

St. John's Announcements

January 21, 2024

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Pinewood Derby!



Father Paul Wattson started an important observance in New York back in 1908. It is now called the Week of Prayer for Christianity Unity (traditionally Jan 18-Jan 25). Wattson realized that churches seemed to be getting increasingly sectarian not seeing how valuable other Christians are. Christ's high priestly prayer which included the line that we should "all be one" seemed to be ignored by the various denominations. In the Anglican Communion, great efforts had been made in the previous generation to recognize our common mission. In 1886, the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church adopted what would later be known as the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral. The Lambeth Conference of 1888 also endorsed the concept. The idea was to explain to the wider church what was most crucial to the faith of Episcopalians and that we were open to ecumenical dialogue. These talks would be beneficial in themselves but also could lead to reunification with other denominations. The Quadrilateral focused on the importance of scripture, the Nicene Creed, the sacraments of baptism and Eucharist, and the historic Episcopate. (The statement can be found on page 877 in the BCP). This declaration is still supported by our church today and has led to fruitful dialogues with other denominations. Wattson understood the importance of high-level talks with church leaders and theologians, but he wanted to see more work done at the parish level. He wanted the regular people in the pews to focus on Christian unity, and he understood that it would only be through prayer and the changing of attitudes by the faithful that could lead to real progress in Ecumenical relationships. Today we remember that we have siblings in Christ throughout the world who do not all call themselves the same things and perhaps do not share all of our theology and politics, but who are important to our common life. We all have much more in common than what divides us. Let us pray for unity. Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Bible Study - 1/24

Trivia Night - 1/25

Annual Meeting
1/28 after 9am service

Shrove Tuesday - 2/13

Ash Wednesday - 2/14

Vestry Meeting - 2/19

Happy Birthday!

Scott Stevens

David Farrell

Pinewood Derby – Our local Boy Scout troop will be hosting their Pinewood Derby on Friday and Saturday 1/19 & 1/20 in the St. Mary's Hall.

Confirmation classes – Classes will resume on 1/21 & 1/28 at 5pm in St. Mary's Hall.

Trivia Night – Join your fellow parishioners for our second annual Trivia Challenge. On January 25th at 6:30pm, we will begin with a potluck supper and trivia night. The trivia will range from animals, music, movies, sports, history, and other general knowledge questions. We will work in teams so don't feel badly if you don't know everything – no one does!

Annual Meeting – Our annual parish business meeting will take place on Sunday, January 28th immediately following a single 9:00am service. The meeting will include a parish brunch and discussion of parish finances and mission. I hope you can join us.

Vestry Retreat – The Vestry will be on retreat on Friday and Saturday, 2/2 & 2/3. The Vestry will meet at the Rectory on 2/2 from 6pm – 8pm. On 2/3 they will meet at St. George's in Bolton from 9am – 2pm.

Fr. Marc on Retreat – Fr. Marc will be on a Pre-Lenten retreat from 2/5 to 2/7.

Shrove Tuesday – Tuesday, 2/13 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Please join us in the St. Mary's Hall for pancakes and a flap jack relay. Tickets sales and more details soon!

Ash Wednesday – There will be 2 services on Ash Wednesday – 10:30am & 7pm.

Vestry Meeting – the next Vestry Meeting will be 2/19.

Blood Drive – St. John's will be hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, 2/20 in St. Mary's Hall. More details to follow!

Eucharistic Visitor Training – Training will take place immediately following the 10am service on 2/25.

St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner – Save the Date! Saturday, March 16th in St. Mary's Hall. More details to follow!

Bible Study - St. John's hosts a weekly Bible Study. This winter, we are reading the Book of Daniel. We meet in a hybrid fashion in St. Mary's hall. All are welcome to attend at 12:30pm on Wednesdays. If you would like to join via Zoom, please contact Father Marc or Christina in the office.

Hawkwing Thanks you! - Thank you to all who donated to our annual Hawkwing Outreach 2023. The Outreach total was \$3,289! \$2,384 will go towards purchasing 42,912 lbs. of food. Toys and various outreach items will be purchased with these donations. We also collected 33 coats. A special thank you to Shirley Finney for her donations of goods and the many others who donate throughout the year. Thank you! Blessings, Terri Sessions.
