



Becoming a beloved community of God where all belong.

St. Francis Sunday – Blessing of the Animals

October 6, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Cash Flow - Friends, we are experiencing challenges with cash flow and would appreciate your help by paying toward your giving estimates to help St. Nicholas meet our budget. Thank you.

St Nicholas will be recognized by the Climate Solutions for Congregations Planning Committee at an upcoming event on Sunday, October 13, 2024 from 2:00 – 6:00 PM. During the event, County Executive Marc Elrich will be recognizing congregations with certificates of achievement and we would love to have you and others representing your congregation at this event. This event is no cost to you, all we ask is that you please [RSVP](#) by **Monday, October 1, 2024** to ensure your place at this important gathering at MNCPPC offices in Wheaton.

Save the Date – Dawn’s Ordination on Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 AM at the Washington National Cathedral.

Annual Meeting & Vestry Nominations - Per St. Nicholas' bylaws, the Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 27 immediately following our worship service. There are four openings for Vestry members and 2 openings for Diocesan Convention Delegate. Convention is on the last Saturday of January. If you are interested in serving for a 2-year term on Vestry or as a Convention delegate please contact Rev. Beth, Bob McCartin or Geof Fuller. Thank you.

What Might It Mean To Vote Faithfully? - Interim Missioner for Equity and Justice **Michelle Dibblee** shares that, growing up, she witnessed the people in her parents’ bible study, “modeled voting as a solitary *and* a collective activity, to be informed by faith and discerned in community.”

“Our vote is our own,” she writes. “That is the promise of democracy. But how we come to our vote, or choose to participate in civic life, is informed by our experiences and relationships with God and one another.”

Read more and access a wealth of resources developed by The Episcopal Church to help you and your faith community navigate election season in [What Might it Mean to Vote Faithfully?](#)



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Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Quotes attributed to Francis of Assisi

“Preach the gospel at all times and if necessary, use words.”
Implicit in this saying is the understanding that often the most
powerful sermons are unspoken.

“Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible;
and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”
It's a roadmap to achieving amazing things but it begins in
absolute simplicity.