

REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

30 January 2022

2021 Parish Activity Report



Photo by Peter Guyton on 24 December 2017

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105

207-781-3366 / smary@smary.org / www.smary.org

The Reverend Nathan Wilson Ferrell, Rector

The Reverend Christine A. Bennett, Deacon

The Reverend Jane Milliken Hague, Temporary Priest in Charge (Nov. '21 - Aug. '22)

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The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary
Annual Meeting of the Parish
Sunday 30 January 2022 at 12 NOON

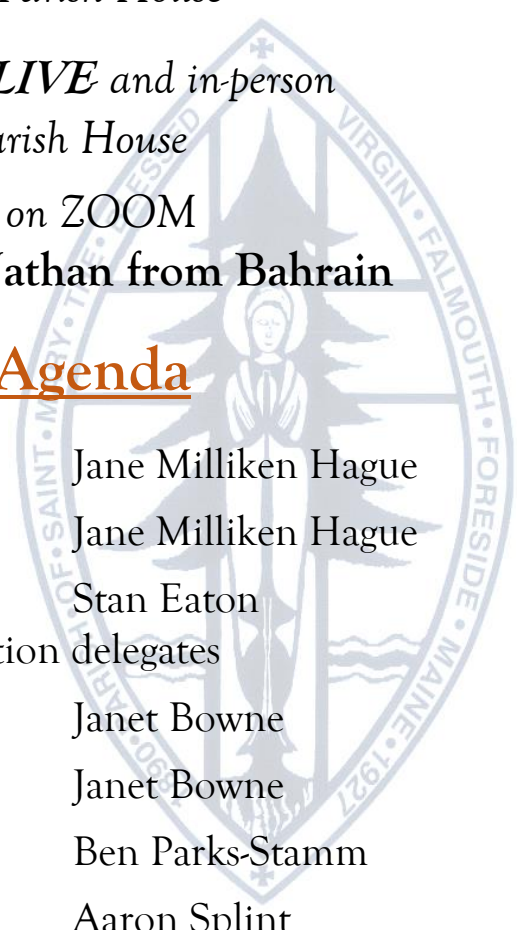
OUR MISSION: At The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary, we are building authentic, vibrant, Christ-centered community as we ...

- ❖ **CELEBRATE** the goodness of God and the gift of life,
- ❖ **HONOR** the presence of Christ in one another, and
- ❖ **SERVE** the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Schedule for Sunday, January 30, 2022

- 8:00 AM **Holy Eucharist** - *pick up soup in Parish House*
- 10:15 AM **Holy Eucharist** - **on Facebook *LIVE*** and *in-person*
pick up soup in Parish House
- 12 NOON **Annual Meeting of the Parish** *on ZOOM*
followed by message from Fr Nathan from Bahrain

Annual Meeting Agenda



Report on Quorum and Call to Order	Jane Milliken Hague
Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes	Jane Milliken Hague
Report of Nominating Committee	Stan Eaton
+ Vestry members and Diocesan Convention delegates	
Election of the Slate	Janet Bowne
Election of new Nominating Committee	Janet Bowne
Review of 2021 Finances and 2022 Budget	Ben Parks-Stamm
Acknowledgments and Thanks	Aaron Splint
Necrology: remembering our faithful departed	Aaron Splint
Adjournment and Blessing	Jane Milliken Hague

The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish: 31 January 2021

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 11:45 am, and Father Nathan declared a quorum was present on the Zoom virtual meeting platform due to the conditions presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Katie Clark served as the digital usher for the meeting. Katie explained the process of voting and did some trial votes to help all understand the process.

Bishop Thomas Brown, Bishop of Maine, was our guest for the Annual Meeting.

Father Nathan called for a clerk. Janet Bowne agreed to serve as the clerk.

Father Nathan called for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2019 annual meeting as presented in the printed document. Len Taylor made the motion and Jim Stoddard seconded the motion. Katie announced that the motion carried.

Matt Fulton presented the slate of new vestry members on behalf of the 2020 Nominating Committee. Each is being nominated for a three-year term: Rudy Israel, Thomas LaPlante, Patricia Peard.

Discussion: Len Taylor asked if Saint Mary's was now in compliance with the Diocesan maximum number of Vestry members allowed. Father Nathan responded that we are now in compliance having gradually reduced the total number of Vestry members as required by the Diocese. All were elected unanimously.

Matt Fulton called for nominations for Diocesan Convention Delegates for the convention to be held in October 2021. The following delegates were nominated: Nadine Timberlake, Will Salomon, Maggie Gardner, Bonny Rodden. All were elected.

Father Nathan called for election of the Nominating Committee for the 2021 Vestry. Typically, this committee is the outgoing class of Vestry members as well as two parishioners. The Vestry nominees are: Darren Clark, Stan Eaton, Jan Wentling. Father Nathan called for nominees from the parish: Matt Fulton, Alice Brock. All were elected.

Father Nathan called on Treasurer, Ben Parks-Stamm to offer a review of parish finances for 2020 and a budget for 2021.

Ben's report included a screen share of the financials.

For 2020:

1. Revenue was down for 2020 which is not surprising given the effects of the pandemic. Specifically, loose offering, parish house rental, fundraising income and pledge payments were less than expected. We did see special gifts given as well as an incredible effort by the Sparkles team and their creative approach to offering a Christmas fair during a pandemic!
2. We benefited from income from our endowment funds which represents 17% of our income.
3. We benefited from the Diocese applying for a Paycheck Protection Program offered by the US Government to help businesses and nonprofits manage through the pandemic closures. The Diocese has applied for forgiveness of the loan which would extend to us. The loan is currently seen as a liability on our balance sheet but will be removed when it's forgiven.
4. Expenses were also down which is due to careful purchasing by staff and committees. Program expenses were down as well. The Outreach budget was up which reflects our helping other organizations during the difficult year.

For 2021:

- We are budgeting a loss for 2021 but hope that we can make it up. The future continues to be challenging due to the pandemic. As a result, we made some cuts to staffing and other areas to help us weather the uncertain times.
- Our balance sheet is strong. The PPP loan from the Diocese will likely be forgiven. Our endowment funds continue to perform well. We do not have any other liabilities.
- Question: Why are we budgeting a lower percentage from our endowment funds? The market was strong through the end of 2020, but it may not continue due to significant pressures on the economy.
- Question: How did we receive a PPP loan? The Diocese applied on behalf of the parishes in Maine, although not all churches accepted funds. If the Diocese loan is forgiven, that will be passed on to us.
- Question: How do we stand in relationship to other parishes for pledging? Bishop Brown responded saying that we were the 5th largest church in the Diocese from a pledge perspective.
- We thanked Ben, the Budget and Finance Committee and Beth Shaw for their diligent management of our finances.

Father Nathan informed the meeting that we had not voted for two positions. He called for a vote on Senior Warden and Treasurer. Last year, Janet Bowne was elected to fill out one year of Jim Kane's term so that we could have the two warden positions elected off cycle. This is helpful so that both wardens aren't up for election in the same year.

We voted for Senior Warden: Janet Bowne. Janet Bowne was elected.

We voted for Treasurer: Ben Parks-Stamm. Ben Parks-Stamm was elected.

Junior Warden, Aaron Splint offered a heartfelt thank you to the parish for everyone who supported our mission and ministries throughout the last year. Because of everyone's help, we had a good year, and we were able to support our parishioners in big and small ways as well as continue working in the broader community. He also acknowledged the vision and commitment of our outgoing Vestry members: Matt Fulton, Sandra Couch Kelly, and Jessica LaPlante.

Father Nathan shared the Necrology for 2020. We remembered: Susan Stephens, Jean Wilkinson, Kitty Peixoto

Bishop Brown then took the floor to share some observations. He told the assembly that during 2020 Father Nathan reminded Bishop Brown that the pandemic gave us challenges, but it's important that we are always adapting. If we don't, we are doomed. Bishop Brown thanked the Vestry for serving and to Nathan and Christine for being wonderful colleagues. He thanked Ben for his report on the finances and offered that the PPP was a Diocesan effort because they are our payroll agent. We are one of the few dioceses in the country that acts as a payroll agent. The Diocesan staff didn't take PPP, but their allocation was passed on to churches.

The Diocese is going to pursue a second round of PPP. The Diocesan camp, Bishopswood was hit very hard so we may qualify for round 2. The national church may assess PPP loan amounts which Bishop Brown is working against. It doesn't seem fair to use this money that is to help in the crisis as a basis for assessment, adding to the individual church burden.

The church in Maine is doing well. Many churches did not have an infrastructure to support a pivot during the pandemic. The Diocese jumped in to help churches create directories, arrange calling trees and connect. Online services have been a help especially in connecting with people who spend part of the year in another state. Anyone can come to Saint Mary's from anywhere in the world via the streaming services. How we emerge is unclear but there are a lot of positive programs being developed.

Question: How can we unite during this highly divisive time? Bishop Brown suggested three things:

1. Intentionally connect with people you know have a different set of opinions on a very organic, grassroots level.
2. Cultivate a discipleship through prayer and acts of service. It's hard to be divided when we are working together on a common need.
3. Work to build bridges in Augusta and Washington DC.

Question: When can we be in person again?

Bishop Brown said that we need to follow the state guidelines. The Diocese is using metrics including number of cases and infection rates to advise parishes. There is a Covid task force at the Diocese that is available to help. We need to look at our spaces to make sure we can be safe.

Question: Can the churches be a resource to the community for vaccinations?

Bishop Brown has offered the resources of the parishes to the state officials.

He concluded by thanking Saint Mary's Church. Today's service in the church (streaming) was the first time Bishop Brown had communion since June 2020. St. Paul said to be encouraged; there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Father Nathan called for a motion to adjourn. Jim Stoddard made the motion. Mary Ann McLean seconded it. The motion carried. The meeting ended at 1:20 pm.

Submitted by: Janet Bowne, Clerk.

Voter Qualifications

According to the Constitution and Bylaws of Saint Mary's, membership in the parish and voting privileges at the annual parish meeting are defined as:

"Any person age fifteen years or older, who has attended and supported the Church for six months and accepts its Constitution, shall be considered a voting member of the Parish. Members who have not attended or supported the Church for a year may cease to be a voting member of the Parish."

Slate of Nominations for the Year 2022

Our parish needs to elect Jr. Wardens, to fill positions on the Vestry, and to elect delegates to Diocesan Convention. We are grateful for the following parish members who have agreed to serve in the following ways, if elected by the parish: Warden:

Junior Warden: Aaron Splint (two-year term)

Vestry:

Three new members to serve three-year terms:

Steve Conley, Chris Martin, Steve Reeves (term expires in January of 2025)

Convention Delegates: Four in 2022, based upon our 2020 Average Sunday Attendance.

Nominations for Convention Delegates will be accepted from the floor of our Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

The Nominating Committee: Stan Eaton (Chair), Darren Clark, Jan Wentling, Alice Brock, and Matt Fulton.

Candidate Biographies

Aaron Splint, Junior Warden

Aaron grew up on Cousins Island in Yarmouth and attended St. Bartholomew's Church and was an acolyte with Father Gill Burney. After graduating with a desire to enter the medical field, schooling and career changes along with stints in New Haven, CT, and Grand Rapids, MI, Aaron ended up back in Maine and works in Tech Medicine in spite of his Business Management degree.

Aaron is blessed with two young adult daughters. Aaron's mom, Johanna Frissell, also travels to Saint Mary's from Brunswick as she loves this parish almost as much as Aaron does.

Aaron says, "My path long ago was paved by temptation as well as other problems. It is here with all of you and Father Nathan that I am kept strong and willing...thank you."



Steve Conley, Vestry

Steve Conley has lived in Falmouth for 21 years and was formerly a communicant of Holy Martyr's in Falmouth. In 2011, he met Michele Duvall who has attended Saint Mary's for over 14 years with her daughters Kayla and Amber. Steve began attending Saint Mary's with them shortly after they met, and he received confirmation into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Thomas in 2019. Steve and Michele will be married at Saint Mary's on January 9, 2022. Steve has a degree in Economics from the University of Maine and has worked in the health insurance industry for 30 years. He has worked for the last 15 years with Harvard Pilgrim healthcare as an account manager and new business sales representative for large groups. Steve is the proud father to 3 sons, Patrick, Ryan and Griffin. In his spare time, Steve enjoys running and has completed 35 marathons and ultra-marathons, including the last 12 consecutive Boston Marathons.



Chris Martin, Vestry

Christopher Martin was born and raised in rural northwest Pennsylvania. His father is a retired United Methodist minister, and his mother is a retired teacher. Chris attributes his strong faith to being raised in a very loving and Christ-centered home, church, and community. He has lived in five different states and has attended various church denominations but found his fit in the Anglican/Episcopal church about 15 years ago. Outside of church, Chris is a claims manager at Liberty Mutual Insurance. He and his partner, Steven Constantino, live in Freeport and love to cook, travel, hike, and spend time on Cape Cod.



Steve Reeves, Vestry

Steve Reeves grew up in Boothbay Harbor and resides in Cumberland Maine with his wife Austin and two children Elle & Cooper. He is an undergraduate of Muhlenberg College and earned an MBA from Auburn University. As an active-duty US Navy Veteran he was deployed twice to the Arabian Gulf during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Steve first encountered the Episcopal Church in bootcamp, where he attended church as respite from the rigors of his new enlistment. Steve has been in finance for 10 years and presently works for the compliance and governance firm, Foreside Financial Group in Portland.



Saint Mary's Financial Reports *(unaudited)*

Saint Mary's 2021 Balance Sheet *(unaudited)*

	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020			12/31/2021	12/30/2020
ASSETS							
Current Assets							
Checking/Savings							
Bank of America - Operating Account							
General Fund	65,934.51	35,576.82	97,964.21			97,000.68	97,964.21
Souper Supper Fund	1,459.65	837.15	232.79			1,132.37	232.79
Altar Flower Fund	4,661.57	3,385.03	3,191.99			2,698.93	3,191.99
Kneeler Fund	1,892.69	2,342.69	2,342.69			2,342.69	2,342.69
Churchyard Fund	2,198.75	141.25	-			580.00	-
Capital Projects Fund	1,650.00	2,900.00	11,507.57			9,179.82	11,507.57
Memorial Reception Fund	508.85	508.85	508.85			508.85	508.85
Long Creek Youth Ctr Fund	347.70	737.75	737.75			737.75	737.75
Outreach Fund	1,826.33	2,912.21	3,069.21			2,069.21	3,069.21
Sabbatical Fund							
Music		1,790.00	1,790.00			1,790.00	1,790.00
Royal School of church Music		2,400.29	2,400.29			2,400.29	2,400.29
Furniture Fund	550.43	550.43	550.43			550.43	550.43
Vestments Fund	1,513.54	1,513.54	1,513.54			1,108.65	1,513.54
In Her Presence	1,000.00						
Garden Redesign	353.62	-	-			(286.00)	-
Total Bank of America Operating Account	83,897.64	55,596.01	125,809.32			121,813.67	125,809.32
BoFA Savings - Unrestricted	-	-	-			-	-
BoA Savings - Chapel Chairs	-	-	-			-	-
Fidelity	-	-	-			-	-
Merrill Lynch - Operating	435.10	17,540.39	-			-	-
Merrill Lynch - Restricted	0.02	0.02	-			-	-
Charles Schwab	0.25	16,637.78	-			2,684.07	-
BoA-Restricted Funds	-	-	-			-	-
BoA - S. Mary's Discretionary	5,696.62	6,050.95	5,162.48			2,645.46	5,162.48
NSB - Checking CC	1,455.67						
NSB - Escrow CC	-	-	-			-	-
NSB - Savings CC	-	-	-			-	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents	91,485.30	95,825.15	130,971.80			127,143.20	130,971.80
Accounts Receivable							
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-			-	-
Total Current Assets	91,485.30	95,825.15	130,971.80			127,143.20	130,971.80
Other Assets							
JM Brown Memorial Fund	446,689.00	476,115.30	513,353.04			580,753.11	513,353.04
Mellie G. Estes Fund	16,019.62	16,466.56	17,794.35			20,138.64	17,794.35
Sabbatical Fund	3,418.88	6,131.56	9,213.86			13,033.29	9,213.86
Churchyard Fund	73,581.31	80,578.44	88,073.78			101,713.43	88,073.78
CEW Worship fund	447,615.71	461,013.67	496,946.92			561,981.69	496,946.92
Buildings & Grounds Endowment	441,469.42	477,094.01	512,494.94			580,131.14	512,494.94
Programs Endowment	219,572.83	242,397.25	259,605.29			292,612.01	259,605.29
Total Other Assets	1,648,366.77	1,759,796.79	1,897,482.18			2,150,363.31	1,897,482.18
TOTAL ASSETS	1,739,852.07	1,855,621.94	2,028,453.98			2,277,506.51	2,028,453.98
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS							
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
Accounts Payable		2,985.19	-				
Deferred Income - Other	1,035.37	9,050.00	47,150.00			300.00	47,150.00
Norway Savings Bank LCC loan							
Pledge Prepayment	39,249.03	30,397.76	46,950.06			25,493.73	46,950.06
Total Current Liabilities	40,284.40	42,432.95	94,100.06			25,793.73	94,100.06
Total Liabilities	40,284.40	42,432.95	94,100.06			25,793.73	94,100.06
Net Assets							
Opening Balance Net Assets	503,411.28	503,411.28	503,411.28			503,411.28	503,411.28
Retained Earnings	1,077,653.99	1,196,156.39	1,309,777.71			1,430,942.64	1,309,777.71
Net Income	118,502.40	113,621.32	121,164.93			317,358.86	121,164.93
Total Net Assets	1,699,567.67	1,813,188.99	1,934,353.92			2,251,712.78	1,934,353.92
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	1,739,852.07	1,855,621.94	2,028,453.98			2,277,506.51	2,028,453.98

Summary of Activity & Budget *(unaudited)*

	2018	2019	2020	2021 Budget Full Year	2021 Budget Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date Dec-21	Year-to-Date Dec-20
Operating Account							
Revenue							
General Support							
General Pledges	277,292.50	276,349.60	267,429.08	270,000.00	270,000.00	288,604.08	267,429.08
Non-Pledge Payments	10,690.00	17,756.00	7,062.00	8,100.00	8,100.00	21,434.57	7,062.00
Loose Offerings	10,363.42	14,973.32	6,464.85	3,600.00	3,600.00	4,658.00	6,464.85
Prior Year Pledges	2,280.00	3,682.00	1,527.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	6,935.25	1,527.00
Special Offerings	4,456.21	4,265.00	1,365.00	300.00	300.00	2,916.12	1,365.00
Unrestricted Gifts	4,647.00	4,600.00	14,872.45	2,700.00	2,700.00	5,940.05	14,872.45
Use of Parish Houe	13,653.00	14,287.00	8,634.00	6,250.00	6,250.00	9,526.77	8,634.00
Use of Worship Space	4,650.00	2,350.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,844.20	1,500.00
General Fundraisers	26,320.69	26,746.60	19,827.16	11,000.00	11,000.00	29,804.80	19,827.16
Dedicated Revenues							
Altar Flowers	1,555.00	2,600.00	150.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	600.00	150.00
Capital Projects	750.00	1,250.00	12,218.52	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,250.00	12,218.52
Churchyard	4,398.75	2,942.50	1,500.00			3,080.00	1,500.00
Kneelers	2,041.00	450.00					
Memorial Receptions						200.00	
Music Fund		1,840.00					
Worship							
Dedicated Revenue - Other		2,350.29	1,000.00				1,000.00
Outreach							
Souper Supper	3,629.00	3,464.00	3,050.00	3,400.00	3,400.00	3,920.23	3,050.00
Long Creek Youth Center	500.00	500.00	-	300.00	300.00	-	
In Her Presence	1,000.00						
Funds Received for Transmittal to Other Organizat	2,220.35	2,658.75				310.00	
Other Outreach Revenue	-	2,915.39	5,564.87	-	-	-	5,564.87
Total Outreach	7,349.35	9,538.14	8,614.87	3,700.00	3,700.00	4,230.23	8,614.87
Dedicated Revenues	16,094.10	20,970.93	23,483.39	5,700.00	5,700.00	9,360.23	23,483.39
Other Operating Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total General Support	370,446.92	385,980.45	352,164.93	310,150.00	310,150.00	384,024.07	352,164.93
Income Distributions from Invested Funds							
Income Distributions from Unrestricted Funds	14,605.61	15,580.61	16,808.41	15,852.64	15,852.64	16,509.30	16,808.41
Income Distributions from Restricted Funds	46,579.23	50,710.07	54,644.83	51,660.24	51,660.24	53,906.31	54,644.83
Income Distributions from Invested Funds	61,184.84	66,290.68	71,453.24	67,512.88	67,512.88	70,415.61	71,453.24
Suspense Clearing Accounts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	431,631.76	452,271.13	423,618.17	377,662.88	377,662.88	454,439.68	423,618.17
Expenses							
Diocesan Assessment	55,374.00	56,302.08	57,085.92	59,363.00	59,363.00	59,362.92	57,085.92
Personnel Expenses	220,033.00	216,748.37	244,753.37	200,534.89	200,534.89	211,454.76	244,753.37
Buildings and Grounds							
Maintenance	24,034.90	28,532.14	25,140.53	24,645.00	24,645.00	35,405.76	25,140.53
Fuel	17,078.81	18,224.96	10,032.78	13,570.00	13,570.00	12,154.56	10,032.78
Electricity	6,381.33	6,510.64	5,848.29	6,120.00	6,120.00	5,941.23	5,848.29
Water & Sewer	4,954.11	5,076.82	5,306.25	5,303.00	5,303.00	5,271.95	5,306.25
Telephone	4,503.76	5,200.02	5,389.81	5,814.40	5,814.40	5,863.24	5,389.81
Waste Removal	1,054.39	1,153.71	1,208.41	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,085.13	1,208.41
Professional Cleaning	7,798.31	7,625.12	6,037.53	6,550.00	6,550.00	5,112.60	6,037.53
Property/Worker's Comp Ins	16,713.00	17,309.50	19,154.50	19,840.00	19,840.00	19,290.00	19,154.50
Taxes	5,221.04	5,424.42	5,518.78	5,617.35	5,617.35	5,621.76	5,518.78
Buildings and Grounds	87,739.65	95,057.33	83,636.88	88,659.75	88,659.75	95,746.23	83,636.88
Other Operating Expense							
Office Supplies and & Repairs	6,777.91	6,656.70	6,147.63	6,100.00	6,100.00	7,760.67	6,147.63
Postage	1,115.68	598.10	794.27	500.00	500.00	614.70	794.27
Advertising	167.99	45.00	49.94	100.00	100.00	501.24	49.94
Vestry/Diocesan Expenses	90.94	165.92	30.37	100.00	100.00	1,448.74	30.37
Stewardship Expense							
Discernment Expense							
Professional Fees	312.00	312.00	432.00	312.00	312.00	364.00	432.00
Printed Materials	-	294.64	-				
Licenses & Permits	25.00			25.00	25.00		
Parish Memberships				249.00	249.00		
Miscellaneous Expense	843.79	183.95	492.01	400.00	400.00	508.28	492.01
Other Operating Expense - Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Operating Expense	9,333.31	8,256.31	7,946.22	7,786.00	7,786.00	11,197.63	7,946.22
Program Expense							
Worship Expense	6,086.48	8,574.13	4,661.62	4,175.00	4,175.00	2,929.35	4,661.62
Christian Formation	3,152.87	3,833.92	2,928.68	2,350.00	2,350.00	2,332.17	2,928.68
Hospitality	1,888.95	2,617.66	736.95	800.00	800.00	2,185.85	736.95
Music	6,911.65	12,957.67	2,502.55	2,600.00	2,600.00	5,029.68	2,502.55
RSCM/Youth Choir	1,508.50	1,656.54	1,500.00	-	-		1,500.00
Outreach	21,830.99	24,432.59	21,725.22	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,887.02	21,725.22
Special Programs/Events	630.94	484.25	1,010.95	500.00	500.00	267.57	1,010.95
Program Expense	42,010.38	54,556.76	35,065.97	27,425.00	27,425.00	30,631.64	35,065.97
Major Improvements and Capital Expenditures	7,975.87	9,135.64	8,400.60	6,000.00	6,000.00	22,565.75	8,400.60
Other Expenses	(353.62)	422.00	709.00	-	-	286.00	709.00
Total Expenses	422,112.59	440,478.49	437,597.96	389,768.64	389,768.64	431,244.93	437,597.96
Change in Operating Account before Principal Distribut	9,519.17	11,792.64	(13,979.79)	(12,105.76)	(12,105.76)	23,194.75	(13,979.79)
Principal Distributions from/(to) Invested Funds							
Principal Distributions from/(to) Unrestricted Funds				-	-	46,300.00	
Principal Distributions from/(to) Restricted Funds	(6,500.00)	(7,500.00)	(1,652.20)	-	-	(2,500.00)	(1,652.20)
Principal Distributions from/(to) Invested Funds	(6,500.00)	(7,500.00)	(1,652.20)	-	-	43,800.00	(1,652.20)
Operating Account Increase or (Decrease) in Net Assets	3,019.17	4,292.64	(15,631.99)	(12,105.76)	(12,105.76)	66,994.75	(15,631.99)

Saint Mary's 2021 Change in Funds Balances *(unaudited)*

	Balance	Revenue/	Investment	Expense/			Balance
Fund Name	1/1/2021	Contributions	Income Net of Expenses	Distributions	Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	12/31/2021
Operating Account							
General Fund	3,864.15	445,365.45	-	(422,243.47)	-	46,904.89	73,891.02
Designated Funds							
Souper Supper	232.79	3,920.23		(3,020.65)			1,132.37
Altar Flowers	3,191.99	600.00		(1,093.06)			2,698.93
Kneelers	2,342.69	-		-			2,342.69
Churchyard	-	3,080.00				(2,500.00)	580.00
Capital Projects	11,507.57	1,250.00		(3,577.75)			9,179.82
Memorial Receptions	508.85	200.00				(200.00)	508.85
Long Creek Youth Center	737.75	-		-			737.75
In Her Presence	-			-			-
Outreach	3,069.21	-		(1,000.00)			2,069.21
Sabbatical	-						-
Music	1,790.00	-					1,790.00
Royal School of Church Music	2,400.29						2,400.29
Furniture	550.43						550.43
Vestments	1,513.54					(404.89)	1,108.65
Funds Received for Transmittal		310.00		(310.00)			-
Worship		-					-
Garden Redesign	-	(286.00)					(286.00)
Other Dedicated Funds							-
Total Designated Funds	27,845.11	9,074.23	-	(9,001.46)	-	(3,104.89)	24,812.99
Total Operating Account	31,709.26	454,439.68	-	(431,244.93)	-	43,800.00	98,704.01
Discretionary Fund	5,162.48	1,100.00		(3,617.02)			2,645.46
Legacy Capital Campaign	-	-	-	-	-		-
Investment Funds	1,897,482.18	7,500.00	23,311.89	(61,450.52)	283,519.76	-	2,150,363.31
Total All Funds	1,934,353.92	463,039.68	23,311.89	(496,312.47)	283,519.76	43,800.00	2,251,712.78

Saint Mary's 2021 Summary of Invested Funds

Owned Investments							
	Balance		Income Net			Gain or	Balance
Unrestricted Investments	1/1/2021	Contributions	of Expenses	Transfers	Distributions	(Loss)	12/31/2021
J.M. Brown Fund	513,353.04	-	6,293.58	-	(16,138.35)	77,244.84	580,753.11
Unrestricted - Sub-total	513,353.04	-	6,293.58	-	(16,138.35)	77,244.84	580,753.11
Temporarily Restricted Investments							
Seminary/Sabbatical Fund	9,213.86	2,500.00	106.37	-	-	1,213.06	13,033.29
Churchyard Fund	88,073.78	2,500.00	1,077.81	-	(2,968.86)	13,030.70	101,713.43
Temporarily Restricted -Sub-total	97,287.64	5,000.00	1,184.18	-	(2,968.86)	14,243.76	114,746.72
Permanently Restricted Investments							
Mellie G Estes Fund	17,794.35	-	217.67	-	(559.96)	2,686.58	20,138.64
CEW Worship Fund	496,946.92	-	6,104.81	-	(15,607.41)	74,537.37	561,981.69
Buildings & Grounds Endowment	512,494.94	2,500.00	6,311.43	-	(17,369.27)	76,194.04	580,131.14
Programs Endowment	259,605.29	-	3,200.22	-	(8,806.67)	38,613.17	292,612.01
Permanently Restricted - Sub-total	1,286,841.50	2,500.00	15,834.13	-	(42,343.31)	192,031.16	1,454,863.48
Owned Investments - Total	1,897,482.18	7,500.00	23,311.89	-	(61,450.52)	283,519.76	2,150,363.31
Investments Held by the Diocese of Maine for the Benefit of The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary							
	Balance		Income Net			Gain or	Balance
	1/1/2021	Contributions	of Expenses	Transfers	Distributions	(Loss)	12/31/2021
John M Brown Fund	19,931.00	-	243.78	-	(627.27)	3,010.04	22,557.55
Alida Brown A Fund	3,714.49	-	45.41	-	(116.84)	560.76	4,203.82
Alida Brown B Fund	77,592.53	-	949.30	-	(2,441.73)	11,713.65	87,813.75
John & CL Giffard Fund	22,668.25	-	277.38	-	(713.28)	3,421.38	25,653.73
Roger & Katherine Woodman Fund	110,362.38	-	1,350.34	-	(3,472.75)	16,657.68	124,897.65
Total	234,268.65	-	2,866.21	-	(7,371.87)	35,363.51	265,126.50
Notes:							
1) Investment Funds are updated quarterly. The beginning and year-end balances are as of September 30th since quarterly statements are not received until after the year-end statements are published. The ending balance for the Investment Funds reported above includes Income Net of Expenses, Income Distributions and Gains or (Losses) from 9/30/20 through 9/30/2021							
2) During 2021 \$2,500 was transferred from the General Fund to the Churchyard Investment Fund and \$2,500 was added to the Buildings and Grounds Endowment. \$2,500 was transferred to the Sabbatical Fund.							

2022 Budget Comments

To the members of the Parish

LOOKING BACK TO 2021:

We ended the year 2021 with an operating surplus of \$66,995; \$46,300 of which came from forgiveness of our Small Business Administration (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan administered by the Diocese.

REVENUES: General pledges for 2021 were \$288,604, well over our budget of \$270,000 and up significantly from 2020 (\$267,429) and even pre-pandemic times (2019, \$276,350). Non-pledge payments, loose offerings, and revenue from use of the parish house and worship space were all well above budget and 2020, likely improved by our return to in-person worship. Of special note, our Sparkles Team was able to generate \$29,371 for the parish, over 50% higher than the previous Sparkles record, an amazing feat! Jana Burke and all the Sparkles volunteers deserve our thanks. Overall, total revenue for 2021 was \$454,440 compared to a budget of \$377,663. Our parishioners have continued to be incredibly generous during these trying times.

EXPENSES: Total expenses for 2021 were \$431,245, which was \$41,476 over budget, but lower than 2020 or 2019. The categories of expenses most over budget were personnel (bringing back Music and Christian Formation staff earlier than anticipated) and buildings and grounds/capital projects (repairs to the bell, rectory, wiring, tree removal, and chancel painting).

THE ASSET SIDE:

Year-end cash decreased slightly by \$3,829 compared to the prior year-end. The church does not have any significant long-term liabilities (debt or payables). As noted above, our SBA PPP loan was officially forgiven in 2021. The total balance in the parish's investment funds (endowment) increased \$33,007 over the prior year. The increase included the transfer to the Churchyard investment fund, donations to the Building & Grounds endowment, plus increases in market value less distributions to support operations.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022:

REVENUES: The general pledges for 2022 are budgeted at \$275,000, less than 2021 but higher than 2020. As of January 18, 2021, the Stewardship Committee reports that we have received pledge commitments of \$197,618. So, at this writing, we need an additional \$77,382 to achieve the 2022 pledge budget. We cannot emphasize how important pledges are to our financial needs. Pledges represent 70% of our total general support for 2022.

EXPENSES: The total expense budget for 2022 is \$429,914, which is roughly flat compared to our 2021 expenses (\$431,245). Our budget for 2022 includes cost of living adjustments for staff, but does not include significant capital projects, which are difficult to predict and budget for at the beginning of the year.

The result is a budgeted operating deficit of \$34,525. The operating deficit can be significantly reduced if we can exceed our pledge budget, and other giving and fundraising, which we did in 2021.

As Paul wrote in his Second Epistle to the Corinthians (9:7), "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." When I look around Saint Mary's, I am struck by the cheerful generosity of our parishioners to support our programs and mission.

FINAL COMMENTS:

The preparation of the budget begins with the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC). After the BFC develops a preliminary budget, it is given to the Executive Committee (EXCOM) for input and suggestions. The BFC meets again to review the EXCOM suggestions and make adjustments. The Vestry received the 2021 budget at its November meeting for initial study and comments. The BFC met again to review Vestry comments and suggestions and make appropriate additions or reductions. The Vestry continued to study the budget at its December meeting. Final Vestry approval was made at the December meeting.

Members of the BFC are available to meet with any member of the parish who might have questions or comments regarding the finances of the church. We also would welcome anyone interested to join the BFC. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or feedback.

Ben Parks-Stamm, Treasurer

CELEBRATE

HONOR

SERVE

2022 Annual Reports

Search Committee Report

Upon learning that Father Nathan was going to be deployed to Bahrain for ten months starting in November 2021 the Vestry created and charged a Search Committee to conduct a national search for a Temporary Priest in Charge to serve in Father Nathan's absence. The members of the Committee were: Pat Peard and Aaron Splint, Co-Chairs, Craig Belanger, Sandy Couch Kelly, Peter Fitch, Tom LaPlante, and Janet Bowne. Father Nathan and Beth Shaw served as Ex-Officio members. The Committee also worked very closely with Canon Ambler at the Diocese. The Committee began its work on June 7, 2021 and met weekly and eventually biweekly until the Vestry agreed with the Committee's recommendation and called the Reverend Jane Milliken Hague to serve as our Temporary Priest in Charge. Reverend Jane was selected by the Committee after the search produced six candidates. These six all had a screening interview with two members of the Committee and then the Committee narrowed the candidates down to three finalists and the entire Committee interviewed each of them by Zoom. Reverend Jane was the unanimous choice of the Committee and was called by a unanimous vote of the Vestry.

Priest in Charge's Report

It is my great joy to be serving at Saint Mary's while Fr Nathan serves our country as a Navy chaplain in Bahrain. My work as the temporary priest in charge is to continue the wonderful work of the parish. To use a common metaphor, I am the substitute engineer to keep the train running at full speed until Nathan returns.

Saint Mary's is doing very well in the times of the pandemic roller coaster. We are resilient and strong. The various ministries of the Saint Mary's are thriving. Our many pastoral caring and outreach projects are active and busy. The daily and Sunday worship services carry on with their high quality that Saint Mary's is known for throughout the community. The parishioners and friends support the work with an abundance of volunteer hours and financial gifts.

As the Body of Christ, it is my wish that when it is safe to gather, our community connects and together we will strengthen our ministries even more. Our task ahead is to unite in our common purpose to celebrate, honor and serve in God's name.



The Reverend Jane Milliken Hague, *Temporary Priest in Charge*

Deacon's Report

We all hoped that 2021 would find us coming to the end of a long pandemic but that was not to be. As the year ends, we are worshiping together in the church and the choir is singing again albeit with masks and other precautions in place and that is a welcome change. At the beginning of the year there were Sundays when Nathan+ and Bruce were on Facebook live on their own. Often, I was part of that scenario.

Whatever the circumstances, I continued to serve as deacon in the Sunday Eucharist. I preached twice. I also led noon prayer on Fridays on Facebook live. Staff meetings were held in person with masks and distancing. I attended Wisdom Seekers either on zoom or in person as well as Care/Prayer meetings. I also was able to lead a Living with Grief group for six weeks with my colleague, SuAnne Williams - Lindgren on zoom.

I had planned to retire in 2021 as I celebrated my 75th birthday and retirement age is typically 72. However, Nathan+ learned he would be traveling to Bahrain to serve as a Navy chaplain for 10 months. After conversations with him, the other members of the staff and the bishop, it was decided that I would postpone my retirement until Nathan+ returns. We continue to be people of hope and commitment as we navigate the almost daily changes with the pandemic and all the other changes and chances of our lives. With faith in our Lord Jesus and love for others we will continue to grow and thrive.

Thanks be to God!

Deacon Christine A. Bennett

Wardens' Report

2021 was a challenging year on so many levels but Saint Mary's continues to be blessed. Our Saint Mary's family persevered through all the ups and downs focusing on supporting our mission and ministry work. Pandemic headwinds continued despite vaccinations, treatments, and a better understanding about coexisting with COVID. Our pastoral team and outreach efforts continued to be flexible and innovative. Online streaming became routine with noonday prayer, Sunday services, and special events being regularly broadcasted. Various ministry and formation programs utilized hybrid programming which gave participants options for participation.

In May, we learned of Father Nathan's deployment to serve our military in Bahrain. We turned to our talented parish to form a hiring committee to work in conjunction with the Diocese to find a full-time temporary priest in charge. Father Nathan, working with staff and vestry, planned for a robust kick off to our program year in September. We planned to redesign our children's program, hiring Jeff Morgan as our Guiding RAY Coordinator. In November, we welcomed Reverend Jane Milliken Hague as our temporary priest in charge. She worked closely with Father Nathan, Deacon Christine, staff, and volunteers to hit the ground running at a very busy time in the program year.

We welcomed familiar and new faces throughout the summer and fall. Sadly, as we said goodbye to many dear friends, we also welcomed new parishioners through baptism and marriage. Our outstanding Sparkles team created new ways to run a fundraiser safely and successfully. In many ways, 2021 felt like the pandemic was over.

A year ago, our financial future was uncertain. Thanks to our very generous parishioners, a record-breaking Sparkles, and solid performance from our investments, we ended the year well. Uncertainty continues to surround us but with the fantastic, energetic, and vibrant Saint Mary's community we will be ready for any challenge.

Janet Bowne, Senior Warden

Aaron Splint, Junior Warden



CELEBRATE

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SERVE



Reports from Saint Mary's Ministries, Guilds and Committees



Our mission here at Saint Mary's remains constant as we continue to build authentic, vibrant, Christ-centered community. To do this, we:

CELEBRATE the goodness of God and the gift of life,

HONOR the presence of Christ in one another, and

SERVE the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We do this every day in many various forms, as demonstrated below.

CELEBRATE

the goodness of God and the gift of life

We are committed to maintaining our traditional Christian liturgy while extending our offerings to meet the spiritual desires and needs of the wider community.

Acolytes

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Acolytes have not had opportunities to participate in the services since March of 2020. We look forward to the time when our Acolytes can join in the Clergy in the Chancel

Altar Flower Guild

The members of the Altar Flower Guild take great pleasure in creating floral arrangements for the Sunday services at Saint Mary's. It is because of the generosity of parishioners' donations, made prior to the Easter Season, that we can have fresh flowers each week. We also create various displays for the holy seasons of Advent, Easter, and Christmas on the altar, in the chancel, the nave, the chapel and the outdoor Easter garden. Although we vary the displays from year to year, they serve to support the worship services and add beauty and solace to all. 2021 has been another challenging year for the Altar Flower Guild, but they provided fresh flowers nearly every week for the virtual and live services. The flowers and needed supplies come from a variety of places, including many of our own backyards and grounds of the church itself.

The co-chairs are Jessica LaPlante and Onnie Hastings. The committee consists of: Onnie, Jessica, Jana Burke, Maura Fitch, Melissa Kane, Jan Mordarski, Katie Porter, Helga Ryder, Lynne Shepherd, Jan Wentling and Jan Andrews.

The Guild would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join our group, as extra hands are always needed. This is a wonderful group of talented people who would love to learn from others and share their talents. Please let Onnie (878-6684) or Jessica (650-7977) or Beth in the office know if you'd like to help in any way.

Altar Guild

Like every other part of Saint Mary's, Altar Guild was affected by the pandemic. We adapted as needed under Father Nathan's, Reverend Jane's and Deacon Christine's direction. When we returned to in person services during 2020 continuing into 2021, the clergy presented only hosts at the Eucharist. We set the table with wine for the celebrant only.

Reverend Jane reinstated the noon Thursday Eucharist service in December.

Thank you to the Altar Guild members for their support during 2021. A special thank you to Betsy Elliman for her many years of service to the Altar Guild. We wish she and Tom well as they relocate to Connecticut. Welcome back to Lynne Shepherd.

Jana Burke, Joan Dow, Betsy Elliman, Kathy Galen, Maggie Gardner, Portia Hirschman, Mary Lalumiere, Barbara Murray, Barbara Mooar, Katie Porter, Lynne Shepherd, and Mary Smith.

Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Visitors

While we have been unable to hold regular church services during much of this pandemic season, special thanks go to those of us who have been comfortable serving as readers during these unusual times: John Bennett, Lee Dernehl, Lee Van Dyke, Linda and Stan Eaton, Maggie Gardner, Mary Ann McLean, Andrea Myles-Hunkin, Will Salomon, Ginny Stelk, Betsy and Jim Stoddard, Len Taylor.

We have a wonderful team of persons who feel called to serve God by reading scripture, serving at the altar, and taking the Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church. Our lectors have included:

Al Ahlers
Terry Brown
Linda Eaton
R. Stanley Eaton
Erin McGee Ferrell
Maggie Gardner
Jennifer Gregg

Marian McCue
Andrea Myles-Hunkin
Betsy Parks-Stamm
Rebecca Clifford Pride
David Robinson
Will Salomon
Virginia Stelk

Betsy Stoddard
James Stoddard
Leonard A. Taylor, Jr.
Leonard A. Taylor, III
Nadine Timberlake
Gregory W. Unfricht

Eucharistic Ministers are confirmed adult communicants in good standing authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at the Holy Eucharist, many of whom are also lectors. Because we have not used our Eucharistic Ministers this past year due to COVID, our team looks forward to a time when we can serve at the altar again. That team includes:

Al Ahlers
John Bennett
Terry Brown
Lee Dernehl
R. Stanley Eaton
Mary Ann McLean

Andrea Myles-Hunkin
Betsy Parks-Stamm
Rebecca Clifford Pride
Betsy Stoddard
James Stoddard
Leonard A. Taylor, Jr.

Leonard A. Taylor, III
Nadine Timberlake
Gregory W. Unfricht
Lee Van Dyke

Eucharistic Visitors are confirmed adult communicants in good standing authorized to take the Sacrament to members of the congregation who are unable to be present at the Eucharist, by reason of illness or infirmity. Although we have been unable to go out and serve during the pandemic, our Eucharistic Visitor team includes:

Stanley Eaton
Paul Engel

Rebecca Pride
Nancy Lee Snow

Healing Team

The COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed for in-person ministries such as the Healing Team. We look forward to being active again once the virus is under control.

In non-pandemic times, the Healing Team offers prayers during Communion at both Sunday services. A primary focus of Jesus' ministry was healing the sick in body, mind and spirit and Jesus commissioned his followers to do the same. Laying on of hands and anointing for healing is as old as the Church and an important opportunity to offer God's healing grace to one another. Once we are in safer conditions, if interested in being trained to join this team, please contact Deacon Christine or Lee Snow.

Kneeler Guild

The Kneeler Guild has not been active during this past year. When gatherings can be a bit more normal, we will have the dedication of the Kneelers which have been Memorialized by persons or families and which need to be Dedicated to God and the church.

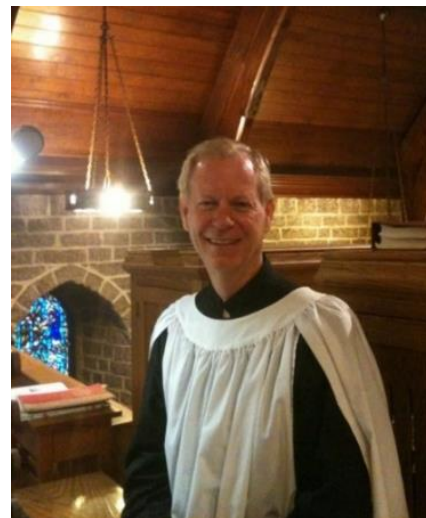


All Saint Mary's Kneeler's were designed and canvas painted by our own Hannah Russell (1929-1922) in the early 1970s and stitched by nearly 100 women and men.



Music Ministry at Saint Mary's

Looking back on the past year and a half, we can truly appreciate the courage and leadership of the choirs at Saint Mary's. First, we could not meet at all, except for a few people in the chapel offering Facebook live services on Sundays. Since we could not meet for rehearsals, we organized zoom sessions where we could learn some beautiful anthems and practice the hymns. Kue John Lor would record me playing the accompaniments on the organ, send the recording to each choir member, who would then record themselves singing their individual part. This took a lot of patience and commitment from the singers, as they would have to hear the accompaniment with earphones on one device, and then record themselves on another device. Then they would email their recordings to Kue John Lor, who would undertake the intensive and time-consuming job of combining all the recordings into a 'Virtual Saint Mary Choir.' These recordings would then be played on Father Nathan's laptop for Sunday services in the chapel.



Then, we were finally able to meet outside for 'Picnic Eucharists' in our beautiful garden, and choir members continued to lead the service in song in a safe environment (since the garden is a large space, we were all able to be masked and be safely apart from each other). We would move the digital piano out onto the grass, and the results were truly charming. We are so blessed to enjoy our campus environment. The choir rehearsals continued zoom sessions, and choir members were able to offer these summer anthems. We were also graced by the talents of John Bennett, who found a shady spot under the trees to play some beautiful cello solos by Bach.

In September, the weather got cooler, so we had to return to the church sanctuary for Sunday services, but with no choir.

And a year ago, some brave souls participated in some festive outdoor Christmas eve services, and we were able to enjoy Christmas carols outside under safe conditions.

In January 2021, we were able to meet in the sanctuary, but with limited participation. The previous shut down had given the organist lots of time to learn new repertoire, and it was with great joy that I was able to offer some wonderful music played on our beautiful Casavant organ. There were times when lay readers were also choir members, so we were able to help lead the few people in church with the hymns and service music. This format continued through lent, and during holy week, participation in the Maundy Thursday service was by zoom. Good Friday was particularly beautiful with the sung passion and a sublime aria from Bach's St. Matthew Passion, sung by our new soprano section leader, Bethany Perkins Hall.

Although the day of Resurrection forced us to have limited attendance, a trumpet soloist still graced us, and I was able to finally play the famous Widor "toccata" (another shutdown project).

Slowly, we were able to welcome a few more people into the weekly service. The choir members continued to offer their leadership with leading the singing of hymns and service music, and I continued to offer offertory organ solos.

During the summer, we offered outdoor services once a month since they had been so appreciated the year before.

Finally, in September we were able to meet with more participation from our congregation, and the choir was able to fulfill their usual role. The handbell choir was also able to finally meet and offer some lovely handbell music throughout the fall.

For safety reasons, the choirs met in the auditorium for only an hour for Thursday rehearsals, and choir members sang in the first few rows of the church on Sundays, always masked. Fortunately, Maria Belva, who is an accomplished choir director, kindly offered her expertise and direct choir members, as I often had to play the accompaniment on the organ in the choir loft. Maria also allowed us to use some very needed air

purifiers provided by Classical Uprising. The patience and good will of all members of the choir was greatly appreciated.

Bethany Perkins Hall kindly offered her skills by meeting with the children at the beginning of the Guiding Ray program and lead them in song. Along with some wonderful choir anthems, Maria Belva and Bethany Perkins Hall graced us with some lovely duets.

For the “Advent Quiet Morning: Mary Sings Her Heart Out,” Toosie Smith sang a beautiful setting of the “Magnificat” as a way of celebrating that morning’s theme.

It was with great joy that we were able to enjoy the First Sunday in Advent Lessons and Carols service. The choir was able to safely sing in the chancel and we all thoroughly appreciated the beauty of that service.

With the Christmas pageant and Christmas services, it almost seems like we are back to “normal,” but, we all need to still be very patient under the circumstances. We still cannot meet in the choir room, nor in the choir loft. However, the good will and fellowship continue to make us stronger, and we will always find ways to “lift up our voices in praise.”

Bruce Fithian



The Saint Mary Handbell Choir

Alice Brock, John Henson, Will Salomon,
Betsy Stoddard, Joyce and Len Verey

The Saint Mary Choir

Sopranos: Maria Belva, Bethany Perkins
Hall, Toosie Smith

Altos: Linda Eaton, Betsy Stoddard,
Jane Tholen, Nadine Timberlake

Tenors: William Salomon, James
Stoddard, David Vernier

Basses: Stanley Eaton, Gregg Fergin,
Rick Hirschman, Kue John Lor, Thomas
Pettingill, Justice Pollard

Ushers

Ushers play a key role in helping ensure that our clergy and congregation feel welcome and have the support they need to participate fully in and enjoy our worship services. We are the first people parishioners and new visitors see when they come through the door and may be the last, they see when they leave, so it’s an important ministry at Saint Mary’s.

We continued to have a challenging year with respect to COVID and COVID protocol, but all are looking forward to a less restrictive 2022.

We have a great group of people, and we have fun ushering together. Serving as an usher is a good way to serve the parish and make some new friends at the same time. It doesn’t require a significant time commitment, and it is a wonderful opportunity to experience our services from a slightly different perspective. Usually, each person only must usher once a month, and if you can’t make your scheduled time, others are always available to cover for you.

It is best to have a balance of “veteran” ushers and new recruits, and we welcome new recruits that would like to join. Even if your schedule makes it difficult for you to commit to a regular rotation, we will welcome the opportunity to include you on a standby list of potential fill-ins whom we might call upon in those instances when the regularly scheduled usher has a last-minute conflict. We would like to express our



thanks to all of the individuals who served as ushers throughout 2021 and look forward to having them continue their service in 2022.

We welcome any questions, comments, or suggestions you might have about how the Saint Mary's ushers might better support your individual needs or those of the congregation at large during our worship services. If you'd like to join our ministry, contact Tom LaPlante at (207)272-5621 or via email at tlaplante@llbean.com.

Our present ushers are:

8am Service:

Al Ahlers
Rayle Ainsworth
Ed Ainsworth
Steve Conley
Baer Connard
Charlie Hurdman
Jim Kane
Len Taylor
Greg Unfricht
Lee Van Dyke

10:15 am (9:30am) Service:

Mark Bentley
Tim Caven
Steve Conley
Steve Constantino
Harry Duvall
Ron Frye
Chuck Horton
Tom LaPlante
Chris Martin
Aaron Splint

Ryan Stinneford
Joyce Verey
Len Verey
Dawn Yerkes and her son Noah



HONOR **the presence of Christ in one another**

We are committed to the spiritual growth of all God's children. We are committed to treating all people with dignity and respect and to increasing the care we provide for one another.

CARE Team

This is one of the ministries that was able to communicate during the pandemic and meet monthly through Zoom. In 2016 we formed a CARE group (Community Actively Reaching Everyone) of loving parishioners to work with our clergy to care for other parishioners- concentrating on keeping track of everyone on our parish family who might need special attention. A chart was created with names on the left and columns for various possible ministries, such as delivery of casseroles and soups, cards, visits, rides, and phone calls. Due to the Coronavirus, we did suspend most in-person actions such as Eucharistic Visits with Communion, and rides. This group has met most every month since with all discussions within this group confidential. A special ministry was carried out by Nadine Timberlake who visited, with Bible Studies, both Foreside Harbor, Falmouth by the Sea and Portland House when pandemic openings allowed. We would love to have anyone interested join this ministry group at any time. Call Beth at the office or Lee Snow at 781-2309, nlsnow@aol.com. or come to a meeting. Prayer Partners members, led by Becky Pride, met on Zoom with the CARE team every month, as many parishioners are in both groups. Deacon Christine is always with us and Fr. Nathan was with us through Nov. Starting with the Dec. meeting, we welcomed Rev. Jane and Beth to be with us. They can be reached at: deacab@maine.rr.com and revjane@smary.org

Churchyard Committee

As a reminder to all Saint Mary's parishioners, if you are thinking about where to place your remains upon your passing, Saint Mary's Churchyard (cemetery) has many spots open in both Saint Mary's Woods and the Burial Garden. Please contact Beth Shaw or Hugh Smith for more details.

Again in 2021, the corona virus impact resulted in no meetings of the committee. Nonetheless, the Churchyard grounds continued to be maintained including mowing, leaf removal and some pruning. Importantly, four oaks along the border with Pine Grove Cemetery were removed. These trees overhung Pine Grove possibly threatening to damage headstones if large branches or trunks fell.

Please contact a member of the committee if you have questions and would like to help us with our work. The committee consists of Hugh Smith (chair), Ed Ainsworth, Becky Pride, Virginia Stelk and John Teets.

2021 Churchyard Activity:

Lots Acquired:

During the year, 2 full and 1 half units were acquired in the Churchyard.

Common Ground

Due to COVID-19, we have not been able to meet for our weekly Thursday evening (when school is in session) gathering called Common Ground that consists of a potluck dinner followed by a current, informative and entertaining program. We look forward to this starting up again next year.



Formation on Sundays

In September 2018, we made a slight change in our Sunday morning schedule to create space for a brief time of **"Formation"** together between the early and the later church services. Since the COVID-19 pandemic affected our meeting in person, much of this opportunity was halted. Be Still continued as it swiftly switched to Zoom, and Fr Nathan led a series based on With Gladness Answering God's Call in Our Everyday Lives in September until he left for Bahrain in the beginning of November.



Be Still on Sunday Morning

As the pandemic waned, albeit temporarily, "Be Still on Sunday Mornings" transitioned from Zoom to "Hybrid"--simultaneous Zoom and in-person, masked gatherings in the Chapel. At year's end, Omicron sent us back to Zoom only, which will continue until such time as public health dictates a return to hybrid mode.

"Be Still," coordinated by John Bennett, Jennifer Gregg, Becky Pride and Merle Marie Troeger, is a contemplative group that meets each Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15. We begin with a five-minute quiet, centering period, followed by the introduction of a poem, scripture or other art form for contemplation and group response. The session concludes with five minutes of quiet reflection and a prayer.

Changing, overarching themes carry us along during the year. In 2020, these included "Forgiveness," "Joy," "Transformation" and "Stillness." A group of 10-18 participants enjoys the intimacy of small group sharing, seeking spiritual growth and community. Please know that you will be welcomed to try out/join us at any time. Contact any of our coordinators to receive the readings in advance; the Zoom link can be accessed from the Saint Mary's Weekly eNews.

Be Still.....and know that I am God.

Be Still/Centering Prayer on Monday Evenings

In response to the pandemic lull, “Be Still/Centering Prayer on Monday Evening” also transitioned from Zoom-only to “Hybrid gatherings – Simultaneous Zoom and in-person, masked gatherings in the Chapel and in early 2022 will revert to Zoom-only. A small group of parishioners, members of other Portland-area churches and folks “from away”--as far as Colorado! – join together each Monday evening at 5pm. Led by Jennifer Gregg, we begin with a short Taize chant (digitally accompanied) before entering into 30 minutes of silent reflection. There follows a short reading from scripture. We continued drawing from The Gospel of Thomas in 2021) with short periods for directed reflection, followed by time for response, as desired. All are welcome to drop in at any time. Contact Jennifer Gregg with questions or just click on the link provided in the Weekly eNews

The Wisdom Seekers

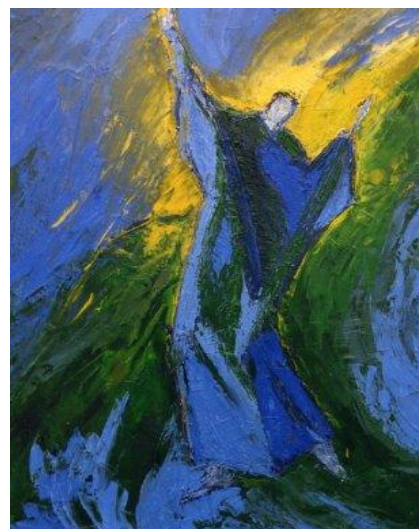
On Tuesday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30, there is a Bible study group called **The Wisdom Seekers**, coordinated by Nadine Timberlake, that meets in hybrid form, either in person with mask or on Zoom. We study Scripture appointed for the upcoming Sunday, examining the historical background, how people living at that time understood God’s message, and what is it saying to us today. We have about nine persons who join in a lively discussion, sharing our thoughts and ideas. It is a great way learn more about the Bible and to prepare oneself for the coming Sunday. All are welcome to join at any time during the year.

Merton Group

As with other formation groups, “Merton Group” transitioned to “hybrid” mode as the pandemic allowed, with the in-person participants meeting in the Chapel from 3-4pm on Wednesdays. This is a small, spiritually diverse, inquisitive, tolerant, open-minded and supportive group of self-described “seekers.” We meet to read and discuss a selected work that draws from the Christian and other faith traditions in an effort to help us reflect on our own and world's spiritual roots and fuel personal growth. Because we read aloud to each other, there is no “homework,” regular attendance is not necessary, and the nature of the reading lends itself easily to those who wish to join the group “mid-book.” In 2021 we began reading twentieth century mystic Howard Thurman's “Meditations from the Heart.” All are welcome to visit or join the group at any time. Contact Jennifer Gregg with questions or click on the zoom link provided in the Weekly E-News.

Quiet Mornings

Quiet Mornings invite us into a few hours on a Saturday morning of contemplation and prayer twice a year—in Lent and Advent. These are each developed around a theme chosen and facilitated by Merle Marie Troeger. The Lenten Quiet morning on February 27 focused on “The Farewell Teachings of Jesus” and was offered by Zoom. The Advent Quiet Morning on December 11 (offered in Hybrid mode) centered us around Mary's song, “The Magnificat” and concluded with formulating our own version of a “Magnificat” for Saint Mary's. At each Quiet Morning, we enjoy an environment of artwork, poetry, music, prayer and gentle conversation, interspersed by several contemplative periods in which to ponder the morning's themes.



Guiding RAY

Despite the pandemic, the Guiding RAY ministry has done well this program year which began in September 2021. We typically have between 10-15 kids attend each week and were able to safely put on the Christmas Pageant in December. While we would prefer to have had more volunteer involvement, we have been able to manage the ministry well between ourselves (Jeff and Courtney) by dividing the kids into two age groups, playing games, and learning about God's love through a weekly liturgical Bible lesson.

It is our sincere hope that once the pandemic is under control and people and children can feel safe and healthy coming out, that we will have a robust Christian Formation program for our all youth.

IGNITE Middle School Youth Group

The pandemic has interrupted the meeting of this group for much of 2020 and all of 2021. In the meantime, these young people have been encouraged to participate in the online offerings of our diocesan Youth Ministry.

Hospitality Ministry

Although we have not yet filled the position of Hospitality chair and COVID has caused us to cancel many fellowship gatherings with food, we have managed to hold a couple modified outdoor or take-home events in 2021 with some parishioners willing to volunteer to make things happen. During Holy Week, we had an Agape Meal in a bag that people could pick up to follow along with the online service. During the summer months, we had scaled back coffee time following services. We hired Bueno Loco to cater the Kickoff Sunday picnic to start the 2021-22 program year. Coronavirus variants made gathering a bit more difficult toward the end of 2021.

COVID-19 did put a halt to most other gathering events: the Annual Meeting brunch, the Memorial Day Parade refreshments, and the Summer dinner and fundraiser which takes months to plan.

We are hoping someone will step up to take over leadership of this vital aspect of our community, and that new members will join this ministry! **If interested in leading or joining the Hospitality Ministry, please contact the parish office or one of the Wardens.**

Memorial Reception Guild

This was a year of transition for the Memorial Reception Guild. With gratitude to Jennifer Gregg for her excellent leadership in recent years, Joyce Verey and Alice Brock became the new co-chairs of this ministry. The Memorial Reception Guild also underwent the welcome transition of being able to offer in-person modified receptions again after a long hiatus due to COVID. These receptions were in memory of Susan Chapman's brother, Connie Dayton, and Anne Hilliard; in addition, we had our first "Blue Christmas" in December followed by a reception for everyone who had attended that service. We are grateful to our many volunteers who are generous with their time and talents as they provide food - often homemade - and other kinds of help for these receptions. We are also delighted to welcome new members into the fold at any time. Anyone with questions or feedback should feel free to contact Joyce and Alice whose contact information is in the church directory.

Newcomers Welcome Team

This year, 2021, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had no gatherings. We will return to them when it is safe to do so.

The Welcome Team at Saint Mary's includes the committee and members of the Vestry. Our objective is to introduce new church members to the Saint Mary's community, and to make them feel welcome in our parish family. We usually organize coffee hours a couple of times a year, after the Sunday morning services. They are held in the Auditorium like every coffee hour, so that whole families can attend. We are looking for a chair of this wonderful ministry; if you are interested, please contact one of the Wardens or the parish office.

Prayer Partners

Special thanks to all those who have attended our monthly ZOOM meetings and who have called or emailed Lee and/or Becky to keep our prayers of intercession ongoing during these difficult times. Prayer Partners is a long-standing group of around 30 parishioners who pray daily for many people within and outside the parish. People ask to have their names or those of their friends or loved ones on this list. We gather regularly to go over the list, add names or uplift people, as well as to pray together and reinforce each other. The list is strictly confidential and reserved only for those who pray the list. If you would like prayers for yourself for any reason or for a friend, or if you would like to join this praying community, call Beth at the office or Becky Pride at 781-4391 or email her at rebeccapride1@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl Ministry involves knitting shawls using *large needles-size 13* and a *quite simple pattern*. You need not be an accomplished knitter to learn how to create these practical messages of comfort. They are called “Prayer Shawls” because the work is initiated with prayer, and the shawls are blessed prior to being given. One simple pattern involves casting on 57 stitches, then knitting three stitches and purling three stitches—representing the Holy Trinity. Most knitters enjoy repeating “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” with the stitches. There are other more complex patterns available, but all involve a three-stitch pattern invoking the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you need a packet with all supplies needed, contact the Parish office.



Our supply of completed and blessed shawls is on the low side, so we could use some replenishing. With our Eucharistic Visitor ministry as well as the CARE Team, we hope more parishioners and friends in the hospital, nursing homes, new mothers or someone just needing support will be given one. We look forward to being able to deliver these again. We need your help to know who needs one. Just request a prayer shawl, and it will be given.

Those interested in more details and/or participating in any of these ministries should contact Ginny Stelk at 847-3602 (lstelk@maine.rr.com). We need you.

SERVE
the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.
*We are committed to serving others in our community and in the world,
trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us.*

Altar Flower Delivery

During a normal year, the Altar Flower Delivery Guild delivers the flowers each week which have graced the altar to parishioners who are ill, home bound, or just observing a celebration in their lives. It is also a way of extending Sunday worship to perhaps those for whom prayers have been offered that Sunday. Our small group of dedicated members are Dawn & Noah Yerkes, Cindy & Chuck Horton, and Betsy & Jim Stoddard. Thank you for your ministry. We certainly welcome new members.

Kindly consider offering your time to this ministry. Perhaps this could be a one-time 'teaching moment' for your family. It takes little time and effort and no special skill in floral arranging is necessary, but the rewards are many. Please consider offering a half hour every few weeks to this important ministry of Saint Mary's. Betsy Stoddard, Chair

Red Cross Blood Drives

In recent years, Saint Mary's has coordinated with the American Red Cross to host two Blood Drives each year: during Holy Week (Good Friday or Holy Saturday), and the Saturday after Thanksgiving. These were held as scheduled, but our cooperation with the Red Cross became much more intense in 2020-2021.



Together, we can save a life

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many Blood Drives scheduled to be held at schools or businesses were canceled. This placed an enormous strain on blood supplies as maintained by the Red Cross. Saint Mary's was asked to step up and help to meet this challenge. We did this, and in the process Saint Mary's became one of the leading Blood Drive locations in the state of Maine. We are proud to be such an important part of this effort to save lives and keep our community healthy.

Here are the total collection amounts from drives at Saint Mary's during 2021, according to an email from our primary contact at the Red Cross in Portland:

*"We ran a total of **25 blood drives** at the Episcopal Church of Saint Mary, which is just incredible. During those crazy 12 months [of 2021], Saint Mary's and the American Red Cross were able to collect a total of **713 units of blood** which equates to **2,139 lives** potentially saved. That is simply mind blowing!"*

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Though hindered by COVID in 2021, B&G was able to accomplish many needed projects. Most significant were:

- Upgrade the bell system - The Verdin Bell Co
- Replace fencing at Rectory - Maine Fence Co.
- Rewire Church lighting in front of Church and replace with cost effective LED bulbs
- Replace shrubbery and seed at Rectory
- Replace flooring on Rectory deck
- Replace wiring and lighting at entrance off Foreside Road

Of course, S. Mary's is blessed with willing parishioners to help to keep the grounds neat and tidy. Thanks. For 2022, there are projects that will need tending to. The B&G faithful will work tirelessly to accomplish these tasks and keep Saint Mary operating smoothly.

Thank you for your support.

Jim Stoddard, Building and Grounds Chairman

Casserole Ministry / Meal Train

This is another ministry that COVID-19 affected greatly as our mission is to share meals with parishioners who are temporarily unable to cook for themselves, and this kind of contact has not been allowed. The Meal Train consists of dozens of Saint Mary's cooks who prepare and deliver meals to folks in our community who are in need and unable to cook following surgery or recovering from an illness or other life-changing events, such as the arrival of a new baby or other needs.

Without formal meetings and relying on internet and telephone contact, we provide meals to numerous families in our church community. In some cases, it has been for one or two days while for others we have provided weeks of meals seasoned with kindness and care.

If you are interested in helping this ministry when restrictions lift, please contact the parish office admin@smary.org or Christie Rana christie.rana@gmail.com

Office Angels

With Covid still having a strong-hold on our volunteers for 2021, the Office Angels were still ‘on hold’ except for the few that proofed the AVE publication on a monthly basis in their own homes. Thanks you to Becky Pride, Jennifer Gregg, Marian McCue and Linda Eaton.

With things turning around hopefully later in 2022, we can begin to welcome all who would like to spend a few hours a month folding and stapling the AVE or other mailings for Beth during the coming year.

Outreach Committee

That We All May Be One:

The spiritual direction of Outreach at Saint Mary's continues to be based on an understanding that we are all to be one—One with God and One with all of God's creation, human and otherwise. The aim of the committee is therefore to offer as many opportunities as possible to all parishioners to seek and find God in our neighbors—perhaps more succinctly, to seek and find God in the many, many whom we see as strangers: Those who are different from ourselves, the disadvantaged, the suffering, the hungry, those of different races, social and religious backgrounds.



To that end, the committee continued, as best as it could during a pandemic, to **focus its work on building relationship with the immigrant community, the recovery community, those dealing with food insecurity, families in need, at-risk youth, as well as racial justice matters and caring for our creation.**

As with other ministries, the inability to meet in person with our neighbors during the pandemic has stifled many of our efforts during the past year. We continue to harbor hope that public health will improve enough during the coming year to resume this critical personal contact.

As a committee, we continue to stress that Prayer and Action cannot thrive or even proceed separately: They form a double-helix, a symbiotic relationship. As a result, we strive to make prayer part of every ministry and also enthusiastically continue to sponsor and support two “Quiet Mornings” offered by Merle Marie Troeger in Lent and Advent to nourish both this committee and the entire parish.

The Recovery Community

We offered a final educational program in March 2021 focusing on the stigma associated with Substance Use Disorder with an excellent round-table Zoom presentation with local leaders in this field: Oliver Bradeen, the newly-minted Executive Director of Milestone, Sarah Coupe, the Founder and Director of Grace House for Women, and Margo Walsh, Founder and Owner of MaineWorks, spoke movingly about the nature of Substance Use Disorder and the societal challenges to successful recovery.

We also organized two “Table Talk” presentations by Casco Bay CAN, focusing on educating parents, grandparents and mentors of young people about the current illegal substance use situation and how to talk to young people about illegal substance use.

In the coming year we hope to

- Resume exchange visits with Milestone Residents from Old Orchard Beach when public health permits.
- Establish a relationship with the residents of the Milestone Women's Sober House in Portland, public health permitting.
- Offer a Casco Bay CAN “Table Talk” session.
-

Racial Justice

Following upon the organization and promotion of book groups on this subject in 2020-2021, we worked with Father Nathan to organize and staff the Sacred Ground program that launches in January 2022. Many thanks to Bonny Rodden, Merle Marie Troeger, Becky Pride and Jennifer Gregg for serving as facilitators for this program. (See separate section in the Annual Report on Sacred Ground)

Welcome New Mainers

We offered a very well-attended community **Zoo** 23 **entation to the community on Anti- Immigrant Bias in Maine** led by Maine Civil Rights educator and trainer, Steve Wessler, in January 2021.

St. Elizabeth's Essential Needs Pantry- We were blessed to welcome Stan Eaton as a member of the Outreach Committee and as Saint Mary's member of the Board of Directors of St. Elizabeth's. Stan coordinates Saint Mary's collection of needed items each month and also coordinates the team of St. Mary's volunteers who sort and distribute items at St. Elizabeth's on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your donations of goods (such as diapers, house/kitchenware, bedding, famine hygiene products, oral health care products, etc.), special appeals (i.e., soup pots, winter coats and boots of all sizes, etc.), volunteer help, and funds have allowed St. E's to continue its active ministry in spite of the covid-19 pandemic.

St. E's is a low-barrier pantry providing non-food essentials to 150-185 families weekly, including new Mainers and others from more than 20 countries. Every Tuesday morning, St. E's offers our neighbors, at no charge, basic, daily non-food essentials that cannot be purchased with federal SNAP funds. We also connect people with other resources in the community for needs such as housing, furniture, language acquisition, job search assistance, and other social needs.

Saint Mary's volunteers in 2021 included: Holly Bernstein, Janet Bowne, Lee Dernehl, Stan Eaton, Betsy Elliman, Nathan Ferrell, Jane Milliken Hague, Henry Rhodes, Merle Marie Troeger, and Fred Webber. These folks collect, sort, and distribute goods at least once a month at St. E's, and parishioner Stan Eaton serves on the Board of St. Elizabeth's. For more information, please contact Stan Eaton at stan.eaton@gmail.com. At year's end, we established a partnership with the **Maine Immigrant Refugee Coalition Adopt a Family Program** through which we have "adopted" a recently arrived adopted an Angolan family of four who are living in Portland pending approval of their asylum request. Anne LaFond is the Parish point person working with this family to identify and communicate needs to which parishioners can respond during the coming year.

In Her Presence, Portland Adult Education and LearningWorks – Unfortunately, in-person literacy classes, tutoring and mentoring is on hold until public health permits.

Multicultural Fair – This popular event to support New Mainer entrepreneurs was canceled last year due to COVID and is tentatively scheduled for May 2022, if public health allows.

Food Insecurity

We were blessed to welcome Vanessa Record as a member of the Outreach Committee and coordinator of Saint Mary's relationship with the **Falmouth Food Pantry.** Our traditional role in support of the **Falmouth Food Pantry**--collecting nonperishable food and volunteering at the Pantry - remained impossible in 2021 due to COVID.

Thanks to the Guiding RAY Garden (and in particular Bobbi MacCallum) and parishioners who offered some of their personal harvest, we were able to offer the Falmouth Food Pantry weekly deliveries of fresh produce and flowers during the growing season for their clients most in need. We hope to partner with other Falmouth Churches for this program next Spring.

Saint Mary's "Souper Supper" Among the many very significant Outreach efforts, Saint Mary's "Souper Supper" continue to be one of the best known and "signature" Outreach activities, particularly during the pandemic as it offered twice-monthly curbside pick-up of home-made soup, rolls and a sweet. Our guests miss and are chafing for a return to in-person sit-down dining but come by regularly on the designated Fridays to receive their bagged suppers. We regularly handed out 30-35 bagged suppers to an average 25-30 drive-by guests.

Volunteer opportunities continue to abound to either shop, cook the soup, offer desserts, package the suppers, distribute the suppers or clean-up. Consistent with Saint Mary's policies and COVID health guidelines, we continue to ask volunteers to mask, distance appropriately and follow COVID sanitizing protocols. In 2021 we bid farewell to Chris Shaw who had prepared soup regularly once a month, AND were blessed with the addition of two new cooks—The Vereys and Brock/Peards! We also were delighted to welcome Barbara Mooar, Kathy Galen and Katie Porter to our teams of shoppers and dessert-makers!

If you wish to become involved in this very appreciated ministry you will be most welcomed. If you are not in a position to volunteer, you are invited to support the ministry financially by purchasing bags of delicious “Coffee by Design” coffee available during the week in the office or on Sundays in the Parish House kitchen.

FMI: Contact Jennifer Gregg (781-3366; jenniferanngregg@gmail.com) or contact any one of the following whom we take the opportunity to thank for their wonderful participation in this ministry:

Our 2021 Team: Holly Bernstein, Alice Brock and Pat Peard, Lee Dernehl, Linda Eaton, Judith and Greg Fergin, Kathy Galen, Jennifer Gregg, Maureen Hale, Mac Hinkel, Dana Madison, Barbara Mooar, Katie Porter, Becky and Doug Pride, The Rana Family, Chris Shaw, Hannah De Sorbo, Ginny Stelk, Jim and Betsy Stoddard, Nadine Timberlake, The Vereys,

At-Risk Youth

Unfortunately, the parish was unable to continue mentoring at **Long Creek Youth Center** due to COVID and uncertainties at this facility. The Outreach committee is seeking alternative opportunities to connect parishioners with At-Risk youth when the pandemic permits.

Families in Need

In 2021, we again joined forces with Cumberland churches to organize, promote and participate in the annual Walk for **Habitat for Humanity**. This was a “virtual” walk in which participants raised funds to walk independently throughout the month of May. This year, a more traditional walk is planned for April 30, 2022.

Our collaboration with **Family Promise**—providing dinners and dining with families in transitional housing—is on hold due to public health.

Caring for God's Creation

Bonny Rodden organized a wonderful, family-friendly annual Coastal Cleanup on April 18, 2021 at Mackworth Island, and we look forward to a repeat on April 10, 2022 at 1pm.

We continued to promote care for our environment in the AVE through monthly Eco-tips and updated the recycling/composting system in the Parish House. We also continued to organize the scheduling of trash and composting collection—thanks to a team of three parishioners (Marian McCue, John Henson and Jennifer Gregg) and the Outreach Committee continues to fund the composting disposal with Garbage to Garden.

2022 will be another year of transition for the Outreach Committee as Jennifer Gregg will be stepping back as chairperson of the committee after extending her tenure in this position for a year.

The 2021 Outreach members: Deacon Christine, Stan Eaton, Jennifer Gregg, Anne LaFond, Dana Madison, Vanessa Record, with the critical support and initiatives of Judith Brooks, Becky Pride and Merle Marie Troeger. We always welcome additional committee members and drop-ins of all ages (this is a great ministry for teens!) We meet as a committee monthly on the first Thursday at 4:30pm on zoom and, when possible/desired, in hybrid mode.

Outreach Financial 2021 Disbursements

Another role of the Outreach Committee focuses on the distribution of grants on behalf of the Parish. This funding goes to those non-profits with whom we maintain a mission relationship, to non-profits suggested by and with whom individual parishioners maintain a volunteer relationship and, last but certainly not least, selected non-profits serving those in need in or outside our state with which circumstances preclude our “hands on” involvement. Funding for these grants comes from *YOU* in the form of 5% of your pledge received last year. For this, and for so much more, we thank you.

In 2021, the following grants were distributed:

The Recovery Community

Maine Recovery Fund - \$500

<https://www.mainerecoveryfund.org/our-impact>

[Maine Recovery Fund](#) is a 501c3 that provides community support to people in recovery seeking to reenter the workforce and reestablish productive life.

Milestone Recovery - \$1000

<https://milestone-recovery.org/>

The mission of [Milestone Recovery](#) is to provide the best quality of services to empower individuals with substance use and behavioral health disorders to attain stability, dignity, recovery and an enhanced quality of life.

Casco Bay CAN - \$500.00

<https://www.cascobaycan.org/>

[Casco Bay CAN](#) mobilizes citizen involvement and multi-sector collaboration to foster a healthy community environment with norms, policies, and practices that work together to promote positive, drug and alcohol-free development for all Casco Bay youth.

Racial Justice

Maine Initiatives Foundation - \$700

<https://maineinitiatives.org/>

Since March 2020, [Maine Initiatives](#) has made over \$1.9 million in grants to 76 organizations, marrying philanthropy with social justice.

Four Directions Development Corporation - \$700

<https://fourdirectionsmaine.org/>

The Penobscot Indian Nation established [FDDC](#) 20 years to provide loans and financial education to tribal members, giving them the capital needed to buy homes and establish business ventures.

Maine Council of Churches - \$1000

<http://mainecouncilofchurches.org/>

With the collective voice of 7 denominations, the MCC is recognized as a crucial advocate in Augusta for the disenfranchised, the downtrodden and the environment. During the pandemic, the MCC has been a vital resource for denominations by sharing information about holding services safely.

This year, the MCC actively supported legislation that would provide sovereignty for Maine's tribes; to fully fund the new Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine tribal populations; and to require racial impact statements for introduced bills.

Parishioner Bonny Rodden serves as the Episcopal Bishop's representative to the MCC.

New Mainers

In Her Presence - \$500

<https://inherpresence.org/>

[In Her Presence](#) is a nonprofit designed and led by and for immigrant women and their families. Founded in 2015, IHP's main objective is to provide educational opportunities that will lead to successful career paths for immigrant women and their families. Parishioner Anne LaFond serves on the IHP Board of Directors.

St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center - \$1000

<https://stelizabethsmaine.org/>

The [Saint Elizabeth's Jubilee Center](#) distributes non-food essentials (i.e.. infant diapers, feminine/personal hygiene products, toilet paper, soaps, dental care products, bed/bath/kitchen items) to 170-185 families weekly.

Welcoming The Stranger- \$500

<https://wtsmaine.com/>

[Welcoming the Stranger](#) is a grassroots, secular initiative created in response to the rising number of immigrant families seeking political asylum in our community. Welcoming the Stranger aims to create formal friendships through mentoring relationships between local families and asylum seekers that we hope will enrich all those involved. Unlike refugees, who have been granted legal residence and arrive with access to basic resettlement services, there is no formal system in place to help asylum seekers, many of whom have likewise fled war, political turmoil, and personal danger in their native countries to seek safety.

Family Promise - \$300

<https://greaterportlandfamilypromise.wordpress.com/about/>

[Family Promise](#) is the nation's leading organization working to prevent and end family homelessness. Our holistic, community-based approach to helping families achieve stability makes us unique.

At-Risk Youth

Friends of Long Creek Development Center – \$500

<https://www.friendsoflongcreek.org/>

The [Friends of Long Creek](#) collaborates with the Long Creek Youth Development Center staff, Juvenile Community Corrections Officers, and other non-profits to develop and fund projects that are critical to reducing criminogenic risk factors and reducing recidivism. *During the transition period facing Long Creek Development Center, support that the Friends of Long Creek supplies for the remaining youth is all the more critical.*

The Opportunity Alliance – Homeless Youth Service - \$1000 <https://www.opportunityalliance.org/>
Homeless Youth Service's goal is to ensure that youth are stably housed. HYS provides case management to youth who are at risk of homelessness or are literally homeless. Parishioner Anne Lafond serves on the board of The Opportunity Alliance.

International

Konbit Sante - \$500

<https://konbitsante.org/>

Konbit Sante's mission is to support the development of a sustainable health system to meet the needs of the Cap-Haitien community with maximum local direction and support.

Community Life Centers of Haiti - \$500

<https://www.clchaiti.org/>

This is the successor non-profit organization to COCINA, and is run by two former COCINA board members, both known to Saint Mary's to be good and honorable. The CLC is centered in Ouanaminth, Haiti and is devoted to reaching out to Haitian children to offer community needs and services, such as a place to gather and faith-based care to develop both religious and life skills in a safe environment

Haiti's government is in chaos, gangs are controlling the streets of Port-au-Prince, inflation has caused great difficulty and markets have not been able to operate normally as a source of trade and food. There are food shortages and price increases everywhere.

CLC ministers to those in need, spiritually, emotionally, and physically and is partnering with a local medical clinic to meet the needs of the people in its church and as an outreach to the community, providing food and other needs and sharing the love of Christ. The church is overflowing with new people that want to be a part of this movement of the Holy Spirit. Young people are receiving the gospel. Single mothers from age 14 to 20, are turning to Christ as CLC helps them to navigate life and take care of their families. Up until the current crisis, CLC had been helping people to find meaningful work and preparing them for that work through training. CLC is preparing to start another session in early 2022.

Helping Hands at Home

This ministry, which began in 2019, is designed to help parishioners on a periodic but year-round basis to stay in their homes by helping with simple tasks and indoor and outdoor odd jobs.

Volunteers have agreed to be “on call” to participate as they are available in this ministry. It is a wonderful way for those with both outdoor skills (raking, shoveling, simple gardening, simple plumbing/construction projects) and indoor skills (deep cleaning, organizing, clerical) can come together in response to the needs of parishioners. The pandemic has limited volunteer activity largely to outdoor work, but this has nonetheless been critical to the parishioners we help.

If you are interested in joining this core band of volunteers (Holly Bernstein, Janet Bowne, Kathy Galen, The Grace-Cleale family, Tom and Jessica LaPlante, Dana Madison, Jan Mordarski, Hugh Smith, Mary Smith, Jim Stoddard, Betsy Stoddard, Joyce Verey, Len Verey) please contact Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com or Beth Shaw, admin@smary.org for more information.



Racial Justice

Building upon our White Fragility and Letters from a Birmingham Jail discussion groups from last year that focused on racial reckoning and Father Nathan's call to make Saint Mary's an anti-racist church, in 2022 the parish will undertake a more in-depth study of the buried history of race and racism in the United States beginning this January. The program, *Sacred Ground*, was created by the national Episcopal Church to encourage racial understanding and reconciliation as the first step toward becoming a “beloved community” where ALL are recognized and loved as children of God.

The 10-month journey by small groups known as “Dialogue Circles” is at once spiritual as it is theological and academic. It unravels the histories of Black, Latinx and Asian-Pacific Americans and addresses how they intersect with those of European Americans and our own. On a personal level, participants are encouraged

to simultaneously take an interior journey towards self-awareness and how they might be called to repair the breach.

By embarking on this journey, Saint Mary's joins Episcopal churches throughout the United States, including Maine, that have participated in more than 2,000 "Dialogue Circles." Saint Mary's will have two Dialogue Circles of 8-10 participants each, the maximum recommended. There is so much interest at Saint Mary's that the Circles filled up quickly so if you are interested in joining one in the future, contact Bonny Rodden at 781-4978 or brodden1.br@gmail.com.

The Circles will be facilitated by Merle Marie Troeger, Jennifer Gregg, Becky Pride, and Bonny Rodden.

Stewardship: *our annual Campaign*

Saint Mary's continues to be blessed with pledges and gifts of all sizes from many generous parishioners. Thank you!! At the start of 2021, our pledge goal was \$270,000. We ended the year with \$288,604 in pledges and \$35,944 in other gifts. Thank you all!!

Volunteering is an equally important component of stewardship. Saint Mary's has so many wonderful volunteers offering support for all aspects of our mission and ministries. Without volunteers, we simply could not fulfill our mission. Thank you to everyone who gives their time in big and small ways to keep us going strong even during a pandemic. When we look back on these challenging years, one thing will be clear: Saint Marians rose to the challenge to continue to serve God and our community.

Another component of stewardship is our incredible Sparkles team. Thank you to Jana Burke and all the volunteers who helped make Sparkles 2021 such a huge success. Before any of the in-person major events occurred in December 2021, Sparkles had raised \$14,681 in online sales through Facebook marketplace and smaller, boutique (pop-up) in-person sales throughout the year. All sales, including the traditional Sparkles Fair, totaled \$29,371 for the year. No one expected such an enormous success during 2021. And it was all done following appropriate guidelines for safety. Simply amazing!

We look toward 2022 and dark clouds still loom over us. We don't know how the year will go but Saint Mary's is well positioned to continue to do God's work in our community. Thank you!



Planned Giving: *Alida Greely Brown Heritage Society*

The Planned Giving program aims to inform and recognize those among us who wish to remember Saint Mary's with deferred gifts to help ensure Saint Mary's long-term fiscal health.

Saint Mary's Alida Greely Brown Heritage Society (named for our founder) enables individuals to make such gifts to Saint Mary's easily and recognizes those who have expressed their intention to provide such gifts as part of their estate planning. Membership may be public or private, as you so choose. If you have already provided for Saint Mary's in your will, we hope you will inform either Father Nathan or Beth Shaw so that we can properly thank you and invite you to join this society. In 2021 we were not able to host our AGB annual lunch nor any Diocesan First Light Society gatherings with the Bishop.

Thank you to those parishioners who have already included Saint Mary's in their estate planning, thereby ensuring Saint Mary's viability for generations to come.

For more information on Saint Mary's planned giving program, please feel free to contact Janet Bowne (781-3844, jmitchellbowne@gmail.com) or Beth Shaw (781-3366, admin@smary.org).



*Alida Carroll Brown,
mother of Alida Greely Brown*

Fellowship & Fundraising Events

Book, Bake and Soup Sale

This popular Book Sale is typically held every year in the early Spring in conjunction with a Soup and Bread sale. In 2021, we were unable to hold this event due to COVID-19, but we are looking forward to its return on March 19, 2022 as a Book Sale only. **CALLING ALL BOOKS!**

(except no encyclopedias, textbooks, or magazines please)

All these funds raised through the Book Sale are used for local mission and charity assistance coordinated by the Saint Mary's Outreach Committee. With questions or to participate, contact Jan Mordarski janmordarski@gmail.com or Betsy Stoddard jbstod@myfairpoint.com

Saint Mary's Sparkles in 2021

Sparkles includes the first three weeks of Advent and has just completed its 18th year. Sparkles' Mission is to be a major fund raiser and to provide an opportunity for members of the parish community to work together in different ways. It's also a fun way to reach out to the community to encourage people to visit Saint Mary's to see and be welcomed to our beautiful facility,

Sparkles 2021 was reimagined again considering the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic to maintain our mission, and also keep volunteers and customers safe. We added online shopping options, while maintaining scaled-back in-person shopping. Many customers from the community expressed gratitude for a welcoming and friendly, but safe place to shop. You, our parishioners, and volunteers, were amazing in your support! Those of you who donated items, shopped either in person or online, and volunteered in person and at home, and are responsible for raising \$29,371 for Saint Mary's programs. Thank you! Thank you!

Sparkles 2022 will be very different, too, and we'd love to talk to you about it. If you have any questions or would like to participate, please contact Jana Burke.



202nd Diocesan Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine in 2021

The 2021 Diocesan Convention was held virtually due to the pandemic. Prior to the actual convention, the Diocese held regular town meetings usually weekly which allowed all the delegates to learn about the major items like the budget, the resolutions and other important business. These meetings were extremely helpful in making the actual convention function well. Thank you to Nadine Timberlake who was the only delegate who attended on Zoom in 2021.

CELEBRATE



HONOR



SERVE

Worship during the year of the COVID- 19 pandemic:

January 2021 – March 2020 Sunday Worship was live 29 1 at 10:30am in the sanctuary with worship participants only – all being masked, sanitized, and distanced.

April 2021- Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday had limited attendance live outdoor and in-church Sunday Worship options - all masked, distanced and sanitized while also being livestreamed on Facebook.

April 11 - 18 Continued with Careful Worship at 8 and 10:30am

April 25- June 13 Continued with Careful Worship (masked, distanced, and sanitized) at 8 and 10:30am in the church sanctuary with limited choir members with a brief 9:30 family-friendly worship in the auditorium.

June 20 - Sept 5 Careful worship with summer hours of 8 and 9:30 with 3 outdoor worship events.

Sept 12 - Advent Careful Worship (masked, distanced, and sanitized) at 8 and 10:15am in the church sanctuary with limited choir members. Guiding RAY began masked classes, and the nursery opened.

November 8-14 Fr Nathan Ferrell left for Navy deployment to Bahrain. Rev. Jane Milliken Hague joined us as Temporary Priest in Charge until end of August 2022.

Omicron variant of the coronavirus because evident later in December.

December 24, 2021 – Christmas Eve services were held in-person and live-streamed on Facebook at 3pm, 5pm and 9pm.

December 25, 2021 – Christmas Day Eucharist was held in the Fr. James Chapel

December 26, 2021 - Careful Worship at 8 and 10:15am in the church sanctuary with limited choir.

2022 Clergy, Staff & Vestry

Rector	Nathan Ferrell	nathanferrell@smary.org
Temporary Priest in Charge	Jane Milliken Hague	revjane@smary.org
Deacon	Christine Bennett	deacab@maine.rr.com
Organist/Choir Director	Bruce Fithian	bsfithian@aol.com
Parish Manager	Beth Shaw	admin@smary.org
Sr Warden	Janet Bowne	jmitchellbowne@gmail.com
Jr Warden*	Aaron Splint	asplint@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ben Parks-Stamm	ben.parks.stamm@gmail.com
2020(Class of)	Rick Hirschman	rrhirschman@msn.com
2020	Tom Pettingill	thomaspettingill@gmail.com
2020	Darren Clark	ddclark@maine.rr.com
2021	Rudy Israel	RFIsrael@aol.com
2021	Tom LaPlante	tlaplante@llbean.com
2021	Pat Peard	peardpatricia@gmail.com
2022*	Steve Conley	steve.conley@point32health.org
2022*	Chris Martin	foodservciechris@yahoo.com
2022*	Steve Reeves	stevekreeves@gmail.com

**Pending election at Annual Meeting*

Saint Mary's Parish Registry - 2021

Baptisms:

Claudia J. Herrold
Mallory R. Herrold
Meredith S. Herrold
Naomi J. Herrold
Hannah S. Murray
Willian G. Murray
Charlotte G Reaves
Maribel E. Reaves
Scott A. Reaves

Deaths:

Connie Dayton
Steve Dunwoody
S. Bruce Fossett
Keith Galli
Bill Gowen
Alice Hendry
Anne Hilliard
Beverley Knudsen
Elon Marquand
Betsy Wiley

Marriages:

Katherine Evans and John Maden





Photo taken by Bishop Thomas Brown at the wedding rehearsal of Michele and Steve, January 2022