

Notices for the week of December 1-2, 2018

Deacon Bill! We rejoice with the Rev. Bill Gilmore at his ordination to the diaconate on Saturday and we welcome him to the altar in his new ordained capacity. The Deacon assists the celebrant, reads the Gospel, prepares the altar and administers the Precious Blood of Christ just as in daily ministry he works at the rector's direction, shares the Good News of Christ, helps those in need and is a sign of Christ's saving sacrifice in a broken and troubled world. Deacon Bill has been assigned by Bishop Dabney to serve here at St. Mary's. Deacons are normally vested in dalmatics, similar to the priest's chasuble. (Like the chasubles, they belong to the by church, not to the deacon.) Thank you to generous parishioners who have provided the four dalmatics that we need. You will see our deacon wearing them soon.

The Altar Greens are given to the glory of God in gratitude for Deacon Bill's ordination.

Advent Lessons and Carols will be offered at 4:00 pm with music sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir. There will be a light reception in the portico following the service.

Advent Table is set up in the Narthex. Please browse for study items or gifts that are available for purchase.

Is Jesus Lost in Our Lives? Check out our Facebook Message from Barbara Williams.

Book Club: Monday at 12:00 noon. Please join Mother Bobbie as she continues exploring our soul's relationship with God and how best to care for and nurture that relationship using John O'Donohue's book *Anam Cara* (Soul Friend). Books are available in the office.

Recovery Eucharist is this Tuesday, December 4 at 5:30 pm. This innovative service brings the 12 Step recovery program and the Serenity Prayer into the traditional liturgy of the Episcopal Church. All are welcome. The Recovery Eucharist is a program of St. Mary's Ministry of St. Martin, a patron saint of sobriety. It will be celebrated the first Tuesday of each month.

Wednesday Bible Study continues this week at 10:30 am with Fr. Bill, looking at the scriptures for next weekend: Jeremiah

33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

Healing Eucharist: Wednesday at 12 noon. Healing is an essential part of the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ and the healing ministry of Christ belongs to the church today as much as it did 2,000 years ago. We believe that God uses many avenues for healing, some medical and some spiritual and that they should be supportive of each other. Healing is at the very heart of who God is. God wants us to be whole in body mind and spirit. He heals us through science and through the sacraments of the church with the power of prayer, the anointing of oil and the laying on of hands, by which God's grace is given for healing of body mind and spirit. Following the confession and absolution in the service, those who wish prayer and comfort for yourselves or for others are invited to come forward. The Healing Eucharist will be the first Wednesday of each month.

Requiem Eucharist: The monthly Requiem Eucharist will be held on Thursday at 7:30 am for all the faithful departed. Please send names of those you wish prayed for to the office by Tuesday morning.

Bible Study at Bentley Village: Thursdays at 1:00 pm with Mother Bobbie leading the study. All are welcome.

St. Mary's ECW Christmas Tea, Thursday, 2 – 4 pm. Thank you for graciously offering to bake or make some delicious goodies for the tea. Please leave them marked in the kitchen with your name and the description of the item and drop it off on Tuesday from 10:00-4:00 pm, or Wednesday, before noon.

Adventure Inward: Charting Your Spiritual Direction. Plan to attend the Advent Quiet Day on Saturday. We will gather at 9:15 for coffee and a brief time of fellowship. Fr. Bill will lead us with three brief meditations. The first meditation focuses of four possible approaches to your spiritual journey; the second will focus on developing your own spiritual rule to guide your journey and the last will focus on how keeping a journal will assist in charting the success of your journey. Lunch will be provided. The day will conclude with the Eucharist and be over by 2:30 pm.

Next Week and Beyond

Cursillo will be holding their next Ultreya (time of encouragement) on Monday, October 10 at 6:00 pm, starting with a potluck supper. Those who have been on a Cursillo weekend and those curious about Cursillo or looking for a time of Christian fellowship and encouragement are very welcome.

Ushers and Greeters Needed for Christmas Services: Can you be an usher or greeter on December 24 or 25, especially for the 9:30/10:00 pm "Midnight Mass"? And servers are needed. Please contact , Jim Howard at 239-908-3915 or email at wjh1@comcast.net.

Christmas Pageant: In preparation for our Christmas Pageant, we will have several rehearsals for the youth of St. Mary's. Youth practice will take place December 2, 9, 16 and on December 23 after the 10 o'clock service we will have a complete dress rehearsal with both youth and adults. Any questions please talk to or email Kathleen or Courtney.

St. Mary's Needs You! "Love on Broadway" Open Auditions. Do you sing in the shower? Belt out a show tune while driving in your car? Find yourself tap dancing in front of the copy machine? We have a place for everyone who would like to participate! Then you just might be the person we are looking for to join a fun group of St. Mary's choir members and friends! Love on Broadway, this year's church fund-raiser, will transport our guests to a lively cabaret featuring show-stopper songs about the highs and lows of love and romance. Perfect for the Saturday before Valentine's Day! We are looking for men and women who like to sing. Open auditions will be held in the church on the following days and times: Sunday, December 2nd at 11:30 AM, Sunday, January 6th at 11:30 AM. Bring a tune to sing or we will provide something for you! Select the date that works best for your schedule. Rehearsals will be held in January and early February. Questions: Email the production direction, Sandy Renner, at sandra.martin.renner@comcast.net.

Winter Foyer Groups: The new year is almost here and it is time to sign up for a new group that will meet January, February & March. Foyers are small groups of 6 -8 members who meet once a month for supper and fellowship. You may meet in your home or at a restaurant, or you may vary from month to month, your group decides. If you meet in a home, everyone brings

a dish to share (all fun, not much work). If you meet in a restaurant, everyone pays for his/her own meal. After the first supper, the group will choose a date and location that suits them for the next get together. It's a great way to become friends with people you may only see in church. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer, please indicated your preference of home dinners or restaurant; or you may contact Pat Thwaites at "thwaitesp@aol.com"

Monday	9:00 am	Chrismon Tree Assembly
December 3	12:00 pm	Book Club with Mother Bobbie
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tuesday	11:00 am	Staff Meeting
December 4	3:00 pm	St. Martin's Ministry Meeting
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	5:30 pm	Recovery Eucharist
	8:00 pm	AA Empathy Meeting
Wednesday	9:00 am	Pastoral Care Meeting
December 5	10:30 am	Bible Study
	12:00 pm	Healing Eucharist
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	5:20 pm	Christian Formation
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	7:30 am	Requiem Eucharist
December 6	1:00 pm	Bentley Bible Study
	2:00 pm	ECW Christmas Tea
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
Friday	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
December 7		
Saturday	9:15 am	Advent Quiet Day
December 8	4:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	5:00 pm	Holy Eucharist
	8:00 pm	AA Group Meeting
Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite 1
December 9	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
	6:30 pm	AA Meeting

Confirmation is the apostolic rite of the laying on of hands with prayer for the daily increase of the Holy Spirit. It is a blessing for all baptized Christians, children and adults. If you have not been confirmed or if you have not been received into the Episcopal Church, please speak with one of the clergy.

Confirmation preparation will be on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning on January 15. Confirmation is scheduled for Sunday, March 31 at 10:00 am.

SAVE THE DATE

December 15	Men's Breakfast
December 22/23	Deacon Bill Gilmore preaching
December 29/30	Seminarian Brian Cleary preaching
January 15	Confirmation Class begins
January 27	St. Mary's Annual Meeting
February 2/3	Candlemas: Winter Feast of Title
February 9	<i>Love on Broadway</i> Fundraiser
February 16/17	Ministry Fair
February 17	Ave Maria Scholae Gregorianae
February 23	Healing Conference at St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples
March 2/3	Compass Rose Society Sunday
March 6	Ash Wednesday. Lent begins
March 8/9	St. Mary's Men's Retreat at Dayspring
March 31	Confirmation

Vestry nominations: Would you like to recommend someone to serve on Vestry? Please make your suggestions to one of the wardens, Tim Blaicher or Paul Judkins.

Treasurer: St. Mary's is seeking someone with an accounting or financial background to serve as parish treasurer. If this is, you or you have someone to suggest, please speak to one of the wardens.

2019 Stewardship: The Official Stewardship donation period finished. However, we have only received approximately half of the pledges that we need to reach our needed goal. Please mail or deliver your pledge to the Donation Plate as soon as possible. Again, we Pray for your "Transforming Generosity" in formulating your pledge. In the words of Tiny Tim: God Bless us each and everyone!

Walking the Mourner's Path: If you or someone you know is feeling disconnected following the loss of a loved one St. Mary's has a new ministry that may be of help. Walking the Mourner's Path is an eight-week small group workshop grounded in prayer led by trained facilitators. The first session of this program concluded on November 1 and we are looking forward to beginning a new session in January. Please call the church office if you are interested in being part of this Christ-centered grief program and

they will put you in touch with one of our trained facilitators.



Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church and to this celebration of the Holy Eucharist

- Please silence your cell phones and other devices and update your status
- Please feel free to use our "Quiet Room" room in the back of the church, as needed.

The Nursery is available for children under the age of 6 in the Parish Life Center. It is led by Courtney Crosby for those who desire to have the little ones cared for during the Eucharist.

10 am Sunday School is available for children of all ages in the Parish Life Center. Meet the teachers and register your child before the church service begins. All children are welcome to join their parents for part or all of the Eucharist.

Thank you for wearing your nametags. If you need a nametag, please sign up for one at the welcome desk.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please blot your lipstick. For those who receive by intinction, the chalice bearer will take the host from your palm, dip it and put it in your mouth, rather than you doing it yourself. If you are unable to come to the altar for Holy Communion, please notify one of our ushers and Communion will be brought to you.

Gluten Free hosts are available at communion. Please make your request to the priest presenting the host who will give you a gluten-free host.

Prayer Ministry is offered during Communion at Station of the Cross #2 and #12. You may come for prayers, for yourself, or for others, for any need or for Thanksgiving. **The Church** is generally open during the week from 9 am to 5 pm and other scheduled times for prayer and meditation. **Sermons** are available online at stmarysbonita.org and in the narthex.