ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY

St. Anne's Episcopal Church Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2023



Dear St. Anne's Family,

Who knew that our Billerica Community Pantry would become the State's leading experts in how to welcome refugees! Sandra and all her helpers have done and continue to offer outstanding kindness and service to 60 persons who fled their homeland of devastation with nothing but their desire to work and live in a stable land.

The phrase about a village being the best model for community is written in very large letters over our town right now. Each person contributing their perhaps small item has worked together to meet so many unexpected needs.

God's people are being loved by God's people in extraordinary ways. And I am so proud to be part of us all.

Thank you, extraordinary Billericans

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Come see us on Saturday, September 23rd at our tent at Yankee Doodle Homecoming. And come to special homecoming church on Sunday the 24th at 9.

With joyful delight,

Mthr Jennifer +

Worship:

9:00 am Sunday in person

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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Wisdom for Worship in September 2023

From M. Jennifer

With return to school and work, and being about halfway through the long green growing season of Pentecost, beginning with the second Sunday in September we will change to Eucharistic Prayer C (p. 369 <u>https://www.bcponline.org</u>) that includes both a vaster sense of creation and a personal sense of communion.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

> Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

I wonder what other changes you might request as we praise God together!



St. Anne's will have a tent at the Billerica Yankee Doodle Homecoming (September 23rd)!

St Anne's purchased reusable bags for outreach.

If you would like, you too can spread the word of St Anne's by carrying one. For a \$5.00 donation we can replenish the outreach fund. Please see Sandra or Ed if interested in purchasing a bag or two.

Vestry: Rosemary Kinser Michael Hopkins Linda Kusnierz Russell Bent	Warden Warden Treasurer Clerk	Mother Jennife Office Hours: Tuesdays Thursdays	2 r's 12-5 pm 2-5 pm	Thrift Shop Hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10 am-2 pm		
Sandra Giroux Brenda Komarinski Maria Martin Marie Figenbaum Lisa Carpine Todd Baldwin	enda Komarinski 2026 aria Martin 2024 arie Figenbaum 2024 sa Carpine 2025	Church Office Hours:Tuesdays12-5 pmThursdays2-5 pm		12-Step Meetings: Wednesdays (AA) 7:30 pm Thursdays (NA) 7 pm		

Wardens' Message: Rosemary and Mike

September is usually a beautiful time of year. We continue with warm days, but cooler evenings. Hopefully, we can shut off the air conditioners and open the windows to get the fresh air that we all enjoy. The leaves begin to change color as we prepare for the transition into a new season. The children are back in school making new friends and having new opportunities for growth and development. For



us, at St. Anne's, we are transitioning from a Priest-in-Charge to a Rector – a new and exciting beginning. It is also the time of year that our church groups get back together, and we are always looking for new members to join. Those of us who are part of a group might think about inviting someone new to join. It is an exciting time for updating our church calendar and planning events for the coming months.

Dates to Remember:

- ♦ August 31st Calendar planning meeting at 6pm
- September 19th Vestry Meeting at 7pm
- September 23rd Yankee Doodle Celebration in Billerica
- TBD, a Saturday in September- Fall Outdoor Cleaning of St. Anne's

Groups to consider - Led by the following people

- Bible Study (John & Sue Geen or Mike Hopkins)
- Children's Church School Brenda Komarinski
- Social Conscious Book Club Marguerite Massey
- Film Crew Mark Komarinski, Sandra Giroux
- Acolytes Mother Jennifer
- Altar Guild -Mother Jennifer
- ♦ Coffee Hour Hosts Sue & John Geen
- Ushers Linda Kusnierz
- Crafts Marie Figenbaum
- Social Group John & Sue Geen

During the month of August, Billerica welcomed 15 Haitian Families to our community. As always, members of St Anne's, through the coordination of Sandra Giroux, worked with the Billerica Interfaith Association to help these guests adjust to their new transition. **Warmest Thanks to All!**

Ecclesiastes 3:1 To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.

Jennifer's Journal September 2023

*We're the Episcopal Church! That means..... To be an Episcopalian, you only have to ... use the **Book of Common Prayer**!

No promises to conform to a Creed or Confession (Presbyterian and others).

No promises of allegiance to a Pope (Roman Catholic) – our Archbishop of Canterbury (UK) only recommends guidance, he has no authority to demand it.

No superiority of our own congregation's rules (Congregational).

Whether in North Carolina or Maine (where have *you* visited this summer?!), the form of worship will seem familiar as we all use the same Prayer Book. We even use the same cycle of scripture readings (= lectionary cycle).

*Discoveries during my vacation travel:

1. Oberlin Village in Raleigh, NC began in 1858 when a plantation owner sold 16 acres to a Free Black man named Jesse Pettiford for \$160. From that single action, a whole village and support community grew up and thrived. The first Black Lender named the Village after his College that also I attended! John Frederic Oberlin lived and died in France (1740-1826), but he taught and pastored in such a holistic way that I understand why both places took his name. I never knew any of this history that fascinates as it connects me back and forward and to others.

2. Different livestreaming set-up at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brunswick ME. Their leader loved showing off to me what their system can do, and I resisted responding with what more our system can do..... I am so proud of our Filming Team!

*News about our Diocesan Search for our next Diocesan Bishop (The most senior kind of Bishop. A Suffragan Bishop and an Assistant Bishop both serve the Diocesan Bishop.)

The timeline includes May 18, 2024, as the election date and Oct. 19, 2024, as the date for the ordination and consecration of the new bishop. The timeline is posted on the diocesan website at <u>www.diomass.org/bishop-search/timeline</u>, where it will be updated as necessary.

*Diocesan Convention, in Danvers on October 27-28, 2023 asks for your feedback.

Open comment period for proposed Resolutions: Sept. 8-13

Discussion of proposed Resolutions, on Zoom: Tuesday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Viewing nights for pre-recorded video reports, on Zoom: *Monday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.* (attend one, or watch on your own, on demand, prior to Pre-Convention Forums)

*Pray for our new Haitian neighbors. Pray for their basic needs to be met. Pray for their work permits and to find jobs. Pray for their children. Pray for their spiritual lives. Pray for us, that we might know how to minister to them. Will you share your thoughts and ideas, please?! What do you know or love about Haiti?

2010 earthquake

Holy Trinity Cathedral was heavily damaged in the 2010 Haiti earthquake, and later razed. The cathedral's <u>organ</u>, which was believed to be one of the largest in the <u>Caribbean</u> region, was smashed by collapsing debris in the earthquake. The Holy Trinity complex, which housed <u>trade schools</u>, <u>primary schools</u> and music academies collapsed in the catastrophe.

From Wikipedia Thank you.

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A Note on Music...



1 Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son; thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

4. Beautiful Savior! ...

A Note on Music...

Following is the hymn story for "Fairest Lord Jesus" (H383) that we sang in the 8/6 service!

-Peter Morelli

Fairest Lord Jesus

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given . . . And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

his hymn came from Roman Catholic Jesuits in Germany and originally had six verses. It first appeared in 1677 in a Jesuit hymnbook titled *Münster Gesangbuch*, but the text of the hymn was in existence at least fifteen years earlier, for it has been found in a manuscript dating back to 1662. Yet the origin of the words remains a mystery.

Who translated it into English? That, too, is largely a mystery. The first three stanzas are the work of an anonymous translator. The fourth stanza was by Joseph A. Seiss, and it first appeared in a Lutheran Sunday School book in 1873.

How appropriate that no human author draws attention from the great theme of this song. There's no source to distract from the subject, no story to detract from the Savior.

This hymn emphasizes the beauty and wonder of Christ, and it alludes to His dual nature, that He was both human and divine, God made flesh, the God-Man: O Thou of God and man the Son Son of God and Son of Man

It brings to mind one of the greatest observations ever made about Christ, uttered by the "Golden-mouthed" preacher of Antioch, John Chrysostom, in a fourth-century sermon: "I do not think of Christ as God alone, or man alone, but both together. For I know He was hungry, and I know that with five loaves He fed five thousand. I know He was thirsty, and I know that He turned the water into wine. I know He was carried in a ship, and I know that He walked on the sea. I know that He died, and I know that He raised the dead. I know that He was set before Pilate, and I know that He sits with the Father on His throne. I know that He was worshiped by angels, and I know that He was stoned by the Jews. And truly some of these I ascribe to the human, and others to the divine nature. For by reason of this He is said to have been both God and man."

> Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forever more be Thine.



Our theme for the coming year is People of the Bible with the Sacraments of the church. The schedule is below. If you have questions, please let Brenda know (<u>bkomarinski@gmail.com</u>). I look forward to seeing you!

Date	Person/Sacrament (or topic)
September 21, 2023 Thursday	Jesus/Holy Eucharist
October 19, 2023 Thursday	John the Baptist/Baptism
November 16,2023 Thursday	King Josiah/Confirmation
December 21, 2023 Thursday	Eli and Samuel/Ordination
January 18, 2024 Thursday	Esther/Holy Matrimony
February 15, 2024 Thursday	Jonah/Reconciliation of a penitent
March 21, 2024 Thursday	Naaman and Elisha/Unction
March 30, 2024 Saturday	Children's Easter Service on Holy Satur- day
April 18, 2024 Thursday	Jacob/Hope
May 4, 2024 Saturday	Early/First Communion formation for children
May 5, 2024 Sunday	Early/First Communion Sunday
May 16, 2024 Thursday	Dorcas/Gifts of the Holy Spirit



The New Normal submitted by Ed Giroux

As I read last month's newsletter, I came across the final bullet item in Mother Jennifer's "Wisdom for Worship" section. Among the items included in her write-up was a bullet that said that Covid restrictions have been permanently relaxed. Reading that line made me think back to the beginning of Covid restrictions.

It was on or about March 10, 2020 when Governor Baker declared a state of emergency. On Friday, March 13 schools began to shut down. As I recall, these shutdowns were to last for about 2 weeks. At this time at St. Anne's, we were without a Rector as Rev. Lauren had resigned and as one of the Wardens, I was trying to arrange for supply priests without burdening Rev. Jonathan MacKenzie too much.

As I recall, we shut down and cancelled services for one Sunday. It was Sunday March 15th, 2020. During the week between the 15th and 22nd, Mark and Brenda Komarinski, Peter, Maria, Sandra and I began brainstorming, trying to figure out how to take advantage of technology and bring a Sunday service to everyone who was now required to stay home. But remember, we were without a permanent Priest. And how could we conduct a Sunday service without a Priest? I suppose we could have done morning prayer, but none of us are preachers.

If you're still reading this, you may ask yourself why is he re-hashing all this? Well during that first week of the shut down, I placed a call to Rev. Jonathan to ask if he'd be willing to conduct Sunday services and preach to an empty St. Anne's. He enthusiastically said yes!! And because of that phone call and Rev. Jonathan's willingness to help us, St. Anne's missed only one service during the "**two-week**" shut down that literally lasted for months. Thanks to the technical knowledge of Mark, the willingness of Rev. Jonathan to conduct the service in an otherwise empty church and for Peter to play music in the same empty church, who knows where we'd be today??

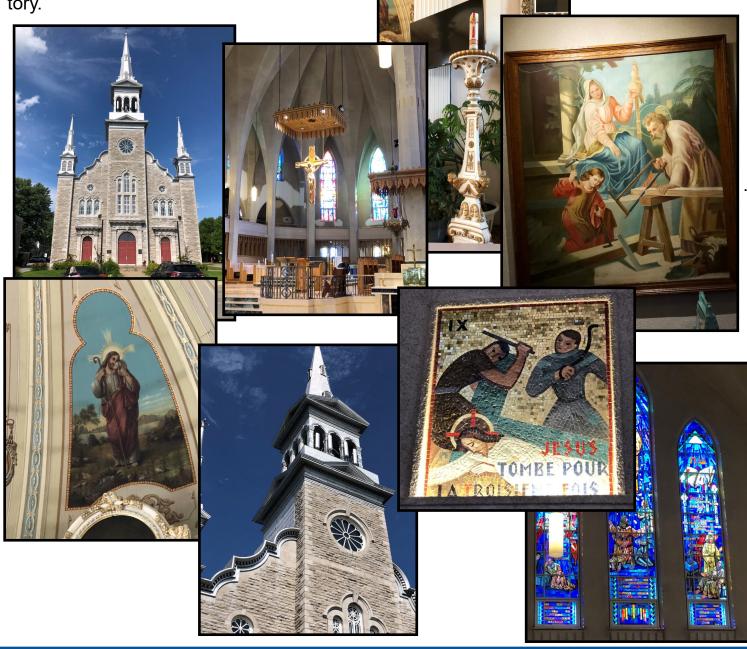
Although St. Anne's was technically closed and complying with what ended up being a shut down for more than a year, only one Sunday went without a proper worship service. We continue today to live stream most services offered at St. Anne's. This is our new normal. And it's all because of the technical ability of Mark, the musical ability of Peter and Maria. But in large part we owe a debt of gratitude to Rev. Jonathan for his willingness and enthusiasm to come and conduct Sunday services in front of an empty church! In my opinion, this spirit of giving helped to ensure that St. Anne's not only survived but continues to thrive!

Thank you for helping to ensure that St. Anne's thrives.

Open invitation to an *Altar Guild meeting with M. Jennifer on Saturday September* **16** at 10:00am for anyone who might be curious about setting up for Baptisms and Funerals.

From the Administrator...

While visiting some relatives this summer, my wife and I were in areas that were important to her family history. My wife's ancestors, including two grandparents, came from Quebec province. We have been to Canada numerous times and have always enjoyed it. As with many people, her family history includes events that happened at churches. On this trip we were fortunate to hear a service in French at the Cathedral in Sherbrooke where her grandfather was baptized, although he was probably baptized in the Cathedral basement since that is all that was completed at that time. We also enjoyed the art work and crafts-manship displayed in stone, mosaics, paintings, glass and wood. The pictures are from some of the Quebec province churches we visited that are related to my wife's family history.



St. Anne's Social Group

The St. Anne's Social Group will meet on Saturday, October 7 at St. Anne's Church at 1:00 P.M. with a Potluck Luncheon. St. Anne's adult Parishioners are welcome to participate.



Diocese Standing Committee announces bishop search Nominating Committee members



Nominating Committee members are:

- Michael Bent, St. Peter's Church, Beverly
- The Rev. Christopher Fike, St. Elizabeth's Church, Wilmington
- Kim Garrison, Grace Church, Vineyard Haven
- Claudette Hunt, St. Andrew's Church, Ayer
- Olivia Jaynes, St. Paul's Church, Natick
- The Rev. Sarah Mato, Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Hingham
- The Rev. Joseph Mumita, St. Thomas's Church, Taunton
- The Rev. Derrick Muwina, St. Peter's Church Cambridge
- The Rev. Nick Myers, Parish of the Epiphany, Winchester
- The Rev. Ema Rosero-Nordalm, Allston-Brighton
- David Sullivan, Emmanuel Church, Wakefield
- Clark Warner, St. Bartholomew's Church, Cambridge

The Nominating Committee co-chairs, announced in July, are the Rev. Diane Wong of St. John's Church in Arlington, Linda Ouellette of St. Michael's Church in Holliston and William Boyce of Grace Church in New Bedford.



IN CHRIST, CALLED TO COLLABORATE

238th Annual Convention Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts Oct. 27-28, 2023

In Christ, Called to Collaborate

Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. Ephesians 4:15-16

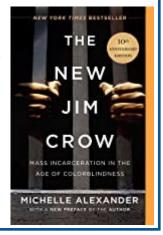


Movie Night

We will be watching the movie "Encanto". It will be shown on Friday, September 15 at 6:00pm. This movie runs for 1 hour and 42 minutes. A discussion will follow.

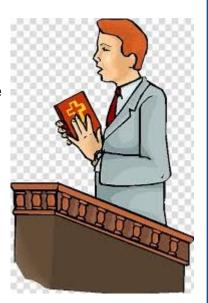
Social Conscience Book Group

The Social Conscience Book Club will be reading The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander in September. Get your copy now so you can join in our discussion.



Mother Jennifer received the following invitation by email from our Regional Canon, Martha Hubbard. I'm excited to receive your support for how we preach to one another. If you are inspired to join, speak or email to me or our wardens, or our church office.

We invite you to participate in a 16-week program to increase engagement of your congregation in how the Good News is shared in your worshipping community. This new program, called **The Preaching Congregation**, is being developed by the Episcopal Preaching Foundation and is funded by a grant from the **Lilly Endowment**. We see it as a creative, effective way to include the laity in the sermon preparation process and we are eager to have a select group of congregations from our diocese participate.



For this program, participating preachers, lay and ordained, will



identify a small group of congregation members who will work with the preacher on a weekly basis to engage in exegesis discussions and to provide caring, supportive sermon feedback. To make these discussions truly helpful, the small group will first participate in a six-week training program that will give them the tools they need to do this work. The Episcopal Preaching Foundation is developing the curriculum for this training, which is being de-

signed by recognized experts in their fields. After the six weeks of training, there will be ten weeks of application, in which this lay "Lectionary Team" will meet with the preacher to discuss the prior week's sermon and to discuss the lectionary readings for the coming week. Before, during, and after this 16-week session, there will be interviews and surveys to document the impact of this new program on your congregation.

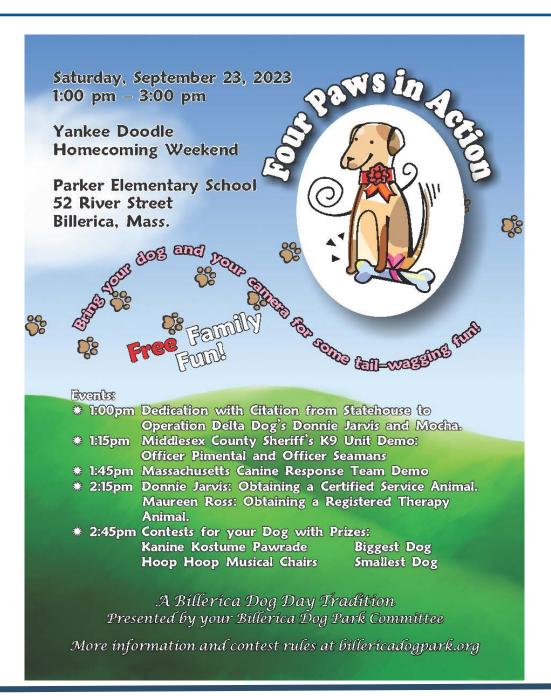
I wish you rest today. I wish you a deep knowing that exhaustion is not a normal way of living. You are enough. You can rest. You must resist anything that doesn't center your divinity as a human being. You are worthy of care.

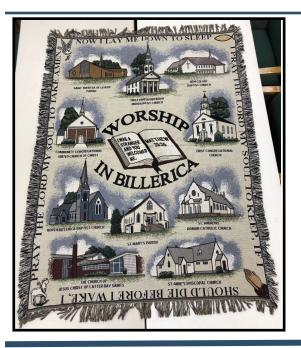
Tricia Hersey from "Rest is Resistance: A Manifesto"

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

We will resume 10am on Tuesday 19 th September at the church. The new study books "Sermon on the Mount" have arrived and are \$7 each. Anyone interested in good fellowship while studying the Lord's word is welcome to join us.

In the months of September and October, **St Annes is collecting donations for the purchase of winter clothing for the families living at the Homewood Suites** in in Billerica. Donations can be made by check (made out to St. Anne's) or gift card (ideally Target, Amazon, Carters, Kohls), and can be dropped off at the office. You can also submit donations to Sandra Giroux or Michele O'Shea. Feel free to contact Sandra or Michele if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.





If you are interested, St Anne's found **interfaith blankets** you see in the Nichols Room. If you would like to own one please see Sandra or Ed. We currently have them on consignment from another church. The price is \$25.00 each....

Newsletter deadline schedule!

October newsletter submission deadline: September 17, 2023

October newsletter distributed: September 27, 2023

November newsletter submission deadline: October 15, 2023

November newsletter distributed: October 25 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 Look for us at Four Paws -Saturday September 23 HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN DANCE Friday October 20 -6:00-7:30p Space limited * Please sign up by 10/13 ZUMBA MIX @ St Anne's Tuesdays 6:30p-7:30p Try it -\$10 Advance sign up required @moonlightdjz@gmail.com * (no class 9/5; 6:00p start on 9/19) LINE DANCE MIX - 1 Fun Night! Date TBD or by arrangement! Look for us at the Farmers Market -Date TBD **Bellydance -Beginners at the Billerica COA!** THURSDAYS @ 12:30p .. \$5 at the door! Sign up required @978-671-0916 *non-residents welcome! No class 9/7 9/21 Class will take place at St Anne's; sign up with Carolisa

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, Mary Lander & her daughter Christine, Norm & MJ Zarella, Paul Hamner, Rebecca, Yvonne Hopkins

Pastoral Care Prayers for the death of the Rev'd Jonathan MacKenzie and his grieving family.



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)

Jennifer+ Beal	8/1	Maureen Thibeault	9/7	Amy Desmarais	10/2
Neil Hopkins	8/2	Jose Torres & Doris	9/8	Maria Dalduria	10/2
Dotty Callihan	8/3			Maria Baldwin	10/3
Peter Morelli	8/5	Brenda Komarinski	9/10	Eli Baldwin	10/4
Mark & Brenda Komarinski	8/5	Michele O'Shea	9/11	Lucy Ann Young	10/5
Lisa & David Carpine	8/8	Judy Peck	9/20	Yvonne Hopkins	10/6
Lisa Higgins	8/8	Cindy Fawcett	9/24	Trovia Formar	10/7
Mark Komarinski	8/15	Pete Jeffrey	9/27	Travis Farmer	10/7
Robert Stockton	8/19	Nancy Packard	9/30	Julian Cole (Beal)	10/19
Jane Clark	8/19		-	Easton Elder	10/26
Ed Giroux	8/23			Olivia Mannetta	10/27
Camryn Stockton	8/24		•		
Mark Figenbaum	8/31			***	

September 2023 St. Anne's Ministers' Schedule

Date	Ushers	Lector	LEM/Prayers/ Server	Acolyte	Video	Audio
September 3	Dotty Callihan Patt Cregg	Marguerite Massey	Mark Komarinski	John Geen	Sandra Giroux	Ed Giroux
September 10	Russell Bent Linda Kusznierz	Jane Kotelly	Kathy Brewster	Mike Hopkins	Ron Desmarais	Mark Komarinski
September 17	Ken Kinser Rosemary Kinser	Russell Bent	Marguerite Massey	Brenda Komarinski	Eli Baldwin	Ed Giroux
September 24	Dotty Callihan Patt Cregg	Michele O'Shea	Sue Geen	Mike Hopkins	No filming	No filming

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.

* The "Christ knocking at the door" stained glass window at St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA. The stained glass window on the calendar page, depicting scenes from the New Testament, at the Saint-Michel Basilica-Cathedral, in Sherbrook, Quebec.

		SEPTEMBER St. Anne's Calendar 2023					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
					10-2 Thrift Shop	3 pm	
						St. Anne's So-	
						cial Group	
						2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
9 am Sunday Service		10 am Bible Study	9:30 am Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Jain		10 am Bible	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop		
Sunday Service 10:30 am		Study 7 pm Bible		4 pm Wardens & Clergy	12pm Billerica Interfaith		
Soc <mark>ial Con-</mark> science Book Group		Study (zoom)					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
9 am		10 am Bible	9:30 am	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop	8:30 pm Men's	
Sunday Service 10:30 am Social		Study	Craft Group 10-2 Thrift Shop	3:30 pm Church		Breakfast 9 am Ladies'	
Justice		7 pm Vestry	7 pm Deanery	School		Breakfast	
October newslet- ter deadline							
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
9 am 🐒 suppose		10 am Bible	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop	10-2 Thrift Shop		
		Study 7 pm Bible Study (zoom)		4 pm Wardens & Clergy			