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Volume XXVI
Issue 1

The Correspondent

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

January 2019

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WEEKEND SERVICES

Saturday 5:00 PM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II
Sunday 8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II
Sunday 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE CHAPEL

Tuesday
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day
Jan. 6 – Feast of the Epiphany
Jan. 20 – Annual Meeting
Jan. 21 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



MISSION STATEMENT

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



Happy New Year! And a blessed Epiphany season! We come to worship the King, just as the wise men did so long ago.

May you always feel welcome at St. Ann's.

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church January 20, 2019



Pursuant to the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island and the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York, notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York, at 11:30 AM on Sunday, January 20, 2019.



BRUNCH WILL BE SERVED!

FROM THE EDITOR

The holidays are over! While I really do appreciate the religious, family and celebratory feelings the holidays bring, to me it often seems like December blows in like a huge tornado as I'm holding onto heavy furniture to keep my balance in the onslaught of decorating, shopping, partying, wrapping, card sending, and family visiting. I can understand the thoughts of one of my Facebook friends who posted the following New Year's resolutions: 1) Get older; 2) Gain weight; 3) Do stuff; 4) Drink coffee...



It is this time of year when we are all called upon to decide how to be better people, to acquire better habits, to improve ourselves as though we have been sliding into the abyss for the past few months. But couldn't we just take a couple of weeks off to sleep a lot, get back into our regular routines, and then maybe think of some way we might improve ourselves? Why concentrate on it now while we are recovering from exhaustion?

I am grateful for the feelings of love, joy, and generosity the holidays bring us, but in January I am now grateful for time to rest, read, go to the movies, and make plans for later this year when it's warmer and lighter outside! And I think one of my resolutions will be to stop eating cookies for at least a month!

Happy New Year!

--Rodney Dudley

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The Reverend Hugh James, Interim Rector
fatherhughjames@saint-anns.org

The Reverend Brian Barry, Assistant to the Rector, Ext. 13
fatherbrian@saint-anns.org

Saint Ann's Staff

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
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| Parish Administrator | Terry Freas | 589-6522 (Ext. 10) |
| Finance Manager | Gayle Brady | 589-6522 |
| Sexton | Lou Linbrunner | 589-6522 |
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The Correspondent

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2016 Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

February Deadline
Thursday, January 24



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A Word from The Interim Rector Father Hugh James



A Special Book

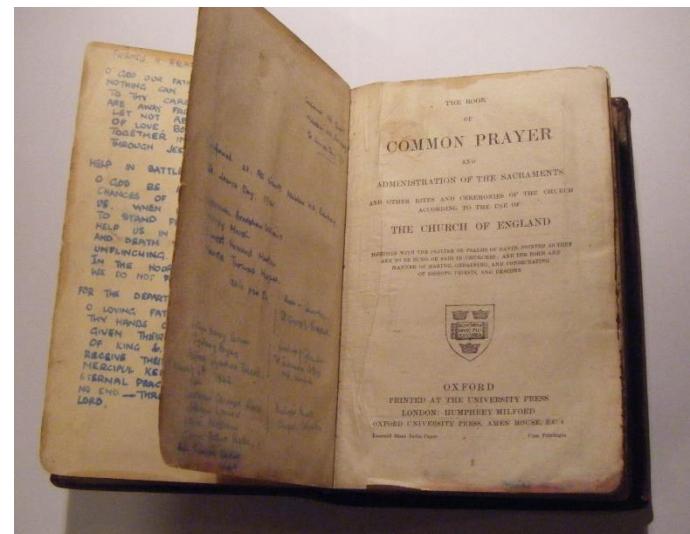
Dear friends,

My father was a British army chaplain during the Second World War, and I have the prayer book which he used at the time. He wrote prayers and outlines for sermons in the margins and inside the covers. There is a list of people presented for confirmation on the Feast of St James in 1941 in Bombay: a prayer card stuck to one of the pages from his brother ordained at Llandaff cathedral in 1938, and a picture of my father in dog collar and military uniform with the "Glee Party" on the Durham Castle, taken in July 1941 on his way to the far east.

Sitting at my desk in the Rectory, I hold a prayer book that was used many years ago in distant parts of the world, sometimes with people who are merely names to me, and more often with people of whom I have never heard. Who knows, one of them might even have been the former soldier whose funeral I conducted a few years ago. He had talked about serving in the same area and around the same time as my father.

When I look at that book two things happen to me. I am touched by a sense of continuity, not just of my own family, but of God's family, the church; and I am conscious of the wider horizons of the Christian church, existing throughout the world and across the ages.

It is good to get a glimpse of the wider horizons of our faith, for one of the great dangers to the church is the wrong kind of congregationalism – the kind that cannot see beyond the walls of the building in which it worships. The Church is bigger than that.



With all best wishes for 2019,

Your interim Priest

Hugh James⁺

Vestry Visions

New Year, New You

We have recently turned the page on the calendar and are looking at the beginnings of a whole new year. I am reminded of a headline I once read somewhere, "New Year, New You". Many of us make resolutions and begin dieting, start exercise programs and work on ourselves, to varying degrees of success. But I was thinking more along the lines of working the lines of working on our church, on our beloved St. Ann's.

We are certainly seeing changes around here. The most notable, of course, is the retirement of Mother Diane and the start of Father Hugh's tenure as our interim priest. Rest assured we do not expect to reinvent the wheel. You should expect things to roll along pretty much as usual. However, we could definitely work together to make things better.

It is clear that the church is not a building. It is the people. It is us. And we could all use our New Year's resolutions to help us be a better church. So here are a couple of suggestions we might try in order to make us a better St. Ann's.

1. **We resolve to keep up with our pledges.** Keeping our doors open and fulfilling the needs of the people takes money. It is a hard fact that many of us don't like to face. We don't like to mix our financial and spiritual aspects. Your treasurer and vestry work on a budget that fits in with the amount pledged. If that money doesn't come in, we must whittle down our savings to pay our bills. Soon, that will run out. It is simple. We need to keep up with what we have promised.
2. **We resolve to learn more about the workings of our church.** Attending the Annual Meeting on January 20 is a good start. We can't make good decisions about our place of worship unless we have all the facts. Ask more questions, become more knowledgeable.
3. **We resolve to get more involved in our church community.** Our programs are desperate for volunteers. There are such varied opportunities to serve God in our community. It is easy to find something you are interested in doing. There is a great need for help with Coffee Hour, Altar Guild, Acolytes, EMs, Ushers, Thrift Shop, PB&J Ministry, Christian Ed, etc. This lack of manpower is putting a strain on the people who regularly volunteer. Some of our wonderful programs are suffering. We have to help our friends and neighbors.
4. **We resolve to open our hearts to God and follow his lead.** We will pray more and listen to what God tells us and follow his Word to the best of our abilities.

These are resolutions we can keep. These are resolutions we *must* keep. Our St. Ann's is a living, breathing community and as such, we need to keep the blood flowing. We need to stay healthy for our own sake and the sake of our loved ones. We need to follow the teachings of Jesus. Please prayerfully consider adopting and keeping these resolutions. Feel free to add your own. Let's work together to keep St. Ann's alive and well for many New Years to come.

Wishing you all good health, happiness and prosperity in 2019!

Diane Miller-Magnani for the Vestry

SENIOR LUNCHEON

January 11, 2019 at 12:00 Noon

Please note that this is a FRIDAY!

(this month only)

Lunch followed by a session of Chair Yoga for Seniors



You are cordially invited to:

**An Evening getting to know Fr. Hugh
At St. Ann's Episcopal Church
Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at 7:00 PM**



Fr. Hugh James will talk about his life and experience and the path that has brought him to St. Ann's as Interim Rector.
There will be an opportunity to ask him questions.

Please bring a dessert to share.
Coffee and drinks provided.

OPERATION HOPE



During January and February, the Daughters of the King will be collecting items for Hope House ministries in Port Jefferson and the Friary. Particular needs are **bath towels, wash cloths, twin-size sheets & pillow cases, and twin-size blankets**.

The blue collection box in the Parish Hall is for donations. Thank you for your help!



Thoughts from the Front Porch

Father Brian Barry



Winter is well and truly upon us, and so I don't spend as much time on my front porch (as you may well imagine). But I still spend some time outside, and as my front porch is an excellent place for thinking, my front porch thoughts are often occupied with my sermons, as they require a lot of prayer and thought to put together.

My most recent sermon was for the Epiphany, where we read the story of the wise men bringing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to an infant Jesus, the newborn King of Israel. And that led me down a bit of a rabbit hole, which became a full-fledged sermon.

Gold is of course an appropriate gift for a king. It is very valuable. It is also a symbol for other things, like virtue. Gold, unlike iron or silver, does not rust or tarnish. It is seen as a symbol for good qualities,

without blemish. Also, it represents something that lasts a long time because, again, gold doesn't tarnish or rust. So as a gift for a king, it is valuable and represents the hope that the king would be virtuous, and have a long-lasting kingdom. Jesus' kingdom is eternal. So, we see why this was a perfect gift for Jesus.



Frankincense is, as implied by the name, incense. Incense is an odd gift for an infant, or a king. It is used in religious ceremonies, and was believed in the ancient world to carry the prayers of the faithful to heaven. The smoke would fly up, carrying words to God's ears. Though it was an odd gift for an infant king, it is the perfect gift for a deity. So, the gift of frankincense represented an important truth about Jesus: He is God Incarnate.

Myrrh is the oddest of the three gifts. It is sometimes used in incense, but in ancient Judaea it was frequently used to anoint a body for burial, to cover the unpleasant odors of decomposition. This is emphatically not a gift you'd give to a child, because it foretells an awful reality: the child's death. And yet, we who look back 2000 years later and know story of Jesus can see that it was the perfect, prophetic gift to give to the child who would one day offer himself on a cross to free the world from sin and death.

So, in those 3 gifts, we see Jesus' life story: a king, who is also God, who dies to save a people who reject him. And knowing these things, I return to my earlier question: what gifts do we have to bring to Jesus? Gold is easy- it is that which we value most. We can give our literal gold (or green) to the poor, and that is the same as giving it to Jesus who tells us that what we do for the least of these, we do for him. We can also give up our time (which is at a premium) to serve others, and share our talents with the community. Frankincense is also easy: prayer. We can offer our prayers to God, at any time. We can pray for those in need, we can pray for ourselves, or we can just pray to God and express our admiration, love, and loyalty. The beautiful thing about our prayer is this: it is an invitation for God to come and meet us where we are, an invitation that God always accepts.

And again, here we have myrrh, which is tricky. In Jesus' story, it represents sacrifice and death. What are the things that we can sacrifice to God that would be precious gifts? What about our sins? Can we offer them to God, and beg God to take them from us forever? Yes, it was for this reason that Jesus died for us. We can offer our sin, our anger, our entitlement, and our pride. We can offer our fear, disdain, and anger for those who are different from us, recognizing that they, too, are people that Jesus died for. And the beautiful thing about offering these things, is that once God takes them away, they are replaced with God's own peace, love, and forgiveness. Has there ever been a better deal? Has there ever been a gift that costs us less? No, and that is the greatest gift to us that we could ever ask for.



Thrift Shop Christmas Luncheon 2018

The Thrift Shop, whose volunteer workers toil tirelessly all through the year, had their annual Christmas luncheon to thank all those wonderful volunteers for their time and efforts.

Fr. Hugh, our new interim rector, opened with a prayer and a good word for the work of the Thrift Shop.

Thanks go out from everyone to Peggi Flanagan, our hostess, who ordered the delicious catered food, set up the festive tables with Christmas tablecloths and poinsettias, a "Believe" ornament favor (see above), and a one-glass sized bottle of wine, arranged for a variety of desserts (Thrift Shop volunteers), and had a party bag for each of the attendees!

Kathy Senese played Christmas carols while everyone sang along, and we ended the festivities with the traditional re-enactment of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," which provided much laughter.

It was a wonderful day of fun and socializing, and I'm sure everyone looks forward to a good new year ahead!

--Rodney Dudley





PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY MINISTRY

By Mary Mattarella (631-745-3745)
stbarnabus@yahoo.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR to all my sisters and brothers in Christ!



Our latest mission trip to NYC had a tangible joy to it! We had quite a large group from St. Ann's this trip, and we met our friends from Zion Church at 8:30 AM in front of Madison Square Garden. They had generously brought a lot of clothes, hygiene items, and about 150 PB&J sandwiches. The blankets were quite a hit, especially useful this time of year. And they loved the Christmas stockings, stuffed with candy, soap, and socks.

We helped well over 50 people. One lady, who had been on the street for eight years, joyously told us she is now getting a studio apartment! We met a new friend named Henry, who despite the fact that he is homeless and has no legs, could not contain his joy receiving a brand-new soft blanket. Henry

told me to send all of you his thanks, and to tell you he is working on getting help.

One of the places I am currently referring folks to is The Grand Central Neighborhood Center, about eight blocks from Madison Square Garden. This is an all-volunteer group, offering hot meals, medical care, beds, art classes, and non-government social services, along with 24-hour beds. Speaking of beds, I am reminded of the lady we saw sleeping on the sidewalk as we exited Penn Station in the morning. We stopped, and not wanting to frighten her as she slept, I gingerly placed a stuffed Christmas stocking on top of her box, praying that no one would steal it before she woke. We passed her again on the way to lunch, and I saw her Christmas stocking tucked away in her box!

In the evening, I took all leftover Christmas stockings, sandwiches, and other items to a gathering in Central Islip of over 60 people. These folks were gathering with volunteer groups, to fill out papers and figure out fees to become American citizens. All of these people, are using all of their financial resources to become legal citizens, and there is no extra money for luxuries like Christmas. Thank you to all the missionaries who put boots on the ground, and all who donate. I'm pretty sure we are doing what Christ would want. In February, we still need more blankets. We have also discovered single-serving chicken and tuna packets from Dollar Tree. These are very popular as an alternative to PBJ sandwiches. Everybody needs variety in their diet! The Cup O' Soups are also good if you are considering donating to the mission.

And, of course, I am always grateful for all your prayers and support!



Thank you! Love, *The Very Festive Mary*

VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



Everyone knows when the Choir has a Christmas party, as we did in the Parish Hall on Dec. 18th, the high point of the evening is to act out the carol "The 12 Days of Christmas." These brave people took on the parts of French hens, calling birds, maids-a-milking, lords-a-leaping, ladies dancing, etc., and, of course, the Partridge in the Pear Tree!



THE UNDERGROUND MEANING OF "THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS"

It's fun to sing this carol, but it has a historically more serious meaning behind it. A common theory of why the song "The Twelve days of Christmas" was written dates back to a time when it was illegal to practice the Catholic faith in England (1558- 1829). The song is said to have been written to help young Catholics remember the tenets of their faith.

1. The "partridge" is Christ Jesus upon the Cross. The "pear tree" is the Tree of Good and evil in the Garden of Eden.
2. The "2 turtle doves" refers to the Old and New Testaments.
3. The "3 French hens" stand for faith, hope and love—the three gifts of the Spirit.
4. The "4 calling birds" refers to the four apostles who wrote the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. These four books tell the story of salvation through Jesus Christ.
5. The "5 golden rings" represents the first five books of the Bible, also called the Jewish Torah: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.
6. The "6 geese a-laying" is the six days of creation.
7. The "7 swan's a-swimming" refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.
8. The "8 maids a milking" are a reminder of the 8 beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount.
9. The "9 ladies dancing" were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
10. The "10 lord's a-leaping" represents the Ten Commandments
11. The "11 pipers piping" refers to the eleven faithful apostles.
12. The "12 drummers" were the twelve points of belief expressed in the Apostles' Creed.

Lessons in Wise Faith

"The Magi teach us true faith," said Martin Luther. Given the obstacles they encountered, we would understand if they had given up altogether!

First, the travelers were "off the mark," coming to Jerusalem to seek a newborn king in a "royal palace." Then, directed to Bethlehem, the wise men found a sight "so utterly out of keeping with a king" — a poor young woman and child, in a "poor hut" — that one might expect them to head straight home. "But," declares Luther, "with a great, strong and full faith they ... follow the word of the prophet and the witness of the star in all purity of heart," bowing to worship and honor the Savior.

—Based on Luther's sermon for the Festival of the Epiphany (1522), *Luther's Works*

EPIPHANY SERMON

January 6 was the first Sunday of the month and, therefore, the occasion of the "Youth Service" when all the children are in church, and students do the readings and help with the ushering duties. The altar was still decorated with Christmas decoration—the last day of Christmas and the beginning of the Epiphany Season.

Fr. Brian called all the children up to the altar for the sermon so they could have a chat about what the Epiphany is. It was pretty clear that the students have been listening in Sunday School, and they were not shy with their answers!

Youth Sunday is a time when all ages come together and are able to fully participate in the church service. It's a pleasure watching the youth grow in their knowledge and love of the church.

Thank you to Shin Chung for taking this photo.



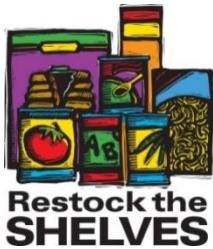


NOTES

CHRISTMAS GIVING

A big thank you to all who so generously supported the Adopt a Family appeal this year! Three large bags of gifts for the family of seven and five bags of toys for the children's party at St John's hospital in Far Rockaway were taken to St Peters for distribution.

--Ellen Stoll



OUR DAILY BREAD

Monday & Thursday, from 10:00 AM -12:00 Noon

The food pantry is especially in need of these supplies.

Canned Meats * Soup * Chili * Eggs * Shelf Stable Milk *

Cereals * Peanut Butter * Jelly * Toiletries

Of course, cash donations allow us to buy whatever is needed!



Attention Cemetery Plot Owners:

Please be aware that when it snows only the Main Asphalt Road gets plowed. The other gravel/dirt roads will be plowed only if needed to conduct service for a new burial. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

--Janet Croce



Make Christian Yoga

Your New Year's Resolution

*Thursdays at 1:00 in the Parish Hall
Starts in the New Year on January 10*



ST. BARNABAS' BUDDIES



Whether you need help or can give help, call Gerry Hoek at 631-868-7278 for further information.

- (1) Prepare a meal for someone recovering from a recent illness or fall.
- (2) Drive someone to a doctor's appointment and bring them home.
- (3) Bring someone to church (perhaps once a month) if they are unable to drive.
- (4) Make a phone call to someone homebound just to let them know they are not forgotten.



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



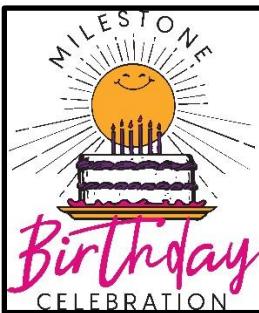
Celebrating An Anniversary This Month

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

| | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| 8 | Charles & Barbara King | 19 | Roland & Lynne Russell | 21 | Anthony & Joan Palmieri |
| 15 | Kevin & Janet Adam | 20 | Donald & Stacy May | 26 | John & Carol Ann St. Lawrence |
| | | 21 | Donald & Judy Hester | | |

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----|------------------------|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Juancarlos Espinoza | 9 | Thelma Thuma | 14 | Robert Sheppard | 23 | Jenny O'Connell |
| | Michael Hynes | | Stephen VanderBorgh | 15 | Daniel Limoli | 24 | Christie Clark |
| 2 | Charles King | 10 | Kyle Hughes | | Jeneane Patrovich | 25 | Sean Mattimore |
| 4 | Trudy Nasta | 12 | Dorothy Benedict | 16 | Carrie Whitehouse | | David O'Donnell |
| | Oliver Rivas | | Donald MacKenzie | 17 | Kevin Adam | 26 | Ryan MacDonell |
| | Jennifer Rossi | | Theresa McGee | | Joseph Castelli | 28 | Mary Ann Davis |
| 5 | Aidan Donoghue | | Caitlyn Wolfe | | Alberta Sawyer | | Jennifer Lembeck |
| | Diane Miller-Magnani | 13 | Brian Chalmers | 18 | Eugene DeMott | | Caryn Wells |
| | Chris McNamee | | Ryan Lasko | 19 | Ryan Meinsen | 29 | William Kraft |
| 6 | Nancy Britts | | Zoe Lasko | | Evan May | | Courtney Weeks |
| | Stephanie Streek | | Carol Ann St. Lawrence | 20 | Geraldine Hoek | | Cassidy Weeks |
| 8 | John Cerillo | 14 | Evan Meinsen | | John St. Lawrence | 30 | Christie Strecker |
| | Richard Mugno | | Grant Richards | 21 | Andrea Sanseviro | | |
| | | | | | | | |



A special Happy Birthday to Alberta Sawyer who will be celebrating her 104th birthday on January 17th. According to Ellen Stoll, she has been living in Vermont now for a couple of years and is doing well! For those who are wondering, her address is:

The Gary House, 149 Main St., Montpelier, VT 05602



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Our Church History



By Connie Currie

❖ The Garden of the Unforgotten

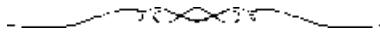
**MISS IDA FRIEMAN
JOHN ADOLF FRIEMAN
Section 29 – Lots 5-8**

Miss Ida Frieman, 75 of Snedecor Avenue, Bayport, died in mid-January of 1968 after a brief illness. Born in Bayport, she was a lifelong resident of that hamlet. She attended the Bayport schools and then went on to graduate from Packer Institute in Brooklyn.

Miss Frieman was employed as a secretary at Mantha's Garage in Bayport for more than 40 years and retired in February of 1958. She was a member of the Dorcas Circle of the Bayport Methodist Church and of Metlakhatta Chapter, OES, Sayville.

Miss Frieman was survived by two brothers, Dr. Charles W. Frieman of Bay Shore and Dr. John A. Frieman of Bayport; and a sister Mrs. Theodore Crampton of Bayport.

Eastern Star services were held at Raynor's Chapel, Sayville. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. David Benedict, Pastor of the Bayport Methodist Church. Interment was in St. Ann's Cemetery, Sayville.



John Adolf Frieman, 75, a longtime resident of Bayport, died at the Masonic Home, Utica, NY, on March 6, 1980.

Mr. Frieman was survived by his daughters, Margaret S. Mancuso of Brightwaters and Ann Marie Beitel of Del Rio, Texas; his sister Doris Crampton of Bayport; and three grandsons.

Friends paid their respects at the Raynor & D'Andrea Funeral Home, West Sayville. A requiem was said at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bay Shore, followed by interment in St. Ann's Cemetery, Sayville.



Where is Thy Sting?

Death's power is limited. It cannot eradicate memories or slay love. It cannot destroy even a threadbare faith or permanently hobble the smallest hope in God. It cannot permeate the soul and it cannot cripple the spirit. It merely separates us for a while. That is the only power death can claim — no more.

—Donna VanLiere



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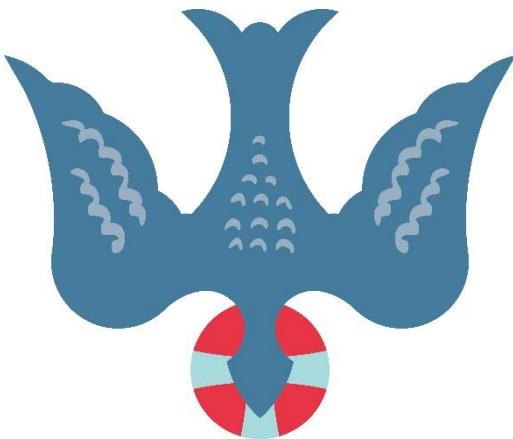
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+Christian Symbol+



The Descending Dove

The dove is a prominent symbol of the Holy Spirit. When the dove is shown flying downward, it reminds us of Jesus' baptism, when, the gospel writers tell us, the Spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. Doves also symbolize baptism in general, because many Christian denominations teach that the Holy Spirit and its gifts are bestowed at baptism. Sometimes a dove is depicted with a three-ray nimbus around its head, indicating that it is a member of the Trinity. Doves are also commonly used as a sign of peace.

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
- 10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
- 7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

- 10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
- 6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—Jan. 14
- 6:30 PM—Mission & Outreach—Jan. 21
- 8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

- 8:00 AM—Men's Group
- 9:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
- 6:00 PM—Children's Choir
- 7:00 PM—Adult Choir

Wednesdays

- 9:30 AM—12:00 PM Operation Hope
- 10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
- 7:00 PM—Youth Group

Thursdays

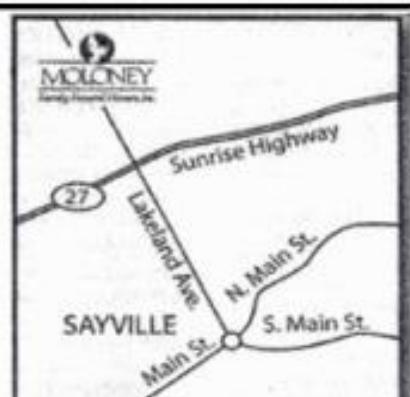
- 10:00 AM—AA Meeting
- 10:00 AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
- 10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
- 1:30 PM---Christian Yoga Class
- 8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Saturday

- 5:00 PM—Holy Eucharist
- 10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

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The Correspondent

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