



Volume 46, Issue 2 February 2026

Reflections from the Rector:

"One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power."
(*Psalm 145:4*)

Beloved in Christ,

Grace and peace to you as we step together into a remarkable year in the life of our parish. In 2026, we give thanks for **seventy-five years of worship, witness, and service** in this place. It is a joy to stand at this threshold - looking back with gratitude, standing firmly in the present, and leaning forward with hope toward all that God continues to unfold among us.

In 1951, a faithful community of forty-five people gathered to celebrate the first Holy Eucharist of this church. It was an act of courage and trust, rooted in the belief that God was calling them to plant, to build, and to bear witness to the love of God for all. Because of their faithfulness, generations have been baptized, formed in faith, married, buried, comforted, challenged, and sent forth in Christ's name. We are heirs of their prayers, their sacrifices, and their vision, and we are now stewards of that same holy calling.

This anniversary year is not only about remembering where we have been; it is also about discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us now. What new possibilities is God placing before us? How are we being invited to deepen our welcome, strengthen our ministries of compassionate care, and renew our commitment to justice, mercy, joy, and the dignity of every person? These are holy questions, and I trust they will guide both our celebrations and our shared life throughout this year.

There will be many moments to rejoice together - stories shared, milestones marked, and thanksgiving offered in worship. Even more, my prayer for this seventy-fifth year is that we will listen ever more attentively to God and to one another, and that we will step forward with courage into God's future, even in challenging times. The same Spirit who sustained this parish in its earliest days is alive and at work among us still.

Thank you for the many ways you love this church and care for one another. It is a privilege to serve as your rector at St. Bart's. May this anniversary year renew our faith, enlarge our hearts, and remind us that "*the Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.*" (*Psalm 126:3*)

Blessings,
Joseph+

Rector

The Rev. Joseph Shippen
priest@saintbart.org

Deacon

The Rev. Deacon Pam Crossley
deacon@saintbart.org

Senior Warden

Jackie Raeth
srwarden@saintbart.org

Junior Warden

Bobbie Quinn
jrwarden@saintbart.org

Treasurer

Zeny Vo
finance@saintbart.org

Youth Ministry

AnneMarie MacMurray
herbam@bellsouth.net

STAFF:**Organist/Choirmaster**

Jessica Dollar Jones
music@saintbart.org

Parish Administrator

Janice Furman
admin@saintbart.org

Church Phone: (803) 279-4622

Website: www.saintbart.org

*A Special Thanks to Our Outgoing
2025 Mission Committee Members*

*Bobbie Quinn
John Doughty
Mary Beth Pierucci*

Thank you for your faithful service in 2025!

Curious about Confirmation?

New to the Episcopal Church?

Just exploring faith?

JOIN US FOR A

**CONVOCATIONAL
CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

✓ February 27-28 | Aiken

✓ Youth & Adults Welcome

✓ No Commitment Required

This February, our Convocation is offering a **joint Confirmation Retreat** for youth and adults at St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church in Aiken.

This retreat is intentionally designed for:

- Those considering Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation
- Newcomers to the Episcopal Church
- Anyone wanting to explore faith or refresh their understanding.

You do **not** need to know your next step to attend - the retreat itself is a space for learning, prayer, and discernment. And it will be fun!

The Bishop will visit St. Bart's at the end of August, and this retreat offers a meaningful first step for those who may be interested.

Email admin@saintbart.org to sign-up.

Adult Sunday School: Gospel Conversations for the Season of Epiphany
A Reflective Journey Through the Sunday Gospel

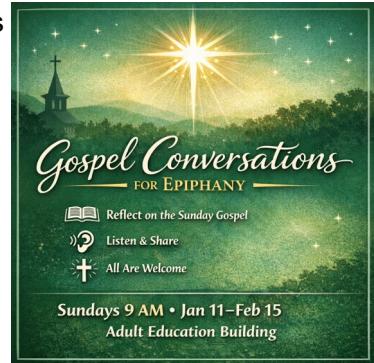
This Epiphany, join us for a thoughtful and welcoming Adult Sunday School class centered on the Sunday Gospel reading. Together, we will listen deeply for where the light of Christ is being revealed in scripture—and in our own lives.

The class is using the African (Lambeth) Bible Study method, a gentle, prayerful approach similar to *Lectio Divina*. This method emphasizes careful listening, shared reflection, and openness to the Holy Spirit rather than debate or “right answers.”

Dates, Time & Location

- **Sundays, Thru February 15**
- **9:00 a.m.**
- **Christian Formation Wing (above Parish Hall)**

The class will be led by our own Charlie Creech, who brings warmth, thoughtfulness, and a deep appreciation for shared reflection. For more information: creech.charlie@gmail.com, 804-658-6342





NEW OUTREACH MINISTRY AT ST. BART'S:

THE FORGOTTEN INITIATIVE (TFI)

St. Bart's is excited to announce the launch of a new outreach ministry in partnership with The Forgotten Initiative (TFI) - a national ecumenical ministry that equips church to support local foster care agencies through awareness, encouragement, and advocacy.

WHAT IS THE FORGOTTEN INITIATIVE?

The Forgotten Initiative helps churches become a bridge between foster care caseworkers and the real, everyday needs of vulnerable children and families. Through TFI, churches learn how to engage foster care in ways that are practical, compassionate, and grounded in the heart of Jesus.

Rather than asking churches to "do everything," TFI helps churches ask: What can we faithfully do - right here - to make a difference.

ALREADY MAKING AN IMPACT

St. Bart's has already begun supporting this ministry by donating fast-food gift cards to help children entering foster care and those waiting for placement.

We recently receive this heartfelt note from Gretchen Sawyer, a foster care caseworker we are supporting:

"The fast food gift cards that you provided will be used to feed kids that are taken into care (who are often hungry) and to feed those who have to wait to be placed in a home due to unavailability of foster homes in our area... While they are hanging out at the office waiting, they can at least be fed."

"TFI connects the DSS office with local churches that want to help but don't always know how. My job is to build a bridge between the two - and it's a blessing to have a resource like St. Bart's."

We are deeply grateful to be part of this life-giving work.

A NEW PARTNERSHIP: HOPE FOR OUR SCHOOLS x TFI

We are also thrilled to share that Hope for Our Schools, St. Bart's outreach ministry led by Julie Bush, is now partnering with our TFI ministry on a Duffle Bag Project for children entering foster care.

Twelve duffle bags will be filled with:

- A stuffed animal
- Toiletries
- A blanket
- A handwritten love note from St. Bart's

These bags will be blessed and presented on March 1ST, First Responders Sunday, then distributed to children who are removed from their homes and need a safe, dignified way to carry their belongings.

This project has already been made possible through:

- Donated Nike duffle bags
- Donated stuffed animals
- Shared resources from the Hope for Our School's Closet.

It's a beautiful example of ministries working together for the good of our neighbors.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

You do **not** need to be a foster parent to be part of this ministry.

You can help by:

- Learning more about foster care and how churches can support it.
- Helping with future donation drives or projects.
- Offering prayer and encouragement.
- Exploring advocacy and awareness opportunities.

To learn more or to get involved, contact Bill Raeth at bill.raeth@yahoo.com or 803-640-8039.

ST. BART'S LENTEN SCHEDULE - Watch for more details

Feb 17 - Shrove Tuesday Party @ 5:30 PM

Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday:
Service @ 12:00 PM
Pretzel Making @ 5:30 PM
Service @ 6:30 PM

Wednesday's in Lent - St. Bart's Lenten Program
with Dinner at 6:00 PM

Friday Lenten Fish Fry's to be announced

Mar 11 - Community Lenten Worship Service & Lunch
@ 12:00 PM

Mar 29 - Palm Sunday

Apr 1 - Holy Wednesday—Tenebrae Service

Apr 2 - Maundy Thursday
Simple Supper @ 5:30 PM
Service w/foot washing @ 6:30 PM

Apr 3 - Good Friday
Service @ 12:00 PM

Apr 4 - Easter Vigil - Service @ 8:00 PM

Apr 5 - Easter Day
Service @ 9:00 AM
Breakfast & Egg Hunt @ 10:00 AM
Service @ 11:00 AM

PHONE SERVICE RESTORED!



You can now
reach us at:

803-279-4622

Thank you for your patience!

Community Lenten Worship Service & Lunch Schedule



Lenten Worship Service

12:30pm

Lunch available at

12:00 or 1:00PM

Feb 18 (Ash Wed.) Grace United Methodist

Feb. 25 Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity

March 4 Second Providence Baptist

March 11 St. Bartholomew's Episcopal

March 18 Fairview Presbyterian

March 25 Clearwater First Baptist

Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

471 West Martintown Road
North Augusta, SC 29841

Lenten Labyrinth Walk



Facilitated by:

Camille Woodruff, Veriditas Certified Labyrinth Facilitator

Camille came to the CSRA in 1991. She is a retired librarian and an active member of Our Savior Episcopal Church in Martinez, GA. She was deeply inspired by a personal labyrinth walk in the mid-1990s which began her journey towards certification.

All are welcome to attend.

8:45am-9am

Registration Check-in

9am-1pm

Labyrinth 101: History, Meaning and Use

Reflection Time

Anglican Prayer Beads Craft Time

Labyrinth Walk

Holy Eucharist

Lunch

**There is no cost to attend but to prepare enough lunch and plan,
please RSVP to Robin Petry at petrymail@yahoo.com
or text/call 706-836-3027**



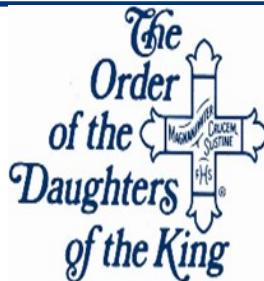
This Lenten Quiet Day is sponsored by
The St. Bartholomew's Daughters of the King



HEALTH SCREENINGS



The Health Ministry Screenings will be on the SECOND SUNDAY, February 8 from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. During this time, you can have your blood pressure, blood glucose and weight checked, as well as ask general health questions. For any questions, contact Robin Petry, 706-836-3027 or petrymail@yahoo.com.



The St. Bartholomew's Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a group of women who commit themselves to a life-long practice of prayer, service and evangelism with the mission to spread Christ's Kingdom. Here at St. Bartholomew's we support the clergy's pastoral care. Any woman interesting in joining, can contact Robin Petry at petrymail@yahoo.com or call: 706-836-3027



EpiscoPals Lunch

The EpiscoPals is a monthly luncheon gathering for Adults 50+. It is a fun, relaxed time of fellowship and eating good food! For some good food and a whole lot of talking, make plans to join us: Our monthly luncheon will be held on **WEDNESDAY, February 18th**.

We will meet at **11:30 a.m. at Top Crab, 352 E. Martintown Rd, N. Augusta**

Sign up Sheets are in the Parish Hall. For more information contact Mike Osteen at 803-315-3549 We hope to see you there!



STEWARSHIP AT WORK

"If we belong to Christ, it's logical that everything we have truly belongs to Him."

Year to Date receipts through December, 2025:

OPERATING FUND			
	Actual	Need	Difference
Pledge	\$ 249,421.70	\$ 260,067.00	\$ -10,645.30
Other	\$ 28,513.40	\$ 16,100.00	\$ 12,413.40
TOTAL	\$ 277,935.10	\$ 276,167.00	\$ 1,768.10

If you are a member who has not pledged, please consider doing so. Just contact the church office, get a pledge card, and drop it in the offering plate. Pledges are welcome at any time during the year.

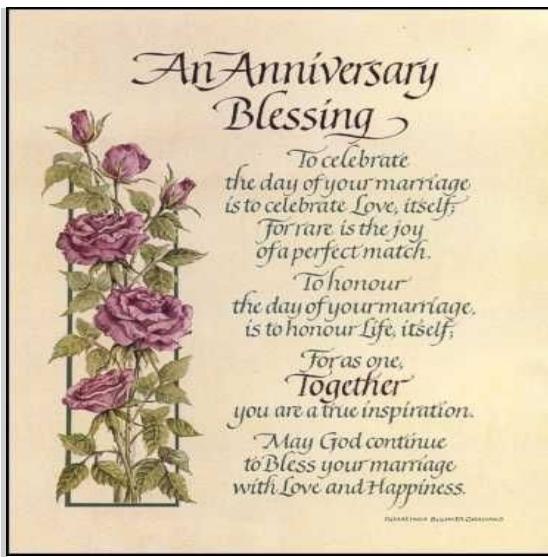


A Wish and a Prayer

When you wish upon a birthday candle, God hears it as a prayer. These dreams of your heart ascend to His heart, where they ignite in hope. Hope for happy days ahead, for making more good memories. Hope for loved ones coming together, sharing smiles and stories and hugs. For reasons to celebrate – big and small – and for joy upon joy. Each candle, like each year of your life, represents God's faithful care for you. He is always working things together for your good, bringing you more grace, making your hopes and dreams come true.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Carol Osteen	14 John Morris
7 Bobbie Quinn	14 Susan Meloan
10 Khoi Vo	16 Lawrence Langston
15 Suzanne Hobby-Shippen	



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

26 Paul & Molly Campbell



We invite you to purchase altar flowers in Loving Memory of or in Thanksgiving of, by signing up for a Sunday in the Flower Book, located in the Narthex, or by contacting Janice at admin@saintbart.org. The cost is \$45 and may be paid by cash or check, earmarked "altar flowers" in the Sunday collection, or by text-to-give: Text SAINTBART Flowers \$45 to 73256 using your text messaging. Standard rates do apply.

Pastoral Emergencies

All pastoral concerns including:

hospitalizations, illnesses, deaths, child concerns, or relationship issues may go directly to Father Joseph via his secured email at priest@saintbart.org or by phone at 803-279-4622.

All concerns will be held in the strictest of confidence.



The Scroll

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M. Sunday School
10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:00 AM Children's Church
10:00 A.M. Live Streaming to Facebook & YouTube
11:00 A.M. Coffee Hour in Parish Hall

Scroll Editor: Janice Furman

*Please submit articles by the 20th of
the month by e-mail to:
admin@saintbart.org*

Any suggestions? Submit to same.

About St. Bartholomew's

We are called to be an inclusive community where all may encounter God's love. God strengthens, nourishes, and speaks to us through scripture, tradition, and reason.

Our worship services are fully accessible in person and online, supplemented by a variety of other opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. We welcome the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as we seek to follow Christ.

With God's help, we seek to share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ through our outreach and social justice ministries.

All have a place here.

- *St. Bartholomew's Vision Statement*