



## St Andrew's Current COVID Closure Status

**Parish Closed.** Either the Town of Kent and/or a majority of the surrounding towns is in red status on the [Connecticut COVID Data Tracker](#). Therefore *all worship services will be pre-recorded and made available on [our YouTube account](#)* at least an hour before they were scheduled to occur. In addition, *all other parish activities will either be suspended or move to online-only*; participants in those activities will be updated separately. The parish will remain in closed status until both Kent and a majority of the surrounding towns are less-than-red for two successive Thursdays.

From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

The Feast of the Epiphany, which we celebrated on Wednesday (a recording of our festal Eucharist is available [here](#), or via the parish web site), marks the official end of the Incarnational Cycle of the church year: the seasons of Advent and Christmas during which we prepare to receive Christ into our hearts and lives and then rejoice at His abiding presence with us, in this world. While, in keeping with tradition, we will continue mark the season of Epiphanytide with white vestments, etc through the Feast of Jesus' Presentation in the Temple (02 February), Epiphany brings to a close our annual remembrance of Christ's birth—of God's appearance—in flesh, to all humanity.

But I would like to introduce and recommend to you an ancient Epiphany tradition that helps us maintain, throughout the whole year, the spirit of love, joy and blessing that somehow seems to come to us more easily in December and early January. For centuries, Christians have used chalk to write a blessing over the main door of their homes on or around 06 January. It looks like this:

20 + C + M + B + 21

The letters of the inscription are the abbreviation for the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat* ("May Christ bless this house"). A second meaning (which may have been used as a mnemonic device) is Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, which are the traditional (that is, non-scriptural) names of the Wise Men who came to Jesus. The + signs represent the Cross, and 20-21 is the year.

Each time we enter our home, this simple inscription reminds us of Christ's abiding presence with us. And as the chalk begins to fade, with time, may that represent His manifestation coming more fully into our hearts ... and, we pray, into our hands and feet, our minds and voices.

If you would like to chalk your own home this Epiphanytide, everything you need is ready for you. I have blessed a supply of chalk and prepared a very brief blessing rite. Both are available to pick up in the breezeway at the rear of the rectory. If you would prefer, we can mail these items to you: Simply be in touch with Laura in the parish office.

May each of you enjoy a blessed Epiphanytide during which the presence of Christ, via the Holy Spirit, continues to warm your hearts, enrich your prayers, inspire your hopes and comfort your souls.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Douglas+

[Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com)

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

## Weekly Schedule for 3 January

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Wednesday, 13 January

NO Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 17 January

Holy Eucharist: Epiphany 2  
(*online*)

10:30 am

## Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, 24 January

The annual meeting of St Andrew's Parish will be held on Sunday, 24 January,

at 12:00 noon. So that everyone is able to participate in this important parish event, the meeting will be held virtually, via Zoom. This way, we will not have to worry about masks, social distancing, attendance limits or anything of that nature. Copies of the annual report for 2020 will be provided to all parishioners via email (and also in hard copy, to those who request this).

## Slate of Candidates for the Annual Meeting

The Nominations Committee has completed its work and is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates to stand for election at the annual meeting on Sunday, 24 January:

### *Officers*

- Christopher Rehkow, *Senior Warden*
- Randy DiPentima, *Junior Warden*
- Steve Morocco, *Treasurer*
- Andrea Sehl, *Assistant Treasurer*
- Bill Dillon, *Clerk*

*To serve out James Vick's remaining term in Vestry Class of 2023*

- Ron Marasco

*For the Vestry Class of 2024*

- Katherine Almquist
- Kent Freeman
- Janet Rivkin

*Delegates to Diocesan Convention*

- Christopher Rehkow
- Ron Marasco

*Alternate Delegates*

- Randy DiPentima
- Eric Roper

*Nominations Committee for 2021*

- Charmian Place, *Chair*

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to stand for election!

Charmian Place

Chair, Nominations Committee

## Fr Douglas on Vacation

Father Douglas will be on vacation from Wednesday, 06 January, through Friday, 15 January. We will warmly welcome the Rev Cam Hardy to preach and celebrate on Sunday, 10 January.

## Welcome our 'New' Parish Administrator!

We are very, very pleased to announce that Laura Filippi has joined us as our new parish administrator! Laura has been working since mid-December and is doing an absolutely terrific job. Some of you may remember her from her previous work at St Andrew's. Here is a little introduction she provided about

herself:

I have been working at Kingsley Tavern in Kent since they first opened almost 8 years ago. I started as parish administrator a few years back but then left to live in Colorado for a little over a year. Cut to now, and I am back at both Kingsley and St Andrew's! As much as I enjoyed living somewhere new, I was incredibly happy to move back to a town that I hold very dear to my heart. Although not a true Kent native, I am unbelievably grateful for the community that I get to be a part of. They say home is where the heart is, and my heart is most definitely in Kent!

Please help us welcome Laura back to St Andrew's by giving her a call or sending her a note or an email. She will be in the parish office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 – 2:00.

## Upcoming Forgiveness Workshop



Forgiveness Workshop for NW  
Region of ECCT  
Saturday, January 9 9:00-12:00PM

*Are you living with unspoken hurts?  
How deeply are they buried? How do  
they affect your relationships, both  
past and present? From whom do you  
seek forgiveness? And who is  
seeking forgiveness from you?*

Join us on January 9th from 9-12 noon to explore these possibilities in a  
Forgiveness Workshop facilitated by  
Dan Gates, LMFT.

Forgiveness Workshops are an opportunity to explore questions such as these  
in a safe, supportive environment. Under the guidance of our skilled facilitator,  
participants can unburden themselves of past and present hurts and bring  
harmony to themselves.

The benefits of forgiveness include:

- ~ gaining insight and understanding into our wounds of abandonment, shame,  
or betrayal
- ~ helping to heal our unresolved trauma

This workshop is offered by free-will donation, and is open to all!

To register, sign up by clicking [this link](#).

## Parish Office *Closed*

The parish office is temporarily closed, which means the phone isn't being answered. Father Douglas checks the voicemail once-a-day, usually around 9:00 am. If you have a more urgent need, please call him at 860-592-0171 or email him at [frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:frdouglas.sak@gmail.com).

## All Recovery Meetings *Suspended*

While the parish is temporarily closed, all recovery group (AA and AI Anon) meetings have been suspended. They will resume when we re-open

## Computer Help is Available



If you or someone you know is having difficulty accessing our online services, the weekly E-pistle or our web site ... or who would like to participate in our Zoom offerings but don't know how ... please let Fr Douglas or Heather know. We have parishioners who are willing to help you and also make sure your equipment and internet connection are working properly. We don't want anyone to miss an opportunity to be part of the life of St Andrew's!

## Kent Food Bank



Please help the parish continue our support of the Kent Food Bank

by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund  
P.O. Box 262  
Kent, CT 06757

\*Remember to put Food Bank in the memo of your check.

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of our town's Social Services Director, Leah Pullaro.

The Kent Food Bank is also taking food donations during this difficult time.

The Kent Food Bank is especially in need of:

*Staples such as beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna*

Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past!

You may drop off food items on Thursdays from 9.00 to Noon  
*in the back of the Community House on Main Street.*

*Please DO NOT come into the Food Bank, but leave*



## Lections for this Week

### The Second Sunday After Christmas

*Year B*

Jeremiah 31:7-14;  
Psalm 84;  
Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a;  
Luke 2:41-52



## 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;  
Healing Service at 8.30,  
Third Sunday  
In person

for 25 people with masks at  
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.  
(10.30 a.m. available live  
stream on YouTube)

**-Wednesday-**

**Holy Eucharist**

6.00 p.m.  
(25 people with masks)

**-Friday-**



**Prayer & Meditation**

5.30 p.m.

(25 people with masks)

**-Holy Days-**

**Holy Eucharist**

6.00 p.m.

(25 people with masks)



## 12 Step Meetings

**Wednesdays**

A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.

*Zoom meeting*

*email us for info.*

**Thursdays**

A.A. at 7.30 a.m.

(Great Room)

*suspended*

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.

(Great Room)

*suspended*

**Fridays**

A.A. at 8 p.m.

(Great Room)

*temporarily until First Church opens*

*suspended*



## Parish Staff

**The Rev Douglas S**

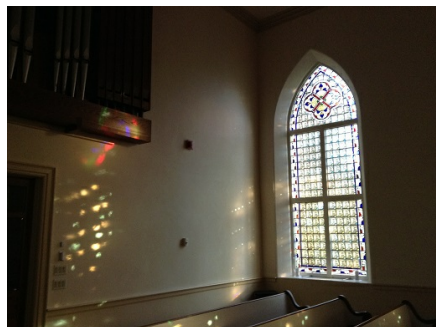
**Worthington,**

**Provisional**

**Priest in Charge**

**[frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:frdouglas.sak@gmail.com)**

**860-592-0171**



**Thomas W Holcombe,**  
**Organist & Director of Choirs**



**Laura Filippi,**  
Parish Administrator

**Joan I Cassel**  
Financial Secretary

**Bill McLaren,**  
Sexton

**Randy Osolin,**  
Verger



St Andrew's Church  
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1 N. Main St.  
Kent, CT 06757

860.927.3486  
[st.andrew.kent@snet.net](mailto:st.andrew.kent@snet.net)

Parish office open everyday except Friday from 9 am-6 pm  
(2 pm on Thursdays)

Visit St Andrew's website at  
[www.standrewskentct.org](http://www.standrewskentct.org)

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut  
[www.ctepiscopal.org](http://www.ctepiscopal.org)

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