



# Views from the Mountain

## From the Rector

*The Reverend Susan R. Ironside*

If you pay attention to commercials on the days before and after New Year's Day, you will find a plethora of ads for diets and dating sites. I suppose people want to start a new year by throwing out the remnants of the Christmas Cookies, and sprucing up your personal life. Nothing wrong with either of those things, of course. Apparently, you can also buy a new car this time of year as well. In recent days I have seen lots of companies bragging about what they do best, promising me that they can give me a better life in 2016.

So I want to do some bragging of my own, and boast of the many amazing people who make our common life so remarkable.

Do you know how many hours it takes to make our worship space ready for Christmas? A member of our Altar Guild could tell you. But they wouldn't complain, because they care for our space and our sacred vessels with cheerfulness and reverence. Acolytes get to church early to help light candles and assist me in leading worship, giving up precious and well-deserved weekend sleep. Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Ushers: all of these people serve us each and every Sunday, and worked especially diligently to welcome our many guests at Christmas. Our choir rehearses every week, even on the December evenings when the rest of us are running around trying to squeeze in one more errand before Christmas. They don't complain, either. They do it because they love to sing together, and that is the language they use for prayer. People who work on our Pastoral Care team often serve in secret. They like it that way. And they pray for us all the time. Members of the Vestry do all kinds of things behind the scenes, coordinating and leading the various ministries of our community. They don't do it for the glory (I don't think. There is very little glory involved.) They do it because they love this parish. And Jesus.

Our amazing staff members use their passion and creativity to support the work of our community. We have a gifted teaching staff in our Nursery School, and a vibrant pastoral and administrative team who attend to the details of the parish.

So Jenny Craig promises you happiness in skinny jeans, and a Lexus end-of-the-year deal will (apparently) make your driving life deeply rewarding. But I assure you that what we do here at the top of Mount Harmony Road can give you a better life. Really.

The Wardens and I hope you will join us on January 31 at 10:00 for a single worship service, and stay for our Annual Meeting. It is a great opportunity to celebrate what we do so well, and to encourage one another for the challenges and opportunities in the coming year. In the coming days, we will announce the slate of Vestry members for the coming year. We have so much to share with each other and the world. We have so many reasons to rejoice, and want to share and rejoice with you!

## ANNUAL MEETING

### Annual Meeting January 31st

Please join us for our Annual Meeting, on Sunday, January 31st, when we will have one worship service at 10 am with a meeting to immediately follow in the sanctuary.

- Coffee and light refreshments will be served.
- Nursery care will be extended until 12:30 pm.
- Children's Entertainment will be provided during the Annual Meeting. All children ages Pre-K and up are invited to Parish Hall to do crafts, while their parents attend the meeting.

**WORSHIP NEWS****FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

St. John on the Mountain continues the tradition of having fresh flowers on the altars. The arrangements enhance the sanctuary and are shared afterwards with the sick or divided to use again the following week in the chapel. Donations of flowers are made as memorials or in thanksgiving for special occasions. A date can be shared by more than one donor. The 2016 flower sign-up charts are now posted on the bulletin board in the hallway of the church building, opposite the entrance to the Chapel sacristy. For dedications and specific floral requests contact Sue Kennedy at [gdirak@aol.com](mailto:gdirak@aol.com) or the office 908-766-2282 [office@sjotm.org](mailto:office@sjotm.org). The cost is \$100 for church altar flowers and \$70 for chapel altar flowers.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
Wednesdays at 8:15 am

Please join us every Wednesday in the Parish House Meeting Room from 8:15 am - 9:15 am.

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE**

Sunday, January 31st

Due to the Annual Meeting, on Sunday, January 31st, we will have one worship service at 10 am with a meeting to immediately follow in the sanctuary. Coffee and refreshments will be provided. Nursery care will be extended to 12:30 pm.

**STEWARDSHIP 2016**

As of December 14th, we have 61 pledges for \$245,335. If you have any questions about Stewardship, please contact Paul Zanardi at [paulzanardi@gmail.com](mailto:paulzanardi@gmail.com). If you haven't already done so, please return your 2016 Pledge Card ASAP, as the Vestry needs them to make their budget decisions for the upcoming year. Extra pledge cards can be found on the web at [www.sjotm.org](http://www.sjotm.org), in the narthex or call the office 908-766-2282 to have one sent to you.

**Don't Forget that You Can Donate Your Stocks to SJOTM**

Take advantage of the tax benefits! To learn more, please contact Lisa Keenan in the office at 908-766-2282 ext 13 or by email at [L.Keenan@SJOTM.org](mailto:L.Keenan@SJOTM.org). We would be happy to accept stock donations for 2016 as form of pledge payment.

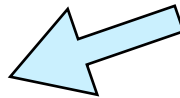
**CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS****CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

Thank you to the children of St. John on the Mountain  
for a wonderful performance of  
Gretchen Wolff Pritchard's  
*Good News of Great Joy*

For more photos of the pageant visit

[www.sjotm.org](http://www.sjotm.org)

go to *Welcome* tab and then to *Photo Gallery* tab



**Thank you to: Margot Lewis for directing the pageant and to Katie Morash for teaching and practicing the songs with the Sunday school children.**

*Thank you to Juliana DeMarco and Sarah Gudgion who helped to "herd" the children for our rehearsals and performance.  
Thank you to Paul DeMarco, Kevin McGee, Michael Mitchell, Dan Robinson, and Steve Sbaraglio for putting the set together.*

**We would also like to recognize and thank the cast:**

*Emmy Baird, Owen Baird, Sophie Bosie, Rose Costello, Daniel Daggett, Tucker Daggett, Ava DeMarco, William Gilmartin, Sophia Gudgion, Caroline Lewis, Jane Lewis, Sarah Lewis, Brigette McGee, James McKeon, Trevor McKeon, Charlotte Mitchell, Meredith Mitchell, Jack Morris, Sammy Morris, Gianni Puorro, Alex Rutz, Jack Rutz, Mattie Sbaraglio, Mia Sbaraglio, Grace Tober, John Tober, Katie Vollmar, Caspar von Hollen, Konrad von Hollen, Declan Webster, and Rowan Webster*

**Pageant Costumes**

If you still have any costumes,  
please return ASAP!

**Christmas Eve  
Building of the Crèche**

Thank you to all children who participated in the  
building of the Crèche at the Christmas Eve Family  
Service this year.



**Best Wishes as you  
celebrate your birthday  
in January**

*Meghan Robinson, James Gilmartin,  
Mia Sbaraglio, Grace Tober, Owen Baird,  
Molly Lukacsko, Garrett Davidson,  
Sheridan Davidson, Charlotte Mitchell,  
Charlotte Silverman, Bee Gibson, Alex Rutz, and  
Caspar Von Hollen*

## MISSION OUTREACH

### KIDS HELPING KIDS Results

by Katherine Hermes

Looking back at the 3rd Annual Kids Helping Kids Christmas outreach event, we are happy to report that approximately \$5,000 worth of gifts and donations were raised for kids who might not have had any Christmas gifts under the tree this year. Headed by Sandy Freas, we gave gift cards to over 24 children at Somerset House, and provided gifts and presents for 15 children at the Morris County Youth Shelter and our newest beneficiary, St. Peter's Orphanage with 15 permanent residents. These children touch our hearts with their total inability to fathom the idea of anyone that does not know them giving them anything at all. They struggle with making Christmas lists because they have been given so little in their short lives. We love that we touch their hearts and share the love and happiness of The Church of St. John on the Mountain every Christmas morning. Thank you all for donating and we will see you again next year!



*Some of the bags of donations, for the residents at Somerset Home, ready to be delivered*

### Reduce, Re-use, Recycle!

If you still have your metal wreath form and any of the decorations from Advent Wreath making, please consider bringing it back to church so that we may use it again next year.

### GRACE SOUP KITCHEN

Friday, January 29th

10 am – 1 pm

600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield, NJ

Grace Soup Kitchen serves 1,000 hot nutritious meals the last five days of each month to the hungry of Plainfield. St. John on the Mountain parishioners help on the last Friday of each month. Join us one Friday as we prepare and serve lunch. The next day scheduled for St. John on the Mountain to serve is on Friday, January 29th from 10 am – 1 pm.

If you would like to volunteer to help or if you have questions, please email Graham Argent-Belcher at [gabelcher@msn.com](mailto:gabelcher@msn.com) or call him at 908-766-1011.

### PARISH DIRECTORY

If you would like a Parish Directory, please stop by the Parish House. Directories can be found on a clipboard posted on the bulletin board. To have a digital copy sent to you call the office 908-766-2282 or email [office@sjotm.org](mailto:office@sjotm.org)

### THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY Results

Thank you to all who donated food to their *Adopt-a-Family* for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we provided meals to 13 families at Thanksgiving and 16 families at Christmas. Thank you to all of you who made a monetary donation to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County. The next opportunity for *Adopt-a-Family* will be in March for Easter.



## ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Happy 2016 from all of the teaching staff at St. John's Nursery School!

January is travel month for our pre-K classes. The children will learn about other countries through crafts, stories, songs, food, and games. Our nursery school parents volunteer to come into their child's class to teach about another country of their interest. This is a great opportunity for our families to contribute their talents and spend a little time in their child's classroom. Of course the children are thrilled to have their parent come to school for the day.

We will also be celebrating winter with a "Winter Festival" sponsored by the Travelin' Tumblers. The children will have an active day of pretend skiing, sledding, and tossing snow balls.

It's time to register for the 2016-17 school year. School tours are available upon request. All interested families please contact the nursery school director, Jeanne Williams at [jwilliams@sjotm.org](mailto:jwilliams@sjotm.org) or 908-766-0374.



Many thanks to Ken Skoglund, SJOTM's Interim Sexton for his hard work and dedication in keeping the campus buildings and grounds in tip-top condition this fall. Best of luck in 2016, Ken!

## Happy New Year from the SJOTM & SJNS Staff



L-R: Mother Susan, Lynn Mitchell, Lisa Coakley, Denise Hawkins, Jeanne Williams, Carrie Parente, Janet Moose, Karen Skoglund, Susan DeGasperis, Lisa Keenan, Billy Webster, Rick Morgan

## Ladies' Holiday Luncheon

Roxiticus Country Club  
December 17, 2015



## COMMUNITY/FELLOWSHIP NEWS

### LADIES' LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 21st

All are welcome to join the *Ladies Luncheon* on Thursday, January 21st at noon at the home of Erna Hauveis 35 Hurlingham Club Road, Far Hills. Please bring a sandwich; beverages and dessert will be provided. Kick-off the New Year with fun and fellowship. We hope to see you there. RSVP to Erna at 908-781-6993.



### ADVENT ARTS & CRAFTS

Sunday, December 13th



*Kids having fun creating seasonal crafts*



### January Birthday Wishes to

Graham Argent-Belcher, Joy Baird,  
Helen Brunet, Sandy Freas,  
Bill Hespe, Heather Leef, Jon Leef, Jeff McKeon,  
Blake Putnam, Summy Putnam,  
Melissa Sharron, Hilary Thomas, Claire Virtue,  
Pete Vollmar, Nancy Watt, Harry Wilmerding, &  
Marissa Young

### MEN'S LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 7th

Please join us on Thursday, January 7th at 12:15 pm at the Morristown Club at 27 Elm Street in Morristown. The luncheons are open to members of the parish and their guests. The favor of a reply is requested in order that a place may be reserved for you at the table, but last minute drop-ins are always welcome. Hope to see you there. For more information please contact Alan Enos at 908-234-1321 or aenos4@verizon.net.

# St. John on the Mountain

## Christmas Plants, Flowers, & Special Music have been Given to the Glory of God and

### In Thanksgiving for

Sunday School Teachers and  
Musicians,  
by Lynn Mitchell

The Morais children,  
Grace, Jack & Brady,  
by Jaimie & Michael Morais

The St. John's Choir,  
Rick Morgan,  
by Susan Ely

Our children & grandchildren,  
by Brad and Margaret Murphy

Our family and friends,  
by Beime Donaldson & Wood Huntley

My grandchildren:  
Liam, Emmy, Owen, Colin, Ryan,  
Charlie, Ben, and Georgiana,  
by Joy Baird

Family and friends,  
by Patricia Moody Snyder

Our family around the world,  
Rick Morgan and the Choir, especially  
those who have sung at SJOTM for  
more than 50 years,  
by Hilary Thomas & Ward Dorer

Our daughter,  
Christina M. Johnson,  
and all family and friends in our life,  
especially James Kent Young, brother  
of my mother,  
Mary Y. Mason,  
by Mary & Frank Johnson

Our grandchildren,  
Caroline & Whitney Zerweck and  
Tad & George Enos,  
by June & Alan Enos

Our dear mother & grandmother,  
Rachel B. Mullen and her  
contributions to the St John's Choir  
over many years,  
by George & Candida Mullen

For all our many blessings,  
by the Brown family

Our family & friends,  
The Leef Family

Our St John On The Mountain  
friends,  
by the Kennedy Family

Dr. Arthur Caliandro, Marble  
Colligate, NYC,  
Father Meade, St Thomas, NYC,  
Father Matt,  
by Barbara Mushalko

Our family and church friends,  
by Jane & Peter Mercer

The gift of family & friends,  
by Lois Lark

Wonderful friends,  
Our church family,  
All our blessings,  
Jane & Bill McKnight

Family, friends and the Choir,  
by Rachel Mullen

Our loving parents/grandparents,  
Donna & Warren Evleth, our lovely  
children, Kendall & Luke,  
family & friends,  
Lisa & Robert Rich, Jr,  
by Lisa E. Rich

### In Memory of

Fritz Lark,  
by Lois Lark

John Low Baldwin  
Philip Booth,  
by Susan Ely

Loved ones,  
by David & Joan Powell

Edythe Redman Brunet,  
Meade Brunet,  
Sally B. Beyen,  
Sally H. Brunet,  
The Geoffrey Tower Family,  
by Helen & Stuart Brunet

Eugene W. Mason, Jr.,  
Eugene W. Mason, IV,  
Eugene and Wilhelmina Mason  
Cope and Libby Walbridge,  
Warren Keegan,  
by Mary & Frank Johnson

Arnold W. Kolkebeck,  
David W. Flegal,  
by Jody Flegal

Fr John Andrew, St Thomas, NYC,  
by Barbara Mushalko

Denny Baird,  
By Joy Baird

Sidney C. Moody, Jr,  
by Patricia Moody Snyder

Judy Johnson Jones,  
by Harry T. Jones

Jette Englund,  
By Hilary Thomas & Ward Dorer

William G. Meekings,  
by the Kennedy Family

Mr. & Mrs. Benton Porterfield  
Bohannon,  
Mr. Henry John Brucker,  
by the Bruckers

Eugene W. Mason,  
Eugene W. Mason, Jr.,  
by Mary Y. Mason

Suzanne and Robert Brown,  
by the Brown family

Family members we have lost,  
by Jane & Bill McKnight

Family & friends,  
by Cam Cavanaugh

Our parents,  
Margaret F. and Oscar A. Gottscho,  
by Chris, Jon, Tilde, and Nick Gottscho

Mary and Joseph Zebedeo,  
Christine Z. Smith,  
by Debbie Smith & Ron Keefe

Nancy and David Orselet,  
Mary Ohidy,  
Doris Hatch,  
Margaret Spaulding,  
by Erin & Alan Deombeleg

David Ian Waxman, the Rich family,  
by Lisa E. Rich

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ely,  
Mr. Alfred Ely, Sr,  
Mr. & Mrs. G. Christian Bromberg,  
by Deborah & Danforth Ely

Roberta and Malcolm Forbes,  
Gerardus Beekman,  
by Sabina & Steven Forbes

George & Timothy Mullen,  
Ned Felton  
by Rachel Mullen

Grace & Eric Hopkins,  
Beatrice & Frank Heitmann,  
Robert Heitmann,  
Gladys Fox,  
By Betty Heitmann



## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

379 Mount Harmony Road  
Bernardsville, NJ 07924  
908-766-2282

### PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Susan Ironside  
*Rector*  
rector@sjotm.org x11

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Lynn Mitchell  
*Director of Children's Ministries*  
lynnmitchell@sjotm.org

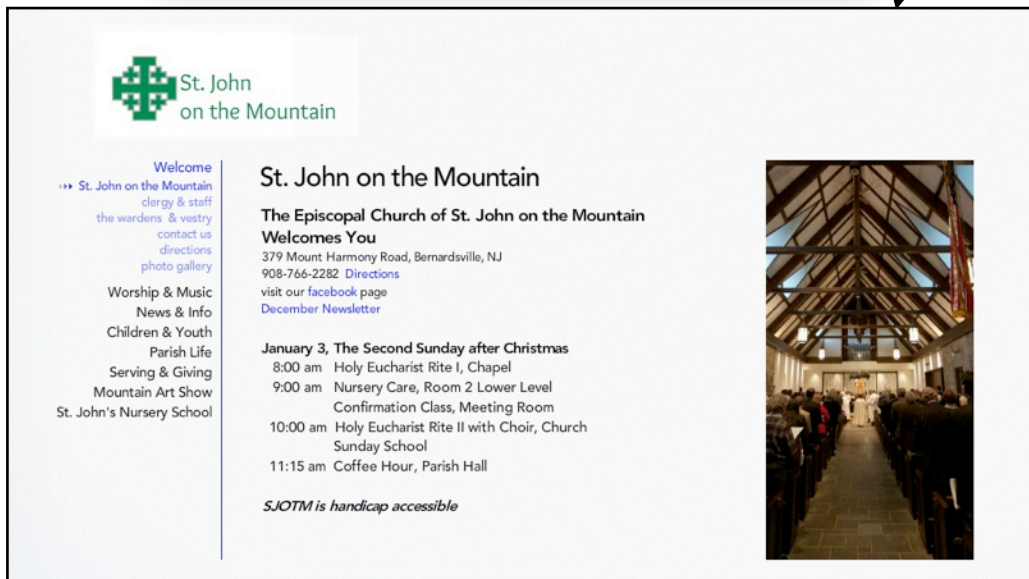
Lisa Coakley  
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Lisa Keenan  
*Finance Manager*  
L.Keenan@sjotm.org x13

FOR DAILY UPDATES AND INFORMATION,  
DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.sjotm.org](http://www.sjotm.org)

and be sure to *like us* on facebook



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

