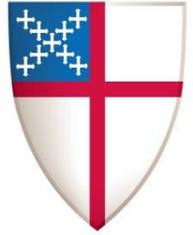


# St. John's Episcopal Church and Day School

Alamogordo, New Mexico

Our Mission is to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel  
and to seek and serve Christ in all people



2022 – January Newsletter

## Greetings to each of you in this season of Epiphany,

Every year when I arrive at January, it feels like a surprise. The last part of December seems to fly by at breakneck speed and then... January. And with January seems to come permission to transition away from the year fading into memory and into the year ahead: an end and a beginning. January is actually named after the Roman God Janus, who was believed to stand over beginnings and endings.

That cycle in January of ending and beginning always feels like repentance and confession to me. Not in the sense of grieving terrible sins, but in the sense that moving forward in this moment means letting go of some of what we have brought with us in the same way that moving closer to God has to involve letting go of some of what holds us back.

In 2022 we have an opportunity once again to participate in God's dream for Alamogordo: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the sick. Where is God calling St. John's in that dream and what will we learn as we make the journey of this coming year together?

May this season of Epiphany bring us new ways to see Christ in ourselves and others. Blessings from...

The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

r

From the Senior Warden

Our Diocese has a wonderful public information program that brings us news updates a few times each month directly from our Bishop and Canon to the Ordinary. The updates are called, “Your DRG Update”, and “Rio Grande Borderland Ministries.”

A highlight of these emails are the video messages from Bishop Hunn and Canon Lee. Canon Lee generally sticks to messages about our borderland ministry but with Bishop Hunn you may find yourself on a mountain bike, in a construction area, in his home garden, or visiting a church in the far reaches of our diocese. You never know and that’s not only the fun of it but the way we learn what’s going on.

If you would like to begin receiving these emails, please let me know. I’ll forward your name and email address to the Bishop’s executive assistant, Mary Jewell. She’ll add your name to the email list and the messages will start showing up in your in box. I’d be happy to know what you think of them!

With joy and hope,

Nancy Gregory  
Senior Warden

## Schedule of Sunday Readings

Date	Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
2-Jan	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalm 84:1-8	Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a	Matthew 2:13-15,19-23
9-Jan	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
16-Jan	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
23-Jan	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
30-Jan	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30

## Rota

Date	Sunday	Reader - 8:00
2-Jan	Christmas 2	Randy Burroughs
9-Jan	Epiphany 1	John Shipe
16-Jan	Epiphany 2	Joyce Summers
23-Jan	Epiphany 3	Randy Burroughs
30-Jan	Epiphany 4	John Shipe

## Annual Meeting 2022

This year the annual meeting will be taking place on January 30, 2022 between the 8 and 1015 services.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Blessing Bag Ministry: New Ministry at St. John's**

Blessing Bags contain **travel** size items (i.e. hand sanitizer, small note books, toothbrush, toothpaste, pens, pencils, shampoo, deodorant, granola bars, soap, tuna/cracker packs, underwear, socks etc). We place several of the items in a gallon storage bag and distribute them to those in need. Currently, we are working closely with COPE and our community kitchen.

If you are interested in helping in this ministry, please contact Sharon Kelman at 757 718 9451 or email [ke4zia@gmail.com](mailto:ke4zia@gmail.com). You may bring any items you purchase to the church and deposit them in the bag that is located in the Narthex any Sunday.

## **Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Seminar**

The Brotherhood is a group of men who engage in the study of scripture and service. We currently meet each Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a Bible seminar in the Parish Hall. All men and women from the community with an interest in the study of scripture are invited to attend.

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries in January**

Birthdays:

Susan (1/6), Caleb (1/8), Noah (1/17), Ligia (1/10), and Annabelle (1/26) Happy Birthday to all!

Anniversaries:

Deanna and Tom (1/29) and Kathy Ann and Bill (1/31)

Happy Anniversary to all!

## **Caring card ministry**

I would like to thank everyone who has donated cards, stamps and stickers to this ministry. We would like to help you celebrate **ALL** occasions. So, if you haven't signed up on our birthday (we just need month and day- **NO YEARS**) and anniversary lists, please do so. If you know of someone who may enjoy receiving one of our cards, please let me know. The sign- up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. If you prefer, you may contact me directly: Sharon Kelman email: [ke4zia@gmail.com](mailto:ke4zia@gmail.com) or 757-718 9451 call or text.

## **Pet Prayer Chain**

Many people in our congregation have pets. We all love our pets. They are part of our family. When they are sick, elderly or lost, it is a comfort to know that our church family is praying for them as well as us. If you have or know of a pet that could benefit from our ministry, please let me know. Please consider joining our pet prayer chain volunteers. You may contact: Sharon Kelman at ke4zia@gmail.com or 757 718-9451 call or text.

## **Daily Office**

Morning Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. Evening Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 4:00 p.m.

Links to these services can be found on the website. The service is also streamed to our Facebook page when technology allows.

## **Formation Hour**

Join us on Sundays at 9 for our Bible Study on Leviticus. We began our journey with Abraham and are now reading through the story of Leviticus. In December, we will likely continue into the story of Numbers.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Do you knit or crochet? Are you interested in doing it as part of an ongoing spiritual practice that gives back to the community? If you are and would like more information, like patterns or prayers, please contact Joyce at joycesummers@mac.com

## **Food Box Ministry**

As many of you know, our church community has been doing amazing work through a grant made possible by the USDA farms to families initiative, a form of COVID relief. After serving more than 1000 meals over the months that we were involved in that program, it became clear that we were meeting a different kind of need. Now that the grant has run out and things are returning to normal, Father Michael is calling for a time of sabbath and planning for next steps. To that end, he has composed the prayer below. If you would take some time to pray with us, we would appreciate it as we continue to discern how to serve our community in the name of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, whose eyes and ears, hands and feet we are. Give us eyes that see the needs of our community through the lense of your loving-kindness. Give us ears that hear the sprirt speaking through the mouth of our neighbors. Give us hands that reach out and build up your kingdom in our midst; and give us feet that carry the Good News to the darkest corners of our world; in the name of the one who died and rose again, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

# St. John's Episcopal Church

1114 Indiana Avenue, Alamogordo

Sunday Services: 8:00am Rite I; 10:15am Rite II

Office Phone: 575.437.3891

Email: [stjohnsalamo@tularosa.net](mailto:stjohnsalamo@tularosa.net) Website: <http://www.stjohnsalamo.com>