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The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

(*The Menologion [liturgical calendar] of Basil II, late 10th century*)

From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's,

I hope you are doing well and celebrating a joyous and peaceful Christmastide. The past week's frightful weather, I know, left many without power ... stranded countless travelers ... and unmade the most meticulous of plans: Still Christ comes, again, into our hearts and the heart of the world.

While I've confessed to you that I have a hard time identifying favorites in almost any category—I tend to like everything—I do have a few *un*-favorites: At the dinner table, beets don't pass my lips, I'm afraid. I am not too partial to the color yellow. And in terms of holidays, New Year's Eve has just never clicked with me. I appreciate the moment of one year's passing into another, but it's always seemed to me that this is something to mark with gratitude, reflection, relief (perhaps) and thanksgiving—not with pasted-on giddiness and silly hats. (Call me a New Year's Grinch—I'll own that!)

If you're in the same boat ... or if, *avant la grande fête*, you're looking for something quieter to begin the evening ... I invite you to join us at **6:00 pm on New Year's Eve for our Service of Self-Dedication**. We take up the Church's long tradition of marking the turn of the calendar with readings, prayers and hymns that trace all the gifts God has showered upon us; and we dedicate ourselves, on the threshold of a new year, to letting Jesus guide us in

all our endeavors, as we seek to serve Him. It is not a long service—you'll be home in plenty of time for whatever your evening may hold—but it is a meaningful, contemplative way to embark on another year's journey in, and through, faith. Please do come!

Take good care, and may God continue to bless the work of the Kingdom you are doing.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Douglas+

Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

860-592-0171 (rectory, and *also* rings on mobile)

P S Please remember there is **only one service this Sunday (New Year's Day), at 10:00**. We'll be celebrating the naming of Jesus, on the day He was circumcised. Also, there **will be Church School this day**. If you have children visiting you for the holidays, consider bringing them to see what all the 'joyful noise' downstairs is all about!

From Katherine Almquist, Junior Warden

When I wrote my first Epistle as Junior Warden, I drew upon my dear friend Florence. I was in a quandary whether to accept the position. Her advice, clear and strong, was “not to think about everything that could go wrong, but to think about everything that will go right.” So, I moved forward. St. Andrew's now will move forward and think about everything that will go right. This time next year we will have a new Rector in place. The months ahead provide us with a marvelous opportunity for some reflection: what kind of parish are we? What do we want? We will be looking at candidates, asking ourselves what we think of them. We will also keep in mind the various candidates will be asking themselves what they think of us.

I will miss Father Douglas and Jim tremendously. I will miss Cooper. I will miss all the quiet good things that are done, never calling attention to self. I will miss the Coffee Hours, when everything is silently and perfectly laid out, when no one has signed up. I will miss being able to stop in to chat with Father Douglas, and never once get the feeling I am interrupting.

I am so thankful that KC is in the office and Randy is at the helm. They are each the picture of grace under pressure.

We go forward and live in hope and in joy. And unity. We go forward and get this done.

We go forward.

Happy New Year.

This Week at St Andrew's

Saturday, 31 December :: 6:00 pm

New Year's Eve Service of Self-Dedication (*in-person and livestreamed*)

Sunday, 01 January :: **10:00** am

Holy Eucharist: The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus (*in-person and livestreamed*)

NO Choir this day

Sunday, 01 January :: **10:00** am

Church School

Sunday, 01 January :: **11:10** am

Coffee Hour

Monday, 02 January :: 8:00 pm

LGBTQ+ A.A. meeting

Wednesday, 04 January :: 6:00 pm

Mid-week Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, 04 January :: 7:00 pm

A.A. for Women (*Zoom meeting; email us for info*)

Thursday, 05 January :: 7:00 pm

A.A. meeting

Thursday, 05 January :: 7:00 pm

Al-Anon meeting (Old Vestry Room)

Friday, 06 January :: 9:00 am

Holy Eucharist: The Feast of the Epiphany (*in-person and livestreamed*)

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

**Details about many of these events can be found later
in this issue of the *Epistle***

Sunday, 05 February

One Eucharist at 10:00 am & the Parish's Annual Meeting

**Advent & Christmastide at St Andrew's:
Here Are All the Details**

Sat, 31 Dec :: 6:00 pm

**New Year's Eve
Service of Self-Dedication**

Sun, 01 Jan :: 10:00 am

**Holy Eucharist:
Feast of the Holy Name**
only one service this day

**Save the Date:
Parish Annual Meeting, 05 February**



On 05 February 2023, we hold our annual meeting. Please plan to attend. Canon Tim Hodapp and Amber Page Gehr of the Connecticut diocese will be with us, to start us on the path of calling a new rector. (We will *not* be searching for a priest-in-charge whose term as such would be limited to three years). The preliminary schedule on this Sunday following Douglas' final Sunday with us follows:

1. *There will be one service at 10:00 am*, at which Canon Hodapp will preside and preach.
2. Immediately following the service, Tim and Amber will address the parish about the rector search, the steps we will need to take and the support we will get from the diocese.
3. Immediately following that, we will hold our annual meeting, at which time we will elect a new class for the vestry, among other business.

Please make every effort to attend the 10:00 am service on February 5th and what follows. Most of us have a lot to learn about the process of calling a rector. In the meantime, your wardens and vestry will do their best to keep everyone informed.

**2023 Offering Envelopes:
Now Available**



Offering envelopes for 2023 are now available. Whether you make a contribution every week ... or once a month ... or only occasionally, using an envelope really helps our counters record your contribution accurately.

If you have requested envelopes, they are available for pick-up in the Narthex. If you would like to request envelopes (we have plenty!), please be in touch with KC in the Parish Office or Steve Morocco, our Treasurer.

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in individual portions.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services.

Help Support the Kent Food Bank



Please help our parish family continue to support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund
P O Box 262
Kent, CT 06757
memo: Food Bank

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's new Social Services Director, Samantha Hasenflue. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Samantha's office in Town Hall or dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place it in the offering plate, marked for the Food Bank.)

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna**. Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the back of the Community House on Main Street. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

Lectons for this Week

**The Feast of the Holy Name
of Jesus
Year A**

Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 8
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:15-21



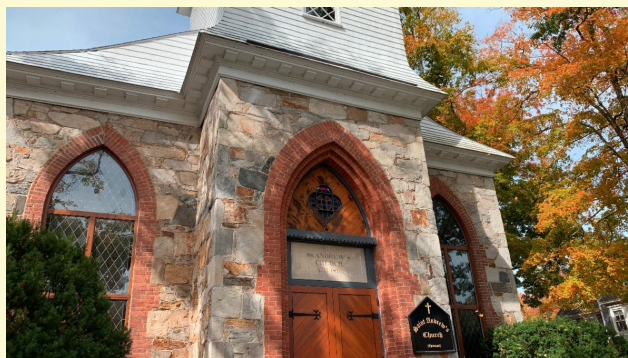
Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order
to view
past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays
located on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

Worship Services

-Sunday-
Holy Eucharist
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.
(Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays)
In person
(10.30 a.m. available live
stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-
Holy Eucharist
6.00 p.m.



-Holy Days-
Holy Eucharist
9.00 a.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays

LGBTQ+ A.A. - **new**
(Parish House)

Wednesdays

A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
email us for info.

Thursdays

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Old Vestry Room)
A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new**
(Parish House)



Parish Staff

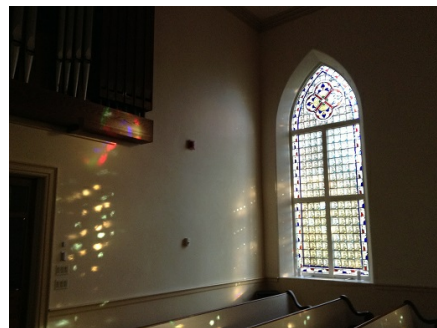
**The Rev Douglas S
Worthington**
Priest in Charge
frdouglas.sak@gmail.com
860-592-0171

Susan Guse
Organist & Director of Choirs

Ron Marasco, Ph.D.
Director of Education

KC Compton
Parish Administrator

Jane Farnol



Church School Leader

Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin
Verger

Gloria Contreras
Sexton



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Parish office open every day except Friday and Saturday from 10 am- 5 pm

Visit St Andrew's website at
www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.episcopalct.org/

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