## St. John's Announcements

November 30, 2025



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You will again notice steady progress on our accessibility project this week. As will be true for the next few months, Door 1 remains closed. The north door (Door 2) will remain the main entry and exit door during this time. I encourage folks who do not struggle walking to park in the lower lot and walk to Door 2. The mobility challenged are encouraged to park in the upper lot.

We have had three wonderful baptisms over the past two weeks. It was great to see so many little ones. This next week is important, as well, as we begin a new church year with the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is the season that has always felt to be most out of alignment with the prevailing culture. I have known secular people who observe Lent, yet I have had to explain to practicing Christians that Advent is not the same as Christmas. When we are this out of balance, it feels all the more important to observe the season of waiting and stillness as fully as we can. I encourage you to establish, or reestablish, a prayer practice, try to come to church when possible, and mark the season in what ever way makes sense to you. I invite you all to take part in our Advent series which begins next week. Lastly, this Sunday is the last week of our food drive. Let's make it a good one. Happy Thanksgiving!

Blessings, Marc

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

12/3 @ 10:30am Wednesday Eucharist St. Mary's Hall

12/3 @ 12:30pm Bible Study St. Mary's Hall

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Mark your calendar, Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, Dec. 4th at 12:00pm 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.

**HAWKWING OUTREACH** - Rochelle gives thanks to all who were able to donate. Our total was an amazing \$5,610. This will help tremendously. Blessings, Terri Sessions

**Coffee Hour Host Needed** - Looking for someone to do coffee hour this Sun the 30th. I won't be in church this Sunday, please call me at 860.644.5892 or e-mail me if you can do it. Thanks,
Terri Sessions

**2025 Christmas Gift Card Sales** – Sale will begin November 2<sup>nd</sup> and the last day to order is December 7<sup>th</sup>. Delivery to the church will be December 14<sup>th</sup>. 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!

Outreach Announcement - St John's will have a non-perishable Holiday Food Drive the four remaining weekends in November. We will pass along the collected items to Cornerstone (Vernon), Friendship Kitchen (East Hartford), and MACC (Manchester). The need for food donations is always great this time of year and the interruption of government funding has made it much worse. Below is a list of non-perishable food items requested by local pantries. Please consider donating some of them as you do your own grocery shopping. There will be a collection area in the upper level of the church entrance.

Thank you for your support, St John's Outreach Group

Cereal
Chili / Canned Pasta, Beef Stew, Baked Beans
Canned Veggies
Peanut Butter / Jelly
Sugar, Flour
Pasta, Pasta Sauce in plastic jars or cans
Ramen Noodles, Rice-A-Roni, Instant Potatoes Knorr or rice side dishes
Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup
Individual snack size packages of cookies
Packaged scalloped/mashed potatoes