

The Lampstand



The newsletter of
Saint John's Episcopal Church

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

Easter tide

Spring

Pentecost

www.stjohnsniantic.org

860-739-2324

Saint John's Returning to Regular Sunday Practices

Governor Ned Lamont Eases Covid Restrictions Beginning May 19

As announced this week Governor Ned Lamont will lift or modify all remaining Covid 19 restrictions on May 19th. Indoor mask wearing will continue. St. John's will return to including hymn singing and administering Holy Communion in both consecrated elements of bread and wine. We will continue to offer printed prayers for Spiritual Communion. Seating capacity limits have already been eased.



Saint John's Christian Education Program

Saint John's Church School

Director of Youth & Education Faithe Emerich will continue offering virtual church school programming via Zoom for the remainder of this Program Year. The Program Year will end on Sunday, June 20th, the day we have set aside for Youth Sunday. Youth Sunday will be celebrated virtually, just as we did in 2020.

Church
School



Tuesday Women's Bible/Book Group

St. John's Tuesday Women's Group will continue to meet virtually on Zoom for now and may eventually meet outdoors as weather permits in the future. No decision has been made on moving back indoors. Right now SSKP will continue to occupy space in the Parish Hall, operating as a "Drive Thru Pantry".

Saturday Morning "Coffee with Matthew, Mark, Luke and John"

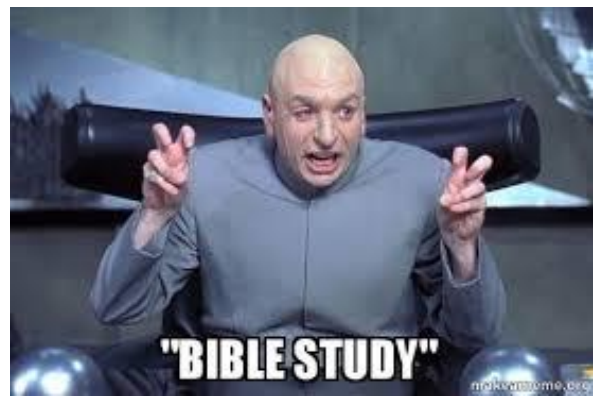
St. John's Saturday morning Bible Study/Discussion Group led by Father Dinoto will resume meeting on Saturday, May 1 at 9:30 a.m. (*Note the time change*)
All are welcome.



*"We must accept finite disappointment,
but never lose infinite hope."*

Martin Luther King, Jr.





Saint John's Parish Picnic is Sunday, June 27th !

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 27th as we gather and celebrate with our Annual Parish Picnic on Roger's Field. There will be two celebrations of Holy Eucharist on that Sunday. The 8:00 am mass will be celebrated in the church.



The 10:00 am Holy Eucharist will be celebrated outdoors under a canopy and will be followed by our Annual Picnic. The Parish Vestry will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and Italian sausages, condiments, paper goods etc. Parishioners are invited to bring a dish to share on the buffet table: potato salad, macaroni salad, green garden salad, salsa and chips, dip and chips, sweet treats etc. In case of rain the Eucharist will be celebrated in the church and we'll gather for an

“indoor picnic” in the Parish Hall. Come one! Come All! A great way to celebrate the easing of Covid-19 restrictions as we start to get back to “normal”. **Volunteers are going to be needed to set up chairs and tables for the picnic. Many hands make light work.**

Town Cancels “Celebrate East Lyme Day”

The Town of East Lyme has announced that they have cancelled this summer's “Celebrate East Lyme Day” historically held in conjunction with our big fundraiser. In light of the cancellation, it was the unanimous consensus of St. John's Vestry also to cancel the 2021 Parish Summer Carnival. This will be a loss of income budgeted for Parish Outreach.



St. John's Team Named “Volunteers of the Month”



New London Community Meal Center announced that they have named St. John's Parish Team members as “VOLUNTEERS of the MONTH. The NLCMC has not missed a Sunday supper during the entire duration of the pandemic since last March. Volunteers each month work as a team to provide,

serve and clean up a monthly meal on one Sunday each month. Volunteers pictured are: (standing l. to r.) Phyllis and Peter Wysocki, Nancy and Rich McKnett, Harold Helgeson, Christie Hayes, Larry Basso and Donna Viscardi; Chester Fairlie (seated)

Sunday Memorial Altar Flowers

Each Sunday, fresh cut floral arrangements are placed in the sanctuary in memory of loved ones or placed in thanksgiving for family members or other individuals. The calendar for Sundays is **EMPTY** of flower donors.



If you would like to donate for the altar flowers for a particular Sunday in memory of your deceased family members, please contact Laura Stefanski, Admin. Asst. in the Parish Office. 860-739-2324. Laura is in the Parish Office Monday through Friday

from 8:45 am to 12:45 pm.



Summer Worship Schedule

Beginning on Sunday, **July 4th**, Independence Day, St. John's will switch to our Summer Worship Schedule with ONE celebration of Holy Eucharist at 9:00 am. The Summer Worship Schedule will be in effect for all of July and August. We will return to two services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am on Sunday, September 5th.



Weekly Holy Eucharist of Healing



We will once again offer the weekly celebration of a Holy Eucharist of Healing on Wednesday, starting on **September 15th** at 11:00 a.m. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have omitted our weekly healing service out of an abundance of caution.

Photo Sharing for the Website and Newsletter

We're always looking for photographs that parishioners take at parish activities and worship services. If you have photos of family baptisms, picnics and other events in the recent past, please send them to **Father Dinoto** at frdinoto@stjohnsniantic.org We are in the process of creating a PHOTO page on our parish website.



Sunday Service Volunteers

Calling all volunteer servers. Each Sunday parishioner participate in the Holy Eucharist as **Lectors** who read the Holy Scriptures; **Intercessors** who lead the Prayers of the People; **Acolytes** who assist the clergy in the Sanctuary as crucifers, torch bearers and light the candles in the sanctuary; **Usher/Greeters** who welcome people and assist at the Offertory and at Holy Communion; **Closers** who are responsible for closing up and locking the church following the last mass; **Counters** who tabulate and record the Sunday Offering. Please contact Father Dinoto or Laura Stefanski if you wish to volunteer for any of these opportunities to serve during our Sunday celebrations of Holy Eucharist.

