

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. B'S

## for the week beginning September 29, 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)).*
- Tuesday** **Bible Study on the Gospel According to John** meets via Zoom from 11:45 am to 1:15 pm.
- Thursday** **The Property Committee** will meet at 1:00 pm.
- At 5:30 pm, **the Choir School of West Baltimore** resumes FREE classes for children in grades 3-8. Contact Corinne Bowmaker for more information.
- At 7:30 pm, the **St. Bartholomew Choir (older youth & adults)** practices in the Undercroft.
- Saturday** **Blessing of Animals** begins at 4:00 pm. Bring your pets!

### *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).

Mario's email address is [mario@stbs-md.org](mailto:mario@stbs-md.org). His mobile number is (240) 319-3917.

**New COVID Update (updated 9/19/24)** - The COVID transmission is coming down slowly in Baltimore County (moderate), but remains high in Baltimore City and Howard County (substantial). This has been the highest national transmission this time of year (Aug-Nov) since the pandemic began. We have been approaching 1.4 - 1.5 million new cases a day in the U.S., and expect to be at 1 million new daily infections most of October. There may be a "lull" in early November with still around 850,000/day. 24% of Americans have been affected by this wave so far (1 in 4). One in 40 in the US are actively infectious. 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 currently low. The new Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are available in pharmacies now. You can make appointments on-line to receive these. The Novavax vaccine is also approved and is becoming more available every day. These are not boosters, but newly formulated vaccines to target the more recent variants. With this ongoing surge, 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.

**Trunk or Treat Returns!** Come out to the parking lot wearing your best costume, with your trunk decorated (and some candy!) for the children of our church and our neighborhood to enjoy safe and friendly Halloween treat-gathering. October 26, 10:00 am to Noon. Please contact Patricia Williams if you plan to participate.

Now through 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).

**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
October 26	Trunk or Treat in the parking lot, 10:00 am to Noon.
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>



# CHOIR SCHOOL OF WEST BALTIMORE

4711 EDMONDSON AVENUE, BALTIMORE, 21229

## FALL SEMESTER 2024!

For all children entering 3 - 8 grades (no experience necessary)

### NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2024

Classes weekly Thursdays at 5:30 PM  
beginning October 3, 2024!



### Why the CSWB?

- + We are located in your neighborhood
- + You will build a foundation of music literacy, learn to read music and gain music theory skills, and coming soon - keyboard skills
- + Vocal coaching and learning to sing in a group
- + It is free and it is FUN!!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**, CONTACT CORINNE BOWMAKER  
410-599-3143 or [zencorinne@hotmail.com](mailto:zencorinne@hotmail.com)

## BLESSING OF PETS

Saturday, October 5, at 4:00 pm

Bishop Robert Ihloff will be with us to bless your pets in celebration of the Feast of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals.