



VOICES OF WOMEN

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN OF THE DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND *Winter 2023*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Episcopal Church Women & Friends, Greetings



I am giving thanks to God for all of the ECW ladies who have helped me over the years; to name a few- Carlene Gordon, Muriel Sobers, Marjorie Boyden Edmonds and Barbara Taylor. There are too many to name them all. I have been listed in the ECW Diocese of Long Island Directory since 1997, having served the past 8 years as the President of the ECW Diocese of Long Island and at various times represented the diocese as Province 2 representative to the National Board of ECW. For 6 years I also served as U. T. O. Finance member, helping the needy world- wide.

I wish our new president and all ECW members the joy that I received doing the Lord's work in this part of His vineyard.

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and a joyous and peace filled New Year.

With love, gratitude and thanksgiving.

Yours in Christ,
Lois Johnson-Rodney
Diocesan ECW President
718 723-6050
loisjohnsonrodney1@gmail.com



Chaplain's corner

A Prayer for Trust

The cares of our hearts
 We entrust to you, O God.
 The needs of your Church
 We entrust to you, O God.
 The wounds of the world
 We entrust to you, O God.
 The hopes we carry
 We entrust to you, O God.
 The deep desire for peace
 We entrust to you, O God.
 With all our lives and all our holy longings
 We praise you and trust your love for us,
 O Lover of our souls. Amen.

Submitted by Barbara Taylor
 Historian

COMING SOON



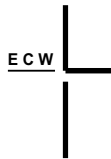
Guest House.

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Long Island with the consent of the diocesan bishop, The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano, is creating a “**Prayer Garden**” in memory of the late Bishop Orris George Walker Jr. on the grounds of the Bishop Walker

The funds for the project originated from the 2015 Book of Remembrance donations. 2015 was a year that the donations were to go to a domestic project. Originally the garden was planned to be a part of the landscape for the guest house that we believed would be on the grounds of the former Cathedral House. Thanks be to **God**, the project is now underway.

Work on the garden has started and will be completed in the spring.



*Diocese of Long Island**The Episcopal Church Women Scholarship Application***2024 - Application Instructions**

This application is to be completed by any woman (not just H.S. seniors) who wishes to pursue higher education and has been accepted for admission to an accredited college, community college, or vocational/trade school, in the United States for fall 2024. One scholarship will be awarded in each county.

Scholarship recipient will receive a financial award of \$500.00

To be eligible for the Scholarship, you must:

- Be a Baptized Member of an Episcopal/Anglican Church.
- You must have a High School or GED Diploma.

You must submit a complete application packet with the following:

- Personal Information Form (See attachment)
- One letter of recommendation written by your Priest or Church Warden
- A typed written essay of 300 words or less of your involvement with your parish and/or the Episcopal Church

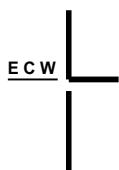
Completed application packet should be submitted by

Friday, April 26, 2024 to: Ms. B. Taylor
190-17 Nashville Blvd.
Springfield Gardens., NY 11413

I certify that all of the information contained within this application is accurate.

Applicant's Name (Please Print) _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date _____

*Diocese of Long Island**The Episcopal Church Women Scholarship Application**Personal Information*

Print or type your responses in the following information.

Applicant's Name (Please Print): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: Home _____

Cell _____

Email: _____

Circle Birth Range: **18-26** **25-35** **36+**

Name of Church _____

County _____

Intended Major/Certificate: _____

Institution to which you have been accepted: _____

Career Goal (50 words or less):



ECW OF SUFFOLK

Good Health Wins: In support of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) initiative to promote vaccines in underserved and female populations, Suffolk ECW members attended a series of educational events on preventive measures and vaccines.



Sandra Townsend (Messiah, Central Islip) and Evelyn Suñer (St Boniface, Lindenhurst) at the CDC sponsored Good Health Wins Symposium on vaccines in October.

Celebrating the Power of Women: - Members of Messiah (Central Islip) and St Boniface (Lindenhurst) ECW joined forces to honor Women who make a difference.



Pictured are Warden Sandra Townsend (Messiah) and members of the ECW from Messiah and St. Boniface at an event in Bay Shore, NY

Fostering Community:- We held a “Trunk or Treat Event”, titled BOO-lieve in Jesus. Children took rides on the North Lindenhurst Fire Trucks, played lawn games, and availed themselves of a pumpkins from a Pumpkin Patch and trick or treated at religious themed car trunks.



The Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA) provided a Water Buffalo to educate attendees about the importance of conserving water and reducing the use of plastic water bottles

November and December:

- This month **St. Boniface**(Lindenhurst, Town of Babylon) and **Messiah** (Central Islip, Town of Islip) partnered to adopt a family in Islip with Court employees.
- St. Boniface partnered with the Suffolk Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women for a joint coat drive for the **Eastern Farm Workers Association**. In addition to coats, clothing, and small household items, we provided toys for their members.

St. Boniface and the Suffolk Chapter of NCNW and the Nassau-Suffolk Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc., partnered to adopt families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Scouts from **Troop 518 of Suffolk County Girl Scouts** were enlisted to pack

More from the ECW OF SUFFOLK

up Thanksgiving dinners for Families in the Town of Babylon. This was an interdenominational event with Churches from the Towns of Babylon and Islip. Families also received full Christmas Dinners, Christmas Presents, new clothing and coats and household cleaning items



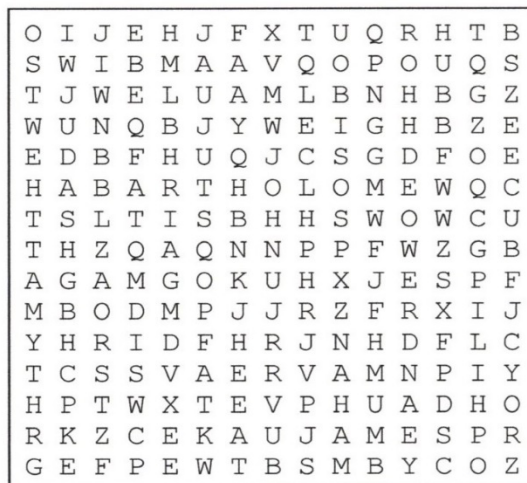
Members of Suffolk County Girl Scout Troop 518, National Council of Negro Women (Suffolk Chapter) and Islip Town Churches at the Thanksgiving Pack up

- **WORLD AIDS DAY:** - We continue to commemorate World Aids Day in Suffolk County. This year we attended the United Way of Long Island World Aids Day. Also in attendance were representatives of various health, counseling and educational organizations from Suffolk County.

Debbie Richberg
President



Bible Word Search Apostles / Disciples

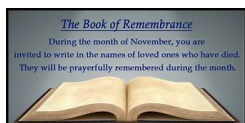


Word list:

PETER
ANDREW
JAMES
JOHN
PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS
MATTHEW
JAMES
THADDAEUS
SIMON
JUDAS





BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Diocese of Long

Friday, November 3 was a busy and exciting day for the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Long Island. This was the day that we celebrated the annual Book of Remembrance Service at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, New York to honor loved ones, relatives and friends, who died the previous year.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of the Diocese of Long Island presided and preached. His sermon presented words of wisdom and enlightened us in the way we should consider the passing of loved ones. He asked the congregation to consider being in a room in the house, the kitchen, and then entering the next room, the tv room. That is where the loved ones are, he said. That is where the Communion of Saints is. "We hear the names, and give thanks for their presence in our lives. A beautiful memory!"

The flowers in the Cathedral were given in honor of the late of Birdie Blake-Reid. The Memorial gifts will be donated to an International Project.

The Book of Remembrance Service would not have been a success without the prayers, support, and participation of ardent supporters. I want to extend my deep gratitude and thanks to Bishop Lawrence Provenzano, Canon Michael Delaney, Rev. Marjorie Boyden-Edmond, Deidra Beaman, Arleen Breen, Larry Tremsky, and Katrina Montagna from the Cathedral; Lois Johnson-Rodney, Debbie Richberg, and Ancilla Friday the Lectors and Prayers of the People; Sheryl Edwards, Cynthia Stephens, and Jane Ames; the readers of the memorial names, Sharon Tucker, Jean Ryan, and Ilanye LongJohn; members of the entire ECW Diocesan Board; all those who attended the service; and those who sent us donations, and covered us with prayers.

I thank you. You remembered!



Valerie Brandford-Pierre,
ECW Diocesan BOR Chair
valeane2@rcn.com
631-758-6621

More from the Book of Remembrance Service

Bishop Provenzano joined members of The Long Island Episcopal Church Women (ECW) on Friday, November 3rd, for the annual Book of Remembrance Mass at the [Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, NY](#).

Photography by: Teddy Byrne



Pictures can be purchased from public Smugmug site [here](https://dioceselongisland.smugmug.com/Diocesan-Celebrations-services/2023/Book-of-Remembrance-Mass)
<https://dioceselongisland.smugmug.com/Diocesan-Celebrations-services/2023/Book-of-Remembrance-Mass>.

***THE DIOCESAN ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
NOVEMBER 3, 2023***



The Annual Diocesan ECW meeting was held at The Casino in Garden City, following the Book of Remembrance Service at the Cathedral. There were many representatives from around the Diocese in attendance. We welcomed our guest Mary Beth Welsh from the Episcopal Ministries of Long Island (EMLI) whom I have partnered with, as their slogan says in “bringing our faith from pew to public square across Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk”.

There were exhibits from the ministries we serve, pamphlets, reading material and little trinkets. Also the Diocesan ECW Handbook was on sale with highlights of our History, purpose of the National ECW, and lots of suggestions for starting an ECW, structure of meetings, and guidelines for treasurers. Please contact Vernese Smith 718 217-9466 if you need a copy.

The annual elections took place and the new Diocesan Board is as follows: -

President	-- Debbie Richberg – St. Boniface, Suffolk
Vice President	-- Jean Ryan -- St. John’s, Flushing, Queens
Recording Secretary	-- Eileen Buckner – St. Philips, Brooklyn
Corresponding Sect.	-- Bonnie Dale-Ryan – St. John’s, Flushing, Queens
Treasurer	-- Vernese Smith – St. David’s, Cambria Heights, Queens
Chaplain	-- Deacon Marjorie Boyden-Edmonds – All Saint’s Bayside, Queens

Committee Chairs

Finance	-- Sheryl Edwards
UTO	-- Ancilla Friday
CPC	-- Ilanye LongJohn
BOR	-- Valerie Brandford-Pierre
ERD	-- Sheryl Edwards
SCI	-- Angie Morris
Historian	-- Barbara Taylor
Newsletter	-- Vernese Smith/Barbara Taylor



At LEFT: - Our welcome sign and the decorated hall, created an atmosphere of warmth and friendliness.



At RIGHT: - Barbara Taylor, Diocesan Historian welcomed us with a smile, as we entered the hall.

More of the Diocesan Annual Meeting and Luncheon



Vernese Smith, MC



Members of the current Diocesan Board as they posed with three honorary members, Crispin Friday, Bill Morris, and Bossuet Pierre



President elect Debbie Richberg presents a citation to Outgoing President Lois Johnson-Rodney, who bids farewell to the Diocesan congregation.

Plenty of pictures of the BOR luncheon are on public Smugmug site here:

<https://dioceselongisland.smugmug.com/Diocesan-Celebrations-services/2023/Book-of-Remembrance-Mass>.

The purchase price for each is posted if you select BUY. Please purchase as many as you can for memorable moments.

May the New Year bring you love, laughter, good health and memorable moments.

***Submitted by
Vernese Smith***

**SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE (SCI)***Christmas at Sea*

SPECIAL THANKS and BLESSINGS to all of you who donated knitted or crocheted scarves, hats, cowls, sewed ditty bags, and contributed toiletries, candy, and Christmas cards for the Seamen's Church Institute's (SCI) Christmas-at-Sea Program! Churches across our diocese have worked all year to make just over 1000 items for 2023! A huge success! I am happy to report that a few more new churches will be joining this effort for next year's collection! SCI's Christmas-at-Sea Program, (CAS) was founded by the Episcopal Church in 1898. It is the oldest knitting charity in the U.S.!! It serves the cargo mariners who enter our ports and waterways. Nothing is purchased from a store! All items are lovingly handmade and given, along with toiletries and candy in a hand-sewn ditty bag to every mariner who arrives at our ports. There is a tag on each item showing which church it was from, and sometimes the name of the person who made it. There are toiletries, books, and candy in each ditty bag as well.

The impact of your gift is very great to the mariners who have been at sea for 6 to 9 months at a time! They are missing their families, and your gesture of a handmade gift is met with much emotion and gratitude! It is extremely cold navigating on cargo ships! They wear their knits constantly until they are worn out!

Things to keep in mind for 2024:

- 1. We are planning an amazing, educational, fun Diocesan bus trip one day in the fall of 2024 to visit SCI's beautiful Port Newark, NJ!*
- 2. Please ask Angie Morris to visit your church or ECW meeting to teach the crafts, show a short video of SCI and our churches' efforts, and to help your ladies with any questions they have.*
- 3. Please label each item with a tag that has your church's information on it.*
- 4. Remember, do not add pom-poms or fringes to scarves and hats as this is dangerous near machinery.*
- 5. If anyone needs yarn, please contact Angie Morris.*
- 6. SCI also collects the fronts of Christmas cards for labels.*
- 7. SCI also collects small toiletries, candies, books, and treats to add to the ditty bags.*

Any questions or for more information, please text or call

Angie Morris
SCI Liaison
631 626-9012

SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE (SCI) con't

Here are some pictures of our collection on a very windy day in November when SCI's van came to the Cathedral in Garden City.

Pictured are Marlene and Valerie from St. Paul's Church in the Village of Flatbush, with Joann Bartosik SCI/CAS director, myself, and Bill Morris, our strong helper!



You can also visit <https://seamenschurch.org/> or
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/untangled.sci> or
<https://www.facebook.com/ChristmasatSea>.

*Happy holidays
from
the Staff and Board of Trustees at SCI.*



Angie Morris
SCI Liaison



ALTAR GUILD

The Weather was Springlike on Dec. 9, when our Diocesan Altar Guild had their Annual Advent Quiet Day at the Church of the Ascension in Rockville Centre. Every year the DAG offers an Advent Quiet Day, not just for Altar Guild members but for all in the Diocese, to take some time, away from the business of the Season, some “Me” time to consider the meaning of the four weeks of Advent and prepare for God’s greatest gift to His people; Jesus, our Savior.

This year we were blessed to have Fr. Matthew Sanfilippo, the Curet at Church of the Ascension, provide a Day of Meditation, a time for reflection, prayer time, a Service of the Holy Eucharist, and of course, lunch time to share our thoughts on the Day. It was a meaningful day for all who attended.

This is a day that I know will happen every year and I always mark it on my calendar as soon as the date is set. If you would like to consider having the 2024 Quiet Day at your Parish, please contact Jane Ames at 516-921-0580.

The Diocesan Altar Guild wishes you and your loved ones a Blessed Christmas and A New Year filled with Love, Peace and Joy



Fr. Matt and Altar Guild members from
Church of the Ascension, Rockville
Centre

Jane Ames,
President - Diocesan Altar Guild
janeames913@gmail.com
516-921-0580





Episcopal Relief & Development Partner Hospital Provides Critical Services in Northern Gaza Web Update December 4, 2023

RESPONDING TO ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR



Al Ahli Hospital is providing medical care to patients as well as shelter and basic needs for family members within their compound.

- Episcopal Relief & Development continues to offer support to Al Ahli Hospital, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem in Gaza, in response to the ongoing war in the Holy Land.
- Since the onset of war in the region in early October, Al Ahli Hospital has been performing life-saving emergency procedures, providing first aid and sheltering displaced people in northern Gaza.
- Al Ahli Hospital has been able to keep operations running by conserving fuel, using generators selectively and relying on solar energy.
- A shortage of supplies caused by blockades previously prevented the hospital from taking in new patients and operating at its full capacity. However, a recent delivery from the World Health Organization (WHO) replenished the hospital's stock of medicines, ICU supplies, emergency drugs and IV fluids.
- As of now, Al Ahli is serving hundreds of wounded people each day, with the majority of cases being severe.
- Please [pray](#) for Al Ahli Hospital staff and patients and for peace in the Holy Land.

Sheryl Edwards
Ministry Partner, Diocese of LI

*May God continue to bless and keep you this day, and throughout the
New year*



From your newsletter team!

This newsletter will be published once every quarter for distribution in the months of April, July, October, and January. We welcome any questions regarding the role of the Episcopal Church Women in the Church. In order to research and answer your questions in a timely manner, questions must be received by the **15th day** of the month after publications. We will certainly do our best to address all questions received. You may also send us suggestions on things you would like to see or comments on the helpfulness of this newsletter. We certainly hope you have enjoyed reading the newsletter, and may God bless you as you continue your ministry in the world.

Questions may be sent via email to the committee members:

Editor: Barbara Taylor tylbrb@verizon.net

Publisher: Vernese Smith vern.bert@verizon.net



VOICES OF
WOMEN