

**St. Anne's
Episcopal Church**

*Newsletter
April 2020*

From the Wardens

It's hard to believe that Fr. Brad has only been gone for three weeks. Normally, March is a month of transition. We transition from the cold and grey of winter to the warm and colors of spring; from the solemnness of Lent to the promise of rebirth and Easter!!

However, I think we can all agree that this month of March 2020 has been like no other. There seemed to be no transition, no subtle yet noticeable change, just change. "Social Distancing" has entered our vocabulary and as of this writing, there is no end in sight. We hope that you and yours are all healthy and staying safe.

At St. Anne's, we have had to make the difficult decision to suspend worship services and really any sort of gathering. It was

decided for us by state and federal guidelines. However, a few of us (fewer than 10) have decided to gather, observing the requisite six feet apart from one another to record and post a shortened version of the church service each week. There are more details about this endeavor later in this edition of this letter. We hope that these recordings will bring you some sense of normalcy in a very un-normal world. We hope to continue this service to our parishioners each week for as long as we must. Thanks to Rev. Jonathan for being willing to preside over these services and to those participating in the service and recording it.

The health concerns of today have ground everything to a halt, including our search for a PIC. The diocese has notified us that they have suspended all Rector and PIC searches until at least April

20. The diocese leaders will reassess in mid-April and notify us.

Unfortunately, the one thing that continues to happen despite a worldwide pandemic are our bills. We understand that many people are in fear for not only their physical health, but also their psychological and financial health. Please keep your pledges up to date as you are able.

With all your help and prayers, we hope that St. Anne's will come back stronger and better than ever once the health crisis is over.

Ed Giroux & Mike Hopkins

Your Wardens

Contact information

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Vestry:











Ed Giroux – Warden
 Michael Hopkins – Warden
 Sue Geen – Treasurer
 Marguerite Massey, – Clerk
 Lisa Carpine – 2021
 Louise Boyce – 2021
 Brenda Komarinski – 2021
 Rosemary Kinser – 2022

Jose Torres – 2022
 Michele O'Shea – 2022
 Linda Kusnierz – 2023
 Dorothy Callihan - 2023

Worship:

Sundays services can be viewed on Facebook and youtube soon to be broadcasting on BATV

Know the FACTS

Symptoms	Coronavirus <small>Symptoms range from mild to severe</small>	Cold <small>Gradual onset of symptoms</small>	Flu <small>Abrupt onset of symptoms</small>
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Cough	Common* (usually dry)	Mild	Common* (usually dry)
 Sneezing	No	Common	No
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

VIRTUAL SERVICES

I thought I'd write a bit about how we're getting the videos available for you each Sunday. As we started discussing either recording or broadcasting services while everything is closed, I started looking through the collection of stuff I have and some of the other things I could get quickly and inexpensively.

We wound up with a good quality microphone, a camcorder I got off of eBay, and a tripod to put it all on. There's also a collection of lights to make everything look brighter.

The morning starts at about 8:30AM when we all get together and decide how we want the flow to work. Fortunately, the service and music has already been figured out. Rev. Jonathan and Peter start their preparations while Sandra, Ed, and I figure out lights and where to arrange things, then double- and

triple-check that all the equipment is set up. Once we're all ready to go, we press record and off we go. As the experts have advised, we're doing our own physical distancing from each other, standing in different parts of the altar and different parts out in the pews.

Because of the equipment we're using it's a lot easier to record and then share rather than live stream. Our Internet connection is only so fast, and the WiFi in the main church area is not sufficient to do a lot of streaming.

Once the service is over, we stop the recording and then the computer work begins. Right now, we're just uploading directly to YouTube and to Facebook. This is time consuming as the resulting file is pretty big - 5GB and we have to upload it twice, once to each of YouTube and Facebook. After it's uploaded, we have to wait for them to process the file, but we can do things like add the title and descriptions while that goes on. The upload takes about 20 minutes and the processing is about the same amount of time. Our first week was a bit of a struggle to understand how uploads work, but by the second week it went by a lot faster and everything was done by about 11AM.

Next up is figuring out how to make introductory credits and add them in to make it look nicer and available for a wider audience on BATV.

I really want to thank everyone who's helped make this a reality: Sandra, Ed, Peter, Maria, Rev. Jonathan, and Sue. I hope you're finding some small comfort and community in what we're doing, and I look forward to seeing everyone in person.

-Mark

To watch Sunday's March 29th Service Click - [HERE](#)

To watch Sunday's March 22nd Service Click - [HERE](#)

Services can also be viewed on our website [click here to view on website](#)

Services can also be viewed on our Facebook page and soon to be on Billerica Access TV



COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORNER

Over 325 Billerica families were fed at the Billerica Community Pantry distribution in March; normally it is approximately 150-200. If you are able your financial support is needed as we continue to feed our neighbors.

Donations are accepted at billericacommunitypantry.com or mail check to PO Box 265, Billerica, MA 01821.

Due to pandemic we changed our operation for distributions to ensure the health of our clients and volunteers.

People who wanted to receive had to preregister; with this information we were able to pre-order food to ensure we had enough. 22,000 pounds of food was ordered for this distribution – and we needed it, many people are struggling. People did NOT come in the building; groceries were delivered right to the trunks of cars. The deepest gratitude goes out to the many volunteers, the Billerica Police Department, and Billerica Emergency Management. This would not have been possible without you! This will most likely be the new norm until the Virus passes.

If you are in need – please register. We are here to help; we are all in this together.

CALL – +1 (978) 663-8433

EMAIL – BILLERICAPANTRY@GMAIL.COM

If you are a Billerica Resident and are food insecure, please RSVP for the April distribution [click here to RSVP for April Distribution](#)

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2019-2020 Take Home Sunday School!

Take home Sunday School continues! April's theme is Easter! Brenda will drop off the packets to you on Monday April 6. Please email me your address. bkomarinski@gmail.com.

-Brenda Komarinski

FUN-RAISING



Thank you to all who came to the pottery evening! We had a great time and raised \$50.00 for St. Anne's. We will have to do it again after this virus is gone.

St. Anne's Prayer List:

Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you gather the lambs in your arms and carry them in your bosom: We commend to your loving care this child (Name). Relieve their pain, guard them from all danger, restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength, and raise them up to a life of service to you. Hear us, we pray, for _____. Amen.

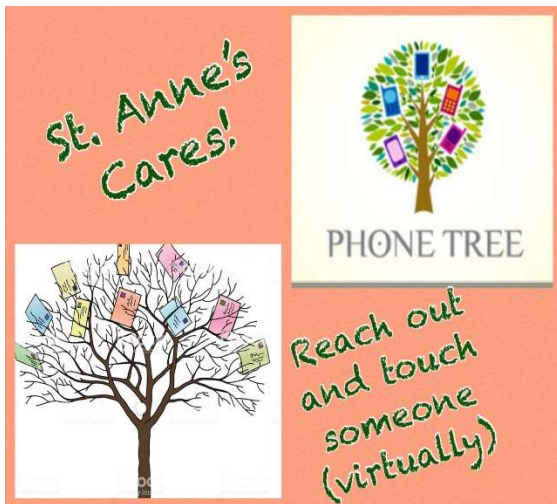
Let us pray for our own needs and those of others:

Janet Lyna, Margaret Westerlund, Barbara Rogers, Doris Hamner, Pat McLeave and family, Cyndi, Donna and Sonny Martell, Cathy and Brian, Edward Bromley, Patricia Mobley, Susan Fader, Fred Brown, Brooks Bassi, Jean Hatch, Debbie King, Cathie and Greg Harper, Ronna Massucco, Irene and Kenneth Mouradian, Rys, Matt, Linda E., Mary Hyatt, Dolly Longumire, Jose Torres Sr., Sarah Komarinski.

For those in nursing homes or with ongoing illnesses:

Kathy Jeffrey, Marie Horgan, Joshua Young, Dinah Holman

Ongoing activities are currently on hold until further notice.



Let's start a Contact Tree (old school or new school)! Reach out to your fellow parishioners and report back to so we can make sure everyone is doing OK!

Do they have enough Food, Medicine, Supplies? Do they need a Prayer Book? How can we help?

Let us know of anyone's needs – and we can work on it. We are all in this together. Let's (virtually) touch as many people as possible in the next day or so – even if it is to say "Hi – thinking of you".

In Closing we ask for Serenity during this troubled time

Jesus, let your mighty calmness lift me above my fears and frustrations. By your deep patience, give me tranquility and stillness of soul in you. Make me in this, and in all, more and more like you. Amen.