

## St. John's Newsletter #25

The Week following the 17th Sunday after Trinity (October 4-10, 2020)

Last Sunday was St. Francis Day so we not only had a Zoom service at 10am but also had a blessing of the animals at 11am. The main event was blessing Sofie and Breezy, two Friesian mares who will each foal in March. We also blessed (from a distance) the pets, past and present, of many members and friends of St. John's. A special thanks to all who participated including Robert and Melinda Horner who operated the Zoom, Monica Nathan who was the reader and Mary Clare who played the organ.



### News from the Search Committee

Search Committee Chair Bruce Sweeney reports that we have at least two very promising candidates who have applied to be St. John's next rector.

The search committee has conducted initial interviews with each of them and will be conferring with the vestry and the diocese about making a final decision and offer to the final candidate within the next several weeks.

### October is Stewardship Month at St. John's.

Our lessons in October remind us that Christian stewardship is much more than just about giving money to support the parish. True stewardship means taking proper care of all the gifts a gracious and loving God has given each of us.

The very first step is thus to recognize that there is a God who is the final authority. Jesus makes the crucial point that this being the case, we must make the choice who we are going to make Lord of our life, God or mammon. We cannot serve both! This is the first principle of stewardship. First seek the kingdom of God!

Next we need to understand there are stewardship priorities in the kingdom of God. We need to understand that life ...life itself..is a gift from God. We need to treasure life. That means we need to take proper care of ourselves. For if we don't care for ourselves - we can't care for anyone else. And we are indeed called to care for others; first ourselves, but then our families, which are at the center of Christian life. After that we are to care for our needy neighbors, especially our fellow Christians . Then, finally we are called to care for the church.

### This coming Sunday- October 11- Trinity 18

Jesus tells us, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." So what do you truly value and treasure? It is important to get our heart in

the right place! Jesus tells us that our families are the most important treasure we can have. The family is at the very heart of Christianity!

Reader for Sunday October 11: Dorothy Houge

Vestry Meeting- Wednesday, October 14 at 2pm.

Our St. John's vestry will hold its monthly meeting next week, on Wednesday, October 14th. We will start with a tour of the rectory at 2pm to examine maintenance issues and then move to the Parish Hall to take care of current matters.

Prayer Requests

Please keep Kitty DuVernois, our former organist, in prayer. She informed us this week that she has entered hospice care and expects to move into eternal life within the next few weeks. We give thanks to the Lord for her time with us. She is an exceptional musician and organist and will be deeply missed! Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Kitty to your heavenly kingdom.

We received the sad news that former member Shirley Pribek passed away at her home in Kentucky a couple of weeks ago. Shirley was a tremendously talented water color and ceramic artist. A number of her works grace the walls of St. John's, including a classic water color of St. John's Chapel. Lord, grant that Shirley may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in your heavenly kingdom.

Next Outdoor Service and Picnic- Sunday, November 1st

Please plan to join us for our next outdoor Eucharist and self-catered picnic at the Turner Ranch on November 1st which is also All Saints Day! Details will follow!

Flowers on the Altar this Sunday: are given in loving memory of James Riecks by Nancy Foster.

### St. John's financial status

We received our annual contribution from the Community Foundation so we are back to the positive side on the financial ledger. Thanks to all you faithful St. John's members for your continuing support !