
ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Everyone is invited to join us on **Saturday, December 2nd from 8:30 AM to 2 PM** as we continue the tradition of **Advent Wreath making**. We will provide greens, wire wreaths, candles and music. Please join us and bring a friend! This is a perfect opportunity to invite your family and friends to visit St. John's. If you saved your wire wreath frame from last year, please bring it with you!

PRAYER CONCERNS FOR ST. JOHN'S

For the sick: 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, Catherine Perry, Theresa, John, Artie, Benjamin Owusu, Mark Bellissemo, Roger Giacomini, Jean Giacomini, Tom, Joseph Canga, George Nelson, Ian, Jen, Lucy, Ana Rodrigues, Laura

We pray for the unemployed and the under employed.

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: 177

SUNDAY SERVICES

	November 12 th 10:00 AM	November 19 th 10:00 AM
MC	Al Szigethy	Earl Matchett
LEM	Noelle DeLorenzo	Rob Wheeler
Acolytes	Wade Holden Peter Minichello Stephanie Wickey Anna Wickey Jennifer Low James Conolly Jacob Goldbaum	Pete Minichello Timmy Kusterbeck Walter Kusterbeck Kayla Andrews
Lectors	Leslie Valentine Jennifer Low	MK Brennan Thalia Tosetti

TODAY'S HYMNS

Processional Hymn 690	Guide me, thou great Jerusalem	<i>Cum Rbiondda</i>
Sequence Hymn 61	“Sleepers, wake!”	<i>Wachet auf</i>
Communion LEVAS 154	Taste and see (refrain only)	<i>James E. Moore, Jr.</i>
Recessional Hymn 460	Alleluia! sing to Jesus	<i>Hyfrydol</i>

THE CHALICE

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

November 12, 2017

“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight” (Joshua 24:14-17).

As we wrap up the Gospel of Matthew in the next few weeks, you will notice many references to the coming of the Kingdom of God and to the second coming of Jesus Christ. In today's collect we pray, “when he comes again with power and great glory.” In Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, “For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.” In the Gospel of Matthew, “Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” This is a fascinating subject that always produces a variety of responses from different denominations in the Christian Church. Matthew tells us, “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.” My focus is not on what signs show us the end of this age or when Christ is coming. My question is what we should be doing from now until the end of our days. Whether Christ comes tomorrow or in the next millennium does not matter to me. I believe that what matters is what we do with the time that we have.

Joshua was Moses' assistant and one of the twelve spies that went into Canaan. Joshua becomes the leader of the Israelites that brings them into the Promised Land. God asks the people of Israel to serve the Lord with sincerity and faithfulness. God asks them not to serve any other gods. During the Bronze Age in today's reading, the people of Canaan worshiped many gods, but they were to love and serve the Lord alone.

Today we worship many gods. It is said that where are treasure is, there will our heart be found. The killing of 26 in a church in a small Texas town comes right after the truck killed so many on the West Side and the Las Vegas shootings. In addition, power, sex and money seem to take down another famous Hollywood person and athletic star every week. The newspaper is full of selfish womanizers, murderers, and greedy people. I think at times we wonder which way to turn, but Joshua makes that perfectly clear.

We are asked to choose this day who we will serve. Many people in the world choose to serve the gods of power, sex, and money. Which god will you serve? As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!

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 studying the Gospel of Mark.

CELTIC SERVICES

Please join us for our next Celtic Service on Sunday, November 26th at 5:30 PM, A contemplative Holy Eucharist with beautiful music.

TAIZÉ SERVICES

Join us on Sunday, December 3rd at 6:00 PM for a special Taizé Service. We will be joined by the Rev. Michael F. Delaney, Liturgical Coordination of the Diocese of Long Island. He will be sharing with us his expertise on the Taizé approach to prayer and worship.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Stewardship Pledge Drive is well underway! Thank you to all who have already submitted your pledge cards for 2018. Your commitment to St. John's will help the Vestry with their budget planning. If you have not yet returned your 2018 Stewardship pledge card, extra pledge cards can be found on the back table of church, as well as in the pews. **Please turn in this Sunday so we may proceed with our budget.** Thank you for your generosity and continued support of the ministry of St. John's.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

It's time to order your Christmas wreath, roping and flowers from St. John's Youth Group. Order forms are at the back of the church and on the St. John's website. Please submit all orders to a Youth Group member or the Parish Office by Monday, November 27th. Pick-up will be on Saturday, December 2nd from 10 AM to 1 PM, and Sunday, December 3rd, from 8:30 AM to noon. Kindly make checks payable to "*St. John's Youth Group.*" **Please call Ford Spilsbury if you have any questions at (212) 873-7088.**

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.

BOOK CLUB

St. John's Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 16th at 6:30 PM at the home of Ann Wenk. We are reading Thomas Merton's Seven Storey Mountain. There will also be a potluck dinner. **To RSVP, please contact Ann Wenk at (631) 549-0547.**

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 .

SING NOËL

Take a joyous break from the holiday rush and join us for Sing Noël, our annual concert of Christmas songs, carols and stories on Sunday, December 17th at 7:30 PM. There will be raffles and a lovely reception. Please join us for this very special event. **For advanced sale tickets, see Alex after the 10:00 AM service or contact the Parish Office at (631) 427-1752.**

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. **Today, November 12th, is the last day to contribute.** 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.** If giving cash, please mark your envelope Thanksgiving Basket Donation; if giving a check, **please make your checks out to the "ECW."**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to all who responded to our appeal for Operation Christmas Child. Today, November 12th is the final day to bring in your filled boxes. 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.**

ECW ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The ECW will be participating in the St. John's Episcopal Hospital's Adopt-A-Family Program this Christmas. All purchased gifts should be gift wrapped and have the individual tag attached to the gift. All gifts need to be dropped off by **Sunday, December 3rd.** **Any questions, please contact Linda Ehrenshaft at (631) 863-1118.**

ADVENT SERIES

All are welcome to attend our Tuesday Advent Series on December 5th, 12th & 19th: Evening Prayer at 6:00 PM; Soup & Salad Dinner at 6:30 PM; Program at 7:00 PM with Fr. John Morrison.
