ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY

St. Anne's Episcopal Church Newsletter

JUNE 2023



Dear Parish,

We need acolytes! Can you carry the cross up our aisle, and hold it during the reading of the Gospel? Our faithful Brenda and Mike could use some scheduling flexibility, even just once a month. Much appreciated.

Diocesan Bishop Alan Gates announced his retirement by the end of 2024.

- Soon, we shall learn of candidates and elect our new episcopal leader.
- Pray for the Standing Committee who shall carry the responsibility for this process. They are like the Vestry for the whole Diocese.
- I am sad to lose a wise, steady, and listening leader.

As I near the completion of my 3-year commitment as your Priest-in-charge, both the Discernment Committee and I have been meeting with our Consultant Mark Gallagher. In the middle of June, we shall have some conclusions to share with you. I have been astonished by what we have accomplished together when I look back at the beginning of the pandemic and our first decisions about how to open back up for worship. We have come such a very long way together

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:

<u>"St. Anne's Episcopal Church, N. Billerica MA"</u>

(Subscribe and see videos of our services!)

Our services are replayed on BATV

Check out our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StAnnesBillerica

Contact information:

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Continued from previous page...

It seems that this past month has focused on mental health. From our town, and from our diocesan clergy wellness program, how to support each other in positive attitudes toward mental health has been the common topic. Moving out of the isolation we all felt during the pandemic affects different groups and ages in hard ways. Elsewhere in this Newsletter, on our bulletin boards, and in conversations, I hope you will find what you need in order to support your life of challenges. I am very happy to have any conversation with you or one you love. Speak to Rosemary, our co-warden, if you are interested in attending the Mental Health workshop. I recommend it.

Stay well, healthy, and happy, dear St. Anne's, as you move into a summer of rest With faithful joy,



Wisdom for Worship June 2023

- June shifts into the long green season of Pentecost
- Return to a regular Gloria
- We'll move to using Eucharistic Prayer A BCP p. 361 https://www.bcponline.org
- Prayer A is atonement-oriented (at-one-ment with God) and most like Rite I
- Prayers of the People Form VI are responsorial but with silence for your additions
- Return to saying the Confession together at the end of these Prayers
- Continue pattern of switching back and forth between 2 post-communion prayers
- Shall we learn a song in Spanish?

From our Parish Register of Deaths

May 19, 2023 Carol MacKenzie, wife of Jonathan+

Vestry:

Rosemary Kinser Warden Michael Hopkins Warden Linda Kusnierz Treasurer Russell Bent Clerk 2026 Sandra Giroux 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

The Peace Pole

The Peace Pole that was installed in our Memorial Garden in December of last year is an internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of people worldwide. Each side of the pole has the words, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four different languages. If you haven't seen our Peace Pole, I encourage you to look for it the next time you visit our Memorial Garden.



Marketing

Okay, I'm sure your first thoughts are "What does *marketing* have to do with the church?" Don't worry, we aren't planning to sell used prayer books with TV ads yet.

What marketing means for St. Anne's is "How do we let people know who we are and what do we stand for". Last fall, at Billerica's Yankee Doodle Homecoming I had a couple of people from Billerica ask, "where is St. Anne's" and "what kind of church is St. Anne's". We clearly need to make St. Anne's more visible in the community and at the same time, tell people who we are and what our message is. There are things like the Yankee Doodle booth that we're already doing, but we need to do more. The web site is good, as is our involvement with the interfaith group, but there's much more we can do, and we'll be looking for everyone's help to come up with ideas.

In the fall, we plan to start a small group to discuss how we can accomplish these "marketing" objectives. Meanwhile, we need you to begin to think about what you can do to help.



Thank You!

Parish of St. Anne's, thank you for supporting us all, especially Rev. Jonathan, during the passing and funeral of Carol MacKenzie.

Paschal Candle

Submitted by the Rev'd Richard H. Lewis

For three centuries the Church was an underground movement and not a recognized part of the the social order. In the third decade (@ 330 CE) there was a major change and the Empire gave it full recognition. Many of the practices of the culture influenced the Church. One such was the lighting of myriad candles to mark the start of the celebration of the Resurrection. Over time a single, large pillar candle was made part of the Easter tradition. It is called the Paschal Candle.



Paschal is a word from three sources: Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic. Each word has the meaning of "passover." The event is named in the 12th chapter of Exodus. Moses and Aaron are given a set of instructions for getting ready to leave Egypt and how to prepare what became the Seder meal. When the lambs were slaughtered some of the blood was to be smeared on the door posts and the lintels of the Jewish people. When the Avenger came it would see the blood and Passover that dwelling.

At St Anne's the Paschal Candle is placed at the left end of the altar. During the 50 Days of the Easter Season it is lit first and for every service. Usually it is placed at the head of the casket during a funeral and is placed the font at every baptism.

I find it a symbol of the Pillar of Fire and the Pillar of Cloud that accompanied the Hebrew People as they went on their way to the Promised Land, a 40 year progression. Jesus, as our liberator, is the one who leads us out of our bondage to sin and death. He goes before us & leads us into the Kingdom of Light and Life. The Paschal Candle is first lit on Easter Eve and is carried into the church building in procession. The one carrying it stops 3 times and announces (loudly) "The Light of Christ". It is placed in the stand and a hymn, "The Exaultet" is sung or said. Cf. Book of Common Prayer, pp. 285 ff. So, Jesus is our Light and in him we see light. With Him we walk in the Light. In our Baptism We die with Jesus and, in the power of the Spirit, we are raised up into new and eternal life. We become bearers of the Christ Light. We are those thru whom the Light shines, the saints of God.

Song of the Paschal Candle

The Exsultet (see text following) is the song sung by a Deacon at the Easter vigil after the Paschal Candle arrives at the altar. It is the oldest text in our prayer book (except for the Psalter), coming from the fourth century.

Notice its form, because it follows the rule that holy things come in threes (or multiples of three).

Rejoice. Rejoice. Rejoice.

Interruption: Direct address to us the listeners.

Beginning dialogue as in our eucharistic prayers.

This is the night. This is the night. This is the night.

How. How. How.

Closing Prayer to the Father about Christ, the Morning Star.

If one can make the three happen three times, then it is holiest of all.

Our Exsultet is in a nine-fold form; It is a holy song.

— Written by the Rev'd Jennifer D. Beal

The Exsultet

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings or says the Exsultet, as follows (the indicated sections may be omitted)

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Continued on the next page...

The Exsultet (continued from previous page)

The Lord be with you.

Answer And also with you.

Deacon Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Answer It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Deacon

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our

whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

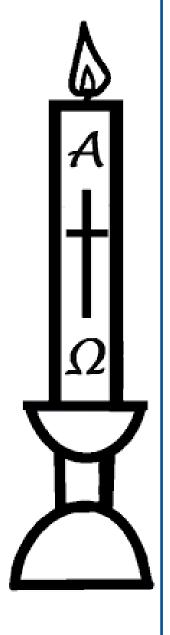
How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and we are reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.

From the Book of Common Prayer

Service for Easter Vigil pp. 286 - 287



A Note on Music...



This month's note on music introduces a new idea...including a hymn story! Following is the hymn story for "He Lives" (Levas 42) that we sang in the 5/14 service!

Peter Morelli

He Lives

1933

He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Matthew 28:6a

hy should I worship a dead Jew?" That question—and a dreadful sermon—inspired this hymn.

Alfred Henry Ackley was born in Pennsylvania in 1887.* He showed great promise as a child, and his musician-father personally tutored him before sending him to New York City to study music. From there, it was on to the Royal Academy of Music in London. Alfred then returned to the States to attend Westminster Seminary in Maryland, and he was ordained into the Presbyterian ministry in 1914. After pastoring a church in his home state of Pennsylvania, Alfred was called to a congregation in California.

It was there in 1932, that Alfred met a Jewish man to whom he began witnessing. But the man resisted the Christian faith, saying, "Why should I worship a dead Jew?"

That statement played on Alfred's mind as he prepared his Easter Sunday message. Rising early to prepare for the day, Alfred flipped on the radio as he shaved and was astonished to hear a famous liberal preacher in New York say: "Good morning—it's Easter! You know, folks, it really doesn't make any difference to me if Christ be risen or not. As far as I am concerned, His body could be as dust in some Palestinian tomb. The main thing is, His truth goes marching on!"

Alfred wanted to fling the radio across the room. "It's a lie!" he exclaimed. His wife rushed into the bathroom, asking, "Why are you shouting so early in the morning?"

"Didn't you hear what that good-for-nothing preacher said?" Alfred replied.

That morning, Ackley preached with great vigor on the reality of Christ's Resurrection, and he did the same at the evening service. But later that night, he was still exercised over his friend's question and the morning's radio sermon. "Listen here, Alfred Ackley," his wife said at last. "It's time you did that which you can do best. Why don't you write a song about it and then maybe you'll feel better?"

Alfred went to his study, opened the Bible, and re-read the Resurrection account from Mark's Gospel. A thrill went through him, and he began writing the words to "He Lives." A few minutes later, he was at the piano putting it to music, not dreaming it would become one of the church's most triumphant Easter hymns.

"He (Jesus) told us that he goes ahead of us to prepare a place for us. Not just this person or that person or that other person. For humanity. Together. In union with God. In union with each other. Right where we belong." *Bishop Jake Owensby*

We're the Episcopal Church!

We're the Episcopal Church! That means..... We follow the **Book of Common Prayer** (BCP) as our unifier, and not a confession of doctrine. In the BCP, we find community and individual services and prayers for all occasions (especially beginning on p. 814. https://www.bcponline.org).

Jennifer's Journal June 2023

"Not Global Warming, but Global Weirding" is the phrase by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe in an easy-to-understand, passionate delivery. She was thoroughly based in scripture, faith, and church life, yet a well-respected scientist. Amazing science, and hope. The Geens passed on to me notice of her talk to The Episcopal Church on zoom. Her book <u>Saving Us</u> cares for all political persuasions. She herself is Canadian and lives in Texas, being married to an evangelical pastor.

The 2023 Clergy Conference focused on storytelling as a way we can talk to others about the meaning we find in church. *Think* of an event. *Tell it* in just a very few sentences. Next tell *its significance* to you. And wrap it up in a *punch line*. There. Now, you have a story to tell at the grocery store, or town event, or anywhere you might run into a past or future parishioner. Like some of you, some clergy were quite resistant to attempting something so challenging. Until it became fun!

Another part of the Clergy Conference asked us to think about our liturgy, our church service. Do we know what cultures various pieces of our service come from? Are we sending messages to newcomers that we are unaware of? What do we want to say?

Looking forward to St. Anne's hosting a diocesan Multicultural event educating neighbors and neighbors of color about normal legal rights of all persons in our country. The content will be provided by our diocesan Office of Multicultural and Immigration Ministries. Think of neighbors you might want to invite! It will be July 22, between 3 and 5pm.

Program for Confirmation and Reception into The Episcopal Church planned for the fall.

Altar Guild Director changes function. THANK YOU, AMY DESMARAIS! Join us while we try a new way of collaborative leadership.

Planning to baptize Alyse Jean Midgette, the granddaughter of Jim & Susan Michelini, on June 18th. Come to church that Sunday, and join with the proud parents, Jess and Jimmy.

Two-service Sundays in 2023 will be June 4, October 1, November 5, and December 3.

Pastoral Care update: Don Fudge was in the hospital and is now at the Bedford VA doing well. Carol MacKenzie was declining slowly, and then, quickly she died. We miss her very much.

It was FANTASTIC to welcome into our communion rail fellowship the young persons: Colin Baldwin, Lily Torres, and Charlotte Torres. May you find nourishment here for the rest of your lives!

Project Rise

To St Anne's Parishioners-You did this! You made this happen!

Thank you to Project Rise - a Dawoodi Bohra Community- initiative and other Billerica interfaith organizations in town for your support; 180 families were supplied with items many of us take for granted.

THANK YOU ALL, for making our community better!









First Communion

Lily and Charlotte Torres May 28th







The **St. Anne's Social Group** will hold its annual cookout meeting on Saturday, June 3, at 3:00pm at Judy Peck's, Billerica, MA. For further information, call 978-667-9241.

When Giving Is All We Have

Alberto Ríos

We give because someone gave to us. We give because nobody gave to us.

We give because giving has changed us. We give because giving could have changed us.

We have been better for it, We have been wounded by it—

Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet, Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too, But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand, Mine to yours, yours to mine.

You gave me blue and I gave you yellow. Together we are simple green. You gave me

What you did not have, and I gave you What I had to give—together, we made

Something greater from the difference.

Newsletter deadline schedule!

July newsletter submission deadline: June 18, 2023

July newsletter distributed: June 28 2023

August newsletter submission deadline: July 16, 2023

August newsletter distributed: July 26, 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 * NO CLASS June 27 & July 4

LINE DANCE 101 ~ 1 Fun Night! Date TBD* or by arrangement!

Want to jump in when everyone hits the dancefloor at the next wedding or party? We'll review the "party" line dances * Learn an Irish & a barn dance * Mix it up with some country and pop * Warm up with easy dance moves * Move, groove to some of the best dance classics & get loose on the dancefloor! * Have fun with friends * Beginners Welcome!

BELLYDANCE 101 * Girls Night * Moms Night * Friends Night * Line Dance Mix

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

FAMILY FUN DANCE.. Dancing, Fun & Games!

Deanery Assembly News

Come to the Deanery Assembly on June 21, 6pm at St. Andrew's Methuen to learn about grant requests from parishes in our deanery, and to see what we all might want to do to support housing for those who need it.

Ordination News

Pray for all who are being ordained to the Diaconate on June 3rd. Pray for their ministries and their mentors.

Pray for: Margaret, Paddy, Lisa, Katherine, Paul, Keith, Eva, Max, Michael, and

Request for Photos

Parish activities and events (recent or historical), a fantastic view of nature, a church you visited,... If you have photos you would like to share in the newsletter, please send them to stannesbillerica@gmail.com. Or send your favorite quote.



Movie Night

In June, we will be watching the movie "Encanto". It will be shown on Friday, June 16 at 6:00pm. This movie runs for 1 hour and 42 minutes. A discussion will follow. We will be taking a break in July and August. See you in June and stayed tuned for the next movie!



The Holy Spirit lesson is available for take home now. We looked at the legend of the flood and God's promise to Noah. This was the last lesson of the year. If you have questions, please let Brenda know (bkomarinski@gmail.com).

We are having our end of the year in-person celebration on Sunday, June 11 at 11am.

Come and have a popsicle with us!



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, Chick Meech, Chris Hering, Dale, Don, Donald Fudge, George Lyna, Janet Lyna, Jean Flight, Janet Strong, José Soreso, Joshua Young, Josy Herring, Kathy Chang, Lee Conley, Linda E., Lucy Ann Young & her daughter Paula, Marie Horgan, Marsha Herring, Mary Lander & her daughter Christine, Norm & MJ Zarella, Paul Hamner, Rebecca, Vicki Mahoney, Yvonne Hopkins

On May 28th Colin Baldwin, Lily Torres and Charlotte Torres received their First Communion.

Carol MacKenzie's funeral was held on May 27th. She will be very much missed.

Fr. Lewis' sister Cindy, passed away in May. Brenda's Uncle David passed away in May.

Lisa Lavoie



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)

Richard Lewis Ed & Sandra Giroux Ken Kinser Elaine & Matthew Guzzetta Maria Martin Emma Baldwin	5/3 5/5 5/5 5/7 5/9 5/10	Sarah & Richard Lewis Jamie Stockton John Geen	6/3 6/4 6/8 6/26 6/29
Ken MacPherson Ken & Rosemary Marie Figenbaum Doris Hamner	5/22 5/22 5/25 5/28		

5/28



Suzanne Geen

Elaine Jones

7/3

7/28

June 2023 St. Anne's Ministers' Schedule

Date	Ushers	Lector	LEM/Prayers/ Server	Acolyte	Video	Audio
June 4 8 am	George Cousens	Jane Kotelly	Kathy Brewster	None	None	None
June 4 10 am	Ken Kinser Rosemary Kinser	Norm Zarella	Mark Komarinski	Brenda Komarinski	Ron Desmarais	Mike Hopkins
June 11	Ken Kinser Rosemary Kinser	Marguerite Massey	Sue Geen	Mike Hopkins	Eli Baldwin	Mark Komarinski
June 18	Dotty Callihan Patt Cregg	John Geen	Kathy Brewster	Brenda Komarinski	Sandra Giroux	Ed Giroux
June <mark>25</mark>	Marguerite Massey Russell Bent	Michele O'Shea	Dotty Callihan John Geen	Brenda Komarinski	Ron Desma <mark>ra</mark> is	Mike Hopkins

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.

June

St. Anne's Calendar 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
M				10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop	9 am Clean up Day
						3 pm
		4				St. Anne's So- cial Group
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8 am	6 pm Discern-	10 am	9:30 am	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	
Sunday Ser-	ment Commit-	Bible Study	Craft Group	Shop	Shop	
vice	tee	11:15am Book	10-2 Thrift	4 pm Wardens		
10 am		of Common	Shop	& Clergy		
Sunday Ser-		Prayer Work-	100			
vice		shop				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9 am		10 am	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	10am Billerica
Sunday Ser-		Bible Study	Shop	Shop	Shop	Interfaith
vice	-	11:15am Book		3:30 pm	6 pm Movie	Juneteenth event
10:30 am		of Common		Church School	Night	eveni
Social		Prayer Work-				
Conscience		shop				
Book Group						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Father's Day		9.5	9.33			
9 am		10 am	9:30 am	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	8:30 pm
Sunday Ser-	7	Bible Study	Craft Group	Shop	Shop	Men's
vice/Baptism		7pm Vestry	10-2 Thrift Shop	4 pm Wardens	6.3	Breakfast
July newsletter				& Clergy		9 am Ladies'
deadline			6 pm Merri- mack Valley Deanery			Breakfast
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9 am		10 am	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	10-2 Thrift	
Sunday Ser-		Bible Study	Shop	Shop	Shop	
vice						
10:30 am						
Social						
Conscience						
Book Group						
10:30 am Social						
Justice						
Justice						