



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



St Andrew's Current COVID Closure Status

Parish IS OPEN. As of Thursday, 17 February, the Town of Kent is not in red status on the **Connecticut COVID Data Tracker**. Therefore *all worship services will continue when and where they were scheduled to occur, in-person*; in addition, the 10:30 service on Sunday and the Wednesday evening service will be both live-streamed and recorded, as usual. Next week's E-pistle will update this status.

If you wish to attend an in-person worship service, please *register with Irene Connors*, in advance. (Attendance is capped at 25 people, to maintain social distancing.) You may reach her by email at collageconnors@gmail.com or by telephone at 860-592-0030.

From Fr Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

I wish you a blessed and holy Lent.

As we've continued to experiment with ways to improve our pandemic worship experience, I've heard from many of you that our Sunday bulletins are just too long and unwieldy. This week we will roll out a new approach that is more

condensed, gives you some choices and, above all, saves paper. That's the topic of my message this week, which you can view [here](#). Please let me know what you think!

In the peace and love of Christ,

Douglas+

Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

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

Weekly Schedule for 21 February

Sunday, 21 February	Morning Prayer (<i>Zoom only</i>)	7:30 am
Sunday, 21 February	Holy Eucharist (<i>in-person only</i>)	8:30 am
Sunday 21, February	Holy Eucharist (<i>in-person AND livestreamed</i>)	10:30 am
Sunday, 21 February	Vestry Meeting (<i>Zoom</i>)	1:00 pm
Tuesday, 23 February	Anti-Racism Study Group (<i>Zoom</i>)	7:30 pm
Wednesday, 24 February	Holy Eucharist: Feast of St Matthias (<i>in-person AND livestreamed</i>)	6:00 pm
Friday, 26 February	Prayer and Meditation (<i>Nave</i>)	5:30 pm

**WE EGG-CEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS:
A Great Big Thank-you from Sr Mary**



Seeing is, indeed, believing.

If you ever wondered what more than 3,700 hard boiled decorated eggs ... accompanied by \$1,500 worth of gift cards to CVS, Dunkin' Donuts, etc and countless other tangible expressions of love and happiness for those who live homeless ... looked like, well, here's just a glimpse! The good people of St Andrew's, with the very generous assistance of students at the Canterbury School, Kent School and South Kent School plus many other friends of the parish, all came together in the midst of a pandemic and met Sr Mary Lanning's Valentine's Day challenge: She asked us to make double the number of eggs we made last year ... and we gave her TRIPLE! The Lord is good indeed. Thank you so much. And a huge shout-out of gratitude to *George-Ann Gowan* and *Annie Andrews* who captained this entire effort, on just two weeks' notice! Amazing!

Sister Mary sent along these words of thanks to St Andrew's:

I can't let this Valentines Day melt away without telling you, one more time, how profoundly you touched the lives and feelings of the whole YES! Solutions family -- our volunteers, the courageous, tenacious people we were able to serve, and ME. Your Edible Valentines venture was truly eggstraordinary.

To bring whimsy and laughter, a hungrily needed hot meal, a warm and understanding exchange of glances on a freezing cold street, a big bag of merriment and sweet treats -- -- and those cheerful, soulful , colorful Valentines Eggs -- -- what a privilege!

We and our street family weren't just dancing on the sidewalk to keep warm; we were, simply, HAPPY. You gave us a uniquely happy Valentines Day.

I want you ALL to hear from my heart how you ALL made the frigid Valentines 2021 weekend into a warm, sweet awareness that Life and Goodness still prevail in our upended world.

Some of our many, many helpers at the Canterbury School, Kent School and South Kent School, respectively:





STARTING THIS SUNDAY: Live Morning Prayer on Sundays

In order to avoid the 'gremlins' that sometimes terminate the live broadcast of our worship over the internet, in November, we moved to pre-recording all our services and uploading them to YouTube. We know, however, that for some parishioners, recorded worship is less meaningful. We also 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, **beginning THIS Sunday, we will read the office of Morning Prayer, *live*, via Zoom, every Sunday morning at 7:30 am.** (*This is a change from the previously announced time. Father Douglas will need time to get to the 8:30 Eucharist when we are open for worship.*) This service will last about 30 minutes (a 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.

FOR LENT:

Lent Madness 2021

From Marel Rogers, *St Andrew's Lent Madness coordinatorextraordinaire*:

As January rounds the home stretch Lent begins to come into focus. I am looking forward to Lent Madness, the Lenten program with a sense of humor added to some serious study of 32 saints.



From the Lent Madness [website](http://www.lentmadness.org):

The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote (online) for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Sainly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. Last year a group of us met each week to discuss the saints under consideration for that week. This year we can meet on Zoom and do the same thing. There are a number of "Sainly Scorecards"—a booklet with biographical information on the Sainly Contestants—which can be delivered right to your front door. Each of the participants can fill out the entire bracket ahead of time and submit it to be judged as each Saint progresses or moves aside. In the spirit of friendly competition, a prize (to be voted on by participants--food, drink, a car wash, a gardening chore) will be awarded to the one who predicted the winner of the Golden Halo.

As Lent Madness continues to grow and evolve, what won't change is the essence of Lent Madness: allowing people to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminding one another that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline. If this helps people connect with each other and with the risen Christ during this season of penitence and renewal, and have a bit of fun in the process, then it continues to be worthwhile.

If you'd like to participate in this year's Lent Madness fun, please be in touch with Marel (860-364-0635 or marelrogers@yahoo.com).

ALSO FOR LENT:
Lenten Reading for 2021

In the Episcopal Church, it's traditional to offer a mid-week adult formation program during Lent. These often take the form of a supper followed by a speaker or a discussion, perhaps closing with Evening Prayer or Compline. Alas, that model isn't available to us this year.

Likewise, as I pondered the possibilities, I concluded that the *last* thing any of us needs is more screen time. An online class or discussion group ... or movies or YouTube videos or web sites ... are just *not* the thing for Lent 2021.

I have, however, found a wonderful new book by Russell Levenson, an Episcopal priest in Houston, Texas, called *A Path to Wholeness: A Lenten Companion*. I have just dipped into this short book, but I liked what I saw for each day: a short Bible verse, a brief, conversational meditation, an invitation to reflect on what this means for you and a brief prayer. Levenson's Lenten devotional is deep without being heavy. And to help us read it 'together,' in each weekly *E-pistle* during Lent I plan to have a different 'special guest star' (as they used to say) from the parish provide a short video about one of the week's readings that really spoke to her or him.

I hope you will consider buying a copy (available via the [House of Books](#), [Amazon](#) and the [Church Publishing website](#)) and pausing, each day, to spend a little bit of time learning, reflecting and praying ... as we journey toward the Cross and onward to the Empty Tomb.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE: The Phenomenon of the 'COVID Wall'

[This article](#) came up recently during a roundtable discussion. It's not spiritual or even Christian, but it names something many of us might be feeling, a year into COVID-19: pandemic fatigue. You may want to give it a quick read.

And if there's anything in your own experience of COVID that you'd like to talk or pray about, Fr Douglas is available, anytime.

ECCT Lenten Retreat

ROOTED IN HOPE IN A TIME OF ANXIETY:

Spiritual Nourishment and
Refreshment in the
Midst of Chronic Anxiety

Saturday, February 27, 2021 | 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
A day of learning, reflection and spiritual refreshment for laity



Rooted in Hope in a Time of Anxiety: A Day for Laity
Saturday, February 27 from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Are you growing weary of life in “COVID-time?” Would you benefit from a Lenten Retreat?

Join our bishops and laity from across ECCT for a day of spiritual refreshment and learning. Living in the midst of chronic anxiety impacts all of us; our relationships with our children, spouses/partners, family, friends, colleagues, and faith communities. Together we will learn about the predictable ways humans react to chronic anxiety from **Dr. David Olsen**, a nationally recognized expert on the impact of anxiety on families and churches. We will also explore patterns of behavior that can help alleviate stress and anxiety. Interspersed throughout the day our chaplains from the **Bethany House of Prayer** will offer opportunities for reflection, meditation, and prayer.

Note: This is a free event open to all laity in ECCT; preregistration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Click [here](#) to register.

All Recovery Meetings *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

Lections for this Week

The First Sunday in Lent

Year B

Genesis 9:8-17;
Psalm 25:1-9;
1 Peter 3:18-22;
Mark 1:9-15



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)

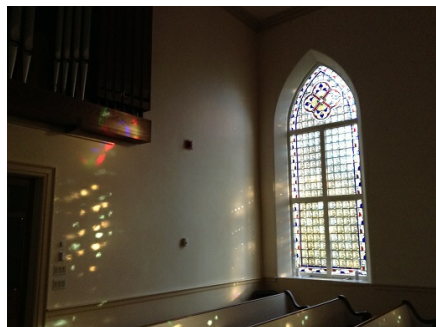
temporarily until First Church opens

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
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Parish office open everyday except Friday from 9 am-6 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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