January 28th, 2024 **4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

10:30am, Enriching our Worship

God loves you. No exceptions.

Welcome! It is wonderful have you with us. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've all had questions—possibly like some that you may have today.

The faith community of St. Thomas's Parish believes that everyone has been invited to follow the Way of Jesus, who commands us to love God and to love our neighbors. Therefore, we are committed to embrace and respect people of every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity; people who live with all mental and physical abilities, in all socio-economic conditions, in all household compositions, and with every citizenship status, including immigrant and refugee; people who hold diverse political and theological backgrounds, beliefs, and questions. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, as God's beloved, you are worthy and welcome here!

<u>Today's Service</u>

We are worshipping both in-person and via live-stream on YouTube. Full-text bulletins are distributed at all services and posted on our parish website. At the in-person service, "busy bags" for children and a dedicated sensory-friendly "soft space" can be found at the back of the sanctuary. We follow directions from our diocese for in-person pandemic precautions; masking is currently optional.

We commit ourselves to ensuring that our place of worship is a safe place where all can feel comfortable and know that they are accepted and loved. In the Episcopal church, everybody doesn't always do things in the same way. But **when you're worshiping God**, **you can't get it wrong!** If you would like help, ask anyone in the pews around you or speak with Fr. Howie.

Learn More about St. Thomas's

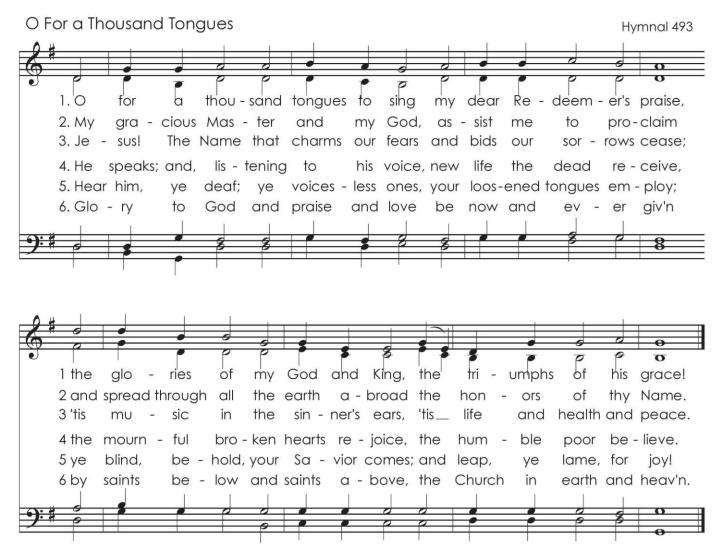
At the end of this booklet, as well as on our website, you will find information about our weekly worship services and about opportunities to learn and grow in the faith through our Christian education programs for all ages. There also you can explore opportunities to join us in service to the Newark community through the Episcopal Campus Ministry and "Blue Hen Bounty" food pantry, through our work in support of the Newark Empowerment Center, through refugee resettlement and other programs of community service.

Thank you for joining us today. Your presence is a blessing to us. Fill out a visitor card in your pew and leave it with a clergyperson or an usher if you would like to be contacted. We hope to see you again soon!

Prelude

Procession

standing



THE WORD OF GOD

CelebrantBlessed be the one, holy, and living God.PeopleGlory to God for ever and ever

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Collect

Celebrant	God be with you.	
People	And also with you.	
Celebrant	Let us pray.	

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111



- 1 Alleluia! I will give thanks to you O God >> with my whole heart, * in the assembly of the upright, in >> the con-gre-gation.
- 2 Great are >> your **deeds**, O God; * they are studied by all **who** de-light in them.
- 3 Your work is full of maj->> es-**ty** and splendor, * and your righteousness >> en-**dures** for ever.
- 4 You make your marvelous works >> to **be** re-membered; * you are gracious and full **of** com-passion.
- 5 You give food >> to **those** who fear you; * you are ever mind->> ful **of** your covenant.
- 6 You have shown your people the po->> wer of your works * in giving them the >> lands of the nations.
- 7 The works of your hands are faith->> ful-**ness** and justice; * all your com->> mand-**ments** are sure.
- 8 They stand fast >> for **ever** and ever, * because they are done >> in **truth** and equity.
- 9 You sent redemption to your people; you commanded your co->> ven-ant for ever; * holy and awe->> some is your Name.
- 10 The fear of God is the be->> gin-**ning** of wisdom; * those who act accordingly have a good understanding; God's praise >> en-**dures** for ever.

Epistle Lesson

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel	Mark 1:21-28	standing
Deacon People	God be with you. And also with you.	
Deacon People	The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark. Glory to you, Lord Christ.	

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord. People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

seated at the preacher's invitation

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally beaotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead.

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

With all our heart, and all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

For all who have seen the light of Christ, and for all who work to spread it in the world. May they have the joy that moves mountains and the peace that wins over all enemies. We pray especially for Christians whose faith must withstand the loss of home, family, and personal safety.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For the leaders of Christian communities around the world. May their wisdom and gentleness inspire the faithful and convert the hard-hearted. We pray especially for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, all those who lead the Anglican Communion and those who lead our own Church: Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our Bishop. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who lead the nations of the world, and for all countries and people. May they do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly as servants of the Kingdom of God. We pray especially for those who lead our nation, our states, and our communities, and for all who work for peace and reconciliation.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For the needs of our own community, for our neighbors, and for those whose dignity depends on our compassion. In helping and being helped, may we make one another holy. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who have lost home and security through war, natural disaster, and economic hardship. May we have the courage and energy to see and respond to their needs, and may they find the safe rest that is a foretaste of our promised rest in Heaven. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who risk their own safety for the sake of others, all who work for the safety of our own community, and all who serve in the armed forces, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those listed in this morning's service leaflet, and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. May they find healing and strength.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for our partners in mission, especially for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa, and for St Andrew's School Chapel, Middletown. May they join with us in spreading the Gospel and building the Kingdom.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for all who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. We give thanks for all the saints and faithful people who have gone before us. May they have rest from their labors and a share in God's promises.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

standing or kneeling

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

- All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
 Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.
- Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

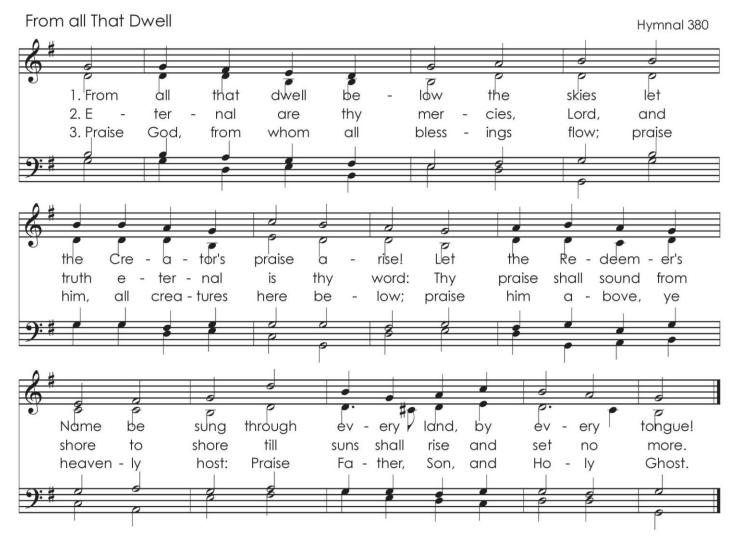
standing

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you. **People** And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Our offerings are an act of worship through which we respond with gratitude to God's grace, love, and mercy, putting our trust in the Lord into action. You may place your offering in the plate, or—you can give electronically though our website (QR code on the back of this booklet) and place an "online giving" card in the plate. With the bread and the wine, these donations are carried to the altar and offered to the Lord on our behalf.

Offertory Hymn



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



The Celebrant continues Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

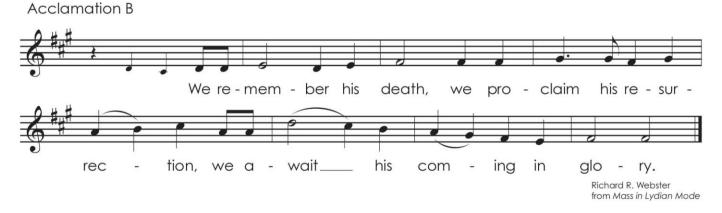
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Celebrant and People



The Celebrant continues Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

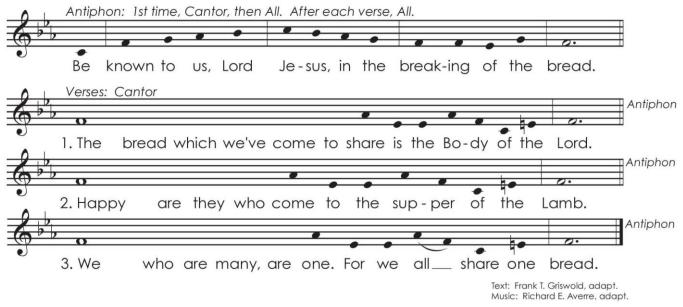
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward up the center aisle to receive from the priest either the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free bread is available; you may request it from the priest when you come to the front of the line. Receiving the wine is optional. To take the wine, drink from it or intinct (carefully dip) the bread into the cup. Please use the side aisles to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

THE COMMUNION

- silent prayer -

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

standing

seated

Celebrant Let us pray.

All God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries Announcements

Please visit the "Worship Opportunities" and "Parish Events" page in the back of this booklet. Then, look on the following page for "Birthdays and Anniversaries" and wish your faith family blessings!

The Blessing

God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Processing into the community

standing



17

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! **People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

Please take this service booklet home with you, and mark your calendar with upcoming events. These dates are also noted on our parish calendar, found in the emailed weekly newsletter "The Carpenter's Helper" as well as through on our website. If you choose to leave this service booklet, please know that it will be recycled as part of our commitment to care for creation.

Worship Opportunities:

- Sundays at 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I spoken, in-person and via YouTube
- Sundays at 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music, in-person and via YouTube
- Wednesdays at noon Intercessory Prayer with Holy Communion, in-person
- Thursdays at 7 pm Compline Evening Prayer, live via Zoom

Growth and Fellowship:

- Scheduled Sundays at 9:15 am- adult education in the great hall classroom
 Check our parish calendar for a complete listing
- Sundays at 10:00 am Children's Ministries in the Undercroft
- 3rd Sundays at 9:15 am Novel Theology in the parlor and via Zoom
- Last Sunday of the month Family Church Sunday
- Last Sunday of the month Coffee and Fellowship between services
- 3rd Monday of the month- Hope Dining Room service
- Wednesdays at 10:30 am Lectionary Bible Study

Upcoming Parish Events:

- Feb 13- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Feb 14- Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday
- Feb 25- Annual Meeting planning 9-10am
- March 10- Annual Meeting and Daylight Savings
- March 23- Blood Drive
- March 25-30 Holy Week
- March 31- Easter Sunday

If you have anything to add to the <u>Parish calendar</u> or the <u>Carpenter's Helper newsletter</u>, please email the office at <u>StThomassOffice@googlegroups.com</u>.

To see a full listing of parish worship, events, or news, visit our website: <u>www.StThomasNewarkDE.church</u>

Parish Calendar

Monday, 1/29

- (U) Private Meeting, 6-7:30pm
- (G) Scottish Dancing, 7-9:30pm

Tuesday, 1/30

- (G) Private Meeting, 4:30-6:30pm
- (G) Ballroom Dancing, 6-10pm
- (U) AA group, 8-9:30pm

Wednesday, 1/31

- (C) Lectionary Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am
- Service of Intercessory Prayer, 12-1pm
- (G, K) Private meeting 6-9pm

Thursday, 2/1 First day of Black History month

• (Z) Compline Evening Prayer, 7-7:30pm

Friday, 2/2

- (C) Blue Hen Bounty, 9am-12pm
- (P) Al-Anon, 11:30am-1:30pm
- (P) Women's AA Group, 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday, 2/3

• No current reservations

Sunday, 2/4

- Holy Eucharist, Rite I spoken, 8-8:45am
- Sunday School, 10:15am
- Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music, 10:30-11:45am
- (G) Private Meeting, 3-6pm
- (G) Ballroom Dancing, 6-10pm

Location key:

- (C) Classroom off the Great Hall
- (G) Great Hall
- (Gr) Grove
- (K) Kitchen
- (M) Music Room
- (P) Parlor
- (S) Sanctuary
- (U) Undercroft
- (Z) Zoom

Parish Prayer List

Adele T Archer family Austin M & Krissy V Barry G Bernice R Betty H Blackman family Bob M Bob P Bob R Bob S Bob T Brendan S **Brighton P** Carew family Carol G Carol M Carolyn V Cecily SH Charles B Charlie H Charlie M & Ellen S Chaun Chris C Chris E Chris G Christine & Erich Christine A & Francis Christine D Chuck & Paula R Claire L Connie L Court W D Green Dana Daphne D Darren M Denise B Dennis R **Devon MD** Elaine W Eley family Elmer T Erin & family Flora R Frank W Fred & Lori Freddie B Geoff C George H Gina H Giorgio & family Harrison family Janice F Jean & Richard P Jim T

John D Jonny K Judy B Julie June G Karen R Kathryn D Kay Kelly K Krista B Lane family Larry Liz R Lorraine CS Mara, Mike, & Martha K Marge C Margy H Maria P Marian S & family Marianne A Martha M Mary T Mary Ellen H Maryanne & Bob Matt S Michael C Mike G

Morgen and family Mullens family Nancy G Pam D Pat & Emmett J Paula B Richardson family Rick R Ricky G Sabhi Shannan D Shannon Sharon O Sondra B Sophie A South family Stephen M Stover B Sue L Susan & family Terri B Thomas M Tom H Tom P Vicki G Walelgne

We pray for all who serve our country abroad, in the military, in embassies, and in non-governmental organizations, especially...

Adam Annie R Ben Bob Bradley Brett Brian Charlie K Christie J Duncan P Grace H James Jeremy Joe Josh Kagen

Kathy Kevin Luke Marvin Matthew Nate Nicholas

Kate

Stacy Stuart Tina Tyler Victoria

To update or add to our parish prayer list, please contact the office or speak with Fr Howie directly. Please include a last name initial, and let us know if your loved one would like to be contacted by our pastoral care ministry or have a visit from a priest.

StThomassOffice@googlegroups.com 1/24/2023 302.368.4644

January Birthdays

Connie Cooper Philip Carew Audrey Houghton Laura Houghton Ben Sausville Luke Campbell Barbara Graham Beryl King Chandrikamma Thankappan Clark Sido Peter Greiss	January 1 January 4 January 5 January 7 January 9 January 12 January 12 January 20 January 20 January 22
The second	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Marc Cheban	January 23
Candance Giel	January 28
Bill Holstein	January 28
Christine Anigbogu	January 31

January Anniversaries

Larry and Devon Miller-Duggan	January 1
David and Barbara Pong	January 1
Justin and Kristin Sausville	January 1
Jack and Marge O'Donnell	January 17





LEADERSHIP OF ST THOMAS'S

StThomasNewarkDe.church 302.368.4644

The Vestry

Rector's Warden: Kristin Sausville Treasurer: Amy Keach People's Warden: Philippa Sunnergren Clerk of the Vestry: Sally Price

<u>Class of 2024</u> Larry Duggan Cami Seward Philippa Sunnergren <u>Class of 2025</u> Joan Bennett Mike Grabowski Marilyn Prime <u>Class of 2026</u> Sally Price Robert Sido Belinda Young-Payne

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