

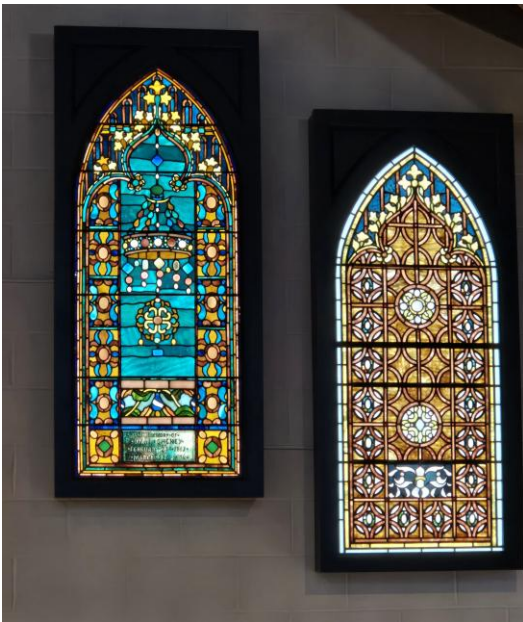
# St. John's Announcements

## February 16, 2025



860-872-0517  
[cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org](mailto:cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org)

### Tiffany's-Stained Glass Windows Installed



Today is *Septuagesima* Sunday (The Sunday that is about 70 days before Easter), and it begins our entrance into “little Lent” as we prepare for the coming of our great fasting period. Ash Wednesday is only two and half weeks away. The church approves of seasons of preparation because we believe in the high value of time. God created time and created us to live in time. That means that we are to value the time we are given as a gift. This belief should not be interpreted to mean that because time is short, we should do as much work as possible, so our life was not wasted. It also does not mean that we should do no work as time is short, so let's just party. Valuing time is about being present to where you are. As Ecclesiastes says, “There is a time and purpose for everything under heaven.” When it is time to party, we should do it well, and when it is time to work, we should give our best effort. This marking of time is true for the seasons. Lent helps us prepare for Easter, Advent helps us prepare for Christmas, and this short period before Lent helps us focus on that sacred time. Lent is a time to be serious, to take on new challenges and to drop a few things in order to simplify and focus us. We will be doing plenty of worship and Deacon Scott will be leading a Lenten series. I encourage you to participate, but the most important action is to mark the season in some way. Whatever God is calling you to do right now, try to focus on that. Lent can feel hard. However, it can also be so rewarding, and Easter is all the sweeter when we observe Lent well. Blessings, *Marc*

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

2/19 – Eucharist @  
10:30am

2/19 – Bible Study  
@12:30pm

2/20 – Blood Drive

#### Happy Anniversary!

Andrew & Debbie Halpryn

#### Happy Birthday!

Walter Kutswan

Carl Schaefer

Don Ginn

Lee Hoffman

Jen Kaufmann

**Blood Drive** - We will again host an American Red Cross Blood Drive in St. Mary's Hall from 12-5 on February 20, 2025. Visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> to make an appointment to donate! We will also be doing our usual gastronomic welcome by providing an array of goodies for donors posts-donation. If you would like to help in that regard, please contact Mary Ann Harting ([marski476@gmail.com](mailto:marski476@gmail.com)).

Canned tuna, chili, baked beans, corn, beans, canned spaghetti, Tomato & Chicken soup, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, instant potato pouches, Knorr and rice pouches, spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, macaroni & cheese, brownie & cake mixes and Instant pudding cups.

**Lenten Soup Supper Series** - As part of our Lenten observance we will again offer Lenten Soup Supper Series on Thursday evening from March 13th through April 10th from 6 pm to 8 pm. This year, Deacon Scott will be leading a program he has developed entitled "Living Our Baptismal Promises". We will delve into the implications of the five Baptismal promises contained in the Baptismal Covenant (*Book of Common Prayer*, pp. 304-305) for our daily life and ministry both as individuals and as a congregation. Please join us for a light supper and interesting conversation!