



The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York

Volume XXVIII
Issue 10

November 2021

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WEEKEND SERVICES

(In Person and Online)

Saturday 5:00 PM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

Sunday 8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

Sunday 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

(Online Only)

Nightly 8:00 PM—Compline

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

- All Saints' Day, Nov 1
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, Nov 7
- Veterans Day, Nov 11
- Christ the King, Nov 21
- Thanksgiving Day, Nov 25
- First Sunday of Advent, Nov 28



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world.

The Journey Begins at Advent

Advent begins on November 28 this year, so does a new church year for liturgical congregations. The church seasons, which correspond to key events in Jesus' life, begin with the four-week Advent period of preparation for our coming Savior at Christmas. After the 12-day season of Christmas is Epiphany, which begins January 6 and continues through Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. That period of preparation culminates in Holy Week, and then Easter marks the pinnacle of every church year. Forty days after the Resurrection we celebrate Ascension, and 10 days after that, the Pentecost season begins; it lasts until Advent, when the cycle begins again.

"Like a great waterwheel," writes Joan Chittister, "the liturgical year goes on relentlessly irrigating our souls, softening the ground of our hearts, nourishing the soil of our lives until the seed of the Word of God itself begins to grow in us, comes to fruit in us, ripens in us the spiritual journey of a lifetime."



Advent

All of the places of our lives are sanctuaries; some of them just happen to have steeples. And all of the people in our lives are saints; it is just that some of them have day jobs and most will never have feast days named for them. —Robert Benson, Between the Dreaming and the Coming True

What is a saint? Most people use the word “saint” to refer to someone who is exceptionally good or “holy.” Or maybe someone who has lived in such a way that they’ve passed on into Heaven. In the Church, however, a “saint” has a more specific meaning: someone who has led a life of “heroic virtue.” A saint displays these qualities in a consistent and exceptional way. One of my favorite hymns, which rolls around every November, is “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God.” Young ears catch onto this hymn when the older, more formal ones go over children’s heads. I liked it because it made me realize I could be a saint even though I wasn’t perfect (something I tried to do a lot as a child). Some of those saints were not such great people until they turned their lives around. It was exciting also because it meant I actually knew some saints – even though I didn’t necessarily know what their saintly attributes were. Later in life, I realized that everyone has a heroic story—has been through ups and downs and complications and made it through with “heroic virtue,” even though they’d probably argue the point. And, of course, when singing the hymn, we always enjoyed the little prank of singing, “...and one was a soldier and one was a beast, and one was killed by a fierce wild priest!”

We are not all the same. Saints are saints for different things they do, but all the things they do have one characteristic. They do them because they are filled with the Holy Spirit, whether or not they recognize it. Being a saint involves love and responsibility, and holding together through the bad times and celebrating the good times. And I want to be one too.

--Rodney Dudley



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2021

Saint Ann’s Episcopal Church

December Deadline

Friday, November 26

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The Curate's Column



Beloved St. Ann's,

Fall is upon us!

The weather is taking a turn to the cold, the leaves are beginning to change, and the days are growing ever shorter. Fall is a time of change and transition.

Like the leaves of our trees that shift and change, parts of our liturgy change week to week while some things remain the same. Along with our music and scripture readings, perhaps you've noticed that the prayer that at the beginning of the Eucharist changes every week. This prayer is called the Collect. The term "collect" comes from the Latin word *collēcta* which refers the gathering of people together. It may also have been used to mean a prayer that collected into one the prayers of the individual members of the congregation. When we use it our worship together, the Collect prayerfully sets the spiritual tone for the service and often expresses the theological themes we will hear in our Scripture readings.

But we can also use collects in our own individual prayer life. Collects have a specific structure to them. Once we are familiar with that structure, we can use it to give form to our own personal prayers.

Let's take a look at the Collect for the first Sunday after Christmas Day:

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen. (BCP, p.213)*

Most Collects have the following five parts:

1. THE ADDRESS

- Indicates the member of Trinity to whom you are praying
- *ex. God, Father, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ*
- *ex. "Dear God..."*

2. THE GENTLE REMINDER

- Expresses the nature of God's work in our lives, or names past intercessions, or acknowledge God's blessings
- *Ex. "You have been good to me by..."*

3. THE PETITION

- Asks God for what we want or give thanks for gifts received
- *ex. "This is why I'm praying right now..."*

4. "THE FRUIT OF THE PRAYER"

- Expresses the desired outcome of the collect/prayer
- *ex. "I'm asking for this so that..."*

5. THE SIGNATURE (WITH SOMETIEMS THE DOXOLOGY AND AMEN)

- Conclusion which asks for mediation of Jesus
- *ex. "through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." "in the name of the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit. Amen."*

[continued on page 5]

Vestry Visions

FALL PLANS

On November 28th, we will officially enter into the Advent season. Advent, as defined, is a period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas and also preparation for the Second Coming of Christ. We hope you join us as St. Ann's prepares for this beautiful season.

Over the past year, we have learned that even the best-laid plans sometimes don't go the way we hope. With the continuous changes with Covid, we have learned to adjust but might find ourselves wishing to go back to "normal." However, we have learned that change can bring new ideas and events that may become new traditions for years to come.

St. Ann's is looking to continue some of the same traditions that we have enjoyed in the past. Currently scheduled are the Thanksgiving Baskets, Lessons & Carols, and the return of our in-person worship on Christmas Eve/Christmas Day. This year, some new events will be Smores and Christmas Carols on the Lawn and participating in the Meadow Croft's open house. The next two months will be busy so keep your eye out for these announcements and other information in the bulletin, website, emails, and Facebook.

One tradition that will continue this year will be the Christmas Tree lot. This event is our BIGGEST fundraiser for St. Ann's, as it has been for over 40 years. The history of this event and the beautiful stories families share about how they use this as part of their tradition is always a joy to hear. We have families from around the corner and from as far as Nassau County that come for our spectacular trees. However, it is an enormous undertaking from setup, unloading, selling, and breaking down. The yard set up will be on Saturday, November 6th at 9:00 AM, when the fencing will need to be put up and the shed prepared. The big day will be on Saturday, November 27th at 7:00 AM when the trees arrive from Pennsylvania. Thanksgiving is late this year, and, after last year's experience, we expect the first weekend to be EXCEPTIONALLY busy. Although our committee is large, it is a long two weeks when additional help is not available. Many hands make light work, so please consider signing up for a few hours. Please be on the lookout for more information and sign-up sheets. For additional information you can speak with myself, Tom Honey or John Smith.

Wendy Schmittzeh for the Vestry

VESTRY ROSTER

	Wardens:	2022 Nancy Koinoglou	2023 Thomas Honey
	Vestry:	2022 Greg Domoff	Jeanne Monasterolo
		Jill Hughes	Nicole LaFontaine
		2023 Donald Hester	Diane Miller-Magnani
		Patricia Osarchuk	Carole Sheppard
		2024 Wendy Schmittzeh	Carol Ann St. Lawrence
		John Smith	Rich Acierno

Here is the collect from above labeled with these parts:

[ADDRESS] Almighty God,

[THE GENTLE REMINDER] you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word:

[THE PETITION] Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts,

[THE FRUIT...] may shine forth in our lives;

[THE SIGNATURE....] through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

When we use this structure in our own prayers, we can use whatever language feels right to us - it doesn't have to be the formal language we use in church. We can let the structure guide us, but we don't have to rigidly follow it. A personal collect be as simple as something like this....

Dear God,

You have loved me all my life.

Please give me strength to get through this day,
so that I may be a blessing to others.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

I encourage you to give at go! Try praying with collects using your own words!

God bless you all!

Blessings, *Mother Lilo* +

The Subversive Table

"The Lord's Supper [is] a profoundly subversive political event in the lives of the participants," writes Richard Beck in *Unclean*. "The sacrament brings real people — divided in the larger world — into a sweaty, intimate, flesh-and-blood embrace where 'there shall be no difference between them and the rest.'" Beck is quoting Walt Whitman, for whom "them" refers to "the wicked and the righteous."

In our day, I think of political conservatives and liberals who receive equally the grace of God through Christ's body and blood. I think of the man in a church I pastored, who took pride in stirring up controversy. I didn't like him. But at the Lord's table, though "divided in the larger world," we shared a sacrament with no difference between us.

I think of my former parish near an Air Force base. Many members were military personnel and surely knew one another's rank. But in church — at the conference table, the dinner table and especially the communion table — no difference existed between a colonel and a captain, a commissioned officer and an NCO. It was a beautiful example of God's kingdom subverting the world's tendency to divide.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Adopt-a-Family program, administered by Episcopal Heath Services is coming! The Christmas tree with requests will be available Saturday, November 6 through Sunday, November 21. All *UNWRAPPED* gifts with tags are due by Monday, November 22. Gifts may be left in the Parish Hall or taken to the church office Monday-Friday between 10:00 and 2:00 PM.

If you wish to make a cash donation instead, checks made out to St. Ann's with "Adopt-a-Family" on the Memo line may be placed in the offering plate or mailed / taken to the church office.



Thanks for all your support!

--Ellen Stoll

"Even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water: It will make ripples throughout the entire pond." —Jessy and Bryan Matteo

Giver of all good things, I am thankful beyond words for your generosity and love. Help me share your love broadly. Amen.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE GOES ONLINE

Thanksgiving is always a busy day. People travel away from home to visit relatives. They are home cooking waiting for relatives to come to visit them. Sometimes people go into the city to see the Macy's parade. Our habits have been changed by Covid-19. We are all thankful, but we can be thankful in only so many places at once. So, this year the church is doing it differently. Now you can stream St. Ann's Thanksgiving Service when your work or travel is done (and you feel really thankful).



Thanksgiving is a national holiday, and not a church holiday, so no guilt involved in moving it around a little bit! The choir is going to sing Thanksgiving hymns in advance, which will be recorded and added to a YouTube service for Thanksgiving. When you're ready to sit down and relax, a Thanksgiving service will be ready for you to watch on your computer.

Have a very happy Thanksgiving, everyone!!!

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET MINISTRY

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching and together as a community we would like to gather a cornucopia of food to share with our neighbors in need. St. Ann's Food Pantry will be coordinating the effort to distribute food baskets for Thanksgiving. We will again use two platforms to collect food. Our usual Giving Tree/Turkey, located in the Parish Hall and Signup Genius online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BABAB22A5F49-thanksgiving1>.

Please choose items from the Giving Turkey in the Parish Hall and return them to church by November 14th. You can leave items in the wagon in the Parish Hall or in the kitchen at Littlejohn Building.

We need all non-perishable donations by:

We need turkeys by:

Sunday, November 14th

***Saturday, November 20th**

*If you are going to purchase a turkey, please leave your name and phone number on the signup sheet and return the turkey, tagged with your name.

Other ways to help:



- Help shop for groceries the week of November 14th
- Give a donation toward food purchase
- Adopt-a-Basket \$50 donation
- Assemble baskets, Sunday, Nov. 21st at 11:00 AM

If you know anyone in need of a food basket, please contact the

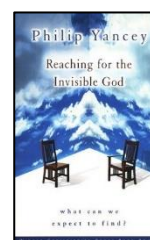
Church Office at 631-589-6522 --or--

Lynette Schulz at 631-472-2235 by November 4th.

The Paradoxes of Christian Virtues

In Reaching for the Invisible God, Philip Yancey says each virtue in 1 Corinthians 13:13 “enfolds a paradox.” Faith “will always mean believing in what cannot be proven, committing to that of which we can never be sure.” Hope isn’t “the fuel that keeps a person going” but what “emerges *from* the struggle, a byproduct of faithfulness.” And love — “the greatest” virtue — is very counterintuitive.

“Love involves caring about people most of us would prefer not to care about,” writes Yancey. “By nature, we keep records, right wrongs, and demand our rights; love does not.”





Sunday, November 21st

This church holiday day is relatively new. Instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, Christ the King Day is a holiday which falls on the final Sunday of the Liturgical Calendar -- the Sunday before Advent. Although it was originally a Roman Catholic Holiday, it has since been adopted by other Christian denominations as well. Most major Protestant and Anglican groups observe this holiday. This includes the Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church in North America, the Church of England, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church, among others.

The purpose of this holiday is to acknowledge Jesus Christ as the “King of all kings” and it was originally intended as a way to bring God back into a secular world. Pope Pius XI found the increasing secularism of society in 1925 eroding people’s faith. Pius thought it was necessary to remind the faithful that whatever political powers might hold sway, ultimately, it is Christ who is “King of kings and Lord of Lords.”

A Season of Waiting

Our oven recently bit the dust, and the needed replacement part is no longer manufactured. Due to an appliance shortage, we had to wait eight weeks for a new oven! Yet even amid inconvenience, I see God’s purpose. We were thankful to have a grill and slow cookers in the meantime. We creatively attempted to cook favorite meals in different ways. And though we craved anything baked in an oven — cookies, casseroles, even chicken nuggets — we realized that waiting eight weeks for an oven isn’t truly a trying time.

Many of us wait for much greater milestones and miracles: physical healing, the return of a prodigal child, an end to financial struggles. Paul offers us hope as we wait: “May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had” (Romans 15:5, NIV).

When you’re in a season of waiting — including Advent! — consider what you’re thankful for and what you crave. Tell God how you’re feeling and ask for endurance while you wait. —
Janna Firestone

Experiencing Gratitude

To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything he has given us — and he has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of his love. Every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from him.

Gratitude, therefore, takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God; for the grateful person knows that God is good not by hearsay but by experience, and that is what makes all the difference. —**Thomas Merton**

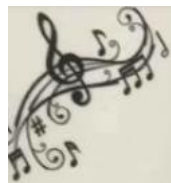


VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE

Power in weakness

In the late 1970s, Henry Smith was struggling to find work after finishing his education. He also lived with a degenerative disease that caused him to become legally blind. But one day he heard a pastor explain that Jesus became poor so we might become rich through him. This idea inspired Smith to craft a song of thanks for God's gift of Jesus. Though Smith wrote more than 300 songs, only this one became widely known (sometimes labeled "author unknown" or misattributed, but finally rightfully credited to him). The choir sang this anthem on Oct. 31st.

"Give thanks with a grateful heart," the song begins exuberantly. One of its most poignant lines urges, "Let the weak say, I am strong ... because of what the Lord has done for us." Across two millennia, Smith's words and faith echo the apostle Paul: "[The Lord] said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me" (2 Corinthians 12:9, NRSV)



**If you practice,
you get better.**

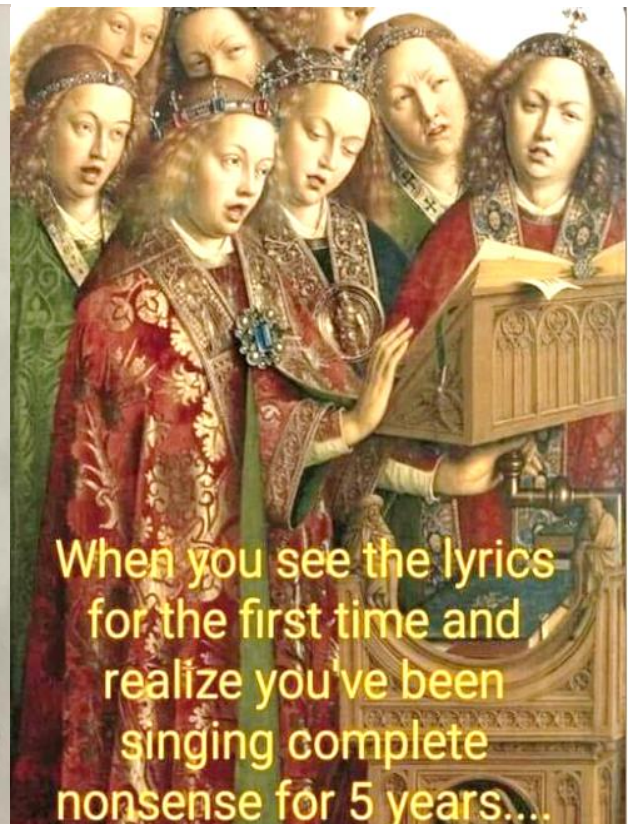
**If you get better,
you play with better players.**

**If you play with better players,
you play better music.**

**If you play better music,
you have more fun.**

**If you have more fun,
you want to practice more.**

**If you practice more,
You get better...**





Honoring Our Veterans

Veteran's Day has its roots in what was called Armistice Day, when a peace agreement ended World War I on November 11, 1918. President Wilson proclaimed that Armistice Day was to be marked with solemn pride in heroism and with gratitude for victory as well as the "opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice." In 1954, the remembrance was renamed Veterans Day to honor all U.S. military personnel. It's a reminder to pray for and honor all who serve and sacrifice, to support and assist their families, and to pray that God will bring peace on earth.

CHRISTMAS TREES – COMING SOON!

The holidays are around the corner! One of our biggest events of the year will be here before we know it—the Christmas Trees!!!! This ministry requires many hands in the following areas:

- Yard setup – November 6th at 9:00 AM
- The unloading of the trees – November 27th at 7:00 AM
- Shift Workers – November 27th until December 12



Many selling shifts need to be covered, but have no fear, these trees have sold themselves for over 40 years, which is why we have a high number of return customers every year. And the best part is, you can make it a family event or maybe an event with friends.

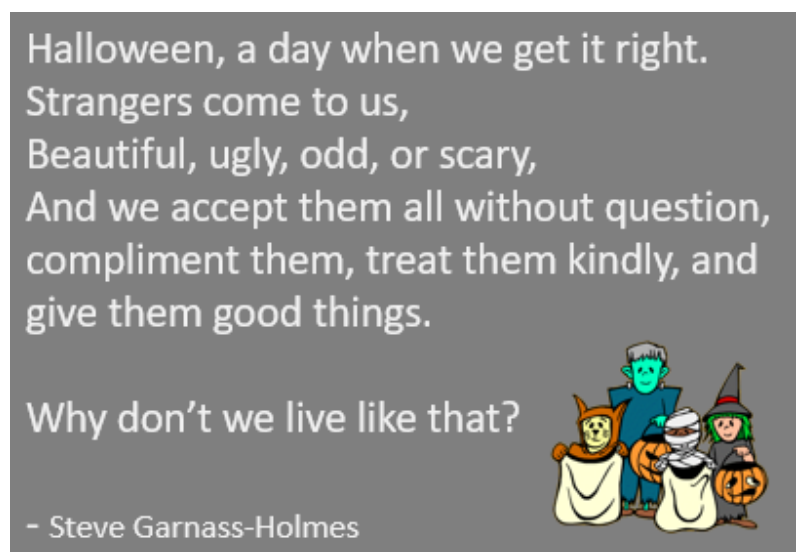
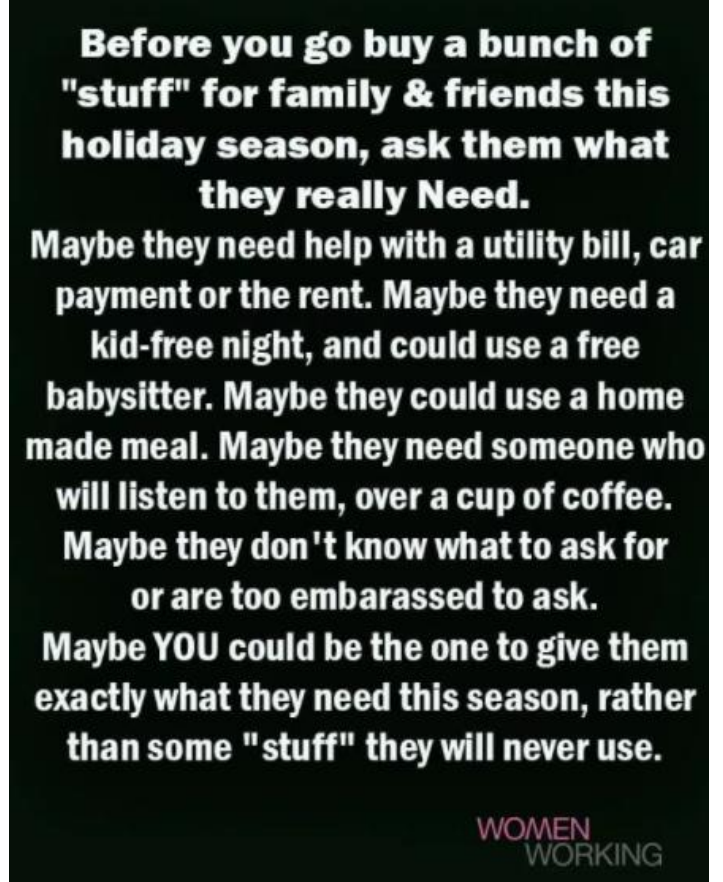
This is also an excellent opportunity for those in middle or high school to earn community service hours!

Many shifts need to be covered, and the more the merrier. As in the past, look for the sign-up board in the

Parish Hall, or if you are a bit more tech savvy, go to the *SignUpGenius* page and you will be able to pick a day and shift time and you're good to go.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Tom Honey (631-687-7144), John Smith (631-456-3965) or Wendy Schmittzeh (631-767-3176). We look forward to seeing many "new" hands on deck!

MEMES of WISDOM





IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES LIST, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 631-589-6522.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

4	Nicholas & Jean Arena	21	Richard & Linda Maddox	22	David & Jacqueline Gandolfo
17	Joseph & Rachel Ferzola	22	Joseph & Florence Chase	25	Shawn & Kara Felton
20	Paul & Christine Weeks			27	John & Lynette Schulz



1	David Tampellini	5	Kathleen Krakaur	16	Leah DaSilva	21	Michael Hlavac
2	Benjamin Richards	6	Darrell Lichtenberger	17	Barbara Stahlberg		Patricia Romeo
3	Lucian Hagenlocher		Bo Messina	18	Florence Hiscock	24	Tim Laffin
	Michael Rascona	7	Steven Vander Borgh	19	Tabitha Richards	27	Susan Knoepffler
4	Charlotte Hlavac-Maass	8	Don Baker		Zachary Schulz		Marjorie Rogers
	Joseph Vander Borgh		Paddy Price-Hennessey	20	Johanna Albert	28	Cara Clark
5	Mary Clark	12	William Streek		Kathleen Vasquez	29	Cathy Baker
							Dennis Messina

The Generosity Cycle

God makes us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion, which will result in thanksgiving to God. ... God doesn't bless us to provide for our own needs; he blesses us so we can be generous.



—Rick Warren (based on 2 Corinthians 9:11)

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Our Church History



❖ The Garden of the Unforgotten

**WILLIAM EDWARD HALSEY
MRS. WILLIAM (ELLA) HALSEY
Section 28—Lot 5-8**

By Connie Currie

William Edward Halsey, a well-known Brooklyn dentist, died at his home at 203 Jefferson Avenue, in late November of 1922, after a 10-day illness. He was 54 years old. Dr. Halsey was the father of Mrs. George A. Robinson Jr. of Brooklyn and Sayville., He was a well-known hunter of big game and a fisherman. Dr. Halsey was born in Keenan, Columbia County, a son of Ellen Elizabeth Halsey. He was a graduate of the Pennsylvania Dental College in Philadelphia and had practiced in Brooklyn since 1892.

At the time of his death, Dr. Halsey left his Wife Ella P., two daughters, Mrs. George A. Robinson, Jr. and Mrs. William Edward Brown; a brother, Franklin Clark Halsey of Cleveland, Ohio; four sisters; and two granddaughters, Betty Brown, and Lillian Halsey Robinson. Funeral services took place at the late doctor's home. Burial was at St. Ann's Cemetery.

— — — — —

Ella P. Halsey, widow of Dr. William E. Halsey, died on July 16, 1931, in Southside Hospital, where she had spent the last three months. Mrs. Halsey, formerly a Brooklyn resident, had made her home in Sayville for the last several years. She was survived by her son, W. Bertram Remey of Ridgewood, NJ, and two daughters, Mrs. William E. Brown of New York and Sayville, and Mrs. George A. Robinson, Jr. of Sayville. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Joseph H. Bond of St. Ann's Episcopal Church. She was buried next to her husband in St. Ann's Cemetery.

Joy Seekers

In northern Minnesota several years ago, some women formed a "joy circle." They settled into a routine of meeting every couple of weeks to share joys they've noticed. Their aim, amid our troubled world and chaotic lives, is to deliberately focus on the positive. The women don't simply hope to stumble upon good news among the outrage, bitterness and tragedy surrounding us; they actively seek out joy and report it to the group.

Joy is a fruit of the spirit named in Galatians 5:22-23. As Christians, we don't ignore or dismiss life's struggles and sorrows, and neither do joy-circle participants. But God promises that life is stronger than death, and Jesus' resurrection is proof. With the Holy Spirit's help, we can make a spiritual discipline of seeking and sharing joy — and thanking God for it. (Visit joycircles.network online to learn more.) —Heidi Mann



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+Christian Symbol+



CORNUCOPIA

Cornucopia, a Greek word meaning “horn of plenty,” has origins in Greek mythology. But the cornucopia became a religious symbol and was even stamped on Jewish coins. Overflowing horns, now common as Thanksgiving centerpieces, came to symbolize abundance and blessings.

AROUND SAINT ANN'S Monthly Schedule

See Correspondent pages and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.

Check out the website at: www.saint-anns.org

Sundays

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM---Sunday School – On hold
10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—November 8
6:00 PM—Mission & Outreach
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

8:00 AM—Men's Group
6:00 PM—Children's Choir – On hold
7:00 PM—Adult Choir – Tuesdays

Wednesdays

9:30 AM—12:00 PM Operation Hope
10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

Thursdays

10:00 AM—AA Meeting
10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Fridays

Saturday

10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
5:00 PM – Holy Eucharist



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The Correspondent

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