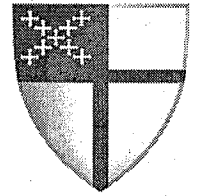


# St. John's Episcopal Church and Day School



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

Greetings in this strange season!

2023 – Summer edition

This part of the church year has always stood out to me. The altar is green and I have already used the word “ordinary” more in the last week than I have in the last seven months. Ordinary time is here. We spend more of the year in Ordinary time than we do celebrating feasts or other seasons. I always thought that was wise; because most of our life is spent away from the feasts and special seasons in the ordinary stuff of our day to day lives. This time spent thinking about how God interacts with our daily lives can be a gift.

Our Biblical record is rife with stories about God surprising someone in the ordinary. The beginning of the story of God's people begins with God's interruption of Abraham's regularly scheduled programming in order to bring him breaking news of a bouncing baby boy. The entire first fruits offering was an attempt to bless everyone's ordinary daily work by offering a piece of it back to the God that gave it to them in the first place. The institution of the last supper, in addition to being a passover seder, was the transformation of normal things like bread and wine into reminders of God's presence with us in the stuff of our mundane lives.

I would always resist that idea until very recently. God is such an extraordinary thing; and however I have conceptualized God throughout my life, I have always held lofty ideas like that far away from my daily life. Ordinary time calls us to undo some of that... To remember how extraordinary, this life, this community, and this time really is.

Blessings on each of you as we travel through Ordinary time together.

Your Brother in Christ,  
The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

## The One Who Calls You is Faithful

Article for the Newsletter by Nancy Gregory, Senior Warden

Have you heard that statement before? Have you wondered and asked yourself, what does it mean? Is God calling me? What does it sound like for God to call? How will I know if I've heard God? What does it mean for God to be faithful?

I've been thinking about those questions a lot these days. And some answers are beginning to take shape in my mind and heart. I'm grateful.

I've been told that God calls each one of us! Yes, each and every one of us. We don't all become aware of that call. And, don't get me wrong, this is not about hearing something audible, like the sound of a voice. It is about the urgency, the pull, the message of God reaching out to us and attracting us to pay attention in a way we never have done before. We start to feel a need to seek guidance in how to interpret and respond to that call.

It doesn't happen to everyone in the same way. We "get the message" when our listening is sharpened up and when God seems to make more sense to us for whatever reason. Maybe we're having a really rough patch and we keep asking "why?" God's message sometimes makes it through more clearly on those days. It might be that we're experiencing a particularly joy-filled moment. God might show up more on our radar then.

I'm told there's not anything really right or wrong with us, one way or the other, if we hear God's call or not. Maybe that's one thing that draws us to attend church. We may feel that pull to listen, hear and share God's message. We may feel that being in the company of St. John's community will help us hear God better. The way we each approach worship and ministry in our lives, gives each of us a fine guiding example for inspiration. Here we know we are in the company of friends who can inspire us..

Then there's the word, "faithful". What does it mean for God to be faithful to us? Maybe, it's that God is always by our side, surrounding us in His love and support, to be with us on our journey through life. We may be more aware of God's presence on some days than others. If things seem to be going really well, or if we are distracted by busyness, or tedium, we may not be as cognizant of God as when we are more aware that we need Him. Maybe His being faithful to us is that He's there, always, when we need Him.

## Getting to Know You Yvonne Perkins' Interview with Bill and Kathy Ann Henchar

This husband-and-wife couple are incredible. Bill was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He grew up in the country with his two brothers and two sisters. After graduation from high school, he enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving honorably for four years. After years of following Kathy Ann around the world, he felt a need to go back to school and complete his degree in elementary education, teaching 6th, 7th and 8th graders for 15 years before retiring.

Bill is a valuable parishioner coming to St John's in 2016. He does an excellent job managing the Community Kitchen ensuring that meals are served on Tuesday's and Thursday's to grateful people from all over Alamogordo. In addition, he also serves on the Altar Guild and participates in the Saturday Bible study group. He recently became a member of the International Christian Motorcycle Association. Bill proudly rides his Harley Road King. His latest exciting ride was to El Paso.

Kathy Ann was born in New Jersey but raised in South Florida along with her older sister and younger brother. After graduating from high school, Kathy Ann followed in her father's footsteps and joined the United States Air force, honorably serving for twenty and a half years. Retiring as a decorated veteran, she proudly participated in Desert Storm. After retiring from the Air Force, Kathy Ann pursued her Bachelor's degree in History and Master's in Special Education. Teaching for 13 years, she had the privilege of teaching students in kindergarten through 8th grade. She continues to work with students as a tutor with Sylvan Learning. In addition, she is a member of the Altar Guild and is the lead in a Community Kitchen group. Also, Kathy Ann belongs to three educational sororities.

Kathy Ann and Bill met while they were both working on the flightline as crew chiefs on C141 aircraft at McGuire AFB, New Jersey and they were married in 1975. After spending four years on the flightline, Bill separated from the military while Kathy Ann continued her career not as a crew chief, but in training and education. Their assignments took them to Eglin, AFB, in Florida and Ramstein AB, Germany, where Kathy Ann managed the training programs for aircraft maintenance personnel. After Ramstein, they were assigned to Kelly AFB, San Antonio where Kathy Ann managed training programs in the Intelligence Command. It was then back to Germany, to Zweibrucken AB and then to Holloman AFB in April 1991 where they retired.

Bill and Kathy Ann joined St John's in 2016. We are so blessed to have them with us; their dedication is so welcomed. Thank you both for your service to your country and also to St John's. Together they support each other and work well together. Where you see one, you are bound to see the other.

## Schedule of Sunday Readings

Date	Old Testament	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
18-Jun	Exodus 19:2-8a	100	Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:23
25-Jun	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Psalm 69: 8-20	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
2-Jul	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Psalm 89:1-4,15-18	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42
9-Jul	Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalm 145:8-15	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
16-Jul	Isaiah 55:10-13	Psalm 65: 9-14	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
23-Jul	Isaiah 44:6-8	Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
30-Jul	1 Kings 3:5-12	Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

## Rota

Date	Sunday	Reader - 8:00	Prayers - 800	Altar Guild	EM - 1015	Reader - 10:15
18-Jun	Proper 6	Joyce	Joyce	Louise	Nancy	Sharon
25-Jun	Proper 7	John	Joyce	Nikki & Steve	Steve	Hannah
2-Jul	Proper 8	Joyce	Joyce	Joyce	Nancy	Sharon
9-Jul	Proper 9	Randy	Joyce	Nikki & Steve	Steve	Tony
16-Jul	Proper 10	Joyce	Joyce	Michael	Sharon	Nancy
23-Jul	Proper 11	John	Joyce	Kathy Ann & Bill	Nancy	Sharon
30-Jul	Proper 12	Randy	Joyce	Louise	Sharon	Hannah

Community Kitchen Schedule	
13-Jun	PPW
20-Jun	St. Joseph's
27-Jun	PPW
4-Jul	St. Joseph's
11-Jul	PPW
18-Jul	Christ Community
25-Jul	Retired Teachers

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

Stephen (6/3), Sarah (6/8), Makayla (6/9), Tim (6/15), Kathy Ann (6/15) and MJ (6/24) Gwen (7/9), Joe (7/10), Ezra (7/22) and Father Michael (7/29) Happy Birthday to all!

### Anniversaries:

Hannah & Tony (6/9), Sharon & Joe (6/15), Sarah & Michael (6/21), Gwen & Randy (6/21) and Lisa and Lloyd (6/23) Nikki and Steve (7/7) and Louise and Fred (7/31) Happy Anniversary to all!

## Blessing Bag Ministry

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 local partners in addition to Rio Grande Borderland Ministries.

If you are interested in helping in this ministry, please contact Sharon Kelman at 757 718 9451 or email 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.

## Saturday Morning Bible Study

We currently have a Bible Study that meets 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. This will be restarting the Saturday following labor day.

## 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 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 David-Luke or Nancy know.

## **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.

## **Formation Hour**

Join us on Sundays at 9 for our Bible Study. Been to a lot of bible studies? None? All are welcome.

## **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](mailto:joycesummers@mac.com)

# 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>