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## This Week & Weekend at St Andrew's

### St Andrew's Church

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Visit St Andrew's website at  
[www.standrewskentct.org](http://www.standrewskentct.org)

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut  
[www.ctepiscopal.org](http://www.ctepiscopal.org)

### Service Schedule

#### -Sunday-

Holy Eucharist  
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.  
Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays;  
Healing Service at 8.30,  
Third Sundays  
*Suspended*

#### -Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist  
6.00 p.m.  
*Suspended*

#### -Friday-

Prayer & Meditation  
5.30 p.m.  
*Suspended*

*Holy Days as announced.*

**Thursday, 30 April**  
Parish Office Open 10.00 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
***Call or email only***

**Sunday, 3 May**  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
**\*Service available on YouTube  
and  
on our website**

[www.standrewskentct.org](http://www.standrewskentct.org)  
**Coff-E Hour at Noon (Zoom)**  
**(info to log on in a Special Epistle)**

**Tuesday, 5 May April**  
Parish Office Open 10.00 - 2 p.m.  
***Call or email only***

## This Week at St Andrew's

Dear Parishioners,

As the coronavirus crisis drags on I miss more and more attending church, singing hymns, listening to sermons and fellowshiping with you all. Sunday mornings are not the same. I just don't want to get used to this 'new normal.' During Lent we were able to record and post the several services leading up to and including Holy Week. I thought that was a good way to keep the spirit alive at St. Andrews.

Then many of the participants began to feel uncomfortable even doing that. We are now starting to think about what to do going forward. The governor and bishops are now saying that we may be able to start attending church again on May 20. Even if we do return we'll have issues of social distancing, etc. to deal with. I have a feeling that many parishioners will not feel comfortable attending

## Calendar

**Sunday, March 22**

***The Kent Singers***

***Songs of the  
British Isles***

**3.00 p.m.**

**\*\*Rescheduled for  
June 14 at 3 p.m.**

***St John's Episcopal  
Church in New Milford***

## Twelve Step Groups

**Wednesdays**

7:00 p.m.

A.A. for Women

***Zoom meeting  
email for info.***

**Thursdays**

A.A. at 7.30 a.m.

(Great Room)

***Suspended***

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.

(Vestry Room)

***Suspended***

## Parish Staff

**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**

church for some time no matter what the bishops or governor say. Some of our intrepid altar guild are starting to feel that we should resume the online services, so next week we'll start doing recording the Sunday morning service again. So for a time it may be a good solution to record the services and allow more and more parishioners to attend as they feel comfortable. We will follow the bishops guidelines.

Even if it seems as though nothing is going on at St. Andrews right now, there is still a lot happening. We are making very good progress on the renovation of the rectory. We've added a second bathroom and completely renovated the heating and air conditioning systems. All should be ready for a new Provisional Priest in Charge when we find one.

Also, this coming week the vestry will interview three candidates for the PPIC via zoom. All three candidates are well qualified and want to come to St. Andrews. After the initial interviews, the vestry will decide if we would like to further pursue any of the candidates. So please keep this process in your prayers.

Finally, the Tag Sale committee and volunteers are feeling that this year the Tag Sale should be cancelled. The Tag Sale requires many of the volunteers to work in close quarters with many different people, so many parishioners are hesitant at this time to want to do that. We were waiting to see what the town of Kent does with the Kent Sidewalks event, but the side walk event could follow social distancing guidelines while there is no way to do that with many people in the parish hall. So we decided to cancel the Tag Sale this year. So please keep all that stuff until next year!

I know we will come through all of this. Please let myself or Charmian or any of the vestry know of your ideas and concerns.

Christopher Rehkow  
Senior Warden

**From Dylan Mello**

Greetings Everyone,

I hope you all had a peaceful week. Each week as I put these newsletters together, I am always amazed at the work that is being done in our Region. Despite these challenging times, there has been such an impressive shift of remaining together, albeit from our homes, safely and virtually.

Our churches continue to be our home. The church isn't the building; the church is the community and relationships we have made. The virtual coffee hours, the Facebook Livestreams, the meditations, and the Zoom Services all allow us to be together. As we remain physically distant yet socially close, I see the Holy Spirit

at work, though I still long for the time to arrive when we can be physically together safely.

This week there is new information of our online events! Please review the new offerings, [ECCT](#) updates, and a NW Region Leadership Highlight.

The Region website is a space for information as well, located **here**. Please let me know if there is anything you'd like to me know or share.

Stay safe and stay well.

In peace,

Dylan

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### **ECCT COVID-19 Resources**

**The Episcopal Church in Connecticut has put together many resources for us to utilize. There are financial resources for parishes, self-care information, and livestream information as well. Please see [HERE](#) or the link below to explore current news, events, and offerings.**

**<https://www.episcopalct.org/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>**

Coff-E Hour

**Announcing!  
The Very First Ever  
St. Andrew's Parish  
Coff-E-hour!**



Join members of our Vestry  
and wider parish family for a  
virtual version of our weekly gathering  
~ **Sunday, May 3rd at Noon** ~  
Zoom Online Meeting Instructions & Info  
will follow in the next E-pistle

**From Webmaster George Potts**

**Parish member Kristin Phelps has a great idea!**

**We would like the members of our worldwide St Andrew's Parish to share stories of how we each have been spending our time during the current pandemic:**

***Where are you spending your quarantine?***

***How are you keeping busy?***

***What are you reading?***

***What is the biggest change you are experiencing?***

***Are you attending any online services, both here and worldwide?***

**Please email your stories to George Potts at [gpotts@snet.net](mailto:gpotts@snet.net) and he will upload them to the parish website so that we can all see them. All of them will be viewable once the page is published at <https://www.standrewskentct.org/membersblog.html>**

[Click here](#) to view the Prayer List

**Adding to the Prayer List**

*During the transition time, Heather Scofield, our Administrator, will be maintaining the parish Prayer List. Please call her and ask her to add names to the list, that you would like the prayers offered.*

*And please remember to let her know when she may remove the name(s).*

*Except for the names we know to keep on the Prayer List on a long term basis, we will remove names after 3 months and ask that you resubmit if the names should remain.*

*You may also write to Heather at [st.andrew.kent@snet.net](mailto:st.andrew.kent@snet.net)*

*Please be sure to provide her with a telephone number so that she may be able to ask if she has any questions.*

*We remember the faithful departed during the week after their deaths, and on those Sundays when you ask for their names to be included.*



Women in the Bible, an online course from  
Yale Divinity School

"Women in the Bible" sheds new light on familiar characters like Mary Magdalene in the New Testament and Sarah, Abraham's wife in the Hebrew Bible. It also studies characters who are less well known to many Bible readers, such as the city of Babylon, styled as a whore in the Book of Revelation. Through the stories of these women, discover how gender can inform your reading as you explore how these stories relate to your own faith journey.

**This online course** is 11 weeks and includes videos, discussion questions, a study guide, and additional resources.

Begin the online curriculum with Dr. Jacqueline Vayntrub and Dr. Yii-Jan Lin today!

share your *COVID-19* experience  
WITH ECCT

SHARE A REFLECTION ON HOW YOU ARE DOING IN THIS TIME OF  
CORONAVIRUS AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING.

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?  
WHAT ARE YOU LEARNING?  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO CARE FOR YOURSELF?

email your reflection to [storytelling@episcopalct.org](mailto:storytelling@episcopalct.org)  
please keep reflections shorter than 600 words



We invite folks from all across the Episcopal Church in Connecticut to share a reflection on your COVID-19 experience with us. We are putting together a blog series with reflections from you, to share how folks are experiencing and living into this new normal

*Where have you seen God during this time?*

*What are you learning?*

*What are you doing to care for yourself?*

We invite you to submit a reflection, no more than 600 words, along with a photo. The photo can be of you or something that goes with your reflection.

Please email your reflections  
to [\*\*storytelling@episcopalct.org\*\*](mailto:storytelling@episcopalct.org)

**The 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.*

**Coffee in the Commons Podcast**



**COFFEE HOUR AT THE COMMONS**



is a podcast where faith meets daily life over a cup of coffee and casual conversations. Modeled off of the eighth sacrament of the Church, the Coffee Hour, your hosts Alli and Jasree, sometimes joined by guests, will engage in a variety of topics. All conversations center around hearing the stories of how people live out their faith in their lives.

**Listen to the latest episode below!**

<http://www.coffeehour.org/>

## **The Annual Reports for 2019**

**The Reports presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, 26 January 2020, are available in hardcopy form in the narthex or in the Parish Office, and may be view online by clicking on**

[Annual Report 2019](#)

## **A Request from *FISH* 'Friends in Service Here'**

FISH provides rides for those needing to keep local medical appointments, and

***VOLUNTEERS  
ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED,  
IN PARTICULAR DRIVERS!  
FISH is very short-handed ....***

***Please call Edith Altvater  
(new number: 860.539.9957)  
if you can help!***

## **A Prayer for Change**

This prayer has been used several times since this summer at Eucharist and several of you have asked that we reprint it again. It was developed by The Women's Prayer Circle of St John's Church in North Guilford, as a reflection on the state of the world and how to bring God's love. Their hope is, as more people and churches use and share it, the prayer will create an energy that will be a force for loving change.

### **A Prayer for Change**

*Loving God,  
You have made the whole of human life in your image;  
each one of us shaped in love.*

*Your goodness is ever-present within us all.  
But, there is so much evil and pain in our world,  
it comes at us from every direction.  
Teach us how to rediscover Your love within us,  
to use that love as a force for good.  
help us to turn our hearts toward the world in hope,  
Praying for each other, regarding each other as treasure.  
Join us all together in prayer, that we might be the light which  
darkness can never overcome;  
through Jesus Christ we pray.  
Amen.*

## Homily

*Please click on the link below in order  
to hear or read  
the Homilies located on our website.*

*click on [Homily](#)*

## The Lections this Week

### **The Fourth Sunday of Easter** *Year A*

**Acts 2.42-47;  
Psalm 23;  
I Peter 2.19-25;  
John 10.1-10**