



# This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Welcome to St. Andrew's Weekly E-mail Newsletter. In an effort to keep the congregation better informed we will be sending out this newsletter on Thursdays to cover events happening at the church through the following Wednesday. We hope you find it useful.



*The Mission of St. Andrew's Parish is to worship God, grow in discipleship, and share Christ's love.*

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2018

**December 8, 2024**

**2 Advent**

**8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Altar Guild: Ann Kash

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Ann Kash

Lector: Brett Donham

Ushers: Jack & Carol Dexter

Vestry Announcer: Tanya Albert

The worship booklet for the 8am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#).

**10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Organist: Sean Fleming

Choir Director: Linda Blanchard

Altar Guild: Maryanne & John Ward

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Christine Benken

Lectors: John Ward & David Blanchard

Livestream Operator: Bill Judd

Ushers: Cindy Freese & Fred Kraeuter

Vestry Announcer: Martha Elliott

The worship booklet for the 10am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#).

You can get to our Facebook page by clicking [here](#)

You can get to our Website by clicking [here](#)

**Earthkeepers Slow Gifting on December 8th**

Have you ever heard of Slow Fashion? The Earth Keepers team would like to invite you to a Slow Gifting

event at the coffee hours on December 8th. In the tradition of Slow Fashion, this is a way to regift something that is new, or nearly new, that you don't need or want anymore. All will be free for the taking, but we need you to bring in your items and leave in designated boxes in the Atrium during the week of December 2-7. The Earth Keepers will set up tables Saturday the 7th so you can peruse the wares at both coffee hours on the 8th. ***If you can't bring your items ahead of time you can still bring them on Sunday.*** Please make sure you bring in items you think others would find as a treasure. We hope everyone gets involved and enjoys the fun and fellowship!

If you would like some ideas on how to be better stewards of the planet, please click [here](#)

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### Note about the music for December 8 at 10am

Johann Ludwig Krebs (baptized 1713-1780) was a German Baroque musician and composer who wrote many works for the pipe organ. Krebs was a favorite organ student of Johann Sebastian Bach.

On December 8 I will feature a fantasia that Krebs wrote on the hymn tune "Psalm 42." This tune is used for hymn number 67 ("Comfort, comfort ye my people") in The Hymnal 1982. This tune is also known by the older title "Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele."

**This Sunday's anthem**, "People, Look East," sets the well-known poetry of Eleanor Farjeon. Commissioned by St. Andrew's Church, the anthem was composed by parishioner Richard Francis, who wrote the organ part with Sean Fleming in mind! Since its debut at St. Andrew's, "People, Look East" has become the traditional opening of the St. Cecilia Chamber Choir Lessons and Carols concerts. We're delighted to bring the piece home to St. Andrew's! Linda Blanchard

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### Knitting Group Book Club - December 12 at 3:00pm

The Knitting Book Group will be discussing Sarah Orne Jewett's *County of the Pointed Firs* on Thursday, December 12 at 3pm in the church library. It is a Maine classic and a delightful look at life in a coastal fishing village in the late 19th century. If you've read it, even long ago, or if you've never read it but are curious, come along and join us. This book group is open to all interested readers.

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### Advent Wreaths and Christmas Flowers

If you would like to give thanks for or remember your loved ones with flowers at Christmas, there are envelopes available in the back section of each pew. Please drop the completed envelopes, with your donation (cash or check made out to St. Andrew's Church) in the plate. You may also drop them off in the office or mail to St. Andrew's Church, PO Box 234, Newcastle, ME 04553. Please contact the church office (563-3533) with any questions. The names will appear in the Christmas bulletins.

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### Christmas Services at St. Andrew's

#### Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24, 2024

4:00 pm - Family Service with Holy Eucharist and Christmas Pageant

6:00pm - Holy Eucharist with festive music

#### Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25, 2024

10:00am - Holy Eucharist Rite II

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### Christmas Pageant Details

On Christmas Eve we will be having a pop-up pageant for the 4pm family service. That means it is okay for families to just show up; there is no rehearsal. We ask that you show up at 3:30. We will be handing out costumes between 3:30-3:45pm.

Children/tweens can be a shepherd, a wise person, an animal, an angel, or Mary or Joseph.

### Pageant Helpers Needed!

We need a few adults to help get our kids costumed up before the 4:00 Christmas Eve pageant. You'll

need to come at 3:15 to get familiar with what we have for costumes, then help the kids decide which character they want to be and find them a costume. The kids are supposed to arrive 3:30-3:45 but a few might come early. If you'd like to help, please contact Linda Blanchard. Thanks!

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### **Join the Bell Choir for Christmas Eve!!**

The St. Andrew's Bell Choir will begin rehearsals soon in preparation for the 6:00 Christmas Eve service, and we'd love to have you join us! Rehearsals will be either Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. or Sundays following the 10:00 Sunday service, depending on everyone's schedules. If you'd like to participate, please email Linda Blanchard.

### **Sing with Senior Choir Christmas Eve!**

If you'd like to join the Senior Choir for the 6:00 Christmas Eve service, you're most welcome! Rehearsals are Thursdays, 7:00-8:30. Just email Linda Blanchard.

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### **Family Christmas Caroling December 15**

The kids and families of St. Andrew's are planning to visit Hodgdon Green in Damariscotta at 1:00pm on Sunday, December 15 to sing Christmas carols and would like to invite any other parishioners who might want to join in the fun. If you are interested, please meet at Hodgdon Green at 1pm (carpooling would be helpful). They may continue on to visit a few St. Andrew's parishioners in their homes. Please come and sing along!

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### **Helpers and Cookies needed!**

The Fellowship Committee is planning a casual get-together between the two Christmas Eve services. It will be very simple — mulled and cold cider, coffee and cookies, and will be in the atrium. We'd like people to feel they can take a minute and drop in for a cookie and a drink and say "Merry Christmas" between the 4:00pm and 6:00pm services. We need around 200 cookies and would appreciate donations! Anyone wishing to donate should contact Laurie Gray or Ruth Piper. Cookies can be dropped off on the Sunday before, or earlier, and can go into the freezer. We'd also love to have volunteers to decorate, move chairs, etc., probably on the afternoon of Sunday the 22nd.

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## **HAITI**

For those who contributed to this spring's Lincoln County Ecumenical Committee for Haiti's money raiser for Gros Morne, Haiti, our friends there have sent a report on how they allocated the \$13,000 we raised. \$3,000 went to a homeless shelter for food and medical care; \$3,000 each went to a Catholic and an Episcopal school (run by our partner priest) for school lunches; \$3,000 to a Catholic school for teachers' salaries, and \$1,000 went to help families displaced by violence. The good news is that the schools are functioning well there. The bad news is that food prices in Haiti are very high because of gang extortions and gang violence has come to the outskirts of Gros Morne. Our friends in Gros Morne thank us for our help and send their blessings. Frazier Meade

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### **Stewardship update:**

Our annual giving campaign continues. As of December 3, St. Andrew's has received 75 pledges for a total of \$247,256. We thank those who have pledged for your generosity and financial commitment to St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's is a blessing to our community and to each of us. Thank you.

There are additional pledge cards and envelopes on the usher's table in the back of the church if you have not yet received one or you may contact the church office (563-3533)

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## **Holy Women, Holy Men**

**Francis Xavier  
First Jesuit Missionary, Priest**

On almost every day of the year, the Episcopal Church honors faithful followers of Jesus who went before us. Every Wednesday at St. Andrew's during our Healing Eucharist, we remember one of more of these Holy Men and Women. We take time to remember these people for three important reasons. First, they deserve to be remembered. The people chosen for our calendar are remembered because they were particularly remarkable followers of Jesus. The second reason we remember them is because in remembering we are connected to Christians throughout time. And last but not least, we remember them because in remembering we can learn how to be better followers of Jesus in our day and time.

This week we remember Francis Xavier. Please click [here](#) to learn more about him.

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### **First Sunday plate recipient for December: Stepping Stone Housing**

Thanks to your generous donations last Sunday, St. Andrew's was able to send \$826 to help support the mission of Stepping Stone Housing.

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### **St. Andrew's Church Calendar**

St. Andrew's Church calendar is available online. If you would like to access it, please click [here](#)

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### **Weekday Worship**

Compline: Monday-Friday 8:30 PM  
Zoom Meeting

Wednesday Healing Service: Wednesdays at 11:30am

**Please note: The next luncheon after this service will be on Wednesday, January 8**

### **Meetings**

Benedictine Group: 10:00 AM Wednesday  
Zoom Meeting

**Please note: The Benedictine Group will not meet on the following Wednesdays: 12/25 (Christmas Day) and 1/1 (New Year's Day).**

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays

All welcome: knitters, non-knitters and everything in between.  
Meeting in the Undercroft unless otherwise announced.

St. Andrew's Choir Rehearsal: Thursdays at 7:00pm. Please contact the choir director, Linda Blanchard or the organist, Sean Fleming if you are interested in more information about the choir.

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### **Upcoming Concerts in December**

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**Boston Camerata Christmas Concert**  
A Medieval Christmas:  
Hodie Christus Natus Est

Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 3:00pm  
Lincoln Theater, Damariscotta  
Tickets: \$35 in advance online; \$40 at the door  
BOSTONCAMERATA.ORG

To view the poster, please click [here](#)

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## St. Cecilia Chamber Choir: A Concert of Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 7 at 3:00pm at Damariscotta Baptist Church

Saturday, December 14 at 3:00pm at Bowdoin College Chapel

Tickets \$20

Tickets are available at the door, Sherman's Maine Coast Book Shop, Damariscotta, or online at [ceciliachoir.org](http://ceciliachoir.org)

If you would like to read more about the concert, please click [here](#). If you would like to view the poster for the concert, please click [here](#)

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### Intercessory Prayer List

*"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)*

*We pray for those who are ill or with special needs:*

Rob & Irma Hargreaves, Alan Hargreaves, Phil Bartley, Val Gorrill, Tom Belanger, Dick, Tyler & Christine, Bruce & Julie, Cynthia Troxel, Nathan Hargreaves, Janice Roman, Shelby Owen, Beth, Dennis C., Drew Havens, Emily Goodspeed, Anne Ogden, Tony Sousa, Joanne Sousa, Ian J., Emily Goodchild, Jean Donaldson, Lee & Mike.

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### St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

PO Box 234, 11 Glidden St.

Newcastle, ME 04553

(207) 563-3533

E-mail: [stasnew@tidewater.net](mailto:stasnew@tidewater.net)

Web site: [standrewsnewcastle.org](http://standrewsnewcastle.org)

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Senior Warden: Sara Sandberg - Junior Warden: Kelley Kash

Clerk: Terry Marsh - Treasurer: Mark Freese

Organist: Sean Fleming - Choir Director: Linda Blanchard

Parish Administrator: Ann Kash

Ministers: All Members of the Parish

[Visit our Website](#)

St Andrews Church | P.O. Box 234, 11 Glidden Street | Newcastle, ME 04553 US

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