

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



This year, we have an early Easter, which, of course, means we have an early Lent. It seems as if we just finished Christmas, yet Lent is upon us.

I want to invite us this Lent to adopt a spiritual discipline of radical love. I invite us to take one action each day that demonstrates how much we love another person. I'd also like to ask us to take at least one of those actions each week toward someone we struggle to love. (Obviously, don't share with them what you are doing.) I encourage us to journal, draw, or otherwise record how we feel as we undertake these loving actions. In particular, I invite us to record any transformation God makes in us.

I hope that whether you undertake this discipline or not, you will have a holy Lent, creating a vessel within your souls that God will fill anew with the coming of Easter.

Randi+



Join Us Sundays

10:45

In-Person or on Zoom

Sunday School at 10:30

StAndrewsBurt.com

*St. Andrew's
Seeks to Share
the Unconditional
Love of God*



Christmas Pageant 2022



Diocese

Welcome, Canon Abbott Bailey!

On January 3, we welcomed the Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey to the staff as partnership canon for strategy and chief operating officer. In her new role, she serves as chief of staff for the partnership, providing the structure and support that will allow our canons who have been deployed in congregations to pursue both their diocesan responsibilities and congregational ministries even more effectively.

Bailey, who moved to Buffalo three days before the historic blizzard began on December 23 with her dogs, Thunder and Alice, joins us after 18 months as interim canon to the ordinary in the Diocese of Virginia. She has also served as canon to the ordinary in the Diocese of California, in parishes in Richmond, Virginia, and as a school chaplain and co-executive director of an Episcopal Service Corps program.

Born and raised in West Virginia, Bailey worked in nonprofit health care, health policy, and health philanthropy before attending Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and being ordained to the priesthood in 2005.

Canon Bailey can be reached at abailey@episcopalpartnership.org and in the office in Tonawanda at 716.881.0660.



From Pastor Randi

The Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey will be with us on March 26 to preach. She is the new canon for strategy and chief operating officer of the diocese. I encourage everyone to come and bring a friend. I want her to see how special and vibrant we are.

Randi+



Reminder: Beware of "Whaling" Email Scams

A particular variety of cyber attack, called whaling, is making the rounds once again in our partnership dioceses. These new emails purport to be from a member of the clergy or another church leader, and ask the recipient to send a copy of the church directory via email.

Please remind members of your congregation to confirm the email address on any suspicious emails purporting to be from a member of the clergy (the address may be similar but not exactly correct). They should know that church leaders will never email asking for a copy of the church directory, gift cards, or a transfer of money or confidential information via email.

If you receive fake emails like this, please do not respond. Instead, forward it to communications@episcopalpartnership.org as soon as possible so we can report it.

Around Our Parish

Congratulations and Thank You to Our Newest Leaders!

Warden: Lynn Schauer-Bewley

Vestry: Melissa Bleiler & Tom Villeneuve

Deanery / Convention Delegates: Janelle Dengate, Cynthia Harrington & Sue Villeneuve

Hospice Bouquets

February 12th is the last day to order Spring Bouquets. The order form is on the Bulletin Table.

Altar Flower Donations

If you would like to donate flowers for the Sunday Altar, please reserve your date on the Flower Chart (Narthex Bulletin Board) and submit a check to Jackie Jordan for \$50, payable to Cindy Davis.

St. Andrew's
STRONG
Honoring Traditions
Imagining Possibilities

Lockport CARES Press Release

Lockport CARES is Eastern Niagara's only Emergency Homeless Shelter.

Our doors and hearts are open every day of the year, serving people in need with shelter and compassion through the love of Jesus. Our guests are provided with a warm, safe and secure place to live for up to 10 business days, as well as encouragement and guidance as they search for more permanent housing. They are given 3 meals a day, laundry service and personal care supplies as needed. Each day as they return to the shelter, a warm comforting meal awaits them, along with smiles and lots of love.

Our goal, through this campaign, is to raise the funds needed to cover the costs of providing shelter to our guests, in their time of need. When our guests arrive at our door, they are feeling vulnerable, helpless and often at the end of their rope.

Our joy is to be the one at their side, encouraging them that God has great plans for their life... and then asking, "How can I help?"

Come walk with us... as we walk beside those who have lost their way. Each step you take will make a difference in someone's life, who has lost direction. Or.... we invite you to support our walkers, knowing that you will be a huge part of the journey of our guests.

On February 25th, Coldest Night Of The Year, come join the thousands who will be walking that night... in cities all over the continent. All you have to do is go to www.cnoy.com, and sign up to start a team or join a team or make a donation or sign up to volunteer to help on February 25th... and get crazy excited about making a huge difference in the lives of so many!

Between 4 and 7pm on February 25th, we'll be walking either a 2.5K or a 5K walk, starting out at Christ Community Church located at 140 Genesee Street, in Lockport. Upon returning to the church, you'll be given a warm welcome to come inside and have some hot chili and treats.

For more information or with any questions, please feel free to call Lockport CARES office Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 and 4:30 at 716-438-2273. Also, you can email your questions to info@lockportcares.org or contact the event coordinator, Ruth Verratti, at ruthiepearl@gmail.com.

Come walk with us...and feel what it would be like, to be outside on a cold night, with no place to go. This will warm your heart.

Visit <https://cnoy.com/locations/lockport> to signup to walk, donate, volunteer or share.

Ruth
Event Coordinator

Verratti

Coldest Night of the Year

What? A National event to help raise awareness of the homelessness in our country and to raise needed funds for Lockport CARES Homeless Shelter. Funds raised will to help cover the costs of providing shelter for our homeless population.

When? Sat. February 25th between 4 pm ad 7 pm

Where? Begins at Christ Community Church 140 Genesee St in Lockport

How? Sign up to walk, donate or volunteer at <https://cnoy.com/locations/lockport>

Yummy Recipes

From Our Famous 2011 Cookbook



CARROT CAKE

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 c. white sugar | 1½ c. chopped nut meats |
| 2 c. sifted flour | 5 eggs |
| 1 c. Wesson oil | 1 tsp. salt |
| 2 c. grated carrots | 2 rounded tsp. cinnamon |
| 1 c. crushed pineapple, drained | 2 tsp. baking soda |

Combine sugar, flour, salt, cinnamon and soda. Combine oil, eggs, carrots and pineapple. Beat by hand about 2 minutes. Add dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. Add nut meats and stir thoroughly. Bake in 2 (9-inch) pans or 1 oblong pan. Bake for 45 minutes at 350°. Frost when cool.

Cream Cheese Frosting for Carrot Cake:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese | 2 tsp. vanilla |
| ½ stick (4 T.) butter | 3 c. confectioners' sugar, sifted |

Cream cheese until soft, add butter, vanilla and sugar. Beat about 5 minutes.

Shirley A. Litz

COCONUT DELIGHTS (FRY PAN COOKIES)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 c. butter | ½ c. fine chopped walnuts |
| 1 beaten egg | 2 c. Rice Krispies |
| 1 c. white sugar | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 c. dates, cut fine | 14 oz. Angel Flake coconut |

Melt butter in large frying pan, add sugar, beaten egg and dates. Cook until thickened about 5 minutes. Add vanilla, nuts and Rice Krispies. Mix well. Form into balls and roll in coconut while warm. Approximately 5 dozen.

Sharon Rhodes

MY OMA'S PISTACHIO CAKE

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 pkg. instant pistachio pudding
- 4 eggs

- 1 c. water
- ½ c. sour cream
- ½ c. oil

At medium speed, mix all ingredients in a large mixing bowl for 2 minutes. Pour into a greased and floured bundt pan and bake at 350° for 50 to 55 minutes. Top with your favorite glaze.

Lynn Schauer-Bewley

BANANA BREAD

- ½ c. shortening
- 1 c. sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 T. water or vanilla
- 1¼ c. mashed banana
- 1 tsp. soda

- 1 tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 c. flour
- ¼ tsp. nutmeg (opt.)
- ½ c. chopped walnuts

Combine all dry ingredients together. Add to sugar, shortening, eggs in large bowl. Beat in bananas and dry ingredients. Blend well. Bake at 350° oven for 40 to 50 minutes. Leave in pans 15 to 20 minutes.

Jean Mayer

UNCLE LEN'S CHOCOLATE CHIP PUDDING COOKIES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 3½ c. all-purpose flour | 1 (6-oz.) serving pkg. Jello brand chocolate instant pudding |
| 1½ tsp. baking soda | 1½ tsp. vanilla |
| 1½ c. butter, softened | 3 eggs |
| 1 c. firmly packed light brown sugar | 3 c. chocolate chips |
| ½ c. granulated sugar | 1½ c. chopped nuts (opt.) |

Mix flour with baking soda. Combine butter, the sugars, pudding mix and vanilla in a large mixing bowl, beat until smooth and creamy. Beat in eggs. Gradually add flour mixture; then stir in chips and nuts. (Batter will be stiff.) Drop by rounded teaspoon onto ungreased baking sheet about 2 inches apart. Bake at 375° for 8 to 10 minutes. Makes about 10 dozen.

Darcy Buchanan

Sermon

Pastor Randi, 01.15.23

I want to start today with the words of Teresa of Avila, a 16th-century Spanish mystic.

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
no hands but yours,
no feet but yours,
Yours are the eyes through which to look out Christ's compassion to the world;
Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good;
Yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now.*

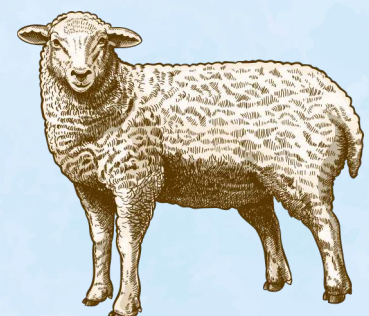
The point of Teresa's poem is that we are to be Jesus in the world. We are to love as Jesus did, forgive as Jesus did, show compassion as Jesus did. We are to participate in Jesus's mission as the Lamb of God.

John the Baptizer uses the phrase Lamb of God to refer to Jesus. That title for Jesus is a powerful one that refers to Jesus giving Himself as the Passover Lamb to atone for or wash away our sins and those of the whole world. The title also has other origins relevant to our call to be Jesus in the world.

According to both Jewish and Roman cosmology, God created the lamb (or Aries) as the first celestial body, so the lamb symbolized the leader of cosmic changes in the universe. The ancient people believed that when the sky returned to its position at the time of creation, the Lamb would be at the head of the cosmos. So, by ushering in a new sky and land, the Lamb of God wipes away everything that occurred before. So, all the sins of the world and evil ways of living cease to exist. It is a new beginning. [i] So when we live as if Jesus is embodied in us, we become a part of that new beginning. We became co-creators in God's re-creation of a different world.

Our calling as Christians is to live as new creatures in a new world of love, forgiveness, and compassion. Our calling as Christians is to pray for the transformation of the world and to do all we can to bring that new world about, starting with ourselves. In this way, we have the same call as Isaiah, Andrew, and Simon Peter. We are called to embody God and to bring God's love into the world.

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Sermon

Pastor Randi, 01.15.23 *continued**continued from page 7*

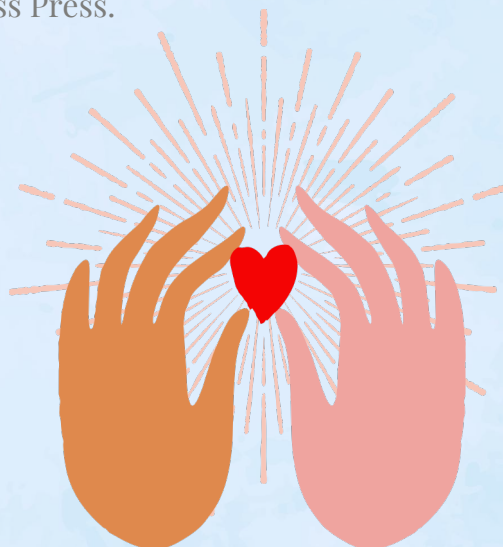
Of course, loving as Jesus does isn't as easy as it sounds. We often fall short of that goal no matter how much we try to embody Jesus. When we do, we can remember that God forgives our mistakes. We also can remember that the very act of following Jesus faithfully every day leads to transformation. The more we faithfully follow Jesus, the more we will look, act, and embody Jesus. Consider Simon. He spent time with Jesus and became a new creature. He became the Rock. His faith became the foundation of the Church.

Also, like Isaiah, we may find that we keep loving and trying to move the world to be a more loving place only to have our work rejected by the world. We may be frustrated because God calls us to continue to love and encourage others to love despite that rejection. We may, however, be comforted as we realize that Andrew and Peter experienced the same frustrations. Indeed, even Jesus did. Jesus's vision of a loving world was just too much for the leaders of His time.

We also may find comfort when loving is difficult in knowing that the call to embody Jesus isn't just to us as individuals. It is also to the community – St. Paul's and St. Andrews -- and the whole community of saints. The community is to bring about the transformation of the world. As individuals, we gain encouragement in community, and we gain power in community. When we all work together to be Jesus in the world, we can make a difference.

We are called to be Jesus in the world. Indeed, as "Christians," we share His Name. Our call is to see the world through compassionate eyes, to bless others, and to love as Jesus did. Our call is to practice this love no matter what, just as Jesus did. Our call is to this love as individuals and as a community. As we faithfully answer this call, God will transform us. And, in that transformation, we'll be part of creating that new world.

[i] Malina, B. J., & Rohrbaugh, R. L. (1998). *Social-Science Commentary on the Gospel of John* (pp. 51–52). Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.



Sermon

Pastor Randi, 01.29.23

The Beatitudes are one of the best-known passages in the Bible, and they describe how we are called to live in a relationship with God and others. When we look at the list: “Blessed are the meek, blessed are the poor in spirit,” etc., we realize rather quickly that they are counter-cultural. How many people ever got ahead by being meek or realizing they needed God to make it through life? Indeed, meek people are often laughed at and taken advantage of in this world.

Also, these Beatitudes build on each other. For example, a person who is poor in spirit realizes that they need God. So, they then hunger and thirst for righteousness, which, of course, is of God. When the hunger for righteousness becomes a part of their hearts, people look at the world and mourn, grieved at seeing many situations when righteousness is absent. When a person continues to exhibit these counter-cultural traits, they will stand out. They’ll be persecuted for standing out. I could go on, but you see how they all relate. The Beatitudes describe a person who knows God as merciful, righteous, and a bringer of peace, and models his or her life after God. The Beatitudes describe what we aim for as disciples of God – not always what we can do. Indeed, when we actually seek to adapt these Beatitudes to our life, we quickly become poor in spirit, realizing that we can’t live as we should without God’s help.

We are not alone. The Israelites struggled with this too. The prophet Micah speaks of a time when the Israelites had gone far afield from what God wanted from them. If we read beyond the eight verses of Micah that we’ve been given, we’ll see that God is indicting Israel because their society condones cheating others, violence by the rich against the poor, and lying. Rather like we often see in our society today. We watch or read the news and see examples of cheating; often, the wealthy cheat the less fortunate. We see examples of lying. We see a world that isn’t in line with the Beatitudes. We see a world at odds with Micah 6:8, which is a summary of the Beatitudes, “do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.”

Israel had some just and righteous folk, I’m sure. Just as we have righteous folk today. But, these righteous folk were few. They also may have feared persecution, so they failed to stand up to those cheating or hurting others. The call to discipleship involves living as righteous and peaceful people and working to create a moral and peaceful world. Indeed, our worship of God requires that we not only try to live according to the Beatitudes ourselves but also work with God’s spirit to create a world that aligns with these Beatitudes. Worship isn’t just what we do in this sacred space. Worship means the work of God’s people and what we do to bring about God’s righteousness and peace in the world.

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Sermon

Pastor Randi, 01.29.23 *continued*

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I invite you this week to consider ways that you can worship God in this way. I also invite you to discern how we, as a community of faith, can work to bring about a world that aligns with the world described in the Beatitudes.

To start the discernment, here are some examples. Here is a vision for how we might live out the Beatitudes in the world.

- We speak the truth. Of course, we do it in love and humility. But we don't hesitate to do it. When we see a person or system taking advantage of the poor or elderly, we speak out.
- We watch what we say. Sometimes we want to be perceived as intelligent or knowledgeable, so we pass along information about a friend or acquaintance that is untrue and may put them in an unfavorable light. Words and accusations can seriously damage a person's reputation. In extreme cases, they can drive a person to depression or other mental illnesses. Speaking ill of another person also violates their dignity as a person created in the image of God. It also poisons our minds, as well. We may even take watching what we say more broadly. When we hear others gossiping and spreading rumors or disparaging comments about others, we stand against this. Either we speak the truth in love or take a stand and leave the conversation.
- We keep our promises. When we say we will do something, we honor our commitment.
- We don't allow ourselves to be talked into hurting others or disregarding their needs because these causes are unpopular or inconvenient.
- We give our money and other resources (such as talent and knowledge) to those institutions and organizations that support justice, mercy, and bringing people together in peace. We recognize that all of us are poor in spirit, whether we acknowledge it or not, and we also give our resources to organizations that help connect people with the Spirit of God. The more people in the world who become disciples and strive to live according to these Beatitudes, the closer to God's kingdom our all community will become.
- We realize that we need God. We can't come close to living into these attributes unless we remain closely connected with God.

Kindness, doing and advocating for justice, peacemaking, and being humble before our God are key discipleship traits. If we live into them as individuals and in community, we can change the world. Indeed, we can make these attributes a part of the dominant culture. And, in doing that, we will have brought about the kingdom of God.

Outreach

Our Little Roses

Dear Friends of Our Little Roses,

Happy New Year! May 2023 bring happiness and blessings to each day. May each day also bring our prayers for the well-being of our 65+ girls at Our Little Roses, San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

This year is a special one for OLR as it marks the 35th anniversary for the start of this ministry. There is much to celebrate in the successes and miracles that have transformed the lives of girls who otherwise would have been lost. The needs are always there but also hope, commitment and faith for each girl.

So please save the date of Wednesday, March 29, from 6pm -9pm, for a fundraising celebration to take place at The Grill at the Dome, 175 Brompton Rd., Tonawanda. There will be a buffet dinner, short program and basket raffle. This is replacing the tea that was held in the past so we are looking forward to seeing familiar faces. More information will be coming concerning tickets, etc.

Please save the date.
Please donate a basket.
Please spread the word.
Please be part of this.

Sincerely,
WNY OLR Committee

Sharey Edholm
shareyedholm@yahoo.com
716-465-2467

Kathy Barton
mkbarton@twc.com
716-534-1498

Newfane Food Pantry

Dear Friends and Supporters of the
Newfane Community Food Pantry,

Many loving hands and caring hearts have made this year's Christmas Food Sharing a wonderful success. The Newfane Community assisted 104 local families in the month of December who were having a difficult time making ends meet. Without each and everyone's support and belief in our work to feed the hungry, this mission would not have been possible. God bless you and thank you again for your expression of love during this Christmas season. May the Lord bless you all with increased Faith, Hope, and Love in the New Year to come. Praise God...

Jesus said "you feed them" Mark 6:37

Blessings,

Kathy
NCFP Co- Coordinator



From Your Warden

First, a great big “thank you” to Jamie and Dorothy for their leadership and dedication to our church during their Vestry terms. A second “thank you” to Lynn who as her vestry term came to an end, agreed to continue her service in the Warden position. Now we welcome Melissa and Tom to our Vestry as we continue to “honor traditions and imagine possibilities”. While serving on Vestry is a very visible leadership role, we all play a part in our church family. Whether you sing, care for the altar, bring a coffee hour treat, care for the grounds, give a smile during the peace, assist with the Bazaar or Fish Fry, you are a part of the living body of our parish and an important team player! Remember that your Vestry is a group of people who strive to do the best for our church, so we encourage you to speak openly to us about any ideas or concerns you may have.

With Faith and Love,
Sarah



*Please Bake!
Desserts Are
Needed Every
Week!*



St. Andrew's Famous FISH FRY

Fridays, February 17th - March 31st

4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

\$15 Adults, \$7 Children

Choice of Fish or Shrimp

Choice of Fries or Potato Salad

Cole Slaw & Bread w/Butter

Surprise Homemade Dessert!



Curbside Take-Out Only
Call 716-778-7633 to Order



Orders Starting at 2:00

Pick Up Begins at 4:00

Please Enter on West Creek Road

Cash or Charge Accepted

New This Year! Manhattan Clam Chowder!

Starting February 24th, Manhattan Clam Chowder is available during Friday's Fish Fry. \$5 for a 16oz bowl.

Call with your order or order when you arrive!

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Wilson-Burt & West Creek Roads, Burt, NY

StAndrewsBurt.com

Schedules

February

Lay Readers

5 – Dorothy Cheasty & Jerry Harrington
12 – Liz Depew
19 – Sue Villeneuve
22 – Ash Wed, TBA
6 – Jamie Gailie & Sharon Rhodes

Zoom

5 – Jerry Harrington
12 – Pam Leibring
19 – Jamie Gailie
26 – Lynn Schauer-Bewley

Altar

Janelle Dengate & Sue Villeneuve

Collection Counters

The Depews

Community Store

Wednesday 11 am - 4 pm
Thursday 10 am - 4 pm
Friday 12 pm - 3 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

March

Lay Readers

5 – Dorothy Cheasty & Jerry Harrington
12 – Jamie Gailie & Sharon Rhodes
19 – Liz Depew
6 – Sue Villeneuve

Zoom

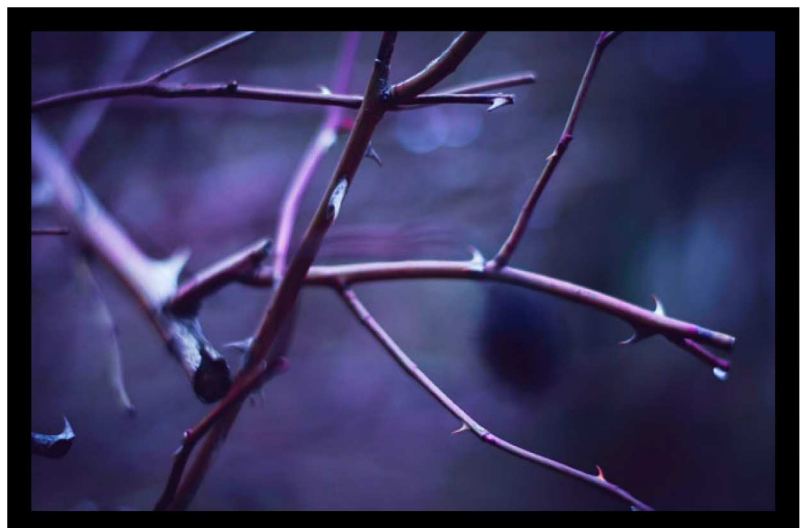
TBA

Altar

Jackie Jordan & Prudy Waters

Collection Counters

The Mayers



Calendar

February

- 8 – Vestry 7 pm
- 12 – Leadership Breakfast 9:15 am
- 17 – First Fish Fry
- 19 – Rehab Service
- 20 – Office Closed, President's Day
- 22 – Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm
- 28 – Staff Meeting 5:30 pm

March

- 8 – Vestry 7 pm
- 19 – Rehab Service
- 28 – Staff Meeting 5:30 pm

**Fish Fry
Every Friday
February 17-March 31st**

***Sunday, March 26th:
The Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey
to Preach***



***Sunday, April 2nd:
Palm Sunday
& Community Easter Egg Hunt***

St. Andrew's Newsletter

Office Manager: Shawn Slother

Music Director & Organist: Joe Brezka, Jr.

Music Associate: Evan Bleiler

Treasurer: Doug Wintersteen

Sexton: Jerilyn Carney

St. Andrew's Community Store: Cynthia Harrington

Church School Superintendent: Nancy Pestinger

Choir Librarian: Shirley Litz

Altar Guild Director: Jackie Jordan

Deanery / Convention Delegates:

Sue Villeneuve

Cynthia Harrington

Janelle Dengate

February/March 2023

Bishop of Western New York: Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe

Rector: The Very Reverend Randi Hicks Rowe

Deacon: Martha Farone

Wardens

Sarah Horngvist

Lynn Schauer-Bewley

Vestry

Nancy Pestinger

Steve Clark

Jerry Harrington

Pam Leibring

Melissa Bleiler

Tom Villeneuve

St. Andrew's Newsletter

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
2239 West Creek Road
P.O. Box 133
Burt, New York 14028-0133

Dated Material

To: