

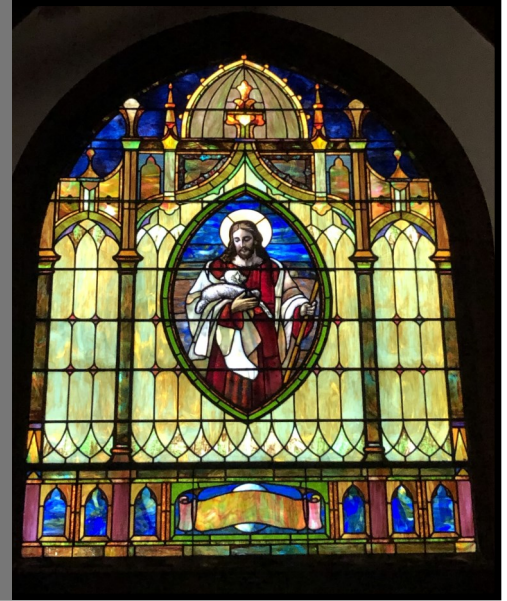
ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

JANUARY

2023

Newsletter



Dear Parish of St. Anne's,

Our small community has demonstrated great might during the past month. I know many are tired, as you should be! Making sure all our ministries and traditions continue takes the love and labor of all of us. Thank you for making our church alive and full.

There are two parts of our life together that are often under-utilized, yet are tremendously appreciated! I highlight them here.

Our St. Anne's Thrift Shop

As St. Anne's finally moves out of Covid's abundant caution and into more activities happening on Sunday mornings, small chores for the Thrift Shop done by parishioners would be very helpful. Other small chores can be done at any time.

1. Putting out the trash barrels every Sunday. (Thrift Shop Volunteers bring them back in.)
2. Pick up discarded/duplicate/etc. books from the Thrift Shop and bring to a Burlington Used bookstore. Once a week.
3. Discarded Electronics to Staples in Burlington, or Chelmsford, or others. Once every two weeks.
4. Cleaning support: vacuuming carpets. Dry mop floors. Could be weekly or less.
5. Little projects: Unsightly old letters removed from stairs. Remove empty hangers off racks. Book room organization.

Continued on next page ...

Worship:

9:00 am Sunday in person

**First Sunday of each month: 8:00 am and 10:00 am in person
(8:00 am service is not filmed)**

Weekly worship on our YouTube Channel:

["St. Anne's Episcopal Church, N. Billerica MA"](#)
(Subscribe and see videos of our services!)

Our services are replayed on BATV

Check out our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/StAnnesBillerica

Contact information:

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
PO Box 134, 14 Treble Cove Rd.
No. Billerica, MA 01862

Office Ph: 978-663-4073

Thrift Shop Ph: 978-667-6268

Email: stannesbillerica@gmail.com
rector@stannes-billerica.org

Website:

stannes-billerica.org

Continued from previous page..

In other words, it takes many, many hands to run an operation that gives over 50k to our parish budget every year. Any small bit that you can contribute will be mightily appreciated. Speak to Marguerite Massey or Kathy Brewster for further information. Their contacts can be found in our church Office.

Retired Clergy among us

Jonathan MacKenzie: 55 years since ordination

Richard Lewis: 59 years

Sarah Lewis: 19 years



With two retired clergy newly coming among us, I want to introduce them to you by way of speaking my gladness for them. As I believe that parishioners benefit from hearing each other's voices, so I believe that clergy benefit from hearing other clergy voices. I love multiple perspectives and opinions. I am grateful to be building that in N. Billerica.

Including my 32 years, St. Anne's currently benefits from more than 150 years of experience in the church. That is a lot!

You know, I wonder how experienced we would all find ourselves if we added up ALL our parishioner years lived in the church? We have some magnificent stories, I bet!

Here are the briefest of biographies. **Jonathan+** was ordained in the Diocese of Albany, NY in 1967. He served there and in Pittsburg, NW Pennsylvania, and Central NY, but retired to Billerica from Laconia, NH where he is still Canonically Resident (which means that he votes in their Diocesan Conventions and not ours).

Richard+ was ordained in Michigan in 1963. He served parishes in Michigan, New Jersey, Bethlehem PA, Albany, Central New York, and Massachusetts. He retired from and is still Canonically Resident in Central New York.

Sarah+ was ordained in the Diocese of Central New York in 2003, and she has served as chaplain and supply priest in both Episcopal and Lutheran churches there and in Massachusetts.

At St. Anne's in Lowell, as preparation for their 200th anniversary in 2024, Sarah+ is involved in making a Gospel and Video project about church history in stained glass. She wonders if St. Anne's, N. Billerica would like to have a video about our stained glass. Sarah+ was impressed with our booklet.

I, **Jennifer+**, was ordained in this Diocese in 1990 and served here before moving to Los Angeles and then returning back in 2016.

One piece of living and serving in a Diocese where one is not Canonically Resident has to do with the formal on-paper relationship to the Bishop who is not "responsible" for you. It is called gaining a License to Officiate. To keep it current, each year during Advent, the start of the church year, Jonathan+ fills out a form for Bp Gayle that I need to sign. Jonathan+ reports the services where he has officiated that are not recorded at St. Anne's, and he has to report that he is current on his Safe Church training. I hope this de-mystifies part of the licensing aspect of our clergy profession.

I am absolutely thrilled to have clergy colleagues among us at St. Anne's. I believe that all of St. Anne's is richer for the depth and breadth of experience and expertise shared between us. Thank you, Jonathan+ and Sarah+ and Richard+, for blessing us with your presence and ministry.

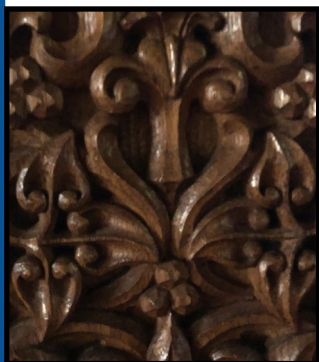
St. Anne's knows the blessing of abundant ministry through the hope and love we find in our savior Jesus Christ. May He continue to call us forward into who He wants us to become.

With bountiful gratitude,

Mthr Jennifer

Message from the Wardens:

As I write this, it's almost Christmas day and I have Christmas music playing. It seems like a good mix – some old songs, some new, some pop, some more classical or traditional. All to set the mood to write about a couple of things happening in our parish that might be of interest.



We've just completed renewing our covenant with Mother Jennifer as Priest In Charge – PIC --which spans from August 2022 to July 2023. That may seem odd, but it's because we were remiss getting it done this past July. We've added it to calendars for 2023 to make sure we do it on time in the coming year. Renewing the Covenant also involves reviewing and adjusting the PIC's salary using formulas provided by the Diocese and the appropriate adjustments were made to compensate for our late action.

The Christmas concert and 12 days of Christmas went extremely well, and people are now thinking about expanding both the concert itself and the raffles. It's amazing the size and quality of the baskets we had donated for the raffle. Thanks to everyone that participated either by helping with the activities or just showing up to provide support. Thank you all.

Another important thing we do at this time of the year is create a budget for the following year and have it completed and voted on by the vestry in December. We did succeed at doing this on time thanks to the finance committee's time and effort. Now we need your contribution to the process which means getting a pledge in if you already haven't done so. The number of pledges will definitely affect what we can do in 2023, but also effects calculations for the rector's salary. This will in turn effect our yearly assessment to the diocese in following years.

If you haven't turned in a pledge, please do so even if you normally give on a regular basis, and even if your giving seems small or insignificant. You can always modify your pledge at any time and remember the pledge itself is important. I had to reduce my pledge at one time during my career due to a loss of income and did it again when the income increased a bit. Changing is not a problem.

Merry Christmas to everyone at St. Anne's and looking forward to a great 2023 with all of you!

The Wardens...

Vestry:

Rosemary Kinser	Warden
Michael Hopkins	Warden
Linda Kusnierz	Treasurer
Marguerite Massey	Clerk
Pat Cregg	2023
Dotty Callihan	2023
Maria Martin	2024
Marie Figenbaum	2024
Lisa Carpine	2025
Todd Baldwin	2025

Mother Jennifer's Office Hours:

Tuesdays	11-5 pm
Thursdays	2-5 pm

Church Office Hours:

Tuesdays	11-5 pm
Thursdays	2-5 pm

Thrift Shop Hours:

Wednesdays,
Thursdays, Fridays 10 am-2 pm

12-Step Meetings:

Wednesdays (AA) 7:30 pm
Thursdays (NA) 7 pm

Jennifer's Journal January 2023

Advent and Christmas

Our celebrations were so full, lively, and tuneful this year. Special thanks to Peter for coordinating all our music and singers, but especially our first-ever string quartet on Christmas Eve. Also, the amount of extra music that goes in to a service of Lessons & Carols demands much more preparation on his part. I am so grateful for the beauty of our worship.

Now, beauty comes in many forms. Our altar guild produces a beautiful altar every week, no matter what are the liturgical colors or the plants required or the linens used or the wine and wafer and communion kit quantities. The four of you continually give even though you need more volunteers. Thank you so much.

All of this beauty is captured perfectly by our filming crew. To them our homebound and at-home worshipers give continual thanks that they can still be a part of us. Thank you, dearly.

FANTASTIC Christmas Fair

We tried something brand new this year, and it fit just right! As one of the musicians who performed, I loved it. Our sanctuary has great acoustics and it is a warm, intimate space. I hope we do it again next year, and I hope we keep trying new ideas that fit the new us very well.

Thank you, Lisa Carpine, for leading us into our new kind of Christmas Fair fundraiser, and for leading us in the second annual Twelve Days of Christmas baskets of prizes. Thank you to all the many hands who tirelessly offer their assistance. Lovely fellowship is had amidst the fundraising for our church. Thank you, all, so much.

Your Vestry's Core Values exercise

I have been looking for us to establish our goals for life here at St. Anne's. It is a part of what we need to do during these three years of my being your priest-in-charge.

The Vestry has just completed the harder-than-we-thought exercise of choosing from among about 100 words (such as acceptance, enthusiasm, happiness, joy, faith, spirituality, assertiveness, competition, compassion, empathy, encouragement) the top four to describe what we want most for our community in this church. We had interesting conversations as we chose between very close words. Some decisions were easily unanimous, and others were an even split. (Note that your priest is the tie-breaker and I hate that role!!)

In the new calendar year, we will reveal the four words. Take this time to think about what four words you would want to describe how we live together in our church.

In January

We begin the season of Epiphany, of light showings, of Christ's ministry among us, and ours in this world. We will have our Annual Meeting on January 29th (10:45am) and hear about all the ministries in our church. It is exciting to see so much happening. Come and be with us.

Words from a prisoner

I met Orion while visiting in the Billerica House of Correction four years ago, and I have followed him to Bridgewater where he will be serving a 20-year sentence. He is 26 years old. This young man's spiritual insights have kept me going to see him.

"A believer can't see darkness. Because everywhere you look, your light shines there. When you live in the light of your own being-ness, you will be unable to find dark anywhere, because your light shines everywhere."

I agree with Orion: I think each of you shines light on my path :)

Thrift Shop Updates

St. Anne's Thrift Shop is an outreach program for residents of Billerica and neighboring towns. We have a great group of volunteers that support the shop and help to contribute so much to St. Anne's.

Please stop by and say hello and thank you for their hard work. The shop is open Wednesday through Friday from 10AM until 2PM.



SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Pancake Supper will be
February 21, 2023
5:30-7:30pm

Newsletter deadline schedule!

February newsletter submission deadline: January 16, 2023

February newsletter distributed: January 25, 2023

March newsletter submission deadline: February 13, 2023

March newsletter distributed: February 22, 2023

Need Covid Tests?

If anyone is in need of (free) rapid tests for Covid-19, we have them!

Please contact Mother Jennifer or the church office.

From the Parish Administrator...

Dear St. Anne's parishioners,

I'm very happy to have started as St. Anne's new Parish Administrator! I've been very warmly received by many of you already, and I very much look forward to meeting those I haven't in person. Please feel free to stop by during office hours and say 'Hello'! Being a long time member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in North Andover, I very much appreciate the opportunity to serve at St. Anne's.

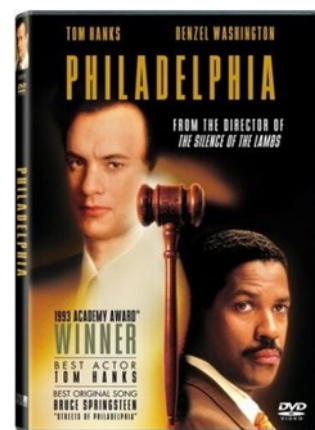


I haven't known Jayleigh as long as you have but in the short time I have worked with her I can see how dedicated and special she is. I have big shoes to fill! I have a lot to learn, but I look forward to supporting the St. Anne's faith community.

-Rich Gorzela

Movie Night

In January, we will be watching the movie "**Philadelphia**". We look forward to seeing you on Friday, January 13 at **6:00pm**. This is a 2 hour and 5 minute movie. A discussion will follow.



The Birth of Jesus lesson is available for take home now. We read a familiar story and talked about the joy of the shepherds. What stories does your family share over and over?

Our next in-person lesson is **Thursday, January 19**. We will have classes for the 3-6 year-olds from 3:30-4:30pm and then for the 7-12 year-olds from 4:30-5:30pm. We are going back to looking at the windows of our church in January. We will be looking at The Life and Ministry of St. Paul.

If you have questions, please let Brenda know (bkomarinski@gmail.com).

A message from the Pledge Treasurer

This is a friendly reminder to fill out and return your pledge cards for 2023.

Why fill out a pledge card, you might ask? Well, it's quite important in several ways! First, the number of pledge cards that are sent in affects the statistics that we report to the diocese; it determines our assessment to the diocese; it's used in our budget, and even calculates salaries and compensations. So, the real importance of a pledge card is not the amounts on them, but the number sent in.



Please remember the flexibility with the pledge card. The pledge amount that you list is only a best guestimate and hope of what might happen during the coming year. As we know, life happens: water heaters go, prices of things increase, jobs change, and the like. So, you are not tied to whatever amount you listed. You can make a change at any time, as often as you need, and the pledge amount can be any amount - even \$1. It's perfectly fine if you end up under (or over) from what you indicated on the card. This is not a commitment of an amount, as much as an indication that you'll be helping St. Anne's next year. Any gift of time, treasure or talent that you make, is terribly important, and much appreciated!

To get a pledge card to fill out for the first time, or to make a change, you have several ways to fill one out. First, you can fill it out online at

<https://onrealm.org/StAnnesNorthBillerica/-/form/pledge/pledge2023>

(Yes that is a dash between "StAnnesNorthBillerica" and "form".)

Second, you can download a copy of the form by going to here:

<http://stannes-billerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/PledgeForm2023.pdf>

Third, you can pick one up in the church's narthex or church office.

Finally, I can send you one via email.

Please contact me with any comments, questions or concerns.

Ron Desmarais,
Pledge Treasurer



The baby God,
born so long ago,
Today
has only **us**
to show Him
to the world.

-Mthr Jennifer

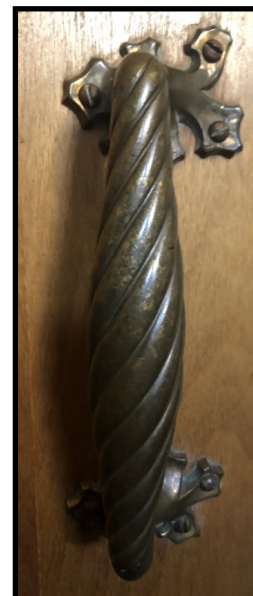


Most Amazing Word

Thank you, God for being born,
 You who first invented birth
 (Universe, galaxies, the earth).
 When your world was tired & worn
 You came laughing on the morn.

Thank you, most amazing Word
 For your silence in the womb
 Where there was so little room
 Yet the still small voice was heard
 Throughout a planet dark & blurred.

Merry Christmas! Wondrous day!
 Maker of the universe,
 You the end, & you the source
 Come to share in human clay
 And, yourself, to show the Way.
 -Madeleine L'Engle



Community Events

* Carolisa's Classes * Gift Certificates Available! *

* Schedule a Workshop @ St Anne's for a special occasion or just for fun!

Further info on all classes & Sign up: moonlightdjz@gmail.com

Carolisa Moonlightdjz  Carolisa's Classes

ZUMBA & LINE DANCE Mix @ St Anne's

Mondays 6:15p-7:15p * starts January 9 * Off 1/16~ make-up 1/17

Try it -\$10 ~ seven weeks \$64. Advance sign up required @moonlightdjz@gmail.com

BELLYDANCE 101 * Girls Night * Moms Night * Friends Night *

Tuesday January 31 ~6:30p-7:45p @ St Annes * \$11. Advance sign up required @moonlightdjz@gmail.com

**ALSO on ZOOM Wednesdays- 6:30p * join friends from anywhere!*

VALENTINE'S FAMILY FUN NIGHT.. Dancing, Fun & Games!

Friday February 10 ~ 6:00-7:30p with Carolisa & Peter

For Kids with adults ~ all welcome!. *\$3 pp ages 4+ up * Kids 3 & under – FREE! Sign up required by 2/3 ~ moonlightdjz@gmail.com

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 _____. 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.

Barbara Rogers & her son Kevin, Chick Meech, Christine (Ntagengwa), Cyndi, Dale, Diane Brown, Donald Fudge, Donald Sutton, Sr., Doris Hamner, Elaine McLaughlin, Helen, Janet Lyna, Jean Flight, José Soreso, José Torres, Sr., Joshua Young, Kathy Chang, Lee Conley, Linda E., Lucy Ann Young & her daughter Paula, Marie Horgan, Mary Lander & her daughter Christine, Norm & MJ Zarella, Paul Hamner, Philip Lavoie, Sue Kennedy, Tammy, Vicki Mahoney, Yvonne Hopkins

Sue Kennedy is now at Brightview and much missed on Sunday mornings.

Frank Martell died, after not attending since the early 1970s, but both he and his wife Phyllis feel strongly about still being connected to us. We will offer his funeral on Monday January 9th at 1:00pm.

Casey Paige Epperson, six-month old granddaughter of Nancy and Tom Packard and daughter of Kim (Packard) Epperson and Chris Epperson, died after her five-month journey with a very rare form of childhood cancer. She fought hard, with the love of her family surrounding her.

George Squires's funeral was held in the beginning of November. We sent him up to God with much love and support. He is missed.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

O God, our times are in your hand; Look with favor we pray, on your servant _____, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer pages 830 (*For a Birthday*) and 430-1 (*Blessing of a Marriage*)

Steve Hopkins	12/2	John Kusnierz	1/7	Stacey Fassi Levi Elder	2/7
Belinda Fletcher	12/5	Sandra Giroux	1/11	Zachary Farmer	2/12
Marguerite Massey	12/7	Mia Diaz	1/16	Norm Zerella	2/15
Pat Cregg	12/10	Jane & Dick Kotelly	1/22	Todd Baldwin	2/20
Andrea Jeffrey	12/18	Carol MacKenzie	1/25		
Kathy Brewster	12/21	Mike Hopkins	1/27		
Lisa Carpine	12/25				
Nicole Knowles	12/26				



January 2023 St. Anne's Ministers' Schedule

Date	Ushers	Lector	LEM/Prayers/ Server	Acolyte	Video	Audio
January 8	Dotty Callihan Pat Cregg	Michele O'Shea	Kathy Brewster	Brenda Komarinski	Eli Baldwin	Ed Giroux
January 15	Russell Bent Marguerite Massey	Lisa Carpine	Dotty Callihan John Geen	Mike Hopkins	Sandra Giroux	Mark Komarinski
January 22	George Cousens Linda Kusnierz	John Geen	Sue Geen	Brenda Komarinski	Ron Desmarais	Mike Hopkins
January 29	Ken Kinser Rosemary Kinser	Jane Kotelly	Ron Desmarais	Mike Hopkins	Eli Baldwin	Ed Giroux

January 2023 St. Anne's Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day 9 am Sunday Service	2	3	4 9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop	5 10-2 Thrift Shop Reports due for annual meeting	6 10-2 Thrift Shop	7
8 9 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Social Conscience Book Group	9	10 10 am Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study on Zoom	11 10-2 Thrift Shop	12 10-2 Thrift Shop 4 pm Clergy and Wardens Annual report addendums due	13 10-2 Thrift Shop 6 pm Parish Movie Night	14
15 9 am Sunday Service	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day February newsletter deadline	17 10 am Bible Study 12 pm Billerica Interfaith Meeting	18 9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop 7 pm Vestry Meeting	19 10-2 Thrift Shop 3:30-5:30 Church School	20 10-2 Thrift Shop	21
22 9 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Social Conscience Book Group 10:30 am Social Justice Committee	23	24 10 am Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study on Zoom	25 10-2 Thrift Shop	26 10-2 Thrift Shop 4 pm Clergy and Wardens	27 10-2 Thrift Shop	28 8:30 pm Men's Breakfast 9 am Ladies' Breakfast
29 9 am Sunday Service 10:45 am Annual Meeting	31	31 10 am Bible Study				

Note: February 5th (Sunday) will have two services– 8am and 10am