

St. John's Episcopal Church

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

September 2021

From the Rector

Training the Laity and Clergy for Mission: The Role of Every Christian

Not long ago I ran across a friend who at the end of a long conversation told me about an experience that she described as changing her life. My friend is a member of a parish in Massachusetts, a business woman, and described herself at the time as an "average churchgoer." She told me about how, as she was leaving a hospital where she had been visiting her mother, she met a man whom she had known casually from the parish they both attended. The man had just left the room where his wife had died after a sudden heart attack. The man was grief-stricken and distraught and was clearly crying out for help. My friend sat down with the man and listened as the man poured out his pain. As he gradually began to collect himself, he said to my friend, "I need my church" and my friend, almost without thinking responded, "I AM your Church," and the man reached out and took my friend's hand.

As my friend recounted the story to me, and as I recall her words, she shared what was for her a critical moment. "When he said to me, I need my church, I discovered something about myself that I had never understood before. The words came tumbling out and I knew that I was for this man at this moment the presence of Jesus Christ. I was the church there in that hospital five miles away from where I worship on Sunday." Then she went on to say that although she has heard a lot about the ministry of the laity preached about in her parish, it never took root until that moment when she suddenly understood in a new way who she was and, in some indescribable way, what her life was about.

In theological terms, what my friend was describing was a particular moment in her life when she laid claim to her baptism. No doubt the Spirit had been working at this for some time, in bits and pieces, until that moment when it all seemed to come together. Holy Baptism in the Christian Church is that sacramental action by which we are incorporated into the Body of Christ and given the gift of ministry, the gift that for most of us is claimed later as we mature and our life unfolds.



The Rev. Canon Ronald N. Pollock

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Newsletter Editors

Fr. Ron Pollock

Neva Rae Fox

Lillie Hardingham

This claiming of our baptismal ministry is what I believe the service of Confirmation is about and I look forward to when I see people claim their faith in a new way like never before. The authority for ministry given to us in Baptism is an intrinsic authority that comes from within. I speak and act in the name of Jesus Christ because through baptism the Risen Christ dwells in me and I in Him. This is where the authority for ministry comes from. What the Church does is “confirm” what has already been given, helping us to use our gifts in ways that are authentic, appropriate and helpful to others.

This is what it means to be the Body of Christ gathered to share in Jesus’ priestly intercession on behalf of the world, a people gathered each with a place and each with a part. The point is important. The claiming of our baptismal ministry has to do with place and presence. To live in Christ means to own our place in the gathered community and understand what it means to be an instrument of the presence of Jesus Christ in the Church scattered, wherever this happens to be. Ministry is experienced when this sense of place and presence come together. The way we act and what we say is for us the expression of our life in Christ.

The Church Gathered And Scattered

I don’t know when I first heard the words “gathered and scattered” to describe the Christian Church in the world, but I have always found what these words represent to be extremely helpful. What lies behind these words is the image of a dynamic community of people who gather for worship where they are reconnected with the Risen Christ and called to share in His priestly intercession on behalf of the world. Then they scatter into all the nooks and crannies of the world as signs and instruments of Jesus’ healing presence to others.

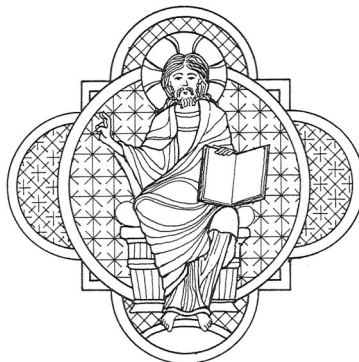
This, of course, is what life in Christ is about. It is a rhythm of gathering and scattering, of drawing in and reaching out. At the conclusion of our worship when the dismissal is pronounced, “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,” with the response, “Thanks be to God,” there is a sense of immense energy, explosive energy if you will, about to be released again into those communities where the congregation came from.

The renewal of the Church is not primarily a matter of management but of emersion, a change of heart that opens us in trust to the movement of the Spirit in human life. The disciples did not go out into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ as a result of a committee meeting assignment. They burst out upon the world because they had a story to tell and an experience to share. And what they were then, we are now, men and women and children with a story to tell and an experience to share, women and men and children baptized into Christ, gathered and scattered and marked as Christ’s own forever. This is what mission is all about.

See you in Church this Sunday, either in-person or on-line!

Faithfully,

Fr. Ron



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is my pleasure and high delight to officially announce the appointment of Mark Trautman as our new permanent half-time Organist & Choirmaster, as well as our new permanent half-time Administrative Assistant.

As you know, the ongoing pandemic has had a significant impact on the work and ministries of St. John's. To better adapt and meet these challenges now and in the future, I, along with the concurrence of the wardens and vestry, have decided the best route would be to restructure our operations. This, in turn, has resulted in acquiring Mark to serve in a dual capacity.

Mark possesses exceptional talent and rare experience as a builder and sustainer of the Anglican choral program that brings together children, adults, professional singers, and volunteers and upholds the highest musical standards, within the context of the Episcopal Church worship. He has earned a reputation as being one of the finest musicians working in the northeast today.

His commitment to and expertise in training choristers will be of vital importance as we work to build up and expand an integrated, multi-generational music program at St. John's, where children and adults are valued, and where music-making is undertaken for the glory of God.

Mark's appointment comes after a search process that attracted interest from several candidates in the surrounding area. He will be building on the good work accomplished by our former organist Jefferey Clearman, for whom we are most grateful. I am thankful for the work of the steering committee: Deacon McCoy, Bob Fox, Marielena Cardinale, Bobbi Agins, Liz Lande, Paul Aikens, Tracey Jameson and Dee Britt.

The Psalmist regularly calls on the people of God to sing God's praises, which has been the delight of this parish to do for more years than we can count. Mark's gifts will help us all sing God's praises with beauty, power, sensitivity, and to enter more deeply into the mystery of God's love. I know you will look forward to welcoming Mark to our beloved St. John's!

Mark also brings expertise and experience as an administrative assistant. He will perform a myriad of tasks such as mailings, bulletins, newsletters, filing, tracking weekly financial contributions and so much more. The discernment and selection process that led us to hiring Mark has been met with lots of prayer, pastoral care and abundant faith in Jesus! We are so blessed in having Mark join our church staff and parish community and look forward to working with him for years to come. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Mark!

Mark takes up his post on September 1, in time for our new program year. More information about Mark follows.

Faithfully,
Fr. Ron



Mark Allen Trautman has served as Director of Music at St. Paul's Church in Englewood since September 2010, and founded the St. Paul's Choir School, an award-winning, community-based youth choir educational program in September 2012. A professional church musician since his teens, he has a broad range of experience building and strengthening music programs and developing congregational song. He is an award-winning organist, and has performed throughout the United States, England, and Germany. He has been described as a "clear and communicative conductor" by Classical New Jersey and he has

conducted at the State Theatre and George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, NJ Performing Arts Center in Newark, and the Round Lake Auditorium in New York. He has also been a featured organist on CNN and New Jersey Public Television.

Mark Trautman earned bachelor's and master's degrees in organ performance and church music with honors and distinction from Towson University in Baltimore and Westminster Choir College in Princeton and studied at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig, Germany. He studied piano with Michael Phelps at St. Mary's College of Maryland, organ with Thomas Spacht and Eugene Roan, and orchestral conducting with Scott Whitener. Prior to his appointment at St. Paul's, he served Christ Church in New Brunswick for 17 years, and is responsible for commissioning their unique Richards, Fowkes & Company mechanical action pipe organ and developing a full-time, multi-generational choral program, and an award-winning concert series. He currently serves on the music faculty of the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. He has also served as Missioner for Music and the Arts of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark.

He is in demand as a teacher, conductor, consultant, and guest lecturer, and has served as an adjudicator for events sponsored by the American Choral Director's Association, the American Guild of Organists, and the New Jersey Folk Festival.



CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION INTO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Confirming our faith and receiving the sacred seal showing that we belong to God

We are thrilled to have The Right Reverend J. Neil Alexander, D. D., Bishop Retired from the Diocese of Atlanta, and former Dean of the School of Theology at Sewanee, University of the South on Sunday, September 12, at 10:15 am.

Confirmation (“strengthening”) completes the initiation (entry) of Baptism, with prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit who is poured out upon us, to fortify our faith and deepen our Christian commitment. The gift and grace of the Spirit swelling within us moves us from being simply disciples, followers, of Christ, to being also Apostles of Christ, proclaiming His Good News and making it happen by sharing in His work.

In this way Confirmation is a sacrament of ongoing conversion, and a sacrament of mature and adult faith.

On and off throughout the pandemic, both young people and adults have been preparing for Confirmation and/or preparing to be received into the Episcopal Church. The community here at St. John’s can be quite proud of these people who are ready to be confirmed and/or received.

Why Be Confirmed ?

Confirmation empowers and celebrates our adult faith. It strengthens our growth in Christ.

Confirmed Christians are enabled to take a more full and active part in the life of the Church.

It helps us deal more appropriately with the moral challenges we face in daily life.

Our faith journey is toward God. “Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice” (Psalm 105:3).

Perhaps St. Augustine said it best: “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you” (Confessions, 1,1).

They may and should take part and minister at weekly Sunday worship in whatever role the Holy Spirit calls them to and their talents suit them for. They can and ought to take an active part in the life of their parish and their community, again according to their talents and gifts: The outpouring of the Holy Spirit is the source and strength of their Christian life and vocation, in family or single life, in service and profession, in citizenship and civic responsibility, in social and in cultural life.

The community of faith has an important role to play.

During the Liturgy the Bishop will ask: “Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ ?” (BCP, page 416) Then all are invited to renew their own baptismal vows in the proclamation of the Baptismal Covenant. (page 416-417)

Please do everything in your power to continue to support and nurture our young people and adults as well who will be received into the Episcopal Church. Pray for them. Go out of your way to congratulate them. Find ways to invite and incorporate them into the life of the Church.

I look forward to standing alongside all of those who will be Confirmed and/or Received on Sunday, September 12 at 10:15 am.

Faithfully,

Father Ron

Dear St. John's Community,

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another", (John 13:34-35).

The St. John's Task Force on Reopening has met regularly throughout the pandemic. We have constantly reviewed the information from the state and the diocese about public meeting spaces and their use, and will continue to do so. As fall approaches and a new program year is upon us, we are making plans while recognizing that there is an upswing in COVID cases.

As of August 18, the State of NJ average rate of infection is 19.5%. **If** and when the daily infection rate rises as high as 25% in our surrounding areas, we will continue to follow the Diocesan Task Force for Re-opening recommendations for our in-person worship. Online worship opportunities will continue.

The Task Force is sharing the following with you:

We continue to comply with the Diocesan guidelines, as well as CDC standards and practices.

Masks will continue to be required in all inside areas of St John's – the church, the parish hall, the Guild Room, etc. No exceptions.

Contact Tracing will be continued.

All meetings and gatherings, including Vestry, Stewardship, Finance, Property, and Sunday School, will be held virtually until further notice.

Requests for meetings and gatherings to be held outside in the St. Francis Garden must be reviewed and approved by Fr. Ron and/or the Task Force.

Any gatherings requiring people to enter the building, including the Meals-To-Go and Clothes Closet, must present a plan to Fr. Ron and/or the Task Force before proceeding. Masks will be required.

Any adjustments or modifications to a previously approved plan must be approved by Fr. Ron and/or the Task Force before being implemented.

Concerning upcoming events:

The Drive-by Good-bye for Lillie Hardingham will be held on Saturday, August 28 from 3 pm to 5 pm in the parking lot. Please enter by High St. driveway, and exit by the Doughty Ave. driveway. We'll be helping to direct traffic during your visit.

Beginning Saturday, September 4, Meals To Go will move to 9 am to 10 am on Saturdays.

Bishop Neil Alexander will join us on Sunday, September 12 for confirmations. Contact Fr. Ron and/or the Parish Office if you plan to invite family or friends to the event. Reservations may be required; a decision will be announced closer to the event.

St. John's will return to two services on Sunday, September 12: 8 am and 10:15 am. Masks will be required and social distancing will be maintained.

ECW will meet in the St. Francis Garden at 7 pm on Monday, September 13. In the event of rain, the meeting will be held virtually.

Welcoming Sunday is September 19 and will be held in the St. Francis Garden. Groups are invited to distribute information in the St. Francis Garden; there will be no formal displays. Contact the Task Force for more info.

Registration for Sunday School is September 19; forms will be available online, during Welcoming Sunday, and in the September Newsletter. Sunday School will be held virtually, starting the following week, and until further notice.

These policies will be reviewed in September as we look at COVID numbers in our area.

Thank you for your understanding in these challenging times, but we continue to uphold our primary commitment, which is to love one another even while holding up safety protocols.

St. John's Task Force

St. John's Clothes Closet Opened two days in September: September 4 and 18; Masks, Social Distancing Required

You have two opportunities to check out the popular Clothes Closet at St. John's Episcopal Church on Saturday, September 4 and Saturday, September 18.

Both days, all items will be half-off. Complimentary canvas tote bags will be given to all shoppers.

The Clothes Closet features reasonably priced seasonal men's, women's, and children's clothes, shoes, and accessories (jewelry, ties, scarves, belts, handbags, gloves, and hats).

Masks are mandatory, and social distancing is required. Cash only.

The Clothes Closet will be open from 9 am to noon. The Clothes Closet is located in the lower level of the parish hall at St. John's, 158 West High Street in Somerville.

Free parking is available in the church lot behind the church or on the street. Enter the Clothes Closet by way of the parking lot. Kindly follow the directions of the Clothes Closet crew upon arrival.

For more information contact 908-722-1250. www.StJohnSomerville.org

The Clothes Closet is open on the first Saturday of every month from 9 am to noon.

Words of Welcome

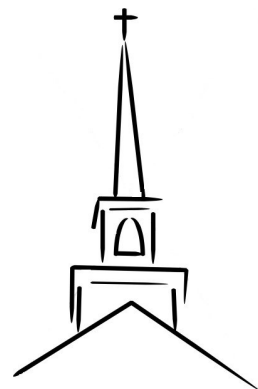
“I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” “Lord, when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?” “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
(Matthew 25: 35b-40)

As September is now upon us all, individuals and families seek a new church to call “home.” We encourage ALL members of St. John’s to help make this fall one of the most *welcoming* ever!!

Here are a few suggestions:

- ✚ Bring a friend to church and plan to attend coffee hour together.
- ✚ Tell friends and neighbors with children about our Church School, Junior Choir, Acolytes and Youth Group programs.
- ✚ Share the brochure “Children in Worship,” located in the narthex of the church, with newcomers who have children.
- ✚ When you see a new face in church, ask them, “How long have you been coming to St. John’s?” to break the ice.
- ✚ Encourage those who haven’t done so to fill out a “Membership at St. John’s” brochure with information about themselves and/or any prayer requests they might have.
- ✚ Help the Greeters and Ushers to talk with newcomers before and after church.
- ✚ Invite people to coffee hour in the Parish Hall.
- ✚ Wear your name tags.

In God’s Love, *Fr. Ron*



Welcoming Sunday: September 19

It's time for a new year, a new beginning, and lots of new activities. Not only are the kids back at school, but at St. John's, it's time for our annual Welcoming Sunday celebration. This year, we're celebrating it on September 19. Following both services at 8:00 am and 10:15 am, there will be an opportunity to greet one another in the St. Francis Garden and learn a bit more about various ministries.

At our traditional Welcoming Sunday, we'll be welcoming everyone back from summer vacation. We'll be welcoming and registering all the Sunday School students for the coming year. We'll be welcoming new members of the congregation. See you there!

See you there!



Acolyte Anyone ?

St. John's is recruiting persons young and old who would like to serve at the altar as acolytes.

The word "acolyte" is derived from the Greek word *akolouthos*, meaning companion, attendant, or helper. The ministry of acolyte has its roots in the Old Testament of the Bible, where the prophet Samuel is seen assisting the priest Eli in the shrine at Bethel and then Elisha is seen assisting the prophet Elijah.

In the Episcopal Church altar servers are called acolytes and can be either gender. We are looking for both children and adults to join in this wonderful ministry to serve as an acolyte.

While still abiding by COVID-19 safety precautions, an acolyte may assist in worship by carrying a torch, a processional cross, a banner, lighting candles, extinguishing candles, and assisting the priest and deacon as seen fit by the priest or deacon.

Confirmation is not a requirement to be an acolyte, but it is something an acolyte should strive for in the very near future. Those persons wishing to be confirmed when the Bishop comes in the future are required to be trained. If you or your child (or both of you) are interested, please contact Fr. Ron. Training will be happily provided by either Fr. Ron or Deacon Keith.

Faithfully,
Father Ron

Wanted: New School Supplies for Children

By: Father Ron

St. John's Church, along with our Church School, has launched its annual "Children's School Supplies Collection." Children of families here at St. John's and children we know in our local Somerville area community will benefit from donations.

NEW – school supplies, such as: backpacks, notebooks, three-ring binders (1 ½ to 3 inches), pencil cases that fit inside binders, paper, glue sticks, safety scissors, index cards, rulers, highlighters, markers, pens, pencils and crayons will be accepted.

Donations made be dropped off to St. John's Church Office anytime. Call the Church Office (908-722-1250) ahead of time to make sure someone is here. The Church Office is typically open Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 11am until 5pm. Or, simply bring supplies on a Sunday morning.

On Sunday, September 19, we will conduct the Blessing of the Backpacks and Children's School Supplies during both the 8:00 AM & 10:15AM Eucharists.

We see many families struggling to make ends meet, and for them, our brothers and sisters in Christ, we want to be able to reach out and help. We hope that parishioners will once again support "Children's School Supplies Collection" and help these children get a good start this fall.

St. John's Episcopal Church
158 West High Street Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 722-1250 / StJohnSomerville@verizon.net
www.StJohnSomerville.org

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

2021 - 2022

Child's Name _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Baptized? Yes ☐ No ☐ Confirmed? Yes ☐ No ☐

Receiving Holy Communion? Yes ☐ No ☐

How many years of previous enrollment?

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone/s _____

Father's Name: _____

Baptized? Yes ☐ No ☐ Confirmed? Yes ☐ No ☐

Mother's Name: _____

Baptized? Yes ☐ No ☐ Confirmed? Yes ☐ No ☐

You can print this page and bring it with you to church on Sept.19, or mail it to
St. John's Church, 158 West High St., Somerville, NJ 08876

SACRED GROUND: A Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race & Faith

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.

St. John's and St. Martin's in Bridgewater will begin this Fall, Sept. 22 through Nov. 10. Held at 7 pm in the Parish Hall at St. John's. Contact Fr. Ron frronpollock1@verizon.net if you are interested.

Some Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, Sept 8, at 7 pm Vestry Meeting

Sunday, September 12: 10:15 am Confirmation and Reception with Bishop Neil Alexander

Sunday, September 19: 8am and 10:15 am. Welcoming Sunday and Church School Registration

Also blessing of the Back Packs and School Supplies.

Sunday, September 26: Church School classes begin

Sunday, October 3: Blessing of the Animals

Episcopal Church Women News

ECW will kick off a new program year at a meeting on September 13. Our plan is to have a pot luck dinner in the St Francis garden. More details to come.

The dates for the ECW meetings are September 13, October 4, November 1, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2 and June 6.

SPECIAL NEWS - ECW is in need of people who sew and have a sewing machine. If you like to sew and would like to help ECW, please contact:
Judy Marine, president, at jmarine5@verizon.net.

Marvel at N.J.'s awe-inspiring religious structures - Jersey's Best

<https://www.jerseysbest.com/community/marvel-at-n-j-s-awe-inspiring-religious-structures/>

St. John's made it into New Jersey's Best Magazine as one of the states most awe-inspiring religious structures.
Follow the link above to read the entire article.



St. John's Annual Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 3, at 3 pm (rain or shine)
Bring your friends, neighbors and pets as we celebrate the gift of
"all creatures great and small" entrusted to our care.

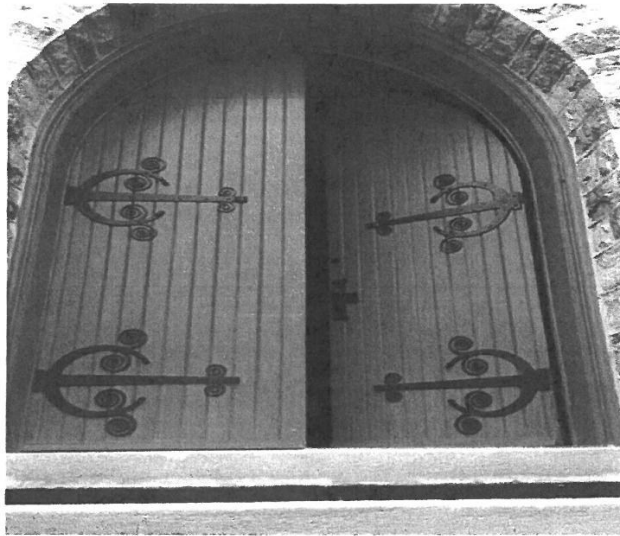
Fr. Ron will greet all animals outside this year, in front of the main front doors
and offer a blessing to each animal.

The loose offering collected on this Sunday will help us to support the good works of
St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center.

Outreach Ministries

St. John's Episcopal Church's

Clothes Closet



Open First Saturday of Month

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Lower level of Parish Hall
Enter from back parking lot**

Gently used, reasonably priced clothing, shoes,
and accessories for men, women, and children

For more information, including how to donate,

call St. John's, 908-722-1250

158 West High Street, Somerville, New Jersey, 08876

Meals-to-Go Ministry

Meals-to-Go is a new ministry on Saturdays from 9-10 am, which is taking hold and helping lots of people.

We are serving those who may have typically used the Soup Kitchen and Food Bank, and have been missing those services during lockdown. We are reaching out to those groups and others to let them know that Meals-to-Go is available to everyone.

We also welcome people who have a current need due to illness, care giving, changes in the family, such as a loss or a newborn, etc., to come and enjoy the meals that are available to take home. A friend or parishioner can pick up meals and deliver them. This is a perfect opportunity to drop off a meal, say hello, and extend St. John's hospitality and prayers.

Meals are provided in plastic containers by the generous members of the Branchburg Rotary and the menu changes weekly. We also have other food items available.

To pick up meals on Saturdays from 9-10 am, come to the St. John's Parish Hall via the back ramp entrance, give your contact information, pick up meals and food, and exit via the back door. The wearing of masks and social distancing are required at this time. If you know of anyone who desires food but is unable to pick it up at the designated time stated above, please contact Fr. Ron.

Volunteers Needed

We are always eager to welcome new volunteers to spend an hour on Saturdays from 9-10 am; we greet people and distribute the meals and other foods that are available. Click on the link below for the online sign-up sheet.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45afad2ba2f8c70-meals>

Questions, contact Fr. Ron frronpollock1@verizon.net



Laundry Love Update The Laundry Love ministry continues to serve an average of 30 local community members per month at Wayne's Wash World II on Division Street in Somerville.

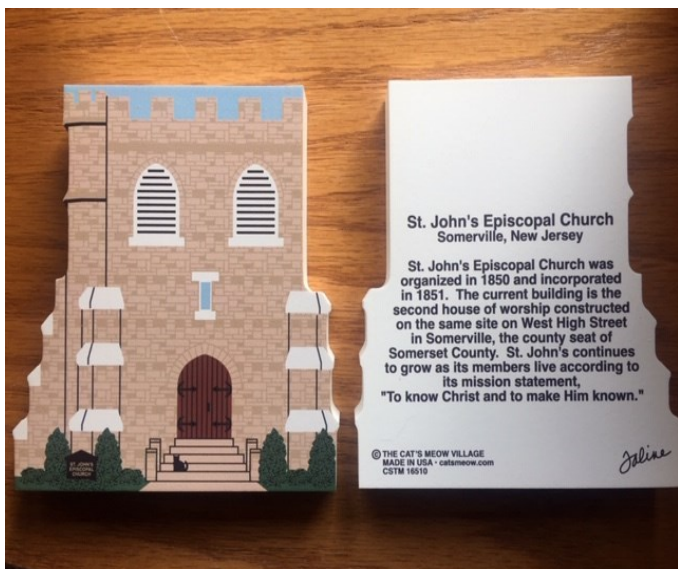
A representative of the ministry is at the laundromat every Thursday at 5 pm. to hand out pre-bagged supplies (three pods and three laundry sheets) and \$10 quarter rolls to up to eight people per week. These can may be individuals or families. Everyone is masked in this simple ministry and recipients can call ahead to reserve supplies and a quarter roll, although most do not. Somehow, we almost always have enough!

Because of the current COVID situation the ministry will stay weekly, and continue to limit the number of weekly recipients, for the foreseeable future.

Please know that we can ALWAYS use laundry supply donations, as well as donations of \$10 quarter rolls. Your donations can be brought to the church on Sundays or dropped off at another time – just contact Paul Grzella at pgrzella@verizon.net or 908-507-8020 to arrange a meeting time. Paul also can provide general information and talk to anyone who might like to help distribute supplies on a future Thursday – this typically involves 20 to 30 minutes at most.

The ministry restarted just about a year ago, and thanks to your continued support, it can continue.

Paul Grzella



Take a Little Piece of St. John's Home with You.

Many family milestones take place at St. John's Episcopal Church. Why not take "a little" of St. John's home with you? Purchase an attractive 3/4 inch thick, unique wooden shelf-sitter of your second home - St. John's! Proudly display this church replica, with the church's mission statement on the back, in your own home or purchase another for a relative that has moved away. For only **\$20 each**, you will also be helping to support the church's operating fund!

To place your order:

- 1 - email Brad Moor at moorbl@msn.com
- 2 - see a vestry member after the 9:30 am services.
- 3 - simply call the church at 908-722-1250.

As of 8/31/2021: 111 pledges - totaling \$205,782.00

Our goal is \$235,000.00.

Did you know that St. John's gets monetary donations every time you shop on Amazon?

If you shop through Amazon and have not signed up, please consider signing up through your account and choosing St. John's Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ!

Here are two ways to get involved:

Step 1: In your internet browser, go to smile.amazon.com and log in using your Amazon credentials.

Step 2: After signing in, you will be directed to select (or change) your charity.

Step 3: In the "Or pick your own charitable organization" enter "St. John's Episcopal Church" then click "Search."

Step 4: From the list of charity options, select St. John's Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ.

Step 5: You will be redirected to the agreement page. Check the box next to "Yes" and then click "Start Shopping" and add to the church's bottom line while doing so.

If you prefer to shop using the app:

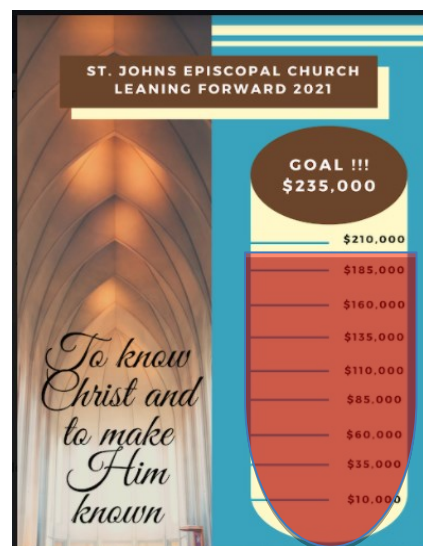
Step 1: Go to your settings and you will see AmazonSmile.

Step 2: Select AmazonSmile.

Step 3: Choose or change your charity to St. John's Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ.

Step 4: Make sure you select ON.

Step 5: Shop and Support St. John's.



September Altar Flowers

September 5 Open

September 12 by Linda Gimbut and the Lofton family in loving memory of ***Edward T. Gimbut.***

September 19 Betty Bomberger in honor of her daughter, ***Suzy Huck***

September 26 Sam Galpin ***In thanksgiving for the life and ministry of St. Francis of Assisi.***

September Altar Candles

September 5 Open

September 12 by John & Marielena Cardinale in loving memory of ***Edwad T. Gimbut***

September 19 Open

September 26 Open

Bread & Wine for September

The offerings of bread and wine for the month of August are given to the Glory of God

The Flowers on the Altar - each Sunday - \$60

To reserve your date for Flowers contact: Dana Keefer (908-448-6220)

or the church office: stjohnsomerville@verizon.net

The Sanctuary Candle – each Sunday - \$10

The Bread & Wine – each Month - \$25

To reserve your date for the Sanctuary Candle or Bread & Wine contact the church office:

908-722-1250 or stjohnsomerville@verizon.net

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Canon Ronald N. Pollock, **Rector** (908-722-1250) frronpollock1@verizon.net
The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, **Deacon Associate** kmccoy1@optonline.net
Mark A. Trautman **Organist/Choir Director** matrautman304@gmail.com
Mark A. Trautman **Administrative Assistant** (908-722-1250) stjohnsomerville@verizon.net

MINISTERS - People of St. John's

Altar Guild

Paula Windus, *Directress* paulawindus@verizon.net
Dana Keefer, *Treasurer* wpmulan@gmail.com
Open, Flowers, Weddings, & Funerals
Karen Whitmore, *Votive Candles* karwhit46@gmail.com
Joan Sammartano, *Supplies* (908-526-0148)
Bread & Wine and Altar Candles ~ contact the parish office stjohnsomerville@verizon.net

Adult Choir: *Director & Organist* mark A. Trautman

Junior Choir: Tracey Jameson, *Director* tkayj@aol.com

Church Library: Deacon W. Keith McCoy kmccoy1@optonline.net

Church School: Marielena Cardinale, *Superintendent* jcardinale123@comcast.net
Tracey Jameson - *teacher*; Michelle Hernandez - *teacher*

Endowment: *Finance Committee*

Episcopal Church Women: *President:* Judy Marine - jmarine5@verizon.net
Vice-President: Neva Rae Fox - Nevarae@aol.com

EYC (Youth Group): *Adult Advisor:* Liz Lande emailtoliz@gmail.com
& John Cunningham prancerdaddy@gmail.com

Mary & Martha Guild: Marcia Bower, *President*

Mission Outreach: Father Ron frronpollock1@verizon.net

Parish Treasurer: Sam Galpin samgalpin@aol.com

Co-Treasurer: Anne Tom annetom@comcast.net

Red Door Ministries:

Baby Blankets for newborns and those baptized: Pauline Boyer (908-722-1832)

Casseroles for people in need: Marcia Bower marciab6@verizon.net

Loose-Change for Discretionary Fund, to help those in need: Andrea Dalrymple adal227@verizon.net

Planned Giving: The Finance Committee

Stewardship: Fr. Ron, Advisor; Brad Moor, Alicia Gilmartin, Jean Stamets, Marianne Salanik,
Dee Britt

The Wardens

(class of 2022) Karen Whitmore karwhit46@gmail.com

(class of 2023) Steve Mandraccia Smandraccia@verizon.net

The Vestry

(class of 2023) Dee Britt brittchey@aol.com

(class of 2023) Jon Anobile Jonathan.anobile@gmail.com

(class of 2023) Marianne Salanik msalanik@optonline.net

(class of 2024) Jean Stamets Jasoz08887@gmail.com

(class of 2024) Kenneth Miller kemiii3@yahoo.com

(class of 2024) Justin Mastyskarz Cheryl219@hotmail.com

(class of 2022) Alicia Gilmartin agilmartin414@outlook.com

(class of 2022) Anthony Pinto eron15@msn.com

(class of 2022) Vacant Position.

“The Cadet” Prayer from West Point

“O God . . . Searcher of human hearts, help us to draw near to Thee in sincerity and truth

“Strengthen and increase our admiration for honest dealing and clean thinking. . . .

“Make us to choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong, and never to be content with a *half* truth when the *whole* can be won.

“Endow us with courage that is born of loyalty to all that is noble and worthy, that scorns to compromise with vice and injustice, and knows no fear when truth and right are in jeopardy. . . .

“Guard us against flippancy and irreverence in the sacred things of life. Grant us new ties of friendship and new opportunities of service.

“Kindle our hearts in fellowship with those of a cheerful countenance, and soften our hearts with sympathy for those who sorrow and suffer. . .”. Amen

St. John’s Episcopal Church

158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

Parish Office (908) 722-1250

Fax (908) 541-0705

Office: StJohnSomerville@verizon.net

Rector: FrRonPollock1@verizon.net

www.StJohnSomerville.org



“To Know Christ and to Make Him Known”