#### A Celebration of the Life of

## Rev. Charles A. Deacon, Jr.



May 12th, 1932 - May 30th, 2021 Beloved Husband, Father, Brother, and Priest

Saturday, June 12th, 2021 Ten o'clock in the morning

St John's-Grace Episcopal Church 51 Colonial Circle Buffalo, NY 14222

#### ST. JOHN'S - GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

51 Colonial Circle, Buffalo, NY 14222 / (716) 885-1112 Presiding Bishop Michael Curry The Right Reverend Sean Rowe, Bishop The Reverend Jon F. Lavelle, Rector

#### Welcome

We are a community who gathers in faith to walk together into the mystery and experience of love, grace, hope, and healing. Our Mission is to go into the community and partner with our neighbors, to work for justice for all, for everyone is welcome at Jesus' table.

<u>Welcome to St. John's-Grace Episcopal Church</u> This program booklet includes today's entire service. Everyone attending this service is welcome to receive the bread of communion. Everyone is welcome at Jesus' table. There are no exceptions.

To receive bread, just hold out your hands, lift your mask and consume the bread. If you do not wish to receive the bread, you may still come forward to receive a simple blessing. Just place your hands across your heart to signal that you wish to be blessed. If you do not feel comfortable participating in communion at all, that's alright, too.

You are welcome here, regardless of where you are in your own spiritual journey. If, due to physical limitations, you would like to have communion brought to you where you are seated, please tell one of the ushers.

Please wear your mask and maintain safe physical distancing of six feet. Restrooms are available. Please follow the signage ask the usher for assistance. One person at a time in the restrooms.

Directions in this program to stand, sit or kneel are only indications of custom. Do not feel obliged to do anything that does not feel right for you. We want you to feel at home here at St. John's-Grace.

## Rev. Charles A. Deacon, Jr.



The Rev. Charles A. Deacon Jr., died on Sunday May 30, 2021 at Beechwood Homes after a long illness. Born in Quincy, MA on May 12, 1932 he was the son of the late Charles A. and Winnifred (nee McQuinn) Deacon Sr. Fr. Deacon was ordained in the Diocese of Rochester in 1963 after graduating from Philadelphia Divinity School in 1962. He served as an Episcopal Priest for 58 years

mainly for the Diocese of Western NY and Western PA. He also worked for Niagara County Social Services for 20 years. Fr. Deacon is survived by his wife Deborah (nee Dickinson) Deacon. He was predeceased by his wife Ann (nee Dobbs) Deacon, who passed away on May 28, 2005.

Fr. Deacon was the father of Dr. Martha (Ron) Kershaw, Andrew (Barbie) Deacon and the late Amy (Jack) Ives. He was a proud grandfather of Elizabeth Kershaw, Valdeva (Matt) Crema, Stephan Deacon, and Henry Deacon. Fr. Deacon was the brother of the late Virginia (Charles) Carter; Winnifred (Carl) Jackson and Claire (Edward) Durgin. He is survived by many nieces, nephews and greatgrandchildren.

Fr. Deacon was a Mason for 66 years member of the Niagara Lodge #375. He also volunteered at LCTV and was a benefactor for the Dale Association of Lockport. He was involved in several Toastmaster's groups locally including the AM Lockport Toastmasters. He has been published locally through his work with the Northtown Writers.

Friends may call on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 2-6 PM at Prudden and Kandt Funeral Home, 242 Genesee Street, Lockport. A Service will be held on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at Saint John's-Grace Episcopal Church, <u>51 Colonial Cir, Buffalo, NY 14222</u>. Memorials to the WNY Cystic Fibrosis Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences at www.pruddenandkandt.com.

### I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

*Waterlife* John C. Ylvisaker, 1985

"I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

"In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

#### O Paradise

Paradise Malcolm Williamson, AO, CBE (1931-2003)

O Paradise, O Paradise, who does not crave for rest? Who would not seek the happy land where they that loved are blest:

Where loyal hearts and true stand ever in the light, All rapture through and through in God's most holy sight. O Paradise, O Paradise!

O Paradise, O Paradise, the world is growing old; Who would not be at rest and free where love is never cold?

O Paradise, O Paradise, we long to sin no more; We long to be as pure on earth as on thy spotless shore:

O Paradise, O Paradise, we shall not wait for long; E'en now the loving ear may catch faint fragments of thy song:

Lord Jesus, King of Paradise, O keep us in thy love, And guide us to that happy land of perfect rest above:

Frederick William Faber, C.O. (1814-1863)

You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Be not afraid. I go before you always. Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.

If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.

If you stand before the power of hell and death is at your side, know that I am with you through it all.

Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you!

# O God, You Search Me and You Know Me Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) Psalm 139

O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are before me: ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar, and with love everlasting you besiege me: in every moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have known its meaning through and through. You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past, and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me, still I search for shelter from your light. There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me, gave me life within my mother's womb. For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

#### **Entrance Rite**

At the sound of the bell, all stand.

**Processional Hymn** I Am the Bread Of Life

*I Am the Bread of Life* 

"I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hunger; they who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father draw them."

"And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day."

"I am the resurrection; I am the life. They who believe in me, even if they die, they shall live forever."

Yes, Lord, we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world.

Suzanne Toolan, RSM (b. 1927) from the Gospel of John



I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.
And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

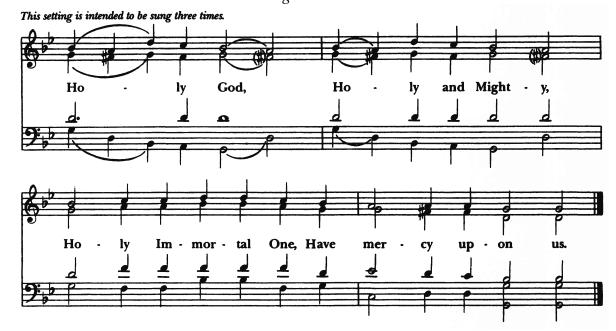
As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

## Holy God Trisagion

after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)  $sung\ 3\ times$ 



*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

A silence may be kept, after which the Celebrant says

#### Collect

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother Charles. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Deborah, Martha & Ron, Andrew & Barbie, Jack, Elizabeth, DeeDee & Matt, Stephan, Henry, Winnifred, Claire, and all of Charles' beloved family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

## Liturgy of the Word

## **First Reading**

Deborah Deacon

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. *Isaiah 61:1-3* 

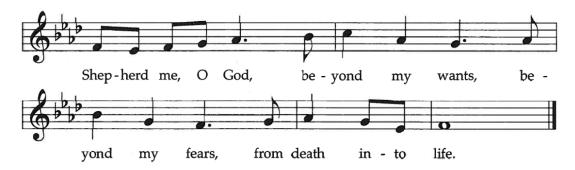
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

Reader Listen to what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 23 Dominus regit me

The Psalm is introduced by the cantor and the singing of the Psalm Refrain



Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want; I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love; I walk by the quiet waters of peace. (R)

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul; you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth; my spirit shall sing the music of your name. (R)

Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side;
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. (R)

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. (R)

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **(R)** 

Marty Haugen, 1986

## **Second Reading**

John Moffitt

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:14-19,35,37-39

Reader Listen to what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

### Sequence Hymn Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

**Toplady** 

Text: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778)



## **Holy Gospel**

The Reverend Patricia Guinn

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

John.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. *John 14:1-6* 

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

The Reverend Jon F. Lavelle

## **Apostles Creed**

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Sharing Memories of Fr. Deacon**

Deborah Deacon

## **Prayers of the People**

The Reverend Earle King

For our brother Charles, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Charles, and dry the tears of those who weep. **Hear us, Lord.** 

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Father of all, we pray to you for Charles, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

## Offertory

Preparation of the Table

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2* 

#### **Offertory Hymn** Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of All Nature St. Elizabeth



## The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.** 

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## **Holy, Holy Lord** *Santo* from *Missa Guadalupe,* Joel Martinson (b. 1960) Wonder, Love, and Praise 854



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

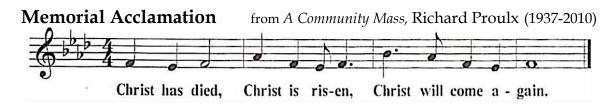
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People



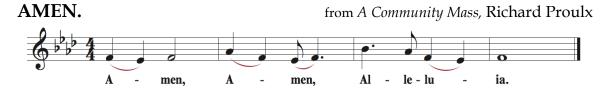
#### The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *People and Celebrant* 

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

#### **Fraction Anthem** Lamb of God Agnus Dei from Missa Guadalupe, Joel Martinson Wonder, Love, and Praise 869 gnus Dequi Bread Life, ofquiLord ofLove, quiPrince Peace, qui tol-lis pec - ca - ta di: mi - se - re no - bis, mun remi - se - re bis, mi - se - re bis, no reno mi - se - re bis. do - na no - bis pa - cem. re no

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion

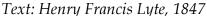
#### **Communion Meditation**

Pie Jesu, from Requiem

Andrew Lloyd Webber, 1985

Pie Jesu, *Pious (Merciful) Jesus,* qui tollis peccata mundi, *who takes away the sins of the world,* dona eis requiem. *give them rest.* 

Agnus Dei, Lamb of God, qui tollis peccata mundi, who takes away the sins of the world, dona eis requiem, grant them rest, sempiternam requiem. everlasting rest.





#### Let us Pray:

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### The Commendation

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

The Celebrant says

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Charles. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.** 

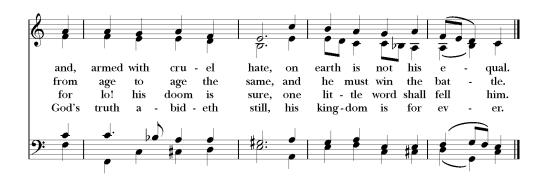
## Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

**Processional Hymn** A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Ein feste Burg

Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546) based on Psalm 46





## **Dismissal**

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

O Lord, You Are My God and King Psalm 145

*Jerusalem* C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916

O Lord, you are my God and King, and I will ever bless your name;
I will extol you every day, and evermore your praise proclaim.
You, Lord, are greatly to be praised; your greatness is beyond our thought; all generations shall tell forth the mighty wonders you have wrought.

How rich in grace are you, O Lord, full of compassion, merciful, your anger always slow to rise; your steadfast love you show to all, for you are good in all your ways; your creatures know your constant care. To all your works your love extends; all souls your tender mercies share.

Your works will give you thanks, O Lord; your saints your mighty acts will show, till all the peoples of the earth your kingdom, power, glory know.

Eternal is your kingdom, Lord, forever strong, forever sure; while generations rise and die, your high dominion will endure.

## **Assisting Schedule**

**Presider:** The Right Reverend Sean Rowe, Bishop of Northwestern

Pennsylvania and Western New York

**Deacon:** The Reverend Patricia Guinn

**Intercessor:** The Reverend Earle King

**Homilist:** The Reverend Jon Lavelle

Crucifer: John Gawley

Ushers: John Moffitt, Robert Petersen, Thomas Lochner,

Jan Lochner

**Director of Music:** Brian Hilton

Zoom Host: Nick Green

Readers: Deborah Deacon; John Moffitt

**Director of Music:** Brian Hilton

**Choir:** St. John's-Grace Choir



## WELCOME! We are so happy you are here.

#### Attending Services at St. John's-Grace

1. DO NOT ATTEND if you have any COVID-19 Symptoms identified by the CDC:

Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

- 2. The Diocese strongly recommends that that those attending on-site services have been fully vaccinated for two weeks or longer.
- 3. Those who are not vaccinated and have underlying health conditions are advised by State and Diocesan authorities NOT to attend on-site worship.
- 4. Sanitize hands before and after service. Wear a mask. Sit in assigned pew: one person or persons from the same household per pew.
- 5. Please follow ushers' instructions to enter and exit church.
- 6. Use the Bulletin/s provided in your pew. Please do not leave personal items behind.
- 7. Always maintain safe physical distancing of 6 feet.
- 8. One person at a time in a restroom.
- 9. Wear masks, maintain physical distance, and keep entrance clear before and after the service.



#### ST. JOHN'S - GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 51 Colonial Circle, Buffalo, NY 14222 / (716) 885-1112

**Presiding Bishop** Michael Curry Sean Rowe, **Provisional Bishop Rector:** The Reverend Jon F. Lavelle

**Priest Associate:** The Reverend Charles A. Deacon **Music Director:** Brian L. Hilton brian14209@aol.com

#### Wardens:

John Moffitt <a href="mailto:nymoff@gmail.com">nymoff@gmail.com</a> Robert Petersen <a href="mailto:rsp201@aol.com">rsp201@aol.com</a>

Clerk of the Vestry: Peggy Moffitt

#### **Vestry Members:**

Mark Babcock Merle Foraker Donna Doyle Janet "Jan" Dolce Maribel Ortiz William "Bill" Murphy

Treasurer: Robert Petersen
Wedding Coordinator: Janice Lochner
Sextons: Winston Mickles, Elijah Jones

Parish Office: <u>admin@stjohnsgrace.org</u> Website: http://www.stjohnsgrace.org

Pastoral Care: Please call Father Jon Lavelle at 867-1340.

jonlavelle@yahoo.com