

St. John's Announcements

December 10, 2023

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Our first and second scripture readings at St. John's are done from a well-sculpted lectern on the epistle side of the church. Eagle lecterns have always been popular in churches in the Anglican communion, and their use dates to the middle ages. The eagle is a symbol of St. John, so it is very appropriate to have this piece of liturgical furniture with us. This lectern style can be found in many places not named after St. John, and some argue the two uses of the eagle are coincidental. The eagle is also famous for its eyesight, and there was a medieval hypothesis that this high-flying bird had some ability to look into the sun and not have damaged eyesight. The symbol being that the light of the truth of the scriptures could be looked at without damage. Perhaps similar to the way the burning bush was not consumed by the fire. The eagle is also a great flyer, so there is the symbolism of the Word of God traveling all over the world. Whatever the reason you prefer, it is a beautiful piece. You may also notice that the wood used does not match the other wood used in the building. The lectern is one of the few pieces that came over from St. John's Church in Rockville. This makes the lectern one of the oldest treasures we have in our modern parish.

Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Confirmation Class
12/10 @ 5pm

Eucharist service
12/13 @ 10:30am

Advent Series
12/14 @ 6pm

Happy Birthday!
James Simon
Roxie Farrell

MACC's Reverse Advent Calendar

Collect one item each day of the month of December and donate it after the Holidays!
MACC proper is closed for Christmas and will not be open again until Wednesday, December 27th.

1. CAN OF CORN	13. BOX OF BROWNIE MIX
2. CAN OF PEAS	14. PACK OF INSTANT POTATOES
3. CAN OF CARROTS	15. BOX OF PASTA
4. TUB OF TOOTHPASTE	16. JAR OF PASTA SAUCE
5. BOTTLE OF SHAMPOO	17. PACKAGE OF BABY WIPES
6. STICK OF DEODERANT	18. CAN OF COFFEE
7. JAR OF MAYO	19. CAN OF MIXED VEGGIES
8. BOTTLE OF KETCHUP	20. JAR OF GRAVY
9. JAR OF JELLY	21. JAR OF PEANUT BUTTER
10. CAN OF BEEF STEW	22. PACK OF RAMEN NOODLES
11. CAN OF CHILI	23. BAG OF DOG OR CAT FOOD
12. BOX OF CAKE MIX	24. YOUR FAVORITE

NON-PERISHABLE ITEM!



Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day services –

- 12/24 Christmas Eve Day – No 8am service only 10am service – Advent 4
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Evening – 5:00pm and 10:30pm
- 12/25 Christmas Day – 9am
- 12/31 New Year's Eve – 9am

Eucharistic Visitors wanted! - In January, during the Epiphany season, we hope that the members of St. John's will expand on an important lay ministry, that of Lay Eucharistic Visitor (EV). EV's are lay people licensed by the Diocese to bring Holy Eucharist from a Sunday service to parishioners who cannot be at the service due to infirmity. Deacon and Fr. Marc will be starting a process of helping interested parishioners to get trained and licensed after the Christmas season. If you are interested in serving in this way, please talk with Fr. Marc or Deacon Scott as they will be scheduling the training soon.

Advent Series - This year's Advent series will take place on Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on December 14th, and 21st. We will begin our time with a soup supper. The center of our discussion will be on Bishop Wright's devotional book, *Advent for Everyone*. There is a short devotional reading for each day and a discussion question. We will be discussing a few of those questions each week. Like last year, we will conclude our time with a brief Eucharist.

Have a question for Zoe? – Please feel free to speak with Zoe after the 10am service on Sundays. You can also send her an email - zoevandermeer@gmail.com. She is happy to answer any questions that you have regarding the choir and music program!

Streaming 10am service volunteers wanted! – Our beloved Andy Halpryn does a wonderful job streaming our 10am services but would love some help. If you would like to be trained to stream our liturgies please see Andy or Rev. Marc.

MACC Reverse Advent Calendar - The Manchester Area Conference of Churches Charities (MACC) has a unique Advent discipline for us, a "Reverse Advent Calendar." I commend it to you for consideration of a way to observe this season! If there is sufficient interest, we could probably arrange for items to be dropped off at St. John's and then brought to MACC *en masse* during the 12 Days of Christmas or the Epiphany season. - Deacon Scott

Nuts for sale! – Many thanks for your support thus far with our Annual Nut Sale. The following items are still available. Nancy Simon will be set up in the Parish Hall after both the 8am and 10 am services for your shopping pleasure. You can also call her to reserve your order. They make great stocking stuffers or hostess gifts. Any questions, contact Nancy at 860-978-0198.

- 12 - Milk Chocolate Pretzels
 - 8 - Christmas Nonpareils
 - 8 - Dark Chocolate Caramel Bites
 - 5 - Dark Chocolate Cranberries
 - 6 - Milk Chocolate Raisins
 - 7 - Americana Mix
 - 2 - Black Forest Mix
 - 10 - Bridge Mix
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