

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

August 7, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

Masks are optional at St. John's. We encourage anyone who is unvaccinated or who is more comfortable wearing a mask to continue to do so. If you are feeling unwell, please stay home or wear a mask until you are feeling better.

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 our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to 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!



Scan to fill out online
newcomer form.

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as they will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. During the summer, the nursery is not open. There is a changing table and comfortable seating in the main area of the education wing for parents who need to change or soothe a little one.

The cover photo was taken in the St. John's Cloister Garden.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Variations on *St. Anne*

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

THE OPENING HYMN 68 Rejoice! Rejoice, believers
All stand and sing.

LLANGLOFFAN

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 forever. 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.**

Benjamin Straley (b. 1986)

Splen-dor and hon-or and king - ly power are yours by right, O Lord our God.

Copyright 2019, Benjamin Straley. Used by permission.

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

Minister 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 unfailing 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."

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**.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation,
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our presiding bishop; Ian and Laura, our bishops; Jeffrey, our bishop-elect; our parish clergy; and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

For those on our parish prayer list, that they will receive comfort and healing.

For the bishops of the Anglican Communion as they return to their dioceses throughout the world, that fed and empowered by the Spirit, they may bear witness to the Risen Christ who calls us to be people of reconciliation and love.

For those who suffer due to heat, drought, fire, and floods, especially those without resources to relocate or recover from disasters worsened by climate change.

For a renewed commitment to stewardship of the earth and its resources, that we may do all in our power to safeguard the integrity of God's creation.

Are there other prayers?

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant God of Abraham, whose people are like the stars in the heavens, empower our faith and hear our prayers, that we may live in the blessed expectation of your promises and be alert for you when you come to us at an unexpected hour, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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 you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

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 Lord, lead us still

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

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.

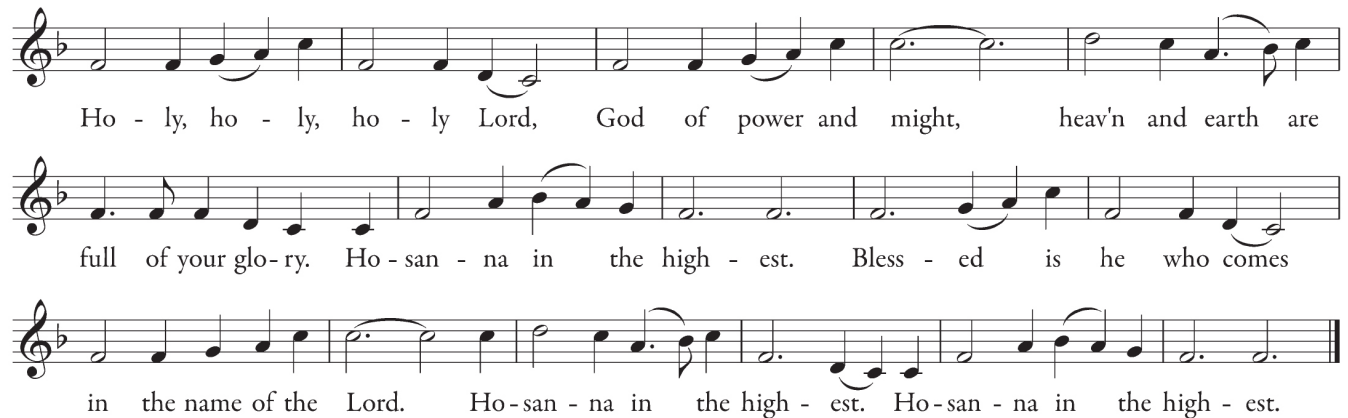
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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.

Music: Land of Rest, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

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

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Holy food for holy people. You are holy; take and eat.

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.

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

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.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 680 O God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

All 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 presence in Word and sacrament 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:** Betsy Chicares**The St. John's Summer Singers****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Organ Scholar:** Kathy Roqueza**Ushers:** Julia O'Brien, Virginia Van Dyk**Healing Minister:** Sarah Kieffer**Altar Guild:** Kate Eikel, Bill Lockery

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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
Kim Green	Sue	Anita Winters
Janet Ray	Whitney Lynch	Duccio Rosselli del Turco
Brad Babbitt	Don Cole	Shirley Blean
Ward Farrell	Tom Reichenbach	Edie Tenen

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Angela Allen-Peck	Erica Bleicher
Billy Peele	Sam Fiske
Ann Krissinger	Martin Dodd
Keely Stater	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Jyothsna & Carlos Diaz
Donielle & Rick Joslyn
Janis Milroy & Christa Rakich
Jacqueline & Paul Smith

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.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies.

It's community garden season! Help feed our neighbors. We have three volunteer jobs for the growing season: **Gardeners** sign up for one week at a time, and stop by that week at their convenience to pull weeds, check on the garden's overall health, and monitor the automatic sprinkler system (e.g., turn it off if it's a rainy week!). **Harvesters** pick veggies on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday morning in preparation for Sunday's neighborhood produce distribution. **Distributors** prepare veggies for distribution on Sunday morning, and give them away to our neighbors after the 10:30 service. **To sign up for any of these jobs, go to sjparish.net/garden.**

Join the summer singers on Sundays in August! Back by popular demand, we will have a small choir singing at the 10:30 service for the four Sundays of August. This is a great opportunity for bashful singers to join the choir for one, any, or all weeks! No previous experience is required, and you can "learn by doing" by sitting near an experienced singer. Questions or RSVP - Scott Lamlein at music@sjparish.net. Rehearsal begins at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday in the church, and newcomers should arrive a few minutes early.

New church management software coming soon. This coming week, we will be transitioning to a new church management system called **realm**, a cloud-based system made by ACS, the same company whose software we've been using since 2015. The transition should go smoothly but we ask for your patience if we are temporarily unable to access records (such as if you inquire about your pledge balance) and as we get used to the new system. In addition, please note the following:

- If you have a recurring gift set up through our web site, your recurring gifts WILL transfer to the new system and continue as scheduled.
- However, the login credentials (user name and password) that you've used to manage recurring or one-time online gifts will no longer work.
- Likewise, if you use the Church Life app on your smartphone, your login credentials will no longer work. We will share information about a new smartphone app (realm Connect) that will work with the new system.
- If we have a valid e-mail on file for you, you will eventually receive an invitation to set up new login credentials for realm. **We encourage everyone who has online access or a smartphone to take this step**, as you will then be able to login to realm to see and manage your contact information and your pledge payments and gifts, use the realm Connect app, and more.
- If you have not provided us with your FULL date of birth (if you provided the month and day but not the year), then you are going to be **122 years old** according to the new system! It automatically puts 1900 as the birth year if we don't have the actual year. If you notice this when you access your record, please correct it! Or you may send your full DOB to Ellen to make sure we have it on file correctly.

Yard Goats game, Friday, September 9, 7 p.m. Join us to watch the Yard Goats play the Somerset Patriots at Dunkin Donuts Park in Hartford. Our Choir School will sing *God Bless America* at the seventh inning stretch. **Everyone who plans to attend (including Choir School kids) must purchase a ticket ahead of time through St. John's. Tickets are \$13/person.** You may pay by cash in the exact amount or check payable to St. John's with "Yard Goats" in the memo. Please mail or drop off your payment to the office, or drop it in the offering plate as long as it is clearly marked. **Tickets are limited and must be reserved and paid for by Monday, September 5.** First come, first served, so reserve yours soon!

CPR and defibrillator training at St. John's: Saturday, October 29 (9 a.m. – 1 p.m.) or Sunday, November 13 (1 – 5 p.m.). As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of our parish community St. John's will host trainings in CPR and how to use our automatic defibrillator (AED), which is located in Hubbard Hall. Our goal is to train enough people so that there is always someone on site who can respond in the event of a medical emergency. **We especially encourage staff and clergy, vestry members, and ushers to attend, but anyone in the parish is welcome.** If you'd like to attend, please RSVP to Ellen in the parish office.

GET READY FOR...



On August 9, we will begin converting from our current church management software (ACS On Demand) to a new cloud-based system, also from ACS, called **realm**.

realm will provide staff and church members with tools to connect with one another, manage pledging and giving, manage parish groups, and more.

What does this mean for you?

If you have login credentials for online giving and/or the Church Life smartphone app, those credentials will no longer work.

As long as we have a working email address on file for you, you will eventually receive an emailed invitation to set up new credentials for **realm**. We will also share information about how to use the **realm Connect** smartphone app to manage your pledges and gifts, get contact information for others, etc.

If you have recurring online gifts set up, those gifts WILL transfer to the new system.

During the conversion, and for a few weeks after as the staff gets to know the new system, there may be delays in our ability to generate reports or answer questions about parishioner records, such as your pledge balance.

Thank you for your patience during this transition!

CPR & DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

Saturday, October 29

9am to 1pm

OR

Sunday, November 13

1pm to 5pm

*Help us make St. John's a safe place for all by getting trained in CPR and how to use our automatic defibrillator.
RSVP to Ellen in the parish office.*

ST. JOHN'S AT THE YARD GOATS

Friday, September 9

7 p.m.

Tickets: \$13 per person

Reserve your tickets with payment in full via cash or check (payable to St. John's with "Yard Goats" in the memo). Payment must be received by September 5.

Tickets are limited; first come, first served.



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 SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9 a.m. in the Cloister Garden

10:30 a.m. in the church

(also livestreamed at sjparish.net/services)

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net).....	<i>Priest in Charge</i>
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	<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>
Kara Hart	<i>Warden</i>
Anne Harney and John Roche.....	<i>Co-Treasurers</i>

2020–22: June Aziz, Annabel Clapp, Jyothsna Diaz

2021–23: Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien

2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, David McCary