

Hello St. John's Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. This quarantine is long, and we don't know how much longer it's going to go. For some, technology has been a blessing, but for those who aren't comfortable with it, being told that something is online can be daunting. I'm hoping to help you with that.

First let's start with Morning Prayer (Monday – Friday at 9:00am) and Sunday's Morning Prayer (at 10:00am). We have a YouTube channel, and if you're like me, that sounds frightening. I never really used YouTube before, my kids would show me clips on it, but to search something out for myself? Nope, I had no idea how. So you have two choices, you can go straight to the St. John's YouTube page, just click this link - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFk1vPBqjWoCRZBIIKGActw/videos> and you're there. Once you're there, you can select the service that you want to see. What if you want the Sunday Bulletin or lose this email? No problem, your second option to get to the YouTube page is to go to our website www.stjohnsbangor.org. There you will see a red band across the screen with menu choices, here you will click on "COVID-19 Updates". This brings you to a page that has the Sunday Worship Bulletins. You can click on the red "Sunday Worship Bulletin" next to the date of service you will be viewing. Now you have the bulletin. Also on that COVID-19 Updates page you will find "To stay up to date with Morning Prayer & Sunday Services please follow us on our YouTube Channel for LIVE Services". Click on the underlined "YouTube Channel for LIVE services" and that will take you right to the YouTube Channel. This is how I always get to the services. If you've never done it before, go ahead and print off these instructions, and then give them a try. You might be surprised at how easy it is to do.

Next up, online giving. Again, online giving sounded a little intimidating to me, but now I love it. If you've never done it before, start at www.stjohnsbangor.org. Again, look at the red band near the top of the page and click on "Giving", then select "Online Giving" from the drop-down box. The page that opens says "Online Giving - Make your payment online!". Here you click on the underlined blue word "online". The page that opens will ask the amount you would like to give, so here you choose the amount. Then it asks for the fund. If you have a pledge, please select "pledge payment" and if you don't, then select "Undesignated Contributions". You can also choose "Holiday Offering" if that Easter gift envelope is still haunting you on your desk or counter. Once you select the fund, then chose "Give Once" or "Give Multiple Times". This allows you to decide between a one-time gift, or the ability to set up a recurring gift, either weekly or monthly. It will ask for the gift date and your email address, fill these in and then click "continue". The next page asks how you would like to give? You can choose between Credit / Debit or your bank account. Once you fill in your account information, you click "Give". Your receipt will be sent to you email address. If you have an onrealm.org profile with us, you can sign into your account and click the "Giving" choice on the left side of the screen, then chose "+Give" on the Giving screen. All of the previous giving steps will be the same. The plus of having an onrealm.org sign in is that you can monitor your progress on your pledge, make address changes, see activities from groups you are in and more. If you don't have an onrealm.org profile, please let me know and I'll send you an invitation. If you have set it up but don't remember how to get it, I can confirm your user id and send you a password reset. I like giving online because I have an onrealm.org profile and I've stored my giving information, so making a gift only takes me a couple minutes.

Now onto our newest giving option – text giving. I will admit, that made me uncomfortable at first. Really, how do you give from your phone?? But, for your benefit, I tried it, and was shocked at how easy it was. First, you go to your message app and start a new message. Type in "StJohnsBangor" as the message, and send it to 73256. You'll get a message back instantly that says "You're almost there." And then it asks you to click a link. Click it. It will walk you through a screen very similar to the one I described when using online giving. What's even better,

is once you do it, the system remembers you. I just typed it in, and now all I have to do is put in the dollar amount and it will automatically pull the funds from the card I used the first time. Want to use a different card? No problem, there's a box to click for a new payment method. I never thought that I'd use text giving, but it's fast, it's easy, and I just gave a gift in less time than it took me to type this sentence, and I type fast.

We want to thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. Yes, services and group meetings are online, but the buildings and the staff remain. Bills continue to come in and we are doing our best to save money where we can. Please do your best to continue to make your donations. If you are struggling to make your bills, please reach out to us at community@stjohnsbangor.org and let us know. You're not in this alone.

Stay safe, stay home, be healthy. We hope to see you all again soon!

Vanessa Young, Office Manager