

TODAY and COMING UP at ST. BONIFACE CHURCH

LITURGY NOTE The Book of Common Prayer permits liturgical variety, so for the Season of Advent we will be using the Office of Morning Prayer as the Liturgy of the Word for the Holy Eucharist. Today also begins our use of the Expanded Eucharistic Language approved for trial use by the General Convention. It will be helpful to follow your leaflet closely.

GIFTS TOWARDS THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are given by John & Charlotte Calhoun, in loving memory of their daughter, Katherine, and John's brothers, David and Eric, and also given by Harriett Summers, in memory of her husband, Tom.

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! (Today only) in the Youth Studio.

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.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: A Way to Navigate the Holidays Getting through the holidays while getting through grief and loss is especially difficult. The Beyond the Broken Heart support group for grief and loss will be specifically addressing this issue **today**, December 2, at our gathering that meets in the St. Francis Room. On Sunday, **December 16**, 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, these two special sessions may be a source of comfort and solace.

TRANSFORMING GENEROSITY This fall, we've shared ideas for transforming generosity, as we consider our financial support for St. Boniface in 2019. Putting Jesus' call for love, mercy and justice first, how might our generosity transform our lives, our parish, and the lives of others? *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).*

KEEP THE HOSPITALITY FLOWING! We need you to provide refreshments and/or tidy up after the late coffee hour. We have no hosts or bakers for December! The duty is light and the rewards are heavenly, and you'll earn enduring appreciation from your fellow parishioners! So, grab a friend or family member and sign up in the Parish Hall or contact Betsie Danner (941-349-5616 x318 bdanner@bonifacechurch.org) for the Sunday of your choice in December.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE VESTRY CLASS OF 2021 If you are interested in serving on the St. Boniface Church Vestry (term 2019-2021) or nominating a fellow parishioner, forms are available on the counter in the church entry, on our website, or in the church office. For more information, feel free to contact a member of the Vestry Nominating Committee: Suzanne Barksdale, Suzanne Gregory, Reg Irvine, Paul Neuhauser (contact info on the back of this leaflet). Completed forms should be in to the church office by December 6th.

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 5, 12, 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 worship, dinner or program*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESENTATION On **December 3rd**, the Florida Housing Coalition will present an Affordable Housing Blueprint to the City Commissioners. This blueprint was created after conversations with dozens of local stakeholders; including SURE. SURE is encouraging a strong representation from its 19 member congregations at the 6:30 p.m. City Commission Meeting (City Hall, 1565 1st Street, Sarasota). Your attendance will promote our City taking concrete steps towards creating Affordable Housing. If you can attend this meeting (and even bring a friend) please let SURE know at suresarasota@gmail.com. – *St. Boniface S.U.R.E. Members (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity)*

ADVENT QUIET DAY Join Bishop Smith at DaySpring for a day of reflection to begin the Advent season. The day includes teaching sessions, personal time, and lunch, the theme is "The Disciplined Life." Tuesday, **December 4**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$10, includes lunch. Bring a Bible, Prayer Book and comfortable shoes for optional walks. Register by emailing merfourth@episcopalswfl.org.

MEDITATION IN MOTION: LABYRINTH EVENT This Advent, we will set aside some time to give people the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth in prayerful support of the world's displaced persons seeking refuge and asylum. The United Nations estimates there are currently 68.5 million people displaced by war, violence, religion and poverty. Our gathering will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, **December 8**, in the Chapel of St. Mary (outside) with a brief prayer service, then a guided meditation walk of the Labyrinth.

ADVENT NINE LESSONS and CAROLS Please join us for our annual service of lessons and carols on Sunday, **December 9**, at 6:00 p.m. The St. Boniface Choir offers seasonal choral music, presented alongside congregational hymns and organ music. This beautiful and well-loved liturgy offers us the opportunity to experience more fully the Advent season in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. All are welcome!

VIGIL for VICTIMS of GUN VIOLENCE Join Sarasota Brady Chapter members on the sixth anniversary of the Sandy Hook shootings for a vigil to be held at St. Andrew Church of Christ, 6908 Beneva Road. Featured speaker will be state representative Margaret Good. Friday, **December 14**, 6:00 p.m.

HIKES & PRAYERS Join Fr. Jonathan and Fr. Fred Mann on this new outdoor ministry! Meeting at Oscar Sherer State Park, we will lead through a gentle hike (about a mile), stopping at various points to do the liturgy together. Not a challenging walk, but be sure to bring your walking shoes and water. A very family friendly event and great way for us to enjoy God's creation! Saturday, **December 15**, 4:00 p.m., \$5 entrance fee, meet up at the Nature Center. Please sign up at Coffee Hour or contact the Church Office, 941-349-5616.

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

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.

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 next conversation with facilitators Mary & Alan Ivey on Sunday, **December 16**, after the 10:00 service.

OUTREACH AT ST. BONIFACE Drop off your gently used clothing and housewares at the **Goodwill Giving Mobile**, 9 - 5, Dec 10 -16; church parking lot. ♦ Roll up your sleeves for our Suncoast Communities **Blood Drive**, Sunday, Dec 16; church parking lot. ♦ Non-perishable food items in the bright yellow **All Faiths Food Bank** barrels in the church and Parish Hall are welcome year-round. ♦ **Resurrection House** clients welcome a variety of items year-round; see the list in the Parish Hall.

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 3

4:30 p.m. Yoga Class – St. Francis

TUESDAY, December 4

10:00 a.m. Eucharist – Church

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

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

WEDNESDAY, December 5

5:30 p.m. Eucharist – 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 6

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

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

FRIDAY, December 7

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