Welcome to St. John's Church



The Third Sunday of Easter: *April 26th*, 2020

The health and safety of our congregation and community is the highest concern of St. John's. Consequently, we have heeded the recommendations of our Bishops, the Standing Committee, and our government to suspend public events, to aid in the mitigation of the coronavirus in our state. We are "live streaming" our 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship on the St. John's Facebook page, at

https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT/.

Our church buildings are closed.

The Parish Office is closed.

The Parish Administrator is working mostly from home, as directed.

Parishioners are asked to contact her by office email or voice mail.

stjohnschurch@snet.net ~ 860.868.2527

PO Box 1278, Washington, CT. 06793

Liturgy notes:

EASTER: Liturgical practices at St. John's have changed during the Season of Easter in a variety of ways, to reflect the theme of renewal of life and the focus on Christ's resurrection. For instance, the opening acclamation is different, viz. "Allelulia, Christ is risen."

Moreover at St. John's, we are using Rite II throughout the season, with its shift of focus away from Christ's death and sacrifice onto the larger history of the salvation story. The High Altar has been moved out, with the celebrant facing the people, as symbolic of God's immanent presence among us as we consecrate the bread and wine at Eucharist

We return to using the Prayers of the People written by Bishop Wolf, which change weekly to reflect the lessons of the day. The priest dresses more celebratory, wearing cassock/alb, stole, and chasuble, and again chants the Sursum Corda and Preface.

On Easter Sunday, the Priest chanted the Gospel and the congregation renewed their Baptismal Vows *in lieu* of the Nicene Creed. Incense may be used. 'Christ our Passover' has become our seasonal Fraction Anthem. The silver vessels on the Altar have replaced the simpler ceramic Chalice and Paten used during Lent, and the brass candlesticks have returned to their places. Sanctus bells will be continued, and flowers will appear at the High Altar again. And until the day when our parishioners can again all come to the church physically to worship as one, the basket of blessed Palms, will be visible in the live streaming of our Services as a prophetic symbol of that day, yet to come.

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 26th, 2020

Order of Worship

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted

A prayer to be quietly prayed by all before the Service begins:

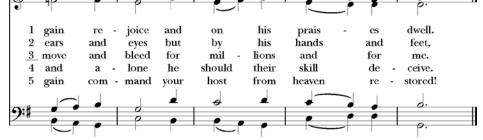
Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life- giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship

PRELUDE

Voluntary in C minor A miniature Maurice Green (1696-1755) Gordon Phillips (1908-1991)

THE OPENING HYMN Awake, Arise, lift up your voice HYMNAL 212 P lift your rise, Α wake. voice, let $\mathbf{u}\mathbf{p}$ Oh, prise with what glad ness and sur the 3 hands lib those of eral love in deedin His e mies had sealed the stone en as 5 Dead rise! Friend less stand by Eas swell; Christ, ter sic re joice insaints their Sa vior will they trust their greet; nor fi nite de those feet still free gree, 4 Ρi late gave them leave. lest dead and friend less phim dored! Sol tude a



THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



THE COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN EASTER

BCP, p. 224

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES [Acts 2:14a, 36-41]

This reading is a summary of the preaching and other activities of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. The crucified one, Jesus, has been made Lord and Christ. Now is the time for repentance, forgiveness, and the gift of the Spirit. There are many signs and healings as the church grows. The new disciples share fully with one another and meet for teaching, eucharistic meals, and prayers.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The choir chants the psalm.

PSALM 116:1-3, 10-17

Dilexi, quoniam

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, * because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me;

the grip of the grave took hold of me; *

I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *

"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

10 How shall I repay the Lord *

for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *

and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *

in the presence of all his people.

- 13 Precious in the sight of the Lord * is the death of his servants.
- 14 O Lord, I am your servant; *

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving * and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord * in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the Lord'S house, * in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

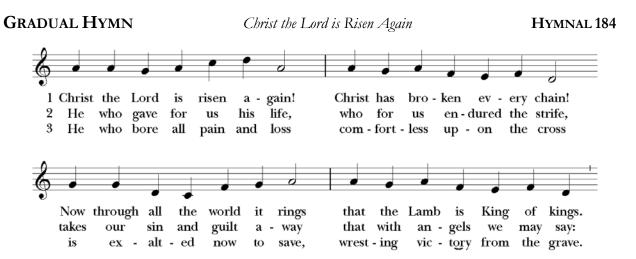
A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PETER [1:17-23]

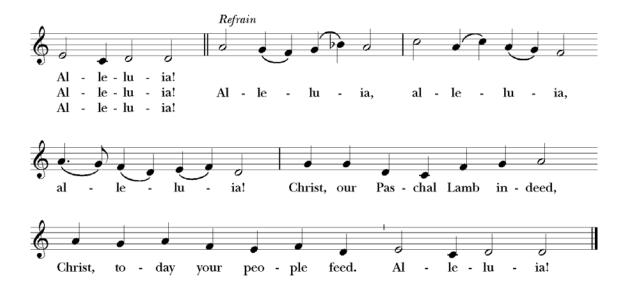
In this lesson we hear that the price of Christian freedom from the old ways of futility has been paid with the sacrificial blood of Christ. Although now we await the judgement of God the Father in awe, we have faith and hope of people who have been horn anew. The letter from which this passage comes addressed to former pagans, and may first have been read at an Easter baptismal service. Having been purified by Christ's imperishable offering, disciples are now to love one another from the heart.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.





THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE [24:13-35]

Our gospel is the story of how two disciples were met by a stranger on the road to Emmaus. That evening, as he breaks bread with them, they know the stranger to be Jesus. While they are walking together, Jesus interprets the scriptures to them, showing it was necessary that Christ should suffer. Later he disappears from their sight. While their Lord is no longer physically present, the church now knows that Jesus will disclose himself in scripture and the breaking of the bread, and sometimes through a stranger.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Iesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he

vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Geoff Hahneman

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D., and confirmed in 381 A.D., the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silver and gold did not buy us our freedom, but the self-sacrificing love of the Lamb. In thanksgiving for this blessed gift, we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

+ Open our ears and eyes to hear your word in the midst of the daily routine, to see in others your holy presence, discovering through the voices of the poor and downtrodden your cry for justice; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ Enlarge our ministry to welcome the uninitiated to receive the sacrament of baptism, opening the door for them to share in the death and resurrection of Christ, and the freedom to begin life anew; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ Inebriate our souls with your Body and Blood, the gladness and joy that fill our souls, and from which our love for one another overflows in mercy; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ Release the gift of peace wherever it is entombed in fear, that resources spent to create armaments for war may instead be given for medical centers, schools, agricultural development, and employment opportunities; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ Encourage the Church to develop new ways of communicating its message, receiving guidance from the past as new expressions are developed to speak to the present age and the generations to come; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ Give the dying an assurance of eternal life, bring comfort to the grieving, and grant the freedom of redemption to those who have entered into their eternal rest; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

Dear people of God, let us remember that gold and silver are false treasures compared to the risen Christ, in whom we continue our prayers.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP, p 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says the following

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION BCP, p. 360

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion.

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. All are invited to make a gift to support the ministry of St. John's by visiting http://stjohnswashington.com/stewardship/



OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

(Ephesians 5:2)

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Bread of the World

Trad. Scottish, arr. A.

Bullard

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

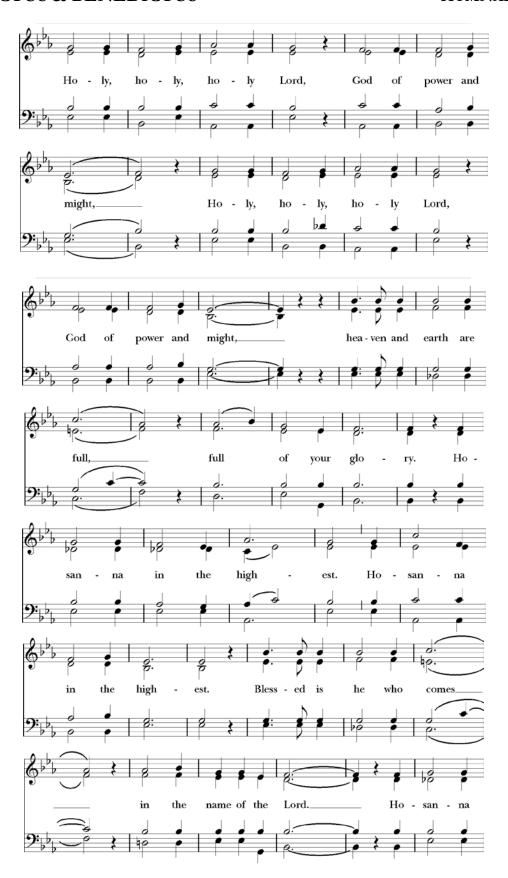
In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

The people remain standing.



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:





We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John, our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

BCP, p. 364

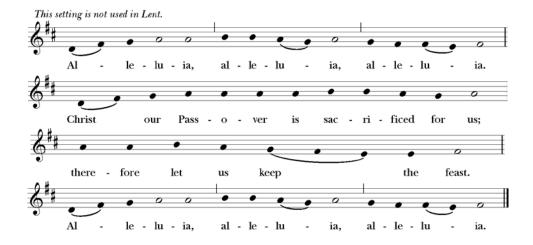
We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

HYMNAL S154



THE INVITATION

BCP, P 364

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you more than anything in the world, and I hunger to receive you. But since I cannot receive the Sacrament at this moment, feed my soul spiritually. I unite myself to you now as I do when I actually receive you in Communion. **Amen.**

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, P 366

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever...**Amen.**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



POSTLUDE

The Day of Resurrection

1940 Hymnal

A PRAYER IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC

Heavenly Father, hear our prayer.

May we who are merely inconvenienced at this time, remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors,

remember those who are most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home, remember those must choose between preserving their health or paying their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children while the schools are closed,

remember those who have no other options.

May we who have to cancel our trips, remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing money in the tumult of the economic market,

remember those who have no savings at all.

May we who must self-quarantine at home,

remember those who have no homes.

And finally as fear grips our nation,

let us choose love during this time of pandemic when we cannot physically wrap our arms around one and another,

let us find other ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors in our communities. **Amen.**

Assisting With This Morning's Liturgy

Celebrant The Reverend Dr. Geoff Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

Music Director Dr. Marguerite Mullee

Organist Jon Lafleur

Lector The Reverend Dr. Lisa DiNunno Hahneman

Cantors Dr. Marguerite Mullee

Donna Castaner

Staff

Priest-in-Charge Fr. Geoff Hahneman Music Director Dr. Marguerite Mullee

Parish Administrator Sarah Eyre Foundation Administrator Joan Burgess

Vestry

Warden David Gillespie
Warden Susan McFeely
Clerk Joan Beattie
Treasurer Larry Littlefield

Assistant Treasurer Hunter Brown

Class of 2020Class of 2021Class of 2022Rebecca LambertRobert FuthSara ColesDarcy CampbellLarry LittlefieldMary DavisCharles DubowMB WittAndris Kalnins

Office Hours and Emergencies

The Parish Office is OPEN Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. If you have a pastoral issue, please call the Parish Administrator who will arrange for someone to meet your needs.

Voice: 860-868-2527 Fax: 860-868-2823

stjohnswashington.org