



# The Correspondent

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

Volume XX  
Issue 11

December 2012

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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  
 Sunday 11:30 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite I

## WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE CHAPEL

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
Monday, Friday  
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer

## SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 2---First Sunday of Advent  
 Dec. 9---Advent Lessons & Carols/Reception  
 Dec. 9---Giving Tree gifts due at church  
 Dec. 23--Children's Christmas Pageant  
 Dec. 24--Christmas Eve  
 Dec. 25--Christmas Day

## MISSION STATEMENT

To the Glory of God, the family of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, in response to the promises made at Baptism and inspired by the Holy Spirit, strives to share Christ's Reconciling Love by our Witness and Ministry in Stewardship, Worship, Evangelism, Education, Pastoral Care, and Service.

## ST. ANN'S DESIGNATED A SATELLITE RELIEF LOCATION FOR THE DIOCESE

Immediately following the storm, St. Ann's was designated by the Diocese as a central drop off point for people to bring relief assistance items—food, clothes, bedding, batteries, baby items, cleaning products, paper goods, bottled water, etc.-- for victims of Hurricane Sandy. Many people brought donations to St. Ann's, and a van from the Diocese picked them up and distributed them to areas which had the most need. It was amazing how the Parish Hall was emptied out, and soon was full again with donations. We thank all of you who donated your goods and your time. It has been a privilege for us to be able to help those who have been going through such upheaval from the storm.



Linda Munkelwitz and Kelly Miller sort items into bags for redistribution to damaged areas. [Photo: R. Dudley]

Thank you also to those who donated food items to the Thanksgiving basket project and to those who assembled and delivered the baskets the weekend before Thanksgiving. They were most welcomed and appreciated by the recipients.



## FROM THE EDITOR

The Christmas holiday is the time when we think about gifts--what to give to our families and friends. What gift would be the best? I was reading an article recently which asked celebrities what the greatest gift was that they ever received. Rather than a "pony" or a "car" or a big party for some special occasion, almost all the answers ran along the lines of, "My father gave me his sense of humor" or "My mother gave me the gift of confidence because she always believed in me." Giving has come early for us this season with the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. We all want to help, but it's overwhelming. As Christmas nears, we are prepared to donate to The Giving Tree or other charity for those in need. But gifts are not always material things. What is the best gift we can give to others? Here's a quote we can use as a guideline:

### WHAT TO GIVE?

*To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service.  
To all men, charity. To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect. –Oren Arnold*

The best gifts we can give or get are not just things, but the feeling that someone cares. You could give encouragement to others. You could give your time to help or to listen. It might be a hug or a smile—something that seems small to you, but might mean the world to the person on the receiving end. I have heard that at least one storm ravaged victim told people who came to help that their visit had given them hope. What could be a better gift than that? Sure, material gifts are fun, but deep down it really is the thought that counts. -RMD

### St. Ann's Episcopal Church

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**.....M-F 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
**PHONE** .....Office: (631) 589-6522  
**FAX** .....(631) 589-6541  
**WEB SITE**.....www.saint-anns.org  
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**CEMETERY MANAGER**.....Janet Croce (631) 563-8203  
**MINISTER of MUSIC**.....Kathy Senese, Ext. 11  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**.....Linda R. Hay, Ext. 13  
**SEXTON**.....John Hoek  
**THRIFT SHOP** .....(631) 589-6220  
**BOOKKEEPER**.....Barbara Lapinski  
**WEBMASTER**.....Lorraine Kuehn

### Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Diane Britt, Rector  
[motherdiane@optonline.net](mailto:motherdiane@optonline.net)  
 631-337-1740

The Rev. Farrell D. Graves, Mission Associate/Curate  
[fdgraves@optonline.net](mailto:fdgraves@optonline.net)  
 631- 472-0820

### The Vestry

**Wardens:** Patricia Osarchuk.....(2012)  
 Ernest DeWitt.....(2013)

#### Class of 2013

Tom Munkelwitz  
 Scott MacDonell  
 John K. Smith  
 Caryn Wehrenberg

#### Class of 2014

Peg Flanagan  
 Don Hester  
 Marie Madigan  
 Diane Miller-Magnani

#### Class of 2015

Connie Currie  
 Laura Sanchez  
 Ken Smyrk  
 Donald MacKenzie

**Treasurer**..... Tim Laffin  
**Clerk of the Vestry**.....Susan DeWitt

### *The Correspondent*

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**(631) 589-6522**

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**January Deadline:  
 Thursday, Dec.20, 7:00 PM**

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# REFLECTIONS

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## A NEW YEAR



Dear Parish Family,

Let me be the first to wish you a Happy New Year!

No, I'm not looking at the wrong month on the secular calendar. Actually on December 2, the Church began its new year; and we begin it with the four-week season of Advent. The name Advent is derived from the Latin word for *coming*, and during these four weeks, which precede Christmas, we are reminded that we are living in the *in-between times* of Christ. The time *after* Christ's first coming as a babe in a manger and *before* his Second Coming in power and great glory.

This little four week season of Advent invites us to examine our lives and examine how we are preparing ourselves for the Second Coming. The season of Advent invites us to take a spiritual journey in which we do a spiritual house cleaning and discard the things in our lives that get in the way of our relationship with Christ.

During this season of Advent, I invite you to find some time for silence, quiet reflection and prayer. Take some time to look inside your soul and do some spiritual house cleaning. Take some time in the stillness of your soul to listen to what God has to say to you and your life.

And then come with joy to celebrate the First Coming of Christ, and ready to live in preparedness for His Second Coming.

Blessings,

*Mother Diane+*

### St. Ann's Episcopal Church



#### ANNUAL MEETING

January 20, 2013

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 St. Ann's Parish, Sayville, New York, on Sunday, January 20, 2013.

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# Vestry Visions

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As 2012 comes to an end, we look back on a very remarkable year.

We formally said good-bye to Father Gary on December 31<sup>st</sup> and he left early the next morning. It was a new year and a new beginning for him. Although the Vestry knew that Mother Diane would be our next Rector, we could not tell our congregation until she had informed hers. So there were a few days of wondering, followed by about six weeks of waiting for her arrival.

Mother Diane officially began her tenure with us on Ash Wednesday. She soon found out what a vital, caring, and busy parish this is. She received her “pounding,” a custom for welcoming our new Rector. Later in the spring at her Institution, she was officially installed by Bishop Provenzano as our ninth Rector. The dinner a few days later at Timber Point provided us with another way to welcome Mother Diane.

The number of necessary projects approved by the Vestry has made 2012 quite exciting. Renovations to the Rectory were completed; the Church tower was repaired and repointed. We updated the Parish Hall, too! Once we saw that our Tiffany windows were clearly in need of repair, experts were consulted and a new phase of our Capital Campaign began. Each of these projects involved planning and coordination. Each was completed with minimal disruption to our worship and fellowship.

So much goes on at St. Ann’s during a ‘normal’ year: worship first and foremost, but also meetings and classes, talent nights and Historical Society events, our fair and our Christmas tree sale, and so much more. But 2012 was not a normal year.

Throughout the year, so many parishioners have volunteered to do more than ever. They worked on the Rectory cleaning; they organized the Institution reception and dinner at Timber Point; they cleaned the Parish Hall for Christian Ed. registration. At our Annual Meeting, several Vestry members who had served so well stepped down. They were replaced by several new Vestrypersons, a group which has been especially willing to volunteer and to take on extra responsibilities.

And then along came Sandy.... The toll of this hurricane on so many cannot be overstated. The devastation is immeasurable. Some of our own parishioners faced so much loss. As other groups throughout the region and even the country did, members of St. Ann’s stepped up. Food, clothing, and supplies were donated, organized, and distributed. It was important to do our part during this very remarkable year.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a new year that’s remarkable in only positive ways,

*Pat Osarchuk*, Warden

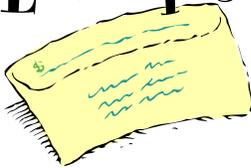
Eventually, the hour comes when the rushing ends and the race against the calendar mercifully comes to a close. It is only now, perhaps, that we truly recognize the spirit of Christmas. It is not a matter of days or weeks, but of centuries — [more than] twenty of them now since that holy night in Bethlehem. Regarded in this manner, the pre-Christmas rush may do us greater service than we realize. With all its temporal confusion, it may just help us to see that by contrast, Christmas itself is eternal. —**Burton Hills**



# GOOD STEWARDSHIP

 FINANCIAL HEALTH	Actual YTD October 2012	Budget to Date	Difference	 Tim Laffin, Treasurer
<b>INCOME</b>				
Plate	6,630.52	8,333.33	(1,702.81)	
Regular Giving	161,570.05	166,666.66	(5,096.61)	
All Other Income	293,427.34	231,979.99	61,447.35	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	461,627.91	406,979.98	54,647.93	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	445,288.79	479,899.98	34,611.19	
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	16,339.12	(72,920.00)	89,259.12	

## Offering Envelopes



We have changed our offering envelope company and parishioners will be asked to pick up their envelopes once a year in late December, rather than having them mailed to us every other month. Please watch the bulletin for announcements as to when the offering envelopes will be available.

## THE TREES ARE COMING!



**Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM** is when the parish will be unloading the tree delivery truck. Many hands make for lighter work and lots of fun. (Refreshments too!)

Last year the trailer was unloaded in time for all of us to get up to Main Street to watch Sayville's Christmas parade. Can we do it again? Come to Sayville's parade to see Sal Grenci's 1925 Model T Ford representing St. Ann's Episcopal Church (at left from last year's parade). And please...

**SIGN UP TO SELL TREES!** There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall and in front of

the church as you go in on Sunday morning. We need YOU! -- **Ed Neale (The Tree Wise Man)**



The date to return gifts for the Giving Tree has been extended to **Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please have your unwrapped gifts at the church by this date.

Only new items will be accepted. Please bring them the Parish Hall UNWRAPPED WITH THE TAGS ATTACHED.

The ECW thanks you for your support of the Adopt-A-Family appeal of Episcopal Community Services. Gifts will be delivered to grateful families before Christmas Day. Thank you for your continued generosity.

## Compass Rose Society

The Compass Rose Society held its annual meeting in Canterbury, England on Oct. 5-6, 2012. The Society financially supports the outreach ministries of the Archbishop of Canterbury and is a mission group that works throughout the Anglican Communion. The Secretary General of the Anglican

Communion and his staff are active in the Society and members interact with them.



This year tribute was given to the mission work of Archbishop Rowan Williams upon his retirement in December. A new Archbishop will be announced in March. The Guest Speaker was The Rev. Canon Nicholas Wheeler, who spoke on his work in the City of God, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He commended the groundwork done by missionaries Elizabeth Daniels and Patricia Powers who were supported by funds from the DOK Self Denial Fund.

I attended the meetings as National Self Denial Chair for The Order of the Daughters of the King. It was a great experience to learn more about the Compass Rose Society and to network with others dealing with mission in churches throughout the world.

Individuals, churches, and groups can join the Society with an initial gift and subsequent annual sustaining gifts. —**Marge Rogers**

Archbishop Rowan Williams with Marjorie Rogers, Self Denial Chair, The Order of the Daughters of the King



To My St. Ann's Family~

Thank you for all the prayer cards and visits while I was in rehab. They made my stay much easier. Thank you and God Bless.

*Jane Vanderborgh*



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# THE CURATE'S COLUMN

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## God of the Storm or God in the Storm



Disastrous events like Sandy force us all into the realm of *theodicy*--the question of why we suffer. One local newspaper offered the headline, *God Hates Us*. In a similar vein, one of our parishioners overheard a conversation in which a gas station attendant told his customer that Sandy was "God's punishment for all you bad people." One preacher even repeated the canard that Sandy was punishment brought against gay people. (Apparently, God can only manage a shotgun aim.) These people whose God is punishing and hateful are in desperate need of our prayers. Their responses are evidence of the primary divide that has developed in contemporary religion in general and in Christianity specifically—a divide between those who believe that God exercises judgment now, and those who believe that God's judgment is reserved for later. The latter group take seriously God's covenant with humanity after the great flood.

In short, people worship widely differing Gods. As a parishioner wisely observed, for example, the insurance companies' use of the term *act of God* for naturally occurring devastation does not accord with who we know God to be. God's judgment is reserved for later and does not inflict punishment on us in the present. God does not hurl trees into young men's bedrooms, as occurred to one of our most active members' cousin, who himself is a frequent visitor to St. Ann's when in town. (Thankfully, he was not in his bedroom at the time.) God has set the natural world in motion, but does not control its every aspect. This does not mean that God is not involved in the world. God is constantly urging us towards relationships of forgiveness, grace, and love, inspiring us to be our best, encouraging us when we fall, just as a good parent does for a child.

It is very difficult for those on either side of this divide to understand those on the other side. Those who think that God's judgment is reserved until after death tend to hold that God is still speaking to us whereas those who think that God judges us now tend to hold that God's message to us was exhausted by Jesus, despite Jesus' saying that he could not explain everything at the time. (John 16:12-13) For example, those who believe that sex-ed should be reduced to one sentence: "Abstinence is the only acceptable practice prior to marriage," think that they are laying down the law of God as the world should be, and if some do not follow, then it is to their shame and condemnation. Butch Hancock, who founded the band the Flatlanders, summed up this attitude when he said, "Life in Lubbock, Texas, taught me two things: One is that God loves you, and you're going to burn in Hell. The other is that sex is the most awful, filthy thing on Earth and you should save it for someone you love." (*James Moore (2009-09-04). "The Lies of Texas Are Upon You". Huffington Post. 2010 HuffingtonPost.com, Inc. Retrieved 2012-11-05.*) Those who think God is still speaking look at the failure of this policy and ask instead, "How would God have us address young people so that they are not drawn into situations they will regret?" That is, we seek reconciliation and attempt to treat others as we want to be treated.

The divide between God has spoken and God is speaking in Christianity is eclipsing older, denominational differences about such issues as transubstantiation. We are realizing that positions we have taken on such denominational matters have done little to advance the gospel. That is, as the Anglican Church realized in the 17th century, they do little to increase our love of God and of our neighbors. Old differences remain, but are less pronounced, less central to our identities, and are thus not as likely to prevent cooperation. Christians are beginning to work together in spreading the gospel of love, justice, and reconciliation.

Faithfully, *Farrell+*

# A First Person Account of Hurricane Sandy

## The Perfect Storm

By Joanne Festa

There I was alone at the Marriott Hotel in Islandia, on the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 29. The hotel was bustling with guests coming and going but basically seriously waiting for the Perfect Storm--Hurricane Sandy--due to arrive any minute. I felt so very fortunate to be able to move to a safer place.

There were hotel guests from all over the world who had come to Long Island for a convention or business meeting, but there were a lot of us who just wanted to get away from the shoreline where our homes were located. I live in Oakdale, very close to the bay. It was about 5:00 PM when Sandy with all its fury slammed into our homes and the island we all love so much. With crackling sounds of trees falling, branches breaking and glass cracking, we all moved closer together in the center of the upper level. By that time, the dining room had been closed to guests.

Suddenly, the lights were going on and off and then...OUT. OMG, what now? My room was on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor and taking the stairs was now our only option as the elevators were no longer operating. Some folks just stared into space knowing that climbing the stairs was not an option. Where could we sleep, rest or have privacy? Our rooms were warm and inviting but the halls were dark, and we worried about our safety. Fortunately, hotel employees were there every step of the way, handing out flashlights and calming our fears.

Within a couple of hours, a generator was turned on, and the entire hotel staff went into action. In a way, they almost made us feel loved and protected like children. Time passed, and many of us stayed, even without the electric available, because knew we had a place to be with others. As people started to talk, we heard many stories of pain and strife--homes, stores, office buildings completely destroyed and gone. Tears flowed, hearts were broken, shock and pain showed on people's faces. Lives were changed forever because Sandy had arrived.

As the air cleared, we saw workers from all over the country coming to help with the nightmare of work ahead. Although, I felt I should have experienced doom and gloom, I have to admit, it was the best mini vacation I've ever had! What fun we had being together during the crisis, talking and walking into a large convention room for a free meal, followed by six more meals—all free. The food was prepared in a kitchen run by a generator by chefs and cooks wearing hats with flashlights attached! I did not want to leave this bear den with a spirit of good will, friendly guests, and the caring staff members.

Finally, the storm was over, and we all got ready to go home and face the reality of our situations. I am so grateful to have been able to spend those frightening hours surrounded by caring and wonderful folks. I felt it was really a kind of vacation for me because these people made it so.

### A Christmas Tapestry

Christmas reminds us we are not alone. We are not unrelated atoms, bouncing and ricocheting amid aliens, but are a part of something, which holds and sustains us. As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same. Christmas shows us the ties that bind us together, threads of love and caring, woven in the simplest and strongest way within the family. --Donald E. Westlake

# VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE



*You are cordially invited to*

## *A Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols*

*Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>*

*4:00 PM*

*Reception to follow in the Parish Hall  
All are welcome*

**O MUSIC \_ THOU HAST TAUGHT US TO SEE WITH OUR EARS AND  
HEAR WITH OUR HEARTS. —Kahlil Gibran**

## **Hopes and Fears**

Sacred Christmas carols are a cherished tradition. But during sorrow and struggle, some lyrics may seem hard to swallow. “O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant”? Where is the joy when my loved one has just died? Where is the triumph if I’ve lost my job? “Silent night, holy night, all is calm ...”? Not in my house; I’m exhausted from the fighting. “The little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes”? Our baby screams with colic for hours on end.

Yet ... listen:

And you beneath life’s crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low ...  
Oh, rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing. —*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

Truly, God reaches out to the happy and hurting alike. “The hopes and fears of all the years are met” — and gathered up — in the Babe of Bethlehem, who shares our joys and troubles. There are Christmas carols for us all.



## **ST. ANN’S CHOIR SINGS ON MAIN STREET**

Aiming for the style of Dickens, St. Ann’s Choir was pleased to participate in the festivities at *Miracle on Main Street* in Sayville, on Saturday, November 24, singing Christmas carols for the holiday crowd. Were you there?



# ST. ANN'S ANNUAL FAIR 2012



Carole Sheppard & Kathy Senese [Photo: Ed Neale]



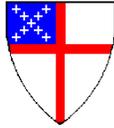
We have to say a special thank you to the Fair Committee and especially to Chairwoman Carole Sheppard who once again planned, organized, and pulled everything together so that our Annual Fair could magically bloom on the first weekend in November. Unfortunately, our fair was preceded this year by a hurricane, and many of us were left dazed and confused. But the show must go on--and our Fair did go on, as many of you can attest. The Fair Committee, all the folks who organized and prepared the different tables/displays, basket auction, wine and cheese, luncheon (I hope I haven't left anyone out!)...it could not have been done without you. And thanks also to those who were reeling from the storm who came out to enjoy the Fair and forget your wounds for a few short hours. It was a wonderful fair, a wonderful time for St. Ann's, and we thank you all!



The Children's Christmas Pageant will be held this year on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00 AM.

As always, it promises to be a delight. Arrive early for a good seat!





# NOTES



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The *Giving Tree* will be up in the lower Parish Hall, loaded with requests for the needy until Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. The unwrapped gifts **MUST** be back to the church by Monday afternoon!! On Tuesday morning, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM we will gather to wrap the gifts and get them ready for distribution. At the same time we will be preparing a small Christmas remembrance for our house bound and nursing home friends. All are invited and encouraged to join us. Anyone who would like to make a visit, but cannot join us on that Tuesday morning, please contact the church office.

The December get together will serve as the December ECW meeting.

Sprays of greens, decorated with a variety of colorful bows, will be available during the Christmas tree sale. These sprays would be suitable for the cemetery or outside doors.

If you have a specific request – size, etc., please call 589-6386 ASAP. –Ellen Stoll



## ATTENTION, CEMETERY PLOT OWNERS!

Please be aware that when it snows, *only the main asphalt road* in the cemetery gets plowed. The other gravel roads will be plowed only if needed to conduct service for a new burial. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but Spring will be here before you know it! –Janet Croce, Cemetery Manager

## THANK YOU FOR THE BASKETS!

Thank you to all who contributed to the Friday evening basket auction. All of your generous donations helped make the auction a success.

--Nancy Koinoglou, Auction Chairperson



## COFFEE HOUR NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Would you (and your family?) like to help for just one weekend to set up and monitor the coffee hour? We will continue to have the various ministries host the Coffee Hour throughout the year, but sometimes it's the same people who are doing the work, as they volunteer in several ministries.

This is a small but vital ministry—please volunteer for just one weekend! See Susie DeWitt for details.



## OUR DAILY BREAD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers in the Parish Hall on **Mondays** and/or **Thursdays** to help with Our Daily Bread. Please sign up on Sunday during the Coffee Hour or speak with Lynette Schulz.



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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.



### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6 Salvatore & Kathy Senese	17 Albert & Mary Dechen	19 Robert Roden & Patricia Andriani
7 Robert & Barbara Gaito	Michael & Lauren Rascona	26 John & Barbara Stahlberg
11 Brian & Maureen Rockwood	18 Richard & Bettye Chant	27 Louis & Lily Dadabo

### BIRTHDAYS

1 Kyle Burke	7 Robert Hindla	16 Farrell Graves	25 Stephen Gulasy, Jr.
2 Rick Kaiser	8 Christopher Teague	Cameron Weybrecht	Kasanya Pandof
Hayden Scileppi	9 Daniel Miller	17 Donald Grauer	Christian Strain
3 Jason Foerster	Nancy Miller	18 Nicole Raymond	27 Bettye Chant
Marion Rosché	10 Jonathan Greci	19 Rebecca Diehl	Daniel Henn
Cara Sweezey	Nicholas Greci	Thomas Dolan	Jordan Stankovich
4 Brett Krakaur	Ryan Hughes	20 Vaerie Meinsen	Frank Cayea
Linda Munkelwitz	11 Daniel Vertichio	Douglas Teague	28 Richard Ronde
5 Jack Adam	12 Carolann Gaites	21 John Stahlberg	29 Jessica Olsen-Hoek
Kathleen Borzello	13 Phyllis Barber	22 Cody Rodriguez	Ethan Schmieder
Anne Savage	Scott Leuly	Herman Schlock	Connor Teague
John Stankovich	Marian Winter-Bartsch	Mark Schmittzeh	Lydia Thompson
6 Joseph Garofolo	14 Julia DePompeo	23 William Fridrich	30 Robert Belfield
Richard Magnani	Ava Gustafson	Jill Gustafson	Mary Funaro
Patricia Barna-Scileppi	15 Edward Draffin	Holly Rhodes-Teague	31 Kimberly Schaum-Rodriguez
6 Kristin Welte	Judith Mediatore	24 Raymond Coiro	
7 Sophie Fisher	16 Leann Barone	Wendy Schmittzeh	

### How can we best keep Christmas?

- By following the star on an inward journey to Bethlehem to stand again in awe and wonder before the Babe in a manger.
- By rediscovering the faith and simplicity of a little child, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.
- By being still and listening to the angels sing within our hearts.
- By quietly evaluating our lives according to the Master's standards as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.
- By resolving to give ourselves away to others in love, joy and devotion.

—Wilferd Peterson, *The New Book of the Art of Living*

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## Our Church History



By Connie Currie

### ❖ The Garden of the Unforgotten ❖

**CAPTAIN ABRAHAM KETCHAM**  
**MARY JANE (Mrs. Abraham) KETCHAM**  
**Section 17 – Lot 1**

#### **CAPTAIN ABRAHAM KETCHAM**

On August 15th, 1913, the Suffolk County News announced the death of Captain Abraham Ketcham, one of the best and most well known boatmen of the area, who died in his home on Foster Avenue, Sayville. He had been ill for only three weeks.

The Captain was born in Babylon in 1857. He spent his boyhood days on Fire Island Beach, where his father, John P. Ketcham kept a hotel. He came to Sayville in his youth, and married Mary Wells, a sister of Sheriff John S. Wells, and he was survived by her and his children Alford, Annie E., wife of Max Mettenleiter, and Abraham Jr. He was also survived by four brothers, Captain Albert and John Ketcham of this village, James Ketcham of Yonkers, N.Y., and William who resided on the west end of the island.

Captain Ketcham had been ailing for some time, but a fall from a hammock on his porch three weeks before his death, caused him to sustain injuries to his head and spine, which brought about a partial paralysis, and he failed from that point on.

Burial Service took place at St. Ann's, the Reverend Mr. Prescott officiating. He was laid to rest in St. Ann's cemetery.

**MARY JANE (MRS. ABRAHAM) KETCHAM** followed her husband in death in late March of 1944. 83 years of age, Mrs. Ketcham spent 74 of those years in Sayville. Like her husband, Mary Jane died in her home on Foster Avenue. At the time of her death, she left one son, Abraham and two grandsons, Rollinson Smith and Raymond Smith of Bayport, and a sister, Mrs. Edward Berry, and two great grandchildren. The Reverend Joseph Bond, Rector of St. Ann's presided at her funeral service and burial in St. Ann's cemetery.

### + CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS +



#### **Rose**

This flower, often shown as stylized artwork, is a symbol for Advent, the promise of the Messiah and Jesus' nativity. A white rose represents the Virgin Mary, and a red rose stands for martyrs. A wreath of roses symbolizes heavenly joy.

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSV). As one year turns into another, we trust that we're safe in God's eternal hands.*

Gilbert J. D'Andrea  
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## ST. BARNABAS' BUDDIES

Simply stated...Barnabas Buddies is an INREACH program to assist parish families who could use help on a short term basis. We can provide help and comfort just by offering our time and a listening ear. Some INREACH examples of those in our parish who might call for help are:



- (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.

*Call Gerry Hoek at 631-868-7278 for further information. Thanks for your help!*

## AROUND ST. ANN'S Monthly Schedule

See Correspondent pages and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.  
Check out the website at [www.Saint-Anns.org](http://www.Saint-Anns.org)

**Sunday**  
**Each** 7:00 PM—AA Meeting

**Monday**  
**Dec 10** 7:00 PM—Vestry  
**Each** 7:00 PM—AA Meeting

**Tuesday**  
**Each** 8:00 AM—Men's Group  
**Dec 11** 9:30 AM—ECW, Gift Wrapping  
**Each** 1:30-2:30 PM— Yoga Class  
**Each** 6:00 PM—Children's Choir  
**Each** 7:15 PM—Adult Choir

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**  
**Each** 10:00 AM—AA Meeting  
**Each** 7:00 PM—AA Meeting

**Friday**

**Saturday**  
**Dec 8** 10:00 AM—Historical Society  
**Each** 10:00 AM—OA Meeting

## HOPE IS BORN

*A little child, a shining star,  
A stable rude, the door ajar.  
Yet in that place so crude, forlorn,  
The Hope of all the world was born.*

*--Author Unknown*



In 1925, the New York World celebrated Abraham Lincoln's 100th birthday with a now-classic cartoon. Two Kentucky farmers are talking over a picket fence. One asks, "Anything new happen lately?" The other responds, "Nothing much. A new baby was born over at Tom Lincoln's place, but nothing much ever happens around here."

I'm sure there were folks who said the same thing in Bethlehem [on Christmas Eve]. I can picture them, can't you? Standing on the corner, just outside the inn. "Anything new happen around here? Naw, just a baby born down in the stable. Nothing much ever happens around here." —James A. Harnish

# The Correspondent

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## Christmas at St. Ann's

### **4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DEC. 23**

10:00 AM Children's Christmas Pageant

### **CHRISTMAS EVE, MONDAY, DEC. 24**

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Children's Choir

7:00 PM Family Eucharist with Soloists

9:00 PM Choral Eucharist with Brass Trio and Choir

11:00 PM Traditional Choral Midnight Mass  
with Brass Trio and Choir

### **CHRISTMAS DAY, TUESDAY, DEC. 25**

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Christmas Carols

*The Baby Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for his parents at the inn. This Christmas and always, may we make room for you in our lives, dear Lord.*