



The Correspondent

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

February 2023

Volume XXX
Issue 2

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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

(In person & online Only)

TUES-THURS

8:00 PM—Compline (online only)

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5 February, Family Svc & B'fast
- 14 February, St. Valentine's Day
- 20 February, Presidents' Day
Office Closed
- 21 February, Pancake Supper
- 22 February, Ash Wednesday,
Lent Begins
- 26 February, Claws Fish Fry



MISSION STATEMENT

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on February 22. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (usually made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make the sign of the cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical book:

"O God, you know how fragile is our human nature, wounded as it is by sin. Help your people to enter upon the Lenten journey strengthened by the power of your word, so that we may be victorious over the seduction of the Evil One and reach the paschal feast in the joy of the Holy Spirit."



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday

February 22

The church will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM for dispensation of ashes.

There will be two Ash Wednesday services—one at 9:00 AM and one at 7:00 PM with choir



Although I am mostly Irish, I have a good deal of DNA from Scandinavia and I've been impressed with some of the habits that Scandinavians have and wished they were more popular here in the US. As we settle in for the coldest, most unpleasant time of the year I have been thinking particularly about the Danish concept of **hygge** (pronounced "hue-guh"). Think mood lighting; thick, plush throw blankets, and comfy upholstery. *Hygge* roughly translates from Danish into English as "fun," but that's not really what it means. According to the dictionary, *hygge* is not coziness exactly, but more like the quality of being cozy. It describes the experience of being "comfortable and content" one might get from curling up with a steaming cup of hot chocolate on a drizzly day. "*Hygge* time in Scandinavia is generally enjoyed after a busy day of activities. "No phones and computers allowed in those magical moments," the Danish skincare maven Ole Henriksen told *Vogue*; Australia in 2018. In the US we often see t-shirts or memes saying a version of "All I need to be happy is cats, books, and wine." That would be what *hygge* is for me. Perhaps you prefer **dogs-TV-beer** or **gerbils-knitting--mocha latte**. But whatever *hygge* means for you, this season is the time to make the most of it!

--Rodney Dudley

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2023
 Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

March Deadline

Thursday, February 23, 2023

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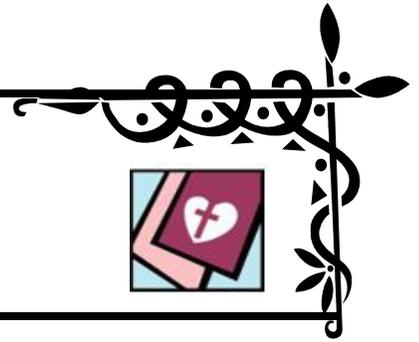
OPEN

Wed, Thu, Sat 10AM to 2PM

Minister of Music	Kathy Senese	589-6522
Parish Administrator	Lauren Merkel	589-6522
Finance Manager	Gayle Brady	589-6522
Treasurer	Tom Munkelwitz	589-6522
Cemetery Manager	Janet Croce	563-8203
Historian	Connie Currie	589-6522
Sexton	Lou Linbrunner	589-6522
Webmaster	Shin Chung	589-6522



A Word from the Rector Father Jeffrey Stevenson



"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5)

Dear Parish Family,

I want to thank everyone who helped make last month's Annual Meeting a success. Congratulations to all new and returning Vestry members! And let me also thank all of you for joining us that day. Another shout-out to Vestry members Don Hester & John Smith for heading up the delicious breakfast. Speaking of breakfast, we had another excellent breakfast before and after the Family Service on Sunday, February 5th, which was served in the Parish Hall. We had quite a crowd!

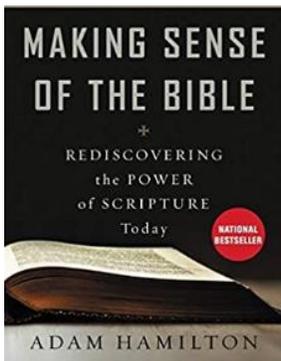
Mother Lilo headed up the second meeting of the **Aging Well Ministry** following the 10:00 AM service on Sunday 1/29. Even if you missed that meeting, if you are interested, I encourage you to attend follow-up meetings. Regardless of the amount of time you may think you can offer this newly begun ministry, if this is something that speaks to your heart, we have a place for you to help. There is always time.

I want to again urge you all to text the word "update" to 631-212-2320 to receive text messages about schedule changes, cancellations, etc. As we head deeper into the winter season, severe weather can require that we make schedule changes.

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, 2/22, and we look forward to the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday (2/21) and the Fish Fry (2/26). Next month soup suppers and Lenten studies will be held on Wednesday evenings March 1- 29. Watch for details coming up.

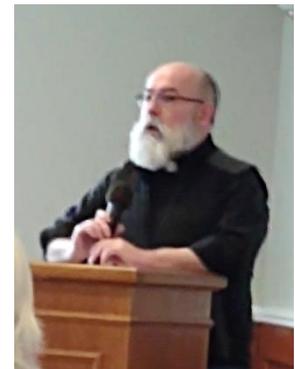
Blessings,

Fr. Jeff+



LENTEN SERIES & SOUP SUPPER MARCH 1 – 8 – 15 – 22

We will be studying *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton. Stay tuned for further details!



Vestry Visions

Catching Jesus in the Act

A recent development in our monthly Vestry meetings is in how we close our meetings, with the opportunity for the vestry members to discuss "Catching Jesus in the Act." What we mean by this is that we prayerfully consider the bright moments in our day when God may bring someone or something across your path that might bring a smile or positive feeling about your busy day.

Personally, maybe that "moment" could be a smile from a stranger, a beautiful sunset, or seeing a red tail hawk fly across your field of view while driving. I find these little moments can make a positive difference in what may otherwise be deemed as a hard day at work, or while emersed in the "daily grind" of life.

Sometimes the beautiful moments of the Good Lord's presence are not so subtle. Recently, my son was experiencing medical issues that were serious enough to warrant a trip to the local hospital. When I shared my concerns with my wife Theresa, she indicated that one of our own parishioners was employed in a senior capacity at the facility where my son was staying.

When I traveled to the hospital to see my son and entered the jam-packed Emergency Room, I was flooded with emotions. The hospital was crowded with "tridemic" patients, and I was wrestling with the concern that my son may have had a potentially fatal medical condition. I very quickly found myself in a "dark place" with a wide variety of negative machinations in my head in regard to his health. Again, I spoke with my wife to share my concern, and she reminded me of our very own St. Ann's parishioner Susan Knoepffler who worked there.

While at the hospital, I was able to reach out to Susan, and her kindness and care immediately brought us a calmness and feeling of greater positivity. Susan and her Team took time to meet with my son and me, and I quickly realized that we were not in this alone and that all would be ok. Her professionalism and care brought comfort, which was really important to my son who was languishing over his medical uncertainty. It is my firm belief that the Good Lord's Guiding Hand was at work in plain sight that day to make a really difficult situation manageable. Fortunately, my son has been recovering and has resumed most of his normal activities. As for Susan, I am eternally grateful.

With the current relentless news cycle spilling out so much negativity in the world, it is important to challenge ourselves to keep our head above the water and be a beacon of positivity to others. I challenge all of my friends to find a little "Jesus in the Act" every day. Enjoy a smile and laugh at the little things in life to make each and every day better for yourself and those around you.

On some days you feel like you may have to dig a little to find "it", but it is always there.....

Respectfully Submitted,

John K. Smith, for the Vestry



VESTRY MEMBERS COMMISSIONED

At the Annual Meeting of January 22, new Vestry members were commissioned. Left to right: Don Hester (2026); Christine Kelly-Smimmo (2026); Pat Osarchuk (2026); Warden Nancy Koinoglou (2024); Krystina DiChiara (2025); Mother Lilo. Warden John O'Neill has stepped down, leaving an opening for a warden.

Krystina was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jeanne Monasterolo and was officially installed for a 2-year term; all wardens serve 2-year terms; Christine was elected to fill the 3-year term of Diane Miller-Magnani who retired from the Vestry this term.

	Wardens:	2024 Nancy Koinoglou	2025 [open]
	Vestry:	2024 Rich Acierno Carol Ann St. Lawrence	Wendy Schmittzeh John Smith
		2025 Greg Domoff	Krystina DiChiara
		2026 Donald Hester Patricia Osarchuk	Christine Kelly-Smimmo

GOING OUT OF OUR WAY

In mid-2022, Mediterranean Shipping Company, a world leader in container transport, voluntarily changed its routes, on the advice of scientists, to protect large populations of blue whales off the Sri Lankan coast. Going out of its way 15 nautical miles has led to a whopping 95% drop in whale strikes.

Jesus counseled people to go out of their way for one another, especially for the vulnerable: “If anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.” Further, “whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water ... will by no means lose his reward” (Matthew 5:40-41; 10:42, ESV).

Paul likewise urged his listeners to voluntarily give up eating meat, even if they didn't believe in and weren't challenged by the idols to which it had been sacrificed, for the sake of new believers with weaker faith (Romans 14).

Faith calls us to go out of our way for the sake of others; sometimes a wealthy corporation opts to do the same. God's hand is at work in both, protecting vulnerable humans and nonhumans alike.



February 12th



Thank you for your generous support!

We will be celebrating the SOUPER BOWL of CARING by collecting soup (especially BEEF) and crackers to share with our Food Pantry guests. Donations will be collected February 11 thru February 19. Look for the giant soup pots! --Lynette Schulz



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

MOTHER LILO TO LEAD GROUP ON “SACRED GROUND”

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America’s history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 11-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church’s long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love. [\[Sacred Ground – The Episcopal Church\]](#)



February is Black History Month, which was created to focus attention on the contributions of African Americans to the United States. It honors all Black people from all periods of US history, from the enslaved people first brought over from Africa in the early 17th century to those living in the US today. Slavery started in the early 17th century, and many people think it stopped with Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation at the end of the Civil War. But its effects continue to this day, even if we ourselves don’t see it in our daily living. Prejudice carries forward through the generations, and even if we are sympathetic and want to change things, if you haven’t lived it, or even read about it, you don’t even know what you don’t know!

During the month of February, Mother Lilo is going to facilitate this dialog.in order to help us grow in our knowledge and understanding. If you are interested in this important subject, join with Mother Lilo and other intersted parishioners on Monday evenings during February. Watch for details as to time and place.

VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE

Gather the People!
Join in the heavenly meal
our chefs have prepared!
Enter the Feast!



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

In the Parish Hall

Free Will Offering



All are invited! All are welcome!



ST. ANN'S FISH FRY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH
5:00-8:00 PM / \$20.00



CLAWS will once again be catering a fish fry at St. Ann's! Don't miss this favorite tradition! All You Can Eat / Live Music / Raffles / \$20 per person.

*****TICKETS ON SALE AT CLAWS & ST. ANN'S CHURCH OFFICE*****

SENIOR LUNCHEON January 31, 2023



On the last Tuesday in January we gathered for a Valentine-themed lunch hosted by Karen McGorty and Linda Munkelwitz with a lot of serving help from the guests.



After a hearty lunch on a cold winter's day,, we enjoyed hearing Mother Lilo speak on our new Aging Well Ministry. She had everyone fill out a questionnaire as to what seniors might need help

with as they age in their homes. We learned about services available in Suffolk County, and talked about having a "village" to care for each other as time goes on. If you are interested in learning or volunteering, see Mother Lilo

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH



Watch for updates on the next Senior Luncheon coming soon. Sign up in the Parish Hall.

And remember to bring donations for the Food Pantry!





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



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

3	James & Jeannette Hayes	16	David & Angelica Russell	17	Robert & Carole Sheppard
5	Thomas & Linda Munkelwitz	17	John Cerillo & Kimberly Schaum-Rodriguez	18	Robert & Sandra Immoor
11	Randy & Susanne Schultz		Kevin & Brooke Mattimore		

BIRTHDAYS

1	Madison DaSilva	6	Jonah Carter	13	Garrett Leuly	20	Debora Schneider
2	Michael Dowling		Andrew DeLagarde		Mark Leuly	21	Thomas Rascona
	Ryan Schaum-Rodriguez	11	Sadie Hynes	14	Nancy Koinoglou		Theresa Smith
3	Ronan Fitzpatrick	12	Christine Wilson	15	Lara Espinoza		Chelsea Whitehouse
	Karen Tampellini	13	Alexandra Barone		Paul Stoehrer	23	Jenna Jacques
4	Angelica Russell		Jane Vander Borgh	17	James Hayes	26	Valerie Field
5	William Streek		Dorothy Lamens		Patricia MacDonell	27	Ryan Mattimore

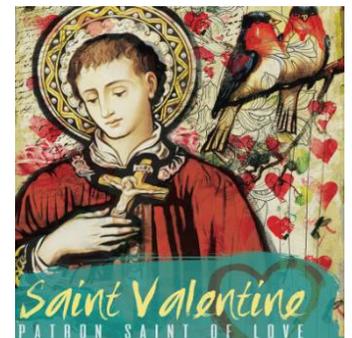
These names are offered each month as an opportunity to extend to our brothers and sisters the love of Christ on these special days and to express our thanks for the gift of their presence in our midst. They are also offered as an opportunity to pray for each one of these individuals and couples on these significant days in their lives.



God of love, as we share Valentines this month, remind us also to share practical expressions of your love for all: food, shelter, clean water, acceptance of differences, a helping hand.

Saint Valentine was a 3rd-century Roman saint, commemorated in Western Christianity on February 14. From the High Middle Ages, his Saints' Day has been associated with a tradition of courtly love. He is also a patron saint of Terni, epilepsy, and beekeepers. Saint Valentine was a clergyman – either a priest or a bishop – in the Roman Empire who ministered to persecuted Christians. He was martyred, and his body was buried at a Christian cemetery on the Via Flaminia on February 14, which has been observed as the Feast of Saint Valentine (Saint Valentine's Day) since at least the eighth century.

[Wikipedia]

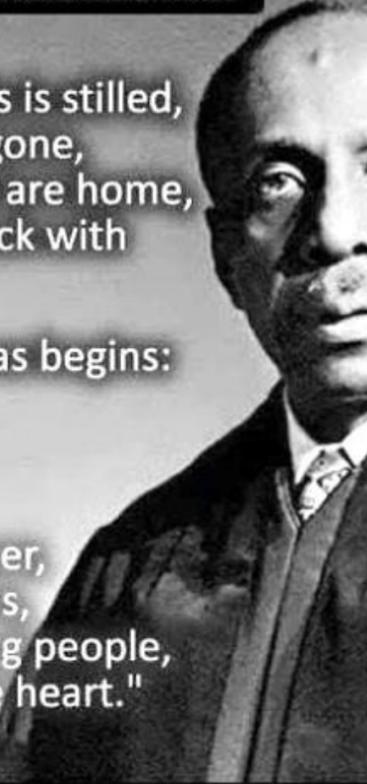


Memes of Wisdom for February

The Mood of Christmas by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart."



We've been infected with the idea that love is an emotion only felt between two people. But love is universal. An energy. A contagious force. A gift. To offer money to a homeless person is to love. To save a worm from the sun is love. To smile at a stranger is love. To be grateful, to be hopeful, to be brave, to be forgiving, to be proud, is to love.

A.R. LUCAS



It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.

-Mother Teresa

Kelly's Treehouse

Life is a hard battle anyway. If we laugh and sing a little as we fight the good fight of freedom, it makes it all go easier. I will **not allow my life's light to be determined by the darkness around me.**

- Sojourner Truth

AZ QUOTES



God didn't add another day in your life because you needed it. He added another day in your life because someone out there needs you. Amen!

Kelly's Treehouse




IT'S NOT WORTH IT, ROY! LET'S JUST GIVE HIM OUR NOSES & LET HIM GO!

Love Thy Neighbor

THY HOMELESS NEIGHBOR
THY MUSLIM NEIGHBOR
THY BLACK NEIGHBOR
THY GAY NEIGHBOR
THY IMMIGRANT NEIGHBOR
THY JEWISH NEIGHBOR
THY CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR
THY ATHEIST NEIGHBOR
THY DISABLED NEIGHBOR
THY ADDICTED NEIGHBOR



Love one another

+Christian Symbol+



THE LAMB OF GOD

ECCE AGNUS DEI — Latin for “Behold, the Lamb of God,” this is the phrase John the Baptist uses twice to point out Jesus to others (John 1:29, 36). It marks Jesus’ Epiphany (manifestation, revelation) as the Anointed One (Christ, Messiah).

**AROUND SAINT ANN’S
Monthly Schedule**

*See Email and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.
Check out the website at: www.saint-anns.org*

Sundays

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM—Sunday School—During 10:00 service
10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—February 13
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

8:00 AM—Men’s Group
7:00 PM—Adult Choir

Wednesdays

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

From Death to New Life

After the inventor of the Frisbee died in 2002, family members honored his final wish: to have some of his ashes molded into a flying disk! The point, according to toy legend “Steady Ed” Headrick, was for his loved ones to have fun playing with him even after he had passed. “He lived for Frisbee,” said his widow, and now he lives on in one.

Thankfully, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday aren’t cremains. But they do have special significance. They’re often made by burning branches from the previous year’s Palm Sunday celebration. By tying together seasons, the practice of receiving ashes reminds us of cycles: sin, repentance and forgiveness, plus life, death and resurrection — Jesus’ as well as our own.



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