



RECTOR: REV. DR. RONALD E. RAMSEY

PARISH OFFICE: 781-648-4819

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[HTTP://WWW.SAINTJOHNS-ARLINGTON.ORG](http://www.saintjohns-arlington.org)

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ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VIBRANT, GOSPEL-CENTERED, WELCOMING, A PLACE TO GROW - JOIN US!

Volume 35, Issue 35

February 2012

Letter From the Rector

A Lenten Reflection

On February 22, 2012, we will begin our yearly Lenten Pilgrimage with Ash Wednesday. The Ash Wednesday service begins with this prayer:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. This prayer sets the stage for what is to come—an opportunity to clear our minds

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St. John's ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES



Wednesday, February 22nd

***WE ARE OFFERING TWO
SERVICES AT***

12:00 Noon

AND

7:30PM

The 12 Noon service is specifically designed for families with children and others who cannot get out to the 7:30PM service. Everyone is welcome at either service. Please join us to mark the beginning of Lent together. Invite your family and friends to attend.

Letter from the Rector *Continued from Page 1*

and cleanse our hearts of all that keeps us from a right relationship with God. Before another word is spoken, this prayer has effectively communicated several powerful and redemptive truths:

1. God loves us – “You hate nothing you have made.” John said, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” There is no higher experience than feeling and knowing you are loved.

2. God forgives the sins of all who are penitent – The Bible says, “If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” There is no greater gift than the gift of forgiveness. Not only does God forgive us when we repent, but God has also given us the power to forgive others when they sin against us. In my judgment, the human vocabulary, no matter what the language, can never offer a more redemptive phrase than this: “I forgive you.”

3. Create in us new and contrite hearts – In our rough-and-tumble world, we are often hardened by the harsh realities of life on this planet. This can lead us to coldness of heart and wanderings of mind. When we pray for new and contrite hearts, we are asking God to renew a right spirit within us. We are asking God to increase our spiritual sensitivity, that we might make good and godly choices, and renounce the poor choices and poor decisions of the past.

4. That we may obtain perfect remission and forgiveness – Our goal and God’s eternal hope is for us to become one with him in the power of his Spirit. Perfect remission and forgiveness of sins will effect that oneness of spirit and oneness of purpose God has dreamed for each and every human creature.

May this Lenten journey fill your life with peace, spiritual renewal and every good thing.

Ronald E. Ramsey

Vestry Corner - *Vestry Members*

Senior Warden – Frank Foster, Jr.

Junior Warden – Andrew Nyamekye

Treasurer – John Gibson

Clerk – Maria Hood

2013 - David Wilcox Steven Brugger Michael Serabian

2014 – Dawn Shearer Stephen Romano Jan Baxter

2015 – Alex Mueller John Chiesa George Barr

Vestry Corner

The Vestry met on Monday, January 9, 2012.

The Finance Committee made its monthly report.

- Year-to-Date pledge receipts **less than our budgeted amount**. In addition, we collected funds from the special Vestry Appeal.
- December pledge receipts were **above** our budgeted amount for the month of December.
- We are current as of 12/31/11 on our Diocesan Assessment and Stokes Loan repayments. However, we still need to make our Q3 and Q4 payments on the 2005/2006 Assessment Payment Plan. Once we have paid this Q4 and the above Q3 and Q4, we will have repaid the 2005/2006 Assessment.
- We had the audit for the years 2007-2010 on December 5, 2011 performed by Dick Kershaw. The audit report was very positive.
- Pledging through January 8th – 43 members have pledged to date.
- Update on Endowment Funds was made.
- Withdrawals from Endowment Funds in December were made.
- The Structural Operating **deficit** at the end of 2011 was an improvement from November and is mainly due to the special Vestry Appeal collections in December and continued strong pledge collections.
- The Vestry voted to partner with the Diocese in their Collaborative Capital Campaign. More news to come.

Vestry Corner Continued from Page 2

The Property Committee made its monthly report.

- The exterior Church sign will be repaired as soon as possible. The sign was damaged by an act of vandalism in December.
- Gutter Repair – Iwano Contractors will install new downspouts near the back door entrance of the church.
- Landscape Lights – Four new light bulbs will be replaced at the front of the church and near the sign.
- Lombard Rental Property – Critter Control removed all squirrels; Iwano replaced all rotted wood near gutter at the rear of the house; Iwano replaced 30' damaged gutter at the rear of the house.

Focus Group Survey

- We have received 44 surveys as of January 9th. We encourage all parishioners to complete the survey as soon as possible.

Rector's Report

- The members of the Nominating Committee are – Frank Foster, Laura Manion, George Barr and Lisa Serabian. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of Officers at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, February 5th. We have two confirmands currently enrolled.
- Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. We will hold two services – 12noon and 7:30pm. All are encouraged to attend.
- The Martin Luther King celebration is scheduled for Monday, January 16th at 7:30pm – Arlington Town Hall.
- A Weinbach grand piano was given to the church by Robert Marshall of Mt. Desert, Maine. We are especially grateful for the efforts of James Nicoloro who made the appeal on our behalf.



**St. John's Church School/Christian Education
Jeanne Danton, Director of Christian Education**



Check Out St. John's Church School

Every Sunday teachers share their love of God and help to spread the word of Jesus with well-prepared lessons and awesome activities.

COMING EVENTS –

Youth Sunday – February 12th – 10:00AM Service. Church School students will introduce their **Being Good Stewards** recycling project and lead the congregation in prayer.



Lessons for this Unit- Being Good

Stewards- The older students will be working on a project to help St. John's Parishioners become good stewards of the earth's resources. They will conduct a recycling survey, install recycling receptacles in convenient areas in the Church building and present an awareness campaign during the February Youth Sunday. They will lead the younger students in activities associated with this project. We look forward to the support and encouragement of St. John's Parishioners as the Church School students explore and develop their understanding of what it means to be good stewards of God's gifts.

Christmas Pageant and Potluck Luncheon –

The parish enjoyed liturgical theater at its best and joined in the fellowship of the Potluck Luncheon. The pageant was well acted and the students enjoyed performing the humor-filled (and liturgically correct) pageant. Scrumptious food and fantastic fellowship were enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who helped with this St. John's traditional event. See the pictures from the event in this newsletter.

Sunday, February 19th – No Church School due to the February School Vacation. Church School will resume on Sunday, February 26th, (the first Sunday in Lent).

We are.....WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES



EASTER FLOWERS 2012

Your donation for Easter Flowers will not only brighten our Sanctuary, remember those you love, or celebrate a special blessing in your life, but will bring blessings to those of our church community who are unable to worship with us.

*To share in this, please fill out and return the form below to the Parish Office no later than **March 11th**, and your memorial will be included in the Easter bulletin.*



EASTER FLOWERS

A suggested donation of \$20.00 per flower (florist's choice), payable by cash or check to St. John's Episcopal Church, designated "Easter Flower Fund" in the memo field. Request forms with payment may be placed in the collection plate, dropped in the mail box on the Church Office door or mailed to:

*St. John's Episcopal Church
74 Pleasant St.
Arlington, MA 02476*

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

I/We, wish to give _____ Easter Flowers (\$20 each) for the Sanctuary

In Memory Of: _____

In Celebration Of: _____

In Thanksgiving Of: _____

OR

Unrestricted donation for greens and/ or the Altar Flower fund: _____

_____ *Please use for Shut-ins*

_____ *I'll pick up after the Christmas Services*

_____ *I can help deliver flowers to Shut-ins*

St. John's Episcopal Church
74 Pleasant St., Arlington, MA 02474

Stewardship Pledge Sheet - 2011

A Pledge is a statement of my commitment to Jesus Christ, the present ministry of our church, and its future growth and development.

Total amount pledged for 2012: _____ Date: _____

Payable: (Fill in One) Weekly: \$ _____ Monthly: \$ _____

Quarterly: \$ _____ Annually: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Would like information on Planned Giving? (Remembering your church in your will): ___ YES ___ NO

Suggested Ways to Think About Pledging

Tithing - 10% of your income (Salary, Pension, Other).

Modern Tithing - 5% of your income, increasing yearly by 1% until you reach 10%.

National Average - The average pledge in the Episcopal Church is \$44.00 per week.

Five Reasons To Tithe

- 1. Ancient Model** – Tithing is our most ancient model for giving. One of the best tithing stories is that of Jacob (Genesis 28:10-22).
- 2. Trust In God** – Tithing helps us worship God more in our lives. It encourages our spiritual growth and trust in God.
- 3. Financial Wisdom** – Tithing brings God's wisdom to our finances, exercising a healthy spiritual discipline over them, and helps us to combat the destructive materialism and greed that destroy the lives of many.
- 4. Ministry Support** – Tithing provides the means to keep our priests and missionaries in full time service to God.
- 5. Congregational Strength** – Tithing strengthens the ministry, outreach, and health of congregations, molding us into true Christian communities of faith, love and grace.

St. John's Episcopal Church – February 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Art Matters- 2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	2 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	3 MR – Aero 9-10AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	4 Boot Camp-8:15- 9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
5 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Jazz at St. John's Commissioning of New Officers CAC – 1-4PM	6 MR-Aero-5:30- 6:30PM	7 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30- 4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	8 Garden Club 9:30am -2:00pm Parish Hall Art Matters- 2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	9 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	10 MR – Aero 9-10AM	11 Boot Camp-8:15- 9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
12 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Youth Sunday Sacrament of Healing Andrea Loretz – Frey, SoloistChurch School CAC – 1-4PM	13 MR-Aero-5:30- 6:30PM Vestry 7:00PM- Memorial Room	14 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30- 4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	15 Art Matters- 2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	16 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	17 MR – Aero 9-10AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	18 Boot Camp-8:15- 9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
19 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM No Church School CAC – 1-4PM	20 MR-Aero-5:30- 6:30PM	21 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30- 4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	22 Ash Wed. Services 12 Noon and 7:30PM Art Matters- 2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	23 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30- 7:30PM	24 MR – Aero 9-10AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	25 Boot Camp-8:15- 9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
26 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Healing Service Jazz at St. John's Church School CAC – 1-4PM	27 MR-Aero-5:30- 6:30PM	28 Boot Camp-5:45- 6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30- 4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30-	29 Art Matters- 2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM			

St. John's Episcopal Church – March 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	2 MR – Aero 9-10AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	3 Boot Camp-8:15-9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
4 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Andrea Loretz – Frey, Soloist Church School Christian Ed. Mtg. CAC – 1-4PM	5 MR-Aero-5:30-6:30PM	6 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30-4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	7 Art Matters-2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	8 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	9 MR – Aero 9-10AM	10 Boot Camp-8:15-9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
11 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Jazz at St. John's Church School CAC – 1-4PM	12 MR-Aero-5:30-6:30PM Vestry Meeting 7:-00PM – Memorial Room	13 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30-4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	14 Garden Club 9:30am -2:00pm Parish Hall Art Matters-2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	15 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	16 MR – Aero 9:00AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	17 Boot Camp-8:15-9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
18 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Jazz at St. John's Youth Sunday Church School Ezikel's Men CAC – 1-4PM	19 MR-Aero-5:30-6:30PM	20 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30-4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	21 Art Matters-2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	22 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	23 MR – Aero 9:00AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	24 Boot Camp-8:15-9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon
25 HE Rite I 8:00AM HE Rite II 10:00AM Sacrament of Healing Andrea Loretz – Frey, Soloist Church School CAC – 1-4PM	26 MR-Aero-5:30-6:30PM	27 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM Art Matters 1:30-4:15PM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	28 Art Matters-2:45-4:00PM MR Aero 5:30-6:30PM WDBC 6:45-11:00PM	29 Boot Camp-5:45-6:45AM MR – Aero 9-10AM AMR-Aero 6:30-7:30PM	30 MR – Aero 9:00AM CAC – 7:30-9:30PM	31 Palm Sunday Reader Rehearsal 12:00 Noon Boot Camp-8:15-9:15AM AA -10-11AM Alanon – 12 Noon Sus. Arl. Mtg. 7:00PM

St. John's Details

Wardens – *Frank Foster, Jr., Andrew Nyamekye*

Director of Christian Ed. – *Jeanne Danton*

Caretaker – *Frank Beckett*

Parish Assistant/Newsletter – *Jeanne Danton*

St. John's Episcopal Church

74 Pleasant St. Arlington, MA 02476

Church Office: 781-648-4819

Rectory: 781-648-0694

Fax: 781-648-6185

E-Mail: st.johns_arlington@verizon.net

Website: www.saintjohns-arlington.org

Schedule of Services

8:00AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Youth Sunday –

Third Sunday of the Month

Church School – 10:00AM

(September to May)

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 12th – Sacrament of Healing 8 & 10 AM services. Youth Sunday, Andrea Loretz-Frey, Guest Soloist 10:00AM Service. Confirmation Class 11:30AM.

Monday, February 13th – Vestry Meeting, 7:00PM, Memorial Room.

Sunday, February 19th – No Church School. Confirmation class 11:30AM.

Wednesday, February 22nd – Ash Wednesday Services- 12 Noon and 7:30PM.

Sunday, February 26th – Healing Service 8:00AM and 10:00AM, Jazz at St. John's, Church School Resumes 10:00AM. Confirmation class 11:30AM.

Monday, Feb. 27th - **The Jericho Bible Study Group** will read the Gospel of Luke and meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Memorial Room. Everyone welcome.

MARCH

March 4th - Andrea Loretz-Frey, Guest Soloist, 10:00AM Service

March 11th - Sunday, Jazz at St. John's.

March 12th - Monday, Vestry Meeting, 7:00PM, Memorial Room.

March 18th - Youth Sunday 10:00AM service.

March 25th – Sunday, Andrea Loretz-Frey, Guest Soloist, Sacrament of Healing after the 8:00 & 10:00AM services.

St. John's Prayer List



We remember those on our parish prayer list: Holly Prussman, Karen Kamuda, Diana Vogel, Myra Morrisette, David Heison, Joanne May and Family, Sharon VanValkenburgh, Bernadette Conway, Lois Arnold, Virginia Robinson, Sue Burton, Bill Ford, Michael Cacciamani, Robert Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Page Lindsay, Ruth Reid, William Haslett, Patricia Randall, Marilyn Miller, Amy Miller, Charles VanValkenburgh, Rose Fichera, Lisa Tripp, Jamie Gregg, Bernard Becker, Ginny McAskill, Don Webb, Linda McCarthy, Therese Rickard, Donald Rickard, Madeline Barton, Florence Judd, Diana Serabian, Katie O'Donnell, William Scott, Molly Murphy, Carol Coffinger, the Medugno family, Marc Pachter, Elizabeth Bauerlein, Ian Williams, Phil Reynolds, Joyce McGlynn, John Wilcox, Doreen Gelt, Gordon Tripp, Robert Manz, Nat Fenollosa, Tony Alexander, Bonnie Alexander, Al Jefferson, Irene Sohm, Sharon Elstein, and Nancy Blatt.

To help us keep this list current, please contact the Church Office and leave a message to add or remove names from this list.
Thank you.



The Jericho Bible Study Group will read the Gospel of Luke and meet on Monday, Feb. 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Memorial Room. Anyone interested is invited to join us even if they don't have a chance to read the whole gospel.



Church Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

Cancellation or delay of Church Services or Church School due to winter storms will be announced on WBZ, WHDH and WCVB.

Radio: Tune in to WBZ news radio 1030

TV: Tune into Channel 7, 4, or Channel 5 news stations.

Online: WHDH.com or WBZ4.com

St. John's Christmas Pageant 2011 (Photos by Charlotte Pierce)



The Reason for the Season

Getting Ready



Waiting in the Memorial Room



Middle School Narrators



Church School Choir



Joseph and Mary



King Herod



Shepherds



Angel Chorus



The Congregation and the Pageant Crew Enjoy the Performances

New Church Office Hours:



Rev. Ramsey's weekly schedule is as follows:

Monday –1:00-5:00PM

Tuesday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Wednesday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Thursday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Friday – Sermon Preparation

Jeanne Danton, Parish Assistant's weekly schedule is as follows: Mon. through Thurs. 8:30AM – 1:30PM.

Office is closed on Fridays.

Please note that these days and times are subject to change. Please call the church office to ensure the office is open.



**St. John's Episcopal Church
74 Pleasant St.
Arlington, MA 02476**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Seasons of St. John's



Epiphany

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Sunday, February 19th – No Church School. Confirmation class 11:30AM.



Lent

Wednesday, February 22nd – Ash Wednesday Services- 12 Noon and 7:30PM.

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