



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
Post Office Box 441 / 307 Federal Street
Milton, Delaware 19968



www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org

The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

Season of Pentecost 2018

Dear Members and Friends of St. John the Baptist,

Praying you are enjoying time for relaxation, rest and renewal during these slower days of summer. For our parish, however, these days are anything but quiet or slow. At the very time that many of us are away on vacation, ministries at St. John the Baptist are increasing, in need of support, in need of you! Let me hold up some of them for your participation.

This coming Wednesday, July 18, and continuing the five Wednesdays following, ending August 15, we are inviting every child you can think of, ages 4-12, for "Wednesdays with God's Buddies," our version of Vacation Bible School. This year's exciting theme is "Rolling River Rampage," inviting children on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God! Through relevant music, exciting science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories, kids will learn that God is with them through anything. The adventure begins each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., with dinner, and concludes at 7:30 p.m. Deacon Paula is participating! Will you please take a moment to think of the children in your life that you might invite and bring?

Every Thursday through August 30, beginning with sandwich-making at 10:30 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m., we are distributing bag lunches (sandwich, fruit, dessert and bottled water) to the children of Milton. Maybe you can't come every Thursday, but we very much need you when you can come!

This coming Wednesday, July 18, there will be a "Weeding Party." The weed-pulling—weeds don't take a vacation!—commences at 8:30 a.m. Our gardens are the talk of Milton, but it's only through the hard work of you, our volunteers, that we will be able to keep our landscape looking its very best.

Bring your sharp scissors to the workshop on Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 a.m., to continue cutting Christmas stockings for our "Stockings for Soldiers" ministry. We are now cutting the stockings from festive Christmas fabrics, which are then sewed, and finally filled with items needed by our dedicated military personnel. You will be asked to contribute these items in the late summer and fall.

These ministries of Christ *will not happen* without your support! Please, each of you, all of you, respond graciously and generously with your time and talent, our "Thank you!" to God for the grace God has lavished upon us in the redeeming Christ. My grandma used to say, we've all heard it, "Many hands make light work!" How true! Also, the fellowship we share as we come together for these activities is both uplifting and delightful.

You are in for a surprise tomorrow! The organ in our sanctuary, an electronic organ, has been given a new heart and soul in the form of a computer and program which gives our organ the sound of the pipe organ at the Hereford Cathedral in England. You will be thrilled with the new sound, greatly enriching our worship life!

Speaking of music, we are honored to welcome a renowned musical ensemble, *Celtic to Classical*, for a special concert, "Songs and Dances," in our nave on Tuesday, August 14, 7:30 p.m. Bring family, friends and neighbors to this incredible program!

Finally, please note that our parish website address has been changed to www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org. If you have us bookmarked, please make the change. This new address more accurately reflects our patron saint and therefore our parish name. We are trying hard to consistently call ourselves "The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist," not that of "St. John." (They are different saints.)

Wishing you happy vacations and praying your support of our important ministries of love when you are home!

In Christ's love,
Fr. Tom