

ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY

St. Anne's Episcopal Church Newsletter

MAY 2023



Dear Parish,

We have had a glorious Easter, restful recovery I hope, and now we continue to build St. Anne's ministry together.

At the Retreat for Vestry in March, I told stories from early in my ordained life that influence my current actions. I share them with you, here, in brief.

- During college, I spent a year in England where I was first asked to think about "full-time Christian work". Eight years later, when I sent an ordination invitation to my rector there, he responded, "Please do not fall into the trap of American clergy. Rather, 'equip the saints for the work of ministry' Ephesians 4:12. *Don't do the work yourself.*" This rebuke, given before I had even started, still haunts me.
- Seven years into my ordained life, as Assistant in Cohasset, I started a youth program. When I couldn't find a co-leader, I went ahead with it myself. A year later, when I was called as rector to Braintree, that youth program ended. My actions directly led to the failure of ministry to those young people.

Perhaps you can see why I so resist "doing the ministry" myself. I want to be church *with* you!

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
(except April, July, Aug. and Sept. Note: 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...

What do you wish for? What do you need in order to accomplish it? How can I support your becoming equipped for the work of this ministry?

Will you join me, this Easter Season, in thinking and talking about our life together as 'the work of ministry' of Christ's resurrection life to our world that needs hope?

We already do so much. Do you see it as the work of your ministry to Christ's world? I do!

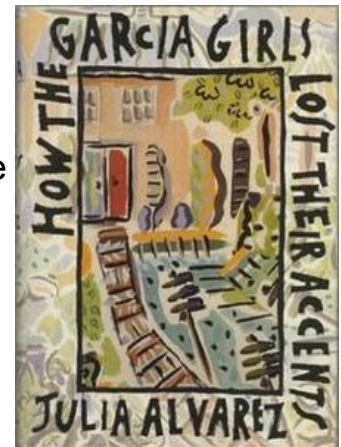
With the gratitude of hope,

Mthr Jennifer



Social Conscience Book Group

The Social Conscience Book Club will be reading and discussing *How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents* by Julia Alvarez. We meet every other week after coffee hour. The meetings in May are May 14th and May 28th.



Vestry:

Rosemary Kinser	Warden
Michael Hopkins	Warden
Linda Kusnierz	Treasurer
Russell Bent	Clerk
Sandra Giroux	2026
Brenda Komarinski	2026
Maria Martin	2024
Marie Figenbaum	2024
Lisa Carpine	2025
Todd Baldwin	2025

Mother Jennifer's Office Hours:

Tuesdays	12-5 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

Warden's Message: Rosemary and Mike



Barbara C. Harris Camp (BCH)

Summer will be here soon! Would you like your children to have fun in a safe environment? There is something for everyone at BCH in Greenfield, NH. They will have opportunities to swim, paddle board, play games, enjoy campfires etc. Youth Camps are for all campers completing 3rd to 12th grade. To learn more about the Camp, call (603) 547-3400.

St. Anne's is able, due to past generosity of our parishioners, to offer some assistance in attending summer camp sessions at BCH. If interested, please send your child's name and receipt for payment to Ken Kinser, and we will be able to reimburse half of the cost. This is a wonderful opportunity for our young people!

Welcoming Children in Church

A few years ago, a decision was made to remove a pew from the back of the church to make space for a small table and chairs for children. At that time, we had two services. Mother Jennifer has provided 2 services on the first Sunday of the month throughout the year, but our main service is now at 9am. The pew that was removed will be replaced soon. Our young children and their families are still an important part of our parish, and our Vestry continues to feel that we need to do something special to make them feel welcomed. Some of the Vestry members will be putting together an age-appropriate packet for the ushers to distribute when children are able to attend services while sitting in the pews with their family. We are hopeful that this plan will be successful.

Matthew 19:14: But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

General Updates:

Please continue to keep the Discernment Committee and Mother Jennifer in your prayers as we look to the Lord for his guidance in the process.

Thrift Shop Repairs are ongoing. We have a beautiful new floor in the kitchen area!

We have a new Vacuum for inside clean-up!

We are planning a "Clean Up Day" for the Church grounds sometime in June. All are Welcome!

**Our warmest thanks to all of you for making St. Anne's
a special place to gather and praise the Lord!**



ARTIST:

[Br. Robert Lentz, OFM](#)

ARTWORK NARRATIVE:

According to the ancient tradition of the East, Mary Magdalene was a wealthy woman from whom Christ expelled seven "demons." During the three years of Jesus' ministry, she helped support Him and His other disciples with her money. When almost everyone else fled, she stayed with Him at the cross. On Easter morning she was the first to bear witness to His resurrection. She is called "Equal to the Apostles."

After the Ascension, she journeyed to Rome where she was admitted to Tiberias Caesar's court because of her high social standing. After describing how poorly Pilate had administered justice at Jesus' trial, she told Caesar that Jesus had risen from the dead. To help explain the resurrection, she picked up an egg from the dinner table. Caesar responded that a human being could no more rise from the dead than the egg in her hand turn red. The egg turned red immediately, which is why red eggs have been exchanged at Easter for centuries in the Byzantine East.

Mary did not end her days as a penitent hermit in a French cave. She traveled the Mediterranean preaching the resurrection. Like Peter and Paul, she died a martyr and she bears witness to the important roles women play in the Church. **This icon was commissioned for Grace Cathedral in San Francisco to commemorate the election of Barbara Harris, the first woman bishop in the Anglican communion.** As women begin reclaiming their ancient rights in the Church, Mary Magdalene challenges all Christians to reexamine their cultural prejudices about sex and leadership.

The inscription at the bottom of the icon reads: "Saint Mary Magdalene" in Syriac, a dialect of the language spoken by Jesus. The Gospel comes to us, not from Rome or Greece, but from the deserts of the Middle East. We owe our faith to Semitic Christians like Mary Magdalene. With this debt in mind, we should hear her voice in Palestinian cries for justice in our day.

Her feast day is July 22.

From: <https://www.trinitystores.com/artwork/st-mary-magdalene-1>

Submitted by the Rev'd Richard H. Lewis

Seven Stanzas at Easter

By John Updike

Make no mistake: if He rose at all
it was as His body;
if the cells' dissolution did not reverse, the molecules
reknit, the amino acids rekindle,
the Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
each soft Spring recurrent;
it was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled
eyes of the eleven apostles;
it was as His flesh: ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes,
the same valved heart
that—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then
regathered out of enduring Might
new strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
analogy, sidestepping, transcendence;
making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the
faded credulity of earlier ages:
let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché,
not a stone in a story,
but the vast rock of materiality that in the slow
grinding of time will eclipse for each of us
the wide light of day.

And if we will have an angel at the tomb,
make it a real angel,
weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair,
opaque in the dawn light, robed in real linen
spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
for our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are
embarrassed by the miracle,
and crushed by remonstrance.

For the story of his writing it in his late 20's for a Lutheran church Christmas fair, see the url below. He won the \$100 prize, but gave it back to the church. The reason Christianity survived is that the "Resurrection restarted life as a new creation".

<https://genius.com/4960029>

John Updike (1932-2009)

Submitted by the Rev'd Richard H. Lewis



From the Episcopal Virginia Theological Seminary monthly newsletter

To help Christian communities amplify Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander voices in American and church history during May and throughout the year, we at Building Faith want to share a list of resources. This list includes new and recent books, reading lists, podcasts, documentaries, virtual exhibits, and church resources. Our hope is that this compilation will provide churches with fruitful avenues for attending more deeply to Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander histories and futures.

Books

History and Cultural Criticism Books

[Detours: A Decolonial Guide to Hawai'i](#), edited by Hōkūlani K. Aikau and Vernadette Vicuña Gonzalez (Durham: Duke University Press, 2019)

[Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning](#) by Cathy Park Hong (New York: One World, 2021)

[Opening the Gates to Asia: A Transpacific History of How America Repealed Asian Exclusion](#) by Jane H. Hong (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2019)

[Our Voices, Our Histories: Asian American and Pacific Islander Women](#), edited by Shirley Hune and Gail M. Nomura (New York: NYU Press, 2020)

[Remembering Our Intimacies: Mo'olelo, Aloha 'Āina, and Ea](#) by Jamaica Heolimeleikalani Osorio (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2021)

Histories and Stories in Christianity Books

[Invisible: Theology and the Experience of Asian American Women](#) by Grace Ji-Sun Kim (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2021)

[Our Unforming: De-Westernizing Spiritual Formation](#) by Cindy S. Lee (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2022)

Reading Lists for All Ages and much more

<https://us8.campaign-archive.com/?e=e49c9393c5&u=81191640565cfef85d9ce1249&id=b37730eb4f>

The Good Shepherd parish in Reading MA is having a **Pete Jeffrey Appreciation Sunday** on May 28 at coffee hour to celebrate his retirement. All are welcome to attend!

We're the Episcopal Church!

That means..... We have **Bishops** who care for us through Pastoral Letters of Guidance, regular visits to the parish, and frequent check-ins with parish clergy. Bp Harris visited us on March 7, 2021, during Covid!

Jennifer's Journal May 2023

Spring Lenten Luncheons. Who is St. Elizabeth? Since she is the namesake of our Guild of dedicated women who provide wonderful meals, I wonder who she was. Do you know?

Masjid's hospitality at Iftar again gratefully received. Our local sect of Islam, the Dawoodi Bohra on Rangeway Road, included the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, Kim Driscoll, in their guests to the community meal that celebrates the end of fasting during Ramadan. As a member of Billerica's Interfaith Council, I was honored to attend, along with parishioner Sandra Giroux in her role as a leader with the Community Pantry. Their warm, generous hospitality is extraordinary to me.

Clergy Conference May 1-2 for all the clergy of the Diocese. Usually, around 150 persons gather, this year in Devens, MA, to hear the Rev'd Isaiah Shaneequa Brokenleg, Episcopal Church Staff Officer for Racial Reconciliation, speak on the role of storytelling in racial healing. St. Anne's has already been doing this!

Discernment Process. The Committee (John Geen, Mark Komarinski, Linda Kusnierz, Michele O'Shea) and I have been thinking about joys and hopes we have for our future, as well as evaluating where we are at this moment in the work together of priest and congregation. Speak to any of us with your thoughts or comments. The pages in the Book of Common Prayer that address this are pp. 557-565.

Did you notice ... fewer names on our Parish Prayer List? Our new effort to keep track of the names on the list means we want to know who made the request and when. If your person is not on the list now, can you please send an email to the Office with the name, date, and one-word reason for prayer? That will help us know who to turn to when questions arise. Thank you!

Interested in the work of our Altar Guild? We'll meet Saturdays May 13th & June 10th 10-12.

Worship Wisdom May 2023

In the 7-week season of Easter, we are so filled with joy that we do not say a Confession. All Episcopal services of worship are formed out of chunks. What would you say are the two chunks of our Sunday morning service of Holy Eucharist?

Sacramental News:

Baptism of Alyse, granddaughter of the Michelinis, on June 18th which is Fathers' Day. An excellent day to invite friends to church at 9:00 in the morning!

First Communion for Colin Baldwin on the Feast of Pentecost, May 28th.

We Buried Don Sutton, Sr, and the ashes of Frank Martell. After loss, we each walk our own journeys with grief. May compassion and support be our hallmark of response to others and ourselves. God's gentleness can be our guide.

.CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING.....

St Anne's has been generously supporting the Billerica Community Pantry with targeted drives and we ask you to continue. Over the past few years **St Anne's participated with the other houses of worship from the Billerica Interfaith Community in a Special Distribution in conjunction with the Dawoodi Bohra community's Project Rise.**

On **May 20th** this special distribution will be taking place at the **Masjid at 246 Rangeway Road Billerica, MA. Open to ALL who feel food insecure – no sign up necessary to receive just drive through 10am – Noon. No one is refused or judged – we do not walk in your shoes.**

As earlier stated, St Anne's participates in this distribution with Treasure and Time. This year our contribution will be three (3) items: **individual wrapped Toilet Paper (individual or 4 pack), Soap, and toothbrushes (we are NOT brand specific – these are just examples).** These contributions need to be at St Anne's prior to Sunday May 14th. Last year approximately 200 - 225 vehicles came through this special distribution as you can see the need is great.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please feel free – and we will make purchases in bulk.



If you wish to assist in the actual day of the distribution, please see me for details. The photos below are from last year (2022). Working side by side with other faith communities was a wonderful learning experience and we all gained insight as well as our 10,000 daily steps in a few short hours.



WE do so hope you will continue to support this outreach mission at St Anne's – Helping those who are food insecure. Thank you.

Thrift Shop Updates

Thrift Shop is overflowing with spring and summer clothes. There's also tons of toys. The shop is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 10AM until 2PM.

The St. Anne's Social Group will meet on Saturday, May 1st, at 2:00 PM.

Why Dye Eggs at Easter?

There is an ancient legend about dying eggs for Easter.

Long ago, in Rome Mary Magdalene was having supper with the Roman Emperor and she was telling him the Good News about Jesus. When she began to tell of the Resurrection he balked. "That's not possible ! Dead men stay dead ! Why that's as unlikely to happen as for the egg in your hand to turn red!"

That's exactly what happened – the egg turned red and, to this very day, we dye our hard boiled eggs to remember and celebrate.

Submitted by the Rev'd Richard H. Lewis

Newsletter deadline schedule!

June newsletter submission deadline: May 21, 2023

June newsletter distributed: May 31 2023

July newsletter submission deadline: June 18, 2023

July newsletter distributed: June 28, 2023

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

Fb: Carolisa Moonlightdjz Fb: Carolisa's Classes

ZUMBA MIX @ St Anne's

Tuesdays 6:00p-7:00p

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

LINE DANCE 101 ~ 1 Fun Night!

Monday May 1 ~6:30p-8:00p @ St Annes * \$12 * Advance sign up required

Please sign up by or before 4/24 @moonlightdjz@gmail.com

SPRING FAMILY FUN DANCE.. Dancing, Fun & Games!

Friday April 28 * 6:00-7:30p with Carolisa & Peter

For Kids with adults ~ all welcome! *\$4 pp ages 4+ up * Kids 3 & under – FREE! Further info ~moonlightdjz@gmail.com

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

**Schedule a Workshop @ St Anne's! *Also on zoom ~ join friends from anywhere!*

Thank You

dear St. Anne's

For making our Easter
So **WONDERFUL**

I am grateful to you all!

M. Jennifer



Movie Night

In May, we will be watching the movie **"The Good Lie"**. We will be going back to a Friday evening for this movie. It will be shown on **Friday, May 12 at 6:00pm**. This movie runs for 1 hour and 50 minutes. A discussion will follow.



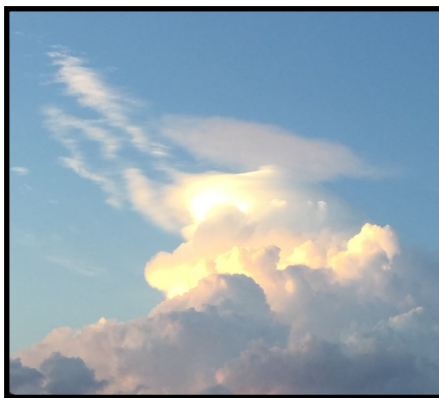
The Resurrection lesson is available for take home now. We looked at the many symbols in that window and talked about how the angels worship the Risen Lord. Our next in-person lesson is Thursday, May 18. We will have classes for the 3-6 year-olds from 3:30-4:30pm and then for the 7-12 year-olds from 4:30-5:30pm. In May, we will be looking at The Holy Spirit. If you have questions, please let Brenda know (bkomarinski@gmail.com).

We will be having our Early/First communion formation class on Saturday, May 27 with the Early/First Communion Sunday being May 28. Please let me know if you are interested in having your child participate. The time for the class on Saturday has not been set yet.

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, Brian Hering, Chris Hering, Chick Meech, Cindy Z., Dale, David Hering, Diane Brown, Don, Donald Fudge, George Lyna, Helen, Janet Lyna, Jean Flight, Janet Strong, José Soreso, 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, Rebecca, Yvonne Hopkins



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*)

Jane Kotelly	4/1	Richard Lewis	5/3	Cyndi Hopkins	6/3
Rosemary Kinser	4/2	Ed & Sandra Giroux	5/5	Jonathan & Carol McKenzie	6/3
Sarah Lewis	4/5	Ken Kinser	5/5	Sarah & Richard Lewis	6/4
Rose Packard Crotty	4/6	Elaine & Matthew Guzzetta	5/7	Jamie Stockton	6/8
Jackson Elder	4/10	Maria Martin	5/9	John Geen	6/26
Ron Desmarais	4/25	Emma Baldwin	5/10	John & Linda Kusnierz	6/29
Doreen Knowles	4/26	Ken MacPherson	5/22		
Elaine Guzzetta	4/30	Ken & Rosemary Marie Figenbaum	5/22		
		Doris Hamner	5/25		
		Lisa Lavoie	5/28		
			5/28		



May 2023 St. Anne's Ministers' Schedule

Date	Ushers	Lector	LEM/Prayers/ Server	Acolyte	Video	Audio
May 7 8 am	George Cousens	Jane Kotelly	Kathy Brewster	None	None	None
May 7 10 am	Dotty Callihan Pat Cregg	Marguerite Massey	Mark Komarinski	Brenda Komarinski	TBD	Ed Giroux
May 14	Russell Bent Linda Kusnierz	Lisa Carpine	Dotty Callihan John Geen	Mike Hopkins	Ron Desmarais	Mark Komarinski
May 21	Ken Kinser Rosemary Kinser	Michele O'Shea	Ron Desmarais	Brenda Komarinski	Eli Baldwin	Mike Hopkins
May 28	Dotty Callihan Patt Cregg	Ken Kinser	Sue Geen	Mike Hopkins	TBD	Ed Giroux



Need Covid Tests?

To help keep everyone safe, please test for Covid-19. If anyone is in need of (free) rapid tests for Covid-19, we have them! Please contact the church office or pick them up at the back of the church.

May

St. Anne's Calendar 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		10 am Bible Study	9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop 6 pm-7:30pm Discernment Committee	10-2 Thrift Shop	1 pm St. Anne's Social Group
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8 am Sunday Service 10 am Sunday Service		10 am Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study on Zoom	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop 4 pm Wardens & Clergy	10-2 Thrift Shop 6 pm Parish Movie Night	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day		10 am Bible Study 7 pm Vestry	9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop 12 pm Billerica Interfaith	10-2 Thrift Shop 3:30 pm Church School 6 pm-7:30pm Discernment Committee	10-2 Thrift Shop	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Social Justice June newsletter deadline		10 am Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study on Zoom	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop 4 pm Wardens & Clergy	10-2 Thrift Shop	8:30 pm Men's Breakfast 9 am Ladies' Breakfast
28	29	30	31			
	Memorial Day					
9 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Social Conscience Book Group		10 am Bible Study	9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop			