



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY

The Newsletter

158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 • 908.722.1250 • stjohsomerville.org

NOVEMBER 2024

From the Rector

STEWARDSHIP 2025

St. John tells us that “God is love.” Love is the bedrock of our lives. Unless we give it freely, we will not recognize it when it is given to us. There is truth to be learned from our dear Lord Jesus Christ.

The Church is not the building, it is the people. Sound familiar ?

I have come to realize that the Church building and its people, can, and do, play a strategic role in spiritual nurturing. Yes, the building is important (this we know all too well in the midst of a growing enthusiasm for putting a new kitchen in the Parish Hall); but it is the collection of people who foster caring, connection, and community, and the effective communicating of God's Word and the Sacraments of the Church. Imagine your life without our Church or its people. That's why Stewardship is so important. It directs God's people to building up Christ's Body.

But why should we be financially generous ? First, Christian generosity is rooted in an understanding that all we are and have belongs to God, the Creator (Psalm 24:1). God is the owner. We are God's managers commissioned to follow Christ's guidelines for living. As owner, God has made it clear that God desires faithful managers to be generous.

If you have ever made a financial commitment, begin with a reasonable objective and plan to increase your giving annually. If you are currently giving 5% of your income, perhaps you would prayerfully giving 6% or 7%. If you are giving 10% of your income, perhaps you would prayerfully consider giving 11% or 12%. And so on. One creative idea being shared by your Stewardship Committee is for all who are able to give an extra \$175 in honor of St. John's Church celebrating our 175th Anniversary in 2025. To God be the glory for our gifts given.

Each Fall, pledge cards are one way for people to communicate people's commitment for the coming calendar year. Pledges may also be made on-line by going on to our St John's website. Go to the upper right corner and click the “Giving” button, scroll down to the Pledge Card. Submit your pledge. (We certainly understand that some people are not able to make a pledge, for whatever reason, but who still make financial contributions. We are grateful nonetheless. This estimate may be increased or decreased at any time during the year as circumstances warrant. This documentation provides a clear goal for the community as well as a helpful planning tool for the Church's financial leadership. Please pray about your pledge.

At heart of all this, is what I have come ever more strong to believe: that giving to the Church a significant percentage of what has been given us is a blessing for the “giver.” Jesus said once that your heart follows your money and that it is blessed to give. Typically, Jesus was on the mark !

Faithfully & joyfully,
Fr. Ron

Important Notes:

Faithful parishioner Ken Miller will be our guest preacher this Sunday, November 10, for our Annual Stewardship Sunday. Make every effort to be in Church this Sunday. Pledge Cards and a Stewardship Letter from the Rector will be mailed to you next week.

STEWARDSHIP 2025—SAVE THE DATE!

Kick-off Sunday for *Pledge Drive 2025* will be **Sunday, November 10** at both services. There will be a special coffee hour and presentations after both services—*Mark your calendars!*



St. John's Halloween Murder Mystery Dinner was a Great Success

Our Halloween Murder Mystery Dinner was a great success as a result of many enthusiastic volunteers who worked hard to put together this wonderful community event. We especially want to thank Terry McShane for her outstanding leadership and engaging spirit. The actors and actresses from the Murder Mystery Company conducted a thorough investigation into the “murder” that took place that evening. People are still talking about talking about how much fun we all had ! We sold well over a hundred tickets. The silent auction and the 50/50 added a special touch to the evening event. The food was delicious as well as the desserts and beverages. As of November 1, we can report we made \$5,251.50. The proceeds from the Murder Mystery event go to our Bridge the Gap Campaign for 2024. Once again, a heart-felt thank you to everyone who participated in this great community event.

Fr. Ron

Coffee Hour

Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour following our 8am and 10:15am services. Please consider signing up for this wonderful ministry of facilitating fellowship as we learn and grow spiritually together. A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall on a table next to the big kitchen entrance. Contact any Vestry Member or Fr Ron to join this exciting ministry of hospitality.

Ushers

Are you looking to help grow our St. John's community? Please consider becoming an usher. We are in need of ushers for both the 8 am and 10:15 am Sunday services. This work is important as we are the first impression people have as they arrive at Church. Your impression could help us to continue to grow and make our Church home a more friendly and welcoming place. The commitment is not more than once per month and schedules are worked around your availability. We will be happy to help train you on the responsibilities. If interested, please reach out to Steve Mandraccia at smandraccia@verizon.net.

Acolyte Training

We are 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.

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. *Contact the clergy to find out more!*



Church School Schedule for Fall 2024

- On the first Sunday of the month all students in remain Church. Students invited to serve in various capacities, such as: acolyte, usher (hand out bulletins and assist walking around for the collection), read, sing, and the like.
- On the second, third, fourth and fifth Sunday of each month Children’s Chapel will be offered followed by Church School class. Students join their families during the Peace.
- On the second Sunday of the month, Church School also will be offered using the following schedule:
 - 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm: Evening Prayer
 - 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm: Church School Class
 - 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm: Mission-outreach project
 - 6:00 pm: Intergenerational Dinner.



All parishioners, families, friends invited to attend dinner

Fall Schedule

November 10:	Morning: Church School class 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm: Church School class in Parish Hall Theme: Intergenerational Bible Study: “Things for which I am thankful”
November 17:	Morning: Church School class
November 24:	Morning: Church School class
December 1:	All children in church. No class
December 8:	Morning: Church School class 5 pm to 6 pm: Church School field trip to Senior Citizens Building in Somerville. Activity: make Christmas ornaments with Senior Citizens and sing Christmas Carols
December 15:	Morning: Church School class
December 22:	Morning: Christmas Pageant rehearsal
December 29:	No Church School class
January 5:	All children in church

January 12: Morning: Church School class
Church School at 5 pm-5:30 pm in Parish Hall
Theme: collect jackets, gloves, hats, etc. to be distributed at Meals To Go, to local agencies, and people we know in the community

The remainder of Church School schedule to be published in late Fall. Please join us in praying for our Church School students, teachers and families:

Tracey Jameson: tkayj@aol.com, Michelle Hernandez: mhernandez718910@gmail.com

Taffy Scherr: tafrika@aol.com, Father Ron: frronpollock1@verizon.net

MINISTRIES AROUND ST. JOHN'S

Altar Guild

Sunday Flowers

Do you wish to honor or recognize a loved one? A lovely way is to sponsor the Sunday Altar Flowers. Prominently placed next to the altar for both Sunday services, names are listed in the weekly worship bulletin and *Good News*, and included in the Prayers of the People. Many Sundays are available—contact Dana Keefer (908.448.6220, dzkeefe@yahoo.com) to reserve a Sunday or for more information. Weekly flowers are only \$75. Checks need to have “flowers” indicated on the memo line, and there is also a giving tab for *Altar Flowers* on our website.

Altar Guild is a special ministry, preparing the altar for worship and honor. Membership is open to women and men, adults and teens—anyone who would like to participate in and dedicate themselves to this ministry. Contact Fr. Ron or Altar Guild Directress Diane Sireci (dianesireci61@icloud.com) to learn more.

Ushers

Are you looking to help grow our St. John's community? Please consider becoming an usher. This work is important as we are the first impression people have as they arrive at Church. Your impression helps us to continue to grow and make our Church home a friendly and welcoming place. The commitment is once per month and schedules are worked around your availability. Please reach out to Steve Mandraccia at smandraccia@verizon.net.

greeted each dog—and their humans!—and offered a blessing for all. St. John's has celebrated the Blessing of the Animals, which recognizes the importance of pets and animals in people's lives for 25 years.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW), December 2

- The ECW meets the first Monday evening of each month in the Parish Hall at 7 pm. Come and hear details of the ECW's plans for the 2024-2025 year including programs, speakers, and fundraisers. The annual sales of chocolates and wreaths at Christmas are on the fall schedule as well as the Yankee Swap gift exchange at the December meeting.

Contact an ECW officer:

Co-president Jenn Kosensky (908-386-6152, jrkosensky@gmail.com)

Co-president Linda Willard (347-276-6491, nolaandboogie@aol.com)

A Prayer for the Election

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Some parishioners, friends, neighbors, and family members are very disappointed and hurt after the election results. Some are overjoyed and delighted. To those who weep, I remind you that “joy comes in the morning.” To those who rejoice, I pray that God will

“shield the joyous.” Wherever we find ourselves, of whatever political party, may we remember our baptismal vows to “seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves; and strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” And I remind you that though we live in earthly kingdoms, our citizenship is in God’s kingdom. Hence, we pray, “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done....”

Going forward, today and every day, go out of your way to be present to others, be “Christ-like” to those who live around you, show forth gifts of gracious hospitality, loving kindness, generosity of spirit, and compassionate grace. YOU may be the only Word of Hope and Good News someone hears amongst all the angst, uncertainty, clamor, hatred, division, unnecessary noise, confusion and hostility in the world. Help others remember to turn to Jesus Christ. Remind others of the Good News of Jesus Christ. God bless you, your loved ones, our country and our world.

**Faithfully yours,
Father Ron**

A prayer and several quotes I found meaningful. Perhaps you will as well.

[A Prayer for the Election season and weeks following, by Rev Sarah Speed \(Sanctified Art, LLC\)](#)

“Holy God, we come to you today in prayer, full of emotions. Election seasons always seem to bring that out in us – worry and hope, fear and frustration. The list could go on. So today we bow our heads and ask for guidance. Open our ears to hear the groans of creation. Open our eyes to see the needs of others. Open our hearts to make room for empathy. Give us the wisdom to navigate challenging conversations. Give us the patience to disagree with grace. Give us the compassion to make decisions for the greater good. And when all else fails, bring us back to love. Bring our hearts and our hands, our dreams and our hopes, our anger and our frustration, our hurt and our fear, all back to love. With hope we pray, with hope we are sustained. Amen.”

“Regardless of our political allegiances, we must remember that God has called The Episcopal Church to seek Christ in all persons and to serve Christ in all persons. No matter the party I power, we are one church, and we will continue to fulfill our baptismal covenant by proclaiming in word and example the Good News of God in Christ, striving for justice and peace among all people and respecting the dignity of every human being. That is our call, our pledge, our covenant” ([Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church Sean Rowe](#)).

“Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who abuse you. Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. For the measure you give will be the measure you receive.” ([Jesus](#))

“Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning

that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.” (A Prayer attributed to St. Francis).

“I urge that petitions, prayers, and intercessions be offered on behalf of all people, rulers, and those in authority, so we may live quiet and peaceful lives as we worship and honor God”

(I Timothy 2:1-2).

“As much as the Christian would like to remain distant from political struggle, nonetheless, even here the commandment of love urges the Christian to stand up for his neighbor. His faith must know whether the dictates of the state may lead him against his conscience” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Catechism).

“Your ‘yes’ to God requires your ‘no’ to all injustice, to all evil, to all lies, to all oppression and violation of the weak and poor.....” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer).

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that” (The Rev Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.).

“Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check, but that is not what I have found. It is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love” (J.R.R. Tolkien, The Hobbit, pub, 1937).

“When they hate, I will love. When they curse, I will bless. When they hurt, I will heal. I am a servant of the light. I am not afraid of darkness. I will carry on with my work as a steward of this Earth and all her children. When they divide, I will unite. When they rage, I will calm. When they deny, I will affirm. I will simply be who I am: for that is what Spirit created me to be” (Steven Charleston, Native American elder and former Episcopal bishop of Alaska).

“This is not a time to throw up our hands. This is a time to roll up our sleeves” (Vice President Kamala Harris).

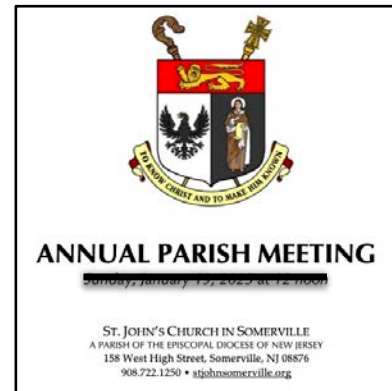
“This is precisely the time when artists go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal.”
by Toni Morrison

VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Annual Parish Meeting: Sunday, January 12, 2025

POSITIONS OPEN INCLUDE:

- One (1) Warden;
- Three (3) Vestry positions for three-year terms;
- Six (6) Representatives to Watchung Convocation for one year term;
- One (1) Deputy to Diocesan Convention for a three-year term;
- One (1) Alternate to Diocesan Convention for a three-year term.



CALLED TO SERVICE: VESTRY

WHAT DOES THE VESTRY DO?

It's the legal governing body of the parish, the "board of directors." With the rector as its leader, it sets policy and goals and oversees the finances and property. But it has another equally important role: providing leadership to implement the ministries that serve the parish and the community. It actively supports the work and ministry of the Rector.

WHO CAN RUN FOR VESTRY?

Any baptized member of the Episcopal Church who has been a member of our parish in good standing for at least one year, is at least 16 years old, makes a regular financial contribution to the parish, and worships regularly with us.

IS THERE AN EXPECTED TIME COMMITMENT?

Yes. A term runs for three years. The Vestry meets once every month. Vestry members are also members of either the Property Committee or Finance Committee. We have one all-day Vestry Retreat once a year. And since every vestry member's voice matters our goal is for members to have no more than three unexcused absences from regular meetings in a year.

WHAT DO WE LOOK FOR IN A VESTRY MEMBER?

Someone who is involved in some parish ministry, and preferably (but not necessarily) has shown some leadership ability. He or she should keep informed about the parish and be willing to contribute to working out solutions to issues that arise. Every Vestry member should work respectfully with other members and participate in discerning the parish's vision and encouraging its ministries. The Vestry affords people the opportunity to share a variety of their own gifts and talents.

HOW ARE VESTRY MEMBERS CHOSEN?

They are nominated by the Nominating Committee, whose recommendation must be approved by the Vestry, and they are elected at the annual meeting.

HOW DOES THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE WORK?

It accepts suggestions from parishioners, discusses possible candidates, decides who it thinks should be nominated, makes sure people are willing to run, and presents a proposed slate to the Vestry. The approved nominees are then announced to the parish. Each nominee will then be asked to prepare a statement of qualifications of no more than 100 words.

HOW CAN I NOMINATE SOMEONE?

You may complete and give this form to Fr. Ron or a member of the Nominating Committee, or put it in the collection basket, or leave it with Mark Trautman in the Parish Office. You may nominate yourself or someone else.

HERE ARE MY SUGGESTIONS FOR SOMEONE TO RUN IN JANUARY FOR VESTRY, DIOCESAN CONVENTION, WATCHUNG CONVOCATION:

Name: _____

I RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) FOR:

Vestry _____

Diocesan Convention _____

Watchung Convocation _____

*Please make sure each nominee is willing to be considered.
Deadline for nominations is the end of November.*

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Have you ever considered entering the Religious Life?
What are the "religious" communities in The Episcopal Church?
What can religious life do for me and for my faith journey?
How can I connect with an Episcopal religious community?

Talk to Father Ron for more information

www.episcopalchurch.org/organizations-affiliations/religious-orders-and-christian-communities/

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 15

Join us for our annual Advent Lessons and Carols Service, Sunday, December 15 at 5 pm. Lessons and Carols was developed by Dean Eric Milner-White for King's College Cambridge, England at the end of the First World War. He wrote: "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ... seen through the windows and the words of the Bible." The service will be followed by a Dessert Extravaganza in the Parish Hall, and featuring the unveiling of the St. John's Gingerbread Church made by Chef Kir. *Everyone is welcome—invite a friend to this festive community event!*



Christmas Flowers and Music

Special flowers and music adorn our worship, especially at Christmas. If you wish to write a check, please mark "Flowers" or "Music" in the memo line. Please let the Parish Office know if you are giving your gift in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones, and clearly print or type each name or intention. Send names to Karen Abbatiello at admin@stjohnsomerville.org or send via regular mail to the Parish Office. *Please make sure to deliver your gift and names no later than Friday, December 20.* Poinsettias, greens, and special music are cherished traditions at St. John's and remind us of the joy of the birth of Jesus. Gifts to the **Brent F. Miller Memorial Music Fund** will fund additional music for the late Christmas eve service.

MINISTRIES IN THE COMMUNITY

THE WORK OF MINISTRY

St. John's Clothes Closet

We will be open on Saturdays, November 2 and 16, from 9 am until 12 noon.

All items are in good condition and very reasonably priced. Many are name-brand clothes with tags still attached! We are located on the lower level of the parish house and is open the first and third Saturdays of each month. Purchases are cash only. Masks and social distancing are suggested.

We accept men's, women's, and children's clothing for all ages. They should be clean, gently used, and in current fashion. Please do not donate clothing with damage, stains, or signs of heavy wear. Not acceptable are underwear, socks, bathing suits, pajamas (unless they are new), or any non-clothing items.

We are accepting only fall and winter items now. If you are interested in donating any clothes, shoes, or accessories, you must contact Linda Willard at nolaandboogie@aol.com or 347-276-2491. You may bring your items in on the Saturday sale days or Linda will schedule a mutually convenient time to drop them off during the week. All Clothes Closet profits are deposited in the church operating fund and are used to support St. John's ministries. Five percent of sales are donated to local charities.

The Clothes Closet council includes Barbara Christel, Valerie Gibson, Taffy Scherr, Linda Willard, and Paula Windus. Volunteers are Isandra Alvarez, Mike Christel, Veronica Garcia, Carolyn Gioia, Niki Hoffman, Eric Reinard, Janice Reitman, Jean Stamets, and Karen Whitmore. Neva Rae Fox handles publicity. If you would like to help on sale days, or during the week to sort and

hang clothes, please contact Linda (contact information above) or clothescloset@stjohnsomerville.org.

Laundry Love News

Second and Fourth Thursdays of the month—Somerset Laundry, Division Street in Somerville. We can always use more quarter rolls and/or monetary support for the quarter rolls. Quarter rolls can be left in the alms basin on weekends, along with any cash/check donations—please just indicate Laundry Love donation in the memo line. Quarter rolls can also be dropped off at the Parish Office (call prior to let us know you are coming, 908-722-1250). ***There will be no Laundry Love in the month of November.***

If you have any questions about the ministry, would like to donate or to get involved in some way, just ask Ed Edwards or Paul Grzella in church, call 908.507.8020, or pgrzella@verizon.net.

Loose Change Sunday: First Sunday of every month

Our next scheduled date is ***Sunday, December 1.*** If you would like to participate in this important ministry, please feel free to bring a jar (or a Ziplock sandwich baggie) filled with loose change to church and put it in the designated baskets in the Narthex (front door area of church) or on the little table by the side door that leads to the parish hall. Or, simply put whatever loose change you may have into the baskets. This money will be placed into the Discretionary Fund and used to answer the needs of the many who reach out to St. John's for assistance.

Meals to Go

Meals to Go is offered the first and third Saturdays of the month, 9-10 am. If you know someone (including yourself) who would enjoy a meal, stop by the St. John's Parish Hall, use the ramp entrance and bring a bag. For more information or to be added to the volunteer list, please contact Christine Bean or Father Ron. We are grateful for your financial donations to support the ministry. If you wish to donate online, go to Meals-to-Go on the dropdown menu. For more information about volunteering, donations or publicity, call the Parish Office, or contact Christine Bean, cbean727@gmail.com, Father Ron, Frronpollock1@verizon.net.

St. John's Church Christmas Cards on Sale

Ten festive Christmas cards along with envelopes may be purchased for \$20. The cards feature artwork created by Somerville artist Les Floyd. The proceeds benefit St. John's Church. A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall, or contact Fr. Ron at frronpollock1@verizon.net. Checks made out to *St. John's Church*. Cash is also accepted. This is a wonderful way to celebrate the Christmas season and support St. John's ministries!



St. John's Christmas Gift Giveaway

Mark your calendar-Saturday, December 14, 11 am-1 pm for the annual St. John's Christmas Gift Giveaway in the Parish Hall. There are stacks of gifts we will distribute to families in need and tons of smiles to be found. Volunteers will be needed beginning at 9 am to prepare. If you are available, please consider helping with this festive event. For more information, contact Father Ron, frronpollock1@verizon.net. A sign-up sheet will be out in the Parish Hall in the coming weeks.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY

HELP FEED A FAMILY THIS THANKSGIVING AND/OR CHRISTMAS.

Families within our own parish and others in our local community are struggling to make ends meet.

A basket of non-perishable food items plus a \$40 gift card* to ShopRite** will provide Thanksgiving or Christmas Dinner for a family of four.

**any amount will be gratefully accepted*

***any kind of gift card will be gratefully accepted*

Please deliver the food basket and gift card to:

***St. John's Church, 158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876
by Sunday, November 24 and Saturday, December 14 respectively—
no later than 9 am SHARP!***

*You may also bring your basket and gift card to church on Sunday,
Or contact the Parish Office for drop off during the week.*

Contact: Fr. Ron at frronpollock1@verizon.net or 908.722.1250

UPCOMING EVENTS—TAKE NOTE

Sunday, November 10: Stewardship 2025 Kick-off

Sunday, December 1: First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 15: Advent Lessons and Carols

Looking Ahead

Saturday, November 11: 11 am, Veteran's Day Ceremony, 20 Grove Street, Somerville.

Fr. Ron offering Invocation and Benediction

Sunday, November 12: Appreciation Day, Special Coffee Hour

Thursday, November 14: Watchung Convocation, 7 pm at St. John's

Saturday, November 18: Clothes Closet, 9-noon

Saturday, November 18: Meals to Go, 9-10 am

Thursday, November 23: Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist with music, 9 am

Sunday, December 1: First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 7: Clothes Closet, 9-noon

Saturday, December 7: Meals to Go, 9-10 am

Monday, December 4: ECW Meeting at 7 pm

Saturday, December 9: Diocesan Convention

Saturday, December 14: Clothes Closet, 9-noon

Saturday, December 14: Meals to Go, 9-10 am

Sunday, December 15: Advent Lessons and Carols, 5 pm; Unveiling of Gingerbread Church and Dessert Extravaganza Reception

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve, Services at 5 (pageant) and 11 pm (Choral Eucharist)

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day, Service at 9 am

Tuesday, December 31: Eve of the Holy Name/New Year's Eve, Service at 5 pm

Watchung Convocation Meeting at St. John's

Thursday, November 30, 6-7:30 pm—Bishop Sally French will be with us.

Contact the Parish Office for more information

**WE CELEBRATE, WE REMEMBER, NOVEMBER:
BIRTHDAYS**

1. John Cunningham
3. Peter Tom-Wolverton, Gregory Krueger, Ivan Latanision
5. Susan Mathews, David Blue
6. Danielle Barry, Olivia Massey
7. Zachary Hillman, Ronald Szumigala
8. Emery Pierson
9. Nancy Spolarich, Eva Normant, Sarah Ann Metaxas
11. Anthony Pinto, Leo Campos
12. Allan Tom-Wolverton, Charles Halsted II, Mark Jameson, Katie Fletcher
14. Cecilia Lande, Isabelle Thorpe
15. Kurt Jelinek
16. Jeff Daugherty, Tia Maria Viola Yingst
17. Ed Edwards
19. Anais De LosSantos, Damien Dodds
20. Emma Dupuis
21. Margo Ellis Christou, Julianna Barkin
22. Brian Hamer
23. Douglas Mathews
24. Thom Boyer
27. Charlotte Newton, Marie Teresa Vendettuoli, Amber Leibold, Mark Ansbro
28. Jane Henderson-Glick
30. Antonio Saunders, Jesse Smith, Michael

Marshall

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1. Howard & Michelle Barkin
3. Rafael & Gretchen Rivera
9. Anthony Pinto & Christian Carrillo
11. Christine & Jon Anobile
17. Mark & Pamela Ansbro
26. Robert & Patricia Potts
29. Peter Miller & Christine Kelly

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

1. Robert Yingst
2. Russell Bedford
4. Carol Caufield
5. Wilbur Wood Goldsack, John H. Croll
8. Frances Powers, Eleanor Giordano
9. Colleen Goldsack
10. David Robert Andricsak, Rose Kletz
11. Clara Weill, William McCoy
12. Dorothy Kenwin
16. Caroline Chandler Hewett
17. Marian Crooler, Patricia Anne Miller
19. Joseph G. Hoff Sr., John Agins
21. Mary Rozenberger
23. Mary Beth Ferris
24. Raymond Frazer, Sr., James Streeter
25. Walter Ivas
29. Sylvia Foo-Ying

November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7 pm, Eucharist	2	3 10 am, Eucharist; Mary & Martha Guild	1 All Saints' Day Fr. Ron's Day off	2 All Souls' Day 9 am, Meals to Go 9 am, Clothes Closet
3 All Saints' Sunday 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist Youth Sunday Loose Change Sunday	4 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8 pm, AA Meeting	5 7 pm, Eucharist	6 7 pm, Vestry	7 10 am, Eucharist; Mary & Martha Guild 5 pm, Laundry Love	8 Fr. Ron's Day off	9
10 Stewardship Sunday Pentecost 25 Proper 27B 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist 10 am, Church School 5 pm, Church School activity and supper	11 Veteran's Day OFFICE CLOSED 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Mtg. 8 pm, AA Mtg.	12 7 pm, Eucharist	13	14 10 am, Eucharist; Mary & Martha Guild 7pm Watchung Convocation Meeting	15 Fr. Ron's Day off	16 9 am, Meals to Go 9 am Clothes Closet Diocesan Lay Readers Training 10am-12pm
17 Pentecost 26 Proper 28B 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist 10 am, Church School	18 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8 pm, AA Meeting	19 7 pm, Eucharist	20	21 10 am, Eucharist; Mary & Martha Guild 5 pm, Laundry Love	22 Fr. Ron's Day off	23 Diocesan Convention in Trenton
24 Last Pentecost Christ the King 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist 10 am, Church School	25 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Mtg 8 pm, AA Meeting St. Simon and St. Jude	26 7 pm, Eucharist	27	28 Thanksgiving Day 9 am, Eucharist	29 Fr. Ron's Day off	30 St. Andrew the Apostle

St. John's in Somerville, Leadership, 2024

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Canon Ronald N. Pollock, *Rector*, frronpollock1@verizon.net

The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, *Deacon Associate*, kmccoy1@optonline.net

Karen Abbatiello, *Parish Office*, admin@stjohnsomerville.org

Ministers: The People of St. John's

Altar Guild

Diane Sireci, *Directress*, dianesireci61@icloud.com

Tom Keefer, *Treasurer*, thomasekefer@yahoo.com

Dana Keefer, *Flowers, Weddings, & Funerals*, dzkefer@yahoo.com

Bread & Wine and Altar Candles, admin@stjohnsomerville.org

Music Program

To be announced

Canon Chancellor John W. Goldsack Church Library

Deacon Keith, kmccoy1@optonline.net

Church School

Michelle Hernandez, chellehernandez1@gmail.com

Tracey Jameson, tkayj@aol.com

Taffy Scherr, tafrika@aol.com

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Co-president Jenn Kosensky, jrkosensky@gmail.com)

Co-president Linda Willard, nolaandboogie@aol.com)

Mary & Martha Guild

Fr. Ron

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) Adviser

Fr. Ron

Clothes Closet Council, clothescloset@stjohnsomerville.org

Barbara Christel, Valerie Gibson, Taffy Scherr, Linda Willard, Paula Windus

Laundry Love

Paul Grzella, pgrzella@verizon.net

Meals to Go

Christine Bean, cbean727@gmail.com, Niki Hoffman, nikihoffman@hotmail.com

Red Door Ministries

Baby Blankets for newborns and those baptized: Pauline Boyer, 908.722.1832

Loose-Change for Discretionary Fund: position open

Happy Mealers: Parish Office, admin@stjohnsomerville.org

Finance Committee

Terry McShane, tlm49@comcast.net

Stewardship

Fr. Ron, *Adviser*; Terry McShane

Treasurer

Sam Galpin, *Parish Treasurer*, sam.galpin@outlook.com

Anne Tom, *Parish Co-Treasurer* annetom@comcast.net

Vestry (Class year)

Steve Mandraccia, *Senior Warden*, Smandraccia@verizon.net (2025); Terry McShane, *Junior Warden* (2026) tlm49@comcast.net, George Mullen, bigbrown11@optimum.net (2025);

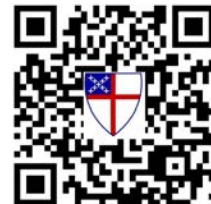
Megan McNamara, meganmcnamara1@yahoo.com (2025); Leigh Meaders-Robinson,

Leigh.meaders1@gmail.com (2025); Barbara Christel, barbarachristel@yahoo.com (2026);

Sheila Fuhrmann, jfuhrmann00@aol.com (2026); Janice Williams (2026), jmwbells@icloud.com;

Kyle Ferris (2027), kyleferris1@hotmail.com; Carolyn Groff (2027) camy.groff@gmail.com;

Steve Sireci (2027) sireci@comcast.net





Annual Christmas Gift Giveaway

St. John's Episcopal Church
Somerville, NJ

Saturday, December 14
11am-1pm – Parish Hall

Presents and gift cards will be
available for those who need
extra cheer this holiday season.