

## St. Saviour's Grace Notes and Updates for December 25, 2020

Stay tuned as more information on our new Priest - In - Charge, elect,  
The Reverend Holly Hoffmann becomes available!

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### **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

This year the MDI Episcopal community will offer an online YouTube Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve, with participation from all the congregations on the Island and an online Christmas Day Holy Eucharist from St Mary's Chapel at 10 am. The services will be viewed by clicking on [this MDI Episcopal link](#) or it can be seen on the MDI local channel by Jeff Dobbs Production. (We will send you details next week)

### **CHRISTMAS COMMUNION**

From 12 noon to 3 pm on Christmas Day, parishioners may come to St. Saviour's to receive Holy Communion (bread only gluten free available) at the Rectory Common door. No registration is necessary -- come with yourself, your family, and your neighbors!

If you would like **Communion** brought to you at home this year - please stay safe everyone - a **Runner for Christ** will deliver Christmas Communion safely to your door during Christmas week. Call or email your church office and leave your name, address and phone number so we can call you to arrange a day and time. St. Saviour's parishioners call 288-4215 or email [info@stsaviours.me](mailto:info@stsaviours.me).

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[Click here to find out about Sacred Ground: A Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race & Faith](#)

### **Winter/Spring study group on racism, racial healing, racial justice and reconciliation**

- **Part of the Episcopal Church Becoming Beloved Community initiative**
- **Documentary film and text-based learning with small group discussion twice monthly**
- **Open to the MDI Episcopal community** (registration for the entire series is required)

Sacred Ground is an Episcopal-developed series of gatherings that are “part of the Becoming Beloved Community initiative of The Episcopal Church, a long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. ...This is a race dialogue series designed for these times. It is an attempt to be responsive to the profound challenges that currently exist in our society. It is focused on the challenges that swirl around issues of race and racism, as well as the difficult but respectful and transformative dialogue we need to have with each other about them. It invites participants to walk back through history in order to peel away the layers that brought us to today, and to do so in a personal way, reflecting on family histories and stories, as well as important narratives that shape the collective American story. It holds the vision of beloved community as a guiding star – where all people are honored and protected and nurtured as beloved children of God, where we weep at one another's pain and seek one another's flourishing.” (Quotes are from the Episcopal Church Sacred Ground website at:

<https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>)

More information from the Episcopal Church about this program is available on the web at:

<https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/participant-preparation-guide>.

Gail Leiser and Jayne Ashworth will facilitate the study for the MDI Episcopal community. Specific details (dates, time commitment, materials to be used, etc.) about the local program can be found on the MDI Episcopal website at <http://mdi-episcopal.org/blog2/2020/11/22/mdi-episcopal-sacred-ground-winter-spring-2021/>. We encourage you to visit this site as you consider your participation in the MDI Sacred Ground program.

This study is part of a journey that requires an openness and willingness to examine our histories, our current lives, and how structural racism affects everything we know, including our faith. We hope that you will prayerfully consider making a commitment to joining us. If you have questions or are interested in becoming a part of the circle for Sacred Ground here on MDI, please contact Jayne Ashworth ([jayne.ashworth@gmail.com](mailto:jayne.ashworth@gmail.com), (207) 244-5985) or Gail Leiser ([gail.leiser@gmail.com](mailto:gail.leiser@gmail.com), (207) 288-9083). Should you need financial assistance for obtaining the books needed for the study, please contact Rev. Stephen Muncie: [stephenmuncie@mac.com](mailto:stephenmuncie@mac.com).

We look forward to hearing from you. Jayne and Gail

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**Our Stewardship mailing has been sent out and please consider your pledge prayerfully for 2021 and return it as soon as you can. We know some of you have your envelopes sitting under your Christmas paperwork on your desks!**

**Your Vestry will be working on the budget for 2021 soon.**

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**Worship, education and musical offerings on MDI available Online**

Check out St Andrew and St. John’s website for MUSIC anytime: [www.saintsmdi.org](http://www.saintsmdi.org)

Thanks to Stephen Sampson, Jayne Ashworth and Michael Shook, you may enjoy some piano music on the St. Andrew & St. John website. On the menu on the left-hand side of the home page there is now a link titled ‘Music,’ and clicking on that link brings you to recordings of piano pieces by Stephen Sampson.

**Wednesdays at 10:30 am: BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF JOHN.** Fr. Steve Muncie will again lead this Zoom Bible Study. If you would like to participate, you may [email Steve Muncie here](#) to be added to the mailing list for the study. We will be using the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) translation of the Bible but you may use any translation you have on hand. [Click Here to join the ZOOM Bible Study at 10:30 am Wednesday](#)

**Wednesdays at 5:30 pm “Music & Chatter”** from Church of Our Father! The program will take about 30 minutes. The idea is to keep us all involved and up to date. It can be seen on the MDI Episcopal You Tube channel. Click on this link: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-fGpm4\\_aFoi0mNvMiXhSwg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-fGpm4_aFoi0mNvMiXhSwg).

[Sunday's service can be seen anytime after 8 am by clicking on this link.](#)

[Click here for the Order of Worship](#)

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**What is happening** during your Covid limited days? We would love to hear how you are filling your time and any suggestions you have for folks! Articles and photos for The Voice are welcome! Email [info@stsaviours.me](mailto:info@stsaviours.me).

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Remember that while the buildings may be closed, the expenses of the church continue and our outside income has been reduced significantly. Your pledges are more important than ever...

Please consider mailing in your donations as you are able, to  
St. Saviour's Church, 41 Mt. Desert Street, Bar Harbor, ME 04609.

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**Prayers and Thanksgivings:**

We pray for all essential services personnel, the first responders and healthcare workers dealing with this pandemic. We pray for John Stewart, Ellie Batchelder, Ruth Westphal\* , Gretchen Westphal, Lucy Triplett\*\*, Gail Leland, Christopher Lebida, Nancy Camerario and her family, Christopher Walls, Linda Carman, Mary Smith, John Fibiger, Ray McDonald, Emily O’Connor, Sarah Cleaves, Barbara Dube, Nicholas, Bradley Seavey, Janet Flood, Rachel, Kendra Riley, Bob Frazier, Mimi, Charlie, Sarah B., Dickie, Alex, Penny Ayer, Arletta Sullivan, Anne Cleaves and Pauline Hartin. *Please let us know of updates.*

\*Ruth Westphal is now living with a daughter in New Hampshire and would love to hear from folks. Her address is 214 Roxbury Road, Sanbornton, NH 03269.

\*\* Lucy Triplett has moved to Birch Bay, 215 Village Inn Rd., Apt 222, Bar Harbor, ME 04609

We offer prayers of thanksgiving to those families that usually donate altar flowers from January through June, in memory of their loved ones: Paul Coston, Jr., Trisha Nolan, Jean Davis, Althea Curtis Higgins, Carmen Greene, Amy Sussman, Susanne Wheat Weast and Lee Garrett.

**We give thanks for the following birthdays!**

No birthdays this week. Please let us know if we don't have your birthdate to celebrate! Email [info@stsaviours.me](mailto:info@stsaviours.me)

**We ask your prayers for the following parishioners, friends and their families during this pandemic**

12/26-1/1/21

Saturday: Katharine Hathaway, Lissa and Mel Hodder, Michael and Catherine James, Elizabeth and Edward Johnson, Barbara and Buck Jardine

Sunday: Lois Keithly and John Baker, Debbie Kiley, Bill and Mary Jane Kirk, Gail and Rick Leiser

Monday: Charlie and Marsha Lyons, Lucinda and John McPhee, Louise Millar, Emilie Miller,

Tuesday: Mary and Robert Naftzger, John Nevius, May Nevius, Byron and Emilie Nimocks, Patricia Nolan

Wednesday: Sandy Paine, Al Pappas, Nancy Parr, Debbie and Wayne Parlee, Diane and Robert Phipps

Thursday: Ty Proctor, Daniel Pyle, Catherine Bull, Eleanor Raynes, Norris Reddish, Jenny Reece

Friday: Carolyn Reed, Emily Samuel and Don Dalton, Pat and Roger Samuel, SueAnn Sargent, Nanette and David Schoeder, Andrea Horner Semels

A suggestion for a prayer: "Today I offer prayers for -,-,-. Surround them with your love, comfort them when anxious or lonely and grant them your peace."

Please let us know if you would like to be added to this prayer list. We wish you good health and we all pray for a speedy end to this virus!

**Confidential Prayer Chain:** Unlike our published prayer lists, prayer requests that come into the Prayer Chain remain private to the prayer chain itself, which will pray devotedly for one week unless an updated request is made. If you'd like to know more about this or our Pastoral Care Team, please contact Sue Blaisdell or call the church at 288-4215.

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**Sermons and more online!**

Information on everything happening at St. Saviour's is available at our website, just click [<here>](#)

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**The Episcopal Diocese of Maine**

**Interested in what is happening at and through the Diocese? [Here is the link to take you there.](#)**

**The Dio Log**, a newsletter sent twice a month: <https://episcopalmaine.org/news/dio-log>

**COVID-19 Updates & Resources:** <https://episcopalmaine.org/info-for-churches/resources-covid19>

**Worship Online with Congregations in Maine:** <https://episcopalmaine.org/congregations-hidden/congregations/live-stream-services-maine>

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**Local AA recovery groups are returning to St. Saviour's Parish Hall in small groups on Saturdays and Mondays at 7 pm in small groups. For a full list of daily Zoom online aa meetings, click here: [AA Virtual Meeting List.!](#)**

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**Other online worship and continuing spiritual offerings:**

National Cathedral in Washington DC is cathedral.org <https://cathedral.org/worship/service-archive/>  
Forward Movement has the daily office (morning prayer, noonday prayer, evening prayer, or compline) on the Forward Movement Daily Prayer [website](#). There is also a daily podcast, **A Morning at the Office**, with various people leading the prayers and reading the scripture lessons for the day. The popular daily devotion *Forward Day by Day* is **posted each day online**, and it too is **available as a podcast**