

St. John's Good News



From Reverend Sarah...

*¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.'
(Luke 22:17-20)*

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, May 5 some of St. John's youngest members will make their First Communion. As the name implies, this will be the first time they will receive the blessed bread and wine representing the body and blood of Jesus Christ. However, this is not the first time they will receive God's blessing. Indeed, they were blessed at their baptism and blessed each time they came to the communion altar.

First Communion is a Christian ritual with a long tradition. For centuries only the priest received communion on a regular basis and the congregation received only on holy days like Easter and Christmas. Despite Jesus' injunction to share the bread and wine among the people, the Church felt this sacrament was too sacred to share so openly. This began to change in the 1600's when the Church offered more opportunities for confirmed members to receive communion.

This trend influenced the creation of *The 1979 Book of Common Prayer* which is the official prayer book of the Episcopal Church in the United States. In the previous Prayer Book from 1928, the sacrament of Communion was meant to be offered every Sunday, but it was not required. Many Episcopal Churches offered Communion, or Eucharist, at one service and Morning Prayer at a second or even third service.

Then in the 1960's new discoveries about the worship of Jesus' early followers showed a heavy emphasis on imitating the Last Supper. The whole life of these early congregations centered on this holy meal of bread and wine! It was then the Episcopal Church felt the Holy Spirit moving us to re-focus our worship to mirror that of our spiritual ancestors. It is now required that Communion be offered at the main service every Sunday.

Cont'd.

May 2019

**Spring Worship
Schedule**

Sunday Morning
8am Rite II
10am Rite II

Summer Worship

June through
August
9am

Phone: 781-233-1242

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Inside this issue	Page
From Rev. Sarah, May Happenings	1-2
Mother's Day, Yard & Lobster Roll Sales	3
ECDS and Plant Sale	4
Word Search	5

Forty years later the Episcopal Church is still talking about how to celebrate the sacrament of Communion, except that today we ask ourselves: do you need to be baptized to receive Holy Communion? The laws of the Episcopal Church state that in order to receive communion you must be baptized but not necessarily by the Episcopal Church (such as in the Roman Catholic or Methodist Church). St. John's, like most churches in Massachusetts, affirm "That all are welcome at God's table," meaning that anyone can receive the bread and wine. First Communion offers children a special ritual to show them the importance of this sacrament.

What do *you* think? Do you think everyone should be welcome at God's table?

Peace,

Sarah

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**HEALTHY STUDENTS HEALTHY SAUGUS UPDATES!** This month St. John's will host back packing on Thursday, May 2 at 7:00pm. We are also looking for volunteers to help transport the food from the school on Thursday morning and back to the school on Friday morning. The students always want more mac and cheese so we will continue to collect boxes until the program ends in June.

**FIRST COMMUNION: SUNDAY, MAY 5.** Although St. John's welcomes all to receive the blessed bread and wine we maintain the tradition of offering First Communion for our young people. On Saturday, May 4, 9-11am Rev. Sarah will offer a preparation class for children interested in receiving their First Communion. The class will include instruction as well bread baking for Sunday's communion.

**YOUTH GROUP MEETS SUNDAY, MAY 5.** After the 10am service youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to meet in the Hurll Room to create beautiful Mother's Day gifts to give out at the Plant Sale on May 11!

**DUNKIN' OFFICE HOURS WEDNESDAYS, 10-NOON!** Continue the Easter celebrations with Rev. Sarah every Wednesday with coffee, tea, donuts, and great conversations at the Dunkin's on Hamilton Street.

**BIBLE STUDY: IN THE BEGINNING!** Starting Tuesday, May 7 Bible Study will jump in to the Book of Genesis! This book tells the stories of our first spiritual ancestors as they met God in the desert and agreed to be God's people. Every Tuesday, 10:30-noon, over coffee and treats we'll read a few chapters followed by conversations about the Bible and life!

**MEMORIAL DAY PRAYERS ON SUNDAY, MAY 26.** In recognition of Memorial Day, we will honor and give thanks for the men and women who died while serving our country in the military. If you would like to pray for a particular person(s) please email the name(s) to the Church Office at [stjohnssaugus@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnssaugus@gmail.com).

**Mother's Day Card and Treats Sale**

**Sundays: April 28th and May 5th**

After worship in Ashworth Hall ~ Handmade cards and treats for mom, a sister, loved one, friend...or yourself! All proceeds support St. John's.

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Yard Sale

Saturday, June 8th ~ 9am-1pm

**Books, Toys, Kitchen utensils, Bric-a-Brac, Dishes,
and many other useful items!**

It's not too early to donate items to the church. Kindly bring them downstairs to the room across from the classroom. We need help sorting, setting up and selling.

Please contact the office or Donna Manoogian if you can lend a hand.

As always, thank you!!

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**Lobster Roll Sale**

As we go to print, St. John's has sold 200 lobster rolls!  
Our sincerest thanks to everyone involved with purchasing,  
preparing, deliveries and set-up!

## Every Child Deserves to Smile

Our cup runneth over! Due to the generosity of many, our fruit and snack basket evolved into 2 large boxes of snacks & Easter treats for the children, plus a large box of fruit, which was delivered to the motel Easter Sunday morning. Many thanks to everyone for your donations, and to Wendy at the Saugus Food Pantry. Wendy reached into the food pantry supplies and turned this collection into a community event with the donation of fresh apples, oranges, peaches, plums, blackberries, juice boxes and granola bars.



**Summer is coming! During the month of May we will be collecting summer activities** for the children. This will be our 9<sup>th</sup> year of providing summer smiles for the children! Some suggestions that have been popular in the past are coloring & activity books, drawing paper, pens, pencils & markers, board games, checkers, puzzles, play-doh, cars, dolls, jump ropes. **Please no balls, or toys that could roll into the street.**

We also continue to collect every day needs of non-perishable food items--pasta, sauce, canned meats, etc. -- large microwavable bowls or containers, serving utensils, can openers and colanders along with paper plates, napkins, plastic utensils, baggies, toiletries etc.

Donations may be left in the Every Child Deserves to Smile collection container in the vestibule. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Seaboyer 781-662-4342 or [jmseaboyer@gmail.com](mailto:jmseaboyer@gmail.com)

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THE PLANT SALE IS ALMOST HERE!

Join us as we make the front of St. John's POP! with the color of spring blossoms at our **4th ANNUAL PLANT SALE. Saturday, May 11th. 8AM – 2PM. Rain or Shine.**



Just in time for Mother's Day! Choose from beautiful Geraniums, Begonias, Impatiens, New Guinea Impatiens, Dahlias & Hanging Planters grown and supplied by Kane's Flower World, Danvers, MA.

It's not too late to place your pre-order. Pre-orders with payment are being accepted until May 8th. Cash, Credit Card, or Check accepted. Please make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal Church noting plant sale in the memo line.

Pre-ordered plants will be available for pick up beginning **Friday, May 10th** at St. John's from **6PM-8PM.**

Contact the church office 781-233-1242 or speak to Donna Manoogian, T.J. Martin, or Jeanne Seaboyer with questions or to place an order.

WORD SEARCH

Find these women from the Bible!

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

Abigail ~ Ahinoam ~ Bathsheba ~ Delilah ~ Elisabeth ~ Esther ~ Eve
 Hagar ~ Hannah ~ Jedidah ~ Jerusha ~ Mary ~ Magdalene ~ Miriam
 Rebekah ~ Ruth ~ Sarah ~ Tabitha ~ Zipporah

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**Officers:** The Rev. Sarah van Gulden, Priest-in-Charge ~ T. J. Martin, Sr. Warden ~ Daniel Casey, Jr. Warden ~ Phil Littlehale, Treasurer ~ Janet Lancaster, Asst. Treasurer ~ Brenda Caggiano, Clerk of the Vestry

**Vestry:** Dale Coogan (2021) ~ Paul Felci (2020) ~ Rose Holt (2022) ~ Kieron Sharwood (2020) ~ Sandy St. Clair (2020) ~ William 'Bill' St. Clair (2021) ~ Jeanne Seaboyer (2020) ~ Jenna Sharwood (2020) ~ Diana White (2021)