

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

August 11, 2019

9:00 a.m.

An Ordinary Time Message from the Rector

This is the time of year when the church goes “green.” The church’s ancient wheel of liturgical time slowly turns from season to season. We keep track of the seasons with the specific colors associated with each one. In Medieval times, the colors were the way that most people, who were illiterate, kept track of which liturgical season it was. In early June, we celebrated the Day of Pentecost with vibrant red vestments and altar hangings (the fabric draped on the altar and the bands of fabric that hang from the lectern and the pulpit). On Trinity Sunday, we switched to white, the color of Jesus’s burial garments. Now, we enter into the longest season of the liturgical calendar, ordinary time, with the color green, representing the new beginnings of the church after Pentecost and also the promise of new life in the Resurrection. The word “ordinary” does not mean common or mundane. Instead, it is from the word “ordinal” which means “counted.” We count the Sundays after Pentecost because it is a long stretch of time that spans several months, concluding with the Feast of Christ the King in the late fall, just before Advent.

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available from the ushers.

Our ushers are here to help create a welcoming and safe space for worship. Please speak to an usher if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. Again, welcome.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Variations on *St. Anne*

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

THE OPENING HYMN 68 Rejoice! rejoice, believers

LLANGLOFFAN

All stand and sing.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE KYRIE

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 15:1–6

All sit.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 33:12–22

The people say the words in bold.

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.

- 20 Our soul waits for the Lord; *
he is our help and our shield.
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 510 Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove

ST. AGNES

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

*Luke 12:32–40**Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

All sit.

The Reverend Margie Baker

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people say the words in bold.

As you heard the prayers of Abraham and Sarah, O God, and guided them in the way of your love, so listen now to those who call upon you.

We pray for the Church, that God will renew and deepen our faith so that we may walk with God each step of our life's journey. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of leadership in our government and communities, that they may fulfill their responsibilities with love and diligence and be inspired toward greater listening and compassion. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for spiritual freedom, that we may not be bound by our possessions but see them as gifts from God for our good and that of others. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all whose faith is tested, particularly young people who will be leaving home for the first time this fall, that they may rely upon God for strength and seek God's wisdom in making decisions. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for migrants and refugees, that God will guide them in their search for safety and touch the hearts of many to welcome and encourage them as sisters and brothers. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all whose lives have been shattered by violence, especially the communities of El Paso, Dayton and Gilroy, and for those seeking to assist them, that God will give us empathy and wisdom to protect us all from harm. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, especially those on our parish prayer list, the homeless, the sick, and those with addictions or mental illness, that God will sustain them and lead them to wholeness. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died, especially Emiliana Vecchitto, that they may dwell forever in the heavenly country that God has prepared for them. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant God of Abraham and Jesus, you invite us to contemplate heavenly things and urge us toward faith in you. May your coming among us find our doors open, our tables set, and all your people ready to greet you.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All remain standing or kneel.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Dear Lord and Father

C. Hubert. H. Parry (1848–1919)

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

All stand and sing.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

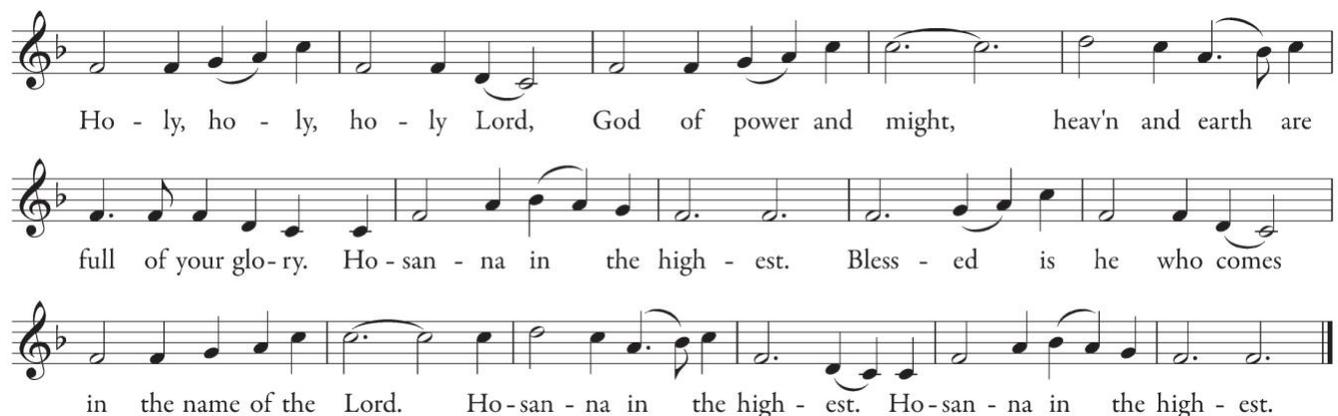
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All remain standing or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

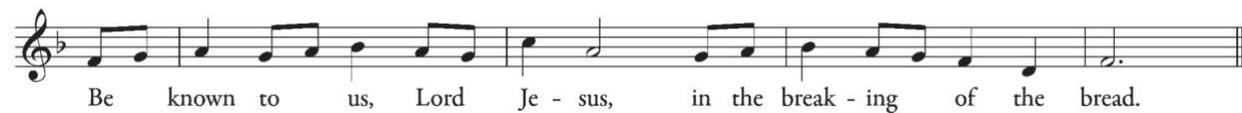
and the power,

and the glory

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM Be known to us, Lord Jesus Gary James (b. 1957)

The refrain is introduced by the choir, then all repeat. The choir sings the verses, and all join in the refrain.



The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Refrain*

One body are we, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread. *Refrain*

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THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.

If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

If you would like to receive Healing Prayers, go to the baptismal font at the rear of the nave after receiving Communion.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN 680 O God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

The minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY Variations on St. Anne – Final Variation

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the Voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton**Preacher:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Layreader:** Jessica Harmon**Organist/Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Ushers:** Emmy Aziz, Steve Crocker**Healing Prayers:** Paul Shaker**Altar Guild:** Jean Mitchell**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center****Layreader:** Bess Amamoo**Musician:** Natalie Giana

**The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in honor of the marriage of Vijaya Jyothsna and José Carlos Diaz.**

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in the armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séminaire de Théologie d'Église Épiscopale d'Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulant, Michael Corey, and our missionary in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Michael	John Vecchitto
Kim Green	Meg	Beth	Beth Maturo Vecchitto
Carol Grieco	Edward Shaker	Chris	
Janet Ray	Edith Connolly	Mary Byrd	
Susan Murray	Linda Evans	Mary Stoughton	
Brad Babbitt	Sally	Walter McKenney	

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Martin Dodd

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Ginger & Colin Gillespie

Anne & John Walsh

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the United Church of South India.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Peter's, South Windsor; Epiphany, Southbury; St. Paul's, Southington; and for liturgical assistants serving in parishes: lectors, lay readers, Eucharistic ministers, Eucharistic visitors, lay evangelists, and vergers.

Sundays in August: St. John's Summer Singers

Anyone, age 8 and up, is welcome to experience the joy of singing in our choir during the month of August at our 9 a.m. service. This is a great opportunity to see what it is like to sing, without the commitment of a midweek rehearsal. A core of our regular choir members will be present and singing to help you feel confident and welcome.

Join us on any Sunday during August at 8:15 a.m. in the church for a brief rehearsal to learn the Offertory Anthem for the day. You can just show up, or contact Scott at music@sjparish.net for details.

Attention Middle/High Schoolers and Parents: Sign up for "Nightwatch" in New York City!

Parents of children in grades 6 to 12 should have received an email earlier this month about an overnight trip that we'll take together to Nightwatch at St. John the Divine Cathedral in NYC! The deadline to turn in registration and the \$50 deposit is Thursday, August 15. If you have questions, or did not receive the email, contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net or 860-523-5201 x 312.



Give away fresh veggies to our neighbors this morning. If you can, please stay for a short time after the 9 a.m. service to staff our veggie giveaway table in front of the church. Each week, we offer vegetables from our community garden to neighbors who, because of financial or mobility limitations, might not otherwise have ready access to fresh produce. It's a great way to connect with neighbors and a great family activity — kids are welcome to help!

Stay after church today to help freshen up the nursery space, where our youngest members are cared for on Sunday mornings.

Teach Sunday School. The program year is just around the corner, and we are looking for a few more volunteers to teach! Teachers serve on alternating Sundays, and all materials are provided in advance. Training will be held on Sunday, September 8 after the 10:30 service. Interested? Contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net or 860-523-5201 x 312.

Purchase Blessing Bag items from our Amazon wish list. On Sunday, September 8, we'll fill Blessing Bags to have on hand as the cooler weather arrives. Blessing Bags are given to people in need who come to the church asking for help, and contain toiletries, a few non-perishable snacks, and warm socks, gloves and hats. The most cost-effective and efficient way for you to help is to order items in bulk from Amazon and have them shipped directly to the church. We've created a wish list for this purpose, which includes bulk packages of trial-size toiletries, single-serve snacks, and warm accessories for men and women. Go to <http://a.co/1bLDv2Q>, purchase one of our needed items, and it will automatically be shipped to the church and removed from the wish list.

Sign up to help prepare or serve food at the Community Block Party on September 15, from noon to 3 p.m. We need people to bake treats ahead of time, as well as cook and serve hot dogs at the event. Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/YtgriwX>.

Help in the community vegetable garden on Wednesday mornings. Our curate, Margie Baker, will be in the garden (which is out back, behind the sexton's house) from 8 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday mornings, weather permitting. All are welcome to stop by (kids are welcome with an adult) to help weed, water and harvest. You don't need to sign up ahead of time, and you don't have to stay for the whole two hours. Just come on by in your gardening clothes, and stay for as long as you can! If you'd like to help but that's not a good time, contact the parish office to make other arrangements.

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SUMMER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

9 a.m. Sunday Holy Eucharist in the church

5 p.m. Sunday Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden

STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net)	Rector
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	Curate
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net)	Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net)	Priest Associate
The Rev. William J. Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net)	Priest Associate
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Financial Administrator
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

**These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.*

VESTRY

Virginia Van Dyk	Warden
Wes Winterbottom	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar	Scribe

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Andrew Worrell

2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Alex Nelson

2019-21: Ellen Flynn, David Grimaldi, Teresa Lohr