What comes to your mind when you think of November? Thanksgiving? Veterans' Day? Election Day? Mary's Market and Fall festivals? The dread of accidentally showing up to church an hour early with the end of daylight saving time?!

For me, November begins and ends with very special days. All Saints’ Day is November 1 and we at St. Mary’s observe this holy day on the first Sunday in November: our Christian Formation programming and worship being shaped in special ways around this occasion. The evening is also marked by the beautiful evensong liturgy - a gift of the Anglican tradition that offers a moving experience of worship in the beauty of holiness. All Saints’ Day is a day to recall the powerful examples and witnesses of Christian living that we’ve received from the pillars of the faith throughout history... those who inspire us by their trust in God and the Christian hope, convict us by their courage, and bid us to grow by their teaching. We can learn much from them as we discern faithful Christian responses to our own challenging situations today.

The other special November day for me is the 29th: the anniversary of my baptism. On this day in 1981, the Rev. Jim Alves of St. Christopher’s Church (New Carrollton, MD) baptized me amidst a congregation who affirmed the apostolic faith of Christ Jesus and promised to uphold me in my life of faith. Indeed, they have been saints to me - a few were even present at our Celebration of New Ministry. I recently read the sermon preached at my baptism. It proclaimed “God gives us in baptism a wider fellowship - His body, the church, in which to be fed and nurtured.”

This year, I am reminded of the miraculous connection between these two November days: that the “wider fellowship” of the church extends to include those people physically present at a baptism, to all other Christians in every place, and even in every time... even those who have entered into Christ’s eternal glory ahead of us. The faith we proclaim in baptism, through the Christian hope of resurrection, ties us powerfully to all believers in every age and place.

I plan to light votive candles on All Saints’ Day and my baptismal candle on November 29, offering prayers of thanksgiving for all that God has done and in celebration of God's amazing grace and gift of new life in Him each and every day. What a privilege it is serve Christ! I encourage you to pause in the coming weeks to give thanks for the saints in your life and ask for guidance in how God is calling you to saintly living today.

Your in Christ,
Tom+
All Saints’ Sunday and Evensong, November 4th
For all the saints, who from their labors rest - All Saints’ Sunday is a deeply meaningful feast day to recall the faithful in Christ who have gone before us. We will observe this feast day on Sunday morning, Nov 4. Later that evening, at 5pm, the choir will lead us in an All Saints’ Evensong. During this service, the names of those who have been interred in the St. Francis’ Garden will be named in prayer, along with the names of other loved ones who have been listed on the Roll of Remembrance. It always is a very moving time of thanking God for these lives that have touched ours and also for giving witness to Christ’s resurrection. Come out Sunday evening, November 4th at 5:00pm to celebrate the saints that have gone before us in a beautiful Evensong.

Compline Under the Stars
Sunday, November 25, 2018 at 6:15pm
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church West Lawn

Be sure to check out the St. Mary’s bookstore for Advent and Christmas resources and gifts ~ COMING SOON!

From the Parish Register
Death of Mrs. Dorothy Harvey on October 18th (mother of Dr. Will Harvey)
Death of Mr. Oscar Greene, Jr. on October 25th
Mary’s Market

22nd Annual Thanksgiving Event
Sunday, November 18th, Noon - 2:00 pm

Mary’s Market will be here before we know it! Last year we changed our business model to pre-orders, coupled with a great bakery section, all built around holiday meals with specialty items that complement these dinners. Well, it worked! We tried it on for size, and so far, we think it fits! So, we’re doing it again!

Please note that quantities of pre-orders will be limited so you will want to respond quickly. The deadline to place orders and pay for the item is November 7th. By now, you should have received an email with the flyer attached so you may forward it to others who might want to order or attend. The email also contains a link to the church website where you can download the flyer and order form.

We hope all of you are planning on making lots of items for our now-famous bakery section. We welcome all kinds of homemade cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, cheese straws, breads... anything that makes losing weight hard. Please package and wrap all of your items as attractively as you can. This really helps to sell our “goodies.”

Please bring your bakery items to Moseley Hall on Saturday, November 17th, between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. This will be a big help, as we will have to price these items to be ready to sell the next day.

A delicious lunch will be served at this year’s market by the ECW. Lunch tickets are $10 at the door. There also will be a $500 RAFFLE at $5 a ticket.

This year ECW is passionate and committed to outreach projects with a focus on hurricane relief. As always, it is the goal of the St. Mary’s Market to provide for needs both within the Parish and in surrounding communities.

Let’s put on our aprons and shake and bake!
From the Choirmaster

The music ministry has begun with St. Cecilia Singers (ages 3-5), Training Choristers (K-5th grade), and Choristers (6th grade and above).

Recently the St. Cecilia Singers brought a joyful countenance to the congregation as they led the opening processional with their in sync rhythm to “Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness.” Look forward to hearing the St. Cecilia Singers in November with the sounds of “Jubilate!”

The Training Choristers joined the Chancel Choir in the beautiful anthem, “Lord, in thy mercy.” The Training Choristers are learning the basics of being a Chorister, good singing technique and elemental music training. They are currently working on “Jubilate” for a Sunday morning in November and “Alleluia” in December.

The Choristers continue to be exposed to wonderful anthems and work with the Chancel Choir. The boy choristers’ voices produce the sounds that are uniquely characteristic to this group. The girl choristers sing melodies that are reminiscent of holiness and clarity. The Choristers are working toward their first ribbon and medal through the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM). The goal of the Choristers is in singing to bring glory to God, to lift the hearts of the congregation, and to instill a sense of the majesty of Christ in who they are.
Music Ministry (continued from page 4)

THE CHORISTER’S PRAYER
Bless, O Lord, thy servants,
Who minister in thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips,
We may believe in our hearts,
And may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Boar’s Head 2019 Updates

Choir Practice:
Sunday, Nov 4th, 2-3:30pm
Sunday, Nov 11th, 2-3:30pm
(Sopranos & Altos)
Sunday, Nov 18th, 2-3:30pm
(Tenors & Basses)
Sunday, Dec 2nd, 4-5:30pm
Sunday, Dec 9th, 2-3:30pm
Wednesday, Jan 2nd, 6:30-8:30pm

Costume Fittings:
Wednesday, Nov 7th, 3-7pm
Wednesday, Nov 14th, 3-7pm
Sunday, Nov 18th, 11:45am-4pm
Sunday, Dec 9th, 11:45am-4pm
Sunday, Dec 16th, 11:45am-2pm

The Actual Festival!
Sat, Jan 5th, 9am: Mandatory Dress Rehearsal
Sun, Jan 6th, 3pm & 5 pm: Boar’s Head Festival

Mark your calendars for the annual community performance of Handel’s Messiah, held at First Presbyterian Church on Monday, December 17 at 7pm.

Because this is a community performance, all singers high school age and above are welcome to join this choir. Rehearsals will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Dr. John O’Brien. Contact Dr. O’Brien at OBRIENJ@ecu.edu.

Sunday, Nov 25th, 2:00-3:30 pm
Sunday, Dec 2nd, 2:00-3:30 pm
Sunday, Dec 9th, 5:00-7:30 pm
Sunday, Dec 16th, 3:30-5:00 pm
Monday, Dec 17th, 4:00-6:00 pm (dress rehearsal)
Monday, Dec 17th, 7:00 pm (performance)
Upcoming Vestry & Diocesan Selections

The Vestry of St. Mary’s has a vital role in the leadership of this parish. The responsibilities of the vestry encompass areas of leadership and management in partnership with the Rector. Serving on the Vestry of St. Mary’s is service to Christ Himself and is an honor and privilege.

Twelve Vestry members serve for rotating terms of three years each. Four Vestry members are elected each year at the Annual Parish Meeting that occurs on the second Sunday of Advent (December 9, 2018). Also elected at this time are the 3 delegates from St. Mary’s to the Diocesan Convention (February 7-9, 2019 in Wilmington).

Those qualified for nomination for election to the Vestry and Convention Delegate are required by canon to be a confirmed member, sixteen years or older, who has been faithful in corporate worship as evidenced by the receiving of Communion in this church three (3) times during the previous year, unless for good cause prevented; and, has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.

A list of parishioners who are eligible was sent via email on November 1 and is posted in the narthex. Members of the church are asked by the Vestry to nominate no more than 6 names from this list, either by emailing the names to lkelly@stmaryskinston.com or by printing the list, circling the names, and bringing the list to the church office. Emails or hard-copies must clearly show the name of the person submitting the nomination and must be received no later than 4:30pm on Tuesday, November 6, 2018.
An EYC Mad Lib for November

Directions: Team up with a friend and replace the blue words with new ones. Then, bring your completed puzzle to EYC for a prize!

Last month was packed with activities for EYC! We played hot potato, had a photo shoot, received advice from George Washington, went to Happening, dressed up to hand out water to runners and candy to trick-or-treaters, hung out to do homework, saw the play Little Women, flew in The Wizard of Oz, ate breakfast at BoJ’s, said “We will!” for Taco, spent some time with a few acorns, read about hitchhiking, talked about things, made worship worship, and took notes on Genesis through Numbers. Whew!

This month is awesome, too! Sundays, Tuesday mornings, and Wednesdays follow our regular sched except the following:

Sun, Nov 4th: Following Choral Evensong, we will show May It Last: A Portrait of the Avett Brothers in the Youth Room, complete with supper, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Wed, Nov 7th: Our 1st EYC dinner of the program year! Please come when you can to help prepare breakfast for dinner, and please stay to help clean up.

Wed, Nov 21st: EYC serves at Mary’s Kitchen! It’s EYC’s day-before-Thanksgiving tradition. Hope to see you there!

For those of you going to the Avett Brothers show at ECU and to Fall Conference at Trinity Center this month, HAVE A GREAT TIME!

Stay tuned for more special activities and diocesan events coming up in 2019, including a flood relief workday Feb 2nd, Chili Cookoff Feb 3rd, another Pilgrimage to DC, and Glory Ridge July 28–August 3rd!
Cherished Members and Friends Luncheon

Senior members of St. Mary’s and their friends are invited to the next luncheon to be held on Thursday, November 8, 2018. The luncheon gets underway at 11:30 a.m. in Moseley Hall.

If you’ve not been before we, why wait?! It’s a great time to get together with friends and enjoy a delicious meal.

Those planning to attend are asked to sign up in the Narthex or contact the Parish Office by Tuesday, November 6th. The luncheons are a ministry of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church Women.

Schedule of Worship Services

Sundays 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 am – Breakfast
9:30 am – Christian Formation for all ages
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:30 am - Coffee Hour & Lectionary Bible Study

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 am – Morning Prayer

St. Mary’s Vestry

2018
P.C. Barwick
Clifton Carey
Becky Darst
Dee Warner

2019
Juliet Barrus
Walt Poole
Jim Purnell
Jon Sargeant

2020
Jess Edwards
Gerry Fox
Whitney Grady
Jo Parrott

Senior Warden - Jon Sargeant
Junior Warden - Walt Poole
Clerk - Becky Darst
Treasurer - Stuart Lindley