ST. ANN & THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Pro-Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
CLINTON & MONTAGUE STREETS | BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

SUNDAY LITURGY
Second Sunday of Advent
Parish Annual Meeting
December 6, 2020
Parish Annual Meeting 2020
Sunday, December 6, 2020
Second Sunday in Advent
Canon John E. Denaro, Chair

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order
Canon John E. Denaro, Rector
Opening Prayer

Appointment of Clerk of Annual Meeting
Appointment of Tellers
Registration of Voting Members
Declaration of a Quorum

Presentations of Candidates
Candidate for Warden
Candidates for Vestry

Nominations from the Floor
Close Nominations

Explanation of the Voting Procedures
Polls Declared Open
(In accordance with the rules of the State of New York, the polls are declared open and will remain open for one hour)

Liturgy for the Second Sunday of Advent with Rector’s Address

Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting
Motion to waive reading of the minutes
Motion to accept the minutes

Budget Presentation
Committee Presentations

Polls Declared Closed
(When one hour has elapsed since polls declared open)

Announcement of Election Results

Call for Motion to Adjourn
Closing Prayer
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Officiant  Our Savior now draws near:

People    O come, let us adore him.

Officiant  Come and save us, God of mercy and peace:

People    Show us the light of your countenance
           and we shall be saved.

Officiant  Lord, grant us your light, that we, being free from the
           darkness of our hearts, may come to the true light which is
           Christ.

People    Amen.

OPENING HYMN

The Hymnal 1982, #65

1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
2 He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

OPENING ACCLAMATION
Officiant  Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.
People    And blessed be God’s reign, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY
Officiant  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.
People     Amen.

TRISAGION
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY
Officiant  God be with you.
People     And also with you.
Officiant  Let us pray.
Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach
repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace
to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet
with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
People     Amen.
The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader   A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:
“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
   “Here is your God!”
See, the Lord God comes with might,
   and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
   and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
   he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
   and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader  Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People  Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
   you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
   and blotted out all their sins.
I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
   for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
   and to those who turn their hearts to him.
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
   that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together; *
   righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
   and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
   and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him, *
   and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.
A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Rev. Canon John E. Denaro
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader  Please join me as we affirm our faith in God’s promise with the response, “We believe.”

We believe in one God who said, “Let there be light,” and there was! With that light, God made the world and all that is in it. When we were created, God put that light in us. And so we say,

People  We believe!

Leader  We believe in Jesus, the true Light, who went down to darkness to overcome death, and rose again. In his rising a path shines home to God’s heart. And so we say,

People  We believe!

Leader  We believe in the Spirit, filling us with hope, speaking the truth in every place, inspiring us to do justice and show kindness to one another. And so we say,

People  We believe!

Leader  We believe in the Church, where God is praised and God’s people are forgiven, fed and sent out to love and serve the world. And so we say,

People  We believe!

ADVENT PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant  As we prepare for Jesus to come among us, let us offer prayers to God.

Intercessor  For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ, we pray to you, O Lord:

People  Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor  For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

People  Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor  For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence our Bishop, for Geralyn, Daniel and William, and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord:

People  Come, O Lord, and save us.
Intercessor For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor For all we hold dear and all of life’s blessings, with thankful hearts, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor For deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor For refugees, for the sick and suffering, for the hungry and oppressed, and for those in prison, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor For those who have died and dwell with the saints in heaven, we pray to you, O Lord:

People Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor Joining our voices with Mary the Godbearer, St. Ann, and all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to Christ our Lord:

People To you, O Lord our God.

Officiant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

MUSIC MEDITATION

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982

† Parish prayers are offered during the music meditation. †
THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Officiant And so as Jesus taught us, we now pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.
PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you, and may you never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Officiant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.