

March 5, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Wednesday, we had our first “come as you are” mid-week worship in the Lenten season. During our worship, we took time to learn more about our diocese. After worship, we shared a delicious dinner and wonderful fellowship. Thanks to the Barnes and Eldridges for a wonderful meal.

The remaining dates are March 11, 18, 25; and April 1. We begin at 5:30 pm, with dinner following. This week we will learn more about the history of our diocese. A sign-up sheet for those who can help provide dinner on March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> in the narthex. If you would like childcare available for children 4 and under, please let Mother Cindy know.

See you on Sunday!

In Christ's Love,  
Cindy+

PS This Sunday (the 8<sup>th</sup>) is our second Sunday potluck. Bring a dish (or two) to share, if you can, and bring a friend.

### **Announcements**

#### **Book Group**

In March, the St. Mary's Book Group will read *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. We will meet to discuss it at 2:00 pm on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the St Mary's Library. All are welcome to join us.

#### **A Message from Debra Gamble, Our Senior Warden**

The vestry met with Bishop Russell on Tuesday, February 18. He began by affirming that for a small church we are one of the healthiest churches in the Diocese and that he will be our guide as we embark on this journey of our search for a new priest. It was made clear that this search will not begin until Mother Cindy has left. We did, however, express concern about waiting until then and he acknowledged he **may** consider allowing us to begin in the Fall. Either way, it is important for us in the days ahead to not lose focus on who we are and what we have to look forward to in the future. Our building will soon be complete which will open up new opportunities for creative ideas to enhance our parish life. Let us not lose our joy in the days ahead but continue to envision who we can be and what we can do for the Body of Christ at St. Mary's. Please do not hesitate to communicate with any of the vestry members your questions or concerns. Additionally, if you would like further information on how a priest search is

conducted, you can visit the Diocesan website at [diocgc.org/clergy-resources](http://diocgc.org/clergy-resources). There is a section at the bottom of that page under Transition Ministry that will help answer questions you may have.

### **Calendar**

Sunday, March 8: Holy Eucharist, with potluck following, 9:15 am  
Tuesday, March 10: Cursillo Reunion, 8:00 am, Cenergy, Highway 29 North  
Tuesday, March 10: Choir Rehearsal. 5:30 pm, Nave  
Tuesday, March 10: AA, 7:00 pm, Parish Hall  
Wednesday, March 11: Holy Eucharist and Dinner, 5:30 pm  
Thursday, March 12: AA, 7:00 pm, Parish Hall

### **Birthdays**

March 10: Kendra Wells  
March 12: Collin Ward

### **Readings for Lent 2 (March 8, 2020)**

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17  
[http://lectionarypage.net/YearA\\_RCL/Lent/ALent2\\_RCL.html](http://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Lent/ALent2_RCL.html)

### **St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

334.222.2487

[www.stmarysandalusia.org](http://www.stmarysandalusia.org)

E-mail Address: [stmarysandalusia@centurytel.net](mailto:stmarysandalusia@centurytel.net)

Prayer Requests: [stmprayers@centurytel.net](mailto:stmprayers@centurytel.net)

Venmo Giving: @stmarysandalusia