



This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, December 11, 2025

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

3 Advent

December 14, 2025

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Altar Guild: Ann Kash

Eucharistic Minister: Malcolm Foster

Lector: Seth Stewart

Ushers: Kelley & Ann Kash

Vestry Announcer: Kelley Kash

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: Nora Lundeen

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Lundeen

Lectors: Steve Ward & Jeanne Titherington

Livestream Operator: Bill Judd

Ushers: Sara Sandberg & Belinda Nields

Vestry Announcer: Sara Sandberg

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

You may also watch this service on St. Andrew's YouTube channel. (Live or recorded)

Slow Gifting and Bake Sale this Sunday

Please check out the Slow Gifting table in the undercroft this Sunday and feel free to take home a treasure or give it as a gift. It is a way of recycling things in good condition, or never used, that you would

like to find another home for. The Good Samaritans will be holding a bake sale in conjunction with this event. Supporting both organizations' events is a good way to kick off the holiday giving spirit.



Helpers and Cookies needed!

St. Andrew's is planning a casual get-together between the two Christmas Eve services this year. It will be very simple — mulled and cold cider, coffee and cookies, and will be held 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! Cookies can be dropped off on the Sunday before (12/21) or during office hours (10am-2pm) on Monday (12/22) and Tuesday (12/23). If anyone would like to help set up the afternoon of 12/23 or would like to help at the event, please contact Kelley Kash



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. The deadline to have names printed in the Christmas bulletins is Thursday, December 18.



Christmas Services at St. Andrew's

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24, 2025

4:00 pm - Family Service with Holy Eucharist

(This service will be livestreamed to St. Andrew's YouTube Channel)

Please note: There will be cookies and hot cider in the atrium between the services

6:00pm - Holy Eucharist with festive music

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25, 2025

10:00am - Holy Eucharist Rite II

Stewardship Message

The vestry and stewardship committee are deeply grateful for the pledges that have come in so far. We have received 68 pledges for a total of \$242,465. While we have made good progress towards the goal we need for our 2026 budget, we still have a way to go. Last year's results of 89 pledges and \$260,000 set the standard. Let's do all we can to accomplish this goal. If you haven't yet, please consider pledging to St. Andrew's Church. There are pledge cards available on the usher's table in the back of the church, or you may email the office (stasnew@tidewater.net) to have a card sent to you. Many, many thanks.

Coffee Hour Hosts needed

Coffee hour volunteers needed: We have now returned to a two-service schedule, which means two separate Coffee Hours. This means we will need twice as many volunteers to help us enjoy each other's company over coffee and treats. Coffee Hour hosts will continue to be responsible for set-up, coffee making, providing cream/milk and juice, and clean-up. The rest of us are encouraged to bring treats to coffee hour as the spirit moves us. If you'd like to host after either the 8am service or the 10am service, please contact Sara Sandberg or sign up on the clipboard in the Undercroft.



Winter Weather

In case of icy or snowy weather, please check your email or the church phone message

(563-3533) for any service changes due to the weather.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is looking for a couple of new members. People who are interested in helping to make sure the church is financially stable are welcome. The committee reviews financial reports and makes recommendations to the vestry to support programs in a fiscally responsible way. Please contact the Finance Committee Chair, Lili Pugh if you are interested.

Carpooling

"The Earth Keepers are reminding us that as snow accumulates, car pooling to church is a wise practice. Let's have lower emissions and fewer cars competing for space. Some of us would appreciate not having to navigate a snowbank or walking a distance on slippery ground. Some of us no longer drive but would like to get to church. There's a car pooling sign up at the rear of the church. Or call someone you know who would appreciate your friendly transportation on Sunday morning."

Knitting Group Book Club

The next Knitting Group Book Club meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18 at 2:30pm in the church library. The book will be Gilead by Marilynne Robinson. Please join us - all are welcome!



St. Andrew's Church Calendar

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

First Sunday Outreach Recipient for December: Trinity Jubilee Center

Thanks to your donations last Sunday, St. Andrew's was able to send \$464 to the Trinity Jubilee Center. Thank you for your support of this mission.

Weekday Worship

Compline: The Compline service held Monday evenings has been put on hold for the time being.

Wednesday Healing Service: Wednesdays at 11:30am

Please note: The next luncheon after this service will be on Wednesday, January 7.

Meetings

Benedictine Group: 10:00 AM Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Senior Choir rehearsal: 7-9pm Thursdays

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays
All welcome: knitters, non-knitters and everything in between.
Meeting in the church library unless otherwise announced.

Upcoming Concerts

St. Cecilia Chamber Choir

St. Cecilia Chamber Choir will present its popular annual Lessons and Carols Christmas concerts on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 4:00 p.m. at Bowdoin College Chapel in Brunswick, and Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4:00 p.m. at Damariscotta Baptist Church. Linda Blanchard is St. Cecilia's artistic director, assisted by organist Sean Fleming. Advance tickets are strongly encouraged for these concerts.

A beautiful new setting of the Gerard Manley Hopkins poem "The Bethlehem Star" by former King's Singers member Bob Chilcott will be featured. The John Rutter favorites "Sing We To This Merry Company" and "Past Three O'Clock" will be performed, as well as Richard Francis' ever-popular "People, Look East" based on Eleanor Farjeon's Christmas poem. The Choir will sing a jazz-influenced setting of the Thomas Hardy poem "The Oxen" by former Swingle Singers music director Jonathan Rathbone. And

"Drop Down, Ye Heavens" by the phenomenal organist Anna Lapwood. Also featured will be works by Stanford, Archer, and Taylor Scott Davis. A professional string quartet will accompany the group on select pieces. As a special treat, Eric Whitacre's "Glow," composed for the "World of Color – Winter Dreams" show which premiered at Disney California Adventure Park in California, will be performed.

With audience sing-along caroling using several of David Willcocks' arrangements, this concert is sure to be a treat for the whole family.

Tickets are \$25 for the Bowdoin Chapel concert and \$20 for the Damariscotta Baptist Church concert. Admission is free for students and children. Tickets are available online at ceciliachoir.org, and at Sherman's Maine Coast Book Shop in Damariscotta. For more information, please email info@ceciliachoir.org, or visit facebook.com/stceciliachamberchoir and ceciliachoir.org.

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, Beth, Tony Sousa, Joanne Sousa, Ian J., Emily Goodchild, Jennie Zerges, Elizabeth Lyon, Bill Namestnik, Robin Schneider, Susan & Fred Murray, Nicole & Family, Susan O'Brien.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

PO Box 234, 11 Glidden St.
Newcastle, ME 04553
(207) 563-3533

E-mail: stasnew@tidewater.net
Web site: standrewsnewcastle.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Senior Warden: Sara Sandberg - Junior Warden: Kelley Kash
Clerk: - Treasurer: Ed Ross
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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