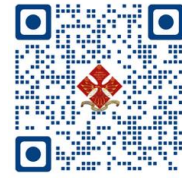


St. John's Announcements

January 5, 2025



860-872-0517
cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org

Altar at Christmas



Good Morning,

Today we are combining two days that both have to do with celebration. Today is the 12th day of Christmas which means tonight is 12th night. 12th night was a very big deal through much of Christian history. There were big parties held and the joke was often shared that Christians spend the first day of Christmas with their family, and the 12th day of Christmas with people they actually like. 12th night had traditions of caroling, bar crawls, and general merrymaking. Though the following day was also a feast day, there was some understanding that the holiday was winding down, and the long winter would be soon upon us. The Feast of the Epiphany, which we celebrate today, is actually January 6th. This is known in some cultures as Three Kings' Day. January 6th was the alternate date for the birth of Christ in the early church. While the 25th has largely won out, there are still branches of the faith who celebrate January 6th as the Nativity. There are parts of the world where January 6th is a bigger deal than December 25th. While the Santa tradition is ubiquitous these days, the tradition of having wise men or kings bring presents to good little boys and girls is still widely practiced. The Feast of the Epiphany is rare in the way that it celebrates so much at the same time. Aside from discussion of Magi and the Nativity, the feast also has traditionally celebrated the Baptism of Christ, the first miracle at Cana, healings, and the Transfiguration. These events are more spread out in our current calendar, but Epiphany is a very busy holiday.

Blessings,
Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

1/8 - Eucharist @
10:30am with Healing
Service

1/9 - Lunch Bunch @
12pm

Happy Anniversary!

Mike & Kathy Brown
Anne & Lawrence Willette

Happy Birthday!

Carol Cronsell
Linda Anselmo



Lunch Bunch - Mark your calendar for **Thursday, January 9th** at 12:00, in the St. Mary's hall, as Lunch Bunch rings in the new year! Please bring a hot or cold dish to share and as usual beverages and desserts are provided. All parishioners are invited. Contact Chris Emery 860-593-3176 or Diane Gutzmer 860-875-1041 for more info.

Offertory Envelopes – Envelopes are available for pick up! The boxes are located on the back table in the Narthex. Don't forget to grab yours!

Annual Meeting – The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th after the combined 9am service.

Book Group –will meet in the Undercroft on Thursday evenings from 6pm – 7pm. Please see Melissa Fenner with any questions.
