

KINGSTON CRIER

APRIL 2020

P. O. Box 471

Mathews, VA 23109

804-725-2175

kingstonparish@verizon.net

www.kpepiscopal.org

The Rector's Visions

One of my favorite saints is a woman whose name we do not even know. We know she lived in Norwich, England and was born about 1343. She eventually took the name of the parish church where she prayed which is St. Julian's – probably Julian of Antioch who died a martyr sometime in the early 4th century. At any rate, Julian of Norwich, lived in the small cathedral city in the 14th century that was characterized by three rounds of bubonic plague. In 1373, when she was about 30, she became deathly ill. The parish priest came to her bedside and set a large crucifix in front of her. Staring at the crucifix in her fevered state, she experienced 16 visions of Jesus on the cross telling her all manner of things about her, God, and everything. She recovered from her sickness, became an " anchoress " living in the church and offering her constant prayers for the people of the parish. (We have many such anchors among us in our congregation and in our larger church today!) And she spent the rest of her life writing down and wrestling with the things Jesus had shown her from the cross in her sickness. Today we have her book where she grapples with all God showed her.

Sometimes it is in our darkest moments when we see the clearest. There is no doubt in my mind and soul that in the upheavals of these days, God has many new things to reveal to each of us with clarity and, of course, with divine love. Who knows how we may grapple with the life-giving things God shows us in this time for the rest of our lives! Pay attention these days to what you might see. Let the strange newness of these days be grounded in the unchangeable love of God. Look on Jesus and see what he says to you. Anchor yourself in our parish and know you are not only among people who love you, but you are in the almighty heart of the one who gave everything to save you.

There are many wonderful images and ideas in Julian's showings. But perhaps the most lovely image is memorialized in a stained glass window in the little parish church in Norwich. In the stained glass St. Julian looks to Jesus on the cross, suffering, and sees the painful nails and hard wood turn to spring flowers. Jesus smiles. Almost dances even on the cross. He mothers her through her life. And says "All shall be well. And all manner of thing shall be well."

There will be difficult moments ahead. There will be moments of Grace and glory ahead. And perhaps some of the moments will be both. May we see with clarity, our savior, and know with faithful certainty that all shall be well.

God's Peace,
Gary

Holy Week Services

As we continue to refrain from public worship through Holy Week, Ware, Abingdon and Kingston will join together for Holy Week services online. Discussions continue as to how this will work, but all the services will be posted online and instructions will be given.

Bulletins for each service will be printed and placed in a packet for each family. How these will be distributed will be announced. We will either have the neighborhood groups assist us or possibly have them available for pick-up in the parking lot next Thursday.

A Letter From Bishop Susan Goff:

(copied from the Diocesan website)

Dear Friends in Christ,

During Holy Week and Easter, it is our Christian responsibility and honor to walk with Jesus along the way of the cross. We follow his path from suffering, through death and right through to life on the other side. This year we in the Diocese of Virginia will join with people of faith around the world on a different kind of Holy Week and Easter journey.

As the world community works together to slow the spread of COVID-19, we will not gather publicly for worship or other activities during the most holy time of the year. Let there be no doubt that this will stretch us, and let there be no doubt that we will worship God, we will commemorate the last week of our Lord's earthly life, we will celebrate the wonder and glory of the resurrection. We will do it all in ways that will honor God, that will honor the health of the most vulnerable among us, and that will honor the restrictions placed upon us by our civic leaders. We are the Church, and we will be the Church during Holy Week, on Easter Day, and for as long as God calls us.

We are gathering resources to support you in your holy walk in this particular season. They are posted on the [COVID-19 Resource page](#) on the diocesan website.

Together, we will worship and do the work of evangelism that is so much a part of our Holy Week and Easter journey. Together, we will tell the story of our faith in compelling ways. Together, we will address financial issues in a season when congregations depend on offerings to support God's mission.

As we move toward a new kind of Holy Week and Easter, do not be afraid. God is bigger than our fears, bigger than our sense of loss. God is present and at work in this pandemic, showing us renewed ways to be community. The truth of this time remains eternal:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

God bless you. God bless us all as we walk this road in hope, in truth and in growing faith - together.

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson
Assistant Bishop

Ways to Continue to Give

During these unprecedented times, we are called into community in unprecedented ways. Your financial gifts to Kingston Parish are of vital importance to support our ongoing ministries and our outreach to the most vulnerable among us. Please continue to offer your faithful gifts by one of the following ways:

1. Mail your check to our church office, PO Box 471, Mathews VA 23109
2. From now until June 15, 2020, use the special online giving portal established through our Diocese of Virginia office for electronic giving to Kingston Parish (refer to the diocese of Virginia website (thediocese.net) or link: <http://bit.ly/DOVChurch>).
Note: cost per transaction is 3% plus 45 cents. If you chose this option, be sure to include the name **Kingston Parish and Mathews, VA in the memo line**. The Diocese will send us a report of your offering along with a check after the 10th of each month.
3. Electronic checks- We already have some parishioners who send their offering using electronic checks as this does not require a transaction fee or additional software interface. Electronic checks are sent from an individual's bank account to Kingston Parish. People can set up a payment as a one-time gift or a recurrent offering and checks are mailed from a bank's centralized processing center.

We are evaluating other alternatives such as credit and debit cards, electronic giving platforms (e.g. Paypal or TENS – the Episcopal Network for Stewardship). These other alternatives have fees such as monthly fees, transaction fees (generally 3%) and/or a combination. Certainly additional ongoing costs are associated with such transactions.

In hearts open with gratitude for your gifts and support,

Fr. Gary, Rector and Tom Reed, Treasurer

Some Practical Things and Practical Theology

Who would have guessed we would have been reminded to love our neighbor as ourselves by staying separate to care for the vulnerable and ourselves at the same time. We are all in this together.

I am in weekly meetings with diocesan leadership on a Zoom platform online. It is such a blessing to be part of a larger church structure that works with us and cares for us in this time. I hope we also care for one another in the diocese and beyond. As the dean of a region, I am working with other congregations to make sure we are all able to do our best ministry for God in this time.

Did you know we have had over 600 views of our Sunday worship on the 22nd!!!

This coming Sunday, March 29, we will be trying a slightly different method of recording the service and putting it out for all. It will be available on Facebook Sunday morning and on our website. I am hoping the link on the website will not take you to Facebook, but directly to our worship so those who do not have a Facebook account can still view it. Look for it!

Then, April 5 will be Palm and Passion Sunday already! I am working with Ware and Abingdon to offer some creative worship for Holy Week. There will be more about our offerings shared with you all early next week – stay tuned!

I am working with Jim Andrews to offer some music with our worship this week and again on Easter. Jim has set up a program for the choir to go onto a website and practice music for the day in the future when we can again join together to praise God and worship.

My son, Zach, was sent home from college and is my tech support as I learn ways to make these things happen. Zach and I are working on a piece of music we are singing together to share in worship with you all at some point!

I am trying to keep up with folks pastorally by phone. Hospitals and convalescent homes are not allowing visitors, and visiting our vulnerable members in person in this time seems like a bad idea. I continue to be in discussion with our Bishop and other clergy as we explore creative ways to present while also being physically absent for the good of all. If you know someone who needs a call that I have missed, or if you would like to talk, call me or the office and let me know. (office: 804-725-2175; my mobile: 757-371-9382)

I am so grateful for the neighborhood ministries and our neighborhood leaders in these days. Let us care for one another and pray for one another.

Fr. Gary

Shrine Mont Registration

July 24-26 is our weekend to join Ware and Abingdon Churches for our Wabingston Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs. A registration form is on page 4. If you plan to join us, please send the form by April 29th with a \$50 check made out to Kingston Parish to reserve your place. Spaces are limited, so please be prompt.

Address Change

Janice Shanks has moved to a different area of Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury. Her address is:

132 Lancaster Drive #35
Irvington VA 22480

Please make this correction in your directory.

Neighborhood Groups

Nina Allen, our newest vestry member, pushed us to the last hurdle of reorganizing and distributing our Neighborhood Groups list. You should have received a copy by email which shows you in which group you belong. We hope that you will use this list in your prayers, and practically as you know who your neighbors are in Kingston and make yourself available to them, especially during this time of isolation. Just a phone call or a text to check in with each other, to make sure they have toilet paper and other necessities, or even just to chat, will be welcomed by many.

If you have a need, please contact the parish office (725-2175) or one of your neighborhood leaders. Please don't suffer in stoic silence.

Thank You!!

Dear Children of Kingston Parish,
Thank you so much for the beautiful yellow roses you sent to remember Suzy. She loved roses. Your love and prayers mean the world to me and my family. Suzy sure did love you!

Love, Richard Jones



Annual Wabingston Retreat

(Ware, Abingdon, and Kingston)

At Shrine Mont Camp and Conference Center in Orkney Springs

Friday, July 24 to Sunday, July 26

Theme: *In Harmony*

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity. Ps. 133:1

Our Contact: Marti Bowen at (804)815-3691 or blueherons3@verizon.net

What to expect at a Wabingston weekend:

Friday: a warm welcome at Virginia House to get Room Assignments

Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in Virginia House, buffet style;

Arrival Activities

Saturday: Breakfast in Virginia House, Gathering for worship and workshops in meeting room

Lunch in Virginia House followed by free time for hiking, napping, games, and pool time

Social before supper

Supper at Virginia House

The Shenandoah Music Festival will be on the grounds Saturday night. You may order tickets online, www.musicfest.org.

Sunday: Breakfast in Virginia House

Worship at Shrine of the Transfiguration

Lunch at Virginia House, then Departure

Return bottom portion with deposit to church office

Registration

(Applications and \$50 per adult due to church office by April 24: 1/2 deposit due June 8: balance due July 11)

Adults (Names) _____

Children under 3 (Names) _____

Children 4-12 (Names) _____

Children 13-18 (Names) _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Costs: (Children 18 and under are FREE)

One adult for two nights with double occupancy and six meals \$177 x _____ (# adults) = _____

One Adult for two nights with single occupancy and six meals \$237 x _____ (# adults) = _____

\$50 Deposit per adult due with Registration form _____

Balance due _____

Parish Prayer List

Pray For Our Parishioners

Lori Black for autoimmune issues (by Jay Black)
 Jimmy Eaton quarantened with the Princess cruise ship (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Bill French and Mynette Matvey (office)
 Hank Furniss for non-tremor Parkinsons (by Mairi Furniss)
 Mairi Furniss for upcoming knee replacement (office)
 Paul Gibson for heart issues (by Jan Mohr)
 Peggy Hudgins for pulmonary fibrosis (office)
 Jo Ann Hunley for back injury from fall (office)
 Martha Anne King for cancer (by Mary Chapman)
 Martha Knight for stomach cancer (office)
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)
 Gay Pfister for upcoming heart surgery (by Carol Swartz)
 Mary Ellen Stimson for fractured tibia/leg wound (office)

Pray For Our Family and Friends

Keith Brown for a broken hip (by Ethel Brown)
 Mickey Burchell for lung cancer (by Valerie Lewis)
 Duncan Campbell for colon cancer (by Mary Kathryn Diggs)
 Peggy Carr for breast cancer (by Gay Butler)
 Joe Carter with end stage cancer (by Vicki Carter)
 Linda Crowe for lung cancer (by Duffy Crowe)
 Terry Dobson for brain cancer (by Lynn May)
 Nancy Donnelly (by Kathy Yent)
 Mary Doyle for hydrocephalus (by Valerie Lewis)
 Tommy Dutton for hip repair (by Becca Brown)
 Stephanie Fleming (by Trish Reed)
 Glenda Flippin for ovarian cancer (by Jay Black)
 Walker Linden Ford for Sturge-Weber Syndrome (by Kathy Yent)
 Lori Fuller for cancer in lymph nodes (by Joe Mereness)
 Franklin Furey for mantel cell lymphoma (by Ethel Brown)
 Doris Gibson for complications from shingles (by Paul Gibson)
 +Susan Goff for breast cancer (office)
 Pat Graveline for colon/liver cancer (by Joe Mereness and Richard Scott)
 Helen Graves for congestive heart failure (by Paul Gibson)
 David Hawkins for complications from diabetes (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Linda Hawkins for mass on spine (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Carole Hirose for anxiety (office)
 Grady Hudgins (by Pat Munz)
 Nancy Hunley for fractured shoulder from seizure (office)
 Tom Hunley for recovery from back surgery (office)
 Kyle Johnson (by Martha Ellen Traband)
 Eugene Jones for Parkinson's Disease (by Robert Petersen)
 Rick Jones from injuries - hit by a car (by Richard Jones)
 John Michael Jones (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Jen Kimball+ for post-surgery infection (office)
 Andrea Krause for breast cancer (by Gay Pfister)
 Skip Lewis (by Valerie Lewis)
 Don Loving for multiple illnesses (by Jan Mohr)
 Allison Malise (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Dave Martin (by Gay Butler)
 Melissa McCarter for Parkinson's (by Eleanor Woollard)
 Sudy McKnight for cancer (by Reed Lawson)
 Linda Monk for metastatic lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Kristen Moran for breast cancer (by Jan Mohr)
 Kathy Nelson for pulmonary fibrosis (by Kathy Yent)
 Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)
 Stefanie Powers (by Lisa McCann)

April Birthdays

Jane Lockaby	2
Vince Lassiter	3
Mike Hudgins	3
Ryan Jackson	3
Larry Treadwell	10
Bob Warren	11
Allan May	11
Robert Petersen	12
Trish Reed	13
Mary Ann Gilman	14
Peggy Hudgins	16
Peter VanEmmerik	17
Sue Jennette	20
Zach Husband	22
Pat Munz	24
Daniel Gregg	24
James Gregg	24
Adelle Hudgins	25
Tyler Jackson	26
Martha Knight	26
Betsy Ambach	26
Kippy Gilbert	26
Lenox Gregg	27

Serving in the Military or Diplomatic Corps

Colin Bucknor
 BJ Cavazos
 Yvette Gaither
 Chris Ivy
 Joe Kraynak
 Megan Kraynak
 Hib McNeilly
 Joey Plotino
 Jennifer Schmidt
 Zach Schmidt
 George Truscott
 William Truscott
 Dawson Turner
 Nicholas Webster

Josiah Raub for heart issues (by Hank Furniss)
 Norris Richardson for Parkinsons (by the Warrens)
 Debbie Roberg for oral cancer (by Cathy Hinson)
 Ginger Shackelford for Hodgkins lymphoma (Kathy Yent)
 Shirley Shores (by Jackie Ingram)
 Bella Silvus for Lyme's Disease (by Marti Bowen)
 Bruce Spain for a broken femur (by Mary Dabney Webster)
 Amy Suppes for removal of spleen (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Marsha Threlkeld for breast cancer (by Debbie Lambert)
 Joe Tomlinson (by Josie Thorpe)
 Grace Van Burkirk hit by a car (by Nina Guy)
 Harry Ward for brain tumor (by Jay Black)
 Kate Warfel for auto-immune disorder (by Jen Kimball+)
 Jennie Whittle for ovarian cancer (by Mary Chapman)
 Kitty Witty for stage 4 bone cancer (M. E. Traband)
 Catherine Worley for breast cancer (by Gay Butler)

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In The Diocese of Virginia and the Upper Tidewater Region

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Bishop Suffragan
The Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

The Very Rev Gary Barker, Rector
(757)371-9382; barkergaryj@gmail.com

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden	Valerie Lewis
Junior Warden/Preschool	Jan Mohr
Junior Warden/Worship	Ray Stubblebine
Christian Formation	Marti Bowen
Fellowship	Shannon Kirschbaum
Outreach	Mary Kathryn Diggs
New Vestry	Nina Allen
Treasurer	Tom Reed
Recorder	Carol Swartz

TRUSTEES

Vicki L. Carter Timothy W. Hudgins John Machen, Sr.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL & REGION II

Reed Lawson, Lay Delegate
Mary Chapman, Alternate

STAFF

Jim Andrews	Choir Director/Organist
Karen Jones	Parish Secretary
Vicki Carter	Bookkeeper

KINGSTON PARISH PRESCHOOL

725-3211

Rachel Musick	Preschool Director
Jayda Hess	Assistant Teacher

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I at Christ Church
9:15 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish House
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at Kingston Chapel

Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Healing Service/Holy Eucharist in the
Meditation Chapel of the Parish House