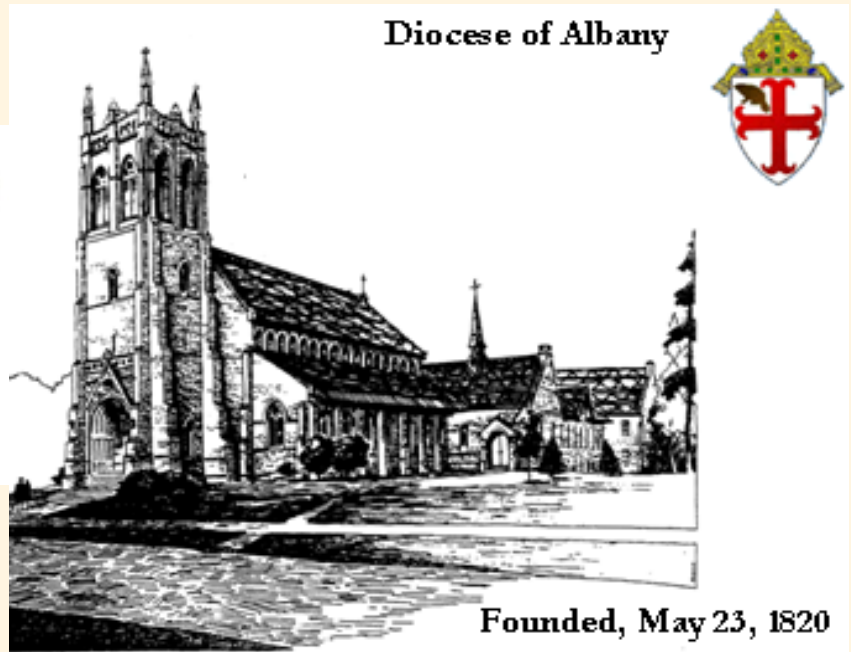
Sincerely,

Nancy Alzo and Eric Warner

THE  
*Episcopal*  
CHURCH



of St. John's



**WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

<b>Sunday:</b>	9:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Main Church
	9:00 am	Children's Chapel and Nursery (during the school year)
<b>Thursday:</b>	9:30 am	Healing Mass—Parish Hall
	10:30 am	Bible Study & Refreshments to follow



### August

8/1	Averee Bouchey
8/4	Hilda Friot
8/5	Gus Becker
	Sarah Benware
8/11	Kathy Bowser
	Christopher Burdick
8/14	Bill LaMere
8/15	David Martin
	Rogene Palmer
	Harriet Dandy
8/18	Natalie Lesniak
8/21	Paige LaRock
8/24	Valerie Sovie
8/25	Christopher Dwyer

### September

9/2	Jennifer Davison
9/2	Jeannette Perrault
9/2	Vicky Woodard
9/5	Linda Burrows
9/9	Donna Burdick
9/9	Theresa Kearns
9/10	Beverly Becker
9/12	Arlene Monell
9/13	Joan Foote
9/21	Julie Fobare
9/22	Stephen Roberts
9/23	Janice Brown
9/26	Kathleen Brugel
9/27	Marsha Barkley
9/27	Audrey Harper
9/27	Heather Ladouceur
9/30	John Storey

## *In Loving Memory*

### **Weekly**

#### **Altar Flowers/Broadcast**

If you would like to donate towards weekly Sunday flowers, the broadcast or a candle contact the church office.

Flowers -\$15.00

Broadcast - \$25.00

#### **Available Dates:**

Flowers - Sept 22 & 29

Oct 6, 20 & 27

Nov 3 & 17

Dec 1, 15, 22 & 29

Broadcast - Dec 15, 22 & 29



### August Anniversaries

8/8	Storm & Kim Cilley
	Matthew & Kylie Lavarney
8/23	Ryan & Angela Davis

### September Anniversaries

9/6	Joseph & Valerie Sovie
9/24	Henry & Donna Bentley
9/24	Jack & Donna Logan

# OUR CHURCH HISTORY



## St. John's Church History Corner

### St. John's Church Bicentennial History – Nancy Alzo

While the St. Lawrence River has served as an international border between the United States and Canada since the end of the eighteenth century, there is a long history of cooperation and friendship between residents on either side of the river.

With the decision to tear down and rebuild the original St. John's Church in 1870, the congregation needed a temporary place to worship. Shortly after demolition of the church began, the congregation received a cordial invitation from the Vestry and Rector of St. John's Anglican Church in Prescott to worship with them.

According to a brief entry in the Ogdensburg Journal on May 10, 1870, "most of the congregation" travelled to Prescott on the steamer *New York* on the previous Sunday and arrangements were in place for any interested parishioners to travel to Prescott on the *New York* at no charge for the next three Sundays.

Afternoon Sunday School classes and winter-time services were held in the old Town Hall on Washington Street.

<sup>1</sup> The text of the invitation is reproduced in the St. John's Church Year Book, 1920.

Afternoon Sunday School classes and winter-time services were held in the old Town Hall on Washington Street.

While also sharing a name, St. John's in Prescott has a history that closely resembles ours. The church was founded one year after our incorporation – in 1821 – on land donated by early settler and landowner, Susannah Jessup. Their original frame church was outgrown by 1858 and a new stone church, that remains their current building, was consecrated in 1860.

The temporary arrangements for St. John's worship were just that. Barely three months after demolition began, Bishop Doane visited on July 25<sup>th</sup> to lay the new building's cornerstone. The congregation gathered at the home of Mrs. Knap on Caroline Street and processed to the building site chanting Psalm 122 as the service began.

“I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord...Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces... Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.”

Almost exactly one year later, on July 27, 1871, Bishop Doane was back to consecrate the new church. Sale of pews in the new church took place on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

When the early settlers established the non-denominational church in Ogdensburg in 1805, they promised to pay an annual “subscription” to cover the cost of a minister. At the time, they met in existing community space and did not have the expense of a church. Once St. John's was incorporated and a physical building constructed, the sale or rent of pews became a significant means of meeting the expenses of building and clergy.

<sup>2</sup> Ogdensburg Journal, July 27, 1870. The article reports in detail on the service including additional psalms, prayers and hymns sung.

<sup>3</sup> Ogdensburg Journal, August 2, 1871.

## Upcoming Events for September and October

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(some information may be subject to change – for up-to-date information,  
please check our web site [www.stjohnsogdensburg.org](http://www.stjohnsogdensburg.org))

August 27<sup>th</sup> 9 am - 11:30 am– Food Pantry Distribution

September 8<sup>th</sup> – Rally Sunday

September 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm – Vestry Meeting

September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am– Parish Life Meeting

September 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am – Daughters of the King

September 24<sup>th</sup> 9 am - 11:30 am– Food Pantry Distribution

October 10<sup>th</sup> – Parish Life Meeting

October 12<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am – Daughters of the King

October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM - Vestry Meeting

October 29<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am– 11:30 am Food Pantry





### Coffee Hour Hosts

We all enjoy our fellowship time after Sunday Service. We always need people who are willing to host. Please see Rose Sovie for information or to sign up. You can always find her after church...at Coffee Hour!



### *Food Pantry Sundays*

We are grateful for everyone who donates food and money to support our food pantry. We are able to help a significant number of families every month on our distribution day – the last Tuesday each month.

Our goal is to provide a box of food that supports the preparation of several complete meals.

In order to help keep a variety of foods available, we are starting “Food Pantry Sundays” to coincide with distribution days. Two weeks before, Rose and Donna will identify specific needs and we’ll put their wish list in the Sunday bulletin. On the next Sunday, you may bring a list item to church and place it in the bin at the entrance. The gifts will be presented at offertory.

The first “wish list” will come out on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> for collection on September 22<sup>th</sup> and distribution on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please continue to give to the Food Pantry as you always have. This special Sunday gives the opportunity for us to address gaps in supplies and to regularly acknowledge the good work that is done.



## *Rally Sunday – September 8<sup>th</sup>*

Traditionally, the second Sunday in September is celebrated as “Rally Sunday” in many churches. As the summer wanes and routines return, we take this time to re-engage in the programs and ministries of our church. We welcome back Sunday School and our choir.

After service, we'll gather in the Parish Hall for light refreshments and an opportunity to review displays that outline programs and ministries here at St. John's. This is an opportunity to learn and to consider how you might engage in the activities that truly make us who we are.

We will provide drinks, hamburgers and hot dogs.

Please bring a complimentary dish to pass. There are sign up sheets in the back of the church and in the Parish Hall to help us estimate numbers for our preparations. If it is more convenient, just call the church to let us know – 315 393 5470.

Come and celebrate everyone and everything that is special about St. John's as we approach our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary!



## Vacation Bible School – Pandamanía!



During the week of August 5<sup>th</sup>, St. John's was overrun with pandas in the bamboo forests of China. Between 25 and 30 children each day enjoyed songs, games, crafts, Bible stories and special treats. Panda Pete led us each day while we enjoyed watching "The Mystery of the Missing Pandas". We wrapped up on Friday with a special presentation of music and lessons by the children who then celebrated with a picnic lunch, ice cream sundaes (Thanks, Stewarts!) and water fun. What exciting adventure awaits us next year!



### A Thank you from our VBS Committee Leaders

We want to express our appreciation to everyone who helped make our VBS - Panda Mania a great success. Starting with everyone who stayed after Sunday service to help decorate. A special thanks to Angela, for working with the kids to learn the songs for the wonderful performance they gave on Friday. To Jennifer and Jeannette for the awesome crafts. To Donna B. and Rose for the special tree top snacks. To Panda Pete (Chris Dwyer) for opening and closing each day, and Brian Wehrle for the bible stories. To Arlene and Cathy for taking charge of the registration, to Sharon for taking the pictures. To Lee Perrin and Candy Storey for all the fun games. Thanks to our Warden, Nancy Alzo for assisting Brian, and to all our helpers who did anything we asked them to do. Thank you Mike and Steve for cleaning up after us. Many thanks to Stewart's Shop for the drinks, ice cream and toppings for the sundaes. This was a successful VBS because of all the wonderful volunteers and the children who joined in the fun. God Bless All of You!

Donna Logan and Donna Burdick



Angela Dwyer, Chris Dwyer, and Tanya Ott had a vision for a new theater opportunity for young people and made that a reality this summer by creating ACT Children's Theater. The Vestry has invited them to operate their project as a ministry of St. John's.

They have been joined in their venture by Steve Chambers and John Storey will serve as their General Manager.

The mission of ACT Children's Theater at St. John's is "to encourage area youth to dream, explore, think, and connect through imaginative story-telling on stage...to provide quality experiences in all aspects of theater to school-age youth in the North Country, guided by local professionals... aim[ing] to inspire students to develop a creative mindset within a safe and productive environment that encourages collaboration, creativity, and self-expression".

ACT Children's Theater has held their first workshop at the church with a concluding presentation at the Library Park gazebo on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Plans include additional workshops, talent shows, concerts, cabarets and a full Broadway musical. ACT Children's Theater will use the stage space on the second floor of the Parish Hall for workshops, rehearsals and some productions.

The Theater is a ministry of St. John's and an advisory board has been established including the Theater's creative team and their general manager, a representative from the Vestry (currently John Storey) and parishioner Janice Brown. This ministry will be financially self-supporting and any additional funds raised will be donated to other church ministries or to appropriate charitable organizations in the community.

After just three afternoon workshops, the performance the children (ages 4-17) presented at the gazebo was amazing. To an appreciative audience of 75 people, they acted scenes and performed songs from Mary Poppins with enthusiasm and joy. We look forward to the growth of this new theater ministry here at St. John's.



## *St. John's Online*

Did you know you can read this newsletter online? And access it before the print copy is made available? Just go to [stjohnsogdensburg.org](http://stjohnsogdensburg.org) and look under the **INFO CENTER tab** to link to this and earlier newsletters. You can also let us know that you would prefer to see the newsletter this way to save on printing and mailing costs as well.

While you are on the website, check out the other features. There was a major software upgrade recently that added new features and functionality that we are exploring.

If you are a Reader, you can always link under the **Ministries tab** to check on the current schedule and connect to the online Lectionary to check out the readings for any Sunday.

Need a reminder of an upcoming event or meeting on the calendar? Choose the **Calendar tab** and click on the listing. The option to schedule an email or text message reminder will appear.

Know someone who would like to stay in touch with St. John's remotely? Share our address [stjohnsogdensburg.org](http://stjohnsogdensburg.org) with them.



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

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**Web site: [www.stjohnsogdensburg.org](http://www.stjohnsogdensburg.org)**

**Sunday radio broadcast at 9am on 92.7 FM**

## **The Rt. Rev'd William H. Love, Bishop**

**Wardens:** Nancy Alzo  
Eric Warner

### **Vestry:**

Art Hastings	John Storey
Andy Wells	Donna Burdick
Doug Rose	Richard O'Donnell

**Staff:** Michael Calton, Dir. Grounds and Maintenance

Steve Chambers, Assoc. Sexton

Jeannette Perrault, Parish Administrator

Eric Warner, Chief Financial Officer

Angela Dwyer, Choir Director

Eric Warner, Organist