St. John's Announcements

November 8, 2026

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Rev. Marc's cousin Jannel who just retired after 20 years of service in the Air Force. St. John's thanks all of our veterans for their service.



Dear Parish,
Wednesday is Veterans Day. At our 10:30am Wednesday Eucharist, we will be praying for and giving thanks to all of our veterans. We also have poppy pins that can be worn by parishioners if one so chooses. A special outreach collection will be taken, all money will go to help local vets. My own cousin retired this fall after twenty years in the Air Force. Military service is an honor but also a sacrifice as one has little control of where one lives and works. Even during peace time, this can put strains on young families. Also, coming from someone who entered a life in the church, I can recognize that no one serving in the military is getting rich.
The church has prayed for those who serve in the military from the beginning. Saints Matthew and Luke tell the story of the centurion with great faith who asks Jesus to help one of his servants. Jesus agrees, but the centurion stops Jesus explaining that Jesus' order for his servant to be healed is sufficient. He memorably states, "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof but speak the word only and my servant shall be healed." Jesus was amazed by the faith of this soldier. There was an active debate in the early church on whether one could serve in the military and be a Christian. The Church ruled, quoting the Gospel, that this is indeed permissible and that soldiers can have great faith. We give thanks for that.

Blessings,
Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. MARY'S HALL

11/11– Wednesday Eucharist @ 10:30am & Bible Study @ 12:30pm

11/21 Holiday Bazaar

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Christmas Memorial Flowers – Order forms for Christmas flowers are located in the back of the church. Orders are due by Thursday, December 18th.

Mitten Tree – Please keep an eye out for the mitten tree! All donations will be given to MACC and Cornerstone. Thank you!

Tree of Light - For the St. John' Episcopal Church 12th Annual Tree of Light, you may purchase a light, and a tag will hang on that light with the name of a loved one or friend. Lights are $2 each / 3 for $5 / or 6 for $10. We sell lights on the tree to honor, remember, and celebrate loved ones, and Linda Borovicka and her family make a tag with each name and decorate the fir tree by the walkway in front of St. Mary's Hall with lights and the tags. The money donated will go to World Central Kitchen. The Tree will be lit on November 29th and will be lit nightly through Epiphany 2027. Names and money are due by **Sunday, November 15th**. To purchase tags, please take a form in the Narthex and return to Linda Borovicka, Bethany Chanthavisouk, or Kimmie Farrell. Please make checks payable to St. John's Church with a memo of, "Tree of Light."

St John's will have a non-perishable Holiday Food Drive for the next three weeks. We will pass along the collected items to Cornerstone (Vernon), East Hartford social services, and MACC (Manchester). The need for food donations is always great this time of year. Below is a list of non-perishable food items requested by local pantries. Please consider donating some of them as you do your own grocery shopping. We encourage parishioners to place items in St. Mary's Hall. If that is not possible, there will be a collection cart in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

Cereal
Chili / Canned Pasta, Beef Stew, Baked Beans
Canned Veggies
Peanut Butter / Jelly
Sugar, Flour
Pasta, Pasta Sauce in plastic jars or cans
Ramen Noodles, Rice-A-Roni, Instant Potatoes Knorr or rice side dishes
Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup
Individual snack size packages of cookies

A Look at Joseph - Joseph is one of the great patriarchs in the Judeo-Christian tradition, but we do not get to spend much time with him in our Sunday lectionary cycle. For the next few weeks, I will be leading a look at this last of the Patriarchs found in Genesis. We will meet immediately following the 8:00am Eucharist on Sundays. All are invited to join us. No previous knowledge of Joseph is required for the discussion. We will meet in St. Mary's Hall.