St. John's Announcements

October 1, 2023

Rev. Marc G. Eames www.stjohnsvernonct.org

860-872-0517 cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org

Arm2Arm Dinner





Today we celebrate Michaelmas, or The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels. Angels play a role in both the Old and New Testaments. There are many different kinds of angels, but the most well-known are the four Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, and Uriel. Tradition teaches that angels are spiritual beings created by God. They do not have physical bodies in the way we do. Other than worshipping God, Angels serve two other main purposes. First is by protecting the people of God. This could be done through healing or offering spiritual protection from evil and harm. Angels main function in scripture is as messengers. Our English word "angel" comes from the Greek word $\Breve{\alpha}\gamma\gamma\epsilon\lambda$ oc meaning messenger. This is an ancient feast that has been one of the most celebrated over the centuries. In the Northern Hemisphere, it has been celebrated as a harvest festival. "Michaelmas Daisies" (aster flowers) were collected and brought into the church. Special cakes were often made. Michaelmas has also marked the season changing. In Britain and some commonwealth countries, the fall academic semester is called the Michaelmas term. In countries that follow British common law, courts often begin their sessions (including our Supreme Court). There is also a medieval tradition that we continue in the 21st century. The youngest clergy person in the parish dresses up like a dragon and the children of the church chase him away with the help of St. Michael who in the Book of Revelation defeats the power of darkness signified by the dragon. The children receive sweet treats for their efforts at protecting the parish. St. Michael, I am afraid, has no need for candy.

Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday Eucharist 10/4 @ 10:30am

Robert Ballsieper's Funeral 10/7 @ 10:30am Holmes-Watkins Funeral Home

Chili Challenge and Cookout 10/14 @ 4:30pm

Happy Birthday!

Pat Cleveland Betty Ellwood Dwight Feenstra

Happy Anniversary!
Judith & Frederick Taylor
Joe & Diane Pospisil

Meet Rochelle from Hawkwing – Sunday 10/1 after the 10am service Hawkwing's founder Rochelle Ripley will be here to talk about the lives of the people on the reservation, ways you can help, and her vision for the future.

About Rochelle – Rochelle Ripley as a young child listened with fascination at her grandmother's stories of the Native American plight on the reservations. Her grandmother didn't only speak of sadness, but also of the beauty of the people who looked at the earth as more than a place to own. She learned of ceremonies and beliefs that guided her to become a woman who would make it her life's mission to help others overcome adversity. The day her grandmother asked her to go home and help the People, Rochelle promised with her whole heart. Through the years she never forgot this promise and the day she became a grandmother, she knew life had come full circle and it was time to fulfill her promise. That day, Hawkwing was born. Rochelle travels to her ancestor's homeland four times each year from her home in Glastonbury. She brings in donations and coordinates volunteer efforts to help her grandmother's people on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.

Hawkwing Outreach - It's that time of year again for our annual collection for our brothers and sisters on the reservation! There are many ways that you can help:

- Toys for boys and girls in the \$10-\$12 range for ages 5-10 and no batteries. These will be given at The Great Give Away in December.
- To help with the brutal winter cold, we will accept only new and gently used clean winter coats for all ages. Kids sizes are especially in need.
- Sunday, October 22nd will be the special money collection for the reservation food banks. If you would like to give money for either toys or the food bank, please make your checks out to Hawkwing and write on the memo line either toys or food bank.
- Any questions, please call Terri at 860.644.5892.

Calling all Chili cooks and BBQ lovers! - Saturday, October 14th @ 430pm the Men's Ministry will be hosting a Cookout and Chili Challenge! This event is to raise money for local food security charities including MACC and Corner Stone. Tickets will be sold in the Narthex. Sign up if you think your chili recipe will win!

Assorted Nut Sales – Nancy Simon will be collecting Assorted Nut Sale order forms. Due date for all sales is Sunday, October 15th. Order forms will be in the back of the church. Please contact Nancy Simon for any questions – 860-978-0198/nancycsimon@att.net

Tree of Light – Join us in making our Tree of Light shine bright this holiday season. Order forms will be in the back of the church. Due date for forms is Sunday, November 19th. Please contact Linda Borovicka, Kimmie Farrell, or Bethany Chanthavisouk for any questions.

Save the Date – Holiday Bazaar will be Saturday, November 18th from 9am – 2pm. More details to follow!