



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

# The Newsletter

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

JULY - AUGUST 2026

*From the Rector*

## Measuring parish community life and our spiritual life in Christ

How do we measure the impact of our parish community life in Christ? It is a fundamental question leaders face. There are traditional assessments: surveys, mission-outreach projects, group reporting and worship. Yet can these capture the full weight of a life in Christ at St. John's? In the long term, what do we do here at St. John's and in the community at large, that will stay with our people, young and old alike, five, ten, twenty or 50 years from now?



Some might insist we measure the value of parish community life in stark terms of financial well-being; a common statistic is balancing the budget and seeing various ministries thrive on what resources may be available to them. While we wish for our community to grow in every dimension, we reject the idea of measuring our life in Christ by healthy financial stewardship gain alone. Life in Christ at St. John's should prepare children and adults alike to lead moral, prayerful, faithful lives, that clearly echo the fruits of the Spirit and equip them for ministry in the modern world. Lives that are continually being transformed by Jesus Christ and lives that are fulfilled across multiple dimensions is something we strive toward. If we approach our work and ministry not as a business, but rather as a community of believers in Christ, we have formed our people not for being successful as the world defines it, but for enduring and satisfying lives in Jesus.

We know how people grow in their faith by seeing how they become clearer about why they do what they do as a result of intentional engagement with the Gospel, liturgy, community and world. We can observe people's expression of faith, hope, love and joy. We can observe how people integrate their faith in church school, men's ministry, the "grill team," choir, serving in the Meals To Go ministry, The Red Door ministries, Clothes Closet, food bank, Laundry Love, visiting the sick, and numerous other ministries and groups. We can observe how people engage with biblical content, so to improve upon religious habits, disciplines, and behavior. While there may not be an official "testing mechanism" how to track parishioners progress we can though provide opportunities for people to express themselves and engage in real life challenges. Those findings are translating to life in the home setting as well, with church school teachers, organist, clergy and parishioners incorporating new and fresh ways to tailor Christian education and formation to the needs of their children. We are always learning new ways to bring the "Church" to people's homes since not everyone can make it to church on Sunday mornings. How might we better equip our people with resources that really matter?

In a parish, faith, formation and discipleship happens in a multitude of ways, but primarily through worship, daily spiritual reflection, engagement with Holy Scripture, fellowship, and a whole wide range of ministry involvement. It happens while serving in our Clothes Closet or Meals to Go ministry, at coffee hour, while visiting a loved one in the hospital, serving in some ministry or Laundry Love, celebrating milestones like birthday parties or wedding anniversaries. We can evaluate all of this, but so much of the faith, formation and discipleship that happens at St. John's occurs outside the church buildings, and instead in parishioners' homes, and in their daily lives. While our folks may not remember every fact from every Church School class, Scripture reading or sermon, they keep with them the power of being a part of a faith-filled community where they are warmly welcomed and nurtured, which has, we hope, imbued them with the tools of mind and heart and soul that allow them to flourish.

How do YOU measure the impact of our parish community life in Christ?

What matters most to YOU?

How might we further our impact?

See you in Church. Invite someone to Church this Sunday! Your invitation may be the greatest gift they ever receive!

*God bless,  
Fr. Ron*

## **PASTORAL NOTES AND VITAL RECORDS OF THE PARISH**

*From the Rector*

**HOLY BAPTISM:** (made a member of Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic church)

Congratulations to Siena Catherine Mercurio who was baptized on Sunday, June 7, 2026.

Parents are: Tyler C. Mercurio and Jordyn A. Mercurio.

Congratulations to Maeve Olivia Newman who was baptized on Sunday, June 21, 2026.

Parents are: Kenneth T. Newman and Megan Haplea.

## **ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE**

The Rev. Tiffany Campbell was ordained to the Diaconate on Sat, June 20, 2026 at Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ by The Right Reverend Sally J. French, Bishop of New Jersey

## **RETIREMENT:**

First Sergeant Domenick Distano, after 21 years serving in the United States Marine Corps

**THOSE WHO DIED:** (Light Perpetual. In the hope of the Resurrection. May their souls rest in peace.)

Lillie Ruth Hardingham, 78, whose funeral was held on Sat, May 23, 2026 at Christ Church in Newton, NJ.

Daniel Dameo, 89, whose funeral was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Nancy Ann Haring, 81, whose funeral was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026.

Dr. Blenda Wilson, died on June 4, 2026.

# Staff Purpose Statement

To the Glory of God

The Rector, Deacons, Organist & Choirmaster, and Parish Administrator partner in inspiring and strengthening our Christian Ministry here at St. John's, in the Diocese of New Jersey and in the world through innovation, sound judgment and professionalism



The Rev Canon Ronald N. Pollock, Rector  
The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, Deacon  
The Rev. Mark Hernandez, Deacon  
Dr. Fred Irwin, Guest Organist  
Karen Abbatiello, Parish Administrator

## **Wanted: New School Supplies for Children**

*By: Father Ron, St. John's Church School Teachers and Students*

The new school year is not too far away and many parents will be shopping for back to school supplies. Yet, many parents cannot afford essential items needed for their children. 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 "Back to School Supplies Collection" and help students get a good start this fall.

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 may be dropped off to St. John's Church Office anytime. Call prior to coming to be sure someone is here. The Church Office number is 908-722-1250. Or, bring supplies on a Sunday morning when you come to Church services and put them in the large box located in the Parish Hall.

On Sunday, September 6 (Labor Day weekend) and on Sunday, September 13 (Welcoming Sunday), we will conduct the Blessing of the Backpacks and Children's School Supplies during both the 8:00am and 10:15am Eucharists.

## **WHERE THERE'S A "WILL," THERE'S A WAY....**



There is no time like the present for making out a will. The best of intentions, the finest and fairest of plans, will have been made in vain if you have not left a valid will to direct the disposition of your estate.

There are many excuses we can use to put off making a will, but no one can avoid an underlying factor for our procrastination – the very human fear of death.

As Christians, however, we are blessed with faith in the revelation from God that, through Christ, death is a natural part of life. In essence, God has a wonderful “will” for us: union with the Love who created us, and who desires our everlasting fulfillment. We can do no less than to have a will for those we hold so dear to our hearts.

Please help us continue our witness to the bountiful love of God by remembering St. John’s Episcopal Church in your will. If you would like further information on how to do so, please contact me or our Treasurer, Sam Galpin.

*Faithfully yours in Christ,  
Fr. Ron*

## **Leave a Legacy .... Brick Walkway Pavers!!!**

The Brick Paver Walkway Project is off and running!! We have sold 25 bricks to date which is a great start. We have a tentative deadline of Labor Day weekend, so make sure you purchase your brick before it is too late!

It offers an opportunity to be an integral part of St. John’s and Somerville’s legacy while assisting in a project that will benefit the church and the community.

The Brick Paver Walkway Project entails the purchase of a brick or bricks which can be engraved with a name, date or a message. The bricks will be placed in a new walkway installed next to the main driveway on the St. John’s property on High St.

"The installation of our brick walkway will assist St. John’s to raise the funds for a new kitchen, which will further our efforts to feed those who are hungry," commented the Rev. Canon Ron Pollock, rector. "This project will also help deepen our fellowship within our neighborhood and beyond our parish community."

Bricks can be personalized; in memory or in honor of someone; a significant date; or some other noteworthy appropriate item. It is limited to 36 characters, space, and punctuation marks.

Engraved bricks are \$250 per engraved brick. No limit on the number of bricks per person, family or organization. All proceeds benefit the Kitchen Mission Project.

Pollock added, "Leave your mark on Somerville in this special way with a personalized brick."

For more information, or to order a brick, contact 908-722-1250, or email [admin@stjohnsomerville.org](mailto:admin@stjohnsomerville.org).



# Support Our Brick Paver Walkway Project

Leave Your Mark With a Personalized Brick

Please make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal Church or click on the symbol to pay online. Select Brick Walkway.  
www.stjohnsomerville.org

- \$250 per engraved brick
- Personal message—36 character limit
- All proceeds to Kitchen Mission Project

**Donate today to be part of our Legacy!**

St. John's Episcopal Church 158 W. High St. Somerville, NJ

I would like to purchase a brick paver for the walkway to benefit Kitchen Mission at St. John's Episcopal Church.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: (Limit 36 characters including spaces and punctuation)


Example:

The Smith Family est. 2024 (25 characters, spaces and punctuation)

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Please remit this form to St. John's Episcopal Church Office by the deadline of September 1, 2026. Our address is 158 W. High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876. Make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal Church with "Brick Walkway" in the memo section. Or simply use the QR code to pay online. Choose Brick Walkway as the Fund.



## **“The Examen” by St. Ignatius of Loyola**

The **EXAMEN** is a method of reviewing your day in the presence of God. It’s actually an attitude more than a method, a time set aside for thankful reflection on where God is in your everyday life. It has five steps, which most people take more or less in order, and it usually takes 15 to 20 minutes per day. Here it is in a nut-shell:

- 1 Ask God for light.  
I want to look at my day with God’s eyes, not merely my own.
- 2 Give thanks.  
The day I have just lived is a gift from God. Be grateful for it.
- 3 Review the day.  
I carefully look back on the day just completed, being guided by the Holy Spirit.
- 4 Face your shortcomings.  
I face up to what is wrong in my life and in me.
- 5 Look toward the day to come.  
I ask where I need God in the day to come.

Of the various prayer exercises and styles that St. Ignatius of Loyola collated, “The Examen” was one that he did not want people to omit. This was to be a daily practice, a discipline to help find God in our ordinary daily lives.

Here is another way that it has been expressed: this is a prayer where we try to find the movement of the Spirit in our daily lives as we reflect on our day. This prayer can be made anywhere: on the beach, in a car, at home, in the library. Many people make the Examen twice daily: once around lunchtime and again before going to bed. There are five simple steps to the Examen, which should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

Through this method of praying you can grow in a sense of self and the Source of self; you can become more sensitive to your own spirit with its longings, its powers, its Source; you will develop an openness to receive the supports that God offers.

For further information go to: [www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)

By Father Ronald N. Pollock, Rector,  
June 2014

## **A Reflection on the Meaning of**

### **The Holy Eucharist - The Holy Communion - The Lord’s Supper**

Our life is filled with outward acts which mean deep, unseen realities. A genuine and warm greeting to a distinguished man or woman in your midst means respect; the grasp of the hand or a hug means friendship; a kiss amongst family, friends or loved ones means love. The citizen takes off their hat when the flag is carried by in a funeral procession; these simple acts proclaim a person’s loyalty and respect. A child goes into his or her mother’s room and sees her kneeling by her bed; the child goes out quietly, knowing that she is praying: the outward act tells the child what she is doing in her inmost heart. Flowing tears, radiant smiles, sudden quietness, arms crossed over the chest, the quiver of the lips, head held high or hunched over, all tell stories of interior conditions which no words can quite describe. The Lord’s Supper, The Holy Communion or The Holy Eucharist, is one of the greatest of the outward acts by which we are drawn closer to, and reach up into the mystery and reality of life.

All these are sacramental. Holy Communion is a sacrament. The Catechism (The Book of Common Prayer, page 857) defines a sacrament as an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual

grace, given to us by Jesus Christ. Christ wishes us to receive bread and wine (outward things) that we may be fed in our souls with His Body and Blood (the deepest reality of the Holy Spirit). This is one of the ways in which Jesus Christ comes to us; it is one of the ways in which He invites us to go to Him. It is an appointed meeting place.

We wonder and imagine why our Savior provided such a purposeful and intentional way of meeting Him. The Catechism helps our understanding: Jesus wished men and women and children to remember the great gift of Himself which He made when He laid down His life, and all the blessings which that sacrifice is to bring to the world in all times. Like a wise grandparent, or a loving parent, or a beloved sibling, Jesus wants us to be continually grateful, so that we may show forth in our lives what we profess by our faith. Jesus wants us to constantly remember His love for us. The Catechism explains what the blessing is; namely, the strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of Christ, as our bodies are strengthened by the Bread and Wine.

The Holy Communion brings to our minds the scene in the upper room in Jerusalem where our Savior founded this sacred, visible and holy saving grace. We think of the perplexed faces of the disciples; we get a glimpse into the profound comfort given to the disciples by our Master; we look into the strength and beauty of His face; and we hear again, in real time, words spoken directly to us now, "Do this for the remembrance of me."

The Lord's Supper helps us to remember that there are other guests besides ourselves. This shines forth brightly as we remember, as recorded in one of the Gospels, that Jesus knelt down and washed the feet of His disciples. There is, perhaps, no other more profound and eloquent lesson taught to Jesus' followers in every celebration of the Lord's Supper to remember one another! This is the marvelous feast of fellowship. Rich and poor, powerful and not-so-powerful, wise and unlearned, saints and sinners, kneel side by side. In this act they are all on the same level playing field, holding highest privilege alike. When we try to remember our Lord at this crowning moment in Jesus' life, when by a dramatic action, intended to reproduce a sacred and intimate scene, we live again the suspense, the agony, the decision, the sacrifice, the love – then we come very close to one another and above all, to Jesus Christ. Remember!

The sacrament is a thanksgiving. When our Savior instituted the Lord's Supper, He was ready to give Himself for the life of the world. Then, He gave thanks. The Cross, with all its sacrifice and love, loomed before Him. In less than 24 hours His body would be dead. The greatest gift, the greatest love, which can be given are bound up in the Lord's Supper. "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

As we live again that last tragic night, as we picture ourselves among Jesus' dearest friends, when it sweeps over us how unutterably Jesus continues to love us, we know that we must do something. And so we remember Him in sacrament. We offer our praise and thanks. We offer our thanks as an act of complete love. We care unspeakably of God's gift -- Jesus Christ upon the Cross -- as well as His living presence among us now, in real time!

We are so thankful that we cannot stop with words: we offer and present ourselves to God, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice to God. We must make a pledge to thank Him by living out the same love which He exemplified on the Cross. Even though we will forget, we will fail, again and again; but we must try. We tell ourselves, above all we tell Jesus, that our words are genuine; for we mean to live our thanksgiving.

Perhaps, the deepest part of the sacrament is in the strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of Christ just as much as our bodies need to be fed with the Bread and Wine. Our bodies must be fed, or die. Our minds must be fed, or wither. There is a wonderful reality

within us called the soul. How shall that soul truly live? Does that need to be fed? Christ said, "Yes." Jesus said that He came that we "...may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). He said that He would be the food which should nourish the soul of humanity. So we feed our souls with Christ, and immediately our souls are enlivened with the life which makes us not only like Him, but alive in Him. As we remember Jesus, as we give thanks to Him, as we follow Him, as our faith glows with confidence in Him, then our hearts are opened wide to receive as from His own hands, the redeeming quality of His love, and our lives are filled with Jesus. We are body of His Body, blood of His Blood, heart of His Heart, spirit of His Spirit, soul of His Soul, life of His Life.

Jesus gave us the test, when He said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." We know Christ's presence is in us when we are patient as Christ was patient, forgiving as He was, unselfish as He was, bearing the burdens of others, giving ourselves. When we have become like that, then we know we have been filled with Christ. Let Christ enter your soul! Michael Ramsey, former Archbishop of Canterbury once said, "It doesn't matter what you make of the Eucharist, as much as what it makes of you."

Fr. Ronald N. Pollock, XV Rector, 2018

## **RED DOOR MINISTRY**

### **Needles and Yarn: Knitting for Christ**

St John's offers an opportunity for folks to engage in an important ministry called "Needles and Yarn." Faithful individuals knit and crochet white baby blankets for the newly baptized babies at St John's Church and for home-bound individuals and/or others known to us who benefit from such a gift.

If you know of someone who is home bound or hospitalized or just needs a blanket or a shawl please contact the church office so that we can reach out to them and share that we care.

### **Why should you volunteer in this ministry?**

You will be using those gifts and talents that you have been blessed with while helping some very good causes. You can crochet from home unless, of course, you want to organize a knitting / crocheting group to meet here at St. John's. And, you can choose who you would like to knit / crochet for – take your pick

### **Shawl Ministry**

The shawl ministry has been around for some time and over the years men and women from numerous denominations have knitted or crocheted shawls.

These shawls have been blessed and given to individuals who will benefit from the knowledge that the shawl was made with love and care and sent out with the intention that the receiver be reassured that they are loved and cared for.

If anyone in our Church knows of someone who would benefit from a shawl or blanket simply let the clergy know of the need.

*from Father Ron*

## **SOME UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:**

**Sun, Aug 2 & Aug 9** Fr. Matt Engleby, Guest Celebrant & Preacher

**Sun. Aug. 23 & Aug 30** Mother Joyce Scheyer, Guest Celebrant & Preacher

**Sun. Sep. 13** Welcoming Sunday/Church School Registration  
**Sun. Oct. 4** 3pm, Blessing of the Animals  
**Oct. 11-18** ECW sponsored Silent Auction  
**Sun. Oct. 18** CROP walk  
**Sat. Oct. 24** Casino Night - Save the Date  
**Sat. Nov. 14** Pow-Wow led by Harold Willard  
**Sat. Nov. 21** Vendor Fair  
**Sun. Nov. 22** Rev. Tammy Young, Guest Preacher, Episcopal Community Services  
**Thur. Nov. 26** 9am, Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

## **TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS**

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone who is visiting with us. Whether you're just having a look, searching for a place of worship, or a guest of a parishioner, we're delighted to have you here. Please know that all baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. This is not an Episcopal Table—indeed, it is the Lord's Table. *Welcome!*

## **Visitors Welcome—Coffee Hour**

We welcome all visitors to St. John's. Everyone is invited to the coffee hour held after the 8 am and the 10:15 am services in the Parish Hall. If you are a visitor, please fill out a white Welcoming card found in the pews and put it in the alms basin or give it to an usher or a member of the clergy or mail it to the Parish Office.

## **Are You A Member?**

Have you actually joined St. John's Church, or are you still attending as a guest? Joining the Church is like taking a relationship to the next level. There is something wonderful and different about being committed to *your* parish. If you would like to join St. John's, please contact Karen Abbatiello at [admin@stjohnsomerville.org](mailto:admin@stjohnsomerville.org) or Fr. Ron at [frronpollack1@verizon.net](mailto:frronpollack1@verizon.net).

## **ST. JOHN'S STEWARDSHIP**

God brought the Church into being, equipping us with gifts, empowering us with the Spirit, inviting us to be Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth, to make disciples and baptize and teach, to bring Good News to the poor, to join God's transforming mission and work in the world. By participating in the life and ministry of the Church, by sharing our financial resources to fund this work, we join God's work and mission in the world. In the process, we discover our life's highest meaning and purpose and discover how we may join God's mission in the world today!

If you have made a financial pledge to the church for 2026, we extend a sincere thank you. If you have not made a pledge for 2026 would you prayerfully consider making a pledge? ***Our 2026 budget is \$225,000. As of today, there are 58 pledges totaling \$156,044.*** To fill out a pledge online visit <https://stjohnsomerville.org/pledge-card-form>. By the grace of God, we will bridge our gap.

Contact any member of the Vestry, a Warden, Treasurer, Parish Office or myself if you have any questions. "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits. Then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine" (Proverbs 3:9-10).

*May God continue to bless St. John's Church.*

*Father Ron*

**MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S**  
***St. John's Parish Choir***

Thanks to the Parish Choir for a great year! We ended the season with on Sunday, May 31, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. We will sing for the first time on Welcoming Sunday, September 13 at the 10:15 service. Interested? Contact Tracey Jameson at [tkayj@aol.com](mailto:tkayj@aol.com).  
*Everyone is welcome!*

### ***Brent F. Miller Memorial Music Fund***

Grateful thanks to all who continue to give to the Brent F. Miller Memorial Music Fund. Your donations help us to expand our musical offerings throughout the year, including our professional section leaders, music supplies, instrumentalists, and more. *Thank you!*

### **THE WORK OF MINISTRY**

#### ***Episcopal Church Women (ECW)***

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer. Stay safe and enjoy! Looking forward to seeing everyone at our September meeting! We have a lot planned for the rest of the year.

We continue to accept diapers for newborns, babies, and adults as well as women's hygiene products. The donation boxes are located on the stage in the Parish Hall.

#### ***Clothes Closet***

Stop by for our summer clearance sales at the Clothes Closet. We are open on July 4 and July 18 from 9:00am until noon. We are celebrating 250 years!! Look for our 4<sup>TH</sup> of July sale racks! Go, red, white, and blue. Everything is only \$2.

Our \$1 and \$2 racks are stocked with pants, shorts, summer tops, capris and so much more. Our fun in the sun rack is back and packed with bathing suits, coverups, beach shoes, and so much more for those days relaxing by the pool or at the beach. Everything has been reduced to \$2 and \$3. Some items are brand new with tags.

You can't beat our prices check out our beautiful selection of women's sundresses priced at \$4 or less. Sales, sales, sales on so many of our items. Our new must have rack has specially selected items that you must have!

Our men's racks are stocked with summer polos, shorts, bathing suits, and light summer slacks. Everything is only \$2. We offer a large selection of women's, men's, and children's clothing, shoes, accessories and so much more. Our women's plus rack is filled with great items. Don't pass it by. Everything is only \$1 or \$2.

Our beautiful women's summer boutique items are specially priced. Most items are priced at \$5 or less. Brand new never worn beautiful varieties to choose from. Also, look for the \$1 boutique rack with select items.

Don't pass up our jewelry display. So many beautiful items in vibrant colors and a variety of choices to highlight your spring and summer attire. Everything is only \$1. Our mixed medley rack is full of a variety of items to mix and match for your fun summer outings.

So many items to check out on our new arrival racks. Look for our new glitz and glam display. Lovely gowns, sparkly shoes, handbags, and accessories just perfect for your special occasion. Most items are \$5 or less.

Don't forget to stop by our free table! There is always something for everyone at the Clothes Closet!

See you soon!

**We are NOT accepting donations at this time.**

Please contact Linda Willard with any questions or if you would like to make a donation. Cell: 347-276-6491 or email Linda at [Nolaandboogie@aol.com](mailto:Nolaandboogie@aol.com) or cell phone: 347-276-6491.

See you soon!

### ***Laundry Love News***

Third Thursday 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 September.

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](mailto:pgrzella@verizon.net).

### ***Loose Change Sunday***

Loose Change Sunday is observed every first Sunday of the month, and our next dates are *Sunday, July 5 and Sunday, August 2*. Feel free to bring a jar (or a Ziplock) 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 in the alms basins. This money is placed into the Discretionary Fund and used to help the many who reach out to St. John's for assistance.

### ***Meals to Go***

Although we will discontinue serving meals on the first and third Saturdays of each month, we will continue to offer meals to those who come to our doors who are food insecure. People who desire to contact the church office who are hungry and in need of a meal can find a mutually convenient time for them to pick up a meal or two. Currently, we have new volunteers willing to supply the meals at no cost to the church and will deliver them on a periodic basis.

Once again, we are grateful to those who have volunteered over these few years serving in our Meals to Go ministry. Well done good and faithful servants! I am always here to help, listen, and learn. I am happy to engage in a conversation about how you could be involved with this ministry and/or next possible steps in to future.

*Faithfully yours in Christ,*

*Father Ron*



*We welcomed  
Siena Catherine Mercurio  
on June 7, 2026*



*We welcomed  
Maeve Olivia Newman  
on June 21, 2026*

# Keith & Kir's Garden Party - 2026



# The Ordination of Tiffany Campbell June 20, 2026



## WE CELEBRATE, WE REMEMBER: JULY 2026

### BIRTHDAYS

1. Roseann Brown
2. Carol Boyer, Justin Matyas
3. Connie Van Arsdale
4. Brian Hewett
5. Emerson McTernan
7. Clinton Bowers, Kelly Mehring, Rebecca Wiley
9. Nicholas Venet, Gabriel Ruiz
10. Cheyenne Britt, Joseph Gaitan
12. Kyle Ferris
13. Robin Fehring
14. Mark Hernandez, Dani Conceicao
15. Megan Roth
16. Paula Windus, James Barna
17. Elizabeth Eisinger
18. Aiden Hernandez
20. Lia Belle Buchanan, Steven Roll
22. Jonathan Marshall
23. Jessica Jacob
25. Rohan Tonk
26. Kristian Fried
27. Karl Spolarich, Caryle Steggall
28. Lynne Neff, Charlotte Metrokotsas
29. Michael Normant
31. Cherie Fox, Patrick Brienza

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2. Bob & Buffy Disko, Kelly & Brian Hamer

8. Daniel Lewis & Erika Daugherty
10. Sue & Russell Tepper
13. Cherie & Tony Pieroni
16. James & Alison Voss
17. Matt & Kimberly Fleming
18. William & Nihoko Hoffman
19. Robert & Christine Massey, Edward & Alison Manko
23. Andrew & Kelly Mehring, Steven & Carly Smith,
31. Michael & Sinead Normant

### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

1. Alexis Smith
4. Joseph H. Chapman, Beth Ann Manfredi
7. George Preston Fleet
8. Joseph P. Gaughan
9. Grace Vadala, Margaret Wachter, Shirley Rostron
10. Thomas L. Berry Jr.
11. Theresa Allgair
12. Dan Eldon, Salvatore Salzano
13. Jean Chittenden
19. Walter Miggins Sr., William Marshall Jr., Ben Neal
22. Lucy Matthews, Vincentina Frazer
25. Theodore F. Richart, Margaret Rogers
26. Jessamine & Richard Henderson
28. Florence Ellis
29. Lavona Oasler, Arthur Van Tassel, Linda Perrone
31. Regina L. Spolarich, Ruth Kletz

## AUGUST 2026

### BIRTHDAYS

2. William Vandever, Connor Soucier
3. Crystal Bowden, Thomas Brown, Jason Matyas, Pamela Ansbro
4. Emily Windus Muller, Mia Mlenak
5. Patrick Bower, Shaun Kecker
7. Ivan Rogalsky, Jessica Williams, Erik Franko, Katelyn Scott, Kathy Bakes
9. Karen Pompey, June Rose, Lucas Smith
10. Ava Poklikuha
11. Olivia Kutlow, Carolyn Groff
13. James Robert Van Arsdale, Geoffrey Osinski
14. Edward Manko IV
15. Roopal Tonk, John Nawrath, John Fuhrmann
16. Edward Manko
18. Amy Vadala
19. Buffy Disko, Graysen Fleming
20. Griff Dowden
22. Stuart Steggall
23. Gabriela Saenz, Crystal Marshall, Lorraine Westmoreland, Kristen Wawrzyniak
24. Cathleen Daniels, Chris Loree
25. Lynn Giordano, Andino Liberatoscioli, Jaxon McCann, Will Carlson, Chase Chudy
26. Jamie Case, Stephen Osinski
27. Ryan Pierson

28. Brian Santostefano, Dorothy Spolarich, Eliana Holerca
29. Dominick Abbatiello
30. Gloria Bower, Amelia Pieroni, Johanna Alzate
31. Karl Watts

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6. Vincenzina & Steve Mlenak
11. Paul & Marika Foreman, Michael & Katelyn Scott
12. Christine & Frank Tardiff
13. Johana & Esteban Soriano
15. Stephanie & David Soden
16. John & Kimberly Nawrath, John & Sheila Fuhrmann
28. Marc & Jill Brodsky

### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

1. Jay Vandever
12. Anna Recktenwald
15. Gertrude Miggins, JoAnn Ivas
16. Kermit Saunders
18. Florence Ann Jones
25. Lawrence Thomason
26. Roseann Wawrzyniak
28. Etta B. Demaray, Irene McCoy
29. Maurice Aiken

# July 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>4</b> <i>9am Clothes Closet</i> 	
<b>5</b> <i>Pentecost 6</i> <i>Proper 9A</i> <i>8am, Eucharist</i> <i>10:15, Eucharist</i> <i>Loose Change</i> <i>Sunday</i>	<b>6</b> <i>12:30-1:30, All</i> <i>Recovery Meeting</i> <i>8pm, AA Meeting</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>11</b>	
<b>12</b> <i>Pentecost 7</i> <i>Proper 10A</i> <i>8am, Eucharist</i> <i>10:15, Eucharist;</i>	<b>13</b> <i>12:30-1:30, All</i> <i>Recovery Meeting</i> <i>8pm, AA Meeting</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <i>5pm, Laundry Love</i>	<b>17</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>18</b> <i>9am Clothes Closet</i>	
<b>19</b> <i>Pentecost 8</i> <i>Proper 11A</i> <i>8am, Eucharist</i> <i>10:15, Eucharist</i>	<b>20</b> <i>12:30-1:30, All</i> <i>Recovery Meeting</i> <i>8pm, AA Meeting</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  <i>Saint Mary</i> <i>Magdelene</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>25</b>  <i>James the</i> <i>Apostle</i>	
<b>26</b> <i>Pentecost 9</i> <i>Proper 12A</i> <i>8am, Eucharist</i> <i>10:15, Eucharist</i>	<b>27</b> <i>12:30-1:30, All</i> <i>Recovery Mtg</i> <i>8pm, AA Meeting</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
			<hr/> <b>Fr. Ron's Vacation</b> <hr/>				

# August 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> 9am, Clothes Closet
<b>2</b> <i>Pentecost 10</i> <i>Proper 13A</i> 8am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist; <i>Loose Change</i> <i>Sunday</i> Fr. Matt Engleby, Preaching	<b>3</b> 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8pm, AA Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>7</b>
		Fr. Ron's Vacation				
				<i>The Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus</i>		
<b>9</b> <i>Pentecost 11</i> <i>Proper 14A</i> 8am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist; Fr. Matt Engleby, Preaching	<b>10</b> 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8 pm, AA Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7pm Vestry Mtg	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9 am Clothes Closet
		Fr. Ron's Vacation				
						<i>Saint Mary the Virgin Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ</i>
<b>16</b> <i>Pentecost 12</i> <i>Proper 15A</i> 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist	<b>17</b> 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8 pm, AA Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5 pm, Laundry Love	<b>21</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>22</b>
		Fr. Ron's Vacation				
<b>23</b> <i>Pentecost 13</i> <i>Proper 16A</i> 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist Mother Joyce Scheyer, Preaching	<b>24</b> 12:30-1:30, All Recovery Meeting 8 pm, AA Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Fr. Ron's Day off</i>	<b>29</b>
		Fr. Ron's Vacation				
<b>30</b> <i>Pentecost 14</i> <i>Proper 17A</i> 8 am, Eucharist 10:15, Eucharist Mother Joyce Scheyer, Preaching	<b>31</b>					

## St. John's in Somerville, Leadership

### PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Canon Ronald N. Pollock, *Rector*, frronpollock1@verizon.net  
The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, *Deacon Associate*, kmccoy1@optonline.net  
The Rev. Mark Hernandez, *Deacon*, episcopalmark@gmail.com  
Dr. Fred Irwin, *Guest Organist*, firwin@lakeland.k12.nj.us  
Karen Abbatiello, *Administrative Assistant*, admin@stjohnsomerville.org

### **Ministers: The People of St. John's**

#### Altar Guild

Diane Sireci, *Directress*, dianesireci61@icloud.com  
Tom Keefer, *Treasurer*, thomasekeefe@yahoo.com  
Dana Keefer, *Flowers, Weddings, & Funerals*, dzkeefe@yahoo.com  
Bread & Wine and Altar Candles, admin@stjohnsomerville.org



#### Music Program

### Canon Chancellor John W. Goldsack Church Library

Deacon Keith, kmccoy1@optonline.net

### Church School

Michelle Hernandez, chellehernandez1@gmail.com  
Tracey Jameson, tkayj@aol.com

### Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Linda Willard, *President*, nolaandboogie@aol.com

### Mary & Martha Guild

Fr. Ron, convener

### Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) Adviser

Fr. Ron

### Clothes Closet Council, clothescloset@stjohnsomerville.org

Taffy Scherr, Linda Willard, Paula Windus, Barbara Christel, Karen Whitmore

### Laundry Love

Paul Grzella, pgrzella@verizon.net

### Meals to Go

Christine Bean, cbean727@gmail.com, Gretchen Rotondo, [gretch.p@gmail.com](mailto:gretch.p@gmail.com)

### Red Door Ministries

Baby Blankets for newborns and those baptized: Pauline Boyer, 908.722.1832  
Loose-Change for Discretionary Fund:  
Happy Mealers: Fr. Ron

### Finance Committee

#### Stewardship

#### Treasurer

Sam Galpin, *Parish Treasurer*, sam.galpin@outlook.com  
Anne Tom, *Parish Co-Treasurer* annetom@comcast.net

#### Vestry

Terry McShane, Sr. Warden	Christine Anobile, Vestry
Steve Sireci, Jr. Warden	Tim Walsh, Vestry
Thomas Albee, Vestry	Liz Eisinger, Vestry
Donna Lazartic, Vestry	Anthony Pinto, Vestry
Ken Miller, Vestry	Kyle Ferris, Vestry
Carolyn Groff, Vestry	

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