

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The First Sunday in Lent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

February 21, 2021

10:30 a.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Hommage a J.S. Bach:
Variations on *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, 2021

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

SILENT PROCESSION

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

The musical score for 'Kyrie Eleison' is written in Plain Song Mode I (Dorian mode). It consists of nine staves of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are: 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' for the first seven staves, and 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' for the last two staves. The music is a simple, melodic line with a final cadence on the last staff.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: *Plainsong Mode I*, Orbis Factor

Translation: *Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 9:8–17

All sit.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 25:1–9

The people say the responses in bold.

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
**let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
**for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:18–22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 150, vv. 1, 4, 5 Forty days and forty nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUF E ICH

All stand and sing or read along.

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
 2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), alt.

Music: Aus der Tiefe rufe ich, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:9–15

*All stand.**Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Linda Spiers

All sit.

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**.*

Trusting in God's love, let us pray for our own needs and those of others, saying *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

For all followers of Christ in every land and nation, that in our words, worship, and work we will honor the covenant made with God in baptism. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For Michael, our presiding bishop; Ian and Laura, our bishops; and our community at St. John's, that the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of Lent may bring forth a new springtime of faith in our lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all nations and peoples and our leaders, and for all who struggle with attractions to wealth, power, and control, that we may be led by the Spirit to serve as a sign of the Kingdom that has come near. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those preparing for baptism or a renewal of baptismal vows, and for all observing this season of Lent, that we may become living proclamations of the good news. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have no choice but to fast every day, for the homeless, refugees, and victims of war and natural disasters. For the sick and suffering, especially those on our parish prayer list, that our Lenten practices may make our thoughts more aware of them, our hearts and hands more generous toward them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, who dwell in everlasting covenant with God. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant God of our salvation, teach us your paths and lead us in your truth, so that by your Holy Spirit, we may remember our baptismal vows and be keepers of your trust with earth and its inhabitants, through Jesus, your anointed one. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Agnus Dei

Georges Bizet (1838–1875)



The Agnus Dei credited to Georges Bizet is based on the Intermezzo from the L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2 taken from Bizet's 1872 music to Alphonse Daudet's play. Bizet had only made one suite out of his L'Arlesienne music, and four years after the death of the composer, the publisher commissioned Bizet's close friend Ernest Guirard to compile another. Apart from preparing this second suite, Guirard extracted the Intermezzo movement and added the catholic Latin text of the Agnus Dei to it. It was published as another "new" work of Bizet.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

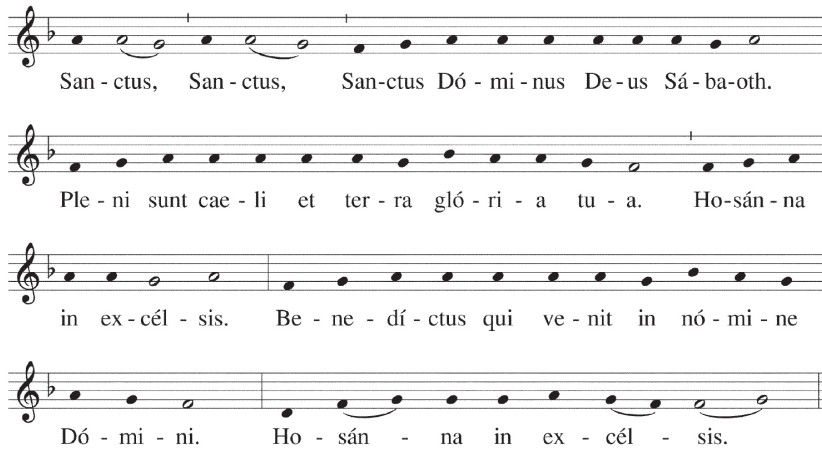
All stand.

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Gracious and risen Lord, we believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. We love you above all things and we desire to receive you into our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you and unite ourselves wholly to you. Never may we be separated from you. **Amen.**

People **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 439 What wondrous love

WONDROUS LOVE

All read or sing along.

Unison



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

*Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835**Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Harmony, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926)*

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Hommage a J.S Bach.:

Christa Rakich

Variations on *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich* (final variation)

Concert and recording artist (and St. John's member) Christa Rakich performs widely throughout North America, Europe, and Japan. She is currently visiting professor of organ at Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio. Near her home in Connecticut, she maintains two artist-in-residencies, here at St. John's and at the Congregational Church of Somers. Past artist-in-residencies have included the University of Pennsylvania and First Lutheran Church in Boston.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker**Preacher:** The Reverend Linda Spiers**Cantor:** Brendon Gallagher**Layreader:** Jyothsna Diaz**Organist:** Scott Lamlein**Assisting Organist:** Christa Rakich**Livestream Oversight:** Francis Lamlein**Altar Guild:** Buffy Ineson

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

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To attend coffee hour immediately after the service and participate in our discussion of this week's spiritual practice, go to <https://zoom.us/j/173504417>

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.

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

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Michael	Patricia
Kim Green	Sue	Beth	Enid
Janet Ray	Billy Ulrich	Chris	Zachary
Brad Babbitt	Jonah Dahlstrom	Ellie Brown	Kimberley
Robert E. Eikel	Whitney Lynch	Judy Gardiner	Kent Lawrence
Gwain Gillespie	William Bittinger	Anita Winters	Susan Origlia & family

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Lydia Henning	Olivia Giuliano
Heidi Gostyla	Blythe Peck
Mary Hardy	Nina Rosselli del Turco
Joel Grieco	Joe Duffy

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Laura and George Hicks
Ginny and Mark Proft

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Timothy's, Fairfield; Trinity/St. Michael's, Fairfield; St. James', Farmington; and for all parish-based mission partnerships; ECCT-wide mission partnership networks; and the Companions in Mission Network.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Go to our web site at <http://www.sjparish.net/> for details.

Sunday School (K-5), 9:30 a.m. Sundays on Zoom

Sunday Bible Study (middle and high school), 5 p.m. on Zoom

Sunday livestream service, 10:30 a.m. on YouTube, Facebook and the web site

Online Family Happy Hour, Tuesdays at 5 p.m. on Zoom

Online Bible study, Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

NEW! Online book discussion on *Love is the Way*, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Participate in the Great Litany, TONIGHT at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Normally on the first Sunday in Lent, we begin the 10:30 service by chanting the Great Litany (a series of confessions and petitions found on page 148 in the Book of Common Prayer) as the choir processes around the church. In lieu of that tradition, this year we will host a recitation of the Great Litany on Zoom starting at 7 p.m. tonight. All are welcome to participate. The Zoom link will be provided in a special e-newsletter this evening.

Resources for observing a holy Lent

St. John's is offering several resources to support your observation of Lent:

- **Lent devotional** – Our fifth annual Lent devotional booklet created by St. John's members and friends is now available. You may pick up a printed copy from a bin at the back door of the church building (the ramped entrance), or get a digital copy via the Thursday e-newsletter or at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/SJLent2021>
- **Cultivating spiritual practices** – For each week of Lent, we will share simple ideas for trying out a particular spiritual practice. Each Thursday's e-news will include a brief video and graphic about that week's practice. On Sunday mornings, we will hold an online Faith Forum after the 10:30 service, where you may ask questions, discuss ideas, or share your experiences. The forum will begin on Zoom after about 10 minutes of online coffee hour. **This week's practice is stillness; see the graphic on the next page for details.**
- **Sunday evening Compline in the Cloister Garden (begins on March 7)** – The EYC (youth group) will begin holding their Sunday evening gatherings in person, outside in the Cloister Garden, starting on March 7. They will close their time together with Compline, which is an evening prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer. **Everyone is invited** to join the EYC for Compline, which lasts about 10 minutes. We will have a fire in our outdoor fire pit, and will only cancel in the event of significant precipitation or extreme cold.

Book discussion group with Linda Spiers begins this Wednesday at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Today we welcome the Reverend Linda Spiers (pronounced Spy-ers), who is assisting Margie with Sunday services until we have a new priest in charge. Linda is the former rector of Trinity Church, Collinsville, and has most recently served as interim rector at St. John's, Essex.

This Wednesday evening, February 24, Linda will begin hosting an online book discussion on *Love is the Way* by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Sara Grace. The discussion will be held on Zoom starting at 7 p.m. If you're interested in participating, please get the book from your favorite book seller or local library and read the first three chapters by Wednesday. We'll provide the Zoom link in a special e-newsletter that will go out Wednesday evening.

Cultivating Spiritual Practice

This week, take five minutes each day to be still and listen. Set a timer (or not), close your eyes, and pay attention to your breathing.

Try repeating one of the following as you exhale:

For God alone my soul in silence waits (Psalm 62)

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46)

God is love (1 John)

My soul is restless until it rests in thee
(St. Augustine)



*Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of
St. John's Renowned Austin Organ*

Pipes Alive!

Sunday, March 7, 2021 12:30 pm
livestreamed from www.reddoormusic.org

CAROLYN CRAIG
Organist



MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

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St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. (livestream video only).

STAFF

The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	<i>Director of Music</i>
The Rev. Walter McKenney (walter@sjparish.net)	<i>Deacon</i>
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	<i>Parish Manager</i>
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	<i>Sexton</i>
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	<i>Financial Administrator</i>
Christa Rakich	<i>Organ Artist-in-Residence</i>
Ralph Valentine	<i>Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus</i>

VESTRY

Geoff Emerick	<i>Warden</i>
Virginia Van Dyk	<i>Warden</i>
Tim Goetz and John Roche	<i>Co-Treasurers</i>

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

2020–22: June Aziz, Jyothsna Diaz, Anne Harney

2021–23: Robert Eikel, Kara Hart, Julia O'Brien, Martin Wheeler