
PRAYER CONCERNS FOR ST. JOHN'S

For the sick: Betty Schmidt, Sue Burns, Lynn Hansen, Muriel DiGiorgio, Cheryl Hairr, Liz Scott, John Morowski, Regina Warnock, Louise Spellman, Don Nidrie, Phillip Wulfken, Jim Evans, Irene Evans, Arthur Goldbaum, Janet Campbell, Autumn Highsmith, Howard, Caroline, Bill, Amy, Kate, Blanca Vite, Catherine Perry, Theresa, John, Artie, Benjamin Owusu, Mark Bellisemo, Roger Giacomini, Jean Giacomini, Tom

Altar Flowers and Perpetual Light are given this week in loving memory of Roman Modesto by Nelly and Dave Lasek.

We pray for all our men and women serving in the armed services and all first responders. May God keep them safe and return them home to their loved ones.

Last Sunday's Attendance: 101

SUNDAY SERVICES

	November 5th 10:00 AM	November 12th 10:00 AM
MC	Earl Matchett	Al Szigethy
LEM	Leslie Valentine	Noelle DeLorenzo
Acolytes	Wade Holden Chloe Findlay Kayla Andrews Stephanie Wickey Thalia Tosetti Jacob Goldbaum	Wade Holden Peter Minichello Stephanie Wickey Anna Wickey Jennifer Low James Conolly Jacob Goldbaum
Lectors	Janice Burnett Stephanie Wickey	Leslie Valentine Jennifer Low

TODAY'S HYMNS

Processional Hymn 287	For all the saints (verses 1-6)	<i>Sine Nomine</i>
Sequence Hymn 693	Just as I am (versus 1-2)	<i>Woodworth</i>
Offertory Anthem 293	I sing a song of the saints	<i>Grand Isle</i>
Communion LEVAS 72	Just a Closer Walk with Thee	<i>American Folke Song</i>
Recessional Hymn 335	I am the bread of life	<i>I Am the Bread of Life</i>

THE CHALICE

The weekly Sunday Bulletin of St. John's Episcopal Church

November 5, 2017

**Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation.
God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
and makes me tread upon the heights (Habakkuk 3:17-19).**

Several years ago, I visited the Diocese of Tanganyika in Tanzania. I met with the Bishop and the priests of the diocese to deal with a terrible famine that had occurred in their land. The crops did not receive enough water, and there was a great shortage of food in the land. There was not enough food for the members of the parish to feed their own children. The children of the parishioners were literally starving to death. We prayed together, and we devised a strategy for our diocese in New York to directly assist their diocese with basic food staples, clean water, and to provide secondary education for all children.

The next morning I traveled to the outskirts of the diocese in an area that was severely affected by the famine. It was obvious by the drawn faces and thinness of all the towns' people that there was not enough food. The well where they draw their water was completely dry, and the corn looked like parched brown stalks with no ears of corn on them. The land looked completely scorched with no green to be found for many miles.

We provided a feast that the ladies prepared which included a meat stew, spinach with groundnuts, bananas, and (of course) Fanta grape and orange soda. There was not a lot of food, but there was food for everyone. I cannot do justice to the celebration that followed the feast. Several young children sang in their native tongue and danced in their traditional dress. They spoke of thanksgiving for the blessings in their lives and they danced and sang with a joy that I had never experienced.

Several members of our team were overwhelmed with tears on the long and bumpy ride back to our hotel. How could these people survive such a devastating famine and how could they be so thankful in the Lord? They could not believe the joy on the faces of the children and the gratitude of the adults for the program that we supported in their rural town. We woke up the next morning in our four star hotel with a full English breakfast and we felt a little guilt that we were not as thankful for our lives and all the blessings that we take for granted every day.

We live in a time of abundance in America. Shouldn't we be profoundly thankful for our shelter, food, education, and clean water that God provides for us? A child dies every 10 seconds from starvation in the world and 22,000 die from poverty each day. We need to exalt in the God of our salvation whether we are in good times or bad. When we hear the hunger pangs of children and the cry of the poor, can we at a very minimum be thankful to God? Let us praise the Lord this day, let us be thankful for what we have, and let us commit ourselves to help others in need in the coming year.

In Christ's love,

Fr. Duncan

VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

We welcome you to **St. John's Episcopal Church**. Established in 1745, this historic church opens its doors to all who seek to deepen their faith and provides warm hospitality to all. We are blessed by your presence and invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card on the back table of the church.

MORNING PRAYER

Start your morning in prayer. **Please join us for Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM** every Monday and Tuesday in the church. If you would like to join us by conference call in your own home, please call (845) 271-9134 at 8:55 AM.

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for Bible Study which meets Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. We are beginning a new unit on the Gospel of Mark.

CELTIC SERVICES

Please join for our next Celtic Service on Sunday, November 26th at 5:30 PM.

TAIZÉ SERVICES

Join us on Sunday, December 3rd at 5:30 PM for our next Taizé Service, a quiet candlelit evening of prayer through music.

SATURDAY SERVICES

The next Saturday service will be on November 11th at 5:30 PM. Please join us for Holy Eucharist and prayer.

STEWARDSHIP

This Sunday is Loyalty Sunday. Please put your pledge cards in the collection baskets to be brought to the altar and blessed.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 3:00 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

There will be Thrift Shop Steering committee meeting on Thursday, November 9th at 7:00 PM in the Guild Room. Anyone interested in helping out in the Thrift Shop is welcome to attend.

BOOK CLUB

St. John's Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 16th at 6:30 PM at the home of Ann Wenk. This month we are reading Thomas Merton's Seven Storey Mountain.

HIHI

There will be a HiHi meeting on Wednesday, November 15th at 3:30 PM at the Family Service League for all those wanting to participate in this ministry.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE

This year's Thanksgiving Day Service will be a joint service at St. Margaret's in Plainview at 10:00 AM .

ST. JOHN' S EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL – CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Fr. Duncan is collecting unwrapped toys for children ages 1 through 16 to bring to the Diocesan Convention on November 10th and 11th. Please see him for more information. **Please drop off a toy today, November 5th.**

AJOYO

This afternoon, Sunday, November 5th at 4:00 PM, St. John's Cultural Events Series presents AJOYO. Blending African traditions, jazz and soul, AJOYO celebrates life, love and justice through music—featuring French-Tunisian saxophonist Yacine Boulares and rising star vocalist Sarah Elizabeth Charles. **Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, \$10 for children. For tickets, please see Alex after the 10:00 AM service or purchase them at the door.**

ECW COLLECTING FOR THANKSGIVING BASKETS

The ECW is making Thanksgiving Baskets for families who have had to abandon their homes to seek safety from domestic violence. We will be making up baskets for 12 families. This will be done in conjunction with the Suffolk County Coalition for Domestic Violence. **Due to a very specific shopping list we are asking for monetary donations only, no food donations.** All monies collected will be put towards these Thanksgiving baskets. No amount is too little or too big. If giving cash, please mark your envelope Thanksgiving Basket Donation; if giving a check, please make your checks out to the ECW. **We will be collecting for this project from October 29th to November 12th only**, so please contribute now.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again this year we will be packing shoeboxes for distribution worldwide in connection with Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. As many of you know, the boxes we pack travel around the world bringing the love of Christ to children in a very tangible way. This year due to new customs restrictions, please refrain from packing any toothpaste or food items of any kind. Even hard candy and lollipops, which were previously permitted, may not be included in this year's boxes. A supply of Operation Christmas Child boxes are available at the back of the church. Please take as many as you like, fill them to capacity, and **bring them to church by November 12.** Our goal this year is 100 boxes. This is a great project for children and families – encourage your friends to pack boxes too and **bring them to church on November 12.** Your check, made payable to "Samaritan's Purse", in the amount of \$9 will cover the cost of getting your box to its destination. Please see the Operation Christmas Child website for information on how to track your box. If you have any questions, please see Deborah Findlay, or call her at (516) 541-0305.

ST. JOHN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

SJSG Advent retreat will be on Saturday, December 9th beginning at 9:00 AM with breakfast and ending with a Celtic Service. Canon Charles "Charlie" McCarron will be presenting "Giving Birth to the Word: Spiritual Motherhood and the Advent Season." All are welcome.
