

We gather around the table of the Lord on this Labor Day weekend to share a meal. Everyone is invited! Regardless of race, gender, culture, background, class, identity, income, or any other unnecessary source of division, we join together to celebrate this Eucharistic banquet. As we listen to Jesus tell a parable about invitations to a banquet while he himself is a guest at a dinner, let us consider our hospitality toward others.



Weekday Readings (September 2-7)

Monday: (Labor Day) Genesis 1:26--2:3; Matthew 6:31-34
Tuesday: (Memorial) 2 Cor. 4:1-2, 5-7; Luke 22:24-30
Wednesday: Colossians 1:1-8; Luke 4:38-44
Thursday: Colossians 1:9-14; Luke 5:1-11
Friday: Colossians 1:15-20; Luke 5:33-39
Saturday: Colossians 1:21-23; Luke 6:1-5

Scripture for Sept. 8 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Our choices in life are timid compared to God's choices for us.

Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Paul baptizes a slave and then expects the slave's master to accept the slave as a brother.

Luke 14:25-33

Do you want to be a disciple? Renounce everything else, with no reservations, no regrets.

Next Sunday's lessons are not easy. Wisdom acknowledges that God's ways cannot be understood through human thought. Jesus, explaining what it takes to follow him, repeatedly frames the requirements as "whoever does not... cannot be my disciple." But Paul is encouraging and positive, speaking of the conversion of someone who was once a slave, but is now a brother and partner. As we listen next Sunday, let us find hope in our mission as Christ's twenty-first-century disciples.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

We ask your prayers for **Herbert Dittmar**, a member of our parish family who died recently. Notes may be sent to his wife, Barbara, at P.O. Box 125, Bristol, VA 24203.

Your prayers are asked for **Ron Davis**, a member of our parish family who died recently. Notes may be sent to his wife, Elaine, at 102 Ashley Dr., Bristol, VA 24201.

From the Pastor's Desk

Did anyone read the news story that appeared in the past week about President Trump asking his advisors about the possibility of using nuclear weapons to stop hurricanes from making landfall? Yes, he really did. I took the time to read this story and then decided if he really wanted to do something helpful he should use them to stop robocalls instead. Yes, there is a reason I decided to write about this aside from making bad jokes. While the idea of stopping hurricanes in this way may seem absurd, the ideology on which it is based is much more common.

The readings this weekend remind us of the importance of being humble. The first reading tells us, "*into things beyond your strength search not*". Why does that appear in the Scriptures? I think it is because we need to be reminded that there are some things we can do and there are also things we cannot do and will never be able to do.

The philosophers Francis Bacon and René Descartes both promoted the idea that humanity is destined to control nature. They wrote that we should seek to take control of everything we experience. Some may feel this is an absurd idea and rightfully so. Whether they actually believed this is possible is debatable. When we look at what philosophers continued to write after them and ideas we continue to see today we can see that what Bacon and Descartes were really seeking is to elevate humanity to something more than we are.

This was a theme that appeared in modern philosophy and even more so in the post-modern era. The attempt was to define humanity as the ultimate power and authority in the world. Why would anyone try to promote an idea that is so obviously not true? If humans are the ultimate power and authority in the world then we do not need God. In fact if we believe this is true there is no room for the existence of God. That is the idea many modern philosophers were really trying to promote.

What we see in the first reading this weekend is one of many examples in the Scriptures that warn us against trying to be more than we were ever meant to be. St. Augustine wrote about being able to experience God's revelation in nature. I often refer to my time spent outdoors as Augustinian reflection. For me it is a way to be reminded that rather than trying to control nature, we should be spending more time listening to what God is saying to us.

Altar Flowers

The flowers at our altar this weekend are given by Joe & Barbara Sue Kurre in joyful celebration of the baptism of their grandson, **Owen Matthew Weber** (the son of Matt & Jennifer Kurre Weber).

Mass Time Changes next Sunday (Sept. 8)
Mass at 11:30a (instead of 10:30a)

—PARISH OFFICE will be closed Labor Day (Sept. 2)

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed!!

Celebrating the Liturgy of the Word with children gives them the opportunity to experience for themselves the richness of the Holy Scripture.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering a little of your time to help with Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. No experience necessary, just a love of your faith and a willingness to share it with children. Training is provided, and you will be greatly appreciated! If you can help with this ministry, contact Vanessa Purdy at 276-591-5378 ext. *814 or vpurdy@stannes-bristol.org.

Nursery Available: Parents/Grandparents with children/grandchildren between the ages of infant to 6 years... There is a nursery available at the 10:30 (soon to be 11:30!) Mass for your convenience. You may ask a greeter/usher where the nursery is located.

Senior High Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

Upcoming Schedule:

- Sept. 1—NO SHYM (Labor Day Weekend)
- Sept. 8—Youth Group (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)
 - ◊ A Crown of Honor
- Sept. 15—SHYM Fun Night! (Bike the Creeper Trail)
- Sept. 22—Youth Group (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)
 - ◊ Love for the Unloved
 - * Confirmation Class

Junior High Youth Ministry (Grades 7 & 8)

Upcoming Schedule:

- Sept. 1—NO SHYM (Labor Day Weekend)
- Sept. 8—Youth Group (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)
- Sept. 15—JHYM Fun Night! (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)
 - ◊ Pizza & Games / Project
- Sept. 22—Youth Group (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)

"First Tuesday" Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Tues., September 3

Opens at 9 a.m. (after morning Mass)

Closes with Benediction at 9 p.m.

*Will you come spend time
in prayer with our Lord?*



The Bible and the Virgin Mary— Journey through Scripture Tuesday Evenings, 6:30-8pm St. Vincent de Paul Center

Can you explain the Blessed Virgin Mary's role in God's plan for the world? Do you fully understand the vital role she plays in your life? While Catholics know Mary is important, many never fully grasp how essential she really is. Join us in this awe-inspiring series, in which the Mary of doctrine and devotion comes alive in a powerful way. Please join us on Tuesday evenings.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—RCIA

- Catechumens & Candidates will meet Wed., Sept. 4 in the Great Room, 6:30-8:00pm.
- Inquirers will meet in the office conference room. Stop by the Great Room for opening prayer at 6:30pm.
- Children's RCIA will gather in the Great Room at 6:30pm before going to class.
- Mystagogy will meet in the school library after opening prayer in the Great Room at 6:30pm.

RCIA notes: Life has many storms—poor health, jobs, distressful relationships; situations where we feel our powerlessness. If you know someone unbaptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, who is searching for strength and understanding to weather such squalls, invite them to seek the perspective the Catholic Church offers. For more information about our RCIA, please contact Sydney Farnum at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

Parish Pastoral Council Members are reminded of their meeting this Thursday, Sept. 5th at 7 p.m. in the school conference room. *This will be the last PPC meeting for those completing their terms.*

Sunday Morning Adult Religious Education (SMARE) Resumes next Sunday, Sept. 8, 9:45-11:00 a.m.

"Jesus Revealed-Encountering Christ in His Biblical Names"
Jesus Revealed is an 18-part study that will deepen your knowledge of Our Lord through Biblical exegesis on the person of Jesus Christ. Discover the meaning of the titles and images through which Jesus reveals Himself to us. Join us as we dive deep into Scripture from Genesis to Revelation to illuminate the many names of Jesus in Scripture and explain how each one reveals something new about Our Lord. You will come away with a deeper knowledge of Christ, and a fuller understanding that all of Scripture points to Our Lord. We usually meet in the Great Room and sometimes move to the school library if a larger group needs to use the Great Room. Check the bulletin and door signs for location of class. Coffee & donuts/pastries are served at 9:45am and the presentation begins promptly at 10a. Next Sunday, Sept. 8: **"The Way, the Truth, and the Life"**. Please join us!

Sunday School of Religion begins next Sunday, Sept. 8 Grades Pre-3 thru 6

Parents, if your child does not attend Catholic School, please register them for the Parish Sunday School of Religion Program which resumes next Sunday, Sept. 8. Registration forms were mailed but if you did not receive a form, you can stop by the table in the commons to register. We will begin next Sunday with a **Parent/Child meeting in the Great Room at 9:45am.** If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Purdy at vpurday@stannes-bristol.org or Sydney at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call the church office (276-669-8200). Hope to see you at Sunday School of Religion!

MASS INTENTIONS for this Week

Saturday, August 31 (*Vigil: 22nd Sunday/Ordinary Time*)
5:30 p.m. Spec. Int.--Pauline Price (birthday: Sept. 2)
Sunday, Sept. 1 (*22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*)
8:30 a.m. †Neal Jewell
10:30 a.m. †Agnes Hurt
2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)
Tuesday, Sept. 3
8:30 a.m. Billy G. Thomas, Sr.
Wednesday, Sept. 4
8:30 a.m. Dorothy "Dot" Brown
Thursday, Sept. 5
6:00 p.m. Herbert Dittmar
Friday, Sept. 6
8:30 a.m. Barry Brady
Saturday, Sept. 7 (*Vigil: 23rd Sunday/Ordinary Time*)
5:30 p.m. †Mr. & †Mrs. Jose Rodriguez
Sunday, Sept. 8 (*23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*)
8:30 a.m. †John Viggiano and †Joseph Viggiano
(*brothers, New York City fire & police officers,
killed in the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001*)
11:30 a.m. †Bob Douglas
2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)

REMINDER: Mass time changes to 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 8!!

**Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC**

Join Bishop Knestout as he kicks off the 200th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Diocese of Richmond with a spiritual pilgrimage to the Basilica in Wash. DC on **Sat., Oct. 12, 2019**. The day begins at the Basilica at 10am, concludes following the Sunday Vigil Mass at 5:15pm. Registration required. For information (i.e. registration, transportation options, meals) visit 2020.richmonddiocese.org OR 2020@richmonddiocese.org OR call 804-622-5200.

40 Days for Life: The Beginning of the End of Abortion

From Sept. 25 thru Nov. 3, you are invited to join other Christians for **40 Days for Life** — prayer and fasting to bring an end to abortion. This prayer vigil has peacefully closed 104 abortion clinics around the world. Christians will take turns praying from 7a to 7p in the public right-of-way across from the Bristol Regional Women's (Abortion) Center in Bristol, TN. For more details and to volunteer, go to www.40daysforlife.com or contact Angie Bush at 40daysbristoltn@gmail.com or 423-482-1324. Stand up for life and for those who have no voice, our unborn.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Monday, Tuesday and Saturday evenings. Your help will enable this important ministry of our parish & school to continue. To learn more, contact the parish office!

Planning to be married in the Catholic Church? Contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to your "hoped for" wedding date. Part of Marriage Preparation is attending an "Unveiled" session offered by the Diocese. They will be at St. Anne's **Sat., Sept. 14** (and not again until May). So if you are planning to be married in the coming year, register for the September 14 "Unveiled" session at <https://CMFL.regfox.com/unveiled-sept-through-oct-2019>.

This Week in Adult Faith Formation:

Sunday, September 1:

- **SMARE (Sunday Morning Adult Religious Education) NO CLASS today.**
Next Sunday, Sept. 8, we will begin our new series with "*The Way, the Truth, and the Life*". 9:45-11am in the School Library this week.
Everyone welcome, no need to sign up.

Monday, September 2:

- **Monday Adult Faith Formation:** Will not meet this week due to the **Labor Day Holiday**.

Tuesday, September 3:

- **Book Club: 10:30-11:30am, St. Vincent de Paul Center.** *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis.
- **Tuesday Evening Scripture Study: *The Bible and the Virgin Mary—Journey through Scripture*, 6:30-8pm, St. Vincent de Paul Center.** All are welcome to join us!

Wednesday, September 4:

- **Wednesday Scripture Study Group, "Gospel According to John". 1:00-2:30pm** at the **St. Vincent de Paul Center**. All are welcome to join the group!
- **RCIA: 6:30pm** in the **Great Room**.

For more information about any of the above programs, email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

Wednesday Prayer Group, Sept. 4, 2:45-3:45pm at the **St. Vincent de Paul Center**. All are invited to join us for an hour of prayer.

**ATTENTION
WOMEN**

**10th Anniversary Celebration
St. Anne Council of Catholic Women**

All women of the parish are invited to join with the CCW for a catered dinner, musical entertainment by Chris & Company, and a fun night to celebrate the 10th anniversary of St. Anne's Council of Catholic Women...**Monday, September 9, 6:30 p.m.** at the Bristol Columbian Center (125 18th St., Bristol, TN). If you plan to attend, please sign up at the table in the commons this weekend (Aug. 31/Sept. 1).

Give the Gift of Life!! Please consider signing up to donate blood here at St. Anne's on Wed., Sept. 18, 2pm-6:30pm Sign up in the commons Sept. 7/8 or Sept. 14/15.

Collection Report (Aug. 24/25):

Regular/Operating \$9,283.84;
Add'l Holy Day/Assumption \$63

Second Collections in September:

St. Anne's School (Aug. 31/Sept. 1)
Retired Religious (Sept. 29/30)

St. Anne School Corner

We have just kicked off our 70th year here at **Saint Anne School**. We have many new things to look forward to... We have several new families who have joined us. We want to thank the parish for its continued support and contribution to the success of our school. Please check this section often for the upcoming happenings of the school year.

St. Anne School is requesting old photos of our school building, students, and past events to help us with a project celebrating our 70th anniversary. If you have any photos, please drop them by the office. All photos will be scanned and returned, please be sure the name of the owner is on the back as well as who is in the photo and year if you know it. Thanks!

Upcoming dates to save for

Sacramental Preparation....

- * For the sacrament of **Confirmation**: preparation class begins on **Sunday, September 22**
- * For the sacraments of **Reconciliation and Eucharist**: preparation classes begin on **Sunday, October 13**

You will receive letters very soon with more information.

PRAY for VOCATIONS!!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Be sure to review this week's bulletin insert (and read the bio's posted in the commons) for the nominees for three 3-year terms on PPC. **Elections will be held at Masses next weekend (Sept. 7/8)**. Registered Catholic parishioners, age 16+, in good standing with the Church may vote for up to 3 nominees. IF you are going to be away next weekend, and wish to cast your votes, send via voicemail/email to the office NLT 4p on Monday, Sept. 9 to stannes@stannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext. 0.

**Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion Opportunity**

A training class for prospective Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs) will take place on **Tuesday, September 10 at 6:15 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Serving as an EMHC is probably the least onerous ministry of all the opportunities in the St. Anne's community. You're going to be at Mass anyway. How about volunteering for this ministry and serving the community and enhancing your own spiritual life? Your help is needed and will be truly appreciated. Requirements: 16 yrs. of age and older, a Catholic in good standing, and complete the EMHC training. If you want to join the EMHC ministry and cannot attend the training, please contact Chris Neal in the parish office. *Current EMHC's are also asked to attend this session on September 10.*