

Vestry Elections

2022

Notice: Annual Parish Meeting

December 4, 2022 following Mass

The election of this class is for a three year term

The Qualifications are:

A Member in good standing

Regular in Attendance

A member of Saint Anna's Church for over 1 year

A giver of record

A Confirmed Episcopalian

We will use a "ranked" voting system requiring only one ballot for election. The top three vote getters will be seated in the Vestry. The fourth person will be named alternate.

Voting will take place during the Annual Parish Meeting.

From the By-Laws of the Parish

Who can vote?

- The Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be on a day and time established by the Vestry and duly published and announced to the members of the corporation.
- 15 voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- Membership in the Corporation:

The membership of the corporation shall consist of such persons as by baptism, transfer, registration, acknowledgement, or confirmation are now or hereafter may be members of the ecclesiastical parish of St. Anna's..

The qualified voters of the corporation shall have attained the age of 16 years, who have been members of said parish for at least six months and who shall have been contributors of record toward the support of said parish...

From Episcopalchurch.org:

The basic responsibilities of the vestry are to help define and articulate the mission of the congregation; to support the church's mission by word and deed, to select the rector, to ensure effective organization and planning, and to manage resources and finances.

On July 23, 2023 The Rt. Rev. William Terry will resign (retire) as Rector of Saint Anna's Episcopal Church. The work of the Vestry, in this case, will be to form Committees and groups in order to identify and invite a new Rector to join in leading Saint Anna's in its continuing exciting voyage as a Church that walks the talk. As members of the church your full participation in this process is vital. Saint Anna's has a fine Vestry and we look forward to having this class of 2023 join in the leadership and collaborative ministry that has been the hallmark of Saint Anna's and our partners for over a decade and a half.



TIMMY VAN ALSTYNE

Question: "Saint Anna's is remarkable because..."

St. Anna's is remarkable because there aren't very many places I've seen that take the Gospel call to welcome everyone as Christ so seriously and so joyfully.

Question: Tell us about yourself.

My husband and I began attending St. Anna's about three years ago, shortly after moving to New Orleans from Chicago. We immediately fell in love with the community here, and although Todd isn't able to be here often we both consider this place our spiritual home. I have plenty of experience in church leadership, having served on the vestry including as clerk and warden in previous parishes, and would bring to this position a deep commitment to putting our vision into practice in an efficient and transparent way. I'm excited to see where the Holy Spirit leads this community in the next chapter of our life together, and hope to be able to help the community hear and implement what the Spirit is calling us to do in our community and city.



SUSAN REDICK

Question: "Saint Anna's is remarkable because..."

When I found St. Anna's in 2015, I was impressed by a small welcoming parish which made its neighborhood and city better in spite of a tight budget. Anna's Place and our open-to-all policies have made a measurable difference in many lives. I support continuing community partnerships, and expanding programs, as the Dodwell House is completed, to include a preschool, and a safe space for homeless and local

LGBTQ youth in that space. Our new rector must support such outreach.

Although I am a "cradle Episcopalian", this is the first time I wish to serve more fully as a vestry member. Since childhood, I have felt close to God in our hymns, prayers and ritual, but some people in leadership seem judgmental and stuffy. Not so at St. Anna's!

Question: Tell us about yourself.

I was born and raised in Kentucky, have a husband John and 3 adult children—and 5 grandsons! Before retiring, I was a maternal newborn nurse and then taught nursing school. We have lived in Kenner, Metairie and New Orleans for 16 years. I like gardening. I church shopped for years.



DARREL DURHAM.

Question: "Saint Anna's is remarkable because..."

Saint Anna's is remarkable because it is an environment where everyone is truly welcomed and they have the opportunity to put their God given gifts to use through mission work.

Question: Tell us about yourself.

I am from Greensboro, North Carolina and came to New Orleans in 2006 to help with Hurricane Katrina relief. I grew up in a strong Presbyterian

church community and I enjoy the fact that there are many similarities between the church I grew up in and St. Anna's. My mom and dad are still with us, mom is 90 and dad is 95, and I drive to see them in North Carolina every opportunity I can. I come from a long line of Baptist ministers, my grandfather on my father's side was a Baptist minister as were his 5 brothers, and my mom's folks were farmers.

I hope to bring to the vestry the institutional history and traditions of St. Anna's. I hope to make sure that as we transition to a new phase of leadership in the community, we continue to offer those services which make us unique and special. I'm excited about the changes and new initiatives we will be implementing with the restoration of the Dodwell House, and I want to make sure we pass the traditions that we've established over the years to the next generation of church goers.

Finally, St. Anna's has meant opportunity for me. Opportunity for youth and their families to improve the trajectory of their lives through our mission work and the opportunity to rebuild my life and faith in Christ through the love shown to me by this church community.

ED COLLINS

Question: "Saint Anna's is remarkable because..."

Besides our amazing diversity, and of course our dogs, the thing that is remarkable about St. Anna's is how much we do in the community. Our little church supports programs for children, the Food Pantry, ministry to the homeless, an evolving medical mission and the Down in the Treme concert series, to name just a few.

Question: Tell us about yourself.

I was born in Richmond, VA and grew up in the Methodist Church. I'm 67 years old. I'm an avid gardener and an artist. Some of you may have seen my exhibit at the Dodwell House in 2018.

When I came out in 1977 there didn't seem to be a place for an out gay man in churches that I knew and I stopped going. 20 years later when I started dating V.P., he was going to an Episcopal Church in Philadelphia and invited me to join him. I felt like I was coming home!

We attended several other Episcopal Churches in Philadelphia, Manhattan, California, and Grace Church here in New Orleans before we landed at St. Anna's around 2008. I have worked in the Summer Camp along with the Food Pantry.

I have seen several churches go through a change in leadership, some more successfully than others. I think that the most important factor in a smooth transition is an open and transparent process. I'm already hearing gossip about our search that I know not to be true. I hope we can establish a clear process that short circuits the spread of false information.

I'm excited about St. Anna's future. We have a solid foundation on which to build.



Hi my name is **KIRK TOUPS**. I'm a 66yo divorced man with two grown sons and a little dog named Sadie. I'm a retired engineer that worked in the petrochemical industry for 38 years. Been a member of St. Anna's for about 8 years.

I have previously served on your vestry at St. Anna's as a member, and have served as Jr. Warden and Sr. Warden. I'm presently serving on your vestry as Jr. Warden Emeritus and several committees. I would like to get back on your vestry at this time because the church will be going through

some changes in the next few years.

I feel that my presence your vestry will be helpful during the upcoming changes. Now, why I believe in our church? In the past 8 years I've seen St. Anna's grow. Some good and some bad. I love volunteering my time to our church because I want to continue the good growth of our church and all ministries that St. Anna's supports. I believe in St. Anna's. We are a small church with a powerful spiritual congregation. I hope you consider me to be a member of your vestry.