

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
PROPER 9

Sunday, July 5, 2026

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



*"My Yoke is Easy" by Maria Lang*

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999

Website: [www.stjec.org](http://www.stjec.org)

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

# Welcome to St. John's Church

*We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.*

*If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.*

*If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.*



## **Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service**

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

## **Children are welcome at all services**

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

**The Nursery is open from 10:15am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.**

## **SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S**

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9:15am	<i>Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Play, Intergenerational faith formation for families with children 1st grade and under in the Nursery</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>

## COME JOIN US

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### TODAY

- “All Saints” Cinema-Theology Discussion @ 9:15am
- Newcomer’s Coffee Hour @ 12pm
- “The Giver” Book Discussion @ 12pm

### SUNDAY, July 12

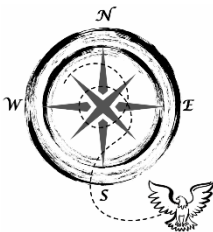
- “Up” Cinema-Theology Discussion @ 9:15am

### WEDNESDAY, July 15

- Vestry Meeting @ 6:30pm

### SUNDAY, JULY 19

- “Saved” Cinema-Theology Discussion @ 9:15am
- “Gathering Blue” Book Discussion @ 12pm
- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm



### JOURNEYS TO THE HOLY

Sunday, July 26 to Wednesday, July 29 | 6-8:30pm

Register @ [www.stjec.org](http://www.stjec.org)

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS ~ Monday through Thursday 9am to 2pm

# HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM  
Prelude

*The people stand.*

10:30AM  
Hymn #482

Lord of all hopefulness

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. *Hymnal 1982*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

8AM

Gloria

BCP pg. 356

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

10:30AM

## All creatures of our God and King

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (one sharp). It consists of five lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line of music is a melodic line starting on G4. The second line of music is a harmonic line starting on G4. The third line of music is a melodic line starting on G4. The fourth line of music is a melodic line starting on G4, labeled 'Refrain'. The fifth line of music is a harmonic line starting on G4. The lyrics are: 'I All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic-es, let us I sing: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Bright burn-ing I sun with gold-en beams, pale sil-ver moon that gen-tly gleams, O praise him, O praise him, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!'.

I All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic-es, let us  
I sing: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Bright burn-ing  
I sun with gold-en beams, pale sil-ver moon that gen-tly gleams,  
*Refrain*  
O praise him, O praise him, Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

*The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.*

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Copyright ©1985 by G. Schirmer, used by arrangement of G. Schirmer, Inc.  
Music: *Lass' uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)  
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## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

**Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67**

*Lector* A reading from Genesis.

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" – let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She

quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 45:11-18

- 11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; \*  
forget your people and your father's house.
- 12 The king will have pleasure in your beauty; \*  
he is your master; therefore do him honor.
- 13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*  
the rich among the people seek your favor."
- 14 All glorious is the princess as she enters; \*  
her gown is cloth-of-gold.
- 15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; \*  
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.
- 16 With joy and gladness they are brought, \*  
and enter into the palace of the king.
- 17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; \*  
you shall make them princes over all the earth.
- 18 I will make your name to be remembered  
from one generation to another; \*  
therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."

## Romans 7:15-25a

*Lector* A reading from Paul's letter to the church in Rome.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

I heard the voice of Jesus Say

Kingsfold

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and  
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly  
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's

1. rest; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up -  
2. give The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and  
3. light; Look un - to me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy

1. on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I was, So  
2. drink, and live." I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of  
3. day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I found In

1. wea - ry, worn and sad; I found in him a  
2. that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my  
3. him my star, my sun; And in that light of

1. rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.  
 2. soul re - vived, And now I live in him.  
 3. life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: CMD; Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt.  
 Music: trad. English melody, adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(11:16-19, 25-30)

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
 we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Shivaun Wilkinson

*The people stand.*

**The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III

*People* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

*People* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and  
humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*People* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and  
Sacraments.**

*People* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations  
of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*People* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*People*     **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*People*     **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*People*     **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

For **Becky, Anne, Maxwell, Jere, Harry, Andrew, Aurora, Carole, Ivy, Steve, and Mary.**

*The people may add their own petitions silently or aloud.*

*Celebrant concludes with a collect.*

*Deacon*     Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*People*



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

**Anthem:** O Rest in the Lord

Mendelssohn

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B**

The Lord be with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*People*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

8AM

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

10:30AM

## Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord

Richard Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Padre Nostro, che sei nei cieli,  
Sia santificato il tuo nome.  
Venga il tuo regno,  
Sia fatta la tua volontà,  
Come in cielo, così in terra.  
Dacci oggi il nostro pane  
quotidiano,  
E rimetti a noi i nostri debiti  
Come noi li rimettiamo ai nostri  
debitori.  
E non ci indurre in tentazione,  
Ma liberaci dal male.  
Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

**8:00AM**

*People*      **Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.**

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Gerald Near

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - ov - er is  
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The people are seated.*

*Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both kinds, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.*

*The people are seated.*

## **Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors.**

*Deacon* In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

*The people stand.*

*Celebrant and people.*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

Hymn# 657

Love divine, all love excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Hymfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

## TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

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*Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at [accounting@stjec.org](mailto:accounting@stjec.org).*

*In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email [pastoralcare@stjec.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org)*

Becky Hast

Anne Frey

Maxwell A.

Jere Rowland

Harry Brooke

Andrew Erickson

Aurora

Carole

Ivy Choe-Branstetter

Steve Ruff

Mary Persinger

*If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: [pastoralcare@stjec.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stjec.org).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- **NEWCOMER'S COFFEE HOUR**

Newcomers are invited to Coffee Hour TODAY following the 11:30am service. This is an opportunity to meet Clergy and Vestry members, ask questions and learn more about St. John's and what it has to offer.

- **CASSEROLE CLUB - A Gathering for Those Who Grieve**

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one - whether your loss is recent or many years ago, we invite you to join the Casserole Club on Sunday, July 19, at 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This informal, welcoming gathering offers a safe and supportive space to connect with others who understand the experience of loss. Come as you are, share as much or as little as you wish, and know that you are not alone. Friends and family members are welcome to attend. Drop-ins are always welcome.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Shelf Stable Milk (large) Peanut Butter | Jelly | Pudding & Fruit Cups | Pasta Sauce | Manwich Sardines Canned Chicken | Chef Boyardee | Soup | Canned Peas | Pancake Mix Syrup | Canned Tomatoes | Individual Cereal | Dry Potatoes | Taco Kits.

The Food Pantry Ministry needs people to stock the Pantry on Saturdays. Please see Friday's Bell Tower for the SIGN-UP GENIUS link. Contact Mary McQueen or Julie Metcalf for more information about the ministry.

2026 VBS



REGISTER @  
WWW.STJEC.ORG

## JOURNEYS TO THE HOLY

*The Outward, Inward, Upward,  
Downward Travels of Faith*

An all ages, all-parish Vacation Bible  
School exploring the meaning of  
pilgrimage and faith

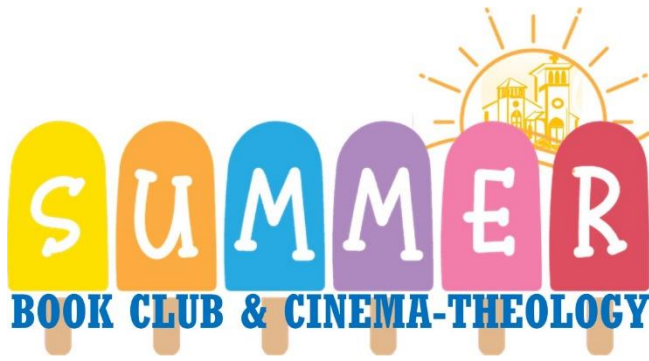
Sun. July 26<sup>th</sup> – Wed. July 29<sup>th</sup>  
6-8:30pm each evening

\*Includes dinner, Bible reflection,  
games, crafts, activities, laughter,  
learning, and a prayerful reflection.

- **HELP SUPPORT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

One of the ways we keep VBS affordable is through the generosity of parishioners who donate items from our VBS Wish List. The complete list of items needed is available on Amazon. **See Friday's Bell Tower for the link.** Also needed are the following: empty rectangular tissue boxes and full newspapers (approximately 8-10 copies). If you purchase an item from the wish list from another vendor, please make sure it is of comparable quantity and quality, and let Mo. Shivaun know so she can mark it off the list.

Each evening, we serve dinner. We welcome and appreciate help with the meal ingredients. Whether you can donate an item, lend a hand, or both, your support is greatly appreciated and helps make VBS a wonderful experience for everyone. **The Sign-up Genius link can be found in Friday's Bell Tower.**



**EXPLORE  
SCRIPTURE  
DIFFERENTLY**

This summer, we offer opportunities to explore scripture differently with our Intergenerational Book Club and a series of Cinema-Theology discussions. Whether you are discovering the series for the first time or revisiting these beloved stories, or are a movie buff, a theology enthusiast, or simply curious about the conversations, we hope you'll join us.

**Intergenerational Summer Book Club | Meeting Dates (at Noon)**

July 5 - "The Giver"

July 19 - "Gathering Blue"

August 2: "The Messenger"

August 16: "The Son"

**Summer Cinema-Theology Discussions**

Sunday Morning Formation @9:15am | Movies & Discussions Dates

July 5 - All Saints (PG)

July 12 - Up! (PG)

July 19 - Saved! (PG-13)

July 26 - Prince of Egypt (PG)

August 2 - Wall-E (G)

August 9th - What Dreams May Come (PG-13)

August 16th - Dogma (R)

August 23rd - David (PG)



## EXPLORING SCRIPTURE

**THIS SUMMER WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
Summer Cinema-Theology Discussions  
~ Sunday mornings @ 9:15am ~**

### WHERE TO FIND VIDEOS FOR SUMMER CINEMA-THEOLOGY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| July 5    | All Saints (PG) – Tubi or Prime purchase \$3.99  |
| July 12   | Up! (PG) - Disney                                |
| July 19   | Saved! (PG-13) – Prime                           |
| July 26   | Prince of Egypt (PG) - Prime                     |
| August 2  | Wall-E (G) - Disney                              |
| August 9  | What Dreams May Come (PG-13) – Prime from \$3.99 |
| August 16 | Dogma (R)- Prime from \$7.99                     |
| August 23 | David (PG) – Netflix                             |

**\*You may also be able to borrow some of these from the library.  
Please consider hosting a Watch Party if you have a streaming service.  
Let us know if you would like to host a Watch Party or find these films elsewhere!**



# SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

## Diocese of Washington

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally, *Archbishop of Canterbury*  
The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

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David Peden, *Head of School*  
David.Peden@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

## VESTRY

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 - *Pastoral Care*  
Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*  
Becca Roberson, 2027 - *Sr. Warden, Outreach*  
Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*  
Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Becky Hast, 2028 - *Jr. Warden, STJES*  
Carolyn Schopp, 2028  
Rob Schellhase, 2028 - *Parish Life*  
Mark Glaudemans, 2029 - *Worship*  
Francesco Paganini, 2029 - *STJES*  
Mary Quinn, 2029 - *Stewardship*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832  
(301) 774-6999 - Welcome@stjec.org

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~