



www.standrewskentct.org * 860.927.3486 * saintandrewskent@gmail.com



The Second Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

From the Wardens

In reporting of the status of the rector search last week, I wrote that we hosted candidates to visit us over the past 2 months and that the visits went very well. One visit went so well that after discussion and deliberation last weekend, the vestry decided to offer the rector position to one of the candidates. Despite his enthusiasm for the parish, the significant presence of St. Andrew's in the life of the community of Kent and the beauty of the rectory, the candidate felt that he could not accept the call because of the dramatic changes in his family's life a long distance move to Kent. After considerable deliberation, the vestry discerned that no other candidate from those that have applied to date should be called.

Before I set forth the next steps, I want to assure you that since January 2023, the vestry has worked hard to prepare the parish for welcoming a new rector. In the early spring, we elicited your thoughts and desires in early spring and provided information to the diocese's satisfaction regarding our ability to afford a full time rector. We then met with a consultant several times to learn how best to provide potential candidates with information about our parish, we prepared for and held a parish meeting to confirm our understanding of who

we are and what qualities and strengths we all wanted our next rector to possess; after that meeting we spent many hours completing lengthy questionnaires about our parish for the diocese to publish in its posting; we participated in training for best interview practices, including a mock interview; we studied seven applications, conducted 7 zoom interviews, and hosted 2 in person visits. The website was updated and enhanced. I can say with confidence that we have both learned a lot and completed much work this past year that will help the vestry and officers complete the rector search this year.

As for next steps, we do not begin at square one. In fact, by the end of this month the diocese will repost our rector position; the posting will be open for 6 weeks. In the meantime, if you know of clergy who are looking for a new position, please let us know or direct them to our website.

Throughout this long year without a rector, the parishioners of St. Andrew's have pulled together to support each other in worship services, the summer Tag Sale, the offerings from the choir each week, the Music in the Nave events, providing pastoral care to those in need, hosting the Christmas Bazaar, selling Christmas trees, and in the ministry in the church school, hosting lunches for veterans and first responders, to mention some but not all of our parish offerings. Life at St. Andrew's has remained vibrant and healthy. In the months ahead the Vestry welcomes your continued support in its search for your next rector.

Almighty God, giver of every gift we receive; look graciously on your Church, and guide those who shall discern whom God is calling to be rector for this parish. Grace us with patience, trust, and hope through the interim times of doubt and uncertainty. We pray that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us to continue, improve, expand, and reach out with our ministries to all whom we can touch; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

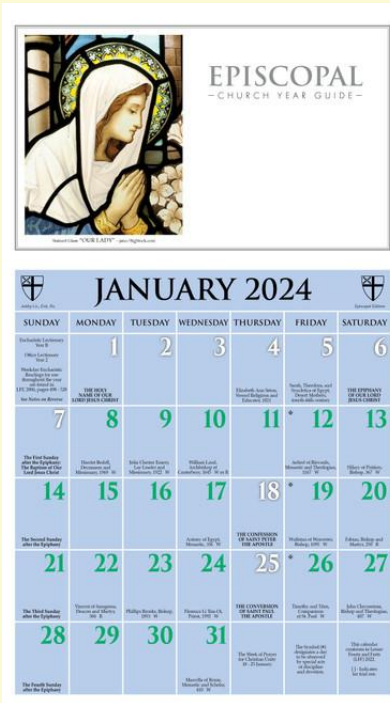
A New Parish Directory is Now Available!



A newly updated Parish Directory is now available! With new parishioners and many changes since the last directory was published, it's a fresh format in a smaller sized booklet.

A few directories will be available to take home after Sunday's services. If you would like a copy, please stop by the parish office or contact KC (office.sa.kent@gmail.com) if you would like a directory mailed to you.

2024 Calendars Available!



2024 Episcopal Calendars are available in the Narthex and in the Parish Office. Please feel free to take one home.

Clothing Donations for the Cathedral Soup Kitchen



On the fourth Sunday of each month, **Steve Klots** takes a group of South Kent School students to Church Street Eats, the Sunday soup kitchen at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford. As part of that, he and his crew distribute clothing, and he reports that, with winter

approaching, there is a desperate need for men's coats (but not dress coats), blankets, gloves, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and pants. (Some women's clothing is welcome, but about 90% of the guests at Church Street Eats are men.) He would greatly appreciate the support of the parish in this. He will leave a collection box in the narthex of the church, and he will stop by at least every couple of weeks to collect any donations. Feel free to contact him at klotss@southkentschool.org if you have any questions.

Mark Your Calendars

Sunday, 04 February
Parish-wide Annual Meeting

This Week at St Andrew's

Sunday, 14 January :: 8:30 am

Morning Prayer: *The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ*
(transferred) *(spoken)*

Sunday, 14 January:: 10:30 am

Morning Prayer: *The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ*
(transferred) *(with music) (in-person and live-streamed)*

Sunday, 14 January:: 10:30 am

Church school

Monday, 15 January:: 8:00 pm

LGBTQ+ A.A. meeting

Wednesday, 17 January :: 6:00 pm

Midweek Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, 17 January :: 6:00 pm

Kent Singers Rehearsal

Thursday, 18 January: 7:00 pm

A.A. meeting

Thursday, 18 January: 7:00 pm

Al-Anon meeting

Help Support the Kent Food Bank



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

Kent Community Fund
P O Box 262
Kent, CT 06757
memo: Food Bank

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's Social Services Director, Samantha Hasenflue. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Samantha's office in Town Hall, or placing it in the offering plate, marked for the food bank.

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna**. Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the back of the Community House on Main Street.

Lessons for this Week

**The Second Sunday after the
Epiphany: The Baptism of
Our Lord Jesus Christ**
Year B

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11



Worship Services

-Sunday-

Holy Eucharist

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

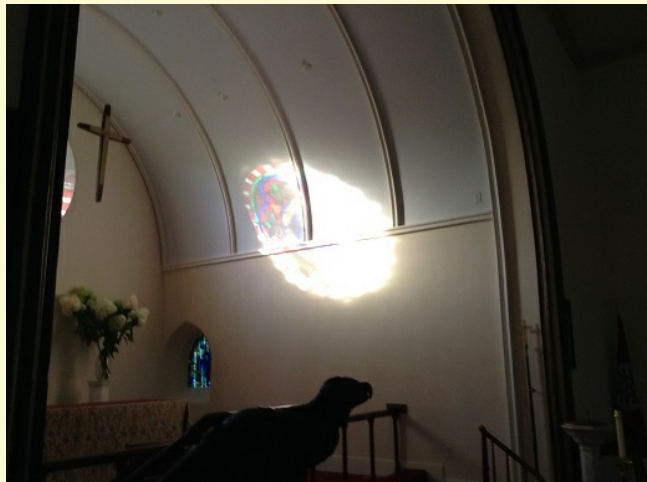
In person
(10.30 a.m. available live
stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays

LGBTQ+ A.A.

(Parish House)

Thursdays

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.

(Old Vestry Room)

A.A. at 7:00 pm

(Parish House)



Parish Staff

Susan Guse

Organist & Director of Choirs

Ron Marasco, Ph.D.

Director of Education

KC Compton

Parish Administrator

Jane Farnol

Church School Leader

Joan I Cassel

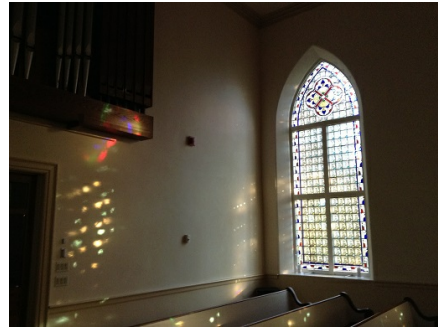
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin

Vergers

Gloria Contreras

Sexton



St Andrew's Church

P. O. Box 309

1 N. Main St.

Kent, CT 06757

860.927.3486

saintandrewskent@gmail.com

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

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.episcopalct.org/

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