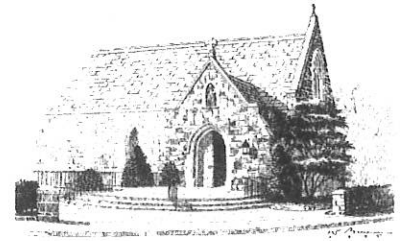


St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church

325 Lattingtown Road

Locust Valley, New York 11560

516.671.3226/www.stjlat.org



Special Announcement from Fr. Mark Fitzhugh

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Dear Members of St John's of Lattingtown:

*A*fter five outstanding years as Director of Music Ministry here at St. John's of Lattingtown, Chris Brayne, our distinguished musician and dear friend, has announced that he will be stepping down from his full-time position with us on Sunday, July 17th. Chris and his wife Jenny have plans to relocate to Charlotte, North Carolina to be closer to their daughters Sophie and Emma, and of course, their new grandson Henry.

Although Chris and Jenny will be greatly missed at St. John's and across the Diocese of Long Island, we completely understand and support his decision – this news does not come as a surprise. Therefore, we wish them both every blessing in this exciting transition and new chapter in their lives.

Under Chris' experienced leadership, imagination, and unparalleled playing of our versatile Gluck Pipe Organ, the St. John's Music ministry has continued to flourish and expand to all aspects of our congregational life. In fact, Chris reported at the 2022 Annual Meeting, that St. John's music program has grown exponentially under his guidance. Amongst his highest achievements has been the development of both the High School and Collegiate Choral Scholar program, along with the Junior Choral Scholar ministry which invites young children from the Glen Gardens Apartments in Glen Cove to sing and enjoy Christian fellowship.

On a personal level, I will miss Chris tremendously as both a trusted friend and faithful Christian colleague. He has been the chief architect in the rebuilding of this historic church's music program and for that I/we will be forever grateful.

As you know, Chris has been much more than just the Director of Music Ministry. Throughout his years, he has also served as a St. John's music fundraiser, live-stream worship operator, played a critical role in our outreach and children's ministries and traveled across the world as a teacher with the Royal School of Music. We will be working hard to fill these shoes.

Chris brought to us world-class musicians and soloists to make Anglican Choral Music accessible and enjoyable for countless people throughout our entire community. Chris' amazing achievements touched multiple generations, connecting us with special Christmas and Lenten Parish Hall programs which helped to nurture this congregation with joy, humor, and passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Like other areas of life, ministry team transitions can be challenging, but they can also be filled with exciting new possibilities for the future. St. John's future is extremely bright, and I look forward to empowering more leaders who are enthusiastic and committed to building a successful music ministry for all ages.

Rest assured, St. John's will continue our proud Anglican tradition of excellence in Choral Music. So, I have asked Mother Catherine to meet with our wardens and help guide us through the next steps in our music ministry transition. The congregation will be kept fully informed of our progress. We look forward to celebrating Chris' ministry on Sunday, July 17th and details will be announced shortly.

Easter blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark L. Fitzhugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being the most prominent.

The Rev'd Mark L. Fitzhugh
Rector