

From the *Interim Rector*

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"
[Luke 19:38 NRSV]

Dear people of God at St. John's Episcopal Church,

Welcome to April!

The scripture verse cited above is read on Palm Sunday at our celebration of the Liturgy of the Palms.

As we draw closer to Easter, the anticipation of the glorious day of the Resurrection fills us with joy and excitement.

But we cannot forget the passion, the suffering, the cruelty of the three days that led to the first Easter Sunday.

On April 20th, we will be celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord.

It is my second Easter with you, and unlike last year, we've had ample time to prepare, although there will always be some last-minute rushing about to be done.

And I am excited about all that's been happening leading up to this year's celebration.

We have been holding a Thursday Lunch, followed by Noon Prayer, and a Bible Study on the Baptismal Covenant.

As I've said several times over the Lenten season, the Baptismal Covenant is the norm of our faith.

As a former public school teacher, I still love to teach. And as a Pastor, there is no greater joy than when a person learns what it means to live out his or her faith.

The teaching ministry of the church is important, yet I can't shake the feeling that we have not developed it as fully as it should be. And I'm not only speaking about St. John's. I believe that lack of knowledge is widespread throughout the church. We will continue exploring more opportunities for faith formation and education during the Easter Season.

During Holy Week, we will have several opportunities for worship. You can find the calendar elsewhere on these pages.

But the highlight for me will be the celebration of Good Friday with our sisters and brothers from Christ Episcopal Church in Warren and St. James Episcopal Church in Boardman.

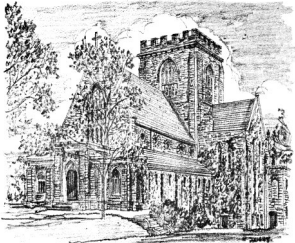
Our Easter Vigil promises to be an outstanding Saturday as we make the transition from the despair of Jesus' death to the euphoria of the empty tomb.

And, naturally, the joy of Easter Sunday that brings our worshippers from the two services together for a brunch in the Great Hall, the stellar music accompanied by additional instruments and we can again say the "A-----a!" proclamation.

This is also an opportune time to invite friends to witness the joy and gladness that Easter brings.

Let's go forward in faith and share the good news of the God whose son died and rose again so that we might have new life.

+The Rev. Abraham D. Allende



The **GOOD NEWS**

APRIL 2025 · NUMBER FOUR VOLUME TWENTY-FIVE

A publication of **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

From the *Senior Warden*

During the March 21–23 weekend, our vestry spent some wonderfully uplifting time together at our retreat. We were guided by The Rev. Canon Audra Abt, who helped us to see new pathways to connecting with each other and with our neighbors.

We started on Friday evening sharing a meal together and conversation about our individual faith journeys. And then we spent some time reflecting on the past year — the ways we listened to God and each other with respect and curiosity; the ways our decisions were guided by God; and the ways we, as a vestry, “had each others’ backs.”

On Saturday we explored a way of modeling faith and leadership development that describes our faith community as a series of concentric circles, showing the ways people are connected to St. John’s, from those at the center who are mature practitioners of their faith, to those farther out who are “vicariously connected” through outreach ministries and community engagement. The model encourages us to find pathways to connect between the various groups and it emphasizes the importance and validity of all those connected at any stage of their faith journey.

Examining how this model applies at St. John’s, we found many strengths in what we are already doing — faith formation groups like EfM and bible study, feeding ministries, worship music, “Care, Share, Connect”, and partnerships with outside groups. And we saw opportunities to build new pathways — connecting more with YSU, (re)engaging with youth, (re)connecting with members who have drifted apart, and building relationships with those vicariously connected groups. We set goals and plans to begin work on those opportunities and will spend time in subsequent vestry meetings checking in on our progress.

Throughout the retreat, this work was supported by time spent praying together and singing together. We sang hymns we love and we learned some new ones. Canon Audra taught us to sing in Spanish, a hymn of praise “Alabaré, Alabaré, Alabaré a mi Señor”. We prayed for each other and deepened our relationships. All of the members of our vestry are deeply faithful and represent diverse perspectives in that faith, but share the hope and vision for our future as a vibrant and thriving church that shares God’s love with all. I am so happy to have such a wonderful group of people to share this work with.

We are guided by the diocesan vision statement: “Connected in Beloved Community, we seek to be faithful, healthy, effective, and sustainable sharers of the transformative love of Jesus”. Our time together left us energized and eager to work together to see that vision through. I think you could feel that energy the next day in church.

To paraphrase what Canon Audra said in her sermon for March 23 (if you missed it, watch it here: <https://youtu.be/bh5zSh3WIm0>), much of what we talked about was turning toward each other. Because we need each other, and when we turn towards each other, we’re also turning toward Christ.

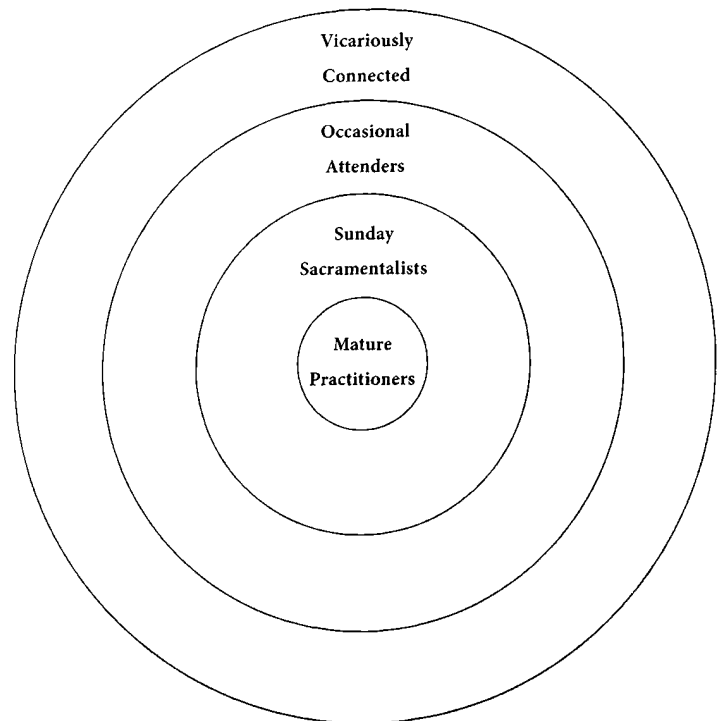


FIGURE A-11: MODEL 3—FAITH DEVELOPMENT IN COMMUNITY

Tony Manhollan

Tony Manhollan
Senior Warden



Easter Flowers

Easter Flowers will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin in honor or memory of loved ones. Suggested donation is \$25.

If you would like to submit names for Easter Flowers, please contact Heather in the church office.



The Red Door Food Pantry

EVERY THIRD SATURDAY AT 10 AM



Red Door Food Pantry

Our upcoming Red Door Food Pantry is Saturday, April 19th from 10:00-11:15am.

Volunteers are always needed. If you or your group would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at stjohnohio@gmail.com

The Red Door Food Pantry is accepting donations of your dish soap and laundry soap. Please leave items in the basket on the bridge. **Thank you!**



Women's Coffee

All women are welcome for coffee, refreshments, and conversation. Join us for our monthly Women's Coffee Hour preceding the Red Door Food Pantry from 9:00am-10:00am on Saturday, April 19th.

We invite our neighbors to use this as a time to relax, rest, and get to know us and one another



Taft Elementary School Outreach

Reading at Taft Elementary There is no reading at Taft this month.

Taft Student of the Month Friday, April 11th at 12:00pm

Taft Mobile Pantry Tuesday, April 15th, at 1:15pm at the United Way Volunteer Center.

There is a *new* Taft outreach program - We have been contacted by the Principal of Taft Elementary to sponsor scholars who have received the new *Taft Principal's Award*. Teachers have nominated students 3rd - 5th grade for awards given quarterly. This award is not necessarily given to the scholars with the highest grade point average, but one that shows respect, models for others, demonstrates responsibility, and is safe not only for themselves, but for others around them. We have been asked to donate or sponsor 20 scholars who have earned this award. Students recently celebrated their first luncheon in late March and will be celebrating again at the end of the year. If you would like to contribute funds or items to this celebration, please contact the church office.



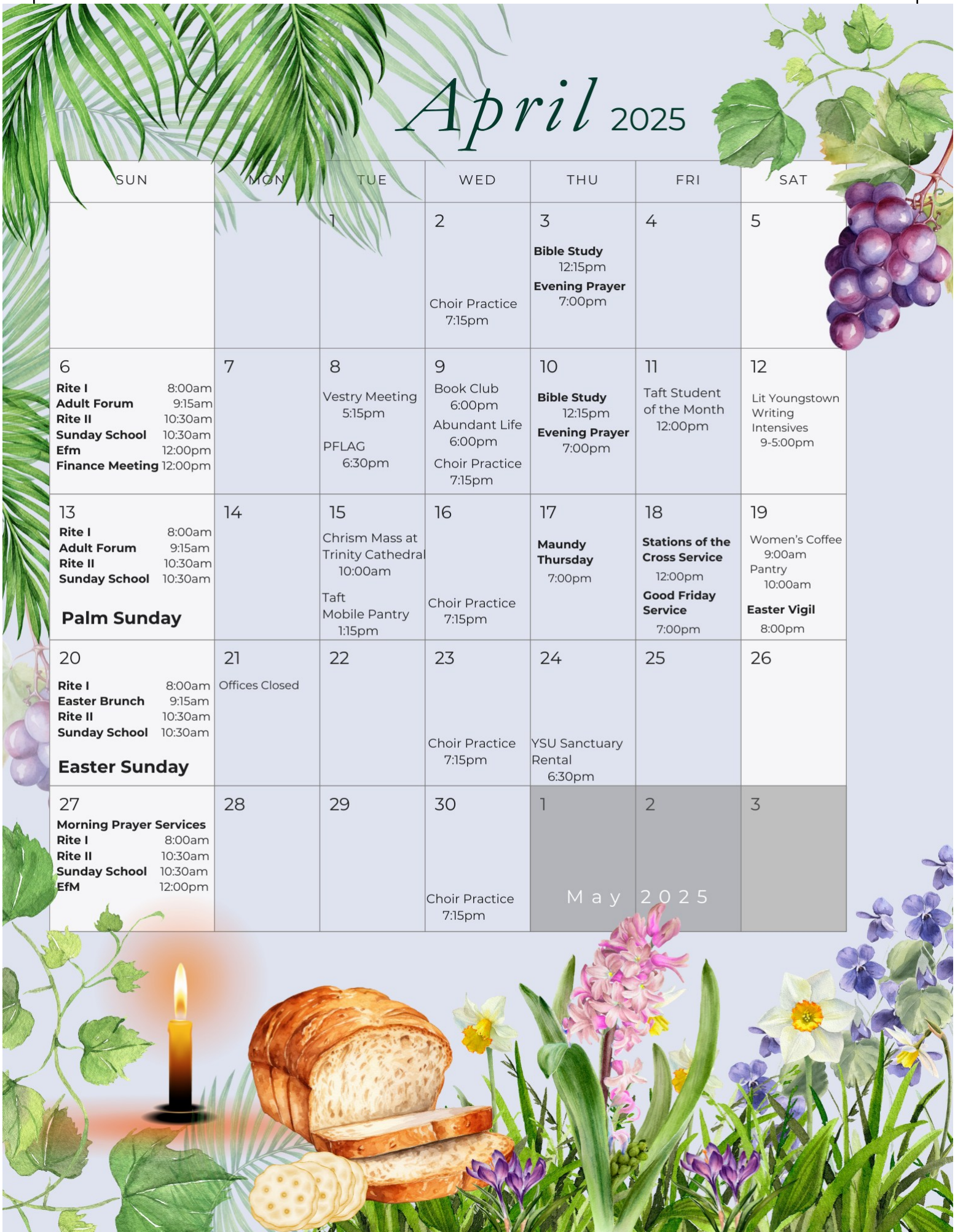
Sunday School

Join us each Sunday, for our Sunday School program at 10:30 am. Children will meet in the Sunday School room.

April 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Bible Study 12:15pm Evening Prayer 7:00pm	4	5
6 Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Efm 12:00pm Finance Meeting 12:00pm	7	8 Vestry Meeting 5:15pm PFLAG 6:30pm	9 Book Club 6:00pm Abundant Life 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm	10 Bible Study 12:15pm Evening Prayer 7:00pm	11 Taft Student of the Month 12:00pm	12 Lit Youngstown Writing Intensives 9-5:00pm
13 Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Palm Sunday	14	15 Chrism Mass at Trinity Cathedral 10:00am Taft Mobile Pantry 1:15pm	16 Choir Practice 7:15pm	17 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm	18 Stations of the Cross Service 12:00pm Good Friday Service 7:00pm	19 Women's Coffee 9:00am Pantry 10:00am Easter Vigil 8:00pm
20 Rite I 8:00am Easter Brunch 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Easter Sunday	21 Offices Closed	22	23 Choir Practice 7:15pm	24 YSU Sanctuary Rental 6:30pm	25	26
27 Morning Prayer Services Rite I 8:00am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Efm 12:00pm	28	29	30 Choir Practice 7:15pm	1	2	3

May 2025





April Birthdays

- 3 Cooper & Chloe Johnson
- 10 Suzanne Hill
Ellie Hamilton
- 13 Avery Amedia
- 14 Robert Murray
Matt Barillaire
Dan Lowry
- 15 Alyson Witt Roeseler
- 16 Marcia Gould
Allen DeMarks
- 25 Barbara Faires
- 29 Christopher Wlodarski

April Anniversaries

- 2 Mike & Jessica Schubert
- 6 Hobie & Lori Lambert
- 14 Tony & Bethany Manhollan
Marilyn & Tim Saxton
- 22 Thea & Sean Hare
- 24 Elaine & Mahlon Hippley
- 28 Joseph & GERALYN DeNiro

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in or removed from upcoming newsletters or bulletins, please contact the office at (330) 743-3175 or email office@stjohnohio.org



Easter Brunch

All are welcome to join us for our Easter Sunday Brunch on April 20th at 9:15am in the Great Hall.

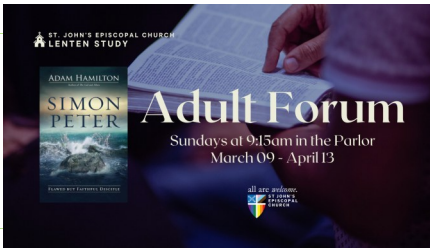
If you would like to assist with this, please contact the office or speak with Eva or Ginger.



We Pray For

Those who have requested prayer this month:
 T.J. Leo, Allen DeMarks, Kim Daniels, Jim Ehret, Vickey, Ginger Elliott, Carmela, Adam Sullivan, Doug Hotchkiss, Charles Rumberg, Twila, Carol, Wally, Ron Robertson, Gaynell Harris, Olivia, Carlos & Julianna Caguiat, Heather Foley, Denise Lancaster, Donna Wynn, Tim Ruane, Brian Sullivan, Kristen Hamilton, Sam Dickey

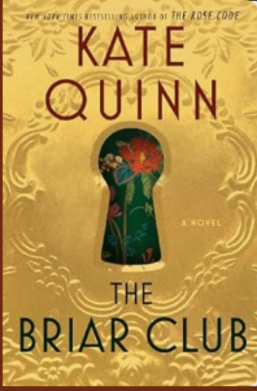




Adult Forum - Lenten Study

Adult Forum - Lenten Study will continue meeting each Sunday at 9:15am and will conclude April 13. Please reach out to the office if you would like to be informed of future Adult Forum sessions.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BOOK CLUB




St. John's Book Club

323 Wick Ave., Youngstown, OH 44503

All are welcome to join in our book discussion of *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn.

Wednesday, April 9th, 6:00-7:00pm, St. John's Parlor



For more information on the book, scan the QR Code.


Currently Reading

All are welcome to join in our book club discussion of *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn. We are meeting on Wednesday, April 9th at 6:00pm in the St. John's Parlor. Light Refreshments will be served.

About the book:

A haunting and powerful story of female friendships and secrets in Washington, D.C. boardinghouse during the McCarthy era.

WE NEED YOU



We need you!

Properties Committee seeks new members

The Properties Committee is looking for new members. People interested should contact Jim Witt, Properties Chair, or contact the office for more information.

Interested in helping during the Sunday Service?

We are in need of servers for the Sunday Services. If you are interested in being a reader / Chalice Bearer or Usher for either the 8:00am or 10:30am services, please contact Heather in the office

The goal is that each of these responsibilities happens once a month (outside of special services) so that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the Sunday service.



Altar Flowers

Commemorate a loved one with Altar Flowers or an Aumbrey Candle. Your notice will be posted in the weekly bulletin. Altar Flowers are a suggested donation of \$25 for one week. Aumbrey candles are a suggested donation of \$10 for two weeks. If you would like to add a new name to the Altar Flower list, you can now do so on the bulletin board on the second floor or contact the church office.



The Good News Submissions

If you would like to submit something to the St. John's newsletter, please contact Heather in the office. Submissions are due by the 20th of each month and will appear in the following month's edition. We accept prayers, reflections, articles about events, or even things from the archives.

Holy Week Serving Schedule

Dates in yellow have alternate service times. Please be aware of these.

Services have alternate times	April 13 Palm Sunday	April 17 7:00pm Maundy Thursday	April 18 7:00pm Good Friday	April 19 8:00pm Easter Vigil	April 20 Easter Sunday
Altar Guild 8:00am	Mara A. Barbara M.				Mara A. Barbara M.
Lector 8:00am	John M. Jack T. Gail P. David B.	Judy G.	David B. Noah S. Christ Church St. James St. James Christ Church	Logan B. Eva S. David B. Sam D.	Gail Paul Jack Tooill
Usher	Joe D.	----	John M.	David B.	John M.
Altar Guild 10:30am	Cindy S. Tom S.	----	----	----	Cindy S. Tom S.
Videographer	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.
Lector 10:30am	Judy G. Noah S. Logan B. Sam D. Doug H.	----	----	----	Logan B. Sam D.
Usher 10:30am	David S. Matt B.	Cindy S. Tom S.	----	----	Bill B. David S.
Verger 10:30am	Eva S.	Meg S.	Eva S.	----	Noah S.
Acolytes	1. Emerson 2. Mathew	1. Sveva	1. Morgan	1. Morgan	Emerson H. Michael R Mathew R. Morgan R.

Upcoming in May 2025

May 04
Evensong with
Christ Church at
St. John's 4pm

May 6
Read at Taft
9:20am

May 7
Evensong with
Christ Church in
Cleveland

May 11
Mother's Day

May 13
PFLAG 6:30pm

May 17
Women's Coffee
Food Pantry

April Serving Schedule

	April 6	April 13 Palm Sunday	April 20 Easter Sunday	April 27
Altar Guild 8:00am	Mara A. Barbara M.	Mara A. Barbara M.	Barbara M.	Barbara M.
Lector 8:00am	Sally O.	David B., John M., Jack T, Gail P.	Gail P., Jack T.	David B.
Usher 8:00am	John M.	Joe D.	John M.	Jim R.
The Red Door Café				
Altar Guild 10:30am	Cindy S. Tom S.	Cindy S. Tom S.	Cindy S. Tom S.	Cindy S. Tom S.
Usher 10:30am	Matt B. Bill B.	David S. Matt B.	Bill B. David S.	Matt B. Bill B.
Lector 10:30am	Judy G.	Logan B., Doug H., Noah S., Sam D., Judy G.	Logan B., Sam D.	Michael K.
Chalice Bearer 10:30am	Michael K.	Noah S.	Judy G.	Sam D.
Videographer 10:30am	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.
Vergers 10:30am	Noah S	Eva S.	Meg S.	Noah S.
Acolytes 10:30am	Mathew Michael	Emerson Mathew	Sveva, Morgan Michael, Mathew	Mathew Sveva
Counters 10:30am	Lance G	Lance G.	Lance G.	Judy G.

Service Times and Schedules

8:00 am & 10:30 am In Person 10:30am streaming on Facebook Live & YouTube

Sunday School 10:30am

Staff & Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly	<i>Bishop</i>
The Rev. Abraham Allende	<i>Interim Rector</i>
Dr. Richard A. Konzen	<i>Organist/Choirmaster</i>
Heather Seno	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Karen Warchol	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Adam Sullivan	<i>Sexton</i>
Christa Buckler	<i>CE Coordinator</i>

Officers & Vestry

Tony Manhollan	<i>Senior Warden</i>		
Martie Witt	<i>Junior Warden</i>		
Joe DeNiro	<i>Treasurer</i>		
	<i>Clerk</i>		
Sarah Quaranta	Liz Johnson	Noah Silver	Molly Letcher
Logan Burrows	Sue Flasco		David Bobovnyik

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Good News

Send submissions to newsletter@stjohnohio.org

S · A · I · N · T
JOHN'S
Episcopal Church · Youngstown

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