

E-pistle



Saint Andrew's Parish
Kent, Connecticut



Weekly Schedule

Friday, 11 September

Prayer and Meditation at 5.30 pm

*In person for 25 people (with masks)

**Sign up with Irene Connors*

collageconnors@gmail.com

860.592.0030

Saturday, 12 September

Ordination of the Reverend Douglas Worthington at 12.30 pm

*Service inside for 25 attendees and outside under a tent
for 60 attendees socially distanced (with masks)

**Sign up to attend with Irene Connors*

collageconnors@gmail.com

860.592.0030

Sunday, 13 September

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist at 10.30 am ONLY

*Service outside under a tent for 60 attendees socially distanced (with masks)

Reception to follow with boxed lunches

**Sign up to attend with Irene Connors*

collageconnors@gmail.com

860.592.0030

**The 10.30 a.m. Service is also available*

live on YouTube

which you can access

through our website

www.standrewskentct.org

or

the Saturday Epistle YouTube link

Monday, 14 September

Holy Eucharist at 6 pm

Holy Cross Day

**Sign up with Irene Connors*

collageconnors@gmail.com

860.592.0030

Wednesday, 16 September

Holy Eucharist at 6 pm

*In person for 25 people (with masks)

**Sign up with Irene Connors*

collageconnors@gmail.com

860.592.0030

AA for Women meeting at 7 pm

(Zoom)

*email us for info.

From the Senior Warden

It is my great pleasure and pride to announce on behalf of the vestry that two historic events will take place this coming weekend at St. Andrew's.

First, the Reverend Douglas Worthington will become the first priest ever to be ordained at St. Andrew's. The ordination will take place in the Church on this Saturday, September 12th at 12:30 pm.

The event will be professionally filmed and shown live on a large outdoor screen under a tent that can house about 60 socially-distanced parishioners.

Secondly, Father Douglas will conduct his very first Holy Eucharist as an ordained priest outside of the Church under the tent on Sunday, September 13th at 10:30 am (please note: *only one service this Sunday*). Everyone in attendance will be socially distanced and wear masks.

After the Sunday Eucharist, we will be providing boxed lunches and water bottles outside of the Church to celebrate the event, for all who wish to partake on-campus or to take home. All health and legal requirements will be met for this momentous occasion.

And finally, we are excited to announce that we are having a surprise ceremony on the lawn for Douglas after the service on Sunday. Come and find out what the surprise is!

We welcome you all (first-come, first-served!) to this most extraordinary weekend in the long history of St. Andrew's Parish.

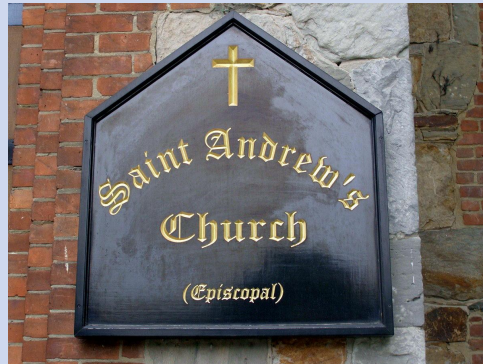
Interested attendees need to sign up immediately with Irene Connors via email (collageconnors@gmail.com) to attend, since socially-distanced seating will limit the number of attendees.

This weekend will give us the chance to welcome and congratulate Father Douglas, join together safely and gratefully, under a tent and become part of St. Andrew's history in the making.

Please try to attend any or all of these events as you feel able. If you can't make it or would rather participate virtually, both events will also be viewable on YouTube.

Christopher Rehkow
Senior Warden
On behalf of the Vestry

From Reverend Douglas Worthington



Dear people of St Andrew's Parish,

It is not every day that an ordination takes place in a parish. So, as we prepare for my ordination to the priesthood on Saturday afternoon, I thought I would pen a few words about ordination.

"Ordination" comes from the Latin *ordo*, which means a series, an arrangement or an order of things. In the Anglican tradition, we understand there to be four orders of people within the church. The first order is the laity: *Every single baptized Christian is a member of an order of the church*—was 'ordained,' as it were, to ministry at her or his baptism. The lay order is the oldest, largest and most important order in the Church! The second order is the diaconate, or deacons. Deacons trace their origin to the Acts of the Apostles, and their primary ministry is service to the world on behalf of the Church. (To be ordained an Episcopal priest, you must first serve a minimum of six months as a deacon, so essential to ordained ministry is this element of serving the world.) The third (and, historically, most recent) order is the priesthood. In the very early church, bishops were the spiritual leaders of all congregations, and there were no priests. As the church grew, however, there were too few bishops to serve all the people, and thus developed the priesthood: a sort of 'bridge' ministry between the bishop, who still oversees the church, and the local parish. The priest's chief ministry is administering the sacraments, preaching, teaching and attending to the spiritual welfare of the parish. The fourth order is, of course, the episcopacy ... the bishops (*episcopoi* in Greek), whose ministry is pastoring to and overseeing the entire church. Bishops supervise all deacons and priests. (If you'd like to know more about the respective ministries of the orders, there is a helpful summary at pages 855-56 of the *Book of Common Prayer*.) In the Episcopal Church, we believe all bishops are in "apostolic succession" with the original Apostles, as the bishops they themselves ordained have, in turn, ordained the bishops who came after them and so on. Thus, Bishop Ian's and Bishop Laura's ordinations trace directly back to the time of Jesus!

While all of that may (or may not) be interesting history, the most important aspect of ordination is neither historical nor hierarchical. Ordination—including the 'lay ordination' of baptism—is, at heart, an identity. It is a ritual and spiritual clothing of a person to a specific role within the church to which she or he feels called. It is God, and not the church, Who makes the ordinand a member of an order. During every ordination, the Holy Spirit descends upon the ordinand to equip her or him with grace and authority for ministry. But far from being any sort of arrival or completion, ordination is merely a *starting point*. During the ordination rite, the ordinand makes several promises concerning the types and qualities of the ministries she or he will undertake, for which ordination has equipped her or him. And, critically, the People of God—you!—give your consent to the ordination and promise to labor with her or him in ministry.

So, what we will do on Saturday has ancient roots and immediate application; is a highly liturgical experience that initiates a highly practical ministry; and is the briefest moment of consecration that blossoms forward into decades of mutual service. All that ... and even more! I hope you will be with us, either in-person or virtually, this weekend. More importantly, I hope you will join us as we all live out our own ordination vows, as a parish, over the coming years.

May God continue to bless our parish, its people and their work.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Douglas

frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

860-592-0171 (rectory, and *also* rings on mobile)

New Book Study

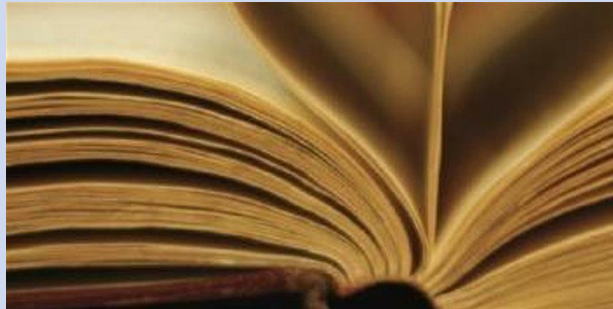


We will begin a Monday evening book discussion group, via Zoom (or telephone, if you prefer), on **14-September, from 7:15 - 8:30 pm** (we'll start with 15 minutes of social time, since we don't get to see one another very much). Former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams has written a series of three books that explore our existence as creatures of God (Being Human: Bodies, Minds, Persons (2018)); as Christians (Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist and Prayer (2014)); and as spiritual followers of Jesus (Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life (2016)). Each book is under 100 pages and very easy to read, while also giving us a lot to think and talk about. We'll aim to read 25-30 pages per week.

The books are widely available on Amazon and other outlets. (If you cannot afford them or if you are having trouble obtaining them, just let me know-we will get them for you.)

If you would like to participate ... or just try it out for a week or two ... call or email the office and let us know.

New Bible Study



We will begin a new Bible study group, also via Zoom (or telephone, if you prefer), on Wednesday, **16-September, from 4:30 - 5:30 pm**(also with a little social time). We could start this journey practically anywhere, but I've chosen the Gospel according to St Mark, which is the earliest gospel and also the 'parent' of the gospels written by Matthew and Luke. Mark is succinct-often in a hurry, in fact!-and essential. As an added bonus, the gospel he wrote is the one that most of our Sunday lessons will be drawn from for the year that begins this coming Advent: You'll have an inside track!

We won't use any formal curriculum but will proceed through chapter-by-chapter. I'll provide some background and commentary, but the group will decide where and how (and how quickly) it wishes to go. Using a study Bible (like the New Oxford Annotated Bible or the Harper-Collins Study Bible) will be a help, but whatever Bible you own will suffice. (We will use the NRSV translation.)

Again, if you would like to participate ... or just try it out for a week or two ... call or email the office and let us know.

Anti-racism group forming



The Episcopal Church in Connecticut has, very trenchantly, been speaking of the twin pandemics we have been confronting in the U.S. this year: COVID-19 and structural racism. There is little, beyond prayer, that we can do as a body of believers to affect the former, but there is a lot in scripture, our tradition and our culture that we can and should explore concerning the latter.

I'd like to bring an informal group together to start doing some of that exploration, again via Zoom (and/or telephone). I do not have a set plan for how we will proceed: Maybe we will read some books ... or watch a film or two ... or hear from experts or eyewitnesses or organizers or our neighbors ... or some of each ... or none of the above. The hardest, and most productive, step is simply to begin engaging with a topic very few of us know much about and very many of us feel quite uncomfortable with.

If you would like to ponder, discern, learn and reflect about this often unspoken but nevertheless pervasive aspect of American culture, please be in touch with me. I won't set a date for us to begin until we have a group assembled and know what time will work best for the greatest number. I do hope you will prayerfully consider joining us in this important intersection of faith, history and society.

St John's Church Outreach

The Outreach Committee at St. John's has teamed up with a social worker from Kent. She has identified 24 families from the area in need of assistance as school begins. The students range in grade from kindergarten to high school sophomores. They are all in need of back-to-school supplies - classroom basics and COVID safety items.

Please consider helping out by

donating what you can!

September 8th deadline (first day of school for the Kent Public Schools). Before dropping off donated materials to St. John's, please email stjohnschurch@snet.net and the Parish Administrator will contact you to make arrangements.

Thank you!

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH OUTREACH

GEAR TO START THE YEAR!
SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION 2020

COVID SUPPLIES:

HAND SANITIZER, FACE MASKS/COVERINGS, BLUE LIGHT GLASSES, HEADPHONES, LUNCH BOXES, TISSUES, REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE

CLASSROOM BASICS:

NOTEBOOKS, SHEET PROTECTORS, PAPER, INDEX CARDS, NOTEPADS, BINDERS, PENCIL TONGUES, BOXES OF PENCILS, CRAYONS, PERMANENT MARKERS, CRAYOLA MARKERS, RULERS, ERASERS, SCISSORS, GLUE, PENS



Kent Food Bank

Please help the parish continue our support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund
P.O. Box 262
Kent, CT 06757

*Remember to put Food Bank in the memo of your check.

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of our town's Social Services Director, Leah Pullaro.

The Kent Food Bank is also taking food donations during this difficult time.

The Kent Food Bank is especially in need of:

Staples such as beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna

Please remember that the Food Bank accepts
pet foods as well!

Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past!

You may drop off food items on Thursdays
from 9.00 to Noon
*in the back of the Community House
on Main Street.*

*Please DO NOT come into the Food Bank, but leave
outside the door.*

Lectons for this Week

The Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
Proper 19; Year A

Genesis 50:15-21;
Psalm 103:1-13;
Romans 14:1-12;
Matthew 18:21-35

Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order
to view
past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays located
on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

Worship Services

-Sunday-

Holy Eucharist

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays;

Healing Service at 8.30,

Third Sunday

In person

for 25 people with masks at

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

(10.30 a.m. available live on YouTube)

-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.

(25 people with masks)

-Friday-

Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

(25 people with masks)

-Holy Days-

Holy Eucharist at 6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

Wednesdays

A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.

Zoom meeting

email for info.

Thursdays

A.A. at 7.30 a.m.

(Great Room)

Resumed

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.

(Vestry Room)

Suspended

Parish Staff

The Rev. Douglas S.

Worthington,

Provisional

Clergy in Charge

frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

860-592-0171

Thomas W. Holcombe,
Organist & Director of
Choirs

Margie O'Brien,
Director of the Children's
Choir

Heather Scofield,
Parish Administrator

Joan I. Cassel
Financial Secretary

Bill McLaren,
Sexton

Randy Osolin,
Verger



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Visit St Andrew's website at
www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

Visit our website



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