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



Moses with the Burning Bush (Exodus 3) (Marc Chagall, 1966)

### From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

I hope you are doing well and are observing a blessed and holy Lent.

As you know, St Andrew's has been looking for a Director of Education to revitalize and grow our essential ministry to children and their families. As so often is the case, our search led us to someone right in our midst. In this case, two people!

I am both pleased and excited to announce that Ron Marasco has agreed to become our part-time Director of Education, effective 01 April, and Ron's first order of business was the grand idea of hiring our beloved Jane Farnol to team-teach our weekly Sunday School class with him.

This is such good news for both the parish and the families we seek to serve—to have our younger parishioners to be guided in their Christian formation by this dynamic duo! Ron brings to this work a lifetime of experience in education, in literature, in drama, in writing ... and also a deep commitment to the Episcopal church, at both the parish and the diocesan level. And Jane is a complete 'natural' with children as well a consummate director, teacher, gospel reader and all-around creator of joy.

As the SS St Andrew's embarks upon this voyage back into the deeper waters

of Christian formation, Ron's primary focus will be starting and expanding our church school program, which will be held in the Undercroft during our 10:30 Eucharist. Already in our discussions, I can sense Ron's passion for being the Director of Education bubbling through all his thoughts and plans. Opening day for our church school program will be the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, 05 June, and the program will run year-round. After the church school is up and running, we will also explore offerings for families who may not be ready to commit to a Sunday morning program but want to 'try on' St Andrew's.

Please join me in welcoming Ron and Jane to the staff of St Andrew's and wishing them well in this exciting new mission. They will be hosting an Adult Forum on Sunday, 27 March, at 12:00, to discuss their plans and gather your suggestions for the church school program. Please plan to attend!

As I've written before, Jesus was especially solicitous of children, and I don't think we can place ours in better hands to learn about Him than Ron's and Jane's.

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)

#### This Week at St Andrew's

- <u> </u>		
Friday, 18 March	Prayer & Meditation	5:30 pm
Saturday, 19 March	Music in the Nave:  Manhattan String Quartet	4:00 pm
Saturday, 19 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>The Feast of St Joseph (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Sunday, 20 March	Holy Eucharist: Lent 3 (in person only)	8:30 am
Sunday, 20 March	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am
Sunday, 20 March	Holy Eucharist: Lent 3 (in person and live-streamed)	10:30 am
Monday, 21 March	Bible Study: <i>The Gospel of Luke</i>	11:00 am
Tuesday, 22 March	Small Group: <i>The Way of Love</i>	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 23 March	Rite of Reconciliation (private	5:00 pm

Confession) The Way of the Cross Wednesday, 23 March 5:30 pm Wednesday, 23 March Mid-week Eucharist 6:00 pm Wednesday, 23 March A.A. for Women (Zoom 7:00 pm meeting; email us for info) A.A. Meeting (Parish House) Thursday, 24 March 7:30 am A.A. Meeting (Parish House) Thursday, 24 March 7:00 pm Thursday, 24 March Al-Anon Meeting

#### Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

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

Saturday, 26 March "Her-Story," a cabaret 4:00 pm

celebration of famous women

Adult Forum: The Plans for St

Sunday, 27 March Andrew's New Church School 12:00 noon

> Joint Prayer Service and Fund-raising Reception for

**Ukranian War Relief** Sunday, 27 March 3:00 pm at the

Congregational

7:00 pm

Adult Forum: An Introduction Church

to the Liturgies of Holy Week

Sunday, 3 April 12:00 noon

**Bricks & Books: The History** 

of the Kent Library

Sunday, 3 April 3:00 pm

The War in Ukraine: An Ecumenical Prayer Service & Fund-raiser



The Congregational Church has graciously invited us to be part of aprayer service for the people of Ukraine on Sunday, 27 March, at 3:00 pm, in their sanctuary. There is much that we can, and should, do for these victims of war, violence and injustice, but there is no higher calling than to prayer—and all the more so when we can join our prayers with those of our siblings in other denominations.

Immediately following the service, a team from St Andrew's will be hosting a **reception** at which we will be collecting funds for Ukrainian relief efforts, to supplement the funds that St Andrew's and the Congregational Church, respectively, are already donating. This will be a *free-will offering*. Please do consider bringing some cash or a check with which to make a contribution.

We need volunteers to help with the reception:both preparing food in advance and helping on the day-of. If you're willing to lend a hand, please be in touch with George-Ann Gowan at (860) 946-9232/ gagowan@mac.comor George Potts at (860) 614-7927/ gpotts@snet.net

### For Maundy Thursday: The Sneaker Collection Returns!



Many of you will recall that during Lent last year, we collected more than 130 pairs of new sneakers and bushels of new socks to donate to Abraham House, a community in the South Bronx that offers extensive services—and hope—to many in that neighborhood who are living at the very margins of society. We were introduced to Abraham House by Sr Mary Lanning just before she died, unexpectedly, a year ago.

We've been in touch with Abraham House, and they will only too gladly welcome another sneaker drive this year. Althea Brooks, their executive director, recently told us that the shoes, sneakers and socks we sent them last Eastertide, "went to those in need in our community, many who were beaming as they tried them on. In fact, we were able to share this blessing by donating I believe seven pairs of shoes/sneakers and some socks to a women's shelter in the Grand Central area of NYC, that I was introduced to through Catholic Charities."

So, once again, we are now collecting new shoes, sneakers and socks, for women, men and children. Before we donate them, we willbless and ritually 'wash' them, during our Maundy Thursday liturgy ... a symbolic act of our washing the feet of those who are poor, hungry and without a home. The wisdom Sr Mary shared with us last year still applies: "SNEAKERS (colorful, diverse, sparkling new) are much more needed than business or dress shoes,

although a 'lending library of dress shoes' would indeed be welcome for special occasions such as job interviews. Most of our people are not yet equipped to apply for jobs where shoes are a prerequisite; clean dress sneakers and trousers with a crease in them are the mark of readiness."

Please bring your donations with you to worship onany Sunday between now and 10 April, or you can drop them off in the Parish Office or the breezeway behind the rectory before 5:00 pm on Maundy Thursday, 14 April If you would like to place a short message of hope or love or happiness or inspiration in the shoes or socks you give, it will make your gift that much more personal. And feel free to spread the word to any family members, friends and neighbors who might wish to donate, too. Together we can top last year's bumper crop!

# Music in the Nave: The Manhattan String Quartet Tomorrow at 4 PM



Dear friends.

Your hour of serenity is just a day away!

We speak of the serenity you'll attain from the soothing sounds of the Manhattan String Quartet performing music from the Renaissance to Ravel. But, like an eclipse, you must be in the right place at the right time, or you'll miss it.

The place? St. Andrew's. The time? **This Saturday at 4 pm.** Please join us: \$15 tickets are available at <a href="https://bit.ly/msqspain">https://bit.ly/msqspain</a> or the door. Students are free, so bring the family.

Need more info? Call 860-927-3486, email <u>st.andrew.kent@snet.net</u>, or visit <u>www.standrewskentct.org/mitn.html</u>.

See you there!

Music in the Nave St. Andrew's Parish

#### The War in Ukraine:

### Spiritual and Practical Resources

The ongoing unprovoked and unjustified Russian aggression in Ukraine is causing many of us anxiety, anger and an urge to 'do something' to help address it.



On the most fundamental and practical level, Episcopal Relief and Development, our Church's principal charitable agency, is collecting monetary donations to assist the people of Ukraine. You may donate using this link.

Here are some additional resources, compiled by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, that you may wish to explore:

- Call and Prayer for Averting Conflict (Episcopal Church Executive Council)
- A Faith Vigil for Peace in Ukraine (The Episcopal Church and Friends Committee on National Legislation)
- An Interfaith Call to Peace for Ukraine (TEC Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Other Interfaith Leaders)
- Statement on Russian divestment from Episcopal Church CFO Kurt Barnes
- Joint Statement from Archbishops of Canterbury and York
- World Central Kitchen
- Amnesty International
- UN High Commission on Refugees
- UNICEF
- Médecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders
- Voices of Children (A Ukrainian Charitable Foundation working with children traumatized by armed conflict)
- Sunflower of Peace (Provides first aide medical tactical backpacks for paramedics and doctors on the front lines of the conflict)
- Save the Children
- CARE
- International Medical Corps

Finally, the *Book of Common Prayer* is a treasury of spiritual expressions that, like the Psalms, address almost every human experience, in every age. I urge you to leaf through it during these times and see how Christ may speak to you through its words. I find the Collect for Peace (p 258), especially comforting, for both the open-handedness and boldness of the vision it prays:

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### In April: Adult Forums on the Liturgies of Holy Week



Have you ever suffered liturgical whiplash on Palm Sunday, as we experience both Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the Passion narrative on a single day? Do you find Maundy Thursday's ritual foot washing off-putting? Is visual veneration of the Cross on Good Friday a new experience for you? And have you ever wondered what, exactly, takes place at the Great Vigil on the evening before Easter Day?

Holy Week offers the richest, most textured and nuanced liturgies of the entire Church year. While they echo, to a degree, the pattern of the Holy Eucharist we're all accustomed to, they have additional rites and ceremonies (and omit others) that we experience only once-a-year. This celebration of the great Paschal Mystery—of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection—is the summit of the Christian calendar, and yet it can feel unfamiliar (perhaps even a little uncomfortable) to some.

If this is true for you, please plan to attend our Adult Forums on Sunday, 03 April (*Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday*), and Sunday, 10 April (*Good Friday and the Great Vigil*). Father Douglas will give a brief overview and explanation of these liturgies and answer all (hopefully!) of your questions. Both sessions will be at 12:00 noon, following coffee hour.

Our Interim Director of Music: Welcome, Susan Guse!



The Music Commission is delighted to announce that **Susan Guse** (pronounced "goosey") has agreed to serve as our Interim Music Director through the end of August, while we complete our search for a permanent director. Susan's first day with us was Ash Wednesday.

A resident of Hopewell Junction, New York, Susan says she enjoys a beautiful commute to Kent. Most recently, she supplied for three months at Trinity Episcopal, in Fishkill, New York, and one month at Zion Episcopal, in Wappingers Falls.

From January 1990 until her retirement in August 2020, Susan was Children's Choir Director for eight years, and then Music Director for twenty-two years at St John's Lutheran Church in Poughkeepsie. The church music program expanded rapidly during her tenure. Saint John's installed a new Casavant Pipe Organ in 1998 and purchased five octaves of handbells and five octaves of chimes in 2000. Under Susan's supervision, St John's had four Handbell Choirs, Children's Choirs, an Adult Choir as well as a String Ensemble, Recorder Ensemble and Brass Ensemble.

Prior to moving to the Hudson Valley in 1989, Susan served as Music Director at St Mark's Lutheran in St Louis, Missouri, and St John's Lutheran in Dayton, Ohio. She has a Master's Degree in Sacred Music from Wittenberg University and a Bachelor's Degree from Smith College (majoring in music).

Susan and her husband Mike (retired from IBM East Fishkill) have three adult sons, two grand daughters, ages 5 and 7, and two small dogs.

Please be sure to greet Susan when you see her on Sunday and welcome her to the St Andrew's parish family!

### A Thank-You From Tom and Marty



To all of you who so generously gave Marty and me a retirement present of a gift certificate for Tanglewood, and money for an awesome feast at the Red Lion, many thanks.

As I explained to the Choir, Tanglewood is a place of special memory for us, as I proposed to Marty at a concert there back in 1965, out back during the intermission right after hearing the orchestra perform Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. It seemed like the perfect place and time! Anyway, you and your wonderful new priest are a great parish where we have many friends, and we will still be members, for sure.

We won't be coming Sundays for a while, though, as we'd like Susan not to have us breathing down her neck in her new job. From what little I've seen of her as of now, I think she'll work out very well, and keep the tradition alive. Stay well!

-- Tom (and Marty)

#### 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.

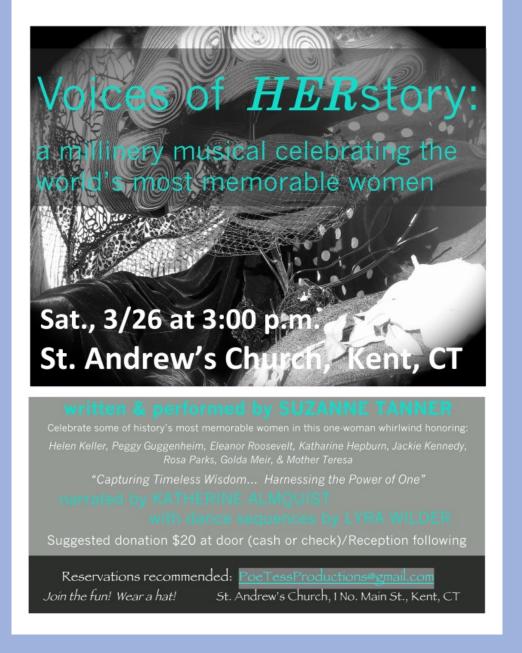
### Worship During Lent: Wednesday Evenings



On Wednesday evenings during Lent, our customary 6:00 pm Eucharist will be preceded by an opportunity for the Rite of Reconciliation (more popularly known as "Confession"; *Book of Common Prayer*, p 447), in private, at 5:00 pm; and, at 5:30 pm, by the *Way of the Cross*, a liturgy of 14 very short lessons that lead us to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice and death ... and our need of the forgiveness He's already given us. (You may come for one, two or all three of these offerings. They are separate rites, and you needn't be present for all of them.)

If you have never attended a mid-week Eucharist ... or if you're interested in exploring Confession or the Way of the Cross ... Lent is an excellent time to 'try on' one of these new liturgical practices and reflect on how it draws you closer to God. Please come!

### In a Week: HERstory Comes to St Andrew's



There is simply no better way to celebrate Women's History Month.

Suzanne is a true chanteuse and brings each of her characters to blazing life. She has performed in regional theatres across the country, and was featured in the United Solo Festival in NYC. This production is dedicated to the memory of her daughter, Tess (1998 - 2011.) Tess was a poet and Suzanne's hope is to create a space in her name specifically for art, music and poetry to blossom.

Katherine Almquist

### Shrove Tuesday: What a Feast It Was!

Thanks to our roving photographer Michael Ward for taking these pics of the return of our annual Pancake Supper, last Tuesday evening. And thanks to **Bob McDowell, Irene Coe, Jake Fricker, Duke Echols** and so many others for making this event such a good time!











## In Pawling: A Gallery Exhibit in the Key of Lent



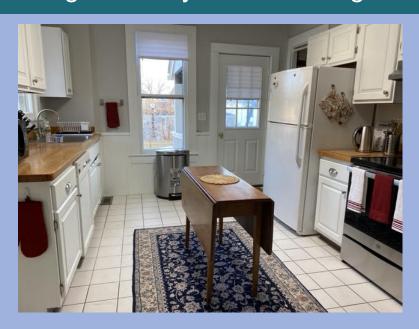
St Peter (David Morrison)

David Morrison shares "A Time of Reflection," a diverse collection of 40 works in pen and ink, acrylic paint, and glass art, at the Live 4 Art Gallery in Pawling, NY, which is owned by parishioner Ned Reade, during the month of March. The opening reception is tomorrow, Saturday, 12 March, from 5 to 7 pm.

His journey of creating "The Passion of Christ" started 20 years ago with his first piece in pen and ink, an abstracted Christ on the Cross entitled "You Are Not Alone." His desire to show the whole collection together gives observers a time to reflect, not only on The Passion of Christ, but also on their own journeys in life. It is a wonderful show to see during the penitential season of Lent.

This show went up on Friday, 04 March, and is up through Sunday, 27 March. Hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11 to 5, Friday and Saturday 11 to 6, and Sunday 11 to 3. The gallery is closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

### They're Almost Here: Refugee Family is Now in Virginia!

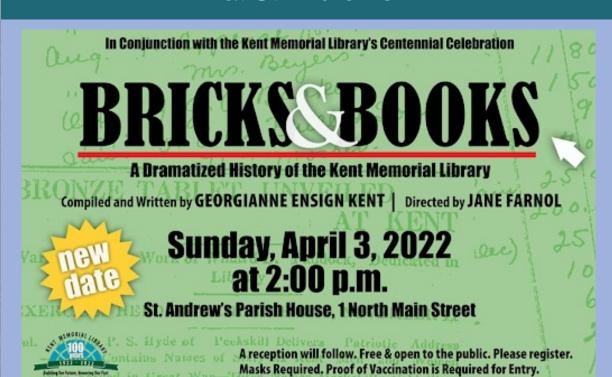


We received word this week that the Turquoise Mountain families, one of whom we will be helping to resettle in New Milford, have left Doha and arrived at the "Safe Haven" in Virginia. We still do not know how long they will need to stay there before coming to Connecticut. It could be two days, a week or even more. In any event, we, together with the rest of the Washington (CT) Refugee Resettlement Project team, will be ready to welcome them.

As a way to welcome the family, Fr Douglas suggested that handwritten cards would be a great way to show the family that they are welcome and we are happy to have them here. Since the family speaks very little English (their native tongue is Dari), the welcome messages should probably be short and to the point. We think that the children in our parish could especially reach the children of the arriving family by creating cards with artwork and pictorial messages. Please bring your cards and creations to coffee hour at the Parish House this Sunday. There will be blank cards available, too, if you would like to create a card on-the-spot. We will deliver the cards to the house.

Thank you, St Andrew's!

### Coming in April: Kent Memorial Library Celebration at St Andrew's



The readers for this event are all members of the St Andrew's family: Katherine Almquist, Herman Compton, Ryan Foote, Joanna Tucker, Lyra Wilder and Fr Douglas. Please let the Library know if you are planning to come!

### 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. 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 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.

#### Lections for this Week

The Third Sunday in Lent Year C

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9



### 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)



-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)

Fridays
A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)
temporarily until First Church opens
resumed



### Parish Staff

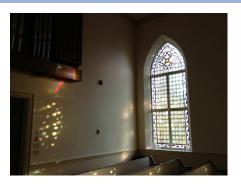
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Susan Guse
Organist & Director of Choirs

**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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