



Tidings

OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

Ritual Comfort

Lately Starbucks has been urging me to “take comfort in rituals.” The company is offering me the choice of a new drink or the “happy return” of one that’s been in the lineup for a few years now—whichever seems more comforting, I suppose.

I expect Starbucks pays a pretty penny to produce advertisements that maximize the effect on customers’ emotions while minimizing the chances that their brains will engage in a way that stops them from following through with buying that drink. The appeal of a ritual’s comfort in Starbucks’ case would have to override an objection to spending \$3 to \$5 on a sugar-and fat-infused espresso drink. All of which suggests to me that they’ve figured out “comfort in rituals” is an idea that goes pretty deep into the human psyche but probably isn’t very easy to explain intellectually.

Now for Episcopalians, rituals are a pretty big deal. And despite my suspicions about Starbucks’ intentions, I think we do take comfort in rituals, precisely because they do touch such a deep place in us. But the rituals of the church are much richer and more rewarding.

At our best, we can use rituals to accomplish many things at once. I love the way engaging in the rituals of the church makes a space for me to experience the mystery of God who is beyond our ability to comprehend. Rituals allow us to rehearse our beliefs and values and make them firmly a part of ourselves. Carefully performed rituals symbolize the holiness of our time together. The familiarity of rituals opens space for us to worship more attentively and bring more of ourselves into the moment. Sometimes the comfortable form of a ritual can make room for uncomfortable realities; we can broach hard topics and pray difficult prayers and still know God’s presence with us. I’m sure there are other ways the rituals of the church work for people, too.

I am also thankful that we have the context of the church to practice our rituals in. A cup of coffee can be mighty nice, but for our most deeply felt needs, such as our need for ritual, the church really has Starbucks beat.

Peace
Deacon Anne

*“...I think we
do take
comfort in
rituals, ...”*

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Blessing of the Animals Sunday- October 3rd

It is always a joy to provide an opportunity to bless our animals on the Feast of Blessed Francis of Assisi. This year at St. John's we will offer this blessing outside during the regular 10:30 a.m. liturgy.

We will gather in the area just outside the south doors with our animals. The liturgy at 10:30 will be much abbreviated, the songs will be simple, your favorite pet (or photo of your pet) will be blessed. We will have communion.

The Blessing of the Animals with Eucharist outside will be our only worship at 10:30 on this day, so that we can have a more relaxed Sunday experience. Perhaps you can invite a friend who would not feel comfortable in one of our regular worship services. And for those for whom animals and outside liturgies and communion with animal crackers is not their "thing", we invite you to the 8:30 a.m. liturgy that day, which will remain unchanged.

Please pray for nice weather!

On All Saints' Sunday, October 31st

In keeping the tradition alive:

- * The names you've been submitting to be remembered in prayers that day will appear on a special altar frontal being prepared by our Sunday school children, and these names will also be chanted during the prayers of the people.
- * *Pan de los muertos*, the traditional Mexican bread taken to the cemetery and eaten in the presence of deceased family and friends, will be used during celebrations of the Holy Eucharist.
- * Another Mexican tradition uses yellow gladiolas and marigolds to decorate the altar and cemeteries. You can contribute to the designers' guild and remember your loved ones in this lovely way by calling the parish office.
- * And, because movement and action and candles are all important in worship, during communion, everyone will be able to light a candle and place it in our "votive stand" at the altar as yet another way to say "Thank you" to those upon whose shoulders we stand.

Please join your worshipping community on this important festival.
You'll be uplifted and encouraged and glad you did!

Staff of St. John's

The Right Rev. Bishop Jerry A. Lamb
The Rev. Harold Clinehens, Jr., Rector
The Rev. Anne Smith, Deacon
Randy Knutson, Music Director
Robin Knutson, Organist
Ann Marie Addler, Office Admin
Katie Newsome, Youth Group
Carol Shelley, Nursery Care Provider

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

As happened last year, the Vestry has selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During the liturgy on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During both services our guest leader, Steve Yuroski, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship by placing their cards on the altar.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and vestry members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Corky Kuykendall
Senior Warden





SSP 2010 trip



Attention High School Students: Sierra Service Project: Informational Session: Sunday, October 10

The work that Sierra Service Project (SSP) kids do in preparation for their summer experience culminates in a week-long mission trip that can occur on Indian reservations throughout the Western U.S. or in inner-city Los Angeles. People's lives are changed by being a part of SSP: Kids learn about carpentry; they learn they can make a tangible difference in someone else's life; they gain valuable social skills; their faith deepens; the gospel comes alive through their actions.

The Kafton's will share their experiences and we'll have Pastor Helen Mansfield from United Methodist Church in Galt joining us. Pastor Helen will share her years (15) of experiences with us.

If we wish to participate next summer (2011) we need to apply to SSP by November 15, so we need to act quickly. Judging from our last trip with SSP, the cost per child for the week-long project may be around \$500, which is raised through various fund raising events put on by the kids.

So far we have one high school student interested and five adults willing to help in some way. A meeting is scheduled for October 10 after the 10:30 liturgy. If you've been thinking about this but can't decide, come on October 10th.

Youth News

We have had a wonderful group of leaders faithfully come to lead our Youth Group, but we are still short on kids for them to lead and inspire! We are now opening this group up to kids in grade 6 also, to give them the experience of Youth Group, so anyone from grades 6-12 is welcome to join us. We will be meeting on Sunday nights in October at 6 p.m. and hope to go to one of the bigger out of town corn mazes in the middle of the month. Please contact Allison Williams, Aleathea Langone, Sheila Filomeo and Katie Newsome to learn more.

Youth Selling Dog Biscuits



The Youth Group baked dog biscuits on September 26th and will be selling them at Blessing of the Animals!

Be sure to pick up a tasty treat on Sunday, October 3 between services for your pet!

From the Music Director

This past month, two of our musical groups got off to strong starts. First our children's choir, Choristers, started rehearsing on the first day of the month and sang on the last Sunday of September. We are focusing their efforts more on short pieces that can be shared in worship more frequently and speak to the lessons of each Sunday. We still would welcome new members to our rehearsals on Wednesdays, at 4:30 p.m., (grades 1-6). Parish Choir began a week later, singing some rousing works for September including a spiritual at the end of September. We hope to keep up the mix for this month, singing a motet based on "Praise to the Lord" and beautiful new setting of Psalm 121 in October.

Just beginning is our handbell group, the Bells of St. Johns. This group is open to the whole parish, not just a youth group. If you have ever wanted to ring bells or learn more about music, you are welcome to join us. We will continue to have a number of skilled members in our midst who are youthful, but we would love to add to that number. Playing handbells is a great way to learn to read music, so newcomers are welcome! Rehearsals are on Sunday nights at 7 p.m. in the church. To find out more about any of these groups please call the church office or email Randy Knutson at randyknutson@sbcglobal.net





Anonymus 4 is a female a cappella quartet, based in New York City. Their main performance genre is medieval music, although they have also premiered works by living composers such as John Tavener and Steve Reich. The group currently comprises of Marsha Genensky, Susan Hellauer, Ruth Cunningham, and Jacqueline Horner.

**Friday, October 15, 2010
at 7:30 p.m.**

The name of the group is a pun on the name used to refer to an anonymous English music theorist of the late 13th century, Anonymous IV, who is the principal source on the two famous composers of the Notre Dame school, Léonin and Pérotin.

The Arts at St. John's presents
Anonymus 4

Tickets: \$25

Originally formed in 1986 to experiment with the sound of medieval chant and polyphony as sung by higher voices, Anonymus 4 has become renowned for its astonishing vocal blend and technical virtuosity. The four women of Anonymus 4 combine musical, literary, and historical scholarship with 20th-century performing intuition as they create innovative programs interweaving music with poetry and narrative. Anonymus 4 has performed to critical acclaim on music series throughout North America, in such cities as Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver and Washington, DC. Anonymus 4 appears in concerts and festivals throughout Europe, the Far East, Australia, New Zealand, and throughout Japan.
www.anonymus4.com

1055 S. Lower Sacramento Rd.,
Lodi, Ca
(209) 369-3381
www.artsatsaintjohns.com

Limited seating, purchase your tickets early.

Diocesan Convention - October 15—17

Our delegates are Corky Kuykendall, Celisse Johnson, John Ledbetter, Yvonne Schildt with alternates Richard Cress, Elaine Sager and Andee Zetterbaum. All members of the Diocese are invited to attend the convention. It will be taking place at St. Paul's in Modesto - only 45 minutes away! There will be seminars available on Friday evening; the business meeting will take place on Saturday morning with the afternoon and evening focused on dreaming session of the future of our diocese. All are encouraged to attend and let your voice be heard. For more information and registration forms visit the diocesan website or stop by the church to pick up a registration form.



Other Ways to be Green

We Recycle Styrofoam cups @ DART in Lodi.

In the kitchen at St. John's is a blue bin for collecting and recycling Styrofoam items, especially cups. We have a very unique opportunity in Lodi, in that DART packaging company has a manufacturing plant here. They make styrofoam plates, cups, etc.; sometimes these are seen as a bad choice versus paper plates and cups. However, they have set up a place to take cups, plates and even food service 'clam shell' containers to a parking lot area near their factory at 1400 Victor Road (at Guild). The collecting area is open 24 hours a day, but there is no refund given for what is brought in. However, it is all reused in their process in the nearby factory, so these things can be used and recycled in our town. We would encourage individual households to find out more, so they can get these containers out of the waste stream and take them to DART. Go to <http://www.dartcontainer.com/web/enviro.nsf/pages/enrecy.html> to find out more!

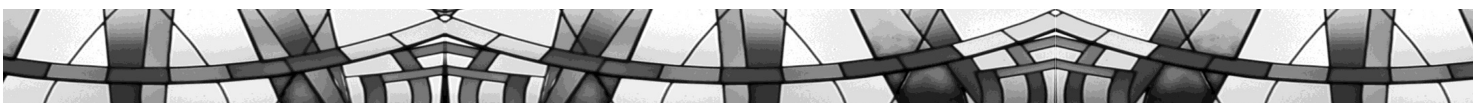


Yellow Pages

We have developed a "Yellow Pages", a list with descriptions of all our ministries at St. John's. This publication will be available at the Ministry Faire on October 17th. Please feel free to stop by and pick one up. The Yellow Pages will include the following ministries with a brief description and contact info. If a ministry you serve on or know of someone involved, is not listed here, please let us know.

Acolyte
Altar Guild
Bread Baking
Bridge Players
Choir & Choristers
Coffee Hour
Community Garden
Compassion/Outreach
Connections & Directions
Designer's Guild
Eighth Day
Fellowship
Gardening
Lay Ministers & Lectors
Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Men's BBQ
Prayer
Pre-School/Kindergarten
Office Angels
Sound System
St. Margaret's
Study Group II
Sunday School
The Arts
Usher
Web Master
Wedding
Women at St. John's
Women of Faith
Yoga for Christians
Youth Group



Connections & Directions

At our September 10 meeting, we began our discussion with reflection on John 2: 1-11, the story in which Jesus transforms ceremonial cleansing water to wine when refreshments are depleted at a wedding feast. We start with a short Bible Study as it helps center our attention on scripture, opens our hearts, and allows the Holy Spirit to instruct us as we continue Christ's 'living story' in our work together.

We are working on some proposals that we believe will make communication at St. John's more engaging and instructive, and help build our awareness as a Christian community. We've spoken with our own members and have looked outside St John's to what other churches and organizations are doing. We can improve our bulletin boards, special displays, and ministry table as information centers. Our Sunday announcements and Tidings newsletter have hidden potential to be explored. We also discussed ideas on how to expand personal, one-to-one outreach to strengthen our connections both with current members and newcomers.

At our next meeting we will be exploring the additional potential of our website and internet-based communications to grow our connections within and beyond St. John's. You are welcome to join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 pm in the Hospitality Room.

Come see us at the Ministry Fair on October 17 to learn more and to discover opportunities to share your gifts to help us come together as one body; caring, sharing, and serving side by side in Christ.

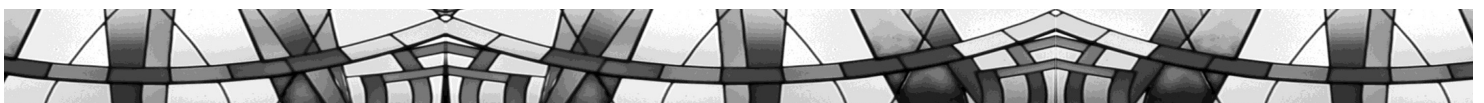
Ministry Fair and Parish Picnic

The summer is already over and we did not experience the hot weather we normally expect in August. We have had a very mild year, but a lot of things have happened at St. John's. We do not appear to be slowing down as we move on into fall.

October is going to be very busy month for St. John's. One of our standard activities is the Parish Picnic. This year it will be held on October 17, 2010. In conjunction with the Picnic this year we are holding what we are calling a Ministry Fair. We have a lot of activities and programs led by our parishioners at St. John's. We have had a core of ministry activities including Alter Guild, Arts at St. John's, Designers Guild, Compassion, Fellowship, Eighth Day, and the list goes on. We have included in this newsletter (page 7) a more inclusive list of the activities and ministries. We will ask representatives of all these various activities to be available at the Picnic to allow all of us to learn more about the activities that are a part of our parish life. It will also provide us an opportunity to learn more about some things that we may want to become more active in during the coming year.

We hope that everyone will be able to attend and see how active our parish is and for you to explore what may interest you in the future. I look forward to seeing you all at the Picnic and the Ministry Fair.

Yours in Christ
Corky Kuykendall



**Harvest Faire —
Saturday,
October 9, 2010
10:00 am — 2:00 pm**

Join us Saturday, October 9 for our Harvest Faire in the St. John's parking lot. We'll have Sloughhouse corn and produce, Clements Ridge pies, natural birdhouses, gift items, apples galore and more!

If you have something you would like to sell, hurry! And see Tina Newsome or call the parish office. Space is only \$20.

Be sure to stop by, check it out, and support St. John's!

**St. John's Community
Garden**

What a glorious start to our Community Garden! We had a bountiful harvest for the size of our garden. We thank everyone who helped to make this happen. We'd like to continue with the Community Garden—are you able to assist? We have planted seeds in temporary planters and it will be time to transplant them into the ground. We NEED your HELP!

We'll have a planting party on Saturday, October 2 beginning at 8am!

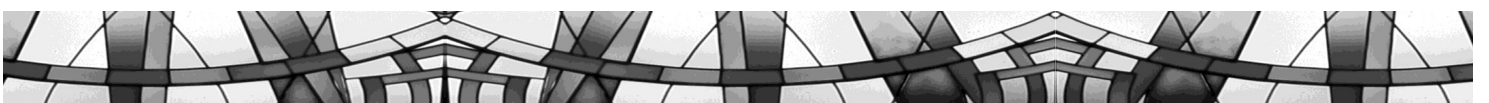
Raising Funds at No Cost to You

St. John's has partnered with a few local businesses in Lodi -

If you shop at Raley's be sure to use your scrip card. These cards can be used at **any** Raley's. If you don't have one—see the parish office.

Safeway scrip; we are now signed up with Safeway to receive credit on purchases made by our members. All you have to do is bring in your Safeway rewards card; the office will record your number and set it up so St. John's gets credit for a portion of the sales.

Fresh Cleaners donates a portion of sales for St. John's members. Be sure to tell them you're a member of St. John's.



We are grateful for these donors whose gifts adorn our worship in October

- October 3 Frank Pegg in loving memory of his wife Joyce on the anniversary of her death October 3
- Lois Johnson and the Knutson family in loving memory of Garland Johnson, their husband, father, and grandfather for his birthday October 5
- Bob and Donna Hoffman in loving memory of their daughter Kimberly Crespi for her birthday October 3
- October 10 Cari Beauchamp in loving memory of her mother Catherine Beauchamp for her birthday October 8
- Norma Sundemeier in loving memory of her mother Grace on the anniversary of her death October 12
- October 17 Patricia Fehling in loving memory of her father, Charles Lambert, for his birthday October 14
- Elliott L. Adams in memory of Dr. Elliott and Grace Arthur Adams, Dr. Samuel R. and Lillian Arthur, Dr. Richard Arthur Jr., and Richard Arthur Adams
- Bob and Donna Hoffman in loving memory of their granddaughters, Tessara and Samantha Crespi, for their birthdays October 16
- Vanadeane Brooks in loving memory of her dad, Thomas R. Carroll, for his birthday October 16
- Beth and Jim Elwood in loving memory of her mother Susan C. Lindsley
- October 24 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Diekman in loving memory of his parents, Marie and Herman Diekman
- John and Edyth Ledbetter in memory of her parents for their anniversary and in thanksgiving for their example of a loving family
- Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Furey and family in loving memory of James Armand Furey on the anniversary of this death October 25
- Dorothy Snyder in loving memory of her sister Evelyn Simonton for her birthday October 11 and her father Alexander Chappuis for his birthday October 25
- October 31 Vanadeane Brooks in loving memory of her grandparents Orrin and Birddie Wilson and Patrick and Ada Carroll for their October 29 wedding anniversaries
- John and Gwinnett Paden in loving memory of her parents Robert and Christine Jones

If you would like to dedicate flowers in memory of a loved one or for thanksgivings, please call the parish office at 369-3381.



October Birthdays

Go Green

We have a number of programs currently in place that help the environment as well as St. John's:

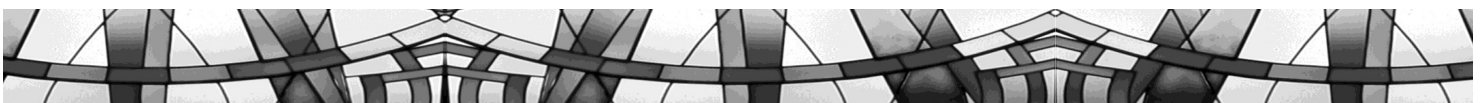
- * We recycle all our paper
- * We recycle ink cartridges and cell phones
- * We use Fresh Cleaners (a non-toxic dry cleaner) for our dry cleaning
- * Recycle styrofoam

Can you think of other ways we can be a greener parish?
We'd love to hear your ideas.

- 3: John Cook
- 4: David Diekman
Richard Williams
- 5: Susan Burke
- 6: Pete Girard
- 7: Debbie Clark
Melissa Culbertson
Karen Martin
- 9: Peter Burkett
Jordan Kennedy
- 10: Kyle Urban
- 12: Sara Heberle
Katie Kendall
Mike Newsome
- 13: Barbara Jones
Chris Wied
- 14: Elizabeth Diekman
- 16: Laura Holzer
- 19: Zack Leffler
- 20: Moe Gritsch
- 21: Austin Bronson
Charles Jennings
- 23: Rosemary Cress
Catherine Holzer
David Martin
- 24: Hannah Peckham
Penelope Peckham

October Anniversary

- 1: Barbara and Walter Wolterstorff
Sandie and Richard Stevens
- 3: Jennifer and Greg Tudor
- 11: Claire and Jack Stone



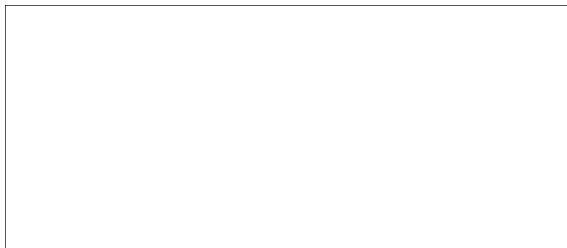
The Episcopal Church of Saint John the Baptist

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Return Service Requested



**WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.STJOHNSOFLODI.ORG**

What's happening in October

Fri. 1st	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 11th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thrs. 21st	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Sun. 3rd	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers	Tues..12th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 2:00 p.m. Arts meeting 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Fri. 22nd	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Mon. 4th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Wed. 13th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Study Group II 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Sun. 24th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers
Tues.5th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Yoga for Christians 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thrs. 14th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 25th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Wed. 6th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Fri. 15th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m. Anonymous 4 Concert	Tues..26th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Thrs.7th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Sun. 17th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 12:00 p.m. Parish Picnic/Ministry Fair 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers	Wed. 27th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Study Group II 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 8th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 18th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thrs. 28th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Sat. 9th	10:00 a.m. Harvest Faire	Tues..19th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Fri. 29th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Sun. 10th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers	Wed. 20th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		

