

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

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
(Member of the 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 Tracey Tallmadge: 607-343-1301



JOYOUS CHRISTIANITY

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

Luke 1:46-47

Some people think that the Christian faith is a heavy, and sometimes unbearable burden. They frown upon any appearance of lightheartedness in spiritual matters. But God intended something far different.

Christianity does not eliminate joy and happiness from life. On the contrary, it fills your life with abundant joy. Through fellowship with Christ, you can know the blessing of His presence every day. The more you praise and thank Him, the more happiness you get from life.

Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Your faith and surrender to Christ should bring His joy to every area of your life.

Dear Lord Jesus, I continually delight in the knowledge that You are always with me. Amen

Prayer for the selection of a Rector.



_Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

NOVEMBER 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. Bottom415@aol.com, Yes, the “zoom” service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule					
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	Acolytes	
Nov 5	MP	C. Cimini	C. Cimini	B. Vail	
Nov 12	MP	P. Tucker	T. Tallmadge	B. Vail	
Nov 19	HC	B. Vail	B. Vail	B. Vail	
Nov 26	MP	T. Tallmadge	T. Tallmadge	B. Vail	
Dec 3	HC	A. Cimini	A. Cimini	B. Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
Nov 5	MP	Joshua 3:7-17	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
Nov 12	MP	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalm 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Nov 19	HC	Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Nov 26	MP	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
Dec 3	HC	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.					

MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:

Nov 5 - D. Wieber

Nov 12 – B.Vail/T.Tallmadge

Nov 26 – C. Cimini



ALTAR Duty for the month of November is Carol Cimini 607-693-2907 and Betty Vail 607-639-1201. If you desire flowers on the Altar on a given Sunday, please contact Betty at 607-639-1201 a week in advance.

St. Ann's Prayer List for November 2023

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 and don't 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 be left on the list indefinitely, short term names will typically be left on the listing for 3 or 4 months or perhaps longer.

Short Term		Long Term			
Dorothy	Anne	Carol	Cindy	Fr. David Hanselman	St. Paul's Church
MaryAnn	Judy	Mya	David	Fr. Steven White	St. Andrews's Church
Bill		Holly	Terra	Pastor Becky	St. Ann's Church
		Bonnie	Arthur	Fr. Geoff Doolittle	St. Peter's Church
Bishop Michael Curry		Bobbi	Jason	The Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe	Zion Church St. Matthew's Church
				James Kim	Message Ministries
				The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph	The General Theological Seminary
				Emanuel Church	The Episcopal Divinity School
				Epiphany Church	James

Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –
Carol Vail and Bonnie MacPherson

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.*



Anniversaries

11/15 Ron & Cindy Sherman
11/24 Al & Pat Tucker



Birthdays

11/ 6 Robin Felldin
11/15 Sophia Hanselman

Please let me know if I am missing a
or 607-343-1301

Birthday or Anniversary cttallmadg@aol.com



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

ADVENT – December 3, 2023 – Latin, “coming.” The first season of the Church Year, which begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas. The first Sunday is called Advent Sunday. A period of preparation for the coming of the Lord at Christmas and at the end of time, it lasts for four weeks, ending at Christmas. Liturgical color: violet

Neighbors in Need

*Above all these things put on charity,
which is the bond of perfectness.*

We know that we are instructed to love our neighbors, and yet there's so little time, and we're so busy. No matter. We are to love them just as we love ourselves. To love our neighbors as God intends, we must first slow down long enough to understand their needs. Slowing down, however, is not as simple as it seems.

We live in a fast-paced world with pressures and demands that often sap our time and our energy. Sometimes we may convince ourselves that slowing down is not an option, but we're wrong. Caring for our neighbors must be our priority because it is God's priority.

If you don't love those around you, who will? Today look for a neighbor in need....and then do something to help Father's orders.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

Loretta Scott



Brass cleaning for the Thanksgiving season and Christmas season will take place immediately after the Morning Prayer service on November 5th. About five or six people are needed for this ministry.



Vestry information for October

1. The annual meeting was held on October 1, 2023. Elected to position of Vestryperson for a 3-year term, Amy Wieber and Betty Vail.
2. Elected to position of Warden for a 2-year term, Dan Vail.
3. Reports from organizations were presented. Financial report presented by Gary Zurn.
4. Outreach for September was split between "Food for the Poor" and "Mercy House."
5. Outreach for October was designated the New York Diocese for help with their recent flooding. We were unable to connect with the contact person on their website. Subsequently decided to send October outreach to the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem, subject to vestry approval. They support schools and hospitals in the City of Jerusalem.

"Religion can survive in the absence of freedom. But freedom without religion is dangerous and unstable. Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

George Washington in his farewell address.

A man told his friend that he had been working to get rid of a lot of old "stuff" in the attic of his house. He said, "I was even able to throw out a large, old Bible that had been printed by some guy named Gooden... or Gutten..." "Not Guttenberg!?" his friend said, astounded. "Yeah, that's it."

"But don't you know that's a priceless, very rare Bible.?" "I don't think so," the man replied. "It had scribbles in all the margins by some guy named Martin Luther."

You know inflation is high when it takes five apples a day to keep the doctor away.

"We will never have true civilization until we have learned to recognize the rights of others." Will Rogers

[The United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church](#)

The fall "ingathering" for the UTO, this year, will be November 5th. Please think about how we have all been blessed and consider supporting this worthy cause. Contributions may be mailed directly to St. Ann's or put in the enclosed envelope and placed in the offering on a Sunday service.

November 5, 2023



WE AT ST. ANN'S ARE SPIRITUALLY ALIVE

Based on the Great Commandment

Matthew 22:35-38: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment."*

- + We love God with our whole being through Worship.
- + We are inspired by the Holy Spirit to express loving God through Music
- + We seek to love God more fully through Prayer and Spiritual Practices.

The following are taken from the Joyfulnoiseletter with permission

Jokes pastors can tell

Fr. Joseph C. Mol, a police chaplain in Justice, IL, and creator of the "RX for Laughter" series, passed along this funeral story:

A woman's husband died and left her \$30,000. After paying for the funeral home and cemetery, she told her closest friend that there was nothing of the \$30,000 left.

"How can that be?" the friend asked.

The widow said, "Well, the funeral cost me \$6,500. And, of course, I made a donation of another \$500 to the church. And I spent another \$500 for the wake, food and drinks. The rest was for the memorial stone.

The astonished friend exclaimed, "\$22,500 for a memorial stone? My goodness, how big is it?"

The widow said, "Ten carats."



A little girl asked her mother, "Why do they rope off the aisle at a wedding? So the bridegroom can't get away?"



After listening restlessly to a long and tedious sermon, a six-year-old boy asked his father what the preacher did the rest of the week.

"Oh, he's a very busy man," the father replied. "He takes care of church business, visits the sick, ministers to the poor... And then he has to have time to rest up. Talking in public isn't an easy job, you know."

The boy thought about that, then said: "Well listening ain't easy, either."

— Msgr. Arthur Tonne
Jokes Priests Can Tell



Having waited in the doctor's office for a long time with her 14-year-old son, Luke, a mother remarked, "The doctor must have a lot of patients."

"So do they," her son responded.





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The pattern of love

*There are patterns in snowflakes
Exquisite to see,
There are patterns to go by
God gave you and me,
But the very best Pattern
At Christmas took birth -
God gave Jesus to Mary
To teach love on Earth.*

– Sr. M. Gemma Brunke
Newark, NJ

The first & last word

*"The first and last word belong
to God and therefore not to death
but life, not to sorrow but joy, not
to weeping but laughter. For
surely, it is God who has the last
laugh."*

– Rev. Conrad Hyers
via Joseph Basehart
Aurora, CO

(Editor's note: Rev. Conrad Hyers (1933-2013) was a Presbyterian minister and professor of religion at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. He was the author of a couple books on humor in religion. He was a consulting editor and contributor to *The Joyful Noiseletter* since its beginnings.)

The Final Word

Procrastination/Service: Matthew 25:14-30 – Story of three servants “....a man going on a trip. He called together his servants and gave them money to invest.....But from those who are unfaithful, even what little they have will be taken away.....”

Jesus’ parable is about boldly investing the gifts God has given us. But on a secondary level it might also teach us about procrastination. The “one talent” servant buried his money in the ground because he feared failure. He couldn’t bear the thought of losing the money and facing his boss. Yet tragically he found that his procrastination and fear led to a total loss anyway. Jesus is telling us we should fear wasting our talents more than we fear failure itself. What are the fears that keep you from bold action for Christ’s Kingdom?

While secular values like self-promotion and competitive ladder climbing are not to be translated into spiritual life the idea of investing resources for profit is one, we are encouraged to adopt in Jesus’ parable three servants receive money from their master. Each of us have received resources from God: time, ability, and opportunity. Like the servants in the parable, we can choose-- out of fear, laziness, or disinterest-- to bury our resources or we can find a way to put our gifts to work to earn a profitable return. Whether we have five “bags of gold” or only one, God expects us to invest our lives boldly in his service. Have you identified the resources he has entrusted you with? How might we invest them for the maximum “Kingdom return”?

NLT - GEZ

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

