

INTRODUCTION

The ancient devotion known as either the *Stations of the Cross* or the *Way of the Cross* developed as an alternative to making the difficult pilgrimage to Jerusalem and walking the Via Dolorosa, tracing the steps that Jesus walked on his way to Golgotha. Over time, custom settled on the commemoration of fourteen stations along The Way, usually marked by fourteen simple Roman numerals or even wooden crosses placed along the walls of the Nave. While the crosses can be embellished with icons or artistic renderings depicting the moments, the heart of the devotion is the movement, the spiritual progress in body or mind or both, as the pilgrim moves from station to station.

Meditating, or praying, the Stations of the Cross – either as part of a congregation or making the journey silently on one's own, either physically or contemplatively – forces us to look deeply at these last moments in Jesus' earthly life. However, the moment is artistically represented or in whatever words the moment is described, as we make this pilgrimage, we see our face reflected in the characters caught up in those events. Every human experience manifested along this way – suffering, sorrow, compassion, or cruelty – touches us in a profound way. In the course of this pilgrimage – whether we make it in body or spirit – we encounter the Incarnate Jesus who bears the burdens that belong to all of us and endures the suffering that we all inflict.

Just as walking the Stations allows us to walk The Way of the Cross in our own time and place, it allows us to let Jesus' Passion unfold in our lives in an intimate and evocative way. But whatever form our meditation on the Passion may take, we *never* remember a Jesus, crucified and dead. It is the risen and living Christ who is present with us that we worship and seek to serve. Thoughtfully and prayerfully undertaken, walking the Stations of the Cross teaches us to live as pilgrims on the ordinary pathways of life, alert to the daily possibilities of encountering the Risen Lord.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

*As the Officiant enters, all stand and join in singing Stabat Mater.
Words and music are reproduced in the back of this booklet.*

OPENING DEVOTIONS

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant We will glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

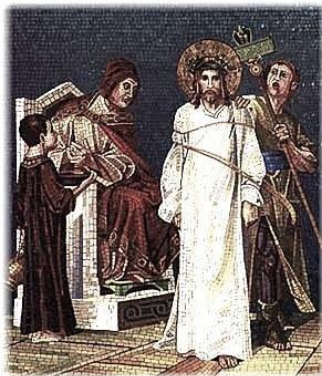
People *In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.*

Please observe a few moments of silence.

Officiant Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with thy help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby thou have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

FIRST STATION



Jesus is condemned to death

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, “He deserves to die.” When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

Officiant God did not spare his own Son:

People ***But delivered him up for us all.***

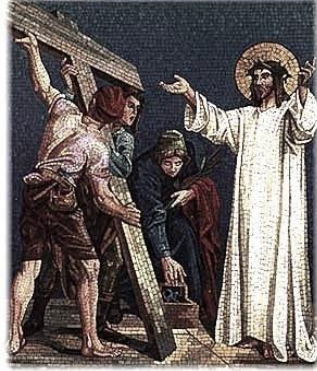
Please observe a few moments of silence.

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the Cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

SECOND STATION



Jesus takes up his Cross

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

Officiant The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:

People ***For the transgression of my people was he stricken.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the Cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow thee; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

THIRD STATION



Jesus falls the first time

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is the Lord our God.

Officiant Surely, he hast borne our grief:

People ***And carried our sorrows.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, thou knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our mortal nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

FOURTH STATION



Jesus meets his afflicted mother

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

To what can I liken thou, to what can I compare thou, O daughter of Jerusalem? What likeness can I use to comfort thou, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is thy ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. The Lord will be thy everlasting light, and thy days of mourning shall be ended.

Officiant A sword will pierce thy own soul also:

People ***And fill thy heart with bitter pain.***

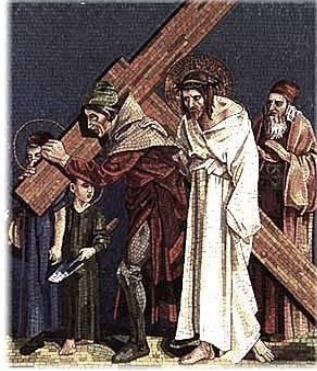
Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, who wilt that in the passion of thy Son a sword of grief should pierce the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother: Mercifully grant that thy Church, having shared with her in his passion, may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

FIFTH STATION



The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

As they led Jesus away, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the Cross to carry it behind Jesus. “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon thou, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Officiant Whoever does not bear his own cross and
come after me:

People ***Cannot be my disciple***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

SIXTH STATION



A woman wipes the face of Jesus.

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

We have seen him without beauty or majesty, with no looks to attract our eyes. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of men. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.

Officiant Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:

People ***Show the light of thy countenance, and
we shall be saved.***

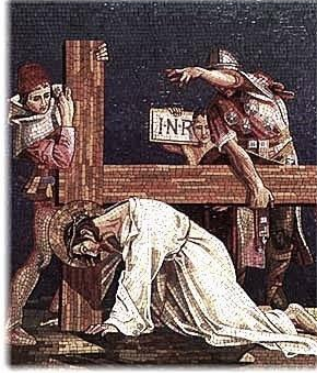
Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of thine only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

SEVENTH STATION



Jesus falls a second time

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Officiant But as for me, I am a worm and no man:

People ***Scorned by all and despised by the
people.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in thy tender love for the human race hath sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the Cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

EIGHTH STATION



Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

There followed after Jesus a great multitude of the people, and among them were women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.”

Officiant Those who sowed with tears:

People ***Will reap with songs of joy.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Teach thy Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by thy pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children’s children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

NINTH STATION



Jesus falls a third time

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath· he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light. He has besieged me and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago. Though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes. “Remember, O Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!”

Officiant He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

People ***And like a sheep that before its
shearers is mute, so he opened not his
mouth.***

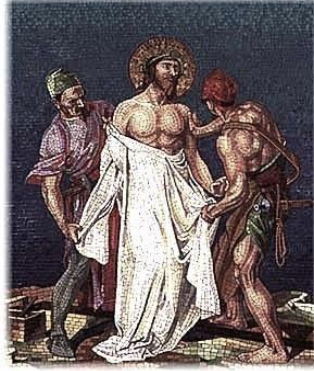
Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, by the passion of thy blessed Son thou hast made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the Cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

TENTH STATION



Jesus is stripped of his garments

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill the scripture which says, “They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.”

Officiant They gave me gall to eat:

People ***And when I was thirsty they gave me
vinegar to drink.***

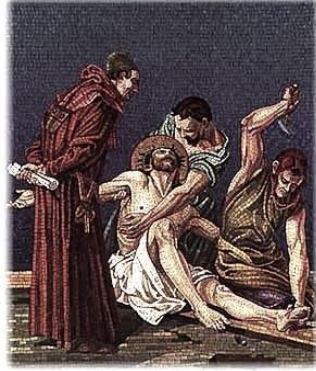
Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

ELEVENTH STATION



Jesus is nailed to the Cross

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

When they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, the other on the left, and Jesus between them. And the scripture was fulfilled which says,

“He was numbered with the transgressors.”

Officiant They pierce my hands and my feet:

People ***They stare and gloat over me.***

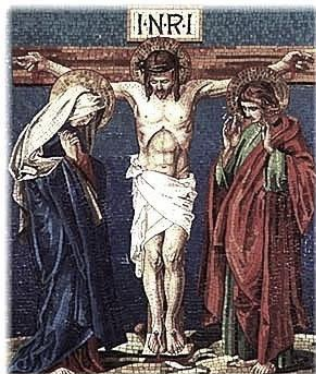
Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, thou stretched out thine arms of love upon the hard wood of the Cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our own hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

TWELFTH STATION



Jesus dies on the Cross

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold thy son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold thy mother!” And when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, “It is finished!” And then, crying with a loud voice, he said, “Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.” And he bowed his head, and handed over his spirit.

Officiant Christ for us became obedient unto death:

People ***Even death on a cross.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave thine only–begotten Son to the death of the Cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth now and for ever. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

THIRTEENTH STATION



The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

All thou who pass by, behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. My eyes are spent with weeping; my soul is in tumult; my heart is poured out in grief because of the downfall of my people. “Do not call me Naomi (which means Pleasant), call me Mara (which means Bitter); for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.”

Officiant Her tears run down her cheeks:

People ***And she has none to comfort her.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray,

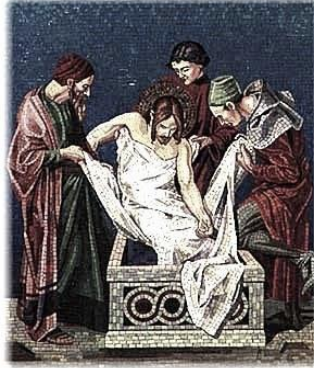
Lord Jesus Christ by thy death thou took away the sting of death: Grant unto us thy servants so to follow in faith where thou has led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in thee and wake up in thy likeness; for thy tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us join our prayers with those of Blessed Mary, Mother of Jesus, saying:

Officiant and People

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

FOURTEENTH STATION



Jesus is laid in the tomb

Officiant We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee:

People ***Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.***

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

Officiant Thou will not abandon me to the grave:

People ***Nor let thy holy One see corruption.***

Please observe a few moments of silence

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, thy blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day: Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*People join in singing, or saying, the Trisagion
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

Please return to the pews and kneel or stand as thou are able.

CONCLUDING DEVOTIONS

Officiant Savior of the world, by thy Cross and precious blood
thou hast redeemed us:

People ***Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O
Lord.***

Officiant *Please observe a few moments of silence.*

Let us pray.

We thank thee, O heavenly Father, that thou hast delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of thy Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN

*People join in singing Pange lingua
(found in the back of this booklet.)*

STABAT MATER

1. At the cross her vig - il keep - ing,
 2. With what pain and des - o - la - tion,
 3. Him she saw for our sal - va - tion,
 4. Who, on Christ's dear mo - ther gaz - ing,
 5. Je - sus, may her deep de - vo - tion

stood the mourn - ful mo - ther weep - ing,
 with what grief and res - ig - na - tion,
 mocked with cru - el ac - cla - ma - tion,
 pierced by an - guish so a - maz - ing,
 stir in me the same e - mo - tion,

where he hung, the dy - ing Lord:
 Mar - y watched her dy - ing son.
 scourged, and crowned with thorns en - twined;
 born of wo - man, would not weep?
 Fount of love, Re - deem - er kind;

there she wait - ed in her an - guish,
 Deep the woe of her af - flic - tion,
 saw him then from judg - ment tak - en,
 Who, on Christ's dear mo - ther think - ing,
 that my heart fresh ar - dor gain - ing,

see - ing Chrst in tor - ment lan - guish,
 when she saw the cru - ci - fi - xion
 and in death by all for - sak - en,
 such a cup of sor - row drink - ing
 and a pur - er love at - tain - in,

in her heart the pierc - ing sword.
 of the sole - be - got - ten one.
 till his spi - rit he re - signed.
 would not share her sor - rows deep?
 may with thee ac - cept - ance fixed.

Words: Latin, 13th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1982*

Music: Stabat Mater dolorosa, *melody from* Maintzisch Gesanbuch, 1661

TRISAGION

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

PANGE LINGUA



1 Now, my tongue, the mys - tery tell - ing of the glo - rious
 2 Given for us, and con - de - scend - ing to be born for
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing mid the twelve, his
 4 Word made flesh, the bread he tak - eth, by his word his
 *5 There - fore we, be - fore him bend - ing, this great Sac - ra -
 *6 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



1 Bo - dy sing, and the Blood, all price ex - cell - ing,
 2 us be - low, he with us in con - verse blend - ing
 3 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
 4 Flesh to be; wine his sa - cred Blood he mak - eth,
 5 ment re - vere; types and sha - dows have their end - ing,
 6 and the Son, hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



1 which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, once on earth a -
 2 dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, till he closed with
 3 keeps the feast its rites de - mand; then, more pre - cious
 4 though the sens - es fail to see; faith a - lone the
 5 for the new - er rite is here; faith, our out - ward
 6 while e - ter - nal a - ges run; ev - er too his



1 mong us dwell - ing, shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
 2 won - drous end - ing his most pa - tient life of woe.
 3 food sup - ply - ing, gives him - self with his own hand.
 4 true heart wak - eth to be - hold the mys - ter - y.
 5 sense be - friend - ing, makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.
 6 love con - fess - ing who from both with both is One.

Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?–600?)
 ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after John Mason Neale (1818–1866)
 Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, *Zisterzienser Hymnar*, 14th
 cent.

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Laura Daly: *Crucifer*

Sara Coles, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

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Parish Office Hours: *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

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St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

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

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793*

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*
Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*
Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

Mary Davis, Jay Bauer: *Wardens*
David Gillespie: *Treasurer*
Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*
Laura Daly: *Clerk*

Class of 2023

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro

Class of 2024

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Class of 2025

Worth Bracken, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt
Laura Daly: **Alternate**