



# Views from the Mountain

## From the Rector

*The Reverend Susan R. Ironside*

As much as Christmas is a lot of work, and I sometimes grumble about the frenzy that Christmas brings, I become hopelessly enthralled with it by nightfall on December 24. And this year was no exception. Christmas Eve was packed and noisy and wonderfully boisterous. College students were welcomed home, and teenagers towered over their parents, and little children squirmed on the laps of grandparents. We made new friends and embraced our kin whose travels have taken them to exotic places, only to return home to Mount Harmony Road on Christmas Eve to hear again the story of our ancestors and to sing the songs our people have sung for generations.

The crèche was assembled by our younger members at the early service, and the Baby Jesus was placed in the manger amidst a small flourish of chaos. A shepherd was placed standing watch beside a wise man, and a stray camel seemed to be making friends with the sheep. The altar guild lovingly pretended that we always wanted it like that, and discreetly tidied it up before the late service. The choir sang so beautifully that the Eucharistic Ministers and I sometimes struggled to not weep into the prayer book as we were leading worship. The building looked enchanted after hours of labor by our skilled volunteers who arranged flowers, hung wreaths, and placed candles.

It was a magical night.

For me, it is always a gift when our parish family gathers together, and we are reminded that we are bound to one another in a common life. We are very different, of course, and we sometimes make a mess when we gather, and don't always agree, but that can be said of every family I know!

Like all families, we have our favorite songs and the ones that make us roll our eyes, but we sing anyway because we know that one of our aunts adores it. Like all families, we share food, and we help clean up. Like all families, we talk about money, and sometimes worry about it too much. Like all families, the grandkids are sometimes

loud, and the teenagers are sometimes not around as often as we would like, and the grandparents sometimes make us worry when the weather gets bad or when cold and flu season hits. Like all families, we have cherished memories of our past and passionate hopes for our future.

Like all families, we can be an amazing, glorious mess.

And it's magical.

On January 29 we will have another opportunity to gather as a united parish community for our Annual Meeting that will be held after worship. We will have one service on that day so that the whole community can worship together and then do the important work of discussing our ministry and mission here at St. John's.

God has called us into community, and God continues to send us out into the world. Following the One who would not stay in the manger can be a daunting task, but have the Lord Jesus, and we have one another, our big, boisterous, imperfect, holy, beautiful family of God!

*Susan +*



**WORSHIP NEWS****ANNUAL MEETING****ONE WORSHIP SERVICE**

Sunday, January 29th

**Annual Meeting January 29th**

Please join us for our Annual Meeting, on Sunday, January 29th, when we will have one worship service at 10 am with a meeting to immediately follow in the sanctuary.

Type to enter text

- 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.

**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 2017 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.

**2017 HOLY BAPTISM DATES**

We baptize primarily on those dates set aside for baptism, as listed in the Book of Common Prayer. Since the presence of the community of faith is essential for welcoming the newly baptized into the church, baptisms take place in the principal service on the appointed Sunday. The next dates for Baptism are:

- Sunday, January 8th at 10 am
- Saturday, April 15th at 7 pm
- Sunday, June 4th at 10 am
- Sunday, November 5th at 10 am

Questions about baptism? Please contact Mo. Susan at [rector@sjotm.org](mailto:rector@sjotm.org).

**PRAYER LIST**

The next Pastoral Care meeting is Thursday, January 5th. If you would like to have someone added to the Prayer List, please call 908-766-2282 or email the Parish Office [office@sjotm.org](mailto:office@sjotm.org).

**PARISH REGISTER****Those Joined in Holy Matrimony**

*Allison Stadtmueller & Michael d'Amboise*

**We Pray God to Grant Eternal Rest**

✠ *Alana Cooper*

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Thursdays at 10:00 am

Please join us every Thursday in the Parish House Meeting Room from 10:00 am - 11:00 am.

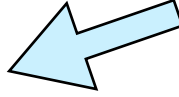
**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesdays at 8:15 am

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

**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

**Pageant Costumes**

If you still have any costumes,  
please return ASAP!

**Thank you to: Margot Lewis for directing the pageant and to Lynn Mitchell for producing the pageant**

*Thank you to Juliana DeMarco who helped to "herd" the children for our rehearsals and performance.*

*Thank you to Jim Costello, Paul DeMarco, Michael Mitchell, Steve Sbaraglio, and Pete Vollmar  
for putting the set together. Thank you to Emmy and Tressa Baird and Dolly von Hollen for setting up coffee hour.*

*Thank you to Christina Rutz and Lori Morris for helping with costume cleanup.*

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

*Sophie Bosie, Ava DeMarco, James McKeon, Sarah Gudgion, Caroline Lewis, Mia Sbaraglio, Jane Lewis, John Tober,  
Alex Rutz, Caspar von Hollen, Jack Rutz, Konrad von Hollen, Audrey Panik, Jack Morris, Sammy Morris, Owen Baird,  
James Gilmartin, Patrick Mitchell, Jack Panik, Meredith Mitchell, Sarah Lewis, Sophia Gudgion, Oyinda Emuleomo,  
Sarah Iossa, Charlotte Mitchell, Grace Tober, Elliot Goulding, William Gilmartin, Trevor McKeon, Reagan Panik,  
Sarah Lewis, Devon McKeon, Sydney Vollmar, Katie Vollmar*

**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.

**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.

**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

### FOSTERING LOVE Update



*Sunday School kids fill  
backpacks for foster children*

So many heartfelt thanks go out to the many local businesses, organizations and caring individuals who contributed to the Fostering Love program. Over 60 duffle bags and backpacks were delivered to CASA SHaW and will be further distributed to children in foster care. We expect to deliver another 20-30 in the next two weeks. Special thanks goes to the following businesses and organizations for their generous contributions:

- ❖ Plaza Salon
- ❖ Bernardsville Fire Department
- ❖ Tons of Toys
- ❖ Bookworm
- ❖ Bernardsville local Girl Scout troops 60318 and 61116
- ❖ Bernardsville local Boy Scout Pack 150

The way this community comes together to support those in need is truly unique and very special. So many thanks to all who helped this worthwhile cause.

### GRACE SOUP KITCHEN

Friday, January 27th  
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 27th 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.

### 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 8 families at Thanksgiving and 11 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 April for Easter.

## MUSIC NEWS

by Christopher Jennings

### MUSIC for CHILDREN & YOUTH

All children and youth of the parish are invited to be a part of the music program at SJOTM.

Beginning on January 22, children in grades 2 and up are invited to join in the new St. John's Boys' & Girls' Choir, which will have its first rehearsal after church, from 11:05 to 11:45 am. We will be singing in church throughout the year on important feast days and will also have fun with some new and exciting interactive apps and curriculum.

We have enjoyed having several high school students join our adult choir this Fall and welcome anyone else who is interested to join us to come to our mid-week rehearsal to try it out.

For more information, please contact Christopher Jennings, Director of Music.

**STEWARDSHIP 2017**

As of January 3rd, we have 80 pledges for \$290,557. If you have any questions about Stewardship, please contact Chip Baird at [cbaird@amicusrx.com](mailto:cbaird@amicusrx.com) or Melissa Sharron at [melissa.sharron@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.sharron@gmail.com). If you haven't already done so, please return your 2017 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.

In this Stewardship Season, The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry are grateful for the faithfulness and generosity of the following people whose gifts support the mission of our parish.

Graham and Wendy Argent-Belcher  
 Beau and Gretchen Atwater  
 Doris Aufschlager  
 Chip and Tressa Baird  
 Joy Baird  
 Grosvenor and Betsey Blair  
 Ann Bobrow  
 Stuart and Helen Brunet  
 Bill and Sue Catlett  
 Catherine Cavanaugh  
 Charles and Jean Chapin  
 James and Kathy Christie  
 Kathy Christie  
 Bob and Mary Courtemanche  
 Peter Courtemanche  
 Christian and Gerry-Jo Cranmer  
 Christopher and Beatrice Daggett  
 Alessandro and Sarah DeGregori  
 Alan and Erin Deombeleg  
 Richard and Nina Dixon  
 Ward Dorer and Hilary Thomas  
 Olu and Uchente Emuleomo  
 Alan and June Enos  
 Kit and Kathy Falcon  
 Dorothy Faux  
 Kevin and Cindy Feeley  
 Jo-Ellen Flegal

Steve and Sabina Forbes  
 Elizabeth Gaver  
 Katy George and Paul Cain  
 Andrew and Jocelyn Gilmartin  
 David and Cookie Goulding  
 Alouis and Erna Hauéis  
 Stephanie Hauéis  
 Gates and Mary Ellen Hawn  
 Betty Heitmann  
 Bill and Sally Hespe  
 Burton How  
 Wood Huntley and Beirne Donaldson  
 Susan Ironside  
 Mary Johnson  
 Craig Johnston  
 Melinda Judd  
 John and Abigail Kean  
 Anne Kearns  
 Ronald and Susan Kennedy  
 Bob and Lindsay Kielley  
 Lois Lark  
 Clyde Leef  
 Jon and Heather Leef  
 Merritt and Margot Lewis  
 Mary Mason  
 Rich and Vicky McGlynn  
 Jeff and Robin McKeon

Jane and William McKnight  
 George Mellendick and Jim Williams  
 Peter and Jane Mercer  
 Sandy and Joan Millspaugh  
 Michael and Lynn Mitchell  
 Patricia Moody and Collins Snyder  
 Steven and Lori Morris  
 Rachel Mullen  
 Bradford and Margaret Murphy  
 Eric and Beth Murphy  
 Barbara Mushalko  
 Martin and Margo Packouz  
 Jim and Katie Porter  
 Cynthia Potter  
 David and Joan Powell  
 Doug and Christina Rutz  
 Steve and Antoinette Sbaraglio  
 Lindley and Christine Scarlett  
 Melissa Sharron  
 Dorothy Smullen  
 Harriet and Jack Snyder  
 Peter and Kathy Tober  
 Peter and Patty Vollmer  
 Ulrich and Dolly von Hollen  
 Marion White  
 John and Suzanne Woods  
 Paul and Valerie Zanardi

### **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.

## COMMUNITY/FELLOWSHIP NEWS

### LADIES' LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 19th

All are welcome to join the *Ladies Luncheon* on Thursday, January 19th. Check the bulletin and website for the hostess and location.

Please bring a sandwich; beverages and dessert will be provided. Kick-off the New Year with fun and fellowship.

### ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

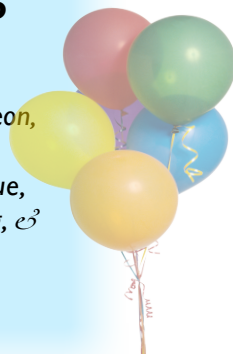
Happy 2017 from the teaching staff at St. John's Nursery School!

In January our pre-K classes will be traveling! They will learn about other countries through songs, stories, food, and games. Many of the children's parents will be visiting their class to teach about another country of their interest. This is a great opportunity for our parents to share their talents and spend time with their child in class. Other activities this month include observing the wonders of winter, pajama parties, and celebrating Chinese New Year!

It's time to think about registration 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.

### 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 5th

Please join us on Thursday, January 5th 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](mailto:aenos4@verizon.net).

### ADVENT ARTS & CRAFTS

Sunday, December 4th



# St. John on the Mountain

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

### In Thanksgiving for

Sunday School children and teachers,  
*by Lynn Mitchell*

Our daughter,  
Christina M. Johnson,  
and family and friends,  
*by Mary & Frank Johnson*

Mother Susan,  
*The Leef Family*

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

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

Our wonderful family and friends,  
*by the Kennedy Family*  
The St. John's Choir and Christopher,  
*by Susan Ely*

My family and friends,  
*by Patricia Moody Snyder*

The fellowship of St. John's,  
*by Brad and Margaret Murphy*

My loving parents, Donna & Warren Evleth,  
God's many blessings, family, friends,,  
*by Lisa Evleth Rich*

My new great grandsons,  
Nolan & Jonathan,  
*by Betty Heitmann*

Celebrating forty years of life  
with this parish,  
*by Pat, Margaret-Anne,  
Lisa and Peter Warlick*

Our daughters,  
*by Merritt & Margot Lewis*

My family and my many blessings,  
*by Lois Lark*

Elliot John Goulding,  
*by David & Cookie Goulding*

**Donations by**  
Bette Gaver  
Sandy Millsbaugh

### In Memory of

Fritz Lark, John and Stella Nye,  
Fritz and Ruth Lark  
*by Lois Lark*

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

Judy Johnson Jones,  
*by Harry T. Jones*

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

Our parents, Ethel & Franklin  
Rigg,  
Elizabeth & Robert Mercer,  
*by Jane & Peter Mercer*

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

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

Arnold W. Kolkebeck,  
Julia Kolkebeck,  
David W. Flegal,  
Carolyn Silverman,  
*by Jody Flegal*

Amy Ironside  
*by Susan Ironside*

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

James Grewar Christie and  
Joanne Reid Christie,  
Harold Berard Haywood and  
Julia Richardson Haywood,  
*by Kathy Christie*

Our parents, Kay, Del,  
Clare, and Lafe,  
*by David & Joan Powell*

William G. Meekings,  
*by the Kennedy Family*

Sidney C. Moody, Jr,  
*by Patricia Moody Snyder*

Joan Cavanaugh, Fred  
Cavanaugh, Cliff Cavanaugh,  
*by Cam Cavanaugh*

Robert Heitmann,  
Gladys Fox,  
*by Betty Heitmann*

Ginna McBride DeKorte,  
Judy Kastner Lewis, Jack  
DeKorte,  
Don DeKorte,  
*by Merritt & Margot Lewis*

Irene Salinas, Christopher  
Goulding,  
Lucy Goulding  
*by David & Cookie Goulding*

Tom Ladas,  
*by the Rutz family*

John Baldwin,  
*by Susan Ely*

Our parents,  
Katherine & Merrill Chapin,  
Clarissa & Andrew Marchwald,  
Fay Todd, Georgie Stanley,  
Helen Marx, Sylvia Erhart,  
*by Charlie & Jeanie Chapin*

Edythe Redman Brunet,  
Meade Brunet,  
Sally B. Brunet,  
Sally H. Brunet,  
Annette Tower, Geoffrey Tower,  
Tripp Tower, Annette R. Tower,  
Peter Tower,  
*by Helen & Stuart Brunet*

Katherine and Dick  
Schumacher,  
*by June and Alan Enos*

Nancy & David Orselet,  
Mary Ohidy, Doris Hatch,  
*by Alan & Erin Deombeleg*

## 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

Christopher Jennings  
*Director of Music & Organist*  
cjennings@sjotm.org x14

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

Lisa Coakley  
*Parish Administrator*  
office@sjotm.org x10

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