

CATHEDRAL NOTICES

22 October 2017

*Welcome to all who worship here today.
If this is your first time here, please sign our guest book.*

The Cathedral Chapter is promoting a series of **get-togethers with Dean Harding** over the next several weeks. The hope is that these small, off-site gatherings will provide an opportunity for members of the Cathedral family to meet and speak with the Dean in more intimate, comfortable settings, and spark conversations and the exchange of ideas that provide the Dean with a greater sense of who we are as individuals and members of a faithful worshipping community. If anyone would like either to host or attend one of the meet-and-greets, please contact Keith St. John, at [518-424-2123](tel:518-424-2123) or stjohnkeith@gmail.com.

After only three weeks, we are halfway to reaching our goal of \$20,000 for the **2017 Angel Appeal**. Don't worry, it's not too late to make your donation. Your gift goes directly to support the Cathedral music ministry and The Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. We look forward to listing our donors in the 2017 *Messiah* program booklet. Thanks to everyone who has helped us reach our goal.

Dean Harding and Deacon Plaske will hold a weekly lunchtime Bible Study called **BLT: Bible Lunch Together** on Mondays at 12:45 at Au Bon Pain in the Empire State Plaza located on the Main Concourse. Please join us and please share this information with you family, friends, and co-workers.

The Friends of the Choir will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday 24 Oct at 6:45 p.m. in Pederson Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you are a donor to the Friends, you are considered a *member*, and this serves as your notification of the meeting. We hope to see you on the 24th!

Sunday 29 October is **Mission Sunday**. We will be collecting for Haiti Mission in Pouly. We are also renewing our efforts to collect non-perishables and hygiene items for area shelters. A basket is provided at the entrance.

The Diocesan Acolyte Festival will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday 28 October. Register online at brownpapertickets.com/event/3099321.

The Cathedral will observe its Feast of Title on **All Saints' Day** on Wednesday 1 November with a **congregational mass** in choir at 6 p.m. The Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys will sing **Choral Evensong** on **All Saints' Sunday**, 5 November at 3 p.m. and Brandon Dumas will play an organ recital that afternoon at 2:30. The service is followed by a reception in Pedersen Hall hosted by The Friends of the Choir.

Take a Turn With the Coffee Urn! A new sign-up sheet for those wishing to host Sunday Coffee Hour is now located in the back of the Nave. If you're interested in contributing, but you're shy about committing to a specific Sunday, please consider baking something and putting it in the Cathedral kitchen's freezer for use on a Sunday when refreshments are needed. Please contact Louis Bannister (Louis@EnchantedFloristAlbany.com or [518.229.7102](tel:518.229.7102)) for more information.

The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays from 9–2 and is eager to receive donated items. If you'd like to volunteer, please speak to Barbara Murman. Thank you for supporting this important ministry of the Cathedral.

Did you know that **Morning Prayer** is read in the Lady Chapel each morning at 8:30? Did you know that the **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated at the Cathedral every day at 12:05? Perhaps you work downtown and could consider attending and bringing a co-worker along with you? Perhaps you could mention this opportunity to someone you know someone who lives or works downtown?

Anglican Prayer Bead Group: Since the earliest of times, people have used pebbles or a string of knots or beads on a cord to keep track of prayers offered to God. Those interested in praying with Anglican Prayer Beads are invited to gather in St. Alban's Chapel at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Bring your own beads if you have them, or use those available. For more information, please speak with Louis Bannister 518-229-7102 Louis@EnchantedFloristAlbany.com.

Consecration Sunday is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday* Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Governing Board Chairperson,

Keith St. John

