

St. John's Good News



Lent 2023

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent provides us with an opportunity to examine our lives and our priorities. We are now emerging from our Covid isolation and starting a new chapter of our history. For these 40 days, we consider the time Jesus spent in the wilderness trying to find out what it means to be Jesus. We are invited to spend this time to figure out what it means to be ourselves.

Though this is sometimes an unsettling proposition (for there is much about ourselves which frightens and disturbs us) we do so with the knowledge that our lives are Holy. There are several opportunities to offer mutual support in this Season at St. John's. I list a few below for your prayerful consideration.

Lenten Book Discussion Group: *Entering The Passion of Jesus* by Amy Jill Levine. Dr. Levine is a Jewish Scholar who has a deep love for Jesus. She teaches New Testament at Vanderbilt University and brings a Jewish perspective to these New Testament texts. We will be gathering each Tuesday during Lent at 10 a.m. Please let me know if you would like a copy of the book and I will insure that you get one.

International Bible Study Each Wednesday at 2 P.M. Meeting *Jesus in John's Gospel*. We will be joining congregations in Italy, England, and Canada (see pg. 2).

Wednesday Night Prayers on Zoom at 8:45.

Healing Judgment online Lenten retreat, Saturday, March 18, 9:30 a.m.-noon: This free online retreat is open to all and aims to create a space in which to grow in self-awareness, self-acceptance and compassion for self, one another and our wounded, magnificent world.

Though I realize that many of you have heavy demands upon your time, I invite you to make some space in our consciousness to listen to the voice of God. In this process, you will re-discover your own true voice.

I pray you have a blessed and Holy Lent.

Peace on all your houses,
John+

March
2023

Sunday worship remains at 10am, in-person and virtually: All are welcome to participate, and seating capacity is now at 75. The service also continues to broadcast via Zoom, with link options shared by email.

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@StJohnsSaugus

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Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

Meeting Jesus in John's Gospel

Led by alumni of Montreal Diocesan Theological College w/ congregations from Italy, England, Canada, and the United States.

March 1st and 8th at 2 p.m.
March 15th and 22nd at 3 p.m.

To receive the Zoom link, kindly email Rev. John.

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Johnson Scholarship

The application for the 2023 Alice V. Johnson Scholarship is now available – they are due back by 3/26/23. Active Episcopal Church members in the Mystic Valley Deanery are eligible. The application asks students to secure 2 letters of recommendation, one of the recommendations should be from the clergy or warden of their church. Applications and letters of recommendation are to be sent to [paulette_amisano\(at\)mail.com](mailto:paulette_amisano(at)mail.com) last year's recipients have been sent the application directly. For more details and to apply, contact the church office – we will forward the application via email.

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Every Child Deserves to Smile

Thank you to all the SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY donors! The Soup & Cracker drive on Super Bowl Sunday February 12 allowed us to deliver 6 boxes filled with soup, crackers, bowls, can openers, spoons and non-perishable food items.

Our next quarterly meeting will be held in the Hurl Room on March 2 at 9:30AM. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Jeanne Seaboyer if you have any questions.

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Looking ahead....

Holy Week: Palm Sunday, April 2nd ~ Maundy Thursday, April 6th
Good Friday, April 7th ~ Easter is the 9th. Service times will be announced.

Mark your calendars: St. John's spring lobster roll sale is planned for **Friday, April 28th**. Details to follow; we will begin taking orders on Tuesday, April 4th, and the order deadline is **Tuesday, the 25th**. As always, we appreciate your continued support!

Spring Word Search

O M W Y F Z B O M Y A N E W N H P
 Q S A W N R G Q T H A W X X T E U
 O A G S Q M V M M L S Z C R C P N
 B P N H M P N R E M Z G I N P V E
 L L G M I G R A T E U B E V O R S
 Y I S W K E P D A J E C F C L P T
 V N P W D P M W M R S L Y O L F I
 I G R J V D S T O E S E Q N E O N
 L U I Y E E Q W R N P Q Z B N R G
 Z C N U R J J O P C X U W O F S B
 W G G F N K L W H V Z I M T V Y I
 Q W T F A F Q C O D Z N B J I T S
 Q G I G L H C H S K G O B L V H P
 B S M M K H C K I S S X B R I I R
 I K E N N A M Z S Y F L L M F A O
 F P X L D G E R M I N A T E Y U U
 M E G C R O C U S E S E R W A V T

Anew ~ Crocuses ~ Equinox ~ Florescence ~ Forsythia ~ Germinate
 Metamorphosis ~ Migrate ~ Nesting ~ Pollen ~ Rebirth ~ Sapling
 Springtime ~ Sprout ~ Thaw ~ Vernal ~ Vivify

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Officers: The Rev. John T. Beach, Priest-in-Charge, Brenda Caggiano, Sr. Warden, Daniel Casey, Jr., Jr. Warden, Phil Littlehale, Treasurer, Paul Felci, Assistant Treasurer, and Kristina Palazzo, Clerk of the Vestry & Sexton

Vestry: Bill Bidmead, Sr. (2026), Dibby LeBlanc (2026), Duana 'Dee' LeMay (2024), Sandy Mears (2025), and Donna Manoogian (2024)