



REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR

A Quiet Beginning to Sunday

Spoken Eucharist begins October 4

Dear Friends in Christ,

In May's Scroll, I asked whether St. Bart's might be ready to consider adding a spoken Eucharist to our Sunday mornings. My unexpected back surgery and medical leave put that conversation on hold. After I returned in July, though, several people who do not regularly attend our 10:00 service asked whether a spoken service might be possible.

With the support of the Vestry at our September meeting, we will begin a weekly spoken Holy Eucharist on Sunday, October 4, at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel of the David Thompson Ministry Center.

We will offer this service on a trial basis through the end of December, giving us time to discover together whether it meets a need and is sustainable for our parish.



This will be a simple, quiet celebration without music—a time to hear Scripture, pray, and share Holy Communion. Our 10:00 Eucharist with music will continue as usual. My hope is that the earlier service will offer another doorway into our worshiping life, especially for those for whom an earlier time or a quieter setting makes participation possible.

Continued on page 2 →

OCTOBER 4: NEW EARLY SERVICE • OCTOBER 25: WORSHIP AND WELCOME OUTDOORS

Making Room for Worship

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR — CONTINUED

To make room in the schedule, Sunday Centering Prayer will move from 8:30 to 8:00 a.m., remaining in the chapel. The rest of our Sunday schedule will stay the same.

Keeping the service simple and using the chapel will help us offer this opportunity with modest additional demands on me and our volunteers. As the trial unfolds, we will listen to those who attend and consider how it serves the life of the whole parish.

If you have been hoping for a quiet, early celebration of the Eucharist, I invite you to join us on October 4. If you know someone who might be interested in a spoken service, please share the invitation.

— Joseph+

Sunday Mornings

Beginning October 4

8:00 a.m. — Centering Prayer, Chapel

8:30 a.m. — Spoken Holy Eucharist, Chapel

9:00 a.m. — Sunday School, Parish Hall

10:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist with music

11:00 a.m. — Coffee and fellowship

On October 25, the 10:00 Eucharist moves outdoors for Mass on the Grass, followed by Pumpkin Palooza at 11:30.

Giving Thanks Through Our Giving

Stewardship season • Celebration Sunday, November 15

A meal shared with a neighbor. A child learning to serve at the altar. A quiet chapel where someone finds nourishment for their spiritual life. Our gifts help make these ordinary, life-giving moments possible at St. Bart's.

This October, our stewardship season invites each household to consider how gratitude for God's generosity can shape our own giving. Prayer, time, skills, and financial support all sustain the life we share and the ministries that reach beyond our doors.

As you consider your financial commitment for the coming year, take time to pray about what St. Bart's means in your life and what you hope this community can offer others. A pledge helps the Vestry plan responsibly for worship, formation, pastoral care, and outreach.

Our stewardship season will culminate on Celebration Sunday, November 15. Please save the date as we gather in thanksgiving and offer our commitments to God's work through this parish. Contact the parish office for help with a pledge card or questions about giving.

A Sunday of Care and Blessing



A vaccine clinic at St. Bart's.



Fr. Joseph blesses a dog outside the church.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Community Vaccine Clinic

Sunday, October 4 • Parish Hall
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Caring for our neighbors includes making practical opportunities for health and well-being available close to home. Family Pharmacy of Aiken returns to St. Bart's for our community vaccine clinic.

The announced offerings include flu vaccines, updated COVID boosters, and RSV and pneumonia vaccines. Contact Robin Petry for registration, questions about available vaccines, and any information you should bring.

Sign up in the Parish Hall or contact Robin at 706-836-3027 or petrymail@yahoo.com.

THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4 • 4:00 p.m.
Outside the church's front doors

The animals who share our lives remind us of the goodness and delight of God's creation. In celebration of St. Francis, bring your animal companions to a brief outdoor service and an individual blessing.

Friends and neighbors are warmly welcome, whether or not they attend St. Bart's. Come give thanks for the creatures in your care and meet others who treasure theirs.

Please keep dogs on leashes, cats in carriers, and other animals safely secured. If bringing a pet is difficult, bring a photograph instead.

INVITE A NEIGHBOR • ALL HAVE A PLACE HERE

An Earlier Doorway into Sunday

October 4 also marks the first weekly spoken Eucharist at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel of the David Thompson Ministry Center. Centering Prayer begins at 8:00 a.m. Read Fr. Joseph's invitation on pages 1–2.

Pumpkin Palooza Meets Mass on the Grass

Sunday, October 25, 2026 • Invite a friend. Worship outdoors. Stay for the celebration.



The congregation gathers outdoors for Holy Eucharist.



Children enjoy the pumpkins at last year's Pumpkin Palooza.

This year, two St. Bart's favorites are coming together! On Sunday, October 25, we will celebrate Mass on the Grass at our usual 10:00 a.m. worship time, followed by Pumpkin Palooza at 11:30—a community party at our Pumpkin Patch.

The morning begins at 9:00 with intergenerational Sunday School, where children and adults explore faith together. At 10:00, we will gather outdoors for Holy Eucharist. Then, at 11:30, we will welcome our neighbors for Pumpkin Palooza. Costumes are welcome at all three gatherings, but entirely optional.

Last year's Pumpkin Palooza brought many neighbors to St. Bart's for an afternoon of fun. This year, bringing worship and the celebration together gives us another opportunity to share what we love about this church: a place to pray, make friends, and belong.

Who could you invite?

Think of a neighbor, friend, coworker, or family member who might enjoy the morning. Offer to meet them when they arrive, sit together at worship, and stay together for the party. A familiar face can make a first visit much easier.

Come early for Sunday School and outdoor worship, or join us at 11:30 for Pumpkin Palooza. Everyone is welcome at any or all of the morning's activities.



Event details and updates

saintbart.org/event/pumpkin-palooza-2

Scan the QR code for the event page—and share it with someone you would love to invite.

ALL HAVE A PLACE HERE – NO EXCEPTIONS

The Pumpkin Patch Returns

October 18–31 • St. Bart's front lawn



For more than thirty years, the Pumpkin Patch has brought neighbors onto our lawn and supported outreach beyond it. Families return to choose a pumpkin, take a photograph, and make another autumn memory. Each visit is also a chance to experience the welcome of St. Bart's.

The Patch opens Sunday, October 18, after we unload the pumpkins following worship. Many hands make this work lighter. Come ready to help as you are able, and help turn the lawn into a place of welcome.

Be a welcoming face

A volunteer shift is a simple way to serve: greet visitors, help them find a pumpkin, assist with sales, and thank them for coming. Invite someone to work alongside you. To offer your help or ask about shifts, contact Hope Anderson at hopedgood@gmail.com.

Work party: Thursday, October 15 • 6:00 p.m.

Unloading and opening: Sunday, October 18

Final day: Saturday, October 31



John Good shares a story with children at the Pumpkin Patch.

A Story Among the Pumpkins

Story Time at the Patch • School visits by arrangement

A story read aloud can turn a school outing into a moment of discovery. Story Time at the Patch welcomes young children from our community to listen, imagine, and enjoy a visit among the pumpkins.

Readers and welcoming volunteers help make these visits special. You do not need a theatrical voice—just a willingness to share a story and give children your attention.

To volunteer as a reader or ask about arranging a class visit, contact Janice Furman at admin@saintbart.org or 803-279-4622. Please check with the office for this year's available dates and times.

Faith Around the Table

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Les Misérables: Mercy and a New Beginning

Wednesday, October 14 • Parish Hall

Screening at 2:45 p.m.; Potluck and Guided conversation at 5:00 p.m.

What happens when someone offers mercy where punishment is expected? The 1998 film *Les Misérables* follows Jean Valjean as he tries to build a new life while pursued by Inspector Javert. Its story opens searching questions about justice, grace, and our responsibility to people living in poverty.

Bring a dish to share and join Fr. Joseph for a guided conversation. Where do we recognize the possibility of change? What makes it hard to receive forgiveness—or to believe that another person can change?

Please watch the film before we gather or join us at 2:45 p.m. Come ready to listen, share a meal, and explore the story together.



Film: 1998 adaptation
Running time: 2 hours, 14 minutes
Rated PG-13

Sweet and Salty

Thursday, October 22 • 6:00 p.m. • Joey and Sandy Zeller's home

Joey and Sandy Zeller invite you to a new small group where a shared snack makes room for thoughtful conversation. A successor to Wine and Wisdom, Sweet and Salty will explore trending topics in relation to Scripture, tradition, and reason in the relaxed setting of a home.

The group will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month and is open to the first ten people to sign up. Bring a sweet or salty snack to share and whatever you would like to drink; Joey and Sandy will provide tea and lemonade. If interest grows beyond ten, additional groups will be added.

For more information, contact Joey Zeller at ojzmail@gmail.com.

An Unexpected Harvest

A fruitful pumpkin vine has appeared outside the church offices without anyone planting or tending it. Perhaps a pumpkin left from last year supplied the seeds. This small surprise has given us something wonderful to notice as we prepare to welcome another season at the Patch.



Keep Wondering Together



Making Faith Together Continues

Sundays through November 15
9:00–9:50 a.m. • Parish Hall

There is a place for your questions, your experience, and your imagination in Making Faith Together. Children, teenagers, and adults encounter Scripture, wonder together, and make a shared creative response.

Adults participate as learners and creators alongside younger people. Each person brings something the group needs: a question, a memory, an unexpected connection, or a willingness to try.

No art experience is needed, and you do not need to bring a child to belong. Each Sunday stands on its own, so come whenever you can. All materials are provided. Questions? Contact Fr. Joseph at priest@saintbart.org.

Children's Church

During the 10:00 Eucharist, children may gather in the nursery space for age-appropriate activities and exploration of the Sunday readings. They rejoin their families for Communion. Children are also welcome to remain with their families throughout worship.

CENTERING PRAYER

How Do You Love God?

Kevin Sharpe • Friday, October 23
10:00 a.m. • Church

“It’s not a timid question. It begs for deep truth, and wants to shake you up to get it, even if it pushes you into places you haven’t let yourself imagine.”

Kevin Sharpe returns to lead our Friday gathering with this searching invitation. Come with your questions and a willingness to listen. Everyone is welcome, including those new to Centering Prayer.

Prayer and Book Conversation

Our Friday rhythm continues through October: Centering Prayer at 10:00 a.m., followed by reflection and our conversation about Richard Rohr’s *The Universal Christ* at approximately 11:00–11:30 a.m.

Attend the prayer gathering, the book conversation, or both. The regular meeting place is the Chapel of the David Thompson Ministry Center.

Location change: On October 23 and 30, Friday Centering Prayer and the following book conversation will meet in the church because of the Pumpkin Patch.

A Meal Can Carry Christ's Love

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

Casseroles for Christ

Supporting Walking Tall Ministries • Casseroles due Sunday, October 18

A hot meal is a practical expression of love. Through Casseroles for Christ, St. Bart's parishioners prepare meals for Walking Tall Ministries, helping extend the care of this community beyond our own tables.

This ministry offers a straightforward way to serve from your own kitchen. Pick up a pan and lid from the table in the Parish Hall, prepare a casserole, and place it in the Walking Tall freezer in the Parish Hall by Sunday, October 18.

For preparation instructions or questions, contact Dee McLane at 864-323-7552 or lmclane@wgu.edu. If you are new to the ministry, ask what is most helpful before you begin. A gift of time and a familiar recipe can become a meal that nourishes someone else.

Gather This Month

Handbell Choir

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., second floor of the Parish Hall. New ringers are welcome. Contact Scott MacMurray at jscottmacmeng@gmail.com.

Crafters for Christ

Tuesday, October 20, at 10:00 a.m., lower level of the David Thompson Ministry Center. Share fellowship and creative work in support of ministry.

EpiscoPals

Thursday, October 15, at 11:30 a.m. Adults 50+ are invited for lunch and conversation. Restaurant to be announced. Contact Mike Osteen at 803-315-3549.

Care and Prayer

Health Ministry Screening

Sunday, October 11, 9:30–11:30 a.m., Parish Hall. Stop by for blood-pressure, blood-glucose, and weight checks and general health questions. Contact Robin Petry at 706-836-3027.

Remembering the Saints

All Saints Sunday • November 1

Whom do you carry in your heart when we pray for the departed? On All Saints Sunday, we remember those who have died over the previous year and give thanks for the love and faith that continue to shape us.

To submit a name for remembrance, send the name as you would like it read to Janice at admin@saintbart.org or call 803-279-4622.

Please submit names by Monday, October 26.

October 2026

Times are a.m. unless marked p. • Chapel: David Thompson Ministry Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep. 27	Sep. 28	Sep. 29	Sep. 30	1	2 10:00 Centering Prayer ~11:00 Universal Christ 4:00–6:00p Ussery visitation, Posey's	3 2:00–3:00p Ussery reception, Parish Hall 3:00p Florence Ussery funeral
4 Sunday schedule below Vaccine Clinic: 9:00–11:30 4:00p Blessing of Animals	5	6	7 6:30p Handbell Choir	8	9 10:00 Centering Prayer ~11:00 Universal Christ	10
11 Sunday schedule below 9:30–11:30 Health Screening	12	13	14 6:30p Handbell Choir 5:00p Wonderful Wednesday: Les Misérables	15 11:30 EpiscoPals; place TBA 6:00p Patch work party	16 10:00 Centering Prayer ~11:00 Universal Christ 11:30 Executive Committee	17

Sunday Schedule

8:00 Centering Prayer • 8:30 Spoken Eucharist • 9:00 Making Faith Together
10:00 Holy Eucharist and Children's Church • 11:00 Coffee and fellowship
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

OCTOBER 4: THE NEW EARLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS.

October 2026 • continued

Times are a.m. unless marked p. • Chapel: David Thompson Ministry Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 Sunday schedule below Casseroles for Christ due After worship: unload pumpkins; Patch opens	19 Pumpkin Patch	20 10:00 Crafters for Christ Pumpkin Patch	21 6:30p Handbell Choir 11:00 November Scroll articles due Pumpkin Patch	22 Pumpkin Patch 6:00p Sweet and Salty	23 10:00 Centering Prayer with Kevin Sharpe ~11:00 Universal Christ Prayer & study in CHURCH Pumpkin Patch	24 Pumpkin Patch
25 Early services & class: see below 10:00 Mass on the Grass 11:30 Pumpkin Palooza 5:00p Youth Group* 11:45 Daughters of the King*	26 Pumpkin Patch	27 Pumpkin Patch	28 6:30p Handbell Choir Pumpkin Patch	29 Pumpkin Patch	30 10:00 Centering Prayer ~11:00 Universal Christ Prayer & study in CHURCH Pumpkin Patch	31 Pumpkin Patch final day

Sunday Schedule

8:00 Centering Prayer • 8:30 Spoken Eucharist • 9:00 Making Faith Together
 10:00 Holy Eucharist and Children's Church • 11:00 Coffee and fellowship
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group. October 25 changes appear in the calendar above.

OCTOBER 18–31: PUMPKIN PATCH • SCHOOL STORY TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT

LOOKING AHEAD: November 1 — All Saints Sunday. November 15 — Celebration Sunday and final Making Faith Together session.

Gratitude Made Visible

Operating receipts • Year to date through June 2026

Your giving sustains worship, formation, pastoral care, and outreach. Thank you for the gifts that support our shared life and help us plan for the months ahead.

Operating fund	Actual	Need	Difference
Pledges	\$148,845.70	\$151,799.23	-\$2,953.53
Other	\$7,902.08	\$13,595.85	-\$5,693.77
TOTAL	\$156,747.78	\$165,395.08	-\$8,647.30

\$8,647.30 below the year-to-date operating need

These figures are through June 2026. Pledges are welcome at any time during the year; contact the parish office at admin@saintbart.org or call 803-279-4622 for a pledge card or assistance with giving.

October Birthdays

- 4 Gisele Morris
- 7 Gary McCall
- 10 Mary Beth Pierucci
- 12 Shari Scott
- 15 Mark Petry
- 17 Jeffrey Sisk
- 20 Tranis Harper
- 22 Lil Miller
- 30 Kevin Sharpe

October Anniversaries

- 4 Bill and Georgia Jopling
- 14 John and MaryAnne Good
- 28 Steven and Kim Vickers

We give thanks for all who celebrate this month. May the year ahead bring companionship, strength, and a deep awareness of God’s love.

Altar Flowers

Honor someone in memory or thanksgiving through the Flower Book in the church entrance area, or contact Janice at admin@saintbart.org. Flowers are \$45.

Pastoral Care

Please tell Fr. Joseph when you or someone you love needs pastoral care, including illness, hospitalization, bereavement, or a difficult season. Contact priest@saintbart.org or 803-279-4622.



THE SCROLL

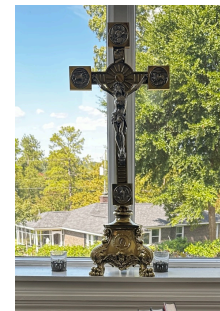
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
471 West Martintown Road
North Augusta, SC 29841

MAILING LABEL / POSTAL AREA



Many hands, a warm welcome, and another season at the Pumpkin Patch.

A Gift Restored



Thank you to Pam and Neil Crossley, who restored this beautiful cross and donated it to St. Bart's. It now stands in the narthex, the church's entrance area, welcoming all who come through our doors.

Join Us on Sunday

8:00 a.m. Centering Prayer, Chapel
8:30 a.m. Spoken Eucharist, Chapel
9:00 a.m. Making Faith Together
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with music
11:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship

October 25: 10:00 worship outdoors; Pumpkin Palooza begins at 11:30.

Stay Connected

Parish Office: Janice Furman
admin@saintbart.org • 803-279-4622
Rector: The Rev. Joseph Shippen
priest@saintbart.org
Website: saintbart.org

November Scroll articles due:
Wednesday, October 21, at 11:00 a.m.
Send to admin@saintbart.org.