

THE GOOD NEWS!



St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church
157 Montague Street, Brooklyn, New York

August 21, 2011

Services at St. Ann's

- **Sundays**
Holy Eucharist,
11:00AM
+++++
- Midweek Eucharists
- **Tuesdays**
1:10PM
- **Thursdays**
12:10PM & 6:00PM
- Church open 12:00-2:00 every weekday
+++++
- **Wednesdays**
Organ Recital on hiatus in August; resumes Sept. 7
+++++
- **Sunday School & Children's Church** begin Sept 25

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Sanctuary Still
Brooklyn reflects on a decade since 9/11

On September 11, 2001, thousands fled lower Manhattan across the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges to find sanctuary among family and friends, in houses of worship, and in their communities.

On the tenth anniversary of 9/11, we celebrate that Brooklyn was and is a haven of hope for all who find themselves here.

Sunday, September 11, 2011 • 3:00 pm
St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church
Clinton & Montague Streets
Brooklyn Heights

See page 2 for details

A Prayer for the Season ~ On September 11: For the human family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

from The Book of Common Prayer, page 815

SANCTUARY STILL: Brooklyn Reflects on a Decade Since 9/11

St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church will host a community event to honor the spirit of Brooklyn and its particular perspective on our nation's loss, recovery and renewal. The event will be held at 3:00PM on Sunday, September 11, 2011, ten years after the attack on and destruction of the World Trade Center.

SANCTUARY STILL will include spoken word, music and video presentations. Presenters will include elected officials, first responders from the fire and police departments, Brooklyn-based authors, faith leaders, and community members. Music will be provided by the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra, the String Orchestra of Brooklyn, Grace and Spiritus Chorale of Brooklyn and St. Ann's Choir.

On September 11, 2001, St. Ann's parish opened its

doors to provide sanctuary for members of the Brooklyn Heights community and people fleeing lower Manhattan across the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges. The building was a haven for many afterwards and remains in continuous use for weekly worship, quiet contemplation and as a venue for arts and community programs.

In announcing the event, the Rev. John E. Denaro, Priest-in-Charge, said, "All of Brooklyn, in gathering spots like St. Ann's, was and remains a sanctuary – a reality this community observance of 9/11 will honor a decade later. The participation of so many representing the diversity of Brooklyn promises to make this a profound and memorable tenth anniversary tribute."

(Continued on page 7)

From the Priest-in-Charge

Onto Phase Two

As this issue of *The Good News!* arrives to you, we will have reached a six-month milestone in our "new ministry" phase. Along the way, there have been recognitions, celebrations and the acknowledgment of many "firsts" to mark the start of our work together.

We are at the threshold of an inevitable new phase of our relationship. We know each other a bit better, for sure. We've let down our guard some and revealed more of ourselves to one another. But it is no longer all smiles and excitement. It is now equal parts exciting and challenging as differences between the new guy's way and the way it's done at St. Ann's get sorted out.

The appointed scriptures for Sunday worship this summer included a number of passages from the Gospel according to Matthew about Phase One of

Jesus' and the disciples' working relationship. Over the weeks, I was struck repeatedly by the disciples' desire to protect and impress Jesus – as when they attempt to keep people from burdening him, such as the Canaanite woman asking Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter, on the one hand, and Peter trying to walk on the water, on the other. Jesus is firm and affirming in clarifying and occasionally countering their expectations.

It has been my perception that the disciples never really "got" Jesus and that maybe Jesus didn't always understand them. But they stuck with it and with each other. After every misstep and bumble, Jesus gave his guys the benefit of the doubt. They remained, as they say, fully committed to God's project and to one another.

(Continued on page 7)

Children's Questions Help Us Keep Faith

Perhaps the question most often posed to adults by young people is, "Why?"

Why do I have to take a bath?

Why do I have to do my homework?

Why was that girl at school mean to me?

Why is that man sleeping on the street?

Why don't the children in Somalia have enough food to eat?

Some questions are easy to answer. Some are difficult. And sometimes it seems like there is no answer at all. While adults may sometimes feel overwhelmed by the number of questions young people ask, it is also true that children often teach us more than we realize. When young people seek answers from adults, they compel us to put into words our most closely held beliefs.

Professional educators know they can enhance their students' grasp of a subject by asking them to explain what they know to others students. The process of explanation helps us to clarify our own thinking. *In other words the way to learn is to teach.* By the same token, we adults can learn a lot about our own beliefs by engaging the younger members of our parish in a conversation about the Christian faith.

As we look forward to the beginning of our program year at St. Ann's this fall, we renew our

commitment to Christian education and formation for all ages. We have designed an intergenerational program that speaks to the wish that many adults have expressed for deeper engagement with scripture and also addresses the need to provide solid Christian formation to our youngest members.

On September 25 we will launch "Children's Church." Children and their parents are invited to meet on the stage in the parish hall for an informal and interactive worship service that will engage not only their hearts and minds, but also their senses. Children aged 7 years and older may be dropped off by a parent. Sunday School will continue to meet at 11:00AM. And for the first time in many years, acolyte training will be available for young people. Parents whose children are interested in serving at the altar should contact Mother Nell.

This is an exciting time for Christian education at St. Ann's. You have the opportunity not only to teach, but also to learn, to ask the questions you've always wanted to ask, to share your faith and your doubt. You don't have to have a degree in theology. You don't have to have all the answers. All that is required is an open heart and a willingness to serve. Stay tuned for more details about our fall program. It all begins on September 25!

The Rev. Nell B. Archer
Assistant Priest-in-Charge

Welcoming Our New Seminararian

This academic year, we will welcome seminararian Melinda Hall, who hails from Kentucky; she has arrived in the Big Apple to pursue a certificate in Anglican Studies from General Theological Seminary. Melinda graduated in the spring of 2010 with a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary; since then she and her husband Nathan spent part of the last year traveling around Lebanon studying Islam and

Eastern Christianity and part of it working for a Presbyterian summer camp in Virginia. Melinda is being sponsored for ordination to the priesthood by Trinity Church, Princeton, New Jersey, in the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey. She looks forward to meeting everyone at St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, getting involved in Christian education, and joining our community.

Notes from the Console

As many of you know, the organ has been out of commission for part of the summer: the Wednesday Concerts have been on hiatus, and parts of the organ have not been usable for Sunday morning services. All of this has been in order to allow for more work to be done in our continuing efforts to restore our landmark instrument. This fall, there will be many opportunities to witness the fruits of this work. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will read about our planned commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks (See pages 1 and 7). Of course, both organ and choir will be taking part in this, and I commend this information to your attention. I look forward to having you with us at 3:00PM on this very important day.

We cannot continue to do restoration work on the organ without funds to pay for it. Therefore, on Sunday, September 25 at 7:00PM, I will be playing a fund-raising concert entitled *March, Dance & Symphony*. The program will feature works as diverse as the *Crown Imperial* march of Sir William Walton, a jazz-inspired suite called *Organ, Timbrel & Dance* by Johannes Michel and the monumental *Symphonie VI pour Grande Orgue* of Charles-Marie Widor. As in previous years, the suggested donation is \$25, or \$20 for students/seniors. You are also invited to give additional funds, as you may

see fit, to further assist in our restoration work. I think that you will find this a fun concert and urge you to mark your calendars now. And, please plan to bring your friends - the more, the merrier!

In the following month, we will be continuing our Halloween concert tradition with a program on Sunday, October 30 at 7:00PM: *Spooky, Eerie, Scary Pipes* will feature the ubiquitous *Tocatta & Fugue in d minor* of Bach, Gounod's amusingly spooky *Funeral March of a Marionette* and other Halloween-themed works. Suggested donation for this event is \$20, or \$10 for people in costume. Children 12 and under will be admitted *free of charge*. Come in costume, bring friends, family and neighbors, and join us for a musical haunting. Money raised from this event will be applied to the parish's ongoing programs.

In addition to all of these extra events, we can look forward to the return of the St. Ann's Choir at our Eucharist on the morning of September 11 and a new liturgical year of praise, prayer and worship with "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs". If there are any in the parish who might be interested in being in the choir, or taking part in the musical life of the church in another way, please do not hesitate to speak with me at any time.

Gregory Eaton
Director of Music

A Trip to the Met

On August 7 after church, nine members of the congregation took off on the Number 5 train to see the sensational Alexander McQueen exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum. Thanks to two Met members in our midst, we breezed past the lines snaking through the Byzantine art, down through the classical galleries and entered before all the waiting hordes. We felt very in-the-know and super-cool – and we were not disappointed in the show.

The scope of McQueen's imagination, refinement and immaculate execution speak to even the fashion-impaired. Parishioners were inspired by the biographical details of the designer. He populated these lavish galleries with a rich diversity of lovely and disturbing ideas and forms. These riches came from a man of modest background who suffered from crushing depressions. He fulfilled his talent by working endless hours, as demonstrated by a breath-taking finish on every piece. One of the jackets on view featured the thief on Christ's right side at the Crucifixion. Perhaps McQueen took solace from the figure of this man with a checkered life whose reverent attitude was redemptive in the end.

Suzan Frazier Kwateng

Words from the Wardens

One of the themes of this issue of *The Good News* is the tenth anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001. In preparing for this column, we went back to the September 2002 issue to see what we were saying at that time. An article headlined "THAT DAY" described the very personal decision to re-open the church after a period during which we had not been able to use the sanctuary. Another theme of that 2002 issue is change. Referring to the previous issue of *The Good News* in 2002, we find our article celebrating the completion of a year back in our familiar surroundings. The earlier article expressed optimism – the sort that has sustained this parish through previous trials and troubles. The second article rejoices in the success of a year in which we re-emphasized our presence in Brooklyn Heights.

Ten years following those events we celebrate our growth and prosperity as we grow together in our spiritual lives and in our efforts to include the surrounding community in our lives. We have changed from a "survival" mentality to a "mission" mentality. In large part this is due to the magnificent leadership of the clergy we have been blessed with and who enthusiastically share in our ministry.

We have been on a course of change these past ten years, and there's no end in sight. Our congregation is growing once again. We have the blessing of two clergypersons who are devoted to developing our presence and outreach in the Brooklyn Heights community and beyond. Our parishioners are stepping up to the challenges presented and participating in the programs being developed for this change and growth.

On a more "earthly" plane, we are experiencing change in our physical appearance. As this news-

letter is published, we find that a new landscaping scheme is coming to completion in our north garden area. At the same time a select committee has been interviewing architects in preparation for the long-awaited overhaul of our parish-hall building. As well, significant repairs and improvements continue in our landmark E.M. Skinner pipe organ. We have also celebrated two significant accomplishments in the past decade, the restoration of both side aisle roofs and the sale of the brownstone at 122 Pierrepont Street. This latter change will enable us to begin that much anticipated overhaul of the parish house into a building that can better serve and nourish this community of faith and the greater community that surrounds us for decades to come.

We have enjoyed support and encouragement from Bishop Provenzano, who has been instrumental in developing these changes over the brief two years of his episcopacy in this diocese.

It is incumbent upon each of us to participate in the changes that are leading to our growth. Please feel free to suggest ideas for participation. We hope to include everyone in this new era of growth and change.

Here is a quote from the conclusion of one of the 2002 articles mentioned above:

"As we prepare to participate in the ... anniversary of a tragic event ... let us not lose sight of the significance of our own milestone and the accomplishments brought about in spite of the heaviness in our hearts. With faith that God will provide the guidance and wisdom, strength and will, let us go on with our mission in Brooklyn Heights in the name of Christ."

Syd Farley & Frank Kain
Wardens

Something Old~

HOMEcomings SUNDAY Service & Luncheon: September 18

Something New~

ST. FRANCIS DAY BLESSING of the ANIMALS: Sunday, October 2, 3:00PM

The Parish Website Gets a Makeover

Not to be outdone by some TV makeover shows, a makeover of the St. Ann's website has just been completed and launched. If you haven't already checked it out, you will find it at <http://www.saintannandtheholyltrinity.org>.

Father Denaro, Mother Archer and our gifted web designer Tima Vlasto collaborated to bring a new look and fresh life to our cyber image that reflects our leadership and parish in 2011. Discussions focused on incorporating new features that would be flexible and could accommodate breaking news and changes, up-to-date information, lots of pictures and, of course, some bells and whistles. The result should actively engage visitors and draw them into the St. Ann's orbit.

As coordinator, I was privileged to see the various stages of inspiration and trial up close and observed how daunting and time-consuming the creation and execution of a new website actually is. The final product is our top-of-the-line website integrating an original design and social media, a colorful opus supported by some 4,000 backend files. We are fortunate that of all of Tima's clients, she is very fond of St. Ann's, so she gave us the works.

Now that the design is in place and we are connected through social media to share our news, Father Denaro welcomes ideas and suggestions from the St. Ann's family to add new and fresh content that reflects our current parish worship, life and character. So please take a close look and let him hear from you. Enjoy wandering through the website, and as you do so, tell your friends. Also don't forget to "like" us on Facebook while you are there!

Carol Francescani
Web Coordinator

Bishop Provenzano on Marriage Equality

The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island, was among those church leaders who welcomed the passage of the Marriage Equality Act in New York State on June 24. The Bishop wrote to parishes in the diocese on July 11 expressing support for his clergy to officiate at same gender weddings or to decline as a matter of conscience. Our community celebrates the new law, and our clergy will gladly perform same gender weddings at St. Ann's. The Bishop's letter to the churches can be found on the diocesan website at www.dioceseli.org.

Milestones

We are pleased to share with you four happy milestone events that took place in our church or were conducted by our clergy in just the last month.

Nathan Gray was baptized by Mother Archer during the Eucharist on July 17

Jacques Beaumont & Richard Townsend were married at a ceremony conducted by Father Denaro on August 2 at Beth Israel Hospital

Nadia Bishai & Hisham Modine had their marriage blessed by Father Denaro on August 6

Kristen Keneipp & Vincent Ricciardi were married in a ceremony conducted by Father Denaro at the church on August 20.

With joy and our best wishes, we congratulate all!

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SANCTUARY STILL: Brooklyn Reflects on a Decade Since 9/11

At this writing, confirmed participants include Brooklyn-based writers Tiphonie Yanique and Tim McLoughlin, as well as Tina Chang, Poet Laureate of Brooklyn.

Among the musical selections, the Brooklyn Symphony will offer *Chrysanthemums* by Puccini and the String Orchestra of Brooklyn will perform Barber's *Adagio for Strings*. The Grace and Spiritus Chorale will perform *In A Fog - Remember*, a work commissioned by the Chorale with a grant from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs to mark this 10th Anniversary of 9/11. The composer is Julian Grant (www.juliangrant.net) with text by Anne Pierson Wiese, a teacher at the Saint Ann's School. St. Ann's Church Choir will

offer *I Am Resurrection*, which was composed by Gregory Eaton on the occasion of the 5th Anniversary in 2006, and Mr. Eaton will play *Pièce Héroïque* by César Franck (1822-1890), a selection he played at a recital on the first anniversary in 2002.

Hosting SANCTUARY STILL provides St. Ann's with an opportunity to welcome people back to our church who may have found peace here on 9/11 and to demonstrate our intention to be a kind of commons in our neighborhood. We hope to extend welcome to old friends and new at the 1½-hour-long event and a reception to follow in the parish hall.

Continued from page 2

From Fr. Denaro: Onto Phase Two

In my view, we have taken turns trying to protect and impress one another over these months. And who could fault us? We are in a new and evolving relationship. Our striving to learn from and teach each other has been necessarily tinged with self-consciousness.

And we have only just begun to grow in our understanding of one another.

Nonetheless, for the foreseeable future, we at St. Ann's are sticking with each other and the piece of God's project we've started here. In this, I don't mind saying how deeply grateful I am for the trust, support and patience you continue to show me as I do my part, and for the goodwill, grace, and steadfastness you exhibit in doing yours.

And so it's onto Phase Two, with at least another six months of "firsts" in store – and probably many more after that.

Some anticipated firsts for us in the near future include hosting an important community event together on 9/11, launching a children's church service at the end of September, and gathering with neighbors and their pets in our newly landscaped "north garden" area for a St. Francis Day animal blessing on October 2. I will join you for my first Homecoming Sunday on September 18 and first concert fundraiser for our magnificent organ on September 25; we will again open our doors to the openhousenewyork event on the weekend of October 15-16. And there are sure to be many other firsts in the coming months that we can't yet know.

So, even if there's some truth to the clichéd notion of our honeymoon being over, it seems we can count on the blessing of shared discovery continuing.

The Rev. John E. Denaro
Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. John E. Denaro
Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Nell B. Archer
Assistant Priest-in-Charge

Syd Farley
& Frank Kain
Wardens

Peter Farley, III
Treasurer

Sara Asmussen
Cheryl L. Branche
Robert Buck
Jacqueline deWeever
Suzan Frazier Kwateng
Barbara Gonzo, *Clerk*
Colleen Heemeyer
Joyce Pickering
Roger Wieber
Vestry Members

✘ ✘ ✘

Carol Stone
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Upcoming Events!

Sunday, September 11 Pentecost XIII

Choral Eucharist, 11:00AM. The choir returns.
Sanctuary Still, 3:00PM (*Pages 1 & 2*)

Tuesday, September 13

Vestry Meeting, 7:00PM

Sunday, September 18 Pentecost XIV

Choral Eucharist, 11:00AM
Homecoming Luncheon follows Eucharist

Sunday, September 25 Pentecost XV

Children's Church, 10:00AM (*Page 3*)
Sunday School resumes, 11:00AM (*Page 3*)
March, Dance & Symphony Organ Concert, 7:00PM (*Page 4*)

Sunday, October 2 Pentecost XVI

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals, 3:00PM

Saturday & Sunday, October 15 & 16 Pentecost XVIII

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Sunday, October 30 Pentecost XX

Spooky, Eerie, Scary Pipes Halloween Concert, 7:00PM (*Page 4*)

Saturday, December 3

Christmas Crafts Fair, 10:00AM-6:00PM

Sunday, December 4 Advent II

Annual Parish Meeting follows Eucharist

Mission Statement: Church of St. Ann & the Holy Trinity

The people of St. Ann & the Holy Trinity express gratitude for God's love by seeking to live as Jesus Christ teaches us: caring for our neighbors and ourselves, worshiping God with thanksgiving, and being good stewards of what is given to us. We welcome all who wish to join us on our spiritual journey.