



All Saints Episcopal Church
214-35 40th Avenue, Bayside, NY 11361
www.allsaintsbayside.org

132nd Annual Meeting January 28, 2024

Vestry Attendance: Rector - Fr. Laurence Byrne, **Wardens** – Judith Batashoff & John Sandrowsky. **Deacon** – Rev. Marjorie Boyden-Edmunds.

Treasurer – Robert Earle

Members – Gary Bjornson, Francesca DellaVecchia Bergenn, Karrie Sheridan, Brianne Leslie, Gary and Megan Adams

**Excused - Marc Palmieri and Judith Batashoff.*

Father Byrne called the meeting to order at 12:15 P.M. Meeting opened with a prayer.

Adoption of Agenda – Agenda unanimously adopted.

Adoption of Minutes – K Agenda unanimously adopted.

Vestry Elections: Father Byrne reviewed the voting rules.

- Presented Candidates:
 - Warden – 1-year term, Jan. 28, 2024 – Jan. 26, 2025 – Judith Batashoff & John Sandrowsky. (*** Warden terms are now 1 year**)
 - Vestry Member – 3-year term, Jan. 28, 2024 – Jan 24, 2024: Francesca DellaVecchia Bergenn, Melanie Dobuler and Diane B. Ambrose.

The floor was opened for nominations. There were none. John Sandowsky made a motion to accept the slate as proposed and seconded by Pat Walton. All in favor.

Rector's Report: Father Byrne presented his Annual Rector's report:

Total Saturday Evening/ Sunday Attendance: **2,816 in-person**

Average Sunday Attendance: 53 in-person

Total Easter Attendance: 94; Total Christmas Attendance: **111**

Total Communion Received: **2,878**

Saturday Evening/ Sunday H.E. services: **62**, Saturday Evening/ Sunday M.P. services: **4**

Baptisms: **3**, Burials: **6**

- **Worship & Liturgy:** Online attendance is staying strong.
 - Our number has risen and is getting back to normal. 8:00 am services are held on the first Sunday of most months. Attendance is small but good to offer.
 - *Some* of the liturgical highlights of the year included the Way of the Cross walking through the neighborhood, our Easter celebrations, the annual outdoor service, Pentecost with Grace, Whitestone, and our Christmas Pageant.
 - One of the best things to happen at All Saints in 2023 was to have The Rev. Marjorie Boyden-Edmunds assigned to be our deacon.

- **Christian Formation:** In Advent, a fourth annual daily online Advent calendar that includes a prayer and a brief meditation. This year, the theme was different genres of art that bring the message to us.
- **Diocese & Deanery** continues to serve on the Board of Managers of Camp DeWolfe, 2023 was a successful year. Father continues to be chaplain to the Diocesan Altar Guild and serves as 2nd Vice President of the National Altar Guild Association.
- **Buildings/Admin/Personnel:**
 - Mosaic Church has not paid their full rent since May of 2023. With the help of the Diocese and, with legal counsel, we have done our best to work with them, but to no avail. We began eviction proceedings, and they are to leave on or before March 31st. Although they defaulted on rent, they have been paying utilities.
 - Donations were given for various upgrades around the church.
- **Outreach and Evangelism:** Many programs, which we hope to continue to launch – All Saints Arts, the blessing Box, Advent/Christmas Adopt A Family, “Knock Knock Give A Sock”, and the Thrift Shop (reopened in 2023!).
- Questions asked/Statements made:
 - *What is “Safe Church Certification?”* - Safe Church certification is a training program that helps churches create safe environments for children, students, and other attendees. The program covers topics such as child and youth protection, sexual harassment prevention, and whistleblower policies.

Treasurer’s Report: The 2023 budget was adopted by the vestry was presented to the congregation.

“2023 Pledges collected totaled \$90,255, representing a 3 % increase (\$2,629) compared to prior year’s pledges. Total Offerings, including Loose Plate, Initial, and Holiday were up by \$3,852, representing an increase of 4% as we continue to see larger in-person numbers. Funds from Parish Activities were up 79.1% compared to 2022 due to several events as well as a successful Holly Bazaar. While we saw an increase in church and common room rentals, we experienced a -56.6% decline in Parish Property rentals due to the unfortunate situation with the parish house tenants (Mosaic Church). Overall, Total Revenue was down -26.1% compared to FY2022.”

See the 2023 report for details.

- Questions asked/Statements made:
 - *What events cost the church money?* We are doing more to hold events like stewardship and hospitality.
 - Karen suggested using church China, rather than paper plates
 - Restricted Memorial are donations that are to be used in a specific manner.
 - *Why did the Endowment Fund drop?* - We had to draw from it.

Events Committee:

- The Blessing Box – Teddy and Diana have been running with it!
- Holly Bazaar – every year is different, evolving and making sure we stay true to tradition.

Communications: Every concert and service are livestream. The church is on social media: YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, website and our TikTok page is being followed by the Episcopal Church page! Updated message for the telephone to change for each holiday and season.

Altar Guild Report: Stella Elder presented the Altar Guild report. The Altar Guild remains self-sustaining. With a balance of \$12,000, Altar Guild will be investigating the cost of refinishing the floor in the church and will help contribute to it. All new members are welcome, NOT just women, MEN ARE WELCOMED TOO!

Sunday School: Susan Byrne reported that the hybrid ministry has been a success and that they have been putting together activities for kids to do at home with families.

Warden's Report: (please see the full report on the website)

- In-house talent to help avoid costs is greatly encouraged!
- Stewardship: we had a great speaker in Rob to give us more insight on stewardship. We had a great tea to go along with the presentation.
- Mosaic: With guidance from the Diocese and meetings with the Vestry, we began legal proceedings. We got an attorney, and the court provided a judgement against Mosaic and we got an eviction date.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm, with prayer for those who have passed.

To view documents from the 2024 meeting, you can see it on our website:
<https://www.allsaintsepiscopalbayside.org/special-videos/annual-meeting-2024/>

