Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
(Member of the Broome/Chenango District)

The Parish News

www.stannsaftonny.org

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

Clergy: Currently Supply Priests

If you desire a visit from a priest or give you a call, please contact one of the wardens below.

Wardens: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Betty Vail 607-639-1201

WHEN MOUNTAINS MOVE

"He granted their request because they trusted in Him."

1 Chronicles 5:20 HCSB

Are you a person who confidently asks God to move mountains, or do you timidly ask Him to push around a few molehills? God is perfectly capable of moving either molehills or mountains, so it's up to you to decide whether you want His help on big projects or just on the small ones.

God has promised that when you ask for His help, He will not withhold it. So, ask. Ask Him to meet the needs of your day. Ask Him for wisdom. Ask Him to lead you, to protect you, and to correct you. And don't hesitate to ask Him to do big things in your life and in the lives of your loved ones.

God stands at the door and waits. When you knock on His door, He answers. Your task, of course, is to seek His guidance prayerfully, confidently, and often.

God uses our most stumbling, faltering faith-steps
as the open door to His doing for us "more than we ask or think."

From "God's Little Instruction Book II"

A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to unravel.

****

…pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace…His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest…

Philippians 4:6,7 TLB

NOV/DEC SERVICE SCHEDULE

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

If you are not currently receiving email Zoom invites, then please send your email address and you will be added to the parish listing. Bettom415@aol.com, Yes, the "zoom" service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule						
Date	**Service**	**MP/Priest Leader**	**OT Reader**	**Epistle Reader**	**Acolytes**	
Nov 1	MP	D. Wieber	S. Botzki	S. Botzki	B. Vail	
Nov 8	HC	Rev. DV Mitchell	J. Rettberg	J. Rettberg	B. Vail	
Nov 15	MP	B. Vail	C. Cimini	C. Cimini	B. Vail	
Nov 22	HC	Rev. DV Mitchell	K. Carbone	K. Carbone	B. Vail	
Nov 29	HC	Rev. R. Schaal	B. Vail	B. Vail	B. Vail	
Dec 6	MP	B. Vail	S. Botzki	S. Botzki	B. Vail	
Dec 13	MP	B. Vail	T. Botzki	T. Botzki	B. Vail	
Dec 20	MP	D. Wieber	A. Weiber	A. Weiber	B. Vail	
Dec 24 3:00 PM	HC	TBD	Lessons and Carols		B. Vail	
Dec 27	MP	B. Vail	B. Vail	B. Vail	B. Vail	
Jan 3	ZOOM SERVICE					

READINGS BELOW						
		MP/Priest Leader	**Old Testament**	**Psalm**	**New Testament**	**Gospel**
Nov 1	MP	D. Wieber	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
Nov 8	HC	Rev. DV Mitchell	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalm 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Nov 15	MP	B. Vail	Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Nov 22	HC	Rev. DV Mitchell	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
Nov 29	HC	Rev. R. Schaal	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
Dec 6	MP	B. Vail	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
Dec 13	MP	B. Vail	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8,19-28
Dec 20	MP	D. Wieber	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Canticle 3 or Canticle 15 *or* Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:26-38
Dec 24 3:00 PM	HC	TBD	Lessons and Carols			
Dec 27	MP	B. Vail	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 147	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7	John 1:1-18
Jan 3	ZOOM SERVICE					

If you are looking at the above table on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.

ALTAR GUILD for November is Carol Cimini, 607-693-2907and Betty Vail, 607-639-1201. Betty Vail will cover December. If you desire to have flowers on the Altar in memory of a loved one, please contact Betty Vail a week in advance.

St. Ann's Prayer List *for Nov/Dec 2026*

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. We would like to be sure that this prayer list is updated as changes occur as we do not want to remove someone that should be on it. Please send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 607-639-1201. Please note that long term names will remain on the list indefinitely, short term names will typically be left on the listing for 3 or 4 months or longer.

Short Term			Long Term			
Melrose			Dorothy		Fr. Steven White	Epiphany Church
Carol T.			Mya		Pastor Becky	St. Paul's Church
Gary			Bobbi		Fr. Geoff Doolittle	St. Andrews's Church
Dorothy			Jason		The Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe	St. Ann's Church
Marge			Cindy		Bishop Sean Rowe	St. Matthew's Church
Garrett			David		The Rev. Liz Groskoph	St. Peter's Church
Carol C.			Arthur		The Rev. Dawn-Victoria Mitchell	Zion Church
Mado			Joanne		Deacon David	Message Ministries
					Emanuel Church	The General Theological Seminary
					The Episcopal Divinity School	Berkeley Divinity School



Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –Cindy Trick (hospital),Melrose Kelly, and Bobbi Zurn

The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.

HOME FREE

If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

John 8:36 (NASB)

Most of us remember hot summer nights playing the game hide-and-seek with neighborhood friends. The goal was to reach a designated point and cry "home free!" without first being detected by the person doing the seeking.

Many of us play a version of that game daily, hoping to make it home without encountering more of the world's worries and pains. We want to arrive safely and soundly where family members or friends can nurture us. Home is a place we like to be completely and delightfully "free."

At home we are free to be ourselves—to talk, to praise the Lord, to show our love, to give, to receive, to relax, to do what we like to do rather than what others demand we do. These qualities certainly make home an attractive place.

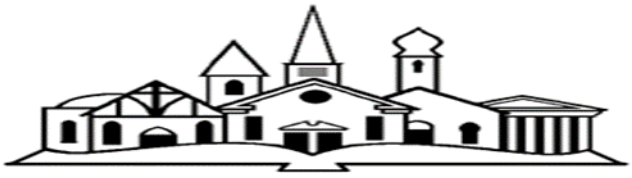
There are some, however, who consider home a place where they are free to dump personal frustration, free to express anger or hostility free to rule and reign as a bully. Such freedom doesn't quite make for a "home free" atmosphere.

To arrive home with a real "home free" attitude, dump the excess baggage of frustration, stress, and anger before you get home. That may mean taking time for prayer before you leave the office, or in your car. It may mean stopping by a gym to work out or staying at the office an extra hour to get your work done there rather than bringing it home.

A home that is "free" is a wonderful place. Freedom, however, must be guarded, cherished, and protected – not taken for granted or abused. We can safely reach home base to joyfully declare "Home Free!"

St. Ann's Vestry meeting hi-lites

- **Outreach for September went ½ to Chenango County Red Cross and ½ to Operation Smile.**
- **In addition, a generous contribution was made to the Afton VFW to help with their plans for a veteran's memorial at Foster Park. They are just over 80% of their goal which is around $90,000. Additional contributions are most welcome.**
- **The church and parish hall were powered washed and look great.**
- **Also, the "workday" to spruce up the landscaping around the church was a great success and looks very good.**
- **The UTO fall ingathering will be 11/8. It was decided to round up the total of giving to the next higher $100.**
- **Stewardship Sunday will be 11/1.**
- **The Afton Inter-church council thanksgiving service will be held at St. Ann's. Mado is replacing the faulty control on the furnace in the Parish Hall.**
- **The financial report was accepted and the check copies for the past month were reviewed and approved.**



CHURCH TERMS: ALL SAINTS DAY – November 1. A day commemorating those who have died in the faith.

A FRESH SUPPLY OF HOPE

"Each generation can set its hope anew on God, remembering his glorious miracles and obeying his commands." **Psalm 78:7 NLT**

Today you have every reason to rejoice. After all, God remains in His Heaven, and the sun has risen on another day of life. But when the demands of living seem great, you may find yourself struggling to rejoice; you may feel exhausted and discouraged. That's when you need a fresh supply of hope---and God is ready, willing, and able to supply it.

The advice in Proverbs 4:25 is clear-cut: "Keep your eyes focused on what is right, and look straight ahead to what is good" (NCV). Strive to maintain a positive, can-do attitude---an expectant attitude that lifts your own spirits and the spirits of your friends and neighbors.

As you face the challenges of the coming day, ask God for another daily dose of hope. When you ask sincerely, you will receive.

Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow; it empties today of its strength.
(Corrie ten Boom)



Birthday	Anniversary
11/6 Robin Felldin	**11/15 Ron and Cindy Sherman**
	11/24 Aland Pat Tucker

DECEMBER

Birthdays	Anniversary
12/08 Woody Robbins	12/05 Dave & Nancy Setford
12/20 Dan Vail	12/17 Bobbi and Gary Zurn
12/30 Stephan Botzki	

Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary cttallmadg@aol.com or 607-343-1301.

Dates to remember



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY is November 1st

The Episcopal Church has traditionally approached parish financial support with a once yearly Stewardship Sunday or, as it used to be called, an Every Member Canvass. This was done to provide some idea of expected financial support so that a budget could be developed for the coming year. It is not meant to "pressure" anyone and the individual "pledges" or "intentions" can be changed during the year if conditions change for the contributor. It is difficult to prepare a budget for the coming year unless we have some idea of the expected financial support of parishioners.

Our parish continues to be blessed with financial supporters that contribute regularly for the support of St. Ann's. As has been the case for many years, there are people who pledge a specific amount and people who give regularly without making a formal pledge. In addition, we are blessed to have several people who support St. Ann's financially, even though they live out of the area and cannot attend services. These people are referred to as "St. Ann's Angels" and their support is most helpful in meeting our financial obligations.

It takes a certain level of income to support the operation of a church and St. Ann's is blessed to have people who meet this need on a continuing basis.
This year, Stewardship Sunday will be November 1st.

It is not too soon to give prayerful thought to your financial support of St. Ann's for the coming year.

Fall UTO Sunday will be November 8th.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING CHURCH SERVICE will take place at St. Ann's Church on Tuesday, November 24th at 6:30 p.m. Please invite your friends and family to join in for this traditional service.

CHRISTMAS EVE service with Lessons and Carols will take place at St. Ann's on December 24th at 3p.m. Rev. Dawn Mitchell will conduct Holy Eucharist. The service is early due to Mother Dawn Mitchell having another church to serve later that day. Everyone is welcome to this Christmas celebration.

The following are used by permission from The JoyfulNoiseletter.com.





from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
©metzgercartoons.com
Reprinted with permission

Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Father, all Powerful,

Your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite.

As we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

- The Roman Missal

"Christmas is the season of joy, of holiday greetings exchanged, of gift-giving, and of families united."
— Norman Vincent Peale

"It is a fine season for joy to think of those we love."
— Molière

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."
— Will Ferrell, *Elf*

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."
— Charles Dickens

"God is not a God of sadness, but the devil is. Christ is a God of joy. It is pleasing to the dear God whenever thou rejoices or laughs from the bottom of thy heart."
— Martin Luther

We are nowhere forbidden to laugh, or to be satisfied with food, or to be delighted with music.
— John Calvin

Mirth is God's medicine. Everyone ought to bathe in it. Grim care, moroseness, anxiety — all this rust of life — ought to be scoured off by the oil of mirth."
— Henry Ward Beecher

Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God.
— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

"Life kisses us on both cheeks, day and morn, but laughs at our deeds eve and morn."
— Kahil Gibran

An Annunciation

is an announcement, but not just any announcement. It's way more important than hearing that today's school lunch is tacos or that biology class won't be dissecting today because someone liberated the frogs.

The most important annunciation in the Bible came when the angel Gabriel told a normal teenager named Mary that a baby would be born who would save the world and, by the way, the baby would be God's Son and, also by the way, she would be the mom.

That annunciation is still repeated by little angels to little girls in blue bathrobes in Christmas pageants all around the world. It's just as great today as it was the first time.

—From The Funny Shape of Faith

I couldn't sleep because I cheated on my income tax, so I sent the IRS $1,000. If I still can't sleep I will send the rest.

I can't stop thinking that I am goat. It's been this way since I was a kid.

I have a carrot in my nose. I am not eating properly.

I once dated my x-ray technician, but people couldn't imagine what she saw in me.

I recently took up meditation. It's better than sitting around doing nothing.

I am in a three-piece band; we only know three pieces.



"We're looking for a new church. What's your Yelp rating like?"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
©Bob Vojtko
Reprinted with permission

Christmas Eve Eve — The day parents everywhere come face-to-face with how much they still haven't cleaned, cooked or wrapped.

Child: Mom, guess what a parent's favorite holiday is.

Mom: What?

Child: Christmas. Because Santa takes care of everything and you just sit back and relax.

Mom: It's a huge relief, yes.

You know you have become your mother when your children ask what you would like for Christmas and you hear yourself say: I just want you to get along for one whole day.

God gave us two ends to use, one to sit with and one to think with. It's up to us which one we choose. Heads, we win; tails, we lose.

How did the millionaire reward Santa? He put a Clause in his will.

Why did Santa visit the doctor before Christmas? He needed a flu shot before sliding down all those chimneys.

A driver tucked this note under the windshield wiper of his car: "I've circled the block for 20 minutes. I'm late for an appointment and if I don't park here, I will lose my job. 'Forgive us our trespasses.'"

When he came back he found a parking ticket and this note: "I've circled the block for 20 years and if I don't give you a ticket, I will lose my job. 'Lead us not into temptation.'"

Oil was found on the property of a small church of 40 members. As the money began to roll in, they called a special meeting to decide what to do with the money.

Deacon Brown said, "I move we divide this money among the forty members — and further, I move that no new members be taken in."

I worried so long one night about where the sun is that it finally dawned on me.

I put my son in the refrigerator; I didn't want to spoil him.

I wanted to go to the new restaurant on the moon, but someone said that while the food was good, there was no atmosphere.

The psychiatrist asked me my occupation; when I told him auto mechanic, he told me to get under the couch.

I caught a thief taking my gate, but I didn't do anything because I thought he might take a fence.

I went to the library last week but they wouldn't let me in; they said they were all booked up.

I wanted to recite Lincoln's Gettysburg address, but I don't know where he lives.

I told the photographer his portrait of me doesn't do me justice, and he told me I don't need justice, I need mercy.

St. Ann's Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 22
Afton, New York 13730

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER. STUDY AND ACTION

Clergy: Currently Supply Priests

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

