St. John's Announcements

October 22, 2023

Rev. Marc G. Eames
www.stjohnsvernonct.org
860-872-0517
cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org

Chili Contest and Cookout

This coming Friday and Saturday will be our diocesan convention. I am sometimes asked by people in the community and by new parishioners, "What is the difference between the Episcopal/Anglican church and the Roman Catholic Church?" The two seem very similar to so many. The main points of fracture between the Anglican Church and the Roman Catholic Church were 1) Use of English in the Eucharist 2) Use of an English Bible 3) Church Governance. Since the Vatican II Conference, the first two are no longer points of conflict. That leaves how we manage our church affairs. The Roman Catholic Church has the magisterium which is the belief that the Pope combined with the bishops has the sole authority to interpret scripture and tradition. Like the Episcopal Church, diocesan bishops in the Roman Catholic Church have a lot of authority, but the structures they must answer to are very powerful. The Episcopal/Anglican Church does not have a magisterium. We are ruled by councils with shared power between bishops, clergy, and lay people. Though we must follow our national church constitution, the primary unit of administration of our church is at the diocesan level. The Episcopal Church Constitution was written by a few of the same people who wrote the Articles of Confederation. Like the Articles, there is a great mistrust of centralized power in our founding denominational documents. Though there are archbishops in the wider Anglican Church, the Episcopal Church does not have an archbishop. While the Archbishop of Canterbury is an important figure of unity among the Anglican Churches, we do not answer to him administratively like Roman Catholics answer to the pope. Episcopalians value local control and lay participation in church governance.

Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday Eucharist
10/25 @ 10:30am

Bible Study on Daniel
10/25 @ 12:30pm
Hybrid

Parish Meeting
10/29

Diocesan Convention
10/27 & 10/28

Happy Birthday!

Chrystal Smith
Doris Baer
Sue Douglass

Happy Anniversary!

Robert & Janet Devanna
Paul & Allison Finney

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.
- Please find more information at www.hawkwing.org.

Bins in the Narthex – There are bins in the Narthex collecting the following items:

- Toys for boys and girls
- Gently used coats.

Thank you for your donations!

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.

Gift Card Sales - Gift Cards are available for purchase. Order forms will be available in the Narthex. The last day to turn your order in is Sunday, November 5th. Gift cards will be distributed on Sunday, November 12th at both services. Please leave your order form in either the drop file in the Narthex in Bill Francis's file or deliver them to Christina in the office. You can also mail the order form to Bill Francis at 41 Pinnacle Rd., Vernon, CT. 06066. 860-872-2044.
Please consider buying a gift card to replenish grocery cards for our in-house food ministry, or you can donate the gift cards to our Holiday Bazaar raffles. They also make great gifts for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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

Bible Study - Our weekly Bible study has begun with a study of the Prophet Daniel. Daniel is the last of the greater prophets, and it focusses on a later period in our Old Testament. It contains some of the best-known stories in scripture like Daniel and the Loins' Den, as well as, apocalyptic literature much closer in genre and tone to the Book of Revelation. If you have been reading the Bible your whole life or never cracked one open, you are most welcome to join our Wednesday Bible Study at 12:30. We are going to try a hybrid bible study meeting both through Zoom and in the Parish Hall. If you would like a Zoom invitation, please reach out to Father Marc. Anyone can come in-person at any time.

Parish Meeting – There will be a Parish Meeting on Sunday, October 29th in the Lower Parish Hall following the one service at 9am.