

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES: October 11, 2015

NURSERY We now have a nursery! Parents who would like to join us in Sunday service may enroll their child in our new nursery care program from 9am – 12:30 pm. A nursery filled with games, puzzles, art, and music - all awaits your child (all children up to age 4 are welcome). Staffed by a former teen leader who is sensitive, creative, attentive and engaging, Ms. Carson AfKlinteberg. So please, do not let child care prevent you from enjoying your Sunday worship. We have it covered – nursery care (up to age 4) and Sunday school for ages 4 – teen. This program adds to our existing programs for our young, including the Cape Ann Choir School. Come, join us in worship and fellowship. All are welcome!

Save the Date! Come to the “Sustaining St. John’s” Potluck Supper Friday October 23rd at 6 pm. Afterwards, there will be a showing of the revised and refreshed Part 3 of “The History of St. John’s” movie.

MUSIC NOTES The choir sings Maurice Bevan’s setting of “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy.” Bevan was a singer at St. Paul’s Cathedral in London, the Deller Consort (a pioneering early music group), as well as with the Bevan Family Choir (with many of his 14 children!) Organ music is by Hugo Distler, the early 20th century German composer who found himself at odds with the Nazi takeover. Distler was captivated with intimate sounds and these pieces were conceived to be used such settings. The Entrance Hymn 680, “O God, our Help in Ages Past” is based on Psalm 90, a portion of which is appointed for the day. The Offertory Hymn 348 is “Lord, we have come at your own invitation,” is appropriate for Confirmation. The Communion hymns are 324 “Let all mortal flesh keep silence” and 346 “Completed, Lord, the Holy Mysteries.” The final hymn 655 “O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end,” though related again to Confirmation is also appropriate to the Gospel for the day.

Save the Date: November 1 at 4pm there will be an All Souls Service with poetry, music, prayer and small altars or shrines. To prepare for that there will be two Saturday shrine-making workshops, 10/17, and 10/24 from 9 to 1. You and your friends are invited– no art experience is necessary. All materials will be provided. It is a way of honoring loved ones, or a significant personal passage, or possibly making a prayer for a world concern. Sign up at the church or call Lynn Runnells, 978-515-7167

THE NEWS FROM “DOWN UNDER” AKA “The Thrift Shop”

People always ask.....What kind of things do you need for the Thrift Shop? Although we can take almost anything you are ready to pass along, with a few exceptions for electronics, there are some specific items requested by customers. Right now we have someone looking for any Red Sox or Patriots items, or sports cards of any kind. But mostly the recent requests have been from people who are finding the change of season worrisome or threatening. I

was unable to fill a gentleman's request for a pair of socks this week, although I found him a warm jacket and a pair of pants. Someone else has started his search for a pair of Men's size 10 waterproof boots. Sheets and blankets will move quickly this time of year, also. As you change out your summer clothes for the warmer items you will use through the winter, please pass along anything you are willing to share with another. There is a collection shelf at the top of the basement stairs. Thank you! Leave a message at 978-210-6808 or at whitneym777@yahoo.com for Martha for more information.

THE FORUM October 4, 2015

We continued in the book **Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life** Evangelism. The topic was Chapter 4, *Unbinding the Gospel: Three Stories of Victory*. The stories are about evangelism in three congregations from mainline protestant denominations, including a liturgical denomination, a Midwestern, Presbyterian parish. Each of the three was exploring evangelical prayer. Jesse Browning was the facilitator. He asked each of us to describe how we came to be at St. John's. We learned the many paths that had brought us here and to the Forum. Although many of us were long-time parishioners and thought we knew each other quite well, we all increased the fullness of our knowledge of each other. We concluded the session with sharing of our prayer experiences: individual prayer in the daily exercises and joint prayer with our prayer partners.

October 11, 2015. our topic will be Chapter 5 of **Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life**. The chapter explores the term "real life" through the lens of mainline Christian evangelism. During the Forum, we will explore Chapter 5 with the Discussion Questions and Exercise on pp. 68-69. We will examine the reflection on Week 2 of the Prayer Journal.

COUNTRY CUPBOARD FAIR (Saturday November 21st). This coming Tuesday (10/13) we'll work on cork wreaths and continue sorting through the wonderful donations of Christmas decorations and ornaments. Next Tuesday (10/20) we'll start making applesauce, butters and jelly from the abundance of our parking lot apple trees. Please join us from 9-11 in PHI. For more information call Gwen Kopka at 978-283-6951 or gwenkopka@comcast.net

BEHIND THE SCENES AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH Reports from Marge Bishop, Church Assistant.

Several years ago Arlene Wilson and I went to the installation of Charlie Moore (former assistant here) in Malden as their newly appointed rector. We decided to stop on Rte. 1 at the pancake house. We sat next to a young man I will call Henry. In the course of conversation the waitress would come by with more coffee and call him by name. I said "You must come here often." He said yes when he comes to town. I asked where he was from. He said he had not been back home since he was 16. His parents had both died. "I'm a performer in Vegas. I sometimes am sent up here to perform in Boston. "Would you like a picture?" He gave one to both Arlene and me. It was a picture of a beautiful woman. Arlene and I did not show any confusion on this. We departed and went on to Malden. That evening I sat down on my sofa to start to watch TV and glanced at a picture on the wall of Allen

Pedersen (Bruins) who called me “mom” and I called him “son.” I found myself thinking of Henry (actually Hayley) who did not have any parents anymore. I e-mailed her and asked her if she would like an e-mail mom. She responded immediately and said “I would love a cyber mom!” ... *to be continued.*

P.S. Joe was at the city hall on Tuesday watching the presentation of Domestic Awareness Month.

Prayer & remembrance service for Bishop Shaw to be offered October 17 in Quincy

A simple service of prayer and remembrance for the Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE on the one-year anniversary of his death will be offered on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 3 pm at Christ Church (12 Quincy Avenue) in Quincy. All are invited and welcome. 617-482-4826, ext. 221. The Very Rev. Jep Streit, Dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, offers the following prayer, used by the group of pilgrims making a walking pilgrimage from the cathedral at this time last year. Adapted from A New Zealand Prayer Book:

Gracious God, nothing in death or life, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. We commend Tom into your loving care, entrusting that you enfold him with your grace in his rising again in you. Bless those whose hearts are filled with sadness, that they too may know the hope of resurrection; for the sake of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THIRD QUARTER PLEDGE STATEMENTS are ready for pick-up in the parish hall or church office. Thank you.

Advent Wreath Dec. 20. (\$25.00) is available. Sign-up is in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings or next to the Sacristy door during the week. Thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. JOHN’S EXPERIENCE THE “GOOD NEWS” each week through drama, art, music and movement. Sunday School begins at 9:15 am.

Saint John’s Episcopal Church — StJohnsGloucester.org

48 Middle Street, Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930-5795

Parish Office Telephone: 978.283.1708—Pastoral Emergencies 978.290.6331

WiFi password = 9782831708

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 8am-noon during which the Church is open for prayer and meditation.

Alan McIntosh Gates, Bishop of Massachusetts & Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan

The Rev. Bret Bowie Hays, Rector

Mark Edward Nelson, Music Director

Jay DiPrima, Director of Youth Ministry

Betsy Levick, Parish Administrator

Marjorie I. Bishop, Church Assistant

Staff e-mail: first name+@stjohnsgloucester.org

Cloe the Dog, Parish Mascot

Wardens: Gwen Kopka & Astrid afKlinteberg

Clerk: Libby Browning

Treasurer: Elizabeth Redmond

Assistant Treasurer: Karen Kasper

VESTRY

2016 – Naomi Astyk, Lin York-Robbins, Martha Whitney

2017 – Norm Barr, Ian Bedford, Sara Stotzer

2018 – Len Berry, Lydia Priest, Carole Secrest

St. John's Stewardship "SUSTAINABILITY" Moment 2015

Sunday, October 3, 2015

My name is Gwen Kopka, and I'd like to share some thoughts about why it's important to me to support St. John's.

A few Saturdays ago I was scheduled to make the Action Shelter lunches. I was feeling burdened with a number of problems in my life that had no easy answers. I felt alone and responsible. Head down, I pushed my cart through Market Basket, piling in the bread, meat and cheese, fruit and cookies. I don't know about you, but when I'm in a funk, I start looking at everything in terms of paucity and fear, certainly not abundance and joy. By the time I reached the check-out counter, I had developed a full head of negative steam. How did this play out? I decided that the lunches would be "good enough" without the cookies, even though they were on sale, and even though they were one of my favorites, Keebler Fudge Stripe!

I piled the cookies at the end of my checkout order to more easily return them, and a man behind me struck up a conversation on the amount of food I was buying. He even made me laugh when he told me to call him when we turn on the "Barbi". I told him about the Action Shelter Sandwich program and his expression changed. He was impressed at what a great lunch this would be, adding, "And Keebler cookies too. My favorite!" By this time we were chatting, and I told him I had decided to leave the cookies out, given all the other food. He beamed and insisted on buying them. When I told him he was an angel, he demurred, saying that he wears off quickly. But I assured him that at that moment he truly was an angel for me.

My spirits were immediately lifted. It was as if the sun had just come out. I had been asking God for help with the problems I was facing, and I had just received the most wonderful and loving "dope slap" in the form of this man's offer. I was reminded that God is always with me, my problems would get resolved, and life will continue to move forward.

I will support St. John's because this is the Christian community within which I am learning how to live my faith. I hope you will give some thought this week as to how St. John's helps you to live out your faith as well. Thank you.

October 11, 2015: The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

8 am: Amos 5:6-7,10-15— Psalm 90:12-17 BCP p. 718—Hebrews 4:12-16—Mark 10:17-31

Hymn 680

Participating in the Liturgy	<i>The People of God gathered in St. John's Church</i>
Presiding	The Rev. Bret Bowie Hays, Rector
Preaching	Julian, Sebastian and Iona Murray-Brown
(8) Lector	Norm Barr
Euch. Minister/Intercessor	Paul McGeary
Acolyte	Norm Barr
Usher	Pam Sweet
(10:30) Lectors	Pete Goodwin & Sara Stotzer
Eucharistic Ministers	Marjorie Fergusson & Cecily Merrell
Intercessor	DeeDee Bedford
Acolyte	Barbara Soreng
Ushers	Gene Newman & Joan Gorga
Greeters	Pete & Jan Goodwin
Preparing for the Liturgy	
Altar Guild	Karen Kasper & Mary McCarl
Flower Guild	Rosemary Sullivan
	Bread bakers Kim Prentice, Janet Williams, Catherine McGeary & Sue Lupo

- **FOOD BANK** for next week: **Peanut Butter** The Cape Ann Food Pantry can only accept unexpired items in original packaging.
- St. John's Action Shelter **Sandwich Program** this week is by Don & Mary Cole.
- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in memory of The Nichols and Gorman families given by Jane Walsh and Nancy Parnell.
- **THE SANTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of Arlene Wilson given by Pearl and Marcia Dorey.

St. John's Intercession List

Short term: Jean Harker, Clayton Dyett, Laura Boddie, Sandy Withers, Billy Secrest, Kate Culhane, Gail, Carla Giengregorio, the Senft family, Lois Schenck, Bob McTeague, Christine Gillis, Jeanne Martin, Denise McKenzie, Carole Secrest, Tamara Moulton and Christopher Spellman.

Long term: Penney, Elvira "Mary" Spinney, Christopher Secrest, Janet Williams, Eric Runnells, Ruth Campos, David Arnold, Sally Brown, Jon Brown, Nancy McCarthy, Dick and Phyllis McGinnis, Annette Biggar, Neil Woodberry, John Cobb & Mary Frear, Ben Shepard, Charlie Currier, Guy Maychszak, Glo Richardson, Nancy Poland, Maxine Lupo, Susan Richardson, Ted and Linda Lavery, Mary McIntyre, Elizabeth Kaul, Mark Brophy, Nancy Feldman, Marilyn Prentiss, Anne Brantley Betts.