

JANUARY 4, 2026

# The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS



**Sunday, January 4, 2026**  
**2nd Sunday of Christmas,**  
**Year A**

WITHIN THE GOSPEL READING'S PROFOUND WORDS LIES THE SIMPLE MESSAGE THAT GOD IS REVEALED IN A HUMAN PERSON. THOUGH WE MAY TRY TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE WORD EXISTED WITH GOD FROM THE BEGINNING OF TIME, THE WONDER WE CELEBRATE AT CHRISTMAS IS THAT THE WORD CONTINUES TO DWELL AMONG US. CHRIST COMES AMONG US IN THE GATHERED ASSEMBLY, THE SCRIPTURES, THE WATERS OF NEW BIRTH, AND THE BREAD AND THE WINE. THROUGH THESE ORDINARY GIFTS WE RECEIVE THE FULLNESS OF GOD'S GRACE AND TRUTH.



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

I JOHN 1:1-14

1 IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. 2 HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. 3 ALL THINGS CAME INTO BEING THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM NOT ONE THING CAME INTO BEING. WHAT HAS COME INTO BEING 4 IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE. 5 THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS DID NOT OVERTAKE IT.

6 THERE WAS A MAN SENT FROM GOD WHOSE NAME WAS JOHN. 7 HE CAME AS A WITNESS TO TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT, SO THAT ALL MIGHT BELIEVE THROUGH HIM. 8 HE HIMSELF WAS NOT THE LIGHT, BUT HE CAME TO TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT. 9 THE TRUE LIGHT, WHICH ENLIGHTENS EVERYONE, WAS COMING INTO THE WORLD.

10 HE WAS IN THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD CAME INTO BEING THROUGH HIM, YET THE WORLD DID NOT KNOW HIM. 11 HE CAME TO WHAT WAS HIS OWN, AND HIS OWN PEOPLE DID NOT ACCEPT HIM. 12 BUT TO ALL WHO RECEIVED HIM, WHO BELIEVED IN HIS NAME, HE GAVE POWER TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD, 13 WHO WERE BORN, NOT OF BLOOD OR OF THE WILL OF THE FLESH OR OF THE WILL OF MAN, BUT OF GOD.

14 AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND LIVED AMONG US, AND WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, THE GLORY AS OF A FATHER'S ONLY SON, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

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"THE LIFE WE CELEBRATE AT CHRISTMAS IS NOT THE LIFE OF THE PARTY. THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST – THE LIFE THAT WE CELEBRATE AROUND THE LORD'S TABLE – IS THE PARTY OF LIFE ITSELF."

JANUARY 3, 2021

SOMETHING TO PONDER TODAY.  
PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.  
PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—  
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:  
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD  
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY  
9 A.M. SERVICE W/SCS

10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM  
BROADCAST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



**ANNOUNCEMENTS &  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

**JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> AFTER  
10:30AM WORSHIP  
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**

**JANUARY 14TH @ 6PM  
PRAYER LABYRINTH**

**UPCOMING AGAPE MEAL DATES:  
FEBRUARY 1ST  
MARCH 1ST**

**UPCOMING BIBLE STUDY DATES:  
JANUARY 8 & 15 @ 6PM**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 10:30AM SERVICE. PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING.

IF ALL COMMITTEE HEADS COULD HAVE THEIR REPORT INTO THE OFFICE BY DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>.

PLEASE EMAIL TO [SJLCWS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SJLCWS@GMAIL.COM)  
THANK YOU!

# **THIS WEEK 1/4 - 1/10**

## **TODAY:**

- 9:45 A.M. AGAPE MEAL
- 11 A.M. WORSHIP & MUSIC
- 7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

## **MONDAY:**

- 10 A.M. SPROUTS
- 1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
- 6 P.M. KNITTING MINISTRY
- 6 P.M. SPROUTS
- 6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
- 7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

## **TUESDAY:**

- 9 A.M. ZUMBA
- 12 P.M. TAI-CHI
- 6 P.M. ROCK VOICES
- 6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

## **WEDNESDAY:**

- 1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
- 7 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

## **THURSDAY:**

- 9 A.M. ZUMBA
- 12 P.M. NA
- 5 P.M. ZUMBA
- 6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
- 7 P.M. COUNCIL
- 7 P.M. NA

## **FRIDAY:**

- 10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
- 7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

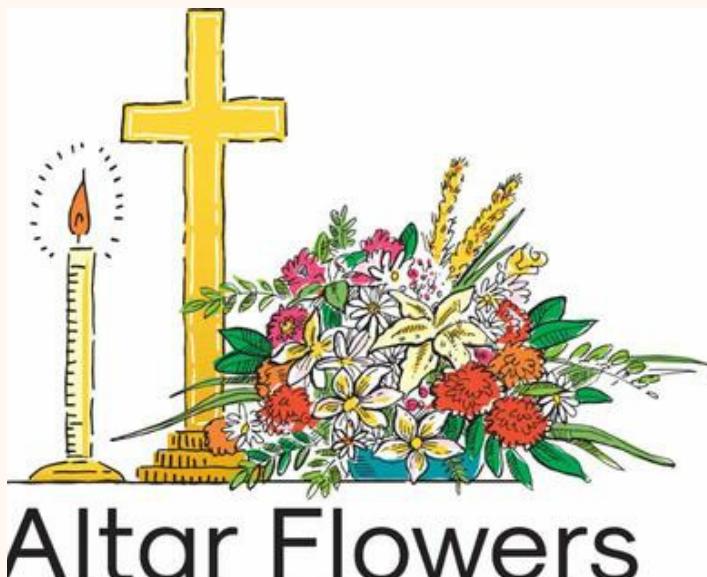
## **SATURDAY:**

- 9 A.M. ZUMBA
- 5 P.M. WORSHIP

## **COLLECTION FOR BOOK AND JIGSAW PUZZLE SALE**

THE PLANNING IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY FOR THE NEXT SALE.

START COLLECTING BOOKS AND PUZZLES TO DONATE. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH WHEN YOU CAN START BRINGING ITEMS IN. THANK YOU!



## **Altar Flowers**

### **TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

## BURRITO PROJECT

THIS PAST TUESDAY, THE BURRITO PROJECT TEAM WAS BUSY DOING OUR THING. THIS TIME THE TRIP WAS SPECIAL IN A COUPLE OF WAYS. IT WAS SPECIAL IN THAT JILL, RICK, BETH ANN, LEE AND TRACEY TOOK CARE OF DISTRIBUTING THE FOOD AND SUPPLIES WITH TEMPERATURES IN THE 20S. THE CITY HAD DECLARED A CODE BLUE SITUATION. THOUGH NONE OF THEM DO THIS FOR RECOGNITION, I THINK THEY DESERVE A SPECIAL PAT ON THE BACK FOR FACING THE ELEMENTS IN ORDER TO FEED AND DISTRIBUTE ITEMS TO HELP THE HOMELESS SURVIVE THE COLD. THE PEOPLE THAT WE SERVE BADLY NEED WHAT WE ARE PROVIDING.

ANOTHER SPECIAL THING ABOUT THIS TIME AROUND IS THAT IN ADDITION TO THRIVENT FINANCIAL THAT HELPS PAY FOR THE FOOD WE PUT TOGETHER, ECMC FOUNDATION PROVIDED OVER 100 FLEECE JACKETS FOR US TO DISTRIBUTE. THOSE JACKETS WERE ESPECIALLY VALUABLE IN THE FRIGID WEATHER.

WE ALSO NEED TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF THE BURRITO PROJECT TEAM THAT WERE NOT MENTIONED EARLIER, AND ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO DONATED ITEMS FOR US TO DISTRIBUTE. THERE ARE ABOUT 100 PEOPLE ON THE STREETS WHO ARE SAFER AND BETTER OFF BECAUSE OF EVERYONE INVOLVED.