

Calendar

Sunday 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation Hour
September 13 10:30 a.m. **Mass ~ Rite II** (In-person/COP)
 (16 Pentecost) 12:15 p.m. Outreach Ministry Group

Monday
September 14
 (Holy Cross Day)

Tuesday
September 15
 (Catherine of Genoa)

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. **Mass ~ Rite II**
September 16 Dinner
 (Ninian) 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Choir

Thursday 12:00 p.m. **Mass & Anointing**
September 17
 (Hildegard of Bingen)

Friday
September 18
 (Edward Bouverie Pusey)

Saturday
September 19
 (Theodore of Tarsus)

Sunday 9:15 a.m. Adult Formation Hour
September 20 10:30 a.m. **Mass ~ Rite II** (In-person/COP)
 (17 Pentecost) 12:15 p.m. The Green Team
 4:00 p.m. **Mass ~ Rite II**

This Week at St. John's

September 13, 2026

About the Readings

Genesis 50:15-21

This reading concludes the Joseph cycle of stories. Joseph's brothers fulfill the dream with which the stories began (37:5-11; 42:6; 44:14). The author repeats the theme that God used the brothers' wickedness, the Egyptian slavery and the injustice of Potiphar's household to accomplish good for Joseph, his family and even for the Egyptians. Joseph remains in a right relationship with God, trusting God's purposes, yielding to God's sovereignty and recognizing God's authority to judge. He saw the years of suffering and alienation from his family as God's plan: "God sent me" (45:5, 7-8).

Romans 14:1-12

Paul calls for mutual respect, tolerance, and the reconciliation that comes when we acknowledge that we are the Lord's. To God alone belongs judgment, and to God alone are we ultimately accountable.

Matthew 18:21-35

Matthew further illustrates the instructions on forgiveness that Jesus introduced in 18:15-20 by focusing on the radical pronouncement of Jesus that there is to be no limit on forgiveness toward those who sin against us. The reading begins with Peter, in his role as spokesman for the disciples, asking how often one should forgive another—"As many as seven times?" Peter thought that he was being generous in suggesting that one ought to forgive seven times; but Jesus replies that one ought to forgive seventy-seven times. (These numbers are the same as those in Gen. 4:24: "If Cain is avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold.") However, the exact number is not the point here. Jesus is saying that there is to be no limit on forgiveness. The spirit of forgiveness should so pervade our lives that we simply lose count of how many times we are required to forgive. Elsewhere in the Gospel we find that the appeal for God's mercy can be made only by those who show mercy to others. Thus, we are always to look to our own repentance before God.



Saint John's Episcopal Church
 515 E. Division Street, Springfield, MO 65803
 (417) 869-6351

website: www.stjohnsspringfield.diowestmo.org
<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 from the general fund.

Attention: The Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will move to a new day and time! The last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will be September 12. Starting September 20, the new Mass time and day will be Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Let Fr. Ben know if you have any questions. Mark your calendars!

Outreach Ministry Group: There are over 1,000 children in foster care in Greene, Christian and Taney Counties. *Crosslines* Ambassadors for Children provides basic necessities and services to build self-esteem for children and youth in foster care. Twice a year, they're able to select brand-new clothes and shoes from the Clothing Boutique. During September and October we're collecting new items they have requested. They need girls and boys pajamas; boys sneakers sizes 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; strawberry cake mix and frosting.

Chili Cook-Off: The Outreach Ministry Group is hosting the annual Chili Cook-Off on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. to benefit *Crosslines* Ambassadors for Children. We'll have a speaker to share information about their program. Please sign up if you would like to bring a pot of chili. Then there will be plenty of varieties to enjoy and vote on with your dollar bills. Hot dogs, dessert and drinks will be provided. The Outreach Ministry Group is suggesting a donation of \$5.00 with all proceeds to benefit Crosslines Ambassadors for Children. The silent auction begins on October 4 and continues until the deadline during the Chili Cook-Off. Please bring your baskets or items for the silent auction by October 3.

Flowers for the Altar: Just a reminder that the Altar Flowers sign-up sheet and instructions are 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!

Wednesday Night Dinner, September 16th: Please be sure to sign up for the Wednesday Night Dinner. The sign-up sheets are in the hall across from the parish hall. It is important that we have an accurate count for the caterer.

Christian Formation Class: Classes start back up soon for the fall! Fr. Ben will offer *Tools for the Journey* on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m., starting September 13 through October 11. As one of the disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray..." (Luke 11:1). Throughout the years, the Church has continued to make this request and has listened intently to the ways in which Jesus has responded. In *Tools for the Journey*, join Fr Ben in this exploration of both what prayer can mean in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition and different prayer practices developed over the years to enrich and nourish our relationships with God.

On Wednesday nights after the Mass, starting September 16, weekly dinner and Bible study will resume. Join us for dinner, Bible study and good fellowship together as we dive into the Book of Psalms. Please be sure to bring your favorite Bible from home for this class. If you have questions about these up-coming classes, contact Fr. Ben.

Free Gift Shop Books are available on the glass cases in the parish hall!

Intercessions

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Trenton; Mr. Peter Allen, Bishop's Warden; and for the Clergy Spouses & Surviving Spouses.

Birthdays

September 12	Jason Becker Michelle Sage
September 15	Shanna Robertson
September 16	Martha Cutting Larry McMillen
September 17	Julia Merica
September 18	Jonny Carter Sherry Iott
September 19	Britaney Johnson

Anniversary

September 12	Eric & Jill Vahldick
September 13	Blake & Cinnamon Smith
September 14	Donald & Stephanie McCoy

Faithful Departed

September 12	William R. Webb, II
September 13	Vincent Bondi
September 14	Elaine Crabtree Homer Ingenthron
September 15	Eliza White
September 16	William Decatur Phillip Vicory
September 18	Jerrold Bachus
September 19	Leva L. Hiler

Prayer Requests

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

"Not seven times, but seventy times seven" says Jesus about how often we should forgive others. How hard it is for us not to hang on to our hurts and (real or imagined) "sins against us." But if we truly want to live our lives in God, we need to use His extravagant model and not allow the "energy leak" of nursing those grudges and hurts to affect our own serenity and acceptance.