



www.standrewskentct.org * 860.927.3486 * st.andrew.kent@snet.net



Please Donate Shoes for Our Special Maundy Thursday Offering

St Andrew's Current COVID Closure Status

PARISH IS CLOSED, again. The Town of Kent is in red status on the [Connecticut COVID Data Tracker](#). Therefore, *all worship services will be livestreamed (and also recorded, for later viewing) on our YouTube account*. In addition, *all other parish activities will either be suspended or move to online-only*; participants in those activities will be updated separately. The parish will remain in closed status until both Kent and a majority of the surrounding towns are less-than-red for two successive Thursdays.

From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

I continue to pray you are having a blessed and holy Lent. I'd like to touch, briefly, on three very hopeful topics this week.

First, the wardens and I have made the decision that **the parish will be open for worship during Holy Week and Easter Week**; that is, from Palm Sunday, 28 March, through the Second Sunday of Easter, 11 April. The size of the vaccinated population in Connecticut continues to grow; the governor has loosened restrictions on in-person worship; Litchfield County is not experiencing an outbreak at the time I am writing this, according to COVIDActNow.org; and the nature of these most sacred and treasured liturgies really calls for in-person attendance for those who desire it. Masks and social distancing will be required for those who attend worship, which

means attendance at each service must be capped at roughly 30 worshippers. (People who live in the same home count as '1 unit' and not '2 people' for social distancing purposes.) Therefore, it will be *essential to contact Irene Connors in advance*, to let her know that you plan to attend a service. You may reach her at 860-592-0030 or collageconnors@gmail.com. *All services will continue to be livestreamed and recorded, as usual.*

Second, we have now **finalized our schedule of Holy Week and Easter Week services**. I will say some more about a couple of these liturgies in the next few editions of the E-pistle, but I encourage you to take a look at the schedule, which appears below, now and mark your calendars. In my experience, attending Holy Week liturgies both deepens and intensifies the indescribable and long-awaited joy of Easter!

Third, please consider participating in this year's alternative Maundy Thursday 'foot washing' practice of **donating new shoes, sneakers and socks for persons living without homes**. I am delighted to report that Sr Mary Lanning has agreed to take and distribute everything we collect—our joint ministry with YES!Solutions continues to expand. In addition, Joe Speranzo of Sundog Shoe & Leather has kindly agreed to donate some excess inventory to our campaign, which we gratefully appreciate! You will find more details about this wonderful opportunity, below.

Please also read on to find out about a new youth Confirmation Class that will begin in a few weeks and about how to make donations for flowers on Easter Day.

Finally, please also be sure to check out Chris Rehkow's reflection on a meditation from Russell Levenson's *A Path to Wholeness*.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Douglas+

Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

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

Weekly Schedule for 14 March

Sunday, 14 March	Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:30 am
Sunday, 14 March	Holy Eucharist (<i>live-streamed and recorded</i>)	10:30 am
Wednesday, 17 March	Bible Study (via Zoom)	4:30 pm
Wednesday, 17 March	Mid-week Holy Eucharist (<i>live-streamed, and also recorded</i>)	6:00 pm
Friday, 19 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>Feast of St Joseph</i>	6:00 pm

(live-streamed, and also recorded)

NEW FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY: Shoes and Socks for Homeless People

For some, the foot washing we perform during our Maundy Thursday liturgy is a deeply moving ritual in which we imitate Jesus' washing His disciples' feet at the Last Supper. For others, it is an uncomfortable—even undesirable—moment they're glad happens only once-a-year.

Well, this year, whichever camp you may be in, we have good news for you! During this time of COVID, there is no way we can safely wash one another's feet. But we *can* still engage in a deeply moving ritual that echoes Jesus' tender example. **We are now collecting new shoes, sneakers and socks, for women, men and children**, which Sr Mary Lanning has graciously volunteered to deliver to members of New York City's homeless population. Before we donate them, we will **bless and ritually 'wash' them, during our Maundy Thursday liturgy** ... a symbolic act of our washing the feet of those who are poor, hungry and without a home.

Please drop off new shoes, sneakers and socks at the parish house or the breezeway behind the rectory before **5:00 pm on Thursday, 01 April**. If you would like to place a short message of hope or love or happiness or inspiration in the shoes or socks you give, it will make your gift that much more personal. Thank you!!

JUST ANNOUNCED: Our Holy Week and Easter Week Worship Schedule

All of these services will be open for in-person attendance *and also* livestreamed (and recorded).

If you would like to attend in-person, please contact Irene Connors at 860-592-0030 or collageconnors@gmail.com. Masks and social distancing will be required, which means that in-person attendance must be capped at approximately 30 worshippers. (People who live in the same home may sit as a pod; they count as '1 unit' and not '2+ people' for social distancing purposes.)

Sunday, 28 March

The Liturgy of Passion /
Palm Sunday, with The
Palm Procession and the
Passion Gospel

10:00 am (*only one
service this day*)

Monday, 29 March

Holy Eucharist: *Monday
of Holy Week*

7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist: *Tuesday*

Tuesday, 30 March	<i>of Holy Week</i>	7:00 pm
Monday, 31 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	7:00 pm
Thursday, 01 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday and the Stripping of the Altar</i>	7:00 pm
Friday, 02 April	The Liturgy of Good Friday, with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament	12:30 pm
	Tenebrae in Stations: <i>A Reflective Service</i>	7:00 pm
Saturday, 03 April	The Liturgy of Holy Saturday	11:00 am
	The Great Vigil of Easter	7:00 pm
Sunday, 04 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>Easter Day</i>	8:30 am (with hymns) and 10:30 am (with hymns and music)
<i>During Easter Week, Holy Eucharist will be celebrated every day, Monday through Saturday, at 12:30 pm, and also at 6:30 pm on Wednesday</i>		
Sunday, 11 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>Easter 2</i>	8:30 am (spoken) and 10:30 am (with hymns and music)

OUR LENTEN PRACTICE: Weekly Reflection on *A Path to Wholeness*

Our parish's Lenten practice this year, for those who wish to participate, is reading the daily meditations in Fr Russell Levenson's wonderful new book, A Path to Wholeness: A Lenten Companion. This week, Chris Rehkow shares his reflections:

Happy Lent! A few weeks ago, Fr. Douglas asked me to read a book entitled *A Path to Wholeness – A Lenten Companion* and write a short piece about a part of the book to share with you.

So being unable to ever say 'no' to an Episcopal priest, I put aside my morning *Wall Street Journal* and *NY Post* and started reading the book. The book is basically 46 different daily meditations on a wide variety of topics. The author

Russell Levenson, Jr. has been an ordained Episcopal priest for over thirty years. Each chapter begins with a bible passage, a few pages of commentary, some suggestions about 'next steps' and ends with a prayer.

I am not a slow reader, but each chapter is very thought provoking and really requires the reader to stop and think about each meditation, so it may be a quick read, but you'll find yourself thinking about the chapter for some time before you can start the next one. So the best approach would be to just read one chapter each day. And that is how the author has designed it to be read. The book would be a wonderful read during any season, not just during Lent.

So where to begin? The first chapter is entitled 'Seeing Death.' Having lost my wife and father in this last past year, this topic was particularly meaningful to me. But it was only the first chapter so I had to read on, and I'm glad I did. Several more chapters stood out and I could write about many of them. 'As we forgive ourselves...' is a very timely reminder that we as Christians need to forgive each other just as Christ has forgiven us. And a strong reminder of how we all need forgiveness and how absent it is these days in the current 'cancel culture' we live in.

'The One Who's got your back' meditation speaks to where we are now. We have been filled with real fear over the last year with the Covid Pandemic. And fear can be very debilitating. Levenson reminds us that we need to remember that God has our back. We will get through this and we need to choose faith over fear. The next chapter 'Who is on your throne' calls us as Christians to examine who is really in charge – us or the Lord. Two really important things to remember with all of the mandates, protocols and rules we've had to deal with this last 12 months!

So take some time and set aside the newspapers and turn off the TV and read this book. You'll be glad you did. Enjoy the season.

NEW YOUTH FORMATION OFFERING: Confirmation Class Is Beginning

We are excited to announce that we will be starting a **newyouth Confirmation Class** on Wednesday, 24 March. The class will meet, via Zoom, on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. It is open to anyone age 13 – 18 who wishes to learn more about Christian faith and belief; the Church and its sacraments; and living life as a follower of Christ. The class is designed to prepare one for the Sacrament of Confirmation, but that is *not* a requirement. Participants are free to decide whether or not to seek confirmation at the end of the course.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Fr Douglas.

NOW IS THE TIME: Easter Flower Donations

If you would like to make a donation toward this year's Easter flowers, either in

memory or in honor of someone, please contact Laura in the parish office (860-927-3486 or office.sa.kent@gmail.com). The suggested donation is \$50.

All dedications received by Wednesday, 31 March, will be included in the worship bulletins for Easter Day.

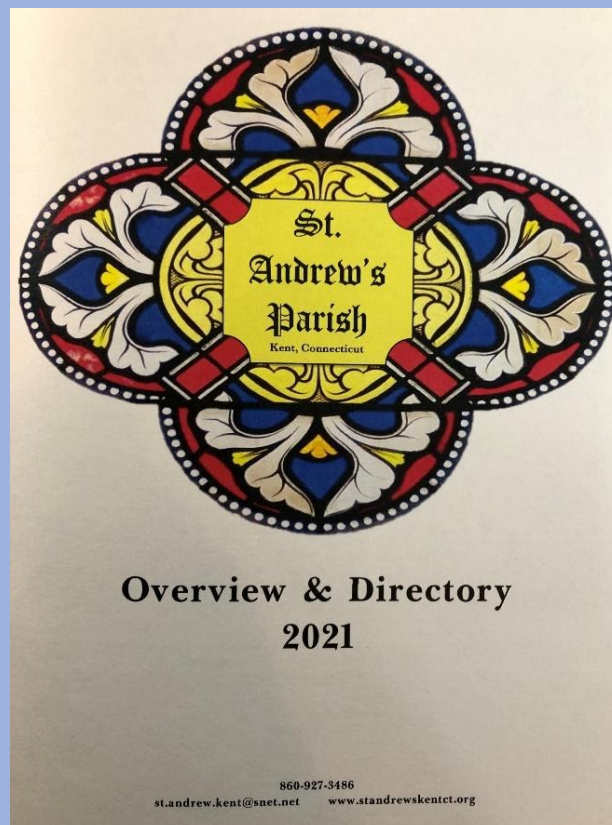
EVERY WEEK: Live Morning Prayer on Sundays

We know that for some parishioners, spiritual communion—a service of Holy Eucharist without distribution of the consecrated bread and wine—is not a satisfying worship experience. Therefore, **every Sunday, we will read the office of Morning Prayer, *live*, via Zoom, at 7:30 am**. This service will last about 30 minutes (a very brief meditation, but no sermon). We will then keep the Zoom session open for a while afterwards, so members can spend some time chatting with one another and with Fr Douglas, if they'd like.

The Zoom link for Sunday Morning Prayer is [here](#), and it will also be available through the parish web site and in the Saturday edition of the E-pistle. You can also obtain a copy of this week's Morning Prayer readings at both of those places, as well.

You will need a *Book of Common Prayer* for this service. If you do not have one, please contact Fr Douglas, and he will be happy to get one to you.

HOT OFF THE PRESS: New Parish Overview and Directory



We are delighted to announce the new edition of the **St Andrew's Parish**

Overview and Directory—refreshed, revised and fully updated—has been printed, and copies are in the mail to every household in the parish, underwritten by a generous contribution from an anonymous donor. Keep an eye out for it in your mailbox.

HUGE thanks to Candace Conard, Lynn Perry and Laura Filippi who gave countless hours to this immense project. It would never have gotten done ... let alone so handsomely ... without them. Thank you!!

FROM THE DIOCESE: Lenten Quiet Day



Saturday March 27, 2021 9 AM EST
[Lenten Quiet Day at Camp Washington](#)

Join us for a time of reflection and renewal in the midst of your Lenten journey. Our time together will be held outside in the chapel (weather permitting) while observing all physical distance guidelines. The day will consist of four sections: Each presenter will offer a reflection/meditation followed by an activity such as journaling, discussion, walking, and other hands-on activities. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch to enjoy after the program. There is no charge for this program however registration is required.

[Click Here For Tickets](#)

All Recovery Meetings Are *Suspended*

While the parish is temporarily closed, all recovery group (AA and Al Anon) meetings have been suspended. They will resume when we re-open.

Computer Help is Available



If you or someone you know is having difficulty accessing our online services, the weekly E-pistle or our web site ... or who would like to participate in our Zoom offerings but don't know how ... please let Fr Douglas or Laura know. We have parishioners who are willing to help you and also make sure your equipment and internet connection are working properly. We don't want anyone to miss an opportunity to be part of the life of St Andrew's!

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.*

Lections for this Week

The Third Sunday in Lent

Year B

Numbers 21:4-9;
Psalm 107:1-3,17-22;
Ephesians 2:1-10;
John 3:14-21



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
stream 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

6.00 p.m.
(25 people with masks)

12 Step Meetings

Wednesdays

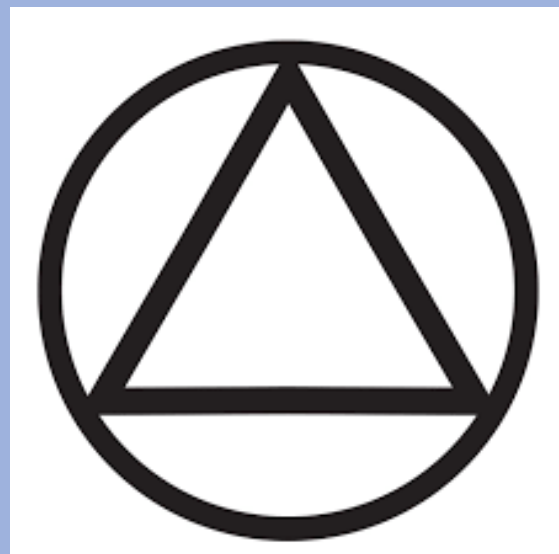
A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
email us for info.

Thursdays

A.A. at 7.30 a.m.
(Great Room)
suspended
Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Great Room)
suspended

Fridays

A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)
temporarily until First Church opens
suspended



Parish Staff

**The Rev Douglas S
Worthington,
Priest in Charge**
frdouglas.sak@gmail.com
860-592-0171



**Thomas W Holcombe,
Organist & Director of Choirs**

**Laura Filippi,
Parish Administrator**

**Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary**

**Bill McLaren,
Sexton**

**Randy Osolin,
Verger**



**St Andrew's Church
P. O. Box 309
1 N. Main St.
Kent, CT 06757**

**860.927.3486
st.andrew.kent@snet.net**

**Parish office open everyday except Friday from 10 am- 5 pm
(2 pm on Thursdays)**

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

**The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org**

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