

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. B'S

for the week beginning September 15, 2024



**Sunday** We celebrate the **Holy Eucharist** at 8:00 am and 10:30 am. Both services take place in the Church. You can also join us for worship at **10:30 am** on [Zoom](#).

**Child care** is available in the Parish House Cribbery for children up to age 5 from 10:00 am through 12:00 pm. Please stop by the Cribbery and meet our wonderful Caregiver, Dona McIntyre.

† **Monday through Saturday** at 12:00 Noon, we hold a brief service of **Noonday Prayer** (at home). †

*If you have specific prayer needs, please send them to Adam Barner ([adam@stbs-md.org](mailto:adam@stbs-md.org)).*

**Monday** **The Hope Harbor Board** will meet at 4:00 pm in the Undercroft.

**Wednesday** **The Classics** will gather at 11:00 am in the Parish House.

There will be a meeting of the **Outreach Committee** at 7:00 pm in the Parish House and on Zoom.

**Friday** **The Parish Office** will be closed today.

**Saturday** **Creation Caretakers monthly litter cleanup** begins at 10:00 am. Meet in the parking lot.

## *Community Notes . . .*

Please continue to wear your nametags while Mario and his family learn everyone's name. If you need one, please contact Adam Barner at [adam@stbs-md.org](mailto:adam@stbs-md.org).

**D-Group** (for youth entering 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) returns TODAY, September 15, at 9:15 am in the Youth House.

**New COVID Update (updated 9/13/24)** - The COVID transmission is coming down slowly in Baltimore County (moderate), but remains high in Baltimore City and Howard County (substantial). Epidemiologists had hoped we'd be passing the peak of the summer surge, but it has been larger than expected and has proved to be a false peak as transmission rates are staying high. Now with schools opening, we may start to see a rise again. By next week, we'll know if this surge is the largest or second largest summer wave of all time. We are approaching 1.4 - 1.5 million new cases a day in the US. 24% of Americans have been affected by this wave so far (1 in 4). The KP3.1.1 variant is becoming more prevalent around the country (36% of current cases). There is a new emerging subvariant called XEC which is spreading rapidly through Europe; there are cases in the US now, but its prevalence is low. The new Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are available in pharmacies now. You can make appointments on-line now for these in many pharmacies. The Novavax vaccine is also ready and approved and will hopefully be available by the time you are reading this. These are not boosters, but newly formulated vaccines to target the more recent variants. Masking in crowds is still important to cut risk. There is hopeful news of a completely preventative vaccine. Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin have discovered and isolated a broadly neutralizing plasma antibody, known as SC27. It has been shown to neutralize ALL known variants of SARS-COVID. This new antibody could pave the way for vaccines or treatments that provide universal protection against all variants, along with other related viruses. This is a milestone advancement towards a way out of this pandemic.

**Faith Forum returns in October.** Many changes are happening at St. B's this fall and Faith Forum will be making a small change as well and will be starting in October. This will give our new rector a chance to catch his breath (hopefully!) and see how he would like to be involved with this aspect of Adult Formation. As always, we hope you will find it stimulating and thought-provoking. We'll let you know when the fall session will begin. And as always, if you have any suggestions for topics, let one of the Faith Forum team know: Pat Alt; Corinne Bowmaker; Ronnie Clark; Daphne Cover; Angel Jackson; Leah Kulp; Michael Soderstrand; Joe Twist.

Beginning on September 24<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 29<sup>th</sup>, The Rev. Thelma Smullen and Chuck Sullivan will begin 6 weeks of **Bible Study on the Gospel According to John**. The study group will meet on Tuesdays via Zoom beginning at 11:45 am and ending at 1:15 pm. This Bible Study will be based on a new book by Amy-Jill Levine, an internationally renowned biblical scholar and teacher, entitled *The Gospel of John – A Beginner's Guide to the Way, the Truth, and the Life*. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please contact The Rev. Thelma at [tasmullen@gmail.com](mailto:tasmullen@gmail.com), or Chuck at [chgl@verizon.net](mailto:chgl@verizon.net).

**The Classics will resume their monthly meetings on Wednesday, September 18** with St. B's member Bryan MacKay as our Guest Speaker. Where's the best place to see Baltimore orioles (besides Camden Yards)? Where can I walk a wilderness beach with no one around but birds? Where can I find rare and endangered plants? Join Bryan MacKay on an armchair road trip to his favorite places around the Free State, illustrated with beautiful photography. The program starts promptly at 11:00 am, so come a bit earlier to gather and greet fellow Classics friends! After the program, we'll have lunch – so bring your lunch. We provide the drinks and desserts. We do need some volunteers to bring desserts so please call Barbara Yeager (410-465-0407) if you are able to bring a dessert for the group in September. The Classics welcome adults ages 50 and up and requests a donation of \$2.00 per person each month to fund our Classics budget. Come and enjoy Bryan MacKay's presentation and time to get together with fellow participants for this Classics gathering!

**Weekly Memorials and Thanksgivings** – There are several opportunities to offer the flowers or bread and wine on September 22 and 29. Our custom is to offer as Memorials or Thanksgivings the flowers or candles for the altar or the bread and wine of the Eucharist. We continue to read the names of those persons who are memorialized by such gifts, and the events celebrated by the thanksgivings, in the intercessions on Sunday and at Noonday prayer. Memorials can be given in memory of the deceased person's birthday, a special date for remembrance, date of death, or just because you want to remember them at this time. Thanksgivings can be for events you would like to commemorate for living persons – baptismal anniversaries, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, special occasions, special blessings – or just because you are thankful for life itself. The cost to offer the flowers is \$30 per vase or centerpiece and \$15 for the bread and wine, or candles. These donations help to offset the cost of these items. To list your offering, contact Glorius Sullivan (410-644-8110 or [chgl@verizon.net](mailto:chgl@verizon.net)). I will try to arrange your offering nearest to the date that you want to commemorate.

**St. Bartholomew's Annual Christmas Bazaar** is Saturday, November 9, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm in the Parish House. Gifts, plants, a bake sale, vendors and more – a great opportunity to do your holiday shopping and support Outreach! Information: Mary Helen Sprecher [mhsprecher@gmail.com](mailto:mhsprecher@gmail.com) or Debbie Wacker [dawacker50@gmail.com](mailto:dawacker50@gmail.com).

**Thanks for your continued donations of food to 40 West!** We are in need now of boxes of cereal. The food bank has cut back on the number we can receive and our clients are having no choice in cereal for breakfast. If every family at St. B's just brought in one box every week, our cereal drought would be over. Please help those less fortunate and make your thought as you come to church on Sunday be "Bring a box"!

*A quick look at events in the coming weeks ...*

October 13                      Choral Evensong and Organ Recital at 4:30 pm  
November 9                      St. B's Christmas Bazaar, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

*Other Groups that Meet at St. B's*

40 West Assistance and Referral Center

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

12-Step Groups

NA    Tuesday and Thursday at 12:00 noon (Undercroft)  
         Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 pm (Undercroft)  
AA    Friday at 8:30 pm (Undercroft)

For additional information about our ministries and programs, please contact us at 410-945-7263, [office@stbs-md.org](mailto:office@stbs-md.org), or visit our website at <https://stbs-md.org/>.

## Give to St. B's online!

Use this link, or scan the QR code below with your smartphone camera to make an online donation:

<https://www.osvhub.com/stbs-md>



**PRIDE YOUR RIDE**  
with a St B's car magnet!  
**Cost: \$5.00**  
**Proceeds will be donated to**  
**40 West Assistance &**  
**Referral Center**  
**To purchase, see Saville**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**, CONTACT CORINNE BOWMAKER  
410-599-3143 or [zencorinne@hotmail.com](mailto:zencorinne@hotmail.com)