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ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMING · DIVERSE · PROGRESSIVE

RESTON, VIRGINIA · WWW.STANNES-RESTON.ORG

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A huge THANK YOU to all who made our wonderful Christmas services possible! We truly celebrated the gift of Immanuel, God with us, this Christmastide.

A special thank you to Angie for her tireless work on the beautiful bulletins, to Rob and the choir for sharing the powerful gift of song, to Shannon for directing a phenomenal Christmas pageant, to Rick for leading the youth handbells, to all the children, youth, adult volunteers, and families who supported the pageant, and to all who served throughout the Christmas season!!

St Anne's is truly an amazing community and outpouring of Christ's love. Enjoy the photos from Christmas Eve, taken by Martha Furniss.



Epiphany Star Words

On Sunday we received star words as part of our worship. This has become a tradition for St. Anne's – to claim a word as a gift from God and a guide in the new year.

If you weren't able to make it to St. Anne's on Sunday, or would still like to receive a star word, you can [click here to go to a website](#) created by The Rev. Sarah Kye Price,

Formation Director of the St. Phoebe School for Deacons. Once there, click on one of the stars in the graphic to receive your epiphany star word!

The word is meant to be your word for the year - a word to reflect on, a word to strive for, a word to challenge you, and a word to inspire you.

Following are some questions to help you in your journey:



- What synonyms are there for your word?
- Where can you find your word in Scripture? Which Scripture passage is your favorite? Do any of these passages make you cringe?
- What is the antonym for your word, noting that it is important to understand the void that exists when your word is not present?
- How does your word help you to understand the sacraments of communion and baptism?
- What hymn embodies your word?
- How does your word enhance worship, devotion, spiritual formation, and discipleship?

Star Words Prayer:

God, we acknowledge that we are not always ready to receive your best gifts for us. You have given us an epiphany word in order that our searching will bring us to you. It is often our habit to turn aside, stumble over, or even reject experiences and encounters that we later understand to have been precious gifts. Help us to be open to the gift that you offer us now through our star words. We acknowledge that we do not fully understand what this word might mean for our faith, but we receive it from you with gratitude and pray that your Spirit will enable us to live into our word with intention and faithfulness. Amen.

Final Call for Visioning Sessions for Adults and Youth!

- **TONIGHT! Thursday, January 8 via Zoom (7 PM) & this Sunday, January 11, in person (11:30 AM):** [Sign up here](#) (also see zoom link info below)
- **Youth Group session will be this Sunday in Room 1 at 4:00 PM:** [Sign up here](#)

As you have probably heard by now, St. Anne's is in the process of developing a vision for our future. We've held a number of visioning sessions, both in person and on Zoom, to garner YOUR ideas as to where God may be calling us next.

To this end, we are setting up the LAST of the facilitated visioning groups to brainstorm ideas. Upon completion of the visioning sessions, the ideas will be collated and analyzed for trends in opinions, or even a possible consensus.

If you haven't participated in one of these visioning groups yet, this is your last chance! Please sign up for the Zoom session happening THIS THURSDAY, January 8 at 7 pm or for an in-person session after the 10:00 AM service on January 11.

Please register for either session by [clicking here to sign up for one of the available 90-minute brainstorming sessions](#).

Zoom information for tonight is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739318732>

Envisioning the Future of St. Anne's...

FINAL SESSIONS

Join in the discussion on the direction in which God is leading St. Anne's!

In addition, a **visioning session for youth will be held this Sunday, January 11, in Room 1 from 4:00-6:00 PM**. Does the youth room need changes? Let's talk. More acolyte training? We can do that. Do you think we need to build a waterslide in the parking lot? That's probably not going to happen. But come let us know anyway! [Click here to sign up for the youth visioning session.](#)

Support FACETS Hypothermia Shelter

Saturday, January 17, 2026

St. Anne's needs your help to support the FACETS hypothermia shelter at Epiphany Episcopal Oak Hill happening next Saturday, Jan. 17. Please consider volunteering your time to serve dinner, to prepare a side dish to have re-heated and served to our neighbors, or to simply drop off a food item, newspaper or magazine.



Note that you do NOT have to attend in order to participate. We still need food (side dishes, etc), magazines, newspapers, etc. that can simply be dropped off. Or donate money to help purchase chicken for the main dish.

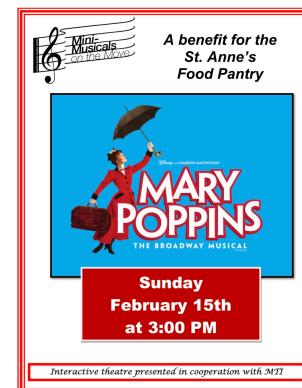
[Click here to sign up to provide food or to volunteer.](#) You may also [donate money to help pay for the chicken dish by clicking here](#) and then choose "give to hypothermia project" in the drop-down menu.

Questions? Please [contact Bruce Edgerton.](#)

Mary Poppins is Making a Stop at St. Anne's!

Sunday, February 15, 2026, 3:00 PM

Join us on February 15 at 3PM, when Mary Poppins flies into St. Anne's for the afternoon! Mini Musicals on the Move will perform *Mary Poppins* as a benefit for the St. Anne's Food Pantry. The show will feature our own Daria Antonucci as Mary Poppins, and her husband Larry Travis as Mr. Banks! The show will include sing-alongs for the audience so it's perfect for families (or as Mary Poppins would say....it's "practically perfect in every way!").



Admission is free, but donations to expand the reach of the St. Anne's Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted. Put it in your calendar now because you won't want to miss this fun performance for all ages!

Pantry Update

At the December food distribution the St. Anne's Food Pantry provided pre-packed bags of groceries, frozen meat, fresh produce and a wide variety of food choice items to 119 families total. These families had 327 family members, including 98 children, 120 adults and 109 senior citizens. The Food Pantry was able to provide this food thanks to the hard work of 47 volunteers and the generosity of the St. Anne's congregation in providing funding for the food pantry. To all of you volunteers and congregation members, please accept our gratitude.



Also at the December pantry we served 37 customers and distributed 56 packages of diapers. Many customers are asking others to pick up diapers for them. Customers come to the pantry with their friends' cards as well as their own. We were also able to offer toys and children's gently used clothing. They were very appreciative.

We are out of the various types of baby formula and had some requests for it. The basic pantry baby items are diapers and wipes; everything else is a bonus, but it's nice to offer baby food items when we have them.

Thank you all for your continued generosity. Happy New Year!

Migrant Accompaniment Training

Saturday, January 17, 9:30 AM - 12:30PM

Location announced after registration

Learn how to provide practical and emotional support during ICE/ISAP check-ins and court hearings, easing the impact of a dehumanizing immigration system. Whether offering transportation, being a compassionate witness, or simply showing up with a caring presence, your support makes all the difference.



More information and registration can be found by [clicking here](#).

Interested in a National Cathedral Tour?

This Saturday, January 10 at 10:00AM

This Saturday, January 10th at 10AM, Emily Muha (who is a docent at Washington National Cathedral) has arranged private tours for St. Anne's Elementary age Sunday School youth (K-5th grade) and their family. Duration is approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes.

Two options are available for parents:

Option # 1

For the Sunday School Children (K-5th grade), Emily will lead a scavenger hunt throughout the Cathedral to find surprising critters and creatures. The scavenger hunt will feature picture clues and a map to find hidden animals like butterflies, dinosaurs, and panda cubs in the Cathedral's artwork. Cost per child is \$12. Cost per Parent joining child on Scavenger hunt is \$17.



Option #2 for parents:

While your child is on scavenger hunt throughout the cathedral with Emily Muha, parents have an option of going on a private Behind the Scenes tour of the cathedral with Dora Currea (a fabulous long time docent at the cathedral). Discover the Cathedral's hidden stories as you marvel at the building's artistry and engineering. Journey through stone stairwells and passageways to see stained glass windows up close and magnificent views. Cost for Parent for the Behind the Scenes Tour is \$40.

The Option #2 tour is:

- Not for those with fear of heights or those with limited mobility. All participants must be able to climb stairs. Be prepared for a variety of spaces that include close quarters, dim lighting, stair climbing, and heights.

- All participants must be at least 11 years old; those aged 11 to 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Infants cannot be carried on Behind the Scenes Tours.
- By purchasing tickets for a Behind the Scenes Tour, you acknowledge that you and everyone in your party are physically able to participate in the tour.

If you/your child is interested, please [email Emily Muha](#) and [Mtr Kara](#) today to let them know.

Coats Still Being Collected

We're truly blessed and grateful for the coats we have received thus far and we pray that you'll continue donating to this need as the temperatures dip and the need increases. Your generosity and kindness goes a long way and is appreciated.



Help provide a warm, fresh start to those who are newly released from prison. OAR (Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources) of Fairfax needs gently used, clean, washable, water-resistant coats in sizes AS to AXXXXL for men and women. They cannot use dressy, long wool coats that need to be dry-cleaned.

An OAR labeled box for donations is available in the Narthex. Together let's bring warmth to our neighbors and to our hearts and make the world a better place through our collective actions.

Please feel free to [email Shon Cooper](#) if you have any questions or interest in volunteering to this ministry.

Seen Around St. Anne's...



Enjoy this video, created by Eileen Ellis, capturing our Bee Team's full start-to-finish production of St. Anne's 2025 honey! 🍯



A new part to the HVAC unit (heat exchanger) had to be placed on the roof this morning. Hopefully this will help get our library and office warmed up again!

St. Anne's Vestry

Daria Antonucci, James Brooks (senior warden), Sarah Brummett, Bernadette Capelle, Rosie Horn, Carol Leos, Christian Pelfrey, Clifton Poole, Suzanne Robinson, Nancy Santoro, Charlie Saunders (junior warden), Cat Tucker, The Very Rev. Jessica Holthus (rector & chair), The Rev. Kara Laughlin (associate rector for discipleship)

Contact Us

[The Very Reverend Jessica Holthus](#), Rector
[The Reverend Kara Laughlin](#), Associate Rector for Discipleship
[Robert Hamilton](#), Music Director
[James Brooks](#), Senior Warden
[Sheri Schaffer](#), Parish Administrator
[Angie Gray](#), Office Administrator

Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We are available by phone and email at other times. We check the office voicemail at (703) 437-6530 regularly.

The **deadline to submit an announcement for enews is 12:00 pm on Tuesdays.** [Email it to Sheri](#). In addition to the text of your announcement, include any graphics, photos and links in your email.

To reserve space at St. Anne's for an upcoming meeting/event, [email Sheri](#) with the date, time and number of people you expect in attendance.



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