

Notices for the week of December 8-9, 2018

The Altar Greens are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Madeline Justus beloved wife of Peter Justus and beloved mother of Barbara, Deborah and David.

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.

Poinsettia signup is available in the Narthex. Any gift amount for flowers will be accepted. Please write on your check or money order "Christmas Flowers".

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.

Cursillo will be holding their next Ultreya (time of encouragement) on Monday, 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.

Bentley Village Eucharist: this Tuesday, at 10:45 am, in the Crystal Room. All are welcome to attend.

Wednesday Bible Study continues this week at 10:30 am with Fr. Michael, looking at the scriptures for next weekend: Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

Music Recital: During Advent Kathleen Pignato will be giving a musical recital starting at 11:45 am directly before the Wednesday, noon Eucharist. Please join us for this opportunity to hear the meditative quality of music Kathleen will be playing.

The Noon Eucharist on Wednesday will celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



In 1531 a "Lady from Heaven" appeared to Juan Diego a humble Native American at Tepeyac, a hill northwest of what is now Mexico City. She identified herself as the ever-virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, of the Creator of all things, Lord of heaven and the earth. She made a request for a church to be built on the site and submitted her wish to the local Bishop. When the Bishop hesitated, and requested her for a sign, the Mother of God obeyed without delay or question to the Church's local Bishop, and sent her native messenger to the top of the hill in mid-December to gather an assortment of roses for the Bishop, she also left for us an image of herself imprinted miraculously on the native's tilma, a poor quality cactus-cloth, which should have deteriorated in 20 years but shows no sign of decay 483 years later and still defies all explanations of its origin. An icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be blessed at this Eucharist.

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

Men's Breakfast: the next men's fellowship breakfast will be on Saturday, December 15 at 8:30 am in the PLC. For more information please contact Paul Judkins at 585-750-1889 or judkipa@comcast.net.

Next Week and Beyond

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 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.

Annual Reports: The Parish annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 27, within and following the Parish Eucharist. Annual reports from all commissions, committees and ministries are due by January 2. Please submit as a word document, using Times Roman 12pt. Please attend to this in your December meetings and ensure that all ministries in your area are aware of this and meet the deadline.

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	12:00 pm	Book Club with Mother Bobbie
December 10	2:00 pm	Requiem Service for Richard Crowley
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	6:00 pm	Ultreya
	10:45 am	Bentley Village Eucharist
Tuesday	11:00 am	Staff Meeting
December 11	4:00 pm	Outreach Commission Meeting
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	5:30 pm	Recovery Eucharist
	8:00 pm	AA Empathy Meeting
		Our Lady of Guadalupe
Wednesday	9:00 am	Pastoral Care Meeting
December 12	10:30 am	Bible Study
	12:00 pm	Holy Eucharist
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	7:30 am	Holy Eucharist
December 13	1:00 pm	Bentley Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	7:00 pm	Florida Conference of Young People in AA
Friday	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
December 14		
Saturday	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast
December 15	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 16	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist
	6:30 pm	AA Meeting

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.

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. If you would like to be a confirmation sponsor please speak with Father Michael.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

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

A Seasonal Stewardship Poem

Christmas is a'coming and the gulls are getting fat,
 So please put your Pledge Card in Father Michael's hat.
 Mail to Ian's office, if you are still in snow and ice.
 Or, Bring it to the Church yard if you're in Florida's paradise.
 The important thing is to get it here, whatever you do,
 And once you have accomplished that, God will certainly bless you!



2018

4th Sunday of Advent Schedule

Saturday, December 22
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist Rite 2
 Sunday, December 23
 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite 1
 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite 2

Christmas Schedule

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve
 5:00 pm Family Eucharist
 9:30 pm Anthems and Carols
 10:00 pm Solemn Choral Eucharist

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day
 10:00 am Solemn Eucharist

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 29
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist Rite 2
 Sunday, December 30
 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite 1
 10:00 am Choral Eucharist Rite 2

Christmas is a great opportunity to worship and praise God – and to bring others with us to Church. Most of the time people might be a bit resistant but at this time of year a friendly “Let’s go to midnight mass” goes down well. And who knows what might happen?