

# ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

St. John's Episcopal Church • 325 Little Silver Point Road • Little Silver, NJ 07739  
732.741.7826 • Email: stjohnlittlesilver@verizon.net



## Rector

Rev. Valerie T. Redpath

## Deacon

Rev. Eve Chamberlain

## Parish Administrator

Janice Lima

## Treasurer

Lyle Connor

## Music Ministers

Karen Feeny

James Scavone

## Sexton

Orinzo Martinez

## Vestry

Paul Chalifour

*Sr. Warden*

Hazel Kelly

*Jr. Warden*

John Davies

Kate Galbavy

Curt Goss

Paula Hayes

Eileen Kennedy

Chris Nalbandian

Tom Perez

Amy Thomas

Beverly Van Winkle

## Reflections From the Rector

One of the seven principle Feast Days of the Christian year, Pentecost (also known as Whitsunday) is celebrated fifty days from Easter Sunday. Some may refer to it as the Birthday of the Church. On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ. As Paul says that God is not far from us; that, "In him we live and move and have our being" (Luke 17:28). It is the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, who enlivens us as individuals--empowering us with gifts that enable us to carry the Gospel into the world.

This icon depicts Pentecost with the Holy Spirit descending on each believer as "divided tongues of fire" (Acts 2:3)—that enlivening yet invisible divine energy that continues to move within and among us today. During this Easter season I have used the following blessing (attributed to William Sloan Coffin) during baptismal liturgies as a reminder for all of us that God desires to work through us.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God give you grace not to sell yourselves short, Grace to risk something big for something good, Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love.

May God take your minds and think through them.

May God take your lips and speak through them.

May God take your hands and work through them.

May God take your hearts and set them on fire. Amen.

# A BIG THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SUNDAY SCHOOL!

As of Easter, they raised another \$1,000 for Heifer International! Raising a total of \$3,000, the last 3 years! They chose to buy:

- Chickens
- 2 Fish
- 2 Goats
- 2 Llamas
- 1 Pig
- 1 Sheep
- 1 Seedling

They really wanted to have the animals live in their backyard, but after watching the Heifer video about how it helps bring a sustainable food and income source to families, they were all about donating it! (And I told them their moms would probably not be thrilled to have these animals come home, lol!)

Thank you for your support. We have grown our Sunday School exponentially over the last 3 years, and it is so exciting! The kids have grown their friendships and developed a true love for Bible Study. This year, we started our Google Earth Journey to Biblical locations! We set up our Sunday School Room like an airplane and visited Bethlehem, the Dead Sea, Egypt, Mount Zion & Jerusalem. It's really amazing and rewarding to get kids excited about giving back to their community and making the world a better place. We have enjoyed teaching Sunday school this year through Fantastic Faith Adventures each week.

In honor of our Sunday School we celebrated them with a "Buckets of Blessings Party". They also planted a Memorial Garden in honor of Mrs. Adelaide Sickles. I have attached a few pics to illustrate the joy that our children are sharing!

Thank you for your support!

Kate & Amy



## St. John's Book Club



Wednesday, June 14, 7 p.m.

at Paul Chalifour's (35 Leroy Place, Red Bank)

We'll discuss The Hobbit by JR Tolkien.

A great modern classic and the prelude to The Lord of the Rings. Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.



### Summer Worship Schedule

June 11 through Labor Day weekend

Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

## *Prayer Works*



We invite you to pray for those in our parish family and our friends who need our prayers. Our prayer list in our bulletin is for you to take home and pray daily for those listed. The list is below. Please call our office to add anyone.

Kathleen Bachman, Mike Biehl, Bruce & Lori Lynn, Lorraine Choma, Tom Cox, Michael, Amanda Edwards, Norman Erich, Karen Feeney, Barbara Finegan, Daniel Gabourel, Parisa Grayeli, Sue Gutmann, Stuart Hall, Roberta Hansen, Alison Hayes, Emily Hayes, Paula Hayes, Cindy Hulse, Alvaro Jaramillo, Evelyn Kelly, Ken, Barbara Lauro, Harriet Luckenbill, Kym, Michael Lima, Maria Madden, Michael, Mike & Laurie Ann, Liz Miltenberger, Merrily Morris, Rene O'Neil, Jean Otte, Andrew Pederson, Wendi Pederson, Jenny Perri, Mike Redpath, William Richardson, Ginger Raimann Roe, Grace Scott, Diane Steets, Diane Tresente, Justin Tucker, Jen Tyne, Dennis Young

## **Stewardship**

Stewardship of time and talent at St. John's is alive and well as seen on the weekend of May 20-21. Here is a snapshot of what happened. On that weekend, we had chalice bearers, lay readers, ushers, altar guild, flower guild and choir participation. The grounds were readied for spring planting and adults planted the Memorial Garden and the children planted Adelaide's Garden. The new men's group provided refreshments at coffee hour; the ECW finished up another successful clothing drive for Lunch Break. The vestry met.

Were you a part of this group? If not, why not expand your horizons? Give back to God—if only a small portion of the time and talent which has so generously been given to you. Please see our new website for more opportunities: [www.stjohnsls.com](http://www.stjohnsls.com)



## THANK YOU

To my St. John's Parish Family -

I would like to thank St. John's for once again supporting my participation in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

With your help I raised over \$1,000, and my sorority team raised over \$11,000. We are the #1 team in Dickinson College!

Thank you again for being an incredibly supportive community!

Kara Dixon



## MISSION POSSIBLE UPDATE

A reminder that payment of your pledge is due by Sunday, June 4, 2017. Checks should be identified for Mission Possible in the memo part of your check.

You may send your check to the Parish Office or place it in the plate at any service.

We are looking forward to sending out the funds to our chosen organizations, Covenant House Asbury Park, Cristo Rey Episcopal Church Trenton and Thistle Farm (based in Nashville, TN) in a timely manner and appreciate your cooperation in sending in your pledge payments by June 4.

Eliza Biehl, Mission Possible Coordinator

## Cathedral Sunday 2017

### Flower Festival Eucharist



The Right Reverend William H. Stokes enthusiastically invites everyone in our diocesan community to celebrate Cathedral Sunday on June 11, 2017,

Trinity Sunday, by joining in worship in a very special **Flower Festival Eucharist Service** beginning at 10:30 a.m. All are invited to a luncheon following the Eucharist highlighting the many vital urban ministries of Trinity Cathedral and to tour the magnificently adorned and historic Cathedral. **The cathedral will be decorated with numerous magnificent floral arrangements created by floral ministries and parishioners across the Diocese created at a floral workshop conducted the day before.** Bishop Stokes will be the Celebrant, and the Very Reverend Marshall Shelly, Dean of the Northern Convocation, will be the Preacher. In addition, the Bishop will perform Confirmation for any congregant seeking it. The lunch is free and docents will lead informal tours afterwards. All congregations are encouraged to send representatives to worship at “their second home church”.

**All floral ministries and interested parishioners are welcome and encouraged to participate in the free and professionally led workshop on Saturday, June 10th. All floral materials will be provided, as will lunch.**

For further information on the workshop and confirmation, contact Patrice D’Angelo at the Cathedral Office at 609-392-3805, x 100 or email: [patricedangelo@trinitycathedral.comcastbiz.net](mailto:patricedangelo@trinitycathedral.comcastbiz.net).



## A Service in Celebration of Our Various Abilities

June 3, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Trinity Cathedral Chapel, Trenton

Preacher and Celebrant – The Right Reverend William H. Stokes,  
Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey

Welcoming and celebrating the differing gifts and abilities of members of parishes and congregations of the Diocese of New Jersey, this Eucharist is for all of us, beloved of God, in all our various shapes and forms. Each of us, made in the image of a gracious God, hold high our dignity and joy in service to our Church and our Lord. This will be a time to support and uphold the many ways we may be called to serve, be it as ushers, singers, deacons, acolytes, etc. utilizing our many different abilities and gifts. Reception to follow. Sponsored by the Commission on Ministry with the Disabled.

Contact Donna Devlin at 732 277-9237 or sarahannb@aol.com for more information.



**EFM (Education for Ministry) classes** are being offered this fall at Christ Church, Middletown. The group will meet for 2 1/2 hours each week (there will be a morning and an evening group). Join a journey of study, prayer, reflection & fellowship. Participants are enlightened and challenged as they share their faith and questions. Contact Edna Marie Thomas at ednamariethomas@gmail.com. or 252-876-6843.



## From the Deacon's Desk

Dearest Friends,

I reread the following message from Bishop Steven Charleston this morning. And I thought about how valuable his words are for all of us. Perhaps you would be encouraged by them, too.

"What you do is critical. You may not think so because you see yourself as being without that much authority or influence, but the things you do count for much more than you may imagine. Every person you reach will touch a thousand more. The direction you share with a single person can turn the wheel of history over time. You are an important part of a great story. You are at the heart of the collective experience of your generation. What you say and do matters, so speak up, take a risk, and dare to be remembered."

And when read with this prayer from Paul's letter to the Ephesians - well, get ready to LIVE your life empowered!!! To God be the Glory!

"I ask—I ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers, oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!

Blessings to each of you!

Eve

## Warden's Update – May 2017

Easter season was celebrated joyously preceded by the more solemn days of Holy week. The garden in the church was a peaceful oasis for prayer and reflection as members sat and watched for an hour the night between Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Morning. The Easter Vigil service provided the first glorious service of the Easter celebrations. The Easter Feast was well attended with many enjoying delicious food and fellowship in the parish hall.

Lyle Connor continues to offer her ministry as the Treasurer with efficiency and diligence. The financials and pledges are on target at this time.

Mother Val performed three Baptisms this Easter season. Adam Moczerniuk and William Kresge, the Davies' grandsons, was held on April 23. Nora Billard, the Dennis' granddaughter, was held on April 30. Rosemary Francis' funeral was held on May 6 at the request of her family. She was the long time Sunday School coordinator and leader of the children's services. A memorial service for Carlotta Niles will be held on May 27th, which would have been her 104th birthday. There will be no scheduled confirmation this year at St. John's.

The annual spring clean up and planting is being overseen by Pat McTigue and volunteers are needed to assist with this task. May hands make light work!

Janice Lima has returned to her job as the parish administrator. It is obvious how much her skills are needed and relied upon when she is out for any reason. She has recovered well from her knee replacement. Thank you God!

Deacon Eve attended the night out for Covenant House in Newark, NJ on April 28, the day of the deluge rainfall and thunderstorm. Pledges to support her endeavor were appreciated and will be added to our Mission Possible donation to Covenant House Asbury Park. She will attend the Bishop's conference in Trenton on May 6. Another trips is planned to Nashville to attend a conference on Human Trafficking.

Sunday School is winding down and will finish off the year with the planting of Adelaide Sickles' Garden on May 21. It is hoped that a fun game (kickball, wiffle ball) can be played with parents and the children afterwards. There may also be a couple of pizza and movie nights for the children of Sunday School.

The newly formed Men's Group is working on a flexible schedule in order to accommodate the various schedules. New members are welcomed to join at any time. They are planning something special for Mother's day.

Outreach pledges for Mission Possible were over the goal once again this year = \$11,000. Pledges are due by June 4 so that they can be forwarded to the chosen recipients.

The church stove was recently cleaned and repaired and overseen by Chris Nalbandian. It looks great.

St. John's website is live. Eileen Kennedy was instrumental in getting it up and running; for this we are grateful. Take a look at the site: [www.stjohnsls.com](http://www.stjohnsls.com)

Buildings and Grounds continue to be an area of focus. John Davies has been in contact with plumbing services about repairing the sump pump. John temporarily repaired it so a big thank you for that! He will oversee getting the repair done in house. Estimates for major repair of the heating system are being obtained and the work will commence soon. The Rectory has some needed plumbing work involving a clogged sewer line. Also gutters need repair and cleaning out. A new storm door will be installed in the rectory.

The Lobby project will be deferred until the summer when the preschool is not in session. A contractor will install flooring with the rest of the work will be done by members of the church (painting, molding, hardware replacement.) This will be a very welcome improvement and make the parish hall look more welcoming to everyone that enters.

John will be compiling a wish list of things that need attention and hopefully parishioners will volunteer for some of the projects, small and large.

Book club, prayer committee and the knitters group meet regularly and new members are always welcome.

Minutes from the Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board.

Best regards, Hazel & Paul



## DISCOVER THE JOY OF BEING A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER

If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. VNA Health Group is offering training for all individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers in several counties throughout New Jersey.

Training will be provided by members of the VNAHG Hospice team on 3 consecutive : Thursdays, June 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 9:30am till 3:00pm at VNA Health Group, 23 Main Street, Suite D1 Holmdel, NJ .

There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers though home visitation, administrative support and special projects to support our mission of caring and compassion. Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions. To register, please call Pauline De Palma, BSW (732) 224-6933. For more information about VNAHG volunteer services visit [www.vnahg.org/volunteering](http://www.vnahg.org/volunteering)

### **“Northern Lights” Concert**



Monmouth Civic Chorus (of which Jim Scavone is a member) is presenting "Northern Lights" on Friday, June 2nd, 8:00 pm at St. Mary's Church in Colts Neck (1 Phalanx Road). The concert is filled with beautiful music from Scandinavia and the Baltic countries. If you are able to attend, you may be interested in attending the pre-concert talk with our artistic director, Ryan Brandau, about the rich choral tradition of these countries. If you are interested in attending, let Jim Scavone know. Tickets \$25/each.