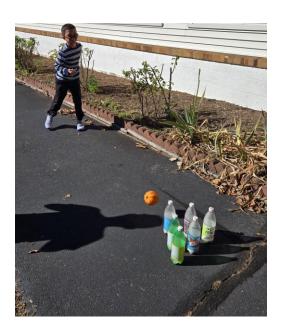
St. John's Announcements

November 2, 2025



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Our champion bowler watching his pumpkin about to knock over the pins. Strike!



The Feast of All Saints (November 1st) is one of the most important Christian Feasts of the year. It is a day that honors the saints who have come before us as we give thanks for the saints who surround us in the pews. The feast is one of the oldest in the church. It was originally a celebration of the faith of the martyrs who were executed by the Romans for believing in Jesus Christ. Roman Christians would venture down into the catacombs underneath the city to celebrate the life of those who were willing to die for their faith. The holiday was eventually converted to our modern All Saints' Day by Pope Gregory III in the eighth century.

All Souls' Day (November 2nd) is the time traditionally set aside to pray for and remember the faithful departed. The liturgical color for All Souls' Day is traditionally black. Unbleached beeswax candles were also used on the altar on All Soul's Day. The orange candles with black vestments are the reasons why Halloween's colors are orange and black. In the Episcopal Church today, we tend to combine the two observances into one day. We celebrate all the Saints with great celebration, but we also solemnly remember those we love who are no longer physically with us. Christians have believed from the beginning that "death no more has dominion over us," that, in Christ, we are no more alive than those loved ones who have gone before us. We are still connected.

Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

11/5 @ 10:30am Wednesday Eucharist St. Mary's Hall

11/5 @ 12:30pm Bible Study St. Mary's Hall

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Tree of Light

We are starting to collect names for our 11th annual Tree of Light. For those not familiar, my family and I started this fundraiser to honor our family and friends, and we light the tree next to the walkway by St. Mary's Hall during December.

As explained on this form, which is also available in the Narthex, we collect names in Honor of, in Memory of, and Special Holiday Wishes for. We will make the tags and hang them on strings of lights. The tree will be lit on Sunday, November 30th, the 1st Sunday of Advent, and will light automatically every night until Epiphany. We hope you will buy tags for your loved ones and help us make this our brightest tree ever. All monies raised will go to WCK (World Central Kitchen). They provide meals anywhere in the world after natural disasters, as well as war-torn countries. Thank you.

Linda Borovicka and Family

2025 Christmas Gift Card Sales – Sale will begin November 2nd and the last day to order is December 7th. Delivery to the church will be December 14th. Please make your check payable to St. John's Episcopal Church and give your orders to Bill Francis or leave them at the parish office. This is an easy way to shop for Christmas and a chance to help those who are in need amongst us. Thank you!

Lunch Bunch - will meet on Thursday, Nov. 6th at 12:00, in St. Mary's Hall. Please bring a hot or cold dish to share. Beverages and desserts are always provided. All adult parishioners are invited. Contact Chris Emery 860-593-3176 or Diane Gutzmer 860-875-1041 for more info.

St. John's Outreach Committee

St. John's is a vibrant and generous parish. Each year we give tens of thousands of dollars to local, national, and international partners. The Outreach Committee is tasked with deciding how those grants should be directed. While some committees at St. John's have a closed membership, like the vestry, the outreach committee may be joined by any parishioner. The next meeting of our committee will be through Zoom at 7:00pm on Wednesday. If you are interested in joining, or just listening, please contact the rector.