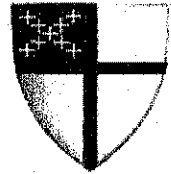




St. John's Episcopal Church and Day School



Our Mission is to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel and to
seek and serve Christ in all people

Newsletter, November 2023

November is here! And with it all of the promise, pomp, and circumstance of the holiday season. We have some unique opportunities to serve together, learn together, and fellowship together in the next month.

Starting with All Saints', on November 5 Hannah will be baptized at the 1015 service. I've heard rumblings of soup following the service! What a joyous time for us to remember those who have gone before us and touched our lives in so many ways.

Please remember to send the names of your dearly departed to the church office before our All Saints' services to ensure that we have all of our intentions gathered in one place.

On November 8, we will have a cheese-making party from 5 to 6:30. The weekend after that is Diocesan Convention (November 10-11); and on that Sunday (November 12) we will hear Hannah preach for the first time. How exciting that we get to hear from our new preachers! Look for dates in the Spring when Hannah and Nancy will be up to preach again.

After that we enter the Holiday season in earnest the week of Thanksgiving. On Thanksgiving Day we will have a Eucharist at noon so that folks can fit that in with other plans with family and friends on that day. Later that day we will also have a special community kitchen crew. The last Sunday in November marks the end of ordinary time, when we affirm Christ as our sovereign come to usher in the kingdom of God.

Despite the busy-ness, it is my hope that each of us will find time for the rest and reflection we need to live into these changes in season and prepare with joy to do the work we are called to do together. God bless each of you during this joyous time.

Your Brother in Christ,
The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

Food Ministry à la St. John's
by Nancy Gregory, Senior Warden

It's no surprise to any of us that St. John's is a congregation that strongly supports feeding people. We invite our guests into our parish hall, ask them to choose a comfortable seat and then we serve them an excellent meal. Twice a week. With a rotating menu. Yum!

I remember telling Fr. Michael that Food Ministry was very near and dear to my heart and that I loved the fact that St. John's had been serving meals for many years. Something like 40 years! None of us at St. John's is going to let a hungry person get away, even if the only thing we have to offer after serving nearly 200 meals, might be nothing more than a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. That big old sign above our doors says it all, Free Meals!

We're showing a great after-COVID comeback in guests served now too. The word is getting out.

If you've ever come down on a Tuesday or Thursday late afternoon-evening, you'll notice lots of activity, friendly joking around, and sharing of great stories among our volunteers. It's work but they all say it's fun to be doing that kind of joy filled work together. I've picked up several really tasty recipes for my personal use too. We've got some great chefs around here.

Sometimes unexpected things happen that blow you away and you know the Holy Spirit is right there with us encouraging us on. Like when one of our guests started bringing homemade cookies to share with everybody! She says God tells her to get off her duff and get to work. She says her spirits lift every time she follows that call. What I really love is how she takes plates of cookies around to our other guests, gives them her tasty treats, along with some kind words.

Another woman sought me out to tell me a story about all her neighbors who really needed our takeout service. They were too ill to come in on their own. She planned to ask for 6 takeout meals that she would then hand deliver to each neighbor. She said these meals were a God send for her neighbors.

And then there was the guest who was so moved by Fr. Michael's sung grace and prayer for our Kitchen Manager, that he stood and reached out his arms in love. Part of what really gives me those God-moment-chills, is the noticing part. Just glancing around the room. Seeing the people relaxing, enjoying each other's company, maybe even making new friends. And suddenly you get the message loud and clear. God seems to rub off on people, doesn't He? Sometimes even through a simple Community Kitchen meal served with kindness and love. He's right there! Come on down and see!

Ever fancied yourself a cheese-maker? St. John's is hosting a cheese-making party on November 8 from 5 to 630 pm.

Come and enjoy some food and fellowship and (maybe) learn how to make some great cheese. The cheese made during the meeting will go toward a community kitchen dish the following week.

Hey! Consider helping out with our recycling ministry! From your RMT:

We are looking for someone who might like to help out with our Recycle Cans For Cash program. Our very dedicated volunteer, Fred Elliot, will be unable to do the job for a while.

The key points are, keep cat food cans separate from other cans. Take the cans to ACT Recycling, located at 7134 US-54. And tell them that it is for St. John's Episcopal Church. Contact the church for more details!

Schedule of Sunday Readings, November 2023

Date	Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Nov-05	Micah 3:5-12	Psalm 43	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
Nov-12	Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16	Psalm 70	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Nov-19	Zephaniah 1:7,12-18	Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Nov-26	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 95:1-7a	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46

Rota for November 2023

Date	Sunday	Reader 8am	EM 10:15am	Reader 10:15am
Nov-05	Proper 26/All Saints	Geoff	Nancy	Hannah
Nov-12	Proper 27	Randy	Nancy	Tony
Nov-19	Proper 28	Joyce	Nancy	Hannah
Nov-26	Christ the King	Geoff	Steve	Nancy

Community Kitchen Schedule, November 2023

Date	Team
Oct-31	Retired Folks
Nov-02	Sam + Crew
Nov-07	Retired Folks
Nov-09	Sam + Crew
Nov-14	PPW
Nov-16	Sam + Crew
Nov-21	Christ Community Church
Nov-23	TBA
Nov-28	Retired Folks
Nov-30	Sam + Crew

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

Chuck M. (11/1); Philip C. (11/4); Jane B. (11/12); Kim B. (11/12); Lisa J. (11/14); Thomas O. (11/14); Tom S. (11/22); Dixie B. (11/23), Adam R. (11/24)

Pet Prayer Chain

Many people in our congregation have pets. We all love our pets. They are part of our family. When they are sick, elderly or lost, it is a comfort to know that our church family is praying for them as well as us. If you have or know of a pet that could benefit from our ministry, please let Joyce or Nancy know.

Daily Office

Morning Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. Evening Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 4:00 p.m.

Links to these services can be found on the website: stjohnsalamo.com

Formation Hour

Join us on Sundays at 9 for our Bible Study. Been to a lot of bible studies? None? All are welcome.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you knit or crochet? Are you interested in doing it as part of an ongoing spiritual practice that gives back to the community? If you are and would like more information, like patterns or prayers, please contact Joyce at joycesummers@mac.com

St. John's Episcopal Church

1114 Indiana Avenue, Alamogordo

Sunday Services: 8:00am Rite I; 10:15am Rite II

Office Phone: 575.437.3891

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Website: <http://www.stjohnsalamo.com>