

# St. John's Announcements

## May 17, 2026



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### Rogation Sunday



This Sunday will witness the return of the Sunday Healing Service. We normally do these once a quarter, in addition to our normal Wednesday healing services. Our construction project prevented us from having the usual first quarter service. During our healing services, we use a different confession than the usual one. It is called the Confession of Need. Confession here means two things. We are confessing our responsibility in some of our life's own challenges, and we are giving a statement of belief, a "confession", that we need God's healing grace. Our Christian faith's role with health is in tandem with medicine not in opposition. I also don't think it is supplementary, like a vitamin, either. It is part of a healthy life. Spiritual maladies can make us sick. A strong spirit aids in our healing. God wants us to be well. Wellness does not always look the same, and healing does not necessarily mean cured. I think young healthy people tend to view health as good or bad. You are well, or you are sick. Your overall health is rarely that simple. I encourage you to pray for your loved ones' health. I also encourage you to pray for your own health. This does not mean "maxing" out your life. It means finding ways to address what your body and mind need. You need quality food, clean water, sunlight, fresh air, time with loved ones, exercise, sleep, periods of sabbath, and experiences with God. Rarely do we do all of these things well at the same time, but God gives us another chance with every morning.

Blessings, Marc

#### UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. MARY'S HALL

5/18 - Vestry Meeting  
@ 7pm

5/20 - Wednesday  
Eucharist @ 10:30am

5/20 - Wednesday  
Bible Study @ 12:30pm



**Buildings and Grounds** - Our Building and Grounds people will be here every Friday @ 9am. The committee meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:30pm.

**Bible Study on Judith**

The book of Judith is one of the Deuterocanonical texts. It is a story that was once very well-known as it contains sexual innuendo, violence, and a person of faith overcoming great odds. These subjects have always been interesting to humanity. Judith tells the story of a young Jewish widow and how she was able to overcome a powerful enemy. Please join the Bible Study's late spring examination of the Book of Judith on Wednesdays at 12:30pm. If you would like to join by Zoom, please see the rector.

**Concordia's "Celebration of Ministry Eucharist"** - We are inviting members of St. John's to Concordia's "Celebration of Ministry Eucharist" to be held on **Sunday, June 7** with **organ prelude at 3:45pm and worship at 4:00 p.m.** We are looking to have responses by **Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** so we can get some idea of the number of people attending the reception. While we will officially close our doors on June 28, we are gathering on June 7 to sincerely celebrate 132 years of ministry in Manchester. Seven out of nine former pastors are returning. Our Bishop will be attending. There will be a brass quintet and timpani. This will be followed by a catered reception in our hall afterward.

Please RSVP to Margie Gallagher @ [office@concordiamanchester.org](mailto:office@concordiamanchester.org)