

TODAY and COMING UP at ST. BONIFACE CHURCH

LITURGY NOTE For the Season of Advent we will be using the Office of Morning Prayer as the Liturgy of the Word for the Holy Eucharist. We also will use the Expanded Eucharistic Language approved for trial use by the General Convention. It will be helpful to follow your leaflet closely. The clergy welcome your questions or comments.

WHAT DOES THE ROSE COLOR CANDLE MEAN on the Advent Wreath and why is it lighted today? The Third Sunday of Advent is Rejoice Sunday. It expresses the joy anticipating Christmas. So today, there is an easing of some of the heavier the Advent tones. A similar Sunday is observed in Lent.

SEASONAL COMMUNION STATION Today at the 10:00 service, communion will be brought to those seated in the back bays – the ushers will guide you.

HONORING OUR PRESCHOOL TEACHERS This week the St. Boniface Preschool comes to a finish after 36 years. We are grateful for the dozens of staff who have cared lovingly for the children. Today, we give a special “thank you” to our current teachers; Kylie Garrido, Carol Mahon, Shelly McKeever, and Tanya Walter.

ADULT ED OPPORTUNITIES TODAY 9:00 – 9:45:

FAITH and FOUNDATIONS To better learn about our Episcopal and Anglican heritage, sacraments, liturgies, and theologies of the church, join us for Faith and Foundations. The format includes lecture, sharing in groups, and opportunities to practice. Lifelong Episcopalians or new to the church—all are welcome! Boniface Community Center.

Today: *God and our Flesh: Incarnation as Our Calling and Path* led by Jay T. Rock

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE IN DEPTH Study and discussion with a member of our clergy in the Library.

BONIFACE BOOK STUDY GROUP Our current book for discussion is *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything: A Spirituality for Real Life*, by the Rev. James Martin, SJ. We take turns each week facilitating, and promise a warm welcome and lively discussion. Join us in the St. Francis Room (through the Courtyard and just past the Bell Tower).

SUNDAY NURSERY Childcare is available for our youngest parishioners (through 2 years old) in the Nursery, located along the Courtyard, with Ms. Yu Ya, our licensed, professional caregiver.

CHURCH SCHOOL *Weaving God's Promises* Children in Pre-K4 to 5th grade are welcome to join us on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. A friendly greeter at the Welcome Table can direct you and your child to the classroom. The children return to their parents in church just before communion.

BLOOD DRIVE What better gift to give this Christmas than the gift of life! Every donation touches up to 5 lives in our community. It's quick, simple, and (generally) painless. You need to be in good health, be over 17 years old and weigh more than 110 pounds. **Today**, 8:30 – 12:00, in the church parking lot. Walk-ins welcome!

COMPASSIONATE CONVERSATIONS Once per month during season, we will take time to learn more about and pray for the things in the world that grieve God and grieve us – globally, nationally, and locally – and how our faith informs our responses. The format includes an informative presentation with small group discussions, learning how to talk with love about difficult topics. Please join us for our topic of conversation, **Immigration**, in the Community Center **today**, after the 10:00 service.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: A Way to Navigate the Holidays Getting through the holidays while getting through grief and loss is especially difficult. **Today**, there will be a Blue Christmas memorial in the outdoor chapel, after the 10:00 service in place of the usual Beyond the Broken Heart meeting. Whether your loss was recent or long ago, this service may be a source of comfort and solace.

8 x 10 GLOSSIES If you had your portrait taken for the upcoming parish photo directory, we have received the complimentary 8x10 copies. Please check in with the photo directory info table Sundays at Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall, or at the front desk during the week (Monday – Thursday, 9:00 – 5:00; Friday, 9:00 – 1:00). Sign-ups for our second photo session will begin soon! Please note that the directories will be available early Spring 2019, following our second photo session. Thank you for participating in our pictorial directory! – *Denise Ayre and Alice Reid*

TRANSFORMING GENEROSITY We gratefully list on our honor roll all who have responded with their pledge for 2019. If you have not yet pledged, please do so today! Additional pledge info and materials are available in the church entry, the church office and on our website (click on the Give tab).

MAKE ROOM FOR 2019! Goodwill's Giving Mobile will be on our church campus **today**, from 9:00am – 5:00pm. They welcome your gently used clothing and household goods. The sales of your donated goods help Goodwill provide employment training, job placement, career services and other services that lead to self-sufficiency.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS Join us for worship at 5:30 p.m. in the Church, social time/catered dinner at 6:00 in the Community Center, (for dinner reservations, please sign up at Coffee Hour or call 941-349-5616 x5 by noon the Tuesday before, \$10pp), then programs after dinner:

December 19: Adventen Art Join Deacon Elisa Hansen, Head of Library Services at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, for this illuminating series.

December 26: *no service, dinner or program*

BRADY CAMPAIGN GUN SAFETY WITNESS Our weekly nonpartisan Witness for Gun Safety meets at the Sarasota Bay-front (near the Unconditional Surrender statue) on Thursdays between 4:00 - 5:00 pm. We'll provide the signs, wear a white shirt and bring a chair, if you like. Keep your eye on the weather and dress accordingly. All are welcome to attend. For information, contact David and Nancy Evans, 941-954-2059.

YOUR YEAR-END GIFT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE! Your special one-time or additional year-end gift helps us end the year on a healthy financial note and paves the way for great things in the new year. For convenient, secure giving, visit our website (www.bonifacechurch.org). In making your gift, please remember that for 2018 deductions the IRS requires gifts to be post-marked or received by December 31. If your contribution is a charitable gift annuity or an IRA, stock, or trust distribution, please be sure to work with your financial planner so that your transfer reaches our account by the year's end. Thank you!

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ ~ 2018

Sunday, December 23 – Advent IV

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. Family Service with Pageant and Eucharist

7:00 p.m. Christmas music with visiting guest musicians

7:30 p.m. The Christ Mass

10:30 p.m. Christmas music with visiting guest musicians

11:00 p.m. The Christ Mass *with incense*

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Eucharist with Carols

SUPPORT CHRISTMAS MUSIC and DECORATIONS Make a memorial gift or thanksgiving offering by using the envelopes on the counter in the church entrance, or call Lisa Wolf (941-349-5616 x 320) by December 17.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS The St. Boniface office will be open 9:00 to 1:00 on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve; we will be closed Christmas Day. From December 26th through 28th, the office will be closed and staff will be available by appointment only.

THIS WEEK

OFFICE: hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., and by appointment.

HEALING MISSION: Open Tuesdays & Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Wednesdays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., call (941)349-5616 x335 for an appointment.

MONDAY, December 17

4:30 p.m. Yoga Class – St. Francis

5:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting - Library

TUESDAY, December 18

10:00 a.m. Eucharist – Church

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – Library

3:00 p.m. B.E.S.T. meeting - Library

5:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal – Choir Gallery

WEDNESDAY, December 19

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer – Church

6:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Dinner – Community Center

7:00 p.m. After Dinner Program – Community Center

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Gallery

THURSDAY, December 20

9:00 a.m. Watercolor Group – St. Francis

10:00 a.m. Healing Service and Eucharist – Church

FRIDAY, December 21

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast and Discussion –Serving Spoon, Osprey Ave.