



E-mail: august@bestweb.net Website: www.stacroton.org

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church ♦ 6 Old Post Road North, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 ♦ 914-271-3501 (Office)

Rector:
The Reverend Bradley C. Dyche
Deacons:
The Rev. Deacon Keith McKenna
The Rev. Deacon Sharon Manning-Lew

June 2011

June 2011

3	Friday	9:00 a.m. to Noon	Junefest!
4	Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Junefest!
5	<u>The Seventh Sunday of Easter, The Reverend Deacon Keith McKenna preaching</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		1:00 p.m.	Junefest!
		5:00 p.m.	Junefest CLEAN UP!
7	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	EFM Class
8	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer
12	<u>The Day of Pentecost, The Reverend David Rider preaching</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		10:30 a.m.	Rite II with music
14	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	EFM Class
15	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer
		8:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
19	<u>The First Sunday after Pentecost, The Reverend Bradley C. Dyche preaching</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		10:30 a.m.	Rite II with music
			EFM presentation and graduation
		11:30 a.m.	Adult Inquirer's Class; Liturgy and the Sacraments
22	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer with Eucharist
26	<u>The Second Sunday after Pentecost, The Reverend Deacon Sharon Manning-Lew preaching</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		10:30 a.m.	Rite II with music
29	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer

July 2011

3	<u>The Third Sunday after Pentecost</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		10:30 a.m.	Rite II with music
4	Monday		Independence Day – office is closed
6	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer
10	<u>The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</u>		
		9:00 a.m.	Rite II with music
		9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
		10:30 a.m.	Rite II with music
13	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	A Service of Light and Prayer

From the Rector:

There is a lot of good news, and a few challenges, to share in this Bellringer article! First off, I get to formally announce that Christine Jones was named a Postulant in this Diocese. That means that she is able to attend seminary and dive further into discernment about becoming a priest in the Episcopal Church. We pray for her and wish her well as she explores her vocation. We also pray for Julie, her wife, as she too explores what this means for Chris and herself. Of course, this means that we will be sending Chris off to seminary, and that she will have to commit her time to being there and not here, but we will plan a big send off before her fall term begins, and we hope to see her on school breaks.

Secondly, we are busily preparing for Junefest. We have had the clothing sale going on for the past week, and everyone seems excited about making this the best Junefest possible. Hopefully, there will be no tornado threats, like last year. Even the youth group has been working on Children's Games. And since we have been unable to secure goldfish, due to a variety of circumstances, I'm certain that this year, at least, our success will not be shouldered on the backs of hundreds of sacrificial goldfish. All of this, to me, reflects a desire for us to be together as a parish family and to be resourceful for the betterment of our community.

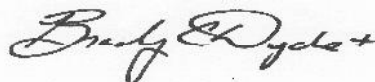
Thirdly, there is a lot of excitement in the larger diocese. We have just celebrated The Rt. Rev. Catherine Roskam's 15th anniversary as our Suffragan Bishop, and we are preparing to elect an eventual replacement, a bishop co-adjutor, for The Rt. Rev. Mark Sisk in October. That means that there will be a lot of changes in the coming years in the diocesan structure. Bishop Roskam will leave her post at the end of this year. And Bishop Sisk will most likely serve a short time with the new co-adjutor before retiring himself. All of this is exciting and challenging. It is exciting to think of new possibilities. But I also tend to believe the issues that we will have to address in the election will reflect a wider challenge to our Church and diocese.

In the past years, the circumstances of being Church have changed in great and small ways. I'm sure that you see it in our own financial struggles. And in this area, several surrounding churches have had to go to part time priests. And others are struggling in ways that we have, luckily, not yet had to face. My own seminary has now sold half of its property in Manhattan (all since I graduated in 2002). There are many hypotheses as to why this has happened, but the question of how to go on, being a church focused on the love of God in changed and reduced circumstances, has not been adequately addressed.

Of course, this is troubling. But I also hope that it is exciting. At no time since before the time of Constantine in the fourth century, other than perhaps the Reformation, has the Church had to look at itself in the mirror and change according to what it sees. We have never had to be so honest, vulnerable, and reflective in how we proceed in our proclamation of God's love. And I really do believe that that is a good thing. Too much in the way of resources for parishes, like our lives, can result in walls between us and those who need us. If we do not have those walls, I wonder what our church can become? And so I pray for a good bishop who, along with the Holy Spirit, can inspire and lead us in that process.

Which brings me full-circle. Chris Jones, Junefest, the Diocese of New York. All of these are the ways in which we attempt to follow and proclaim the love of God in a changing world. May we each, in our own ways, rise to the challenge.

God's Peace.



Brad

Treasurer's April 2011 Report

Our operating performance for the first four months of 2011 is better than what we had expected it to be in the budget we passed last December. Expenses have been slightly lower than expected in most categories as we continue to operate our church and other buildings and programs as prudently as possible. Revenues have also been fairly close to our budget. Current Year Pledges are behind the budget, but that is mostly attributable to timing issues in receipt of pledge payments, and is mitigated by better than expected receipts under the Mid-year Pledges category (pledges received after the annual meeting). One area of concern is the lack of fundraising events to date as compared to this time last year, when we had already hosted a Pub Quiz and a Chili Cook-off. Hopefully we can plan some fun and affordable fundraising events in the near future, which would help us show better than budgeted results.

Financial Operations through April 30, 2011:

	Expenses Paid		Revenues Received
Administrative	\$(10,569.98)	Fundraising	\$701.00
Priest	\$(32,192.63)	Plate	\$6,408.25
Service/Program	\$(8,448.20)	Pledge	\$44,241.50
Diocese	\$(3,922.43)	Space	\$3,880.00
Outreach	\$(2,155.70)	Investments	\$4,151.54
Property	\$(11,321.18)		\$-
TOTAL	\$(68,610.12)	TOTAL	\$59,382.29
(deficit)/surplus	\$(9,227.83)		
budgeted deficit	\$(12,958.79)		

Education

Adult Education Inquirer's Class

During the Easter Season, an Adult Inquirer's Class began. This is a class designed to teach the basics of Christianity as we know it and is offered as a preparation for Confirmation or Reception, which can happen when the Bishop of New York visits St. Augustine's on Sunday, November 6th. The last class will begin Sunday, June 19, after the 10:30 service and will include lunch, finishing by 1 each week. Please speak to the Rector as soon as possible if you are interested in participating.

June 19th: Liturgy and the Sacraments

Then, in the fall, if you are interested in being Confirmed or Received, there will be two additional classes on Confirmation and Life as a Baptized Christian. During the program, a light lunch will be served. Each session will be about an hour. If you are available to help set up and host, please speak to Father Brad.

Centering Prayer Group

All Saints', Briarcliff will be hosting a six-week Centering Prayer group led by Betsy Roadman. All are welcome, at any or all sessions. The last two meetings are from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7th and Wednesday, June 15th.



Congratulations Graduates!

Pleasantville Middle School

Leah Russo

Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School

Erin Livingston

Billy Livingston

Julianna Marchant

Croton Harmon High School

Bennett Rosenow

Parish Events - Outreach

Food Fest 2011!

New final raffle list available!

BIDDING CLOSES JUNE 12

Our annual Food Fest fundraiser is a delicious way to help the church and help yourself. Parishioners have committed to make dinners or desserts, which we're raffling off, and the raffle winners will purchase them for a set price. At a mutually agreeable time, the food is delivered as a take out item to the raffle winner. Our final, final list of raffle items with instructions and raffle ballots are in the back of the church or email your ballot choices to august@bestweb.net

Carpenter's Kids Pledges



March 20th marked the completion of St. A's five year commitment, offering to Carpenter's Kids. \$50 Pledges for 2011 were due. If you need to know the status of your pledge please contact the Parish Office. Carpenters Kid's is a program which sponsors children in Africa orphaned by HIV/AIDS. The program provides these children with food, clothing and school supplies.

Bread for the World



St. A's sent 93 letters to congress for Bread for the World's, Offering of Letters 2011. Bread for the World calls on Congress to adopt changes to U.S. tax policy that will benefit low-income families. To learn more about the issue and take action, visit www.bread.org.

Children's Mite Boxes

Our children are continuing to bring in their Mite Boxes. All the funds will be used to help purchase socks and soap for our Parish's adopted African AIDS orphans through Carpenter's Kids.



Flowers

Flowers may be donated in memory of or in thanksgiving of loved ones. If you would like to donate flowers, please choose a date on the new flower sign up sheet on the Parish bulletin board.



Fourth Annual 5K Run

The St. A's 5k Run to Squash Hunger – our 4th race was a huge success. We raised close to \$2000 for the Cortlandt Food Bank. Our thanks to Suzanne Smith, Ty West, Greg Kaebnick and Greg Cohen for organizing the race and to Betsy Mitchell for coordinating cookie bakers for the Run.

Sunday School Teacher Sign Up's

If you're interested in teaching Sunday school beginning this fall, please email Marie Fabian at mariefabian@gmail.com



Save the Dates

June Fest – June 3rd, 4th and 5th

&

Saturday, October 15th –

Harvest Moon Dinner Dance & Auction

Junefest 2011

Junefest hours for 2011:

Friday, June 3, 9am-Noon

Saturday, June 4, 10am-2pm

Sunday, June 5th during Summerfest, 1pm-5pm

Volunteer sign up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall or you can still sign up online:

Friday sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/JF2011Friday>

Saturday sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/JF2011Saturday>

Sunday sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/JF2011Sunday>

Clothing Sale - Regina Hertl, Clothing Chair and several volunteers have been selling clothing in the past two weeks leading up to JuneFest. Clothes are being sold on the church lawn for \$1. Our first Saturday, May 21 yielded over \$1300! We are continuing to sell clothing from 10am to 4pm daily, (weather permitting) until Saturday, June 4. We are also still looking to replace the clothes hanging racks that we lost in the flood. If you are available to help or have racks to donate, please contact Regina at 271-1348 or regae@optimum.net.

Historically, the clothing sale has provided considerable outreach. This year, as part of a leadership Girl Scout Gold Award, Margaret Livingston has created a Spanish advertising and marketing plan using St. A's as the test model to expand the rummage sale to include the Spanish speaking community.

<u>Rector</u>	<u>The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche</u>
<u>Rector Emeritus</u>	<u>The Rev. David B. Wayne</u>
<u>Deacon</u>	<u>The Rev. Deacon Keith McKenna</u>
<u>Deacon</u>	<u>The Rev. Deacon Sharon Manning-Lew</u>

2011 VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden:	Elizabeth Hoffman	Junior Warden:	David Wixted		
Treasurer:	Holly Anzani	Clerk:	Tom Eshoo		
Class of 2011	Lisa Cohen	Class of	Holly Anzani	Class of	Richard Olver
	Laura Seitz	2012	Kelly Jackson	2013	Chris McColl
	Leigh Anna		Meaghan Shawcross		Thomas Eshoo
	Harken				

Meeting Schedule: Vestry, 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

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Address correction requested



June 2011

Dated material - please deliver