

**Vestry Retreats** 

## cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org

## 2024 Vestry Retreat



## Retreats are not just for clergy. Vestries, which are the governing boards in Episcopal Churches, also take retreats both of the spiritual and strategic varieties. While COVID prevented retreats over the past several years, last weekend we restarted this tradition. On Friday night, the vestry met for dinner at the rectory. On Saturday, the vestry met at St. George's in Bolton with Canon Tim Hodapp. Canon Tim is an experienced retreat leader and was a joy to have with us. We had some good discussions which the vestry will be sharing over the next few weeks. I encourage you to pray for our lay leadership, and know that they care about the new St. John's very much. We all look forward to a bright future.

Blessings, Marc

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Shrove Tuesday - 2/13

Ash Wednesday -2/14

Vestry Meeting - 2/19

Happy Birthday! Carolyn Fenner Elijah Olden

Happy Anniversary! Carole & Ron Cronsell Andrew & Debbie Halpryn Mary Ann & Peter Harting Shrove Tuesday – Tuesday, 2/13 5:30pm – 7:00pm. Please join us in the St. Mary's Hall for pancakes and a flap jack relay.

Ash Wednesday – There will be 2 services on Ash Wednesday – 10:30am & 7pm. The choir will be joining us at the 10:30am service.

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

Blood Drive –We will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive at St. John's on Tuesday, Feb. 20th from noon to 5 pm in St. Mary's Hall. If you would like to donate, please go to <a href="https://www.redcrossblood.org/">https://www.redcrossblood.org/</a> to schedule a time. We are also using this as an opportunity to welcome some folks who have never been to St. John's. The Red Cross provides pre-packaged pretzels and cookies but it is much more welcoming for us to provide them with freshly baked goods. If you are willing to help with this aspect of the event, please contact Lois Valliere <a href="https://www.redcod.com">welcom</a>. They would also appreciate having a couple of St. John's folks to volunteer at the event to check-in donors, etc. If you are interested in doing so for even part of the 5 hours, please contact Deacon Scott.

**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 16<sup>th</sup> in St. Mary's Hall. More details to follow!

Super Bowl Challenge - It's time for the Super Bowl Challenge! Last year we collected and donated around 800 canned goods. Exceeding our goal of 100! Let's see if we can make 900 happen this year! Donations will go to support our food pantry with excess going to Cornerstone and MACC. Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> is Super Bowl Sunday. Thank you! John Horan and Alfreda Barber. Food Items Needed: Canned fruit/pasta/tuna or chicken/vegetables/ Coffee (regular, decaf, instant)/ Instant potatoes/Pasta sauce in plastic jar / cans/Pasta Peanut butter and jelly/Ramen noodles/Rice-A-Roni or Knorr rice side dishes

Join Episcopal Relief & Development on a Lenten Journey - For 15 years, Episcopal Relief & Development has been blessed by the opportunity to join readers on their spiritual journeys with thought-provoking meditations. During Lent, we pray, "Create and make in us new and contrite hearts." Our 2024 meditations focus on embracing this new heart, this new life in Christ, and looking deep within ourselves and acting in ways that seek and serve Christ in others. Visit our website to subscribe to daily emails, download a PDF, read the meditations and access a Group Study Guide to reflect on the meditations and Scripture with others. Go to episcopalrelief.org/Lent or scan the QR code to read the daily meditations.



**Yoga classes** – There will be morning and evening sessions on 2/15 and 2/29. Morning sessions are located in the Undercroft at 10am. Evening sessions are located in St. Mary's Hall at 5:30pm.

**Lenten Series** - The Brothers at the Society of St. John the Evangelist will lead us through a video Lenten Series called "In the Midst" an exploration God's presence even in the hardest, messiest parts of life. Join us on Thursdays beginning on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm. We will begin our time with a soup supper, have conversation, and conclude with a brief Eucharist.