

Calendar

Sunday August 2 (10 Pentecost)	10:30 a.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/COP)
Monday August 3 (Joanna, Mary & Salome)		
Tuesday August 4 (Feria)	10:30 a.m.	Funeral Mass for Karen Horny
Wednesday August 5 (Feria)	6:00 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II
Thursday August 6 (Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ)	12:00 p.m.	Mass & Anointing
Friday August 7 (John Mason Neale)		
Saturday August 8 (Dominic)	4:00 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II
Sunday August 9 (11 Pentecost)	10:30 a.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/COP)

This Week at St. John's

August 2, 2026

About the Readings

Isaiah 55:1-5

Today's reading comes from a triumphant hymn exulting in Israel's ultimate restoration. With the cry of a street vendor, God calls to Israel and invites the people to come and dine. As the Passover was celebrated with a feast, so God's followers were called to a banquet that would foreshadow God's final triumph (Isaiah 25:6). Isaiah declares that God's grace cannot be purchased but is both priceless and free. The Lord offers not only the bread and water of the wilderness sojourn but the wine and milk of the promised land.

Romans 9:1-5

In chapters 9-11 of the letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul shows how the community of Jesus' followers is related to the history of Israel. In the verses for today, Paul confesses his "great sorrow and unceasing anguish" (9:2) that his ancestral community has not embraced Jesus as Messiah. For to Israel belonged God's adoption in the call of Abraham, in the deliverance from Egypt, in the covenants and the gift of Torah. Theirs was the worship of temple and synagogue, and to them had been given the promises to which the disciples of Jesus were heirs through the patriarchs. From them had come the climax of God's self-revelation through Jesus, "the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen" (v. 5).

Matthew 14:13-21

The Gospel reading for today is the familiar story of the feeding of the five thousand. As the passage begins, Jesus has withdrawn from Galilee "in a boat to a deserted place by himself" (Mt. 14:13). This move may have been prompted by word of Herod's execution of John the Baptist (14:3-12). Herod had acknowledged Jesus as a wonder worker and apparently regarded him as being John the Baptist raised from the dead (14:2). However, the crowds continue to follow Jesus, and when he finally goes ashore, he is filled with compassion (cf Mt. 9:36; 15:32; 20:34) and cures the sick among them. That evening, the disciples come to Jesus and ask him to send the crowds away so that they can go to nearby villages to buy food. Jesus replies that there is no need to send the people away for provisions; the disciples will give them something to eat. When the disciples gather and bring him five loaves and two fish, Jesus pronounces a blessing and breaks the loaves, in the traditional role of the head of a Jewish household. The disciples distribute the bread among the crowd, and everyone has enough to eat (v. 20). The disciples then collect the leftovers in twelve baskets. Matthew tells us that more than five thousand were actually fed, as women and children were also present.

Saint John's Episcopal Church

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<http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsepiscopalspringfield>

(Commentaries from *Synthesis CE: A Lectionary Study Guide*)

Announcements

Welcome! We are glad to have you here to worship with us at St. John's today or with us online.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Karen Horny by The Daughters of the King.

Outreach Ministry Group: Join us on August 16, for Sundae Sunday. The Outreach Ministry Group will provide ice cream, cookies, root beer and a variety of toppings for coffee hour. There will be ice cream treats after the Saturday 4:00 service too. We thank you for your generous support for our outreach projects.

SAVE THE DATE: The Chili Cook-Off and gift basket auction will be held October 18. The event will benefit Ambassadors for Children, the local organization that supports foster children.

Flowers for the Altar: Just a reminder that the Altar Flowers sign-up sheet with instructions is posted on the bulletin board outside the parish hall. What a great way to brighten our services and honor or memorialize loved ones and special occasions. Many spaces are available. Sign up today!

Summer Storytime on the Lawn: Lindsey Parks is hosting her popular "Storytimes" here at St. John's. The next session will be Saturday, August 8, 10:30-11 a.m., reading *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* by Mo Willems. The session will be canceled only if it is pouring rain or too windy.

Bishop Amy is coming to visit! February 21, our Bishop of West Missouri, The Right Reverend Amy Dafler Meaux will be at St. John's. Please speak with Fr. Ben if you wish to be Baptized, Confirmed, Received or Reaffirm your vows when Bishop Amy is here at St. John's during her visit.

Intercessions

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas – Austin; The Rt. Rev. David Read, Bishop; and for the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry.

Birthdays

August 2 Douglas Patton
August 3 Shirley Rogers
 Sherrie Rumstein
August 4 Mary Jane Robertson
August 6 Candace Iott
August 7 Charles Bowers

Anniversary

August 6 Russell & Rhonda Axtell

Faithful Departed

July 25 Karen Horny
August 1 Charles S. Christianson
 John Sellers
August 2 Ralph Compton
 George B. Morris
 Fannie Price
 S. I. Smith
August 4 Arlene F. Schmidt
August 5 Lafayette Herd
August 6 Edna Coley
August 7 Donna Gamel
 Terri Price

Prayer Requests

Clara	Kristen
Bill	Casey
Jim	Sarah
Patty	Dean
Nikki	Jim
Clara	Todd & Jennifer
Jim	Cara
Jessica	Darlene
Katy	Charlie
Elaine	Penny
Darrel	David
Jerry	Nate
Pat	Katie
Ann	
Tyler	
Tony	
Nick	
Dcn. Connie	
Mary Beth	

There is an old table grace which says, "Christ in the wilderness five thousand fed, with two small fishes and five loaves of bread. May the God above, who made that division, descend upon us and our provision. Amen." Perhaps you can use it this week as you thank God for the great variety of gifts God gives us.