



The Correspondent

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

Volume XXIX
Issue 6

June 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial Page	-----	2
Rector's Corner	-----	3
Behind the Pole	-----	8
Anniversaries/Birthdays	-----	9
Calendar	-----	11

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

TUES-THURS

8:00 PM—Compline
(Online Evening Prayer)

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

- Installation – June 2nd
- Pentecost – June 5th
- Trinity Sunday – June 12th
- St. Barnabas – June 12th
- Father's Day -- June 19th



MISSION STATEMENT

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

A NEW MINISTRY



The church was full on Thursday, June 2, with parishioners, visiting clergy from the Diocese, and friends who came to witness the installation of Fr. Jeffrey Neal Stevenson as official Rector of St. Ann's Church. It has been a long time coming, which makes it all the more special that we were able to come together in one place to celebrate.





This weekend in London the British are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It's a 4-day celebration that includes much pageantry, Royal Guards, horses, flags, patriotic bunting all around, fancy hats, concerts, and huge quantities of food. Elizabeth II has been Queen for 70 years during which time she was served by 14 Prime Ministers and the US went through 14 Presidents, and managed to be non-political through it all.

This week St. Ann's is planning its own celebration, which will be accompanied by much church pageantry, clergy from around the Diocese, our Bishop, Larry Provenzano, music from the Choir, and huge quantities of food. Our "new" rector, Father Jeff Stevenson will finally be officially installed after serving at St. Ann's for almost two years. The Covid pandemic slowed us down, but the time is now, the day is here, and we will finally have an officially installed rector! Father Jeff, like Queen Elizabeth, is gracious to all and welcomes everyone to St. Ann's. as God's people.

Even though it's not four days long, the St. Ann's community is doing its best to squeeze the best aspects of a 4-day celebration into one glorious evening on June 2 (but no horses). By the time you read this, the ceremony will be recorded in the annals of the church, and life will go on. But though there are some similarities in this week's celebrations, there's one big difference. The British Jubilee is celebrating the Queen's official 96th birthday and her stalwart perseverance through the history of 70 years of the British Empire. In St. Ann's celebration, we are celebrating not the history, but the beginning of a new ministry and how this might mark a change in how we as the church bring our faith out into the world with renewed vigor and resolve to bring Christ's light to the world.

And so, I wish most fervent CONGRATULATIONS to Father Jeff, and congratulations to our church family as well for moving forward with our new chosen rector!

Canapé, anyone?

-Rodney Dudley

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Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

July Deadline

Friday, June 24th

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Text 631-212-2329...
"PRAYER" (to receive a link for making prayer requests)
"NEW" (to join the upcoming Newcomers' Brunch, May 15)
"KIDS" (to get info on youth offerings & Confirmation)



268 Middle Road,
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COME TO DONATE
COME TO SHOP
COME TO VOLUNTEER

Wed, Thu, Sat 10AM to 2PM



A Word from the Rector Father Jeffrey Stevenson



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last Tuesday we watched again in horror as another scene unfolded, this time in a small town in Texas. An eighteen-year-old gunman went into an elementary school, he killed 22 people, almost all of them elementary students. Two weeks ago, we watched as a young man, driven by the demon of racism, drove to Buffalo, NY and killed 10 people. There have been more than 200 mass shooting events in this country in the past 5 months, 27 of those were school shootings. In a poll taken after the shooting in Buffalo, 20% of those polled considered gun violence, and specifically mass shootings, an “unavoidable fact of life.” I struggle to comprehend this evil that has manifested in our common life, this malignancy of indifference that has hardened our hearts. I do not know what comes next, but I do know that we cannot allow this evil to persist. We cannot give way before the wicked.



We have events coming next week that are joyful ones: Confirmation, the Installation, St. Barnabas day, a number of baptisms, and the soothing months of summer. Even as we celebrate and find happiness in these things, let us hold close that we know a God of life, a God that is love, a God that calls us to be joyful as one in the body of Christ. We are called to be God’s church, to be his hands and feet, His ears and His voice. In that Love we are called to prayer. Prayer is an act of love, and when we love someone, we act on that love. Love is not passive, it is active, therefore, prayer is a call to action. When we pray, let us pray that God will grant us the will and strength to do the work of standing up to the wickedness of inaction. So today, let us pray that in the days to come we have strength to act. Even as we celebrate let us not allow ourselves to be dissuaded from the work of being God’s loving presence in this world, a presence that will not give way before the wicked.

Your Servant,
Fr. Jeff+

THE SECOND MILE

In Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, he teaches, “If anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile” (Matthew 5:41, NRSV). Back then, Jews were subject to Roman rule and often compulsory service. Commoners could be forced to fetch water, carry baggage and perform other menial tasks. So, Jesus suggests that rather than complying with gritted teeth and muttered curses, people offer to carry the pack a second mile as well.

These days, the second (or extra) mile denotes going beyond what’s expected or required, whether in effort or kindness. In *Going the Second Mile*, Mel Blackaby describes the concept as “the difference between living as a good person and enjoying life as a child of God.” He explains, “When you ‘do your best’ for someone, you go the first mile. When God does his best through you, you experience the second mile. This can happen only when you let Christ in you take over and empower you to accomplish what is impossible by your natural abilities. While others see you on the first mile, they see Christ on the second.”

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

Vestry Visions

A Time for Healing

Tuning into the news as of late has carried the risk of bringing many of us into a state of rage or one of depression. I have begun to limit the time that I engage with it, whether it be print or media in order to maintain my own sanity. The daily onslaught of new horrors and atrocities in Ukraine, the frequent mass shootings stateside, the circulation of hate-filled and unsubstantiated conspiracy theories, and the ongoing reality of the pandemic make it seem that our country and world civilization are hurtling ever deeper into chaos, intolerance, and farther away from all that Jesus stood for and preached in his ministry.

As a member of our Vestry and as a parishioner of our church, I see and feel ever more acutely in what we are doing as more valuable and needed than ever. But to be fully honest, I am also beginning to feel more and more like that little Dutch boy trying to hold back the waters by keeping his finger in the dike and wondering just how much longer this whole enterprise that we call society can hold together. I just sometimes wish that I had all the answers on how to do it and the power to make it all right. As Father Jeff preached in a recent sermon referring to John 5: 1-9, we are all in desperate need of healing and the way of Jesus is the path to that healing. What I found to be so powerful about this encounter was that Jesus dispensed his power of healing on the man without any litmus test of purity or loyalty. What Jesus saw was the need. He just showed up, asked no questions and provided the miracle of healing.

Fr. Jeff's words and that segment of the Gospel forced me to re-evaluate how I have become a bit hardened myself. While I have very little patience for people who choose to untether themselves from objective reality, practice intolerance, and even go on to peddle hateful conspiracy theories, we just can't avoid or give up on them, nor can we just give in. We need to constructively engage, firmly and compassionately. We need to begin by recognizing that these people (however disagreeable they are to us) are also in need of healing and have for whatever reason become more distant from what Jesus was all about (even though quite a few tout what they believe to be Christian credentials). We need to accept the fact that something has gone terribly awry in their lives and like the invalid man in the story, they, too are in need of healing. It is through confronting this and the willingness to follow through that our society and ultimately all of us can heal. Admittedly, not an easy task!

After listening to Fr. Jeff's sermon, I re-read the part of the Gospel that he preached and went on to read a bit farther on and could see quite clearly that even after the initial healing, the road ahead will be filled with even more obstacles but by being on the side of God (rather than hoping or insisting that God be on our side) we can begin to make this right. It won't be easy and it won't be quick. We have to be in it for the long haul. The alternative is completely unacceptable.

So, how to actually go about approaching this seemingly daunting task? A good place for us to start is by reading and recommitting ourselves to our mission here at St. Ann's, and of course, following Fr. Jeff's message to us on reading scripture and praying. It's through all of this where we can begin to reflect on where God is leading us and how we can act constructively to do His will. Not all that long ago, when asked about what was one thing that drew him here to be considered as our next rector at St. Ann's, Fr. Jeff responded by reciting the text of our mission, "...to spread the Gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world". This mission statement of ours really is a powerful one and I believe can become a template on how we as individuals and as a community move forward.

Sure, it won't be easy but it is doable!

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg Domoff
For the Vestry

ST. BARNABAS DAY

Sunday, June 12, 2022



Outdoor Worship Service



We will celebrate St. Barnabas Day on June 12 with an outdoor service on the Great Lawn. Please bring your own lawn chairs. The service will be followed by a picnic lunch (Bring Your Own). We will supply drinks and ice cream. There will be a band to provide musical entertainment. Mark your calendars. Don't miss this wonderful event! Bring family and friends; all are welcome!



BRING A CHAIR * ENJOY THE ICE CREAM TRUCK * BRING A PICNIC LUNCH



SUMMER SCHEDULE: 9:00 AM

We'll be trying something new that we see many churches on Long Island doing, and that is going to a single Sunday service. **Just for the summer, beginning on June 19, our Sunday service schedule will shift to one worship at 9:00 AM (with Saturdays remaining the same at 5:00 PM).** We will go back to two services on Sundays beginning September 18.

JUNE 19 -- SERVICE TIME CHANGES

GRADUATES



Roman philosopher Boethius wrote this sentence: “Oh happy race of mortals if your hearts are ruled, as is the universe, by love.” ... [There is a] deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive: love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed. So, in all that you do, in all of your life, I wish you the strength and the grace to make those choices which will allow you — and your neighbor — to become the best of whoever you are. —Fred Rogers, 2002

HIGH SCHOOL



Lily Acierno, daughter of Melanie and Richard Acierno, is graduating from Bayport-Blue Point High School. She is involved in a variety of activities in school, such as Varsity Girls Track and Field, Mathletes, Science Olympiad, National Honor Society, and Tri-M Music Honors Society. She will be attending Skidmore College in the fall, in Saratoga Springs, NY, and hopes to pursue a major in Environmental Science with a minor in Spanish. She says, “After these next four years I hope to get a graduate degree in Ornithology, and later have a career researching birds for the Cornell Lab or the Audubon Society. I am endlessly excited to meet new people and expand on my knowledge and passions.” Having attended St. Ann’s for most of her life, she student taught at the Sunday School, was an active member of the Youth Group, sold Christmas trees, and has been a regular lector for several years. She is grateful for the community and experiences that St. Ann’s has provided for her since she was little.



Ella Janice Chalmers, daughter of Renee and Brian Chalmers, is graduating from Connetquot High School. She will attend the State University of NY at Albany in the fall and will major in Informatics with a Concentration in Cybersecurity.



Katie D’Ambrosio, the Choir’s Choral Scholar this year, is graduating from Bayport-Blue Point High School. Katie loves to sing, and we’ve loved hearing her sing over the past year. She was involved in several musicals in high school, including *HMS Pinafore*, and *Newsies*, and she also plays several instruments. She will be attending Hunter College of the City University of New York in Manhattan. She is planning to study music therapy.

COLLEGE



Patricia Shiebler, granddaughter of Marge Rogers, will graduate from Brown University, Providence, RI, with a Master of Arts Degree in Teaching and certification in Secondary Physics. In the fall she plans to teach at Paul Cuffee Upper School in Providence.



Vanessa Sanchez, daughter of Laura and Ron Sanchez, graduated with a Doctorate from Harvard University, Boston, MA. She is now living in California where she will be doing post-graduate research at Stanford University.

Congratulations and Well Done!

Thrift Shop Luncheon



The Thrift Shop Luncheon has returned! After a long Covid break, Peg Flanagan has again hosted a lovely luncheon on Monday, May 9, to thank all the volunteers, without whom there would be no Thrift Shop!

The tables were beautifully set, with a teapot centerpiece on each table, each of which was won by one lucky person seated at that table.



Fr. Jeff said a blessing over the meal, and Nanci Guerra, Head of the Thrift Shop put on her "Boss" hat so she could present a tiara to Peg as Hostess/Queen of the Day!



Everyone enjoyed the meal and getting together once again to celebrate being part of the Thrift Shop family. Special thanks are due to our gentlemen servers—Noah Stetzer and Bob Flanagan-- who set up, served up, and cleaned up, and were a pleasure to have among us.



VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE



DOLCE AMORE STRING QUARTET



St. Ann's was pleased to host the Dolce Amore String Quartet for an hourlong concert on Sunday, May 22. All music teachers on Long Island, they feel they have a special connection when playing together. The quartet is comprised of two violins, viola and cello.

Dr. Daeil Yang, a native of Seoul, Korea, who has appeared as soloist with many orchestras around the world. Aside from coaching his students on a weekly basis, he is a founder and the director of the New York and New Jersey Orchestral Society group, COAX ensemble, Trio Da Camera and N.Y.O.S./N.J.O.S. Summer Festival. He is also the proud owner of Bella Rosins, known worldwide for its quality.

Heather Wesnofske is a graduate of Ithaca with her undergraduate degree and a Master's Degree from Stony Brook. She also has two beautiful children who play the cello. She is a longtime member of this string quartet and teaches at Centereach High School, where she does a wonderful job with her students.

Alison Johnson is also a graduate of Ithaca with her undergraduate degree and is certified from School for Strings to teach Suzuki book 1-8. Alison is a teacher at Minnesauke Elementary School in the Three Village School District, and has the time to raise 3 beautiful children: two violinists and a cellist. She and her husband Dave are the proud owners of The North Shore Suzuki School. They are wonderful people and do a fantastic job at running the school.

Deb Schaarschmidt has a degree in music from Stony Brook University and holds a teaching certificate from School for Strings and is certified to teach Suzuki book 1-8. Deb teaches at the North Shore Suzuki School. She works with the youngest students, starting at age 3! Deb has two daughters: one violinist and one flautist, and they are both trained vocalists who just received their Master's Degrees in Music. Deb is the coordinator of Dolce Amore Strings and enjoys playing with this quartet very much!

You can find them on Facebook: Dolce Amore Strings.



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



Celebrating
An Anniversary This Month

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Joseph & Ellen Garofolo	8	Raymond & Maureen Echevarria	22	Ken Smyrk & Scarlet Marrugo
	Mark & Barbara Leuly	10	Edward & Eileen Moran	26	Daniel Henn & Theresa Labella-Henn
2	Paul & Alison Golofaro	15	Frank & Peg Costanzo	30	James & Jill Hughes
5	Robert & Joan Belfield		Francis Rivera & Lilo Carr Rivera		Susan Knoepffler & Christine Mulroy
	Anthony & Andrea Sanseviro	20	Robert & Peg Flanagan		

BIRTHDAYS

1	Ann DeMott	8	Francis Bodkin, Jr.	14	Irene Bodkin	23	Jessica Brett
	Jacqueline Gandolfo		Hannah Smith	16	David Close	28	Abigail Hynes
	Judith Hester	8	James Romeo		Christopher Kudlek		Alex Lasot
6	Barbara King	10	Olivia Greci	17	Arlene James		Lynette Schulz
	Wayne Tampellini	11	James Hughes	22	Anthony Lico	30	Helen Deegan
							Noah Stetzer

Celebrating the Church's Birthday



In Pentecost, we remember when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' disciples. As they gathered in Jerusalem 10 days after Jesus' ascension, they saw tongues of fire, heard rushing wind and began speaking in many languages. Because the disciples could then share the good news with all the pilgrims assembled for the Pentecost festival, the occasion marks the birthday of the Christian church. That day alone, about 3,000 people devoted their lives to Christ.

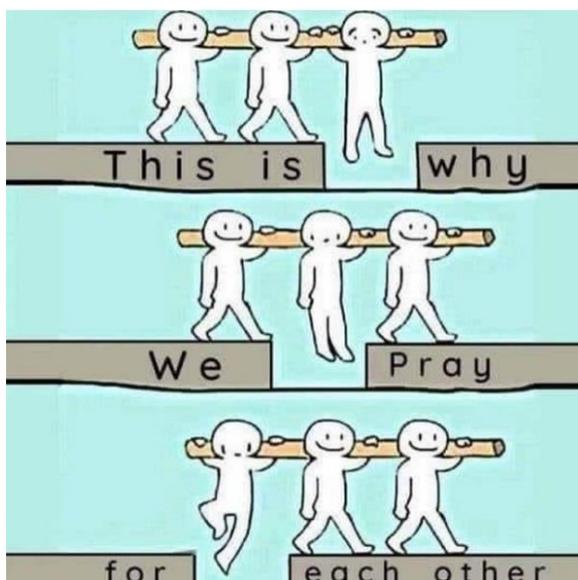
Like the Holy Spirit, Pentecost is important and relevant today. As theologian Henri Nouwen writes, "Without Pentecost the Christ-event — the life, death and resurrection of Jesus — remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now."

MEMES of WISDOM FOR JUNE



Do you know why God didn't allow our pets to speak? To teach us that love and loyalty are demonstrated by actions and not words.

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.
Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.
You are not obligated to complete the work,
But neither are you free to abandon it.
~from The Talmud³⁰³



When Angels sense you need them, and Angels always do, they come unseen from everywhere to help and comfort you.

+Christian Symbol+



A SEED

The Bible often uses seeds as symbols of faith or God's Word. In the Old Testament, seeds also refer to offspring. Jesus said people who believe in him can perform mighty deeds with "faith the size of a mustard seed" (Luke 17:6, NRSV). Many of Jesus' teachings use seed imagery; for example, in the parable of the four soils, he said the seed, God's Word, can grow only when people hear it, "hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance" (Luke 8:15, NRSV).

**AROUND SAINT ANN'S
Monthly Schedule**

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—May 9
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
8:00 PM—Compline (online)

Wednesdays

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

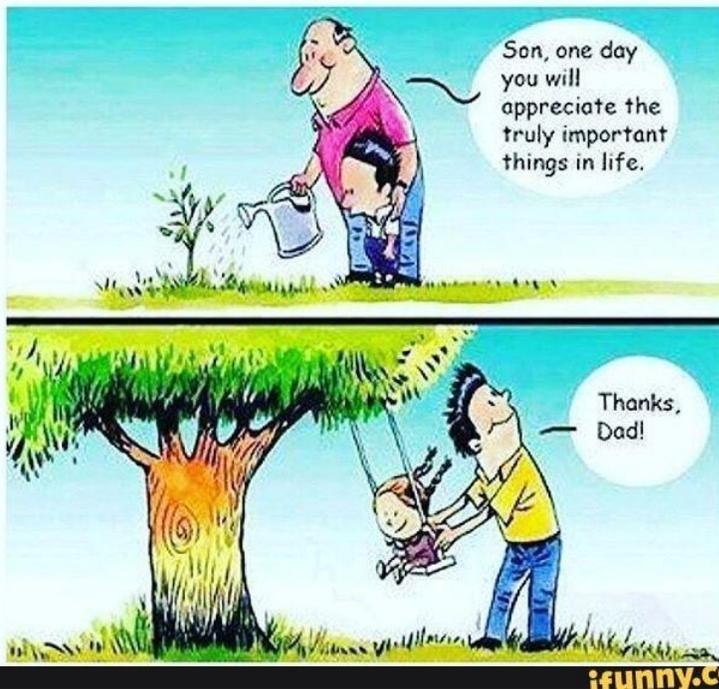
Thursdays

10:00 AM—AA Meeting
10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
8:00 PM—AA Meeting
8:00 PM—Compline (online)

Saturday

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

Appreciation Story



JUNE 19

**HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY!**

The Correspondent

St. Ann's Episcopal Church
262 Middle Road
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