



March 28, 2023

## Online Learning Pilot Landing Soon

**Watch for your opportunity to access free content  
from the Diocese of Pennsylvania!**

A year ago, the Diocese of Pennsylvania launched its own online learning platform, **Serviam** (Latin for “I will serve”), to help equip and empower its members for mission and ministry. Now, as they consider broadening their audience to other Episcopal dioceses, they have asked the Diocese of Pittsburgh to participate in a special pilot program beginning May 1.

This is your opportunity to access Episcopal-specific online content, completely free of charge!

- Are you serving on your parish’s vestry, or just wondering, What’s a vestry? ... Take Serviam’s “Vestry 101” course. Or, for a deeper dive, check out “Canonical and Legal Responsibilities of a Vestry.”
- Want to go deeper in your spirituality? Explore “Ignatian Spiritual Exercises: A Mini Retreat” or “An Introduction to Spiritual Direction.”

Other courses include:

- An Introduction to Clergy Transitions,
- Evaluating Your Church’s Security,
- Introduction to Safe Church, and
- Women of the Hebrew Testament.

### **Want to participate?**

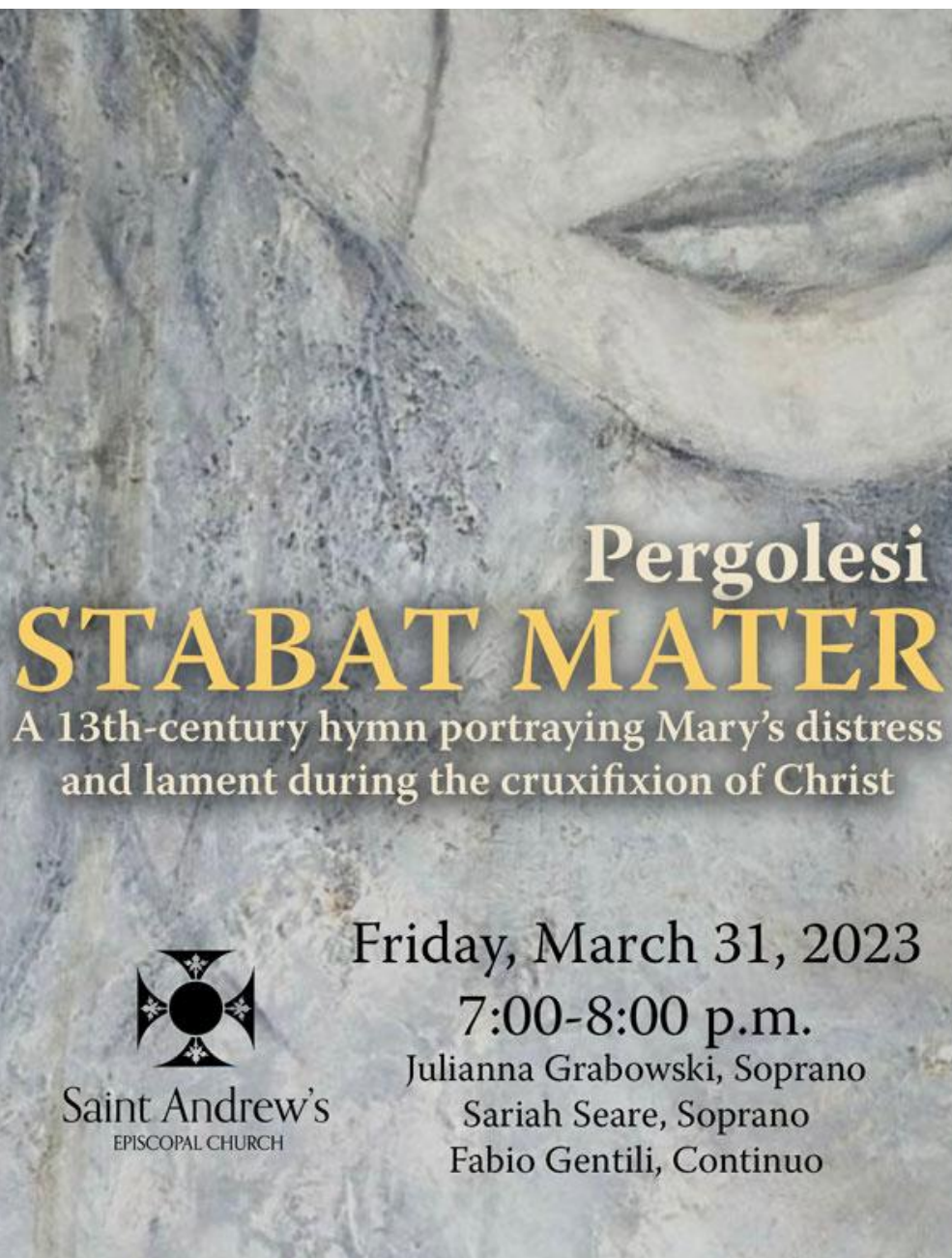
Watch your inbox in April for your chance to sign up for our Pittsburgh pilot group. Those who register will receive instructions to access Serviam starting May 1 and a special Getting Started Guide. To help make this pilot as helpful as possible to our friends in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, all participants will be asked to provide feedback through brief, easy-to-use online forms, both on the specific courses completed and on the Serviam experience in general.




# Serviam Institute

**I Will Serve.**





Pergolesi  
**STABAT MATER**  
A 13th-century hymn portraying Mary's distress  
and lament during the cruxifixion of Christ

  
Saint Andrew's  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Friday, March 31, 2023  
7:00-8:00 p.m.  
Julianna Grabowski, Soprano  
Sariah Seare, Soprano  
Fabio Gentili, Continuo

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton St., Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
[www.standrewspgh.org](http://www.standrewspgh.org)



**CHRISM MASS**  
**RENEWAL OF VOWS  
& BLESSING OF OILS**

A combined observance of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

**Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 10 a.m.**

**First Lutheran Church, 615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219  
(Downtown)**

**Preaching:** The Rt. Rev. Ketlen A. Solak, D.Min.  
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

**Presiding:** The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow  
Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Clergy, pastors, and deacons are invited to vest (red/scarlet) and process.

[Clergy may register for oils here.](#)



## It's Not Too Soon to Plan for Vacation Bible School

St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, is thrilled to offer Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children ages pre-k through sixth grade this summer!

Each day will include crafts, snacks, games, stories about our faith and music. St. Paul's VBS will run from June 26 through June 30, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.



[Sign up here.](#) If you would like to volunteer your time or have any questions please contact the Rev. Laura Di Panfilo at [laura@stpaulspgh.org](mailto:laura@stpaulspgh.org).



## Property Maintenance Workshop

Our church properties are like a beloved family member. They are a part of our sacred and special celebrations. They also require work and care, some of which is daunting, to keep them structurally sound and "healthy."

The Property Committee of the Board of Trustees seeks to help all diocesan parishes with strategies to take care of these buildings and facilities that are

important members of our communities. The committee will host an online workshop



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open to all, and would be particularly helpful to clergy, vestry members, maintenance staff, and facility volunteers.

**Property Maintenance Workshop**  
**Saturday, April 29 from 9 – 11 AM on Zoom**  
[Please click here to register as soon as possible.](#)



Please join us for the 23rd Annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference to be held on Friday, May 12, 2023, 8am - 4pm at Christ United Methodist Church in the South Hills.

This conference has been specifically designed to provide education and support for pastors, clergy, laity, physicians, psychologists, nurses, counselors, social workers, students, volunteers and caregivers. Topics include addiction and recovery, mental health and wellness, family and marriage, outreach and reflections in ministry.



Scan QR code for more  
and to register for the  
conference.



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Tod Bolsinger, MDiv, PhD,**  
Co-Owner and Principal of  
AE Sloan Leadership

Interested in an exhibition opportunity? Ready to register?  
Visit: [www.pghpcc.org](http://www.pghpcc.org) Questions: [karenplavan@gmail.com](mailto:karenplavan@gmail.com) or 412.281.8362



**Garden Grants to be Available Again this Spring**

These last couple of years, with the continued threat of Covid and isolation, have been difficult for everyone. But Spring is coming, never mind what that darn groundhog said!

The diocesan Social Justice and Outreach Committee (SJO) encourages each parish to consider creating or sustaining a church vegetable garden. This is a wonderful outdoor activity offering easy social distancing, great fresh air, and much-needed fresh produce for local food pantries and neighbors. So grab those seed catalogs from your mailboxes, and start planning your planting strategy.



Once again in 2023, the SJO Committee will offer grants to fund church garden initiatives. For the last nine years, the diocesan SJO Committee has offered a few (4-8) small grants each year to support the efforts of creating and sustaining parish-based vegetable gardens. In 2022, four established gardens received funding (St. Brendan's, Franklin Park; Holy Cross, Homewood; St. David's, Peters Township; and Shepherd's Wellness, Bloomfield) and two new gardens (Calvary, East Liberty, and All Saints, Brighton Heights).

While the SJO budget is very small, it is able to fund these garden grants, in part through donations from the Outreach Commission of St. Paul's (Mount Lebanon), the Episcopal Church Women, Women of Calvary (East Liberty), and private individuals.

For an application with additional details and submission instructions, [click here](#) for a Word document or [click here](#) for a PDF. Applications should be postmarked by March 29, or electronically (preferable) by April 5.



## Around the Diocese



### Bishop Ketlen's Visitation Schedule:

**April 2:** St. Thomas, Canonsburg

**April 9:** Trinity Cathedral (Easter)

**April 16:** Calvary, East Liberty

**April 23:** St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

Parish leadership is reminded to complete and submit [this form](#) at least two weeks in advance of their visitation. Bishop Ketlen's visitation schedule is [available here](#).

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact her virtual assistant, Crystal Goforth, at 412-721-0853, ext. 256, or via email at [assistant@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:assistant@episcopalpgh.org).

The full church year **Cycle of Prayer** is now [available here](#) and Bishop Ketlen's full church year **Visitation Schedule** is [available here](#).



## Parting Shots

On Thursday, March 23, Bishop Ketlen joined Bishop Audrey Scanlon and many other Episcopalians in Harrisburg for a March For Our Lives PA Advocacy Day to promote ending gun violence.



From left to right: The Rev. Rebecca Myers, Church of the Nativity and St. Stephen, Newport; Bishop Audrey Scanlan, Diocese of Central PA; Bishop Ketlen; The Rev. Dr. Greg Welin, Mt. Calvary, Camp Hill, and The Very Rev. Dr. Amy Welin, Dean of St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg.

The five Episcopal bishops in Pennsylvania [published a letter](#) on February 23 entitled, "With One Voice: Seeking Peace in Our Commonwealth." On Monday, March 6, the Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan, Bishop of the Diocese of Central PA (CPA), hosted a press conference in the Main Rotunda of the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg. The Rev. Erin Morey from St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, organized a contingent of Pittsburghers to participate in the event. The Diocese of CPA produced the following video highlighting the central message of the day.





<https://youtu.be/xqFSGqfDvQ0>



Has your parish been featured in the news?  
Please let us know via email at [info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh | 325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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