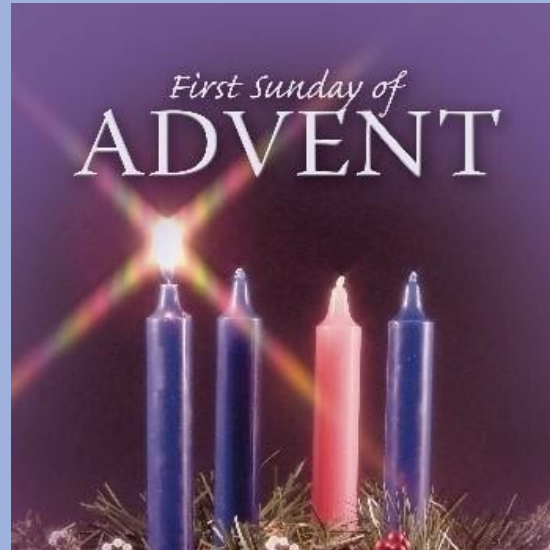




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## From Randy DiPentima, Junior Warden

...to live in harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6

On this Thanksgiving morning, I give thanks for the parish of St. Andrew's Kent. I am particularly grateful for the way that we, of different backgrounds, life experiences and secular values, are drawn together "to be of one heart and mind" within God's church.

The common life of this parish has lifted spirits as we face recent personal and public challenges. Most recently, we held a most successful and happy bazaar this past Saturday, and prior to that a musical potluck to honor Tom Holcombe's talents and devotion to making glorious music for our worship, and soon the Christmas tree sale, all bringing us together in our common life. Each Sunday we gather to worship, to share in the body and blood of Christ and to listen to Fr. Douglas's thought-provoking and excellent sermons. Again, I give thanks.

## This Week at St Andrew's

Friday, 26 November

Prayer & Meditation (*Nave*)

5:30 pm

Saturday, 27 November	Christmas Tree Sale Begins	9:00 am
Saturday, 27 November	Choir Rehearsal ( <i>Choir Room</i> )	9:30 am
Saturday, 27 November	KECNS Holiday Craft Fair	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday, 28 November	Holy Eucharist: <i>Advent 1 (in person only)</i>	8:30 am
Sunday, 28 November	Holy Eucharist: <i>Advent 1 (with music) (in person and live-streamed)</i>	10:30 am
Sunday, 28 November	Coffee Hour ( <i>Great Room</i> )	11:35 am
Sunday, 28 November	Sherman Chamber Ensemble: <i>Jazzing Up the Classics</i>	4:00 pm
Wednesday, 01 December	Mid-Week Holy Eucharist ( <i>in person and live-streamed</i> )	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 01 December	A.A. for Women ( <i>Zoom meeting; email us for info</i> )	7:00 pm
Thursday, 02 December	A.A. Meeting ( <i>Parish House</i> )	7:30 am
Thursday, 02 December	Al-Anon Meeting ( <i>Old Vestry Room</i> )	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, 04 December	Advent Quiet Day	9:00 am-3:00 pm
Friday, 10 December	Music in the Nave: Messiah Sing-in Returns!	8:00 pm
Saturday, 11 December	KECNS Santa Breakfast	9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Saturday, 11 December	Showcase of Shakespeare Monologues, presented by Jane Farnol	4:00 pm
Saturday, 19 December	Blue Christmas Service (held jointly with First Congregational, in their	5:00 pm

sanctuary)

Friday, 24 December

Family Christmas Eve  
Eucharist (*in person and live-streamed*)

4:00 pm

Friday, 24 December

Traditional Christmas Eve  
Eucharist (*in person and live-streamed*)

9:00 pm

## 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 **Substantial** (or higher)
- 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.

## A Huge Thank-You For a Very Successful Bazaar!



Our sincere and deep thanks go out to **Marel Rogers** and her entire crew of Christmas Bazaar 'elves' who worked tirelessly to prepare the return of this beloved event. Once again, people lined up before we opened and purchased gifts, baked goods, ornaments and delicious hot foods ... not to mention filling the door prize boxes with tickets till some were almost overflowing! And, of course, Santa and Mrs Claus were in residence, as well. In all, we raised just over \$6,000 to support the important work of the Mission & Outreach Commission.

Between the parish potluck on the 13th and the Nursery School's Craft Fair this

coming weekend, the Bazaar team really had to scramble to pull everything together, and they truly outdid themselves. *Thank you, one and all!*

## Tomorrow: The Annual Christmas Tree Sale Begins!



The order has been placed, and soon the racks will be going up on the North Lawn. Yes, the annual Christmas Tree Sale begins tomorrow!

We have between 250 and 300 trees coming this year. They will be arriving tomorrow morning, 27 November, and the sale will kick off at 10 am. It will then continue every Friday (4 – 6 pm), Saturday (10 am – 6 pm) and Sunday (12 – 5 pm) until we run out of trees. We need plenty of volunteers to help sell. If you can help, please be in touch with Chris Rehow ([crehow@ncsplus.com](mailto:crehow@ncsplus.com) or 917-544-1763).

## A New Advent Practice: The Reverse Advent Calendar



We're all probably familiar with the traditional Advent calendar: Each day, you open a little window to read a verse or a thought ... or maybe get a small toy or piece of candy. Well, this year for Advent (which begins on Sunday, by the way!), we're suggesting something a little different: a *reverse* Advent calendar.

Here's how it works: First, obtain a copy of the calendar (they're in the Narthex of the church and parish office, and also available on the parish's web site and Facebook page) and purchase the items listed. Also, create a space—a box, a bag or a table—to be your 'calendar.' (The photo above is the calendar we made in the Rectory last year, on Day 3.) Then, each day in Advent, place one item in your calendar, perhaps saying a little prayer of thanksgiving or "O come, O come, Emmanuel" as you do. Finally, after Christmas, gather up all the items in your calendar and either bring them to church or take them directly to the Food Bank on a Thursday morning.

Among the many rich strands of Advent is the call to tune our hearts to Jesus in *expectancy*: in eager, loving anticipation of His Coming and His Coming Again. Spending four weeks joyfully and quietly preparing a gift that will help sustain a family during the cold, dark weeks of winter is surely a beautiful way to open our hearts to the Christ Child and His Peace.

## From the Stewardship Commission: "It Ain't Over 'til It's Over"

Although Stewardship season officially ended on 14 November, when we observed the Feast Day of St. Andrew, we hope that those of you who have not pledged will consider pledging now to support the operations of the parish and our plans for restarting our church school and for sponsoring community events to bring more people to St. Andrew's. We will welcome pledges with open arms at any time with great thanks.

The Stewardship Commission

## This Sunday: The Sherman Chamber Ensemble Returns

# Jazzing It Up!

Spotlight on the music of Billy Strayhorn,  
Duke Ellington's muse and composer of *Take the A Train* and *Satin Doll*



**Sat., Nov. 27, 4 pm, New Milford**  
Temple Shalom, 122 Kent Rd. (Rt. 7)

**Sat., Nov. 27, 8 pm, Washington**  
Salem Covenant Church, 96 Baldwin Hill Rd.

**Sun., Nov. 28, 4 pm, Kent**  
St. Andrew's Church, 1 North Main St.

Ted Rosenthal (piano), Eddie Barbash (alto sax),  
Susan Rotholz (flute), Chris Parker (drums),  
Thomson Kneeland (bass), Eliot Bailen (cello)

## St Andrew's New Refugee Resettlement Team: Now's the Time to Get Involved!



As of this week, a dedicated team of nine volunteers now comprises the **St Andrew's Refugee Resettlement Team**. As part of the wider effort being coordinated by the Washington Consortium of Congregations, our parish team will be responsible for *all the housing needs of a refugee family that will be settling in the New Milford area sometime early next year*. Our work will include securing them an apartment, furnishing it, getting all of the utilities connected, stocking the fridge and the pantry, etc.

Our work will be front-loaded: It will happen very early in the resettlement process, and it is one of the first tasks that must be completed. What we provide ... and how we provide it ... will also be one of our family's first introductions to American hospitality and ways-of-life.

We are immensely grateful that **Andie Sehl** and **Sid Head** have volunteered to be the co-leaders of our team. Thank you so much, Andie and Sid!!

We can always use more help. If you would like to get involved, or if you have questions, please be in touch with Fr Douglas.

**Next Saturday:**

# Advent Quiet Day



Both Advent and Lent are more reflective, contemplative seasons in our liturgical calendar, and in many parishes, it is customary to offer a Quiet Day during each of them. This is a spiritual practice we're going to 'try on' here at St Andrew's.

**On Saturday, 04 December**, we will gather from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for a day of quiet liturgy (Morning, Noonday and Evening Prayer); some reflections on the canticles of Advent; and individual prayer and meditation. A quiet lunch will be provided, as well. There will be ample 'free' time throughout the day to walk, to journal or write, to pray and—perhaps best of all—just to be quiet: to still ourselves and allow the expectancy of Advent settle into our beings and color our journey through this profound season, which has far more depth than just being a countdown to Christmas.

If you are planning to attend, please let Fr Douglas know, so we can get an accurate count for lunch. (If we haven't received a sufficient number of RSVPs by Monday, 29 November, we'll cancel this event.)

## The Beloved *Messiah* Sing-In Returns: Friday, 10 December



Hallelujah! We're back with our 10th annual Messiah Sing-In on Friday, December 10th at 8 pm in the Nave. James Sinclair leads the Sherman Chamber Ensemble and guest soloists in a performance of Part One (the Nativity) and the Hallelujah Chorus of Handel's glorious Messiah.

And who did we get for a chorus? You! If you so desire, sit up front: we'll lend you a score and you lend us your voice. Or sit anywhere else and just enjoy the show. Either way, it's going to be an evening beautiful music and good times. (Masks will be required.)

Tickets are \$20 and available at <https://bit.ly/messiah10> or the door. Students are free. For more information, call 860-927-3486, email [st.andrew.kent@snet.net](mailto:st.andrew.kent@snet.net), or visit [www.standrewskentct.org/mitn.html](http://www.standrewskentct.org/mitn.html).

## Saturday, 11 December: Shakespeare Comes to St Andrew's

Love. Lust. Longing. Rage and Revenge! Shakespeare wrote all about it, and it is as fresh today as it was 400 years ago. And you can watch it unfold on Saturday, 11 December, at 4:00 pm, right in the Nave of St Andrew's. Our own **Jane Farnol** is directing a showcase of monologues at the Sharon Playhouse, and on the 11th, we will enjoy Kent's own performance of an abridged version. It's sure to be a soul stirring event! A free-will offering will be received.

After the showcase, there will be a wine-and-cheese reception in the Parish House, complete with a book signing by Jane. Her abridged version of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be available for purchase. What a lovely stocking stuffer!

## Help Support Kent Education Center & Nursery School

Our tenant and neighbor KECNS has two fun fund-raising events coming up, which we're inviting you to consider supporting:



KENT EDUCATION CENTER & NURSERY SCHOOL  
PRESENTS TO YOU OUR  
1ST ANNUAL

# Holiday Craft Fair

Come support small businesses by shopping local at our event. Refreshments, baked goods, and snacks will be available for purchase.

Proceeds will go to KECNS!

**WHEN: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2021  
10AM-2PM**

**WHERE: UPSTAIRS ROOM PARISH  
HOUSE AT ST. ANDREWS CHURCH  
6 BRIDGE STREET KENT CT, 06757**

Please contact Courtne at 845-224-6398  
if interested in being a vendor!



**SANTA'S BREAKFAST  
IS BACK!**

With a COVID conscious format, breakfast to go,  
& BYOC (bring your own cup) to reduce waste! Scan to Preview

**DATE: Saturday, December 11th / 9am-12pm**  
**LOCATION: Parish House, St Andrews Church**

\$5 per person / \$20 per family : Proceeds go to KECNS  
(Kent Education Center & Nursery School)

## A Message from Town Hall about the Kent Santa Fund



The Kent Santa Fund, which operates anonymously, assists local children under the age of 16 during the holiday season and utilizes community and business members who shop and donate those gifts. COVID-19 has caused

the Kent Santa Fund to change the way we assist the local children, so this year the Santa Fund is going to offer the participants several options for the holiday. The Kent Santa Fund will be providing gift cards to the families which will allow the families to prioritize their family's needs during the holidays. In addition to the gift cards, we will be having our first "Santa's Workshop!!" During this workshop, participating parents can shop for their children and participating local children can pick up a gift for their siblings and/or best friends. Specific information on the Workshop will be shared soon!!

In the past, our community has always been very generous. We hope that you will continue this tradition by making either a monetary donation to the Kent Santa Fund or dropping off a gift for a child between the ages of 1 – 16 years old. Your donations will help members of our community who live with the harsh reality of financial insecurity, every single day.

Monetary donations should be made payable and mailed to the "Kent Santa Fund," P.O. Box 678, Kent, CT 06757. Checks can also be delivered to the attention of Joyce Kearns at Kent Town Hall by placing them in the white drop box next to the front door of Town Hall. Gifts should be dropped off at Town Hall in the Selectmen's office, Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. from now until Friday, December 17, 2021.

Thank you so much for opening your hearts and wallets. Your donations will help us ensure that local children and their families enjoy the holidays.

If you have any questions, please contact Joyce directly at 860.927.4627 or [adminassist@townofkentct.org](mailto:adminassist@townofkentct.org).

## ECCT: Annual Convention Summary



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT  
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

On 23 October, the Episcopal Church in Connecticut held its 237th annual convention. (Ours may be the longest continuously running convention in the entire Church.) While the convention was held via Zoom, it still featured a virtual tour of the fully renovated Cathedral in Hartford; worship, in Morning Prayer; and a final address by Bp Ian Douglas, who will be retiring next year.

In addition to approving next year's budget and compensation levels and electing officers and commission / committee members, the convention also adopted several resolutions:

- Recognizing All Saints, in Cornwall, and the diocesan mission at Seabury House, in Bloomfield, as Intentional Episcopal Communities, thus giving them official status within ECCT
- Committing all parishes to become active in advocacy for the climate and to conduct an energy audit, with a view toward improving energy efficiency and reducing consumption
- Committing the diocese to explore and implement appropriate ways to

foster right relationship with Indigenous Episcopalians and with our Indigenous neighbors; and forming a Task Force on Relationships with Indigenous People

- Committing the diocese to review and explore ways to reduce the administrative burden on parishes of complying with our Safe Church policies, without reducing our commitment to keeping our local communities safe for all vulnerable people
- Increasing the diocese's investment in young adult ministry; and
- Examining the impact of various social biases within the Church's clergy disciplinary processes

If you'd like to read more about any of these resolutions, you may do [shere](#).

## 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.

## Lections for this Week

### **The First Sunday of Advent**

*Year B*

Jeremiah 33: 14-16  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21: 25-36



## 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.*

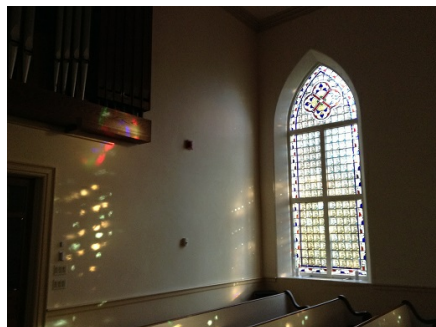
**Thursdays**  
A.A. at 7.30 a.m.  
(Parish House)  
*resumed*  
Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.  
(Old Vestry Room)  
*resumed*

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



## Parish Staff

**The Rev Douglas S**  
**Worthington,**  
**Priest in Charge**  
[frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:frdouglas.sak@gmail.com)  
860-592-0171



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

**KC Compton,**

Parish Administrator

Joan I Cassel  
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin,  
Verger



St Andrew's Church  
P. O. Box 309  
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 10 am- 5 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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