

The Lampstand

The Newsletter of Saint John's Episcopal Church

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the Lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house."



Barbara Johnson Low
Clerk



Pamela Graham
Sr. Warden



Thomas "Chip" Flanagan
Jr. Warden



David Rutherford
Treasurer



Saint John's Vestry



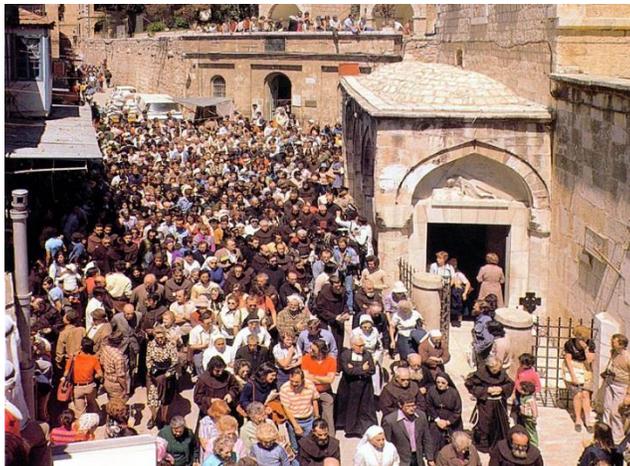
Lent

Spring 2019

Holy Week

Friday Observance of Stations of the Cross

St. John's will observe the ancient liturgy of *The Stations (Way) of the Cross* each Friday at 6:00 pm during the Season of Lent. The service typically lasts 20-25 minutes. Our last service of *The Way of the Cross* will be held on **Friday, April 12th**. Also known by the names: *Via Dolorosa*, *Via Crucis*, *The*



Way of Sorrows, *The Way of the Cross* offers us a way to travel on a spiritual pilgrimage, contemplating the Passion of Christ. Each of the Fourteen *Stations of the Cross* focuses us on the specific aspects of Christ's painful journey through the streets of the ancient (City of Jerusalem. Our Lord's route toward Calvary and his Crucifixion is traced by countless pilgrims each year along the *Via Dolorosa*. through the Old City of Jerusalem, ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the **holiest Christian site in the world**. It stands on a site that is believed to encompass both **Golgotha**, or Calvary, where Jesus was crucified, and the tomb (*sepulcher*) where he was buried. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre (*building began in 326 AD or CE*) has been an important pilgrimage destination to Christians since the **4th century**.

From St. John's Senior Warden

"So in Christ we, though many, form one body,
and each member belongs to all the others."

Romans 12.5



Hello all !

My name is Pam Graham. I have been a parishioner of St. John's-Niantic since June, 2015, and I am delighted to serve the Parish as Senior Warden. I'm a "cradle Episcopalian"...I was the first female acolyte in my parish growing up! I have served as a Vestry member in two previous parishes, serving as Clerk, Vestry Member and as Senior Warden. I just completed serving for two years as Clerk at St. John's.

Having been a parishioner of several other Episcopal Churches in Massachusetts, I can say without hesitation that **St. John's Episcopal Church, Niantic is the healthiest parish of which I have been a member.** We have strong lay leadership and membership. Folks here are passionate about serving the parish, the wider community and there's an authentic commitment to outreach. I believe the Holy Spirit is present in our relationships with one another and in the community. Like every parish, Stewardship (*time, talent and treasure*) is central to our common life. Stewardship pledges for 2019 number 92+. In contrast to so many other parishes, St. John's finances are sound, despite the inevitable ups and downs. St. John's was one of just **72** Episcopal parishes in the Diocese to achieve the status of "**Parish in Good Standing**", based largely on our financial health, constitutional compliance, and support of the ministry and mission of the wider Church in Connecticut.

As we move forward, by continuing to do what we do well, and as we discern new ways to use our gifts, St. John's will continue to thrive and grow. We have welcomed a considerable number of new members and new families in just the past several months. A spirit of welcome and hospitality is a large part of Parish life. Let's continue to reach out to and embrace people where they are and demonstrate to them that St. John's is a place they can call home. Our regular participation in our common worship in the Holy Eucharist will continue to provide a strong foundation on which everything else we do stands. Together, we continue to grow in our love for Christ.

Pam Graham

Holy Week and Easter at Saint John's Palm Sunday

Sunday of the Passion – April 14th

8:00 am – Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist Rite II
St. Luke's Passion Gospel

10:00 – Liturgy of the Palms on St. John's Green

Procession of the Palms led by **Chester Fife and Drum Corps** and
St. John's Treble and Senior Choirs to front entrance of the Church.

Dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel in parts, followed by Sunday Hospitality.

Resin-green, **non allergenic INCENSE** will be used in this liturgy.



Tuesday in Holy Week

-tba

Wednesday in Holy Week

11:00 am – Holy Eucharist of Healing, Rite II

Maundy Thursday

Parish Hall

6:00 pm – Parish Supper -All are welcome

Liturgy of the Word and Homily

In the Sanctuary

7:00 pm – Procession to the Sanctuary

Ceremonial Footwashing

re-enacting Jesus' act of humility with the apostles

Holy Eucharist recalling the First Eucharist

Solemn Stripping of the Altar

Transfer of the Reserved Blessed Sacrament



Maundy Thursday Nightwatch Vigil

At the side Altar of Repose

Individual silent vigil before the Blessed Sacrament

From the end of the Eucharist to 12:00 Midnight

(sign-up posted in the slype)



Good Friday

Parish Hall

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Children and Youth Good Friday Program

Church

2:30 pm – Stations of the Cross

3:00 pm ~ Choral Liturgy of Good Friday

Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

Veneration of the Holy Cross



Feast of The Resurrection

The Great Vigil of Easter

8:30 pm – Liturgy begins in darkness

Kindling of the New Fire of Easter and Blessing the Paschal Candle.

Candlelight Entrance Procession-“THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

The Exsultet and Liturgy of the Word

First Holy Eucharist of Easter

“Mass of the Resurrection”



(Note: Non-resin hypo-allergenic Incense will be used in this liturgy)

