



St. John's Episcopal Church

The Saint

*The Mission of St. John's Parish is to glorify God
by growing in Christ's love and sharing that love with others
through worship, fellowship, and service .*

Rector's Ramblings:

Greetings,

This will be my last 'Rambling'. I would like to share with you what I have learned during my time with you.

I have learned that this congregation is full of Christ's love and the Holy Spirit. This is evident in worship, Vestry meetings and our engagement in the community. Many of you have long histories with St. John's, while others are new to the community. New ideas are offered frequently while some old traditions have stayed important.

As a congregation you will have many challenges in the near future. You will be faced with understanding of how to be church, and what church will be like in the 21st century. This may seem scary, while you embrace what it is that God is calling you to be and do.

You will have support from the diocese when making these decisions and as a faith community you will have the support of each other. There is great lay leadership here in the Vestry and other places. Trust your Vestry to do what is right. Don't be afraid to ask questions or offer different opinions.

I will miss being with you in this new adventure. I pray that you will be patient with one another, be constant in prayer and

discernment, and listen to the Holy Spirit. I also pray that you will continue to be the strong people of faith that you are.

Pastor Alison+

Vestry Report

The Vestry met on May 10th. The Church was beautiful for Easter and Holy Week was great. Carole was on vacation May 21st. Ben Stayner will be playing the organ for us.

The strawberry fest was reviewed to be sure everything that needs to be done has been done and every job has someone assigned to it. The Vestry decided to meet on June 7th at 7pm for our final strawberry fest check. Donuts D. Clown will be here from noon to 3pm when the Lockport Community Band will be playing. The Youngstown Lions will be cooking for us again.

There will be a wedding reception in our parish hall on June 24th at 3 pm.

We had a flood in the parish hall basement but it wasn't from all the rain! The small water heater that heats the water for the bathroom broke.

The speakers blew out. They were covered by warranty. Note: they blew out again after the concert by Duo 716 when no one was near the controls. The good news is we experienced what happened. The bad news, they can't figure out what caused it.

The street dance is June 22nd from 6-10 pm. We will need people to pass out activity books and pencils to the children and to share about St. John's.

The concert for Duo 716: Ben Stayner and Isaac Gadikian are only available May 21st. The concert will be at 2pm. Note: the concert was incredible with two very talented young men. The concert was well attended.

Vicki Zust will be coming May 24th at 7pm to meet with the congregation about our church's transition to another priest.

A visual check of the steeple (where the leak in the church was coming from) showed that there is a problem with the flashing or the wood has rotted on the eastern side.

We will be getting estimates for the replacement of the boiler in the parish hall. We are trying to avoid emergency replacement and get this done when we can get a better deal.

We will have the children from school touring our Church on June 6th from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm. Ocey Allen will be portraying Lt. Leffman for us once again.

Alison's last Sunday will be June 25th. We will have a party for her after that service.

We need to order a new white chaucible as ours is worn and frayed.

Meeting with Rev. Vicki Zust

The good news is we can begin the process of moving forward in the search process immediately. That process begins with saying goodbye to Alison: celebrating her life as a priest and all that she has generously given us of herself. We will be having a retirement party for Alison after her last service on June 25th.

We also have to get coverage for Sunday services and pastoral care.

We can update the parish profile and depending on our choices, we may or may not have to go through the full search process. We will have to discern how we want to go forward. . Rev. Barbara Price will be helping us through this process. She will be meeting with Mary and Shawn on June 8th to go over the process and set up a series of meetings for the parishioners to decide what they want to do. Please let them know what days and times are best for you to attend these meetings.

This is the normal process:

1. Saying goodbye to the departing priest and his or her family.
2. Arranging for clergy leadership during the transition.
3. Looking at the history; current life and ministries and hopes and dreams of the congregation. This part focuses on telling the story of the congregation.
4. Discerning the gifts, skills and talents the congregation has and those it needs in new clergy leadership.
5. Interviewing candidates.
6. Welcoming the new priest and his or her family.

Now, the challenging news:

In July there will be 25 parishes in the Diocese that need priests. There are no interim priests in the Buffalo, Rochester and Erie PA Dioceses available.

Getting supply priests will continue to be extremely difficult and it's only going to get worse. We may have to go several weeks a month with morning prayer rather than communion. All the Deacons are assigned

to parishes and may only help at another church one week a month.

Calling a part time priest will be extremely difficult if we have to bring someone in from another part of the country. This process could take longer than a year. The pay rate for priest in the Buffalo Diocese is lower than most of the country which also makes it challenging to get a priest to relocate here.

So where does all this leave us?

If we continue to have a 10 o'clock Sunday service, we will have a longer search process and irregular coverage for communion with a variety of priests, possibly for over a year.

We will be able to get a priest to cover us part time while we seek a permanent priest if we have a non-traditional time for our service. Then we would have communion regularly with the same priest.

After that:

It may be possible to get a part time "permanent" priest within our diocese if we share one with another parish AND have a non-traditional time for our service AND if the priest is compatible with both parishes. Then our search process would be shorter.

If we are able to call (select) a priest from another Diocese, we may be able to keep our normal time for worship. We may or may not have to share this priest with another parish or parishes.

Or we could create a cluster ministry with a couple priests and a deacon who would work together to serve several parishes.

With such a shortage of priests, we will have to be creative. That we can do. We will have to search our hearts and seek God's will

to determine what we are truly willing to do. We have to do this first as individuals and then as a church.

This is challenging. God has prepared us as we have become spiritually strong individually and collectively as Church.

None of this is easy. These kinds of changes are very hard. They can also help us find a vibrant and new way to experience "Church".

So as we try to determine God's will for us and how best to remain the St. John's we love, let us keep our church and one another in steadfast prayer.

Thy will be done, thy kingdom come. Amen.

June Birthdays

- 5 Michelle Robertson
- 5 Karran Swayze
- 6 Ron Gonder
- 7 Mark Foster
- 14 Kris Jordan
- 15 Carol Reinbird
- 21 Jack James
- 22 Linda Reynolds
- 27 Debbie Comerford
- 29 Marie Stephens
- 30 Ed McGreevy

June Anniversaries

- 1 Greg & Kris Jordan
- 3 Harold & Donna Jeffs
- 26 John & Carla Lynch
- 28 John & Jean Gerlach



Spring Clean-up ***Saturday, June 3rd 10am-12pm***

We will be spring cleaning the grounds on June 3rd. Please come and bring your own tools to help us get everything ship shape around the Church!

Many hands make light work!! Please join us and help.



St. John's will be there this year!

We will have a table at the Street Dance this year! We will be handing out activity books and pencils to the children attending. We will also be handing out information about our Church. Please come and join us as we spread our good news to our community!

Prayers for Our Church

God, please let me be part of the solution and not the problem. Show me what I need to see. Open my eyes to Your reality. And give me the courage to move forward in the direction You desire.

God, open my eyes that I might see my church as You see it. Let me see where change needs to take place, even if it is painful to me. And use me, I pray, to be an instrument of the change whatever the cost.

I believe all things are possible through You, God. Show me what I need to do to lead my church from hopeless to hope. And give me the courage and strength to make those changes, even those changes that will be very painful.

Rainer, Thom S. *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2014

Getting Together For Prayer

We have a Prayer Group meeting on Wednesday afternoon every other week in a private home. The dates for this Prayer Group will be June 7th and June 21st at 2 pm.. Another Prayer Group meets every other week on Thursday nights. The dates for these Prayer Groups will be June 1st, June 15th and June 29th at 7pm. Would you like to join in them or develop another small group of our members to get together for prayer and fellowship? If you are interested, please contact Shawn at 745-3124.

We are asking each of you to pray for our members on this list by name this month as part of our discernment process for our church. Thank you.

Let Us Pray

The Parish Rota: This is a list of the members of the parish. It allows us to pray for everybody each month.



1. Betty Ames, Allan Aureli, Mary Ellen Aureli
2. Michael Banks, Valerie Banks, Shawn D'Luhy
3. Kay Collard, Tony Collard, Heidi Dent
4. Brandon Comerford, Debra Comerford, Ryan Comerford
5. Stu Comerford, John Eodice, Priscilla Eodice
6. Joseph Fabian Kathy Fabian,
7. Doreen Enman, Donald Finkle, Heather Finkle
8. Christine Foster, Mark Foster, Marilyn Furry
9. Jerry Freischlag, Mary Lou Freischlag, Angela Gebauer
10. Jean Gerlach, John Gerlach, Annie Given, Carl Gonder
11. Art Hannah, Judy Hannah, Esther Hardison
12. Don Henry, J. Michael Hinde, Donna Huggins, Col. Jack James,
13. Donna Jeffs, Harold Jeffs, Kelsey Jeffs, Shannon Jeffs
14. Dolores Jones, Greg Jordan, Kris Jordan,
15. Casey Jordan, Lisa Leffler, Mark Leffler,
16. Pat Lloyd, Carla Lynch, Connor Lynch,
17. John Lynch Sr., John Lynch Jr. Alison Martin,
18. Brittany Machmer John Mies, Sandy Mies
19. Lark Mattoon, Ed McGreevy, Ed Tormay
20. Irene Myers, Phyllis Norwich, Marie Oblamski
21. Karen Oddy , Deborah Pauline, James Pauline
22. Shirley Oldfield,, Helene Pavlock,
23. Sally Phillips, James Poole, Nancy Poole
24. Linda Reynolds, Raleigh Reynolds, Carol Reinbird,
25. Jane Richardson, Mickey Sutor, Deacon Vickie Sutor
26. Karran Swayze, Randy Walck, Larry Walck
27. Sabre Whipple, Deb White, Michael White
28. Marie Stephens, Ken Wieland, Mary Wieland
29. Kit Williams, Dr. Michael Wilson, Michael Wilson
30. Kristen Wilson, Luke Wilson, Barbara Yandian,

Diocese of Western New York

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin
716-881-0660

Priest

The Rev. Alison Martin
716-983-0262

Deacon

Vickie Sutor 716-745-7110

Wardens

Mary Wieland 716-745-7440
Shawn D'Luhy, 716-745-3124
716-263-0210

Vestry

2017

Lark Mattoon, 716-745-3431

2018

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

2019

Don Henry 754-1080

Treasurer

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

See us on Facebook at:

St. John's Episcopal, Youngstown NY



St. John's Episcopal Church
Main & Chestnut, Youngstown

Saturday, June 17
11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Featuring homemade strawberry shortcake
Youngstown Lions will be serving grilled foods again this year

Church is open continuously for self-guided tours
Donuts D. Clown performing 12 – 3 p.m.
Lockport Community Band 3 p.m.

Bring a lawn chair for the concert

One day only

**THE SAINT
JUNE 2017**

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Rev. Alison Martin, Priest
716-983-0262

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone/Fax: 716-745-3369

stjohnsytown@verizon.net

www.stjohnsyoungstown.org

If you would like more information about St. John's, have a prayer request or would like to talk to the clergy, please call or e-mail the office.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 366

MAIN & CHESTNUT STREETS

YOUNGSTOWN, NY 14174-0366

Change Service Requested