

- Offer two workshops to help people with end-of-life issues, including things like health proxies, living wills, power-of-attorney, financial planning (which could include St. John's), etc.

Go to <https://www.stjohnsashfield.org/> for detailed information.

My father, the Rev. John Snow, celebrated both my marriage and the baptism of my then 5-year-old son, Maxfield, at St. John's. When Dad asked Max why he wanted to be baptized, he replied, "I don't know; I just do." "Best possible answer," I remember Dad replying. "It means the Holy Spirit's at work!"

Ms. Helena Snow



Bishop's visitation, March 13, 2022. R to L: Past, Present and Future (Addison Hall, Bp. Doug, Alaina and Vincent Toothaker)

I made a gift to the Two Hundredth Anniversary Fund at St. John's because I am most grateful for the love and support that this community has shown me and my family. I trust this endowment will allow St. John's to continue serving people for many years to come without the worry of the expenses of major physical repairs.

The Rev. Michael Corrigan



St. John's Episcopal Church

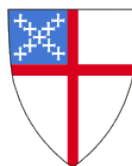
The Episcopal Church in the Hilltowns

Main and South Street / PO Box 253
Ashfield, MA 01330 • 413-628-4402

<https://www.stjohnsashfield.org/>
stjohnsashfield@gmail.com

Make donations out to:

St. John's Third Century Fund



Celebrating 200 Years

Organized: June 15, 1820

First Service: September 24, 1820

First Service in Church: December 23, 1827

Consecrated: October 3, 1828

St. John's Episcopal Church

Ashfield, MA



Third Century Fund Endowment Campaign

Purpose:

- To provide funds to off-set the expenses of building and grounds.
- To free up more money for mission and ministry.

Why:

- Small churches are at risk of losing their vital and vibrant ministry if they have to focus on "the building."
- Over 65% of Episcopalians who regularly support their local congregation do not include the church in a bequest. Thus, when these parishioners die, church leaders may find themselves struggling to make ends meet.

- Naming St. John's as a beneficiary or in a bequest in your will allows the congregation to focus on sharing the Good News of God's love in Christ.

Governance and Structure:

The Vestry has worked with the Diocese to create all the policies, procedure and structure needed to create this fund. These documents are available if you would like, but we want donors to know that their funds will be invested in socially responsible ways (an Episcopal Church norm) and used only for the established purpose of the fund.

Investment of the Funds

We are reaching for an initial goal of \$300,000. We will have:

- an Investment Committee to oversee the funds in socially responsible ways
- some funds invested with the Diocese's endowment program
- some funds invested with Vanguard or Fidelity in low-load index funds.

I like the Third Century Fund for a number of reasons. First among them is the opportunity it gives me to work with members of the community and do some work for the common good. The fund will equip us for mission.

The Rev. Addison Hall (family helped start church)

St. John's welcomed me when I wasn't sure where my spiritual journey would lead. I hope the Third Century Fund can help it continue to be a welcoming and inclusive community in the coming century.

Ms Madeleine Roberts, confirmed on March 13th

What a joy to see our vibrant, small parish making big plans for a strong future! I'm delighted to support the Third Century Fund.

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas,
Missioner for Creation Care

Goal for the Size of the Fund

Why \$300,000? The idea for the endowment is to provide funds that would off-set the expense of building and grounds upkeep. That need is about \$8,000 per year in endowment funds income. A \$300,000 endowment fund, drawing a conservative 4%, would provide approximately \$12,000 per year towards upkeep of the buildings and grounds. This could cover our annual budget expense as well as provide for the occasional capital needs.

Thus, the endowment would free our parish to spend the \$8,000 we now spend from our pledge income on buildings and grounds, and use it for mission and ministry.

The Third Century Fund Campaign

We are off to a strong start! We already have:

- \$30,000 from a bequest
- Two gifts of \$10,000
- Bequests of \$50,000+ in wills/trusts.

So, as we start our Third Century Fund campaign we are already over 33% of the way to our goal. Now, our primary goal for the **Third Century Fund** campaign is to raise an additional \$200,000 in donations and/or bequests during the Campaign.

The Plan:

- **December 2021** - Completed a Feasibility Study. Found good support.
- **January 2022** - Established what gifts at what level are needed. They ranged in support from \$30,000+ to \$500.
- **April 2022** - Solicit and secure Leadership Gifts.
- **May through Summer 2022**
 - Make individual appeals to members of St. John's, both near and far
 - Market the new 200th Anniversary *St. John's Cookbook* with proceeds supporting the endowment