



From the Rector: Freedom and Accountability



On Saturday, February 9, God willing and weather permitting, the Episcopal Church in Maine will gather to elect a new Bishop. This entire process is an excellent example of our Anglican approach of the Via Media – the Middle Way. We are free to elect whomever we want to be our Bishop. However, there is a system of accountability in place to guard against possible extremes and to confirm the suitability of our choice. There are 109 dioceses within The Episcopal Church scattered across 17 nations. Before the one we elect can begin to function as our Bishop, a majority of the

elected Standing Committees of these 109 dioceses must send a written notice of consent within 120 days of the election. If a majority withholds consent, then another election must take place. This is freedom with accountability.

Another example of this Via Media approach is evident in how The Episcopal Church is organized. We have adhered to the ancient structure of the early Church that quickly became organized around the ministry of bishops (episkopos), priests (presbyteros), and deacons (diakonos) serving within a region known as a diocese. However, we have imbued this ancient structure with a representative process of election that includes all the members of the Church. Here is accountability with freedom.

Each congregation in our diocese has elected delegates to gather for an Electing Convention in Bangor on February 9. After much prayer and a thoroughly deliberative process, those delegates and our clergy will elect a new Bishop to serve as our chief pastor and spiritual leader. As Ignatius of Antioch wrote circa 100 AD in his Letter to the Smyrnaeans, "See that you all follow the Bishop, as Jesus Christ follows the Father... It is good to know God and the Bishop. The one who honors the Bishop is honored by God." We trust that the Holy Spirit is guiding us in this process to identify the Bishop who is called to lead us at this point in time. Please pray for this process and for the election on February 9.

Nathaniel W. Ferrell +

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Episcopal Visitation: February 17

"Each Diocesan Bishop shall visit the Congregations within the Diocese at least once in three years." Canon III.18.4(a).

Bishop Stephen Lane is scheduled to visit Saint Mary's on Sunday, February 17. In accordance with the Canon cited above, this is a regular visit to worship God with us, to listen to our hopes and concerns, and to meet with parish leaders. Please make every effort to be present and to participate in this special time with our Chief Pastor. The schedule for the day will be as follows:

- 8:30 AM Breakfast with Vestry and Staff
- 9:30 AM The Holy Eucharist (all-ages, no Guiding RAY classes)
- 10:30 AM Coffee Hour and discussion for all with the Bishop

Remember that the newly elected Bishop who will replace Bishop Steve is scheduled to begin her or his term on June 22 when that person is ordained and consecrated by the Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.



From the Deacon's Corner

Dear Ones,

It occurs to me that some of you may not have known a deacon before coming to Saint Mary's or you may have known deacons in the past but not known much about the order of deacons or their place in the Church. The term "deacon" comes from the Greek word "diakonia," which means servant or servanthood. The ministry of the deacon is to represent the servanthood of Jesus Christ.

The development of the order of deacons has its roots in the early Church. Jesus did not intend to start a church but as the apostles spread the Good News, more and more people were attracted to the early communities by the message of love, hope and inclusion they heard. It also became clear that the early Christians had a commitment to the care of widows, orphans and the sick, no matter who they were. The apostles and the leaders who followed them and developed new communities could not attend to their duties of preaching, teaching and providing the sacraments without help from others who would see to the needs of the larger community by distributing alms. From these roots come the order of deacons.



The structure of the early Church included Bishops and Deacons. As the Church grew the order of presbyters or priests came to be. Today Deacons continue to be closely associated with their Bishop who deploys them and oversees their formation and ongoing ministry and is their "pastor." Deacons are assigned to a particular parish with the consent of the rector and vestry. A Letter of Agreement outlines the deacon's duties which will be supervised by the rector and the Letter is signed by the Bishop, Rector, Warden and Deacon. The deacon's ministry in the parish is not paid which comes as a surprise to many! Our culture often measures our value by how much we are paid for our work and thinks of volunteers as nice people doing good deeds for free. Deacons, however, are most often educated professionals with real careers and professional skills they use in their work in the world who are called by God to use those skills and talents for the benefit of God's people in the Church and in the world without the expectation of compensation.



Deacons serve as a bridge between the Church and the world, bringing the needs of the world to the Church and helping the people of God develop their skills and talents to use in the service of God's people. Deacons bring the love of Jesus Christ into the world serving the sick and the poor wherever God calls them to serve.

The Deacon's role in the liturgy represents their role in the life of the Church. The stole over the left shoulder represents the towel used to set and clean up the communion table and the towel for washing feet and wiping tears. The Deacon does not just read the Gospel but proclaims the Gospel, carrying the Gospel book into the midst of the gathered community highlighting the centrality of the Gospel to our worship and our life together. The Deacon prepares the table for the Eucharist and participates in feeding the people with the Body and Blood of Christ. The Deacon participates in the Prayers of the People so that as we pray together, we may be made aware of the needs of the world. The Deacon again stands in the midst of the people to dismiss the congregation sending them out to serve Christ in the world.

Each Deacon is unique in their gifts, leadership style, and ministry focus. I am blessed to have served as a deacon for twenty years and equally blessed to have served in two distinctly different parishes. The focus of my ministry in the world, as many of you know, has been to inmates at the Maine Correctional Center, leading grief support groups. If you would like to know more, I would love to talk about the diaconate! Perhaps God is tapping you on the shoulder, leading you to consider this ministry.

Blessings Deacon Christine

Vestry Highlights from the Wardens

by Janet Bowne

The Vestry met on January 17, 2019. Father Nathan led us in a teaching moment about wisdom and work done by researchers at UC San Diego on the components of wisdom.

Financial Update: We ended 2019 with a small surplus thanks to everyone who helped advance our mission and ministries. Several factors contributed to the surplus: savings on employee benefits, Sparkles' huge success, expense management and increased pledges and overall giving. While one year is not a trend, 2018 was a great year!

The Nominating Committee announced the following delegates for the Diocesan Convention:

Jim Stoddard, Betsy Stoddard, Nadine Timberlake, Stan Eaton have been nominated for the state convention and Bonny Rodden is named as the alternate.

Proposed By-Law change: We submitted our by-law change to the Chancellor of the Diocese for approval. Generally speaking he agrees with our request to allow vestry members to serve two terms consecutively but we do not have the final approval. We agreed to bring the by law change to the annual meeting for provisional approval.



Janet Bowne, Jr. Warden and Jim Kane, Sr. Warden

We discussed the need to get input from the parish on the future of Saint Mary's. Working with Father Nathan, the Wardens developed questions for an online survey and printed survey to solicit input. We reviewed the draft of question; some changes were made in the meeting.

Bishop Stephen Lane will visit with us on February 17. The Vestry will meet with the Bishop at 8:30am, and we will hold one service at 9:30am followed by a sumptuous coffee hour for all.

Thank you to our outgoing Vestry members for their three years of service: Julie Otte, Rick Hirschman, Tim Record and John Fallon, and to Bill Gowen for performing the job of Treasurer for four years.

Stewardship: Grace Given

As of the AVE deadline, we have 95 households pledging 220,441. If you missed the Annual Meeting, you'll be pleased to learn that our strong pledging parish helped us have a break-even year. This is the first time in many years, that we have not ended the year with a deficit. This truly is a time of grace for us! We are not yet at our pledge goal of \$285,000. If you're contributing regularly using an automatic transfer from your bank, please call or email Beth at admin@smary.org and verify that you will continue to pledge in 2019. Please help us meet our goal. Pledge today!

Healing Team Training



On Sunday, February 3, during the Formation time at 9:30, current members of the healing team will meet with anyone interested in learning more about the ministry of healing prayer. As disciples of Jesus, we live together in a spirit of love. We have also been blessed with the gift of prayer. When we pray with and for another we do so in a spirit of love and compassion, not with the expectation that our will be done but that God's will be done. Since God's will for us is health and salvation, we can't get it wrong! Our mission as pray-ers is to come alongside the person who is courageous enough to admit his or her need to us and to listen with confidential, non-judgmental attention. We then gather what has been spoken into prayer lifted to God in love. If you would like to learn more, join us on Feb.3 or contact Deacon Christine deacab@maine.rr.com

Learning and Growing together



Thursday, January 31 — Meet the candidates! Virtually that is! Watch the Bishop candidates videos, join a lively discussion, and be a part of the future of the Episcopal Church in Maine.

Thursday, February 7 — Acupuncture. Have you wondered about acupuncture and its benefits? Join us to hear from parishioner Maureen Manetti to learn about acupuncture. Maureen is an experienced acupuncturists who can demystify this ancient practice and show you how it can help you.

Thursday, February 14 - Game Night! Do you ♥ love ♥ to play board games, card games, trivia games: cribbage to canasta...Jenga to Jeopardy. Join us for a fun night of laughs and good fun.

Thursday, February 21 - The Story of a New Mainer: David M.: Childhood Trauma, Wartime and its Aftermath, Striving to Live.

Thursday, February 28 - It's the Law! Chief Kilbride and Chief Rumsey (Police chiefs of Falmouth and Cumberland) will talk about a day in the life of a police officer. They'll speak about trends in area crime and how the average citizen can support our first responders. No matter where you live, their comments will be applicable to the Greater Portland area.

Thursday, March 7 - Faith and Science our 2019 Lenten Series Begins

Thursday, March 14 - Pi night! Get it? 3.14! Bring your favorite pie to share from chicken, or shepherds to boston cream and apple.

What's Common Ground all about?

Common Ground is designed to be a second meeting time each week when our parish family comes together to share a meal, to do ministry together, and to discuss things that are important to our life. This is a flexible and informal time and people are welcome to come and leave as necessary. We encourage all committees and guilds to hold their meetings either before or after this core event which will create a greater synergy for connecting!



The basic structure is:

5 - 7PM Potluck dinner. Take a break from cooking a whole meal. Bring a dish or just eat what we have. If you can't eat this early, come and enjoy fellowship and discussion. Open to everyone!! Food will be available throughout this time.

5:45PM Group presentations and discussion. Topics will vary or be seasonal.

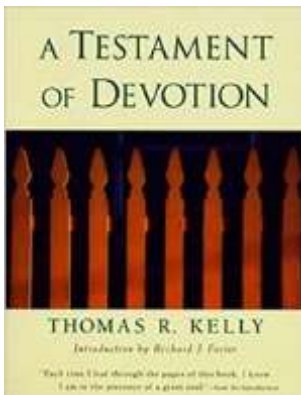
Questions? Ideas for future topics? Contact Janet Bowne (janetbowne@maine.rr.com)

Learning and Growing together

Sunday FORMATION: Spiritual Classics

“A Testament of Devotion” by Thomas R. Kelly

“The Now contains all that is needed for the absolute satisfaction of our deepest cravings. Why want, and yearn, and struggle, when the Now contains all one could ever wish for, and more?”



In January and February, gather with Nathan in the Guild Room on the Lord's Day at 9:30 AM to consider a Christian Spiritual Classic of the twentieth century. Thomas Raymond Kelly (1893-1941) was a Quaker missionary, educator, speaker, writer and scholar. Epiphany is focused on the light of God's revelation, and together we will go through the Epiphany season learning about the Light Within with Kelly's remarkable thoughts as our guide. All are welcome to drop in at any time. Grab a cup of coffee and join the conversation!

or

“Be Still”: Guided Meditations in the Fr. James Chapel with Merle Marie Troeger, Jennifer Gregg and Becky Pride.



We've implemented a slight shift in our Sunday morning schedule in order to better accomplish **our mission of “building authentic, vibrant, Christ-centered community”** where we celebrate, honor and serve together.

The overall Sunday schedule for the program year looks like this:

8:00AM: Contemplative Eucharist (Rite 1 or Rite 2)

9:30 AM: Formation for all ages (Guiding RAY and choir rehearsal for youth)

10:15 AM: Choral Eucharist

If you have a group that you would like to facilitate or to see offered, please send Fr. Nathan an email or reach out to your Wardens.

THE ADELYNROOD SCHOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

A two-year program for the training of lay and ordained spiritual directors

There are often many people in our lives but few with whom we can share the depths of our spiritual journey. If you are someone who finds yourself listening to others, perhaps it is time to seek a deeper understanding of the spiritual path. Is it time to grow your skills in accompanying others along the way of the Spirit? Spiritual direction takes many forms, informal and formal: guiding, companioning, befriending, counseling, mentoring, and sharing. Join the School for Spiritual Direction at beautiful Adelynrood in Byfield, Massachusetts to discern more about this call to holy listening. The training is offered for one week in June and August for four sessions over two summers. In 2019, the sessions are June 10 to 14 and August 5 to 9. Adelynrood is a special place that is only 70 miles south of Portland. Are you called to this ministry?



Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

Responding to Maine's Opioid Crisis

Education, Compassion and Community

"We are created for relationship, reflecting God's nature. 'Our human vocation to live in communion and mutuality is rooted in our creation in God's image and likeness. The very being of God is community.'" (Br. Luke Ditewig, Society of St. John the Evangelist)

We sometimes think we know all we have to know about the addiction crisis in Maine. And as complex as this issue is, one thing is clear to us: there is no "silver bullet" that will resolve it. According to those who are working locally on the front lines, however, a successful response must include at least three critical components: Education, Compassion and Community. Our education surrounding this subject cannot stop at the headlines or even with a direct or indirect experience, as this is an epidemic that is continually morphing. It is also an epidemic that affects each and every one of us directly or indirectly, regardless of age, socio-economic status, sex, race, ethnicity, or geographic location. As such, it requires a full-throated community response—involving each and every one of us at some level. And that response must be based on and steeped in compassion.



Working with experts from non-profits and in coordination with the Town of Falmouth, Saint Mary's invites you and the greater community to play a role in responding to this crisis. Beginning on March 24th from 4-6pm in the auditorium with the first of several educational presentations, we will seek to provide people of every age with the opportunity to become better informed and to learn how each and every one of us can prepare, take steps to forestall and learn about ways of identifying an addiction issue, learn whom to contact in the event of emergency and/or who to reach out for long term recovery assistance. You will hear the facts and figures, and you will have opportunity for Q and A. You will hear personal testimony, and you will have the opportunity to engage. Resource information will be available for those confronting crises as well as the many ways one can participate in responding to this critical challenge. And for Saint Marians who attend, we hope this series will open new opportunities for you to walk the path to which our faith calls us.

This series of presentations is offered free of charge to all. The presentations are suitable for families who are warmly invited and encouraged to attend.

It would help the Outreach Committee plan for this event by indicating you and your family's intent to attend the March 24th gathering on the sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Guild Room. FMI: Contact Diane Fletcher, Jennifer Gregg, Anne LaFond, Bonny Rodden

Responding to Maine's Opioid Crisis

Education, Compassion and Community

March 24, 4-6 PM

Saint Mary's Auditorium

Topic: "Paths that Created It, Paths that Heal"

Guest Speakers:

Robert Fowler, Executive Director, Milestone Recovery
John Kilbride, Falmouth Chief of Police

Light refreshment will be offered

FMI: Diane Fletcher, Jennifer Gregg, Anne LaFond, Bonny Rodden



Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

Winter Mission Morning - Sunday, February 10

(Directly following 8am Eucharist)

Experience God in Others

Join your fellow parishioners for Mission Morning (in lieu of the 10:15 worship service) on Sunday, October 21, following the 8am Eucharist! Once again, we will offer opportunities for parishioners of all ages, abilities and "comfort zones." You are invited to gather in the Auditorium at about 9:15 am (directly following the 8am service) for a short reflection, after which we will disperse in small groups into the community for various projects through which to *seek God in Others*. Snacks and refreshment will be available throughout and following the activities, so please consider returning to Saint Mary's when you are done for fellowship!

The nursery will be available for our youngest parishioners (up to 3 ½ years) from 9-noon.

You can assist Outreach Committee planning by indicating your intent to participate on the sign-up sheets outside the Guild Room. Thank you!

9:15am (following 8am service): Meet in Auditorium for Send-Off

9:30am: Disperse in small groups for one of the following projects:

- ⇒ Tag and Distribute warm Scarves in Portland- Hang them on trees and light posts! (All ages!)
- ⇒ Caring for Neighbors – Help a fellow-parishioner with indoor chores (adults only)
- ⇒ Deliver Flowers and Visit with Residents at The Cedars (All ages!)
- ⇒ In-House Project at St. Mary's: Following a short presentation from Falmouth Food Pantry, make and tag more wool scarves, to be donated to Falmouth Food Pantry (ages 4 and up)

Throughout until noon: Breakfast and luncheon snacks available for all!

Community Souper Supper February 8 and 22



Enjoy this community-wide fellowship offering, dining in a relaxed, candle-lit atmosphere. You will be feted with a complimentary main course, salad, rolls, dessert and beverage. Wonderful for singles and families alike! Offered twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 5-7 PM in the parish house. No reservations required. Just bring your family and friends and enjoy! It's a blast!

PLUS, on the 2nd Friday, stay for the FREE Classic Movie

**Support "Souper Supper" Buy Fair Trade
"Coffee by Design" Coffee!**



Medium to robust coffees: Casco Bay, Black & Tan, OR Rebel Blend
"Coffee by Design" 12 oz. bags of ground fair-traded, organic, delicious coffees are on sale at Saint Mary's for \$10 a bag (Decaf is \$11). ...and support fair trade practices ...and a locally-owned business... and get GREAT organic coffee! Win! Win! Win!

Christian Formation - RAY Beams - January 2019



During January in Guiding RAY, we learned all about the Anointing of David and that "The Lord told Samuel, 'People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts.'" We wondered what God is looking for in our hearts. We also wondered what made God choose David to be a leader and how David felt when he was chosen to be the king. As we explored these questions we experimented with the density of oil, made our own scented oils and played 'wheel of fortune.' Thank you to the leaders of this rotation; Rayle Ainsworth, Becky Pride, Karon Velek, Janet Bowne and Jill Stevenson. "Dr. G" from High Touch High Tech of Maine made a special visit during our 9:30 – 10:00 formation time and High Touch High Tech will be offering April vacation and Summer Camps at Saint Mary's. Please visit the High Touch High Tech of Maine website www.sciencemadefunme.net) for more information.



Here is what is coming up for February in Guiding RAY

Rotation # 6 Books of the Bible - During this rotation we will talk about how the Bible is the inspired Word of God, meaning it did not come from man, but from the Will of God. This lesson will help familiarize children with the Bible, how it came to be, and the importance of it in our lives.

February 3rd - Books of the Bible

February 10th - Mission Morning - No Guiding RAY Program - (nursery will be open for children up to age 4)

February 17th - Bishop Lane Presiding - One service for all at 9:30 - No Guiding RAY Programming (nursery will be open for children up to age 4)

February 26th - Books of the Bible

We need leaders...

Sharing God's love with children requires no special knowledge or experience, just a willingness to support our children on their faith journey. Guiding RAY needs church members who are looking to make a difference in the lives of our children, someone who has a desire to encourage our youth, have fun and teach them the word of God. An easy-to-follow curriculum is provided with all the support you need. Please contact Megan Akers, guidingray@smary.org, if you are interested in sharing your love of God with our children. It is an awesome and rewarding experience, and the benefits are eternal!

Christian Formation - RAY Beams - January 2019



Thank you to all who donated soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring! As part of our Winter Outreach, Guiding RAY kids

participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring national program. We all learned about hunger and how we can make a difference by helping our neighbors and serving God. The Guiding RAY kids and families will go on a field trip to the Falmouth Food Pantry on Souper Bowl Sunday to donate the soup and see first hand the good work that the Falmouth Food pantry does!



Hey Middlers!
Mark your calendars and save the date!

REACH:
Reaching In,
Reaching Out,
Reaching God

A Diocesan Middle School Event

We will reach inside ourselves to understand who we are right now, reach out to our community to help other people live out who they are, and reach to God through song and worship to find who we are called to be. Kids in grades 6-8 are invited to spend the weekend playing games, doing a service project, making friends, eating awesome food, and worshipping God together.

March 9-10, 2019

Christ Church Episcopal in Gardiner
For Middle Schoolers in 6-8 Grade

Guiding RAY Coordinators

Megan Akers: *Director*, GuidingRAY@smay.org, 415-4260
Alison Hayward, Nursery, ajhmcmmonagle@gmail.com, 207-400-4658



Young Life Dodgeball

Tournament: Monday, Feb. 4

ALL area teens are being called together for an epic winter dodgeball showdown! Begins at 7:31 PM in the gym at

First Baptist Church of Portland (Wash. Ave and Canco Rd). The winning group gets pizza DELIVERED to them at school! FMI, visit

www.younglifecb.com

U CAN TIP

Tip of the Month

Anonymous Tip Line for Underage Drinking or Illegal Drug Use

Hear about an underage drinking party? Not sure what to do? Send an anonymous, encrypted tip!

- Online on your local police department website or at www.cascobaycan.org
- Text "UCANTIP" with your tip to 274637
- Download the free "Tipsubmit Mobile" application for your device



Casco Bay CAN
CREATE AWARENESS NOW
TOGETHER, PREVENTING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE
www.cascobaycan.org

A grant funded project sponsored by
Cumberland County
Cumberland County

RS CM Choir Program: St. Cecilia & Angel Choirs: A Voice for Life

St. Cecilia Choir - Ages 8-15 boys and girls

Come and learn how to read music, sing better, learn how to sing in parts and joining a growing number of choristers in singing anthems, hymns and folk songs of the church.

Rehearsals: Tuesdays 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Rehearsal Room – lower level of the parish hall

Angel Choir - Ages 4 – 7 boys and girls

Sunday rehearsal at 9:30 – 10 a.m. Angel and St. Cecilia Choirs

Singing the hymns and songs of the church together. Parents or any interested adults are welcome to come and sing with us as we learn how to enjoy and participate fully in the worship service.

New! Angel Choir: Tuesday afternoon at 4 p.m. I will be available to interview any boys and girls for the Angel Choir. We hope to have a 30 minute rehearsal prior to the St. Cecilia rehearsal. You may contact me for more information: 781-3975 or pamrigg29@gmail.com

CALLING ALL BOOKS!!!!

Saint Mary's Outreach Ministry
is holding their annual

BOOK, BAKE & SOUP SALE

Saturday, March 21: 9am - 1pm

Please drop off your books outside the storage room anytime.
[Go down in the elevator, take a left and leave in the corridor by the storage room door.]

PLEASE DO NOT GIVE US ANY MAGAZINES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, or TEXTBOOKS as we then have to dispose of them ourselves.

PLEASE DO SORT YOUR BOOKS by hardcover/softcover/fiction and nonfiction AS BEST YOU CAN. If you are delivering multiple boxes, your sorting will help us immeasurably.

Please plan to sign up - if you are able - to bring the books upstairs a few days before the sale, OR to help in the final sort on Friday, March 20th, in the Auditorium!

February 24 Evensong: Time of Devotion and Contemplation

On Sunday, February 24 at 4:00 PM, The Saint Mary Choir, Saint Cecilia and Hand Bell Choirs will offer their loving gifts in a greatly treasured Anglican tradition: the choral evensong service. While in Washington DC recently, we were fortunate to attend the daily (!) evensong service at the Washington National Cathedral. At first, I was looking forward to observing this wonderful rite in the huge Gothic nave of the Cathedral. But since there were not that many people in attendance during week days, the service was held in the beautifully intimate lower chapel of Bethlehem. The splendid men's chorus of the cathedral, and one contralto, led the musical portions of that particular day and the experience made me realize why the evensong service is so unique and greatly needed in our times. The nature of the early evening prayers, texts and musical settings all encourage one to quietly take a deep breath, be still, contemplate without even thinking about it, and meditate on the ancient messages and songs of tranquility and giving thanks.

So I invite you to savor a special time when you can let the trials and tribulations of this world melt away, as we gather together singing hymns and songs about the close of the day: hymn 25 based on the wonderful melody of Thomas Tallis, (O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's glory shone; now sunset comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are lit to pierce the night); the ancient Phos Hilaron, sung by the Saint Cecilia and Hand Bell Choirs under the direction of Priscilla Rigg (O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everlasting Father, now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit); and the closing hymn 662 Abide with me: fast falls the eventide. In between the choir will sing a moving setting of Mary's Song - the Magnificat and Simeon's Song - Nunc Dimittis by Howard Helvey, a wonderful Anglican chant psalm, and a glorious anthem 'Evening Hymn' by H. Balfour Gardiner. Come join us for an afternoon of beauty and contemplation!

Bruce Fithian

2019 Class for Confirmation, Reaffirmation and Reception

Concerning the Service of Confirmation (from the BCP, p. 412): In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop. Those baptized as adults, unless baptized with laying on of hands by a bishop, are also expected to make a public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism in the presence of a bishop and to receive the laying on of hands.

Who are candidates for Confirmation?

1. Those who have been baptized.
2. Those who are ready to make a public statement of their identity as a follower of Jesus.
3. Those who are between 14 and 100 years of age. Each young person must at least currently be in high school.

Who are candidates for Reception?

1. Those who have been baptized and confirmed in another tradition that also has bishops in apostolic succession.
2. Those who wish to make a public statement of their identity as a member of The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.



Who are candidates for Reaffirmation?

1. Those who have already been confirmed by an Episcopal or Anglican bishop.
2. Those who feel called, after time away from the church or after an important life transition, to make a public statement about their renewed commitment to Christ.
3. Those who desire our Bishop to lay hands upon them and to pray for the Holy Spirit to strengthen and uphold them.

If you are one who fits any of these three categories, and if you feel led to pursue Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation, please contact Fr. Nathan soon as a new class begins to form. Details of this class will depend on the make-up of the group.



Meet the Nominees for the 10th Bishop of Maine

Visit <http://bishopquest.episcopalmaine.org> for more detailed information on the Nominees.



The Rev.
Kenneth H. Brannon



The Rev.
Thomas James Brown



The Rev.
Rachel Taber Hamilton



The Rev. Canon
Anne Mallonee



The Rev. Canon
Janet C. Waggoner



Saint Mary's Mardi Gras

Variety Show and Pancake Feast!

Sunday, March 3 4-6pm

Join us in an early celebration of Fat Tuesday! aka Mardi Gras.



If you like pancakes and sausage, enjoy great entertainment, have a talent you're willing to share, love a parade and are willing to venture into the crypt to bury the "Alleluia" then this is a party for you!

This annual Saint Mary's celebration will again be hosted by the lovely and witty Andrea Myles-Hunkin. Please sign up in the parish hall if you would like to be a part of the entertainment. Questions? Contact Megan Akers, makers210@gmail.com "Throw me something, mister!"



Honor your loved one!
Remember their birthday, graduation, or any special day
Sign up to have the altar flowers in their honor. Attached to this AVE is a form that anyone can fill out to honor the memorial of a loved one or to honor and celebrate a special event, or that special someone whom you would like to recognize or memorialize.

**See the
attached
Altar Flower
Fund form**



4 Steps to a Non-Anxious Life

1. Show up
2. Pay attention
3. Always be honest
4. Be open to any outcome

The Gospel of the Amaryllis

by Merle Marie Troeger

I bought myself a perfect Christmas gift this year. It consisted of a flower pot, some potting soil and a dry, rather unattractive bulb with scraggly, crooked roots. The whole thing came with instructions: put two inches of potting soil in the pot and place the bulb inside, pack more soil around the roots and add water.

“You will soon be rewarded with spectacular blooms” the instructions continued. We didn’t have to wait long. If you’ve ever grown an amaryllis yourself, you know how quickly the bulb produces green shoots, a long stalk and then glorious huge blossoms. It’s almost three feet high and I’ve had to prop up the whole thing with a garden stake. It looks as though there will be at least four blooms and more after that.

As hardy as the amaryllis is, it needs proper growing conditions. It needs to be kept in a relatively warm place but not in direct sunlight. It needs to be fertilized every month. It **shouldn’t be over-watered** and it should be protected from drafts. The plants grow toward the light so it helps to turn the plant regularly so the stem remains straight.

When the blooms have finally faded, that’s not the end. The instructions tell me to continue fertilizing every month. When Spring comes, I am to put the pot outside. Then, in early Fall, I will remove the bulb from the pot and let it **completely dry out in a cool, dry place. In early December, I’ll start over again. I’ll put two inches of potting soil in a pot** and place the bulb in the pot, spreading out its roots, packing more soil around the roots and watering.

Why do I call this whole process a “Gospel?” Well, it seems like good news to me when, in the dead of winter, a huge bloom appears to let me know the abundant, glorious life is waiting there in that homely bulb. You can make up your own interpretation of this Gospel. What might the bare bulb mean for you? How does that transformation into glamorous flower seem like a new life to you? Where is the next stalk coming from? Who and what fertilizes your religious imagination? How will you protect and care for your faith? What does it mean for you that the flowers fade? What does it mean that, with careful tending, the whole cycle of beauty will be repeated? What prayer arises in your heart? What commitments do you want to make? Whom do you want to thank?

(If you would like to respond or comment please do not hesitate to contact me at merlemarie@troeger@gmail.com)



Folk Art Retreat: Wednesday- Friday, February 20 - 22, 2019

The perfect opportunity for beginner artists to escape to the snowy woods of Greenfield, NH. Enjoy a relaxing midweek retreat offering good company, great food and the chance to learn a brand new skill.



- ◆ Intro to Knitting with Cricket Cooper
- ◆ Learn to Quilt with Vickie Hill
- ◆ Painting 101

For questions, more information
or to register, please visit the
Barbara C. Harris website:
www.bchcenter.org/folkartretreat



News, Notes, Kudos, Dates & Reminders

(Send your 1-3 line notes, announcements or thanks to Beth at admin@smary.org by the 20th of the previous month)

Thank you to Megan Akers, Christian Formation Director for her guidance on the intergenerational activity on wisdom used at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you to all who helped with the annual meeting--from set up to cooking, baking and shopping to cleaning up! Nice teamwork!

Thank you to Bill Gowen, Julie Otte, Rick Hirschman, Tim Record and John Fallon for their service on the Vestry.

Thanks to Karin Doehne, MD for her help with Common Ground programming.

Thank you to: Ben Parks-Stamm, Jan Wentling, Darren Clark, Stan Eaton, and Aaron Splint for agreeing to serve on the Vestry for upcoming years.

Gracias

Thank you to Nathan+, Christine+, Merle Marie & Jennifer for hosting the Formation offerings each Sunday. Great addition!

Thank you to Jana Burke & the Sparkles team for continuing to sell furniture and other items that didn't sell at the Sparkles sale!!

Thank you to Beth Shaw who prepared the annual report, the directory, the year-end giving statements and many other tasks associated with the annual meeting!



Thanks to members of our Building & Grounds committee who see to it that our walkways are shoveled and sanded

Thanks to all the Office Angels who assisted in preparing the Annual Meeting materials!

yay!

Merci

Thanks to Megan Akers for the opportunity to teach Guiding RAY - Megan is remarkable at what she does. Volunteering for a three-week cycle will be a gift to anyone - like me - who finds being with children a joy. No Experience necessary - Megan will give you all you need! Becky Pride

Thank you to Janet Bowne for all the work she does in preparing for so many of Saint Mary's meeting, events, worship services, and fundraisers. She's always there to lend assistance with a cheery smile, humor, and expert help.

Muchisimas gracias to everyone at Saint Mary's for your generous support of the Ferrell clan at Christmas and throughout Erin's health challenges. You guys rock! Nathan+

My heartfelt thanks to all of you for your generous gift and Happy Christmas greetings. May the New Year find us continuing to grow in Christ and in our service in the world in Christ's name. Deacon Christine Bennett

Dear parishioners of Saint Mary's Church, Again, I say how lucky I am to be part of such a thoughtful, generous parish family. The Christmas gifts and greetings of all kinds are so appreciated; you make me feel so warm and loved. I am truly blessed to be serving God alongside you all. With gratefulness and a humbled heart, Beth

What a wonderful place Saint Mary's is! I am humbled and grateful to be a part of such a kind-hearted, Christ-filled community. Thank you to all for your thoughtful and generous Christmas gift. Peace, Megan Akers

DANKE

Thank you all for the all blessed Christmas greetings and gift you gave. I'm thankful to be here and praying together through song. Bruce Fithian

Thank you, Saint Mary's for the Christmas card and added gift. It was appreciated and enjoyed. Roy Packard

Falmouth Congregational Church (267 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, 781-3413)

invites all to their monthly

Side Door Coffee House

Friday, February 8

Featuring

Ken Myers and Richard Corson

Come enjoy this guitar duet team as they share an eclectic mix of current genres and original pieces

Have a great cup of coffee, hot chocolate, a snack and support the arts! Bring your neighbors for a relaxed evening out.

All welcome! Free, but donations accepted.



Here are some important dates in our Saint Mary's parish family

Happy February Birthdays to:



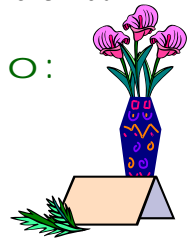
1	David Snow	9	Matthew McGonigle		
2	Tatjana Connors	9	Griffin Rhoades	19	Tim Follo
2	Joe Herlihy	9	Mark Winter	19	Ellie Winter
2	Regina Raeke	10	Katie Bryant	21	Colby Becker
3	Valerie Kyros	10	Tim Kearins	21	Aaron Demers
4	Terry Brown	11	Janet Corey	21	Riley Ross
5	Winston Corbett	11	Penny Daborn	21	Hailey Talbert
5	Connie Dayton - 90th !!	11	Connor Lund	23	Anna Dougan
5	Delilah Hastings	13	Sydney Young	24	Monique Brown
5	Tom Pettingill	14	Harry Fast	24	Jordan Otte
6	Maggie Holt	14	Lisa Novak	24	Will Salomon
7	Spencer Funk	15	Polly Parks-Stamm	25	John Frongillo
7	Caleb Robinson	16	Elise Allen	26	Nikki Evans
7	Emma Robinson	16	David Farnum	27	Rose Claar
8	Ed Ainsworth	16	Bob Timberlake	27	Lauren Hourihan
8	Chris Thomas	17	Cian Connors	27	Michael McIntosh
8	Nadine Timberlake	17	Teddy Orestis	28	Jack Heinzman
9	Luke Brown	18	Erica D'Alberto	28	Blair Lindberg

We'd love to include good wishes on your birthday and anniversary. If we don't yet have the dates, please send your and your family's special dates into the parish office and we'll be sure to include them on your special month. admin@smary.org or call 781-3366 or drop a note to the church. Thanks!

Happy February Anniversary wishes to:



4	Cindy & Chuck Horton
26	Charnette & David Chadwick
28	Barbara & Michael Payson



Classic Cinema

Our February 8

Doctor Zhivago (1965)

The second half (conclusion) of the David Lean directed, Boris Pasternak novel that won 5 Oscars. Starring Omar Sharif and Julie Christie. The life of a Russian physician and poet who, although married to another, falls in love with a political activist's wife and experiences hardship during World War I and then the October Revolution.

Movie begins at 7PM (after Souper Supper)

in the Parish House, and it's free!



The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary Worship Leader Schedule: February - March 2019

	8am Ushers	8am EM/Lectors	10:15am Ushers	10:15am Lector	10:15am Euch Minister	10:15am Acolytes	Altar Flowers	Flower Delivery	Coffee Hour Host
3-Feb Epiph 4	Rayle A Ed A	Ben Pollard	Jack H. Aaron S.	Marian McCue	Ben Pollard Terry Brown	Emily Cole	Valerie K.	The Hortons	The Stoddards
10-Feb Epiph 5	Jim K Tom L	Mary Ann M	Mission Morning				Onnie H	The Stoddards	MM
		9:30am Ushers Jack H Aaron S	9:30am lector Ben Rodgers	9:30am EMs Maggie G Diane Fletcher	9:30am Acolytes Michael William Gu, Maggie				
17-Feb Epiph 6	Bishop's visit ONE service						Melissa K	Ruth Kimball	BookSale
24-Feb Epiph 7	Baer C Charlie H	Greg Unfricht	Mark B Ron F	Ginny Stelk	Nadine T Aaron Splint	Maggie xx & xx	Katie P & Jan W	The Hortons	The Verays
3-Mar Last Epiph	Len T Dave F	Al Ahlers	Ryan S Aaron S	Erin Ferrell	Linda E Peter F	tbd	Onnie H.	The Stoddards	OPEN
6-Mar Ash Wed		12noon EM Stan E		6pm EM Terry B.	x				
10-Mar Lent 1	Al A Jim K	Becky Pride	Tom L Joyce/Len V	Betsy Stoddard	Jim Stoddard Maggie G	tbd	Bare	~	Outreach
17-Mar Lent 2	Rayle A Ed A	Len Taylor	Harry D Jack H	Dawn Yerkes	Andrea M-H Betsy PS	tbd	Bare	~	Book Sale
24-Mar Lent 3	Charlie H Len T	Elise Kiely	Ron F Mark B	Maureen Manetti	Ben Pollard Terry Brown	tbd	Bare	~	OPEN
31-Mar Lent 4	Baer C Jim K	Lad Taylor	Jim P Aaron S	Nadine T	David Robinson Diane Fletcher	tbd	Bare	~	The Cavens

If unable to fulfill your scheduled duty on the assigned day, please find your own replacement and inform Beth in the office of the change, 781-3366



FEBRUARY 2019

The Episcopal Church of Saint

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1/27 Third Sunday after Epiphany ANNUAL MEETING 9:30am ONE Eucharist 10:30 Brunch & program for all-ages 11:30 Business session	1/28 12 Noonday Prayer 6-9pm Ptd Comm Chorus	1/29 7:30-9am BNI 9:30-12 Art Group 10:30a Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 12:45pm Staff meeting 4:30pm - St Cecilia rehearsal 7pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 Allanon (6:30 beginners)	1/30 12 Noonday Prayer	1/31 12 Chapel Eucharist COMMON GROUND 5-7 pm Potluck 5:45pm Presentation Bishop Candidates 6pm Dowders 7pm Choir rehearsal	2/1 Office Closed 12 Playwhere you are 5:30pm Alanon	2/2 9am-3pm Leadership Retreat 9am-3pm Alanon State meeting
3 Souper Bowl Sunday <i>Bring soup to share!</i> 8am Contemplative Eucharist 9:30am FORMATION groups 10:00am Guiding RAY classes begin 10:15am Choral Eucharist	4 12 Noonday Prayer 6-9pm PCC rehearsal	5 7:30-9am BNI 9:30-12:30 Art Group 10:30a Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 12:45pm Staff meeting 4:30pm - St Cecilia rehearsal 7pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 Allanon (6:30 beginners)	6 9am Mainly Weavers 12 Noonday Prayer 6pm - SinG rehearsal in Aud 6pm - ORI in Guild Rm	7 12 Chapel Eucharist COMMON GROUND 5-7 pm Potluck 5:45pm Presentation Acupuncture 7pm Choir rehearsal	8 Office Closed 12 Playwhere you are 5-7pm Souper Supper 5:30pm Alanon 7pm Classic Cinema <i>Nathan + Navy drill!</i>	9 Election Convention in Bangor
10 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Mission Morning 8am Contemplative Eucharist 9:15am MISSION MORNING PROJECTS Return for fellowship at 11:30	11 10am Garden Club 12 Noonday Prayer 6-9pm PCC rehearsal	12 7:30-9am BNI 9:30-12 Art Group 10:30a Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 12:45pm Staff meeting 4:30pm - St Cecilia rehearsal 7pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 Allanon (6:30 beginners)	13 12 Noonday Prayer 6pm - SinG rehearsal in Aud	14 12 Chapel Eucharist COMMON GROUND 5-7 pm Potluck 5:45pm Presentation Game Night 7pm Choir rehearsal	15 Office closed 12 Playwhere you are 5:30pm Alanon	16
17 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Bishop Steve's Visitation 8:30 am Vestry breakfast 9:30am ONE Eucharist 10:30 Coffee Hour with the Bishop	18 Office Closed for President's Day 12 Playwhere you are 6-9pm PCC rehearsal	19 7:30-9am BNI 9:30-12 Art Group 10:30a Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 12:45pm Staff meeting 4:30pm - St Cecilia rehearsal 7pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 Allanon (6:30 beginners)	20 12 Playwhere you are 1-4pm College Club Tea 6pm Vestry meeting 6pm - SinG rehearsal in Aud 7pm - PCC Board <i>Mar AVE deadline</i>	21 9a - AFG 12 Chapel Eucharist COMMON GROUND 5-7 pm Potluck 5:45pm Presentation David M. 7pm Choir rehearsal	22 Office closed 12 Playwhere you are 5-7pm Souper Supper 5:30pm Alanon	23
24 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany 8am Contemplative Eucharist 9:30am FORMATION groups 10:00am Guiding RAY classes begin 10:15am Choral Eucharist & Baptism 4pm Evensong in the Church	25 12 Noonday Prayer 6-9pm PCC rehearsal	26 7:30-9am BNI 9:30-12 Art Group 10:30a Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 12:45pm Staff meeting 4:30pm - St Cecilia rehearsal 7pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 Allanon (6:30 beginners)	27 12 Noonday Prayer 6pm - SinG rehearsal in Aud	28 12 Chapel Eucharist COMMON GROUND 5-7 pm Potluck 5:45pm Presentation Police Chiefs	3/1 Office Closed 12 Playwhere you are 5:30pm Alanon	3/2 March 3 4pm Mardi Gras Variety Show & Pancake Feast Ad Wednesday March 6

Saint Mary's Altar Flower Fund 2019



Through the Altar Flower Fund, contributions are provided for the altar flowers that are given in memory or in thanksgiving or celebration throughout the year as well as for the special decorations at Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other occasions. (In the summer, flowers and greens from our gardens, fields and woods are often used).

As Easter (April 21) approaches, we ask for your support of the Altar Flower Fund.

Important: Whether you are making a first-time offering or regularly support the Flower Fund, please fill out this form so that your requests can be fulfilled.

1. Enclosed is my contribution to Saint Mary's Altar Flower Fund: \$_____

Name_____

Telephone_____E-mail_____

____Yes, I would like to join the Altar Flower Guild (training provided).

2. Please include these names among the Easter Memorials (requests must be received by Monday, April 15, 2019):

Name_____

Name_____

Name_____

3. Please provide flowers during the year *In Memoriam* (NO flowers are placed on the Altar during Lent or Advent with the exception of Fourth Sunday during that season):

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____

4. Please provide flowers during the year in Thanksgiving for and celebration of (NO flowers are placed on the Altar during Lent or Advent with the exception of the third Sunday during that season):

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____

Name_____ on or a Sunday close to ____/____/____



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road
Falmouth, ME 04105
207-781-3366 www.smary.org

Our Worship Schedule

Sunday worship

8 AM - *Contemplative Eucharist*
9:30 - 10:00AM *Formation for All*
10:15AM - *Choral Eucharist*

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

*Noon Day Prayer in the Chapel
and wherever you find yourself*

THURSDAYS

12NOON - *Chapel Eucharist*
5-7PM - *COMMON GROUND*
Connecting with our community
5:00PM *Potluck dinner,*
5:45PM *Program & discussion*



CELEBRATE  HONOR  SERVE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

Tel: 207-781-3366

E-mail: smary@smary.org

Website: www.smary.org

The Rev. Nathan Ferrell, *Rector*
nathanferrell@smary.org

The Rev. Christine Bennett, *Deacon*
deacab@maine.rr.com

Bruce S. Fithian, *Organist & Choirmaster*
bsfithian@aol.com

Megan Akers, *Dir. of Christian Formation*
GuidingRAY@smary.org

Beth Shaw, *Parish Manager*
admin@smary.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Copy deadline for March AVE - **February 20**

Your 2019 Saint Mary's Vestry

Nathan Ferrell, Rector, 899-2543, nathanferrell@smary.org
Cell phone number 310-0268

Jim Kane, Sr. Warden, 329-1764, melissa1959@earthlink.net

Janet Bowne, Jr. Warden, 318-7045, jmitchellbowne@gmail.com

Ben Parks-Stamm, Treasurer, 458-3151, ben.parks.stamm@gmail.com

Ed Ainsworth, 846-3191, rayleanded207@gmail.com

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