St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another www.sjparish.net



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
FESTAL EUCHARIST
December 24, 2021
11:00 p.m.

Welcome!

To ensure everyone's safety, please observe the following guidelines. We will continue to follow the latest recommendations and monitor our local public health situation, and will revise these guidelines as needed:

- Masks are required for all attending indoor services, regardless of vaccination status.
- Practice social distancing (at least 3 feet) with members of other households.
- Greet one another from a distance with a nod, wave, peace sign, etc.

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 need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out one of the pew cards and put it in the offering box, or hand it to an usher or one of our clergy. Or fill out our online newcomer form at sjparish.net/newcomer-form.

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!

Cover image: Madonna and Child by Angie Andriot, 2017



THE PRELUDE

The St. John's Adult Choir & String Quartet

Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 8 Per la notte di Natale I. Vivace – Grave – Allegro Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713)

People, look east

Christopher Steel, 1982 Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

People, look east. The time is near Of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:

Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Wachet auf ruft uns die Stimme (Wake, awake, for night is flying)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 8 Per la notte di Natale II. Adagio – Allegro – Adagio

Arcangelo Corelli

There is no rose

Jessica Nelson (b. 1983) Text: Anonymous, 14th century

There is no rose of such virtue As is the rose that bare Jesu; Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space; *Res miranda*. (Thing of wonder)

By that rose we may well see There be one God in persons three, *Pares forma*. (Equal in form)

The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis deo: (Glory to God in the highest) *Gaudeamus*. (Let us rejoice)

Leave we all this worldly mirth, And follow we this joyful birth; *Transeamus*. (Let us follow)

Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 8 Per la notte di Natale V. Largo – Pastorale Arcangelo Corelli

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ FESTAL EUCHARIST

THE OPENING HYMN 83, vv. 1, 2, 3, 6 O come, all ye faithful *All stand and sing*.

ADESTE FIDELES arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

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:

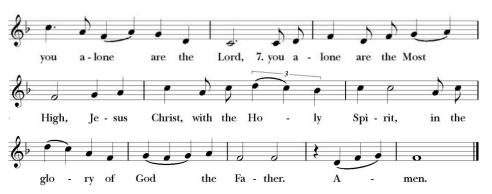
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly

love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE





Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true

Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory

5

everlasting.

People Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2–7

All sit.

he people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 96

The people say the responses in **bold** and sing the Antiphon as indicated.



- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; * proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; * he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; * but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! * Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- Antiphon
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; * ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; * bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; * let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
 he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
 he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; * let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, * when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness * and the peoples with his truth.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11–14

or the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 115 What child is this

GREENSLEEVES

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1–14

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

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**.

Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus.

Gracious God, as a star arose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ child: Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you, that we might be the people you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence: Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives, our faith, and our hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As Gentiles streamed to Jesus's light, and kings to the brightness of his rising: Draw our nation, our president, and all in authority to his brightness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

As angels sang "Gloria" to you, proclaiming peace on earth and goodwill among all people: Help us to share your peace with the world, and bring an end to terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night: Draw us to greater knowledge and love of you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room in the inn: Be present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry, and inspire us to make room for them in our lives and communities. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the Holy Family gathered in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far-off lands: Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of eternal life: Give to the departed eternal rest, and let light perpetual shine on them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially for those on our parish prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Celebrant O Lord our God, may the light and hope of this holy night remind us that you are among us,

that you hear our prayers, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In

the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray,

People 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 Nativity carol

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Born in a stable so bare, Born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so.

Wise men from distant far land, Shepherds from starry hills Worship this babe so rare, Hearts with his warmth he fills.

Cradled by mother so fair, Tender her lullaby; Over her son so dear Angel hosts fill the sky.

Far away silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay, For Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

 $O\text{LD}\ 100^{\text{th}}$

All stand.

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.

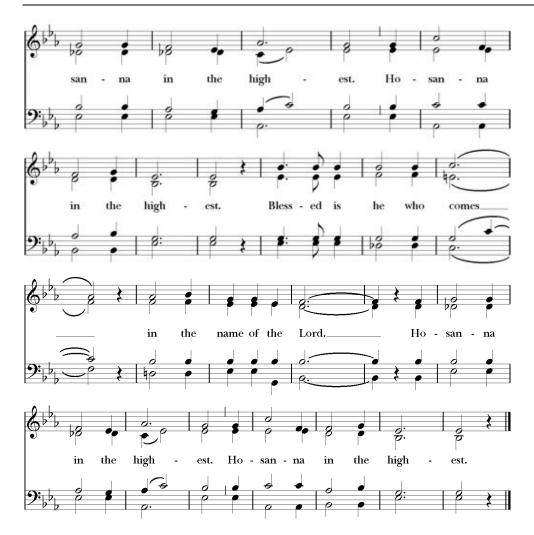
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary, his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc

All remain standing or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.
We proclaim his resurrection.
We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Music: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

If you would like a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

If you have mobility limitations and would like a priest to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let an usher know. A healing minister is available to pray with you this evening; go to the baptismal font after you receive Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM No small wonder

Paul Edwards (b. 1955) Text: Paul Wigmore (1925–2014)

Small wonder the star,
Small wonder the light,
The angels in chorus,
The shepherds in fright;
But stable and manger for God –
No small wonder!

Small wonder the kings,
Small wonder they bore
The gold and the incense,
The myrrh, to adore:
But God gives his life on a cross –
No small wonder!

Small wonder the love,
Small wonder the grace,
The power, the glory,
The light of his face;
But all to redeem my poor heart –
No small wonder!

THE COMMUNION HYMN 101 Away in a manger

CRADLE SONG

All remain seated and sing.

THE PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those worshipping online are invited to offer this prayer silently or aloud.

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.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand.

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 POSTCOMMUNION HYMN 111 Silent night

STILLE NACHT

Please kneel. The ushers will come around to light candles on the aisles; please pass the flame until all candles are lit.

THE BLESSING

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

THE CLOSING HYMN 87 Hark! the herald angels sing *All stand and sing.*

MENDELSSOHN

arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Final from Symphonie I

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

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 Margie Baker **Preacher:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald **Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Paul Shaker Psalterer: John Nowacki The St. John's Adult Choir:

Soprano — Helen Douglas, Nancy Eaton, Danielle Foint, Candy Green, Emma Evica, Anne Harney, Kara Hart, Caitlyn Semanie, Tema Silk; Alto — Catherine Barr, Frisha Hugessen, Ann Hutchinson, Betty Knorr, Mary Beth Lamlein, Nancy Skeele, Jacqueline Smith, Abby White; Tenor — Ted Babbitt, Lynn Brooks, Michael Mei, Odanice Olibrice, Ram Tysoe, Michael Wells; Bass — Richard Barstow, Stephan Christiansen, Martin Dodd, Milo Evica, Francis Lamlein, John Nowacki, Caleb Peck, Paul Smith

String Quartet:

Lu Friedman, first violin; Virginia Kramer, second violin; Arthur Masi, viola; David Kramer, cello

Organist & Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein
Organ Scholar: Ted Babbitt
Acolyte: Isabel Grant

Ushers: Don Polk, Laura and John Roche Healing Minister: Wes Winterbottom Livestream Oversight: Francis Lamlein Altar Guild: Kate Eikel, Buffy Ineson

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Psalm Antiphon from A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition ©2007 Carl P. Daw, Jr., and Kevin R. Hackett. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Weekly Offering Envelopes

If you requested weekly offering envelopes when you turned in your 2022 pledge, you may pick up your envelopes in the narthex (the red door entrance). Please look for the envelopes with your name and address on them. If you did not request envelopes but would like them, please contact Ellen in the parish office.

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.

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

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

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Ellie Brown	Kimberley
Kim Green	Sue	Anita Winters	Kent Lawrence
Janet Ray	Whitney Lynch	Marrion	Clark Hendley
Brad Babbitt	William Bittinger	Marie	Maria Ferreira
Ward Farrell	Seamus Turco	Heather Pelletier	Mary
Mary A. Looney	David Lerner	Tom Reichenbach	Edie
Joanne	Joan	Duccio Rosselli del Turco	Gary Wait
Margaret Thomas	Deb Christiansen	Peter	Bruce Bauer
L.B.	Mary		

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Marshall Cook	Jackie Wells	Bob Hoffman
Winston Booker	Harriet Odlum	Virginia Eikel
David Murphy	Alycia Montas	Genella Evans
Carolyn Giliberto	Dorian Ciscel	Paul Faude

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Luke/St. Paul, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport; St. Mark's, Bridgeport; and for the children of the world, the Bishops' Fund for Children, and all ECCT ministries for children at risk.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

Christmas Flower Offerings

The poinsettias are given to the Glory of God and:

In honor of: Patricia A. Chambers Leslie Carl Smith, II

In memory of:

Carol Bachand Ira and Mary Bachand Shepard W. Baker Mary Bierwirth Ruth and Lawrence Buckner Carol H. Byrd Elaine Byrd Mary Gehringer Byrd Charles H. Chambers Damon B. Clemow **Janet Cochran** Wendy Wright Collins Cyril and Mildred Connolly Deane Connolly Michael Connolly, Sr. Renee Corey Katherine Rogers Coward Adrian Edward Crocker John Frank Shears Crocker Margaret E. Dimmitt Robert K. Dimmitt Ruth and Bill Eakins Robert Eikel Helen H. and John Paul Faude John Paul Faude, Jr. Wilson Hinsdale Faude Edmund W. Flynn Donald Gavin Virginia Pfeil Gregory Richard Harrington Gregory, Jr. John and Carol Grieco Alfred Haddad Marge Hardge Charles R. Harris Orson Henry Hart Jr.

Susan Moore Hart

Donald J. Hayes Elizabeth Hetherington Noble and Sara Hetherington Sue Jacques Renee Jacques Carolyn and Paul Jeanneret Herb and Betty Keating Robert W. Knorr William E. Knorr Ann Koucky Elsa M. Lattey Erik F. Lattey Mary and Richard Lawrence Lockery, Marchion, and Masse Families Sadie and Ernest MacLaughlin Bill Moore Edward and Eleanor d'Este Mosehauer Charles D. and Janet M. Peterson Robert F. and Abbie V.S. Peterson George and Edith Phillips John and Grace Potter Andrya Ramer Robert and Sara Reiersen Frank and Mary Reilly Francis P. Reilly Byron Renz Shirley Roos Shaker Family Doris and Oscar Sodergren Thomas R. Tight Shirley LaValley Uricchio Joseph John Uricchio George E. and Abbie Baxter Van Siclen Guy Verney Julie Verney Marion W. Whittemore M. Searle Wright

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m. Join us for Christmas Day Holy Eucharist with hymns. The Reverend Margie Baker will preach and preside.

Office hours during Christmas week & notes on year-end giving. The parish office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 27 and 28, and Friday, December 31. The office will be open (with limited staffing/hours) on Wednesday and Thursday, December 29 and 30. As has been noted in previous announcements, for your contributions of cash or checks to appear on your 2021 year-end giving statement, they must be received in the St. John's office by Tuesday, December 28. If you wish to drop off a contribution when the office is closed, you may leave it in the secure mailbox at the parish office entrance. Gifts/pledge payments received after that date, and online gifts/pledge payments made via our web site after today, are unlikely to post to our bank account until early January, so would appear on your 2022 giving statement (even if in payment of a 2021 pledge).

Can you guess which St. John's staff member this is? Perhaps, like him, you rocked a classic bowl haircut in your childhood, but we want to see how your style has evolved! Please send us your updated family/individual photo so we can update our parish directory.

We produce parish directories in-house using our membership database software and photocopier. Between now and January, we are updating contact information and parishioner photos, so we can print an updated directory after the new year. In addition to **updated photos**, we need **updated contact info** (especially if you've moved, changed your email, or dropped your landline in recent years).



And did you know that in addition to listing birthdays in the bulletin, we have started sending birthday cards to parishioners this year? We can only send one to YOU if we have your **date of birth** in our database! We will never share your birth year or age. We also like to recognize **wedding anniversaries**, so please send those dates too! Send info and photos to Ellen at ellen@sjparish.net.

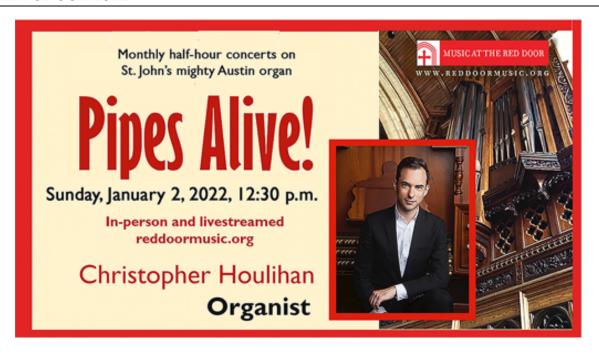
You can also access our parish directory through a password-protected smartphone app! Download the "ACS Church Life" app and then contact Ellen, who will provide you with a user name and password. The app allows you to look up contact info and photos of other church members, and to update your own record.

Pipes Alive! with Christopher Houlihan, January 2, 12:30 p.m. Our series of organ recitals featuring regional artists continues with Christopher Houlihan, organist at the Trinity College Chapel, performing a selection of Christmas carols along with Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 1 in F minor, op. 65. Free admission with donations accepted.

Twelfth Night Tree Burning & Movie Night, Friday, January 7, 5:30 p.m. It has become a unique and beloved tradition here at St. John's to mark the end of the Christmas season/beginning of Epiphany by burning a Christmas tree (or several) outdoors, following strict fire safety protocols, of course. Join us at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, January 7 for the tree burning, followed by a family movie night in Hubbard Hall. You are welcome to bring your own dinner or snacks. Everyone is invited — bring a friend!

Choral Evensong, Sunday, January 23, 5 p.m. Join us for a service of Choral Evensong, featuring the St. John's Schola, on January 23 at 7 p.m. Evensong is an ancient and beautiful tradition that offers us the opportunity to gather and pray while listening and participating in music that is specially selected to bring us into deeper understanding of the mysteries of our faith.

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 19





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



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Spoken Holy Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Christian formation for all ages
10:30 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist
(also livestreamed at sjparish.net/services)
5 p.m. Choral Evensong on select fourth Sundays of the month

STAFF

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The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)	Priest in Charge			
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)				
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music			
The Rev. Walter McKenney	Deacon			
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Parish Manager			
Dwight Latif (dwight@sinarish net)	Serton			
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Financial Administrator			
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence			
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus			
VESTRY				
Geoff Emerick	Warden			
Virginia Van Dyk	Warden			
Tim Goetz and John Roche	Co-Treasurers			
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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