



www.standrewskentct.org * 860.927.3486 * st.andrew.kent@snet.net



The Wedding Feast at Cana :: The Second Sunday after The Epiphany
(Juan de Flandes, early 16th century)

From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

I hope you are doing well. I wanted to update you on two things, today.

First, I am delighted to report that the Education Commission (Randy DiPentima, Ron Marasco, Chris Rehkow and I (we're always looking for more members!)) has finalized the job description for our new **Christian Educator position**. As you will recall, hiring someone to re-establish our Christian education program was one of the three key recommendations the Visioning Team made to the Vestry in the fall and that the Vestry heartily endorsed.

We are now looking for someone who will work ten hours per week. Her or his main responsibilities will be a Sunday morning education program for children and a once-a-week after-school children's activity time. We know there are already parents in our parish family who want their children to have 'Sunday school,' and we're also mindful that other families might wish to 'try on' St Andrew's in other ways and at other times than on Sunday morning. Our new Christian Educator will take up both of these opportunities.

The complete job description, including application information, is available [here](#). If you know anyone who may be interested, please let them know and encourage them to apply!

(By the way, in a similar vein, this Sunday I will offer a brief **Children's Message** at the 10:30 Holy Eucharist. I plan to do this every few weeks as long as there is interest.)

Second, I feel a pastoral need to share **my thoughts on in-person worship** as we sit **in the middle of the current Omicron surge**. With the availability of vaccines and boosters for everyone older than four, medical grade masks (*e.g.*, N95, KN95, etc) and social distancing, I am committed to making available, live, our full complement of liturgies for anyone who wishes to participate in-person ... unless someone in civil or ecclesial authority over us instructs otherwise.

At the same time, I fully commend each of us to assess—and assess again, as often as seems warranted—her or his own situation, vulnerability(ies) and level of personal comfort. If you do not feel in-person worship is right for you at this time, that is perfectly OK. God does not require us to jeopardize our health or our emotional well-being in order to worship God. We will continue to livestream and record our principal Sunday Eucharist, our mid-week Eucharist and all our festal Eucharists; and to send links to these (along with bulletins for Sunday), each week. (We will add the Prayer for Spiritual Communion to the Epistle that comes out on Saturdays, in case you would like to pray this during the distribution of the Bread and Wine.) Your being with us spiritually, by participating from home, is a full presence in our worship, and we are very glad you are with us.

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 Jim and I will be away on vacation beginning Wednesday, 19 Jan; we will return on the 29th. I will be available by phone in case of pastoral emergency, but I will not be checking email very regularly.

This Week at St Andrew's

Friday, 14 January	Prayer & Meditation	5:30 pm
Saturday, 15 January	Choir Rehearsal	9:30 am
Sunday, 16 January	Holy Eucharist: <i>Epiphany 2</i> <i>(in person only)</i>	8:30 am
Sunday, 16 January	Holy Eucharist: <i>Epiphany 2</i> , <i>with Children's Message (in</i>	10:30 am

	<i>person and live-streamed)</i>	
Sunday, 16 January	Coffee Hour	11:40 am
Sunday, 16 January	Vestry	12:00 noon
Monday, 17 January	Bible Study: <i>The Gospel of Luke</i>	11:00 am
Monday, 17 January	Music Commission	1:00 pm
Tuesday, 18 January	Holy Eucharist: <i>The Feast of the Confession of St Peter (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
	Mid-Week Evening Prayer	
Wednesday, 19 January		6:00 pm
	A.A. for Women (<i>Zoom meeting; email us for info</i>)	
Wednesday, 19 January		7:00 pm
	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	
Thursday, 20 January		7:30 am
	NO Al-Anon Meeting (<i>Old Vestry Room</i>)	
Thursday, 20 January		7:00 pm

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

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

Saturday, 29 January	Kent Memorial Library Centennial Celebration: <i>Bricks and Books, A Dramatized History of the KML</i>	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 02 February	Holy Eucharist: <i>Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas)</i> <i>(in-person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Sunday, 06 February	Annual Meeting of the Parish & Luncheon	11:40 am
Sunday, 27 February	Tom Holcombe's Final Service & Thank-you	11:40 am

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

- Pursuant to CDC guidelines, we are asking *everyone to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status*, because the level of community

transmission in Litchfield County is High

- There is congregational singing, at the 10:30 service only

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services, as there are parishioners who are choosing not to be in group settings at this time—a decision the parish fully honors and supports.

Refugee Resettlement: A Quick Update





We're pleased to show you these few photos of the inside of the house in New Milford that we are preparing, as part of the Washington Refugee Resettlement Program, for a new refugee family. The family hasn't yet arrived, but we are prepared to welcome them and make them comfortable as soon as they do.

While donations are appreciated, clothing cannot be used at this time.

THANK YOU for all your generous donations! How wonderful that we've made so much progress, and so quickly.

Epiphany Tradition: Chalking the Doors



The Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord, on Thursday, 06 January, ushered in Epiphanytide: the season when we especially remember and celebrate the ministry of Jesus among His people. I'd like to recommend a simple—and

ancient—Epiphanytide practice 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 + 22

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 a mnemonic device) is **C**aspar, **M**elchior, and **B**althazar, which are the traditional names given to the Wise Men who came to Jesus in Matthew 2. The + signs represent the Cross, and **20-22** is the year. (The photo above is the inscription over the rectory door, from Epiphany 2021.)

Each time we enter our home, this simple inscription reminds us of Christ's abiding presence with us. And the chalk's fading, over time, represents His manifestation coming more and 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 Narthex of the church, which is now open every day from at least 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Celebrating KML's Centennial: A Very St Andrew's Drama!

The poster features a green background with faint, handwritten-style text in the background, including names like 'Mrs. Barker' and 'P. S. Hyde of Peekskill'. The main title 'BRICKS & BOOKS' is in large, bold, black letters with a white ampersand. Below it, the subtitle 'A Dramatized History of the Kent Memorial Library' is in smaller black text. The date and time 'Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.' are prominently displayed. The location 'St. Andrew's Parish House, 1 North Main Street' is listed below. A small logo for the Kent Memorial Library's 100th anniversary (1922-2022) is in the bottom left corner. A note at the bottom right states: 'A reception will follow. Free & open to the public. Please register. Masks Required. Proof of Vaccination is Required for Entry.'

In Conjunction with the Kent Memorial Library's Centennial Celebration

BRICKS & BOOKS

A Dramatized History of the Kent Memorial Library

Saturday, January 29, 2022
at 6:00 p.m.

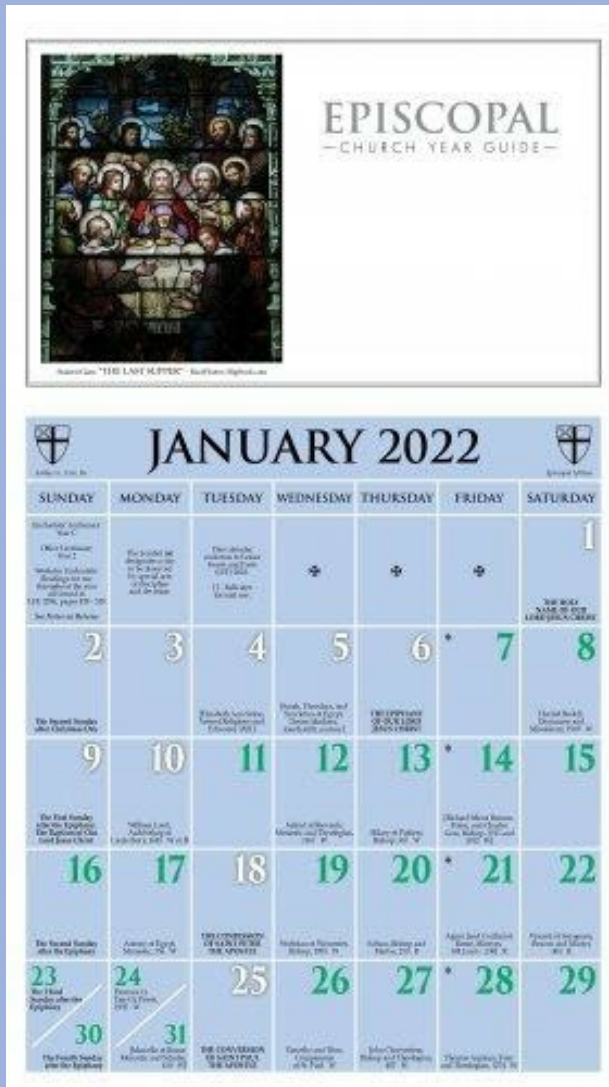
St. Andrew's Parish House, 1 North Main Street

[Snow date
Sunday,
February 6]

**A reception will follow. Free & open to the public. Please register.
Masks Required. Proof of Vaccination is Required for Entry.**

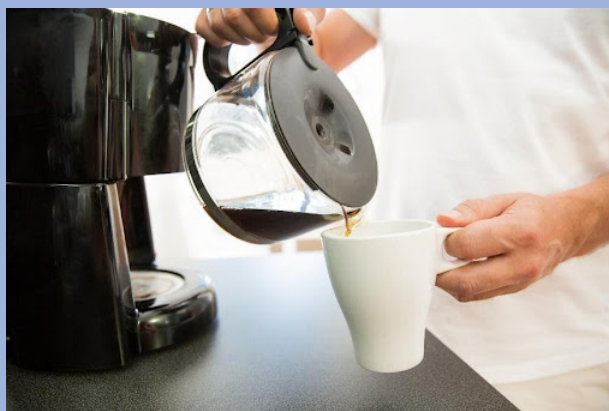
It may interest you to know that parishioner **Georgianne Kent** wrote this history, and our own **Jane Farnol** will direct it. **Herman Harmelink**, **Lyra Wilder**, **Katherine Almquist**, **Ryan Foote** and **Fr Douglas** are all slated to take part, as well.

Now Available: 2022 Liturgical Calendars



The new 2022 St Andrew's liturgical calendars are now in. There is a supply available in the Narthex—please take one. If you are not able to pick one up, please let the Parish Office know, and we will be glad to mail one to you. (You will notice that we are using a slightly different format this year that more closely tracks the feasts we keep here at St Andrew's.)

Are You Slightly Coffee-Phobic??



Many of us love coffee, but some of us are a little fearful of making it for others—especially in quantity. And we know that may be holding some of you back from volunteering to host a coffee hour.

Well, fear not! **This Sunday, 16 January (postponed from last week)**, during Coffee Hour, our own **Katherine Almquist** will offer a very brief lesson on how to make coffee in the Parish House kitchen. It's actually much easier than you may think! Please come on by and see what's perking!

Save the Date: Annual Meeting of the Parish & Luncheon, Sunday, 06 February



Mark your calendars: The parish's Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, 06 February, 2022**, immediately after the 10:30 Eucharist. The annual reports of the Priest-in-Charge, the Senior Warden, the Treasurer and the commissions will be received; new officers and four new vestry members will be elected; and the budget for 2022 will be presented. A luncheon in the Parish House will follow for those who would like to attend. (The snow date will be Sunday, 13 February.)

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 Social Services Director, Leah Pullaro. In addition, Leah has told us how useful it is for her 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 Leah'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 Thursdays from 9:00 to 12:00 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 Second Sunday After the Epiphany

Year C

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11



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
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.
(10.30 a.m. available live
stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.

-Friday-

Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

-Holy Days-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.



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.
(Parish House)

resumed

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Old Vestry Room)

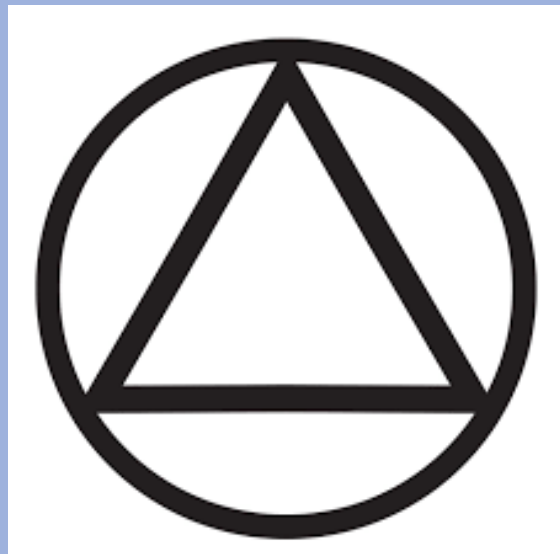
resumed

Fridays

A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)

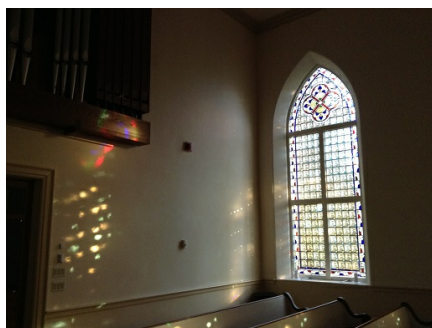
temporarily until First Church opens

resumed



Parish Staff

The Rev Douglas S
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Thomas W Holcombe,
Organist & Director of Choirs

KC Compton,
Parish Administrator

Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin,
Verger



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Parish office open everyday except Friday from 10 am- 5 pm
(2 pm on Thursdays)

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

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

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