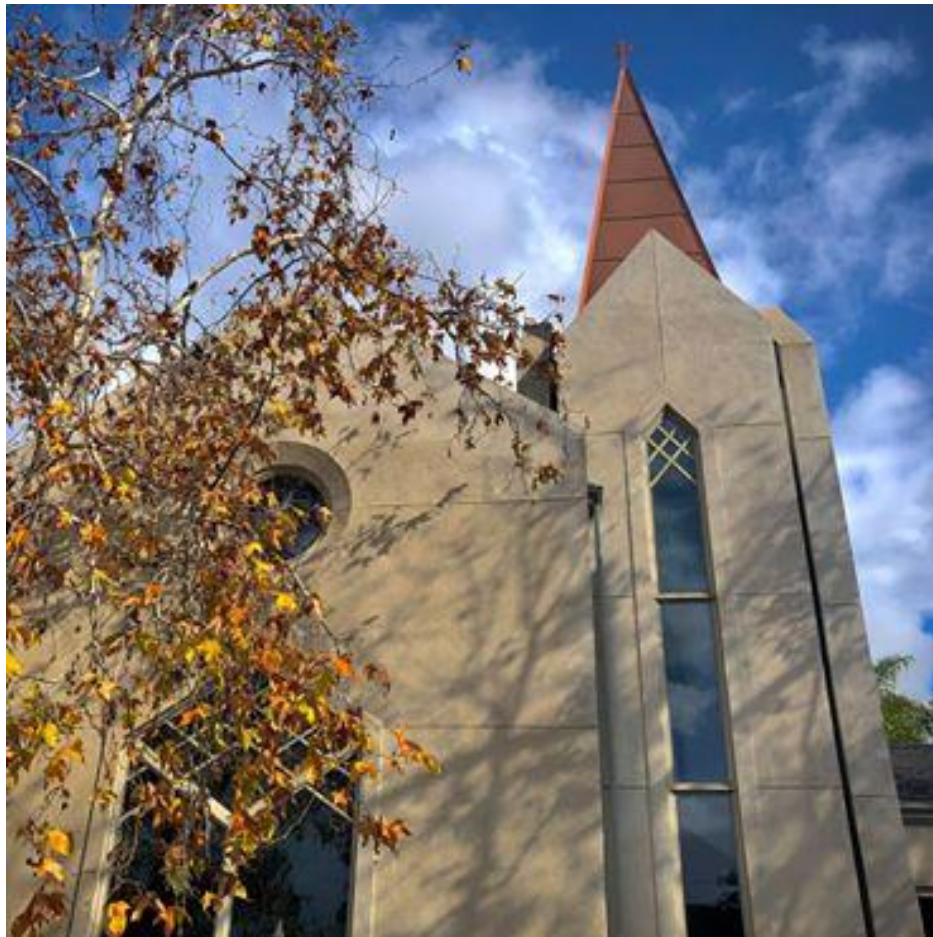


# **St. John's Episcopal Church 2020 Annual Report**



## **Mission Statement**

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
Chula Vista

**72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Agenda**  
Sunday, January 24, 2021

- 10:00am      **Prayer and Reflection**
- 10:05am      **Call to Order and Rules of Engagement**
- Appreciations**
- Vestry Membership  
                Jim McDevitt, Judy McKay, Lynn Young – terms ending
  - Mark Higginbotham – Diocesan Servant Ministry Award
  - Terry Farrelly – Treasurer (term ending)
- 10:15am      **2020 Annual Meeting Minutes – Clerk**
- Treasurer's Report – Terry Farrelly**
- Financial Summary (2020 Year End)
  - Finance Committee
  - 2021 Budget
- Ministry Reports – See Annual Report on St. John's website**
- 10:30am      **Business Session**
- Election of Vestry Members
    - Lynn Young
    - Alejandra Valdez-Beer
    - Jane Ferguson
  - Election of Delegates (2) and Alternate (2) for Diocesan Convention
  - Congregational Discussion – Open Forum for Questions and Concerns
- 10:50am      **Remarks**  
David Dennehy, *Senior Warden*  
Rev. Roger Haenke, *Rector*
- 11:00 am      **Prayer and Adjournment**

**Upcoming Special Events:**

**Spaghetti Dinner and Fundraiser – Saturday, February 13, 2021**  
**Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, February 17, 2021**

## ***Called to Eternal Life***

This past year, we remembered and celebrated the lives of many from our parish. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

***Barbara Ervin***

***Roland James***

***Flo Looney***

***Dee Parmley***

***Emma Gonzales***

***Eva Cummings***

***Rev. Al Stott***

***Fr. Jack Tolley***

***Rob McKay***

***Robert Bailey***

***Minnie Hernandez***

***Greg Livingston***

***June Farle***

***Mark Higginbotham***

***Ed Wilson***

***Joan Nagy***

***George Cowan***

***O God whose mercies cannot be numbered,  
accept our prayers on behalf of your servants  
and grant them an entrance into the land of light  
and joy in the fellowship of your saints.  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen***

***St. John's Episcopal Church***  
***71<sup>st</sup> Annual Church Meeting Minutes***  
**Sunday, January 26, 2020**

David Dennehy called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. Fr. Jack Tolley offered the opening prayer.

Mark Jordan moved, Mark Higginbotham seconded approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting, and the motion passed.

At the January 22 Vestry meeting, that body approved the 2020 Budget, which was now brought to the Annual Meeting. Copies were provided, and Treasurer Terry Farrelly was available to answer questions. She acknowledged Sally Elliott as well as the Finance Committee (Bill Cheney, Bob Dunn, Michael Morris, Marcia Morris) and explained the process for bringing a financial report to Vestry each month. Last year the Church took in \$15,000 more than was spent. Despite fewer pledges compared to 2018 (deaths, moves), the total amount pledged increased in 2019.

Senior Warden Karen Duignan acknowledged staff (Sally Elliott, Maria Love, Ryan Attaway, Gary Clapp, and Liz Andersen) and Cheryl Seppala, organist and Choir Director. Also the Calling Committee (Alice Burnham, Helena Livingston, Lynn Boster, Tim Attaway, Bob Dunn, and Jane Ferguson), retiring Vestry members (herself, Mark Jordan, and David Dennehy), and Clerk of Vestry Diane Gustafson.

Denis Eddleman moved, Lee Maule seconded approval of the slate for Vestry: Muriel Kulikowski, Mark Higginbotham, and David Dennehy. David was eligible to run again since he had fulfilled one year of an unexpired term.

Mark Jordan moved, Bill Gustafson seconded approval of the delegates for Convention, and the motion passed. Delegates are David Dennehy and Bob Dunn; alternates are Mark Higginbotham and Ed Wilson.

Rev. Roger Haenke thanked outgoing Senior Warden Karen Duignan and announced that he has appointed David Dennehy to be Senior Warden for 2020.

An open forum followed. Among the topics raised were praise for the Vestry, the possibility of substituting white wine for red wine during Communion, the improved condition of the property now after years of neglect, praise for Mark Jordan's handling of many small but crucial projects.

The meeting concluded with brief remarks by Rev. Roger Haenke, who cited the Diocesan focus on discipleship, evangelism, and service in the next three years, and an appeal from Rev. Cathey Dowdle for consider joining groups such as Altar Guild and Choir.

Mark Jordan moved to adjourn at 11:10 a.m., Denise Eddleman seconded, and the motion passed.

Diane Gustafson, Clerk of Vestry

# **2020 Annual Ministry Reports**

## ***Treasurer's Report***

It goes without saying that 2020 was a challenging year in every way. Nevertheless, in the midst of these challenges, the St John's community continued to connect and support each other. This support was profoundly reflected in the financial generosity of the parishioners. It is with a great amount of thanksgiving that we can report that the parish 2020 pledge income met the 2020 pledged amount. What a blessing!

In order to deal with the uncertainty of a pandemic, the Vestry took several steps to firm up the church financial resources.

First, we applied and received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan as part of the CARES Act. We received \$12,781. We will file for forgiveness, per the terms of the CARES Act, and expect the loan will be forgiven some time in 2021.

Second, we worked with the Diocese and deferred 5 months of loan principal payments, which resulted in additional cash reserves of \$36,747 in 2020.

Third, we also applied for, and received approval, of a \$20,000 property grant from the Diocese which we used to make much needed repairs and improvements to the church buildings and grounds.

Terry Farrelly, Treasurer

## ***Finance Committee***

The St. John's Finance Committee consists of:

Terry Farrelly (Treasurer), Sally Elliott, Bob Dunn, Marcia Morris, Michael Morris, and Bill Cheney.

The Finance Committee is mandated to focus on financial planning and reporting, as well as monitoring compliance. Every month we meet to review financial statement and reports. The Committee works diligently to provide accurate and timely guidance to the Vestry. We assist in the development and creation of the annual budget, and work to ensure that we stay within our financial boundaries.

The Finance Committee's role is to provide financial oversight for the Parish, and to provide effective guidance to the Vestry as they make decisions which affect the financial health of the Church.

At our monthly meetings, we review financial report variances so that we can verify we are staying within our budget, and addressing if revenue shortfalls are being met with corresponding expense reductions, or other actions. We actively work to be good stewards of the Parish finances and work to give good and practical advice to the Vestry. We also review the controls over the Parish assets and that all policies are followed with regard to money handling, insurance protection, and proper supervision of bank statements.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Cheney

## 2021 Budget

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget
<b>Income</b>		
4010 Pledges	\$145,000	\$122,000
4020 Plate	\$7,500	\$5,000
4030 Donations	\$8,000	\$8,000
Total 4000 Contributed Income	\$160,500	\$135,000
4055 Clergy Discretionary	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total 4200 Other Parish Income	\$14,000	\$7,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$175,500</b>	<b>\$143,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Total 5000 Personnel Expenses	\$150,000	\$167,200
Total 6000 Administrative Expenses	\$20,500	\$17,160
Total 6100 Outside Services	\$24,000	\$13,000
Total 6200 Supplies	\$3,500	\$3,500
Total 6300 Communications	\$5,060	\$5,060
Total 6400 Buildings & Grounds	\$20,000	\$22,150
Total 6500 Professional Services	\$6,000	\$8,500
Total 6600 Insurance - Property	\$7,700	\$8,000
6700 Dues & Subscriptions	\$300	\$300
Total 7000 Liturgy & Music	\$28,000	\$28,000
7100 Clergy Discretionary Expenses	\$400	\$400
7200 Outreach	\$1,500	\$2,500
7400 Mission Share Diocesan Support	\$31,551	\$29,285
7500 Stewardship Expenses	\$500	\$500
7600 Conferences & Conventions	\$900	\$900
7800 Food Services	\$1,250	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$301,161</b>	<b>\$306,455</b>
<b>Net Income Church</b>	<b>-\$125,661</b>	<b>-\$163,455</b>
Lease Income	\$318,318	\$326,429
Property management fee	\$13,000	\$13,000
Repairs	\$5,000	\$3,000
Insurance	\$11,084	\$11,500
<b>TOTAL LEASE EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$29,084</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>
<b>NET income Lease</b>	<b>\$289,234</b>	<b>\$298,929</b>
lease fee/replace with "set aside" for property work	\$13,200	\$6,000
Loan	\$142,858	\$142,858
<b>Net Income from ECS lease after loan pymt</b>	<b>\$133,176</b>	<b>\$150,071</b>
<b>Corporate Net Income from Church and ECS lease</b>	<b>\$7,515</b>	<b>-\$13,384</b>
<b>PPP loan</b>		<b>\$12,781</b>
<b>NET</b>		<b>-\$603</b>

## ***Rector's Report***

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."  
— **Mother Teresa**

Change has the potential to lead to positive growth. In the past year, we have experienced much change; some from within and many others from outside of our control. You have accepted and embraced these changes with much grace. I would like to highlight several of the changes that occurred in the past year.

### **Gratitude and Recognition**

I would like to express my deep gratitude for the openness and acceptance of the clergy, staff, vestry member, ministry leaders and member of St. John's. You have welcomed me with open arms as your Priest-in-Charge and then, Rector, and have allowed me the opportunity to grow in my pastoral ministry in the Episcopal Church. In the midst of a health crisis, political divisiveness, and the experience of natural and human devastation, the unity that we experience at St. John's is nothing less than the grace of God to be shared with all who are in need. As we say farewell to Judy McKay, Jim McDevitt and Lynn Young from our Vestry, I want to thank them on our behalf for their years of service and dedication to the Church through St. John's.

I give thanks to God for all of you. May the Lord who has begun the good work in you, bring it to completion.

### **Call of a new Priest-in Charge**

It was an honor and privilege to have been called as your Priest-in-Charge, which I began on January 13, 2020. At that time, we entered into a relationship of getting to know one another and nurturing in our faith. We committed ourselves to being disciple of Jesus, serving the needs of other, proclaiming the presence of God and walking in the way of love.

### **COVID-19 Pandemic – Parish Operations Guidelines**

This has been a challenging year as our city, state, country and the world was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. This virus spread quickly, infecting thousands of people resulting in the death of over 400,000 people in our country.

Because of the seriousness of this pandemic, we needed to adapt to state and diocesan guidelines to minimize the spread of the disease and protect the health of our parishioners. In March, we suspended in-person worship and parish gatherings.

- Our worship services have been held virtually by livestreaming our services on the internet.
- Morning Prayer and Bible Study has been held as Zoom meetings.
- Small groups were organized so that we stayed connected by phone, email or US mail
- Parish staff work remotely at home, except for essential business
- All parish meetings have been held on Zoom

### **Becoming a Parish**

Since 2011, St. John's was imposed with the status of a Mission Action Parish. The parish has resolved all of the conditions for that status. In October, Bishop Susan returned St. John's to full, regular parish status. With St. John's returning to regular parish status, the canons allow for the calling of a Rector of the parish. To that end, the Vestry of St. John's, called Rev. Roger Haenke to be the Rector of the parish.

### **Diocesan Convention**

Our annual Diocesan Convention was held virtually in November. Bishop Susan chose the theme: "Casting Our Nets"; reminding us that if one way doesn't work, try a new way – cast your nets to the other side of the boat. At the convention, Bishop Susan presented her Strategic Plan for the Diocese of San Diego. We, as a parish, will continue to strengthen our relationship with the diocese and work closely with diocesan leadership to implement the Strategic Plan. (Please see attached at the end of this report)

Also, Mark Higginbotham was awarded the Servant Ministry Award for his dedicated ministry and witness to the church.

### **Pastoral Ministry**

It would be customary to provide the parish with a summary of some quantifiable aspects of the Rector's ministry in 2020, but, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Sunday attendance has been difficult to determine.

Following the state and diocesan pandemic guideline to suspend in-person worship, we gather virtually for the livestreaming of our worship service. In the Fall, we were able to gather in-person outdoors in our courtyard. That, too, has been put on hold because of the increasing number of infections and death.

Likewise, because of the pandemic, pastoral and Eucharistic visits have not been permitted. As a means of staying connected, we did intentionally create small groups who would contact one another by phone, email or US mail.

Rev. Cathey has continued to gather parishioners for our Wednesday Morning Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom. The average attendance is 9 people.

### **Mission Statement**

*St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.*

It is my vision and goal to embrace this Mission Statement. This year has been identified by Bishop Susan as the Year of Evangelization. We will look at opportunities to make the wider community aware of who St. John's is as a community of faith, ie. Military/Veteran Friendly Congregation. Our Outreach activities for those who are in need will tell the community that we are a parish that serves Christ in all people. As a parish, we will collaborate with other churches in proclaiming the love of God by word and deed, and the building up of His kingdom on earth.

Rev. Roger Haenke, Rector



## ***Music Ministry***

St. John's choir looks forward to leading the congregation in song once again in 2021. 2020 was an especially disappointing year for our choir. The pandemic restrictions on singing added an extra layer of sadness for those who love to make music together.

Our choir year started normally with our weekly rehearsals and weekly Sunday morning offertory anthems through March 8, the second Sunday of Lent, as we prepared music for the upcoming joyous celebration of Easter. Although we were "out of business" the remainder of the year, many of our choir members continued to individually provide music for our outdoor services and virtual services.

A special thank you to Jane Ferguson for her commitment to St. John's choir and church. Jane led us musically with her beautiful voice through 37 services in 2020. God has given us a true treasure in Jane Ferguson and the entire Graves family for over fifty years.

Other choir members who have led us in song are Pamela Brittain and Alice Burnham. And we are indeed grateful for St. John's newest choir member, Jeff Bates, who has used his wonderful baritone voice to enhance our music the last several months. Kudos also to Ted Garcia for his heartfelt Taps presentations.

St. John's received the timely donation of a Kawai console organ in August, which now resides in our choir room. We were able to put it to good use immediately for our outdoor Sunday morning services and memorial services. We look forward to using it for future Christmas cantatas and programs that require music on the lighter side.

It has been a pleasure to work with Rev. Roger this first year as our rector. I appreciate his focus on liturgy and music and his commitment to maintaining traditional instrumental and vocal music at St. John's. A special thank you to Cliff Berkowitz for the untold hours he has spent recording, editing and fine-tuning our virtual worship services. They have both endured an unbelievably daunting first year at St. John's and have shown us their commitment and their talents despite the pandemic and so many tragic losses at St. John's.

I remain grateful to serve as your organist since 1973 and choir director since 2007. St. John's is truly one of the most beautiful churches in our diocese. Musically we are blessed with a glorious sanctuary with wonderful acoustics, a large and versatile organ that has served us well for twenty-four years, an excellent grand piano and an enthusiastic choir that is always ready to minister musically.

We hope 2021 will allow more opportunities to make a joyful noise.

Cheryl Seppala, Organist/Director

## ***Flower Guild***

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has donated to St. John's flowers in 2020, be it through the weekly flower request chart, Holy holidays (Easter Lilies and Christmas Poinsettias) or just donations. You have made our sanctuary and our outside services look truly amazing with these fresh flowers. The Flower Guild could not continue if it were not for your generosity. We will continue doing flowers for 2021, even with the restrictions of COVID-19.

St. John's is blessed with very talented people and would like to thank the people who replied on their time and talent cards for flowers. If anybody else is interested in making flower arrangements, please contact Judy Butcher, Lynn Young or myself.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Morris, Flower Guild Coordinator

### ***The Order of the Daughters of the King St. Margaret's Chapter***

Daughters are committed to Prayer, Service, and Evangelism. As members we carry out this responsibility by praying for the special needs of our church community, with prayer request cards always available for all. As individuals we serve our Saint John's community and the wider church in numerous, varied ways. At baptisms we offer a prayer shawl to the newly baptized and continue to pray for them through several years.

We meet every month on the 3rd Thursday and we continue to grow as we welcomed one new members in 2020: Diane Gustafson. All members complete a 12-week study to understand who Daughters are and what we do, after which new members dedicate themselves to undertaking God's call to the Rules of Life and Prayer the Order observes. You will recognize us by the unique silver cross we wear as an outward and visible sign of our vows. If you have an interest in learning more about the Daughter's please contact Rev. Cathey Dowdle at (619) 807-8951 or at revcat@gmail.com.

For His Sake, Rev. Cathey Dowdle

### ***Outreach Ministry***

Last year's challenges affected St John's Outreach capabilities, but we were still able to have an impact in a positive way on our local community. Here is an outline of the contributions that St. John's congregation made during 2020.

#### **South Bay Community Services (SBCS) Emergency Food Pantry**

Parishioners faithfully brought food items, and other food staples, to the designated area in Nale Hall, even during the pandemic. Food was given to the South Bay Community Services Emergency Food Pantry, where it was distributed to families in the South Bay to help make ends meet when their food supplies run out. This is one of the longest running ministries at St. John's.

#### **Thanksgiving Blessings In A Bag**

In 2020, our Blessings In a Bag campaign happened through monetary and gift card donations. Even during the pandemic, the generosity of St. John's was evident: we were able to give SBCS \$860.00 in cash and grocery store gift cards.

#### **Episcopal Community Services (ECS) Maundy Thursday**

St. John's collected \$370, 135 pairs of socks and 12 bags of toiletries for the Maundy Thursday Footwashing Event. The Footwashing Event was cancelled, but Norma Dunn was able to deliver the check to the Diocese.

St John's has been a major participator in this event since its inception. We can be very proud of the contributions we have made to this important annual Outreach effort which is a joint venture of ECS and our Diocese.

### **Toys For Tots**

Toys for Tots toy collection was replaced with monetary donations for 2020. We were able to give Toys for Tots a check for \$915.

### **Ongoing Collections**

The following Ministries were on hold during 2020 but will resume in 2021.

Pill Bottle Ministry

Eye Glass Recycling

Mission To Seafarers Magazine/ Book Collection

Greeting Card Collection

New Blankets Collection

## ***Women of St. John's***

The Women of St. John's had a bake sale on Super Bowl Sunday in February, which raised \$344, for the Church operating fund. but was unable to meet for the remainder of 2020.

When WOSJ are able to resume activity, we remind all women of St. John's that they are automatically members of the WOSJ.

Submitted by Diane Gustafson

## **Attachment to the Annual Report**

### **Episcopal Diocese of San Diego Strategic Plan**

#### **Church Growth**

Goal: we fulfill Jesus' great commission by increasing the number of Episcopalians in the diocese.

- Objective 1: Establish 30 new missional expressions reaching military, campus, and Latino/Asian communities by December 31, 2025
- Objective 2: Establish five to eight new church communities by December 31, 2025
- Objective 3: Grow current congregations by 20% in membership and average weekly attendance by December 31, 2025

#### **Discipleship**

Goal: we equip congregations to enable all people to grow as followers of Jesus through intentional personal and communal practices.

- Objective 1: Support and engage 100% of our congregations in discipleship programs and resources by December 2023
- Objective 2: Initiate at least one discipleship small group in 100% of the congregations in the diocese

## **Evangelism**

Goal: we equip all Episcopalians to share the love of God and spread the good news of Christ with people who may not know him.

- Objective 1: Schedule revival(s) in 2021 where half of the participants are not practicing Christians (expected attendance 5000)
- Objective 2: Create and implement an integrated communications strategy, incorporating marketing and communications, that helps people come to know Christ. This will be measured by metrics such as Youtube likes, email engagement, subscriptions
- Objective 3: Develop an integrated training and coaching series in evangelism with the goal of 4

## **Service**

Goal: we build relationships to know and love God and our neighbors and work to meet each other's needs.

- Objective 1: Incorporate Christian spiritual practices into all service opportunities to share the Good News to all those serving and all who are served by December 31, 2023
- Objective 2: Empower churches to connect with their neighbors and community programs by December 31, 2024

## **Advocacy**

Goal: we engage more people in advocacy to bring about peace, justice, and a right relationship with Jesus and all of creation.

- Objective 1: Enculturate holy conversations about immigration, creation care, racial reconciliation, affordable housing, and gun violence to inspire prayer, action, and service by December 31, 2025
- Objective 2: Collaborate with advocacy partners to promote at least four opportunities per year that engage Episcopalians in social justice work

## **Leadership**

Goal: we seek, invite, and develop transformational servant leaders.

- Objective 1: Develop a clergy competency model by March 31, 2021
- Objective 2: Incorporate transformational leadership model into clergy recruiting and training by April 30, 2021
- Objective 3: Implement a congregational development leadership program in at least 50% of congregations by December 31, 2025

## **Stewardship**

Goal: energized by faith, we empower congregations and individuals to be caring stewards of all of God's abundance.

- Objective 1: Encourage all congregations in the EDS to embrace comprehensive stewardship practices by December 31, 2025
- Objective 2: Increase church member engagement and congregational vitality by more fully utilizing member's spiritual gifts by December 31, 2023

- Objective 3: establish a missional advancement office that will diversify and expand the diocesan funding sources and raise 35% of the budget of the diocese by December 31, 2024
- Objective 4: Create a culture of tithing in the diocese so that 35% of diocesan members are tithing by December 31, 2025

## **St. John's Episcopal Church**

### **Clergy**

The Rev. Roger Haenke, *Rector*  
The Rev. Cathey Dowdle, *Pastoral Assistant*

### **Vestry**

David Dennehy, *Senior Warden*  
Mark Higginbotham, *Junior Warden (January 2020 - August 2020)*  
Terry Farrelly, *Treasurer*  
Diane Gustafson, *Clerk*  
Pamela Brittain  
Tom Brzeczek  
Ray Contreras  
Muriel Kulikowski  
Jim McDevitt  
Judy McKay  
Lynn Young

### **Staff**

Ryan Attaway, *Sexton*  
Gary Clapp, *IT Support*  
Sally Elliott, *Bookkeeper*  
Maria Love, *Parish Secretary*  
Cheryl Seppala, *Organist/Choir Director*

760 First Avenue  
Chula Vista, CA 91910-6012  
Phone: 619-422-4141  
Pastoral Care: 619-301-0724  
Email: maria@saint-johns.org  
revroger@saint-johns.org  
Website: www.saint-johns.org