

Pip's Squeak

November 11, 2018

This Week: November 11—17

Monday 2nd **Monday Book Group** – *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
Wednesday 9am **Faith Leaders Study** Sanctuary
Thursday 5pm **Food Pantry** Narthex
Friday 11am **Prayer Meditation**
Friday 12pm **Building & Grounds Meeting** Church Office
Saturday 5 pm **FCS Overnight Guests** Parish Hall etc.
(November 17, **FCS Dinner made by ?**)



Save the Date

November 25-30 **NRATI setup** Sanctuary
November 28 **Vestry Meeting** Parish Hall
Nov. 30-Dec. 1, **No Room at the Inn**
December 19 **Lessons & Carols**, San Agustin

Pastor's Message

"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven." (Colossians 1:3-5)

Dear People of St. Philip's,
Thank you all, and our Diocese, for your love, prayers and support through my surgery. It was a long day with lots of "hurry up and wait"-- variety of procedures before the actual surgery. So, as I lay waiting for the next thing to happen I found myself meditating on what a lovely supportive community I have: the prayer shawl and prayers at Convention, my parishioners doing prayers of laying-on-of-hands with anointing at our healing service Sunday the 28th, another laying-on-of-hands prayer with everyone coming forward on November 4, and on Wednesday, November 7, our Faith Leader retreat at Bill Dolby's Brackney Cabin, with deep sharing plus more healing prayers.



The picture is of me at home on the couch Thursday night, wearing a prayer shawl from Bishop Mary given during Convention, wrapped in prayers offered by the women of St. Jude's with whom I worked for 6 years before coming to St. Philip's.

I'm one of the luckiest priests in the Diocese to have such caring, capable parishioners as well as awesome Bishop and Diocesan Staff! I often wonder how people who do not have a faith community survive, not experiencing what Presiding Bishop Michael Curry describes as "God's dream for us rather than the nightmare this world often seems to be".

May God bless you and your loved ones as this month unfolds into December and we gather with family and friends for Thanksgiving and good cheer, giving thanks and waiting for the next steps in treatment and healing recovery.

Peace and blessings to you,
Pastor Mary and Jim Blessing



No Room at the Inn



Thank you to those who have signed up to help! There are still plenty of opportunities.

To repeat: here are the things which need to be happening right now, and seriously need **everyone** to help:

- Take postcards to give to friends and leave in places you frequent
- Solicit/offer donations for the Silent Auction (the earlier the better)
- Solicit/offer donations for the drawing baskets (needed before November 20)
- Offer your nativity for the display and ask your friends too
- Loan nativity and angel ornaments for the tree
- Sign up early to let us know where you can help
- There are things we would like to borrow, such as wine glasses, torchères etc. Look for a list to sign up – coming soon

Thank you,
The NRATI Team



Help the Food Pantry Make Thanksgiving Special

Each year for Thanksgiving our Food Pantry Team likes to make up a special bag of treats for our distribution the Tuesday of Thanksgiving week. We buy frozen chickens from Second Harvest Food Bank and invite you all to contribute something to make the offering special. We are putting together 32 bags and we particularly need:

- French fried onions
- Home-baked or store-bought pies and cookies
- Butter
- Leftover Halloween Candy



We need these items by 11:00am on Tuesday, November 20, for distribution that evening. If you would like to come and help assemble the bags, join us at the church at that time.

Contributions to the 'Pip'

I'd really like to see more contributions to the Pip from our members. Some examples:

- An article and/or pictures of church activities
- A description of your ministry and what it means to you
- A joke, comic strip etc. – just make sure it's tasteful and at least somewhat relevant!
- A favorite Bible passage
- A favorite inspirational quote
- A favorite song lyric or poem

Help me to liven up our newsletter! Use your imagination. What would you enjoy reading about? Send submissions to officemanager@stphilip-sv.net and put "Pip" in the subject line.

Thanks,
Jane

2nd Monday Book Club



This Monday is our meeting to discuss *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah (and many other things!). Several of us have already reported that we really enjoyed this book. Please join us at 10am in the Sanctuary. It doesn't matter if you haven't read the book, the discussion becomes quite wide-ranging. You might be inspired to go away and read the book! Suggestions for future reading are always welcome.

"In Flanders Field"



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place, and in the sky,
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.



We are the dead; short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

During the early days of the Second Battle of Ypres a young Canadian artillery officer, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, was killed on 2 May, 1915 in the gun positions near Ypres. An exploding German artillery shell landed near him. He was serving in the same Canadian artillery unit as a friend of his, the Canadian military doctor and artillery commander Major John McCrae.

As the brigade doctor, John McCrae was asked to conduct the burial service for Alexis because the chaplain had been called away somewhere else on duty that evening. It is believed that later that evening, after the burial, John began the draft for his now famous poem "In Flanders Fields".