

Saint Andrew's Parish Rent, Connecticut

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



The Lord said, "I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love." Hosea 11 :: Proper 13, Year C

From Fr Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's,

I hope you are doing well and enjoying this very middle of summer.

In our Old Testament reading on Sunday, we will hear what some have called God's "Divine Soliloquy": God's reflection—God's internal wrestling, even—concerning Israel's (and thus, also, *our*) continuing to turn away from God and stuff their lives with the pursuits and pleasures of this world. *Spoiler alert:* As it turns out, God is a loving parent, and cannot bring Godself to scorn or reject us. "I will not come in wrath," God declares, but will roar like a lion to call My children home.

I have been musing these last few weeks on the conception or image of God-as-Parent, and I will preach on this on Sunday. During my preparation, I reached for a beloved canticle (sacred song) that is in our Church's supplemental liturgy resource entitled *Enriching Our Worship 1*. It is a setting of the words of Julian of Norwich, a fourteenth- and fifteenth-century English mystic, whom we commemorate each year on o8 May. Her use of maternal imagery for both the First (the "Father") and the Second (Jesus) Persons of the Holy Trinity I find moving and expansive—and also very relatable. And I'd like to share it with you:

God chose to be our mother in all things and so made the foundation of his work, most humbly and most pure, in the Virgin's womb. God, the perfect wisdom of all, arrayed himself in this humble place. Christ came in our poor flesh to share a mother's care. Our mothers bear us for pain and for death; our true mother, Jesus, bears us for joy and endless life. Christ carried us within him in love and travail, until the full time of his passion. And when all was completed and he had carried us so for joy, still all this could not satisfy the power of his wonderful love. All that we owe is redeemed in truly loving God, for the love of Christ works in us; Christ is the one whom we love.

I know Julian's feminine imagery for the Divine does not resonate with all, but still: I invite you to reflect on her tender, loving, healing and nurturing words and let them create in you whatever image of God-as-Parent may find purchase in you.

** *** **

As I write this, I look out at the solid-tan, brittle lawn of the cemetery and am reminded of how precious little rain we have had this summer. This is a cause for dismay for the gardeners among us, but also a cause of anguish and alarm for those who make their livings from the land. And so, I suggest to you this prayer from our *Prayer Book* (p 828), which the Church has prayed for more than 400 years for just such times as these:

O God, heavenly Father, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to all those who seek thy kingdom and its righteousness all things necessary to sustain their life: Send us, we entreat thee, in this time of need, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth, to our comfort and to thy honor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Take good care, and may God continue to bless the work of the Kingdom

you are doing.

In the peace and love of Christ, Douglas+ **Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com** 860-592-0171 (rectory, and *also* rings on mobile)

This Week at St Andrew's

Sunday, 31 July :: 8:30 am Holy Eucharist: *The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost* (spoken)

Sunday, 31 July :: 10:30 am Church School

Sunday, 31 July :: 10:30 am Holy Eucharist: *The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost* (with music) (*inperson and live-streamed*)

Sunday, 31 July :: 11:40 am Social Hour (outdoors, weather permitting)

Monday, 01 August :: 11:00 am Bible Study: *The Gospel of Luke*

Monday, 01 August :: 8:00 pm LGBTQ+ A.A. meeting

Tuesday, 02 August :: 6:00 pm Midweek Evening Prayer *(in-person and live-streamed) (moved this week to accommodate the Tag Sale)*

Wednesday, 03 August :: 4:30 pm Unloading of the Pod for the Tag Sale

Wednesday, 03 August :: 7:00 pm A.A. for Women (*Zoom meeting; email us for info*)

Thursday, 04 August :: 7:00 pm A.A. meeting

Thursday, 04 August : 7:00 pm Al-Anon meeting (Old Vestry Room)

Friday, 05 August :: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Tag Sale Day 1

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

Details about many of these events can be found later in this issue of the *Epistle*

THIS SUNDAY, 31 July Gathering of the Backpacks & School Supplies for Kent DSS

> NEXT WEEKEND: Aug 5, 6 & 7 The Tag Sale!

Sunday, 14 August Festival of the Dedication of St Andrew's Church Our current church building was consecrated in August 1827 by Bishop Thomas Church Brownell

Backpack Drive: Help Students Get Ready for a New School Year



Again this year, we'll be helping Kent's Department of Social Services with its back-to-school backpack drive. Every year DSS provides many families in the area brand new backpacks stuffed with school supplies and personal hygiene items, and also provides them gift cards to purchase new clothes and shoes.

Last year St Andrew's outdid itself in the school supplies department, and we've been asked to contribute again this year. If you can purchase a backpack, some school supplies, a few hygiene items or a gift card, please bring your donations to church *this Sunday, 31 July,* when we will bless them and give thanks for their bounty. (If you cannot attend on Sunday, please bring them to the parish office by *Wednesday, 03 August*.)

This is a wonderful, tangible way to show our love and commitment to so many families, especially at a time when the cost of everything is going up. *Please consider giving generously*.

Good News I: Susan Guse Now Our Director of Music



Those who worship at our 10:30 Holy Eucharist know how blessed we've been to have had **Susan Guse** as our interim Director of Music since the beginning of March. Her leadership of the choir, choice of music and talents as an organist have been real gifts to us.

We are delighted to report that Susan has now *become our new Director of Music!* She has signed a one-year contract that ensures she'll be with us at least through the end of Summer 2023. Susan is a wonderful musician, a wonderful colleague and a wonderful teacher. If you have an opportunity, be sure to thank Susan for agreeing to help us continue making beautiful music here at St Andrew's.

Good News II: The Rev Jeffrey Mello's Election as Bishop Confirmed



The Episcopal Church in Connecticut has been notified that our Bishopelect Jeffrey Mello has received the required majority of consents required in the Church's canonical consent process. In giving consent to Jeff's ordination and consecration, standing committees and bishops exercising jurisdiction in the Episcopal Church attest to knowing of "no impediment on account of which" he ought not to be ordained as bishop, and that his election was conducted in accordance with the canons.

Jeff was elected bishop diocesan at a diocesan convention on May 21. His ordination service is scheduled for October 15.

Tag Sale 2022: It's That Time of Year Again!



The Tag Sale is back!! Things to remember:

The Sale is Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 5, 6 and 7

- 8:30 am 4 pm on Friday (early bird buying 8:30-10)
- 10 am 4 pm on Saturday
- Noon 2 pm on Sunday

Items for sale will be under a tent on the lawn, in the Parish House and the Rectory Garage

Masks and social distancing are requested

For those *wishing to donate:*

- Donations will be accepted in the Parish Hall beginning
 Wednesday, July 6th. Donation hours are 9 am-2 pm Monday Friday, and Saturday, 9 am - noon
- No mattresses, books, clothing, toys or computers can be accepted
- Please be considerate with donations. If you would not buy it, we cannot sell it. Items should be clean and unbroken.
- Those wishing to have *larger items picked up* should call Bob McDowell (860-488-1635) to arrange a time for pick up. *Please note:* All items must be outside for the volunteers to pick up. Items must be of a size and weight that can be lifted by not-so-young volunteers. No upholstered items can be accepted.

Those who want to help with pricing, cashiering, wrapping and all the other things that happen before and during the Tag Sale

should call Marel Rogers (860-364-0635). Pricing will begin on July 6th, and every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in July.

The POD will be unloaded and furniture place under the tent on Wednesday evening, August 3rd, starting at 4:30 pm.

The Tag Sale offers an opportunity to experience what a marvelous community St Andrew's fosters. We look forward to working with you.

Now on Fourth Thursdays: The Thursday Afternoon Club



The Thursday Afternoon Club, a fellowship group for all widows, is now

meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is on **25 August**. We bring our own lunches and beverages to the porch of the Kingsley Tavern, 14 North Main Street, and gather for great conversation, mutual support and a good time. Please consider joining us.

What's Your Favorite Hymn? Help us Sing It This Summer!



In the Episcopal Church, we're truly blessed with a wealth of hymns. Well over one thousand hymns appear in our three main hymnals (and over 250 more in hymnals that are, sadly, little known). With such a feast spread before us, there are many hymns we never get to sing at all perhaps some of your personal favorites.

In addition, many of us have come to the Church from other denominations whose greatest hymns aren't in our hymnals. You might sing or hum them to yourself from time to time, but we never get to hear them.

Well, this summer we're going to try to fix this! **Each Sunday**, **beginning 19 June, we'll sing a favorite hymn nominated by a St Andrew's parishioner** (with a little shout-out in the bulletin to whoever suggested it). You can nominate a hymn(s) by using one of the forms now in the Narthex ... or you can email Fr Douglas directly.

So, take that trip down memory lane, remember the songs you used to love to sing in church and let us all share in your musical joy!

EdAdvance: Offering Important Services to Adult Learners



Are you interested in completing the requirements for a high school diploma, studying for citizenship, learning or improving your English, or developing your math and reading skills? Anyone adult (18+) who lives in the towns that make up Region 1 (Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, and Sharon) can take classes paid for by local and state funds. There is no cost to the student for the class or materials. Classes are available in person at Housatonic Valley Regional High or online. Visit our website at **www.edadvance.org/adulted**, email adulted@edadvance.org, or call 860.567.0863 and ask for Adult Education.

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in individual portions.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our midweek services.



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 new 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 dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place 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. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

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 new 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 dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place 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. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

Lections for this Week

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Year C

> Hosea 11:1-10 Psalm 107:1-9 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21



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

> -Wednesday-Holy Eucharist 6.00 p.m.

> -Holy Days-Holy Eucharist





9.00 a.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays LGBTQ+ A.A. - **new** (Parish House)

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m. (Old Vestry Room) A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new** (Parish House)



Parish Staff

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

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 Verger

Gloria Contreras Sexton



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 every day except Friday and Saturday from 10 am- 5 pm

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

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut www.episcopalct.org/

Share This Email

Visit our website

Saint Andrew's Church | 1 North Main Street, P.O. Box 309, Kent, CT 06757

Unsubscribe st.andrew.kent@snet.net

Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent byst.andrew.kent@snet.netin collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!