

Calendar

This Week at St. John's

August 9, 2026

Sunday August 9 (11 Pentecost)	10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/COP) Outreach Ministry Group
Monday August 10 (Laurence of Rome)		
Tuesday August 11 (Clare of Assisi)	10:00 a.m.	St. Clare's Guild
Wednesday August 12 (Feria)	6:00 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II
Thursday August 13 (St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Tr.)	12:00 p.m.	Mass & Anointing
Friday August 14 (Jonathan Myrick Daniels)		
Saturday August 15 (St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ) Ice Cream Treats!	4:00 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II
Sunday August 16 (12 Pentecost) Sundae Sunday!	10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/COP) Green Team

About the Readings

Kings 19:9-18

The prophet Elijah was active in the northern kingdom of Israel in the middle of the ninth century BC. He was an opponent of King Ahab and his wife Jezebel, who supported the worship of Baal and other Canaanite fertility gods. Today's passage follows Elijah's demonstration that Yahweh is in control of the forces of nature and is mightier than Baal. Elijah then flees the vengeance of Jezebel. An angel strengthens him on his journey to Horeb. God's revelation to Elijah echoes God's revelation to Moses. Like Moses, Elijah receives a revelation and a commission from the LORD. Like Moses, Elijah has gone through conflict with royalty and is fleeing for his life. Like Moses, he feels inadequate to the task but is sent back into the fray. Verses 11b-12 are interpreted by commentators in various ways: as a sign that God works not in the external wonders of nature but through internal communication with servants of the LORD; or as a lesson to the fiery Elijah that God works in a quiet way as well as through miracle-working; or as a private inspiration for a public mission. The Lord's commands indicate God's sovereignty over history; the nations are God's to dispose.

Romans 10:5-15

In the letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul also speaks of the saving power of the Lord: "For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" In the verses for today, Paul begins by dispelling the notion that we can earn salvation and put God under our obligation. When there is an established set of rules, a person may expect credit for obeying them. As indicated in verse 5, Moses himself proposed that righteousness comes from the law. But no one can climb to heaven to bring the climax of revelation down to us. Nor is the Anointed One to be sought in the depths. Instead, Paul cites Deuteronomy 30:14 that God's "word is near you, on your lips and in your heart." This is the word of faith that proclaims Jesus as Lord—with total trust that God has raised him from the dead. It is this faith and not our accomplishments that secure salvation. Verse 12 adds that salvation by God's grace applies to Jew and Gentile alike. To call upon the name of the Lord is to be assured of salvation, and no one who believes in God's Messiah will be put to shame.

Matthew 14:22-33

The Gospel account of Jesus walking on the water and calming the storm is another example of God's saving actions as the disciples witness to the lordship of Jesus. After the miracle of the miraculous feeding, Jesus dismisses the crowd and sends the disciples ahead in the boat while he goes up the mountain to pray. As evening falls, a gale comes up on the Sea of Galilee. Throughout the night, the disciples struggle against strong winds and battering waves. Early in the morning, they are terrified when they see Jesus walking toward them across the water—they think they are seeing a ghost. But the presence of Jesus is real, and he immediately reassures them to "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." The phrase "it is I" serves as the Divine name in Old Testament writings, and further affirms the divinity of Jesus. The Gospels of Mark and John also tell the story of Jesus walking on the water, but do not include the incident about Peter. Only in Matthew do the disciples acknowledge the divinity of Jesus; Mark writes that "their hearts were hardened." Not until the experience of the crucifixion and Resurrection would they perceive that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In fact, some scholars speculate that today's story actually derives from a Resurrection appearance.

Saint John's Episcopal Church

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

(Commentaries from *Preparing for Sunday*)

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 from the general fund.

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. 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 22, 10:30-11a.m., reading *Little Blue Truck* by Alice Shertle. 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 to 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 Episcopal Church.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas – Hutchinson; The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Cowell, Bishop; and for Bishop Spencer Place.

Birthdays

August 10 Jordan Cooper
Kathy Devore
Patricia Schultz
August 11 Clara Bradley
Maxandra Samaneigo
August 12 Jakob Osborn
August 13 Thomas Heydt
August 14 Jasmine Gamel
Marybeth Lyon
Frank Merica
Lexie Roop

Faithful Departed

August 8 Myrna Berry
Frank Leathers
Julius Seifert
August 9 Wilbur Wickizer
Charles Winn
August 10 George Huntsman
Maude Osenbaugh
August 8 Myrna Berry
Frank Leathers
Julius Seifert
August 9 Wilbur Wickizer
Charles Winn
August 10 George Huntsman
Maude Osenbaugh
August 11 Lester R. Langsford

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	Rosea
Tyler	Jim & Mary
Tony	
Nick	
Dcn. Connie	
Mary Beth	

Impetuous Peter ... so quick to want to show his faith and trust in Jesus ... and so equally quick to fall back in fear when the wind intruded. How often do we, attempting to live as God's stewards, let the winds of the world make us falter in our trust for the ever-present heavenly mercy? Thankfully, over and over Jesus says, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."