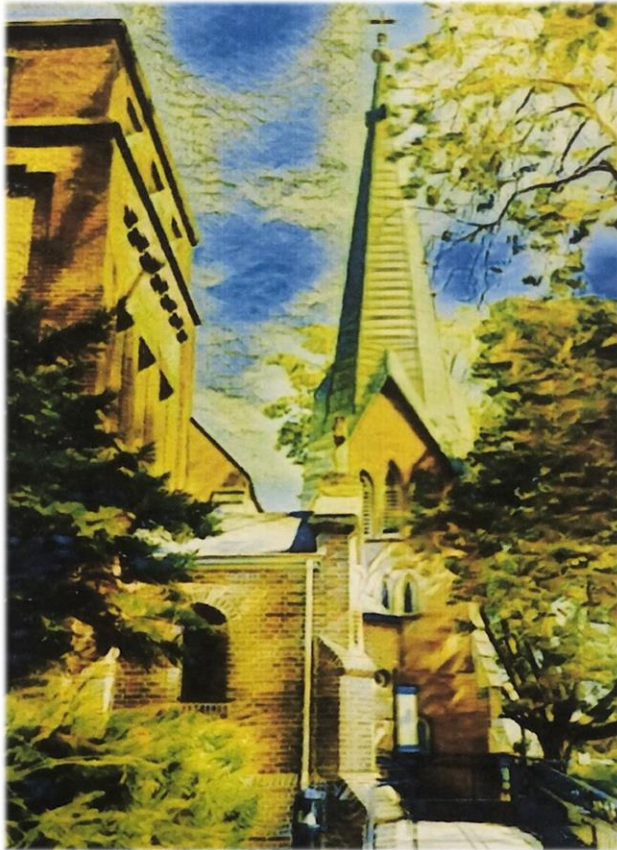


**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
FEBRUARY 26TH AT 10:15 A.M.**



Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We pray you experience the love of God through our worship and fellowship. For those who are new to our community, restrooms can be found on the other side of the parish hall. Ushers are stationed at the back of the church and can answer any questions you may have. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after each service. A nursery is available every Sunday for our littlest members next to the Parish Hall. Thank you for being here!

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Tune: *Green Hill*

There is a Green Hill Far Away

Lucy Ann Warriner
George C. Stebbins

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Eternal Lord of love

HYMN 149

OPENING ACCLAMATION (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People *His mercy endures for ever.*

THE DECALOGUE

BCP 350

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8-9*

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.

People Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE KYRIE

Hymnal S-89

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (*please be seated*)

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32 (*led by the staff*)

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

- 6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

THE EPISTLE: Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN*Forty days and forty nights***HYMN 150***vs. 1-3 before the Gospel Reading, vs. 4-5 after the Gospel Reading***THE HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 4:1-11 (*please remain standing as you are able*)*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*People* *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.***SERMON**

THE REV. AMANDA KNOUSE

THE NICENE CREED (*please stand as you are able*)**BCP 358**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man. (*pause*)
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*please kneel as you are able*)

BCP 387

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, especially Church of the Good Shepherd, Upper Fairfield;
and The Scottish Episcopal Church, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found
without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Audrey our own Bishops, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust especially Joe, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially Claire Phillips, Charlie Rahe, Kate, Nancy Strasburg, Debbie Carter, Justin and Lisa, Paula Wolf, Leigh and Chris, Sharon Maloney, Marie Stauffer, and Rich Garon; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, and Carol Humphrey, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION HYMN *Lord Jesus, Sun of Righteousness*

HYMNAL 144, vs. 3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Hosanna in the highest.**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**Hosanna in the highest.*

(During Lent, it is customary to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMNAL S-149

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 365

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The Episcopal Church invites all to our Lord's table. If you wish to receive, please come forward to the altar rail when the usher indicates. If you desire a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. When finished, please exit to your right. Gluten free wafers are also available.

COMMUNION HYMNS *Lord, who throughout these forty days*
Seek ye first the kingdom of God

HYMN 142
HYMN 711

SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this parish, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body.
People Because we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth;
you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism.
Look upon us as we journey through these Forty Days,
and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth.
May our fasting be hunger for justice;
our alms, a making of peace;
our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and
remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Now quit your care

HYMN 145

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

Looking toward the Cross

Lani Smith

EUCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING

Do you ever wonder about the folks who come up during worship right after communion and carry those black boxes out with them? Do you know about Lay Eucharistic Visitors, and want to learn more about what they do, or even see if it might be a ministry that is right for you? We have a unique opportunity coming up! Our very own Archdeacon Jane Miron is leading a training for LEV's at St. Thomas on 3/18/23 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Lay Eucharistic Visitors have the holy task of taking the bread and wine from Holy Eucharist to friends and neighbors in the community who are unable to make it to worship in person. This training will provide an opportunity to ask questions about this ministry, learn the importance of sharing the Holy Sacrament within the community, and how to go about doing it! This training is NOT just for those who want to commit to being in this ministry. It's an opportunity to learn, support, and discern if this might something you are called to. Those who have been active in this ministry are also asked to attend to refresh our practices and connect with each other. We will also update any paperwork we need for the Diocese. Materials for St. John's folks will be provided. Everyone interested should email Jen Trenary at jen@stjohns-lancaster.org to get signed up.

St. John's Traveler Letter:

Did you know St. John's has a team of pilgrims who travel every week to the very places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares a little bit about the church and the places he visits:

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Greetings to you at St. John's as we all enter into the season of Lent. While penitential, I couldn't be more joyful writing to you from Iona in Scotland! This is one of my favorite places and, as many describe it, a place where the separation between heaven and earth is very thin. Getting here is always an adventurous journey. I was visiting friends on the Isle of Skye, and then it was a ferry ride to Mallaig, a coach ride past the Glenfinnan viaduct where I spotted the Jacobite Steam Train of Harry Potter fame, to Oban, then another ferry to the Isle of Mull, and finally another but very short ferry across the sound to Iona. This is a lovely part of the Inner Hebrides, and a pilgrimage site for many Christians. It was on Iona that St. Columba arrived from Ireland in 563 A.D. and brought Christianity to the Picts and Druids of this area. He built a chapel and monastery, and over the years this has been a center of combining the stories and teaching of Jesus with Celtic culture, artwork, and traditions. You may have seen images from the amazing illustrated Book of Kells that's now on display at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. It was created by the monks of Columba's monastery here, and then taken to Ireland to preserve it during the Viking raids of the early 800's. While the original chapel is long gone, there is a beautiful, spirit filled abbey that preserves the sense of history here. They have on display a stone cross that was carved with Celtic knotwork in the 700's A.D.

Iona is a small island of about 3 miles long and 1 mile across, and there are less than 200 people who live here year round. However, many more come here to visit for day trips, week-long pilgrimages, or longer, and that has been the case for centuries. In fact, there are records of 48 Scottish kings, 8 Norwegian kings, and 4 Irish kings all buried on Iona, including Macbeth of Shakespearean literature fame. Whales and dolphins are often seen in the crystal clear blue water just off the amazingly white sandy beaches. Of course there are seagulls, and also geese. In fact the symbol of the Holy Spirit in Celtic Christianity is not a dove, but a wild goose. Much of the artwork and music reflects the wonder of God's creation through the beauty of the landscape and animals who are our neighbors. Perhaps that's the reason so many people in Lancaster travel to Middlecreek? Are they saying hello and thanks to the Holy Spirit as the snow geese pass through? I am here for an all too brief stay to say hello and thank you to the Holy Spirit before I pass on, too. Wherever you are on your journey, I hope you know the spirit is traveling with you.

Blessings to you, always,
John Traveler

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
- 9:30 AM Sunday School & Youth Group
- 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
- 12:00 PM Safeguarding God's Children Training

**PLEASE CHECK THE MESSENGER
FOR INFORMATION ON EVENTS
HAPPENING THIS MONTH!**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 4:00 PM Neighborhood Prayer Walk
- 7:00 PM ALERT Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

- 12:00 PM Healing Service
- 3:00 PM Eagle's Nest
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

- 9:00 AM Ministers' Meeting
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Rector's Day Off

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

WEEKLY SUPPORT MINISTRIES

- AA: Tuesdays at 6:00 PM
- NA: Mon., Weds. & Fri. at 12:00 PM
- NA: Thursdays & Saturdays at 6:30 PM

FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS FOR THIS WEEK:

Cereal, baked beans and facial tissues - Thank you, St. John's!

**BEGINNING
FEBRUARY FEB. 28**

**L E N T E N P R A Y E R
W A L K S**

W A L K

**T H R O U G H
L A N C A S T E R**

W I T H

**P R A Y A N D W A L K
2 - 3 M I L E L O O P S**

H I M

**T U E S D A Y S 4 : 0 0
M E E T I N T H E
C O U R T Y A R D**

WHAT IS A NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYER WALK?

It's not just walking around. It's not just praying. It's walking through your neighborhood praying with your eyes and your heart wide open. It's noticing signs of hope and signs of need, and how God calls you to be present to both. So get a group. Take a walk. Listen closely. Pay attention. Offer prayer. Take pictures. Notice what God is up to. Then re-imagine how your ministry could join God and join your neighbors...

WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Stacey Catigano, Deacon
scatigano@gmail.com

The Rev. Jen Trenary, Assistant Rector
jen@stjohns-lancaster.org

VESTRY

Mary Waskowicz (Senior Warden), Leslie Morgan (Junior Warden),
Marylee Sauder, Nick DiPace, Andy Welaish, John Modene
Liz West, Ted Loose, Kathy Kyper

STAFF

Douglas Beach, Minister of Music & Communications
Martie & Brandy Walus, Bookkeepers
John Knouse, Property Manager
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Ellia Osofsky, Nursery Care

PRIESTS AND CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

The Rev. Matt MacDougall
Canon William F. Honaman, DHL
The Rev. Faith D'Urbano
The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE
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