Dear Ones,

We’re past the middle of Lent. Laetare Sunday has come and gone and Holy Week is just around the corner. We’ve put away the rose paraments and vestments; one more week for the violet until next year.

During the Lenten Supper series, we’ve been talking about baptism and our Baptismal Covenant. One week, we looked at the baptismal rites of the early (2nd century) church. This is the source that the 1960s Liturgical Renewal folks grabbed on to and strongly influenced the re-casting of the baptismal rites that are used in mainline Protestant and Catholic churches.

The Liturgical Renewal movement looked back to the rites and practices of the early church, relying on manuscripts and other texts that had survived. Their intention was to restore to the current-day, the liturgical practices of the ancient church. (I find here an interesting parallel of the Oxford Movement and the Anglo-Catholic of the mid-19th century in the recovery of the church’s sacramental heritage.)

Most of us were baptized in a rather dainty fashion, sprinkled as some would say. We’ve learned from some ancient texts that baptism used to be pretty extreme: full immersion, not just dunking, an experience that was intended to make ‘dying in the waters of baptism’ more real to the candidate.

So, one of the other projects of the Liturgical Reform movement was the re-instantiation of the Holy Week practices: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Day. Through this effort, the Prayer Book revision incorporates what we know today.

One of those ‘other ancient texts’ is a little book containing the description of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the 4th century: The Pilgrimage of Etheria, (or Egeria). The manuscript was discovered in the 11th century and first published in 1887. More commonly found is an 1919 English edition produced by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK).

If you were to pick this up, you’d find it to be a good guide to what we call today the Easter Triduum, the Three Days: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, and the Great Vigil of Easter. I would strongly argue that the Triduum is most compelling liturgy that the church offers. Yes, singular, because from Maundy Thursday until the blessing and dismissal of the Great Vigil, it is a single thread that brings the days together. It has “intermissions” if you will, to let us regroup and recover from the emotional excursion we are taking. The Triduum is foundational to who we are called to be and how we are called to live. I hope everyone can plan to be a part of it. See the descriptions and times on page 2 and the calendar.

For those of you that don’t drive at night, please let the office know that you want to come. We’ll try to arrange rides for you.

I’d also like you to think about inviting someone to come with you. This is an opportunity to experience a closeness with God, the foundation for an intimate relationship with our Savior Jesus Christ, through the highs and lows, the joys and sorrows of life, finally concluding with the joy of Jesus’ resurrection, the opening of the doors of eternal life to each of us, proclaimed in the words:

“Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!”

—Thomas
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday of the Passion or Palm Sunday

Holy Week begins on 9 April with the Liturgy of the Palms in the Garden at 10:00AM and processing into the church for the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharist. Palm Sunday is an odd mix: I think this happened to accommodate those who don’t darken the door of the church except on Sundays, so we get the Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem and the Passion of Our Lord – Palm Sunday and Good Friday all rolled into one.

Maundy Thursday

The name comes from the Latin “Mandatum”, meaning command. With our observance of Maundy Thursday on 13 April at 6:00PM, we will commemorate Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples and imitate Our Lord’s washing of his disciples’ feet. All who wish to participate will have their feet washed and then wash someone else’s feet, becoming servants to each other. The Mass will conclude with the transfer of the Holy Sacrament to the Altar of Repose and the stripping of the Sanctuary and washing of the altar. At the end of the mass, the Watch over the Blessed Sacrament begins. This overnight vigil affords quiet time to spend in prayer and meditation.

Good Friday

We will offer the Good Friday liturgy twice on 14 April, once at 12:00PM and again at 6:00PM. This liturgy features the Passion of Our Lord according to John. In the place of the Prayers of the People, the Solemn Collects are prayed. In the Showing of the Cross, the celebrant will bring a cross into the Nave. An opportunity to venerate the cross will be offered to all present. Following the veneration, Holy Communion will be prepared from the Sacrament reserved at the altar of repose.

Holy Saturday

We will offer the Holy Saturday liturgy for the first time at Saint John’s at Noon on Saturday, 15 April. The liturgy is entirely said, with silence for contemplation and meditation.

The Great Vigil of Easter

Holy Week reaches its peak with the Great Vigil of Easter at 7:30PM on Saturday, 15 April. The service begins in the garden (weather permitting) where the Pascal Candle is prepared and lighted and we process into the church. The liturgy continues with readings from the Old Testament, taking us from creation through all of our salvation history. In the early church, this was the liturgy where catechumens were baptized, becoming full members of the community. Following renewal of our Baptismal Covenant and baptism, the proclamation of Easter is made: bells are rung, candles are lit, the lights come up and we celebrate the first Mass of Easter.

Saint Mark the Evangelist

We will commemorate the life and work of Saint Mark the Evangelist on Monday, 25 April at 12:10PM. Mark, as the author of the Gospel bearing his name, is not precisely identified. Various traditions have him filling roles ranging from being one of Jesus’ disciples to being the cousin of Barnabas in Paul’s letters. The Church of Alexandria claims that Mark was its first bishop and a martyr, killed while on a missionary journey. It is Mark’s Gospel that gives us the shortest account of Jesus’ ministry, but we must be careful not to equate short with simple. Mark’s Gospel leaves us with many questions, but gives us many clues to the answers.
VESTRY SUMMARY

The regular meeting of the Wardens and Vestry of Saint John’s Church was called to order at 11:30 AM by Fr. Heard. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer Connie McLean reviewed our financial performance, noting that we are currently running 2-to-1 expenses to income.

Fr. Heard reported that we have 38 pledges at an increased amount, with 3 pledges still expected.

The proposed budget for 2017 was presented. Action to adopt it was tabled until the next meeting.

Outreach reported that the food drive barrels are in place and that they have sponsored 2 chairs for the Murray House dining room.

Parish Life reported that the Wednesday Lenten Program is underway.

The Vestry will meet in retreat at the church on Saturday, 1 April.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:30 PM.

PARISH LIFE

4TH SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

April 23rd will be the next 4th Sunday Potluck lunch. We will have a Spring theme: so plan on fresh veggies and fruits and pretty desserts. Since it will be the week after Easter, perhaps we'll see some leftover chocolate bunnies or other “seasonal” goodies and, of course, good fellowship.

SUPPER AND PALMS

Ever wonder where the palms for Palm Sunday come from? For the past few years, they have come from the gardens of our parishioners. In order to make them “presentable” for the Palm Sunday service, these garden palm fronds need to be washed and split apart.

Join us for the final Lenten Supper on Wednesday, April 5th to learn more about baptism and help prepare the palms for Palm Sunday. Lenten supper starts at 6pm in the Great Hall with Stations of the Cross at 5:30 in the church. If you just want to help with the palms, come at 6:30. We hope to see you there.

Easter Egg Hunt following the service

Sunday, April 16
Bring baskets for your children!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>APRIL 2017 AT SAINT JOHN’S</strong></th>
<th><strong>SUNDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>MONDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>TUESDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>THURSDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>FRIDAY</strong></th>
<th><strong>SATURDAY</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MP = Morning Prayer</td>
<td>SS = Sunday School</td>
<td>HE = Holy Eucharist, Mass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Frederick Denison Maurice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Lent 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>9A SS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10A Mass</strong></td>
<td><strong>1130A Outreach</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 Richard of Chichester</strong></td>
<td><strong>830A MP</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 Martin Luther King, Jr.</strong></td>
<td><strong>830A MP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 Sunday of the Passion</strong></td>
<td><strong>9A SS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10A Mass</strong></td>
<td><strong>1130A Vestry</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 Monday in Holy Week</strong></td>
<td><strong>830A MP</strong></td>
<td><strong>1200P Noonday</strong></td>
<td><strong>1210P HE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16 Easter Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>9A SS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10A Mass</strong></td>
<td><strong>1130A ECW</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>830A MP</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>830A MP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30 Easter 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>9A SS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10A Mass</strong></td>
<td><strong>Omitted:</strong></td>
<td><strong>04/02 – James Lloyd Breck, Priest, 1976; 04/09 – Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Pastor and Theologian, 1945; 04/10 – William Law, priest, 1761; 04/11 – George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of New Zealand, and of Lichfield, 1878; 04/19 – Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Martyr, 1012; 04/21 – Anselm of Canterbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date/Service</td>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Greeter</td>
<td>Lectors</td>
<td>Intercessor</td>
<td>Lay Eucharistic Ministers</td>
<td>Lector</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 April</td>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>C. Anderson</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
<td>Budd Yeger</td>
<td>Jan Joseph</td>
<td>Connie McLellan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Episcopal Relief & Development is supporting the ecumenical response of the ACT Alliance to severe El Niño-related storms in Peru. The ACT Alliance has been monitoring the situation through local partners, and will assist with temporary shelter, water and sanitation needs and psychosocial support for affected communities in the Ica region south of Lima.

"The unseasonably heavy rains due to El Niño, combined with Peru's mountainous terrain, created the perfect conditions for a large-scale disaster," said Nagulan Nesiah, Episcopal Relief & Development’s Senior Program Officer for Disaster Response and Risk Reduction. "Our prayers are with all those impacted, who have lost homes and livelihoods or are separated from their families, and with all who are facing increased hazards due to unpredictable weather."

Storm runoff continues to flow over saturated ground, eroding soil, triggering mudslides and overwhelming river systems. Over 2,000 miles of roads have been severely affected, hampering assessment and relief efforts especially in rural areas. Flooding in coastal regions has damaged homes and agricultural land and may take weeks to subside. This increases the risk of waterborne disease, presenting a major public health hazard. More than 600,000 people have been impacted by storms since January, with the El Niño phenomenon predicted to last through April.

Please pray for all who are dealing with the effects of major flooding and mudslides in Peru.

**Prayer for First Responders**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of mercy, who through your Son gave us a marvelous example of charity and the great commandment of love for one another. Send down your blessings on these your servants, who so generously devote themselves to helping others. Grant them courage when they are afraid, wisdom when they must make quick decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work. When the alarm sounds and they are called to aid both friend and stranger, let them faithfully serve you in their neighbor. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

---

**The 2016 State of the Plate Research**

- 59% of churches surveyed reported flat-lined or decreased giving over the period 2015 to 2016. (A previous survey from 2013 revealed 53% of churches had an increase in giving that year.)
- Generous church giving is not limited to the older generations. 63% of those in their 20s-30s give 10% or more to their church.
- Only 41% of those surveyed said they give weekly, while 46% give once or twice a month.
- The top five reasons for missing church services are: out of town (74%), sickness (42%), serving during the worship service (16%), social commitments (13%), and work (14%).

All of the above are good reasons that support the use of The St. John’s Scrip program. The Scrip program allows:

- An extra source of income for the church
- An easy way to purchase everyday items
- Using Scrip cards are faster and easier than writing checks
- Over 700 brands to choose from
- Great source of gift cards

Please go to https://www.shopwithscrip.com/ to see a complete list of the available retailers.

We will hand out order sheets on Sunday, April 2, collect on April 9 and hand out Scrip cards April 16.
EASTER LILIES

Easter Lily sign up cards, located in the Narthex and the Great Hall, are due by Palm Sunday, April 9.

Jessica Dennis 04/05
Mike Johnson 04/13
Joyce Lee 04/18
Frances Barbour 04/22
Laura Barbour 04/24

For healing grace and continued strength, we pray for our members:
Tina Cieutat, Bob Ross, Marian Boykin, Ron Brown, Mary Jones, Jayson Chestang, Budd McLean, Joyce Lee, Donna Waites.

For our Homebound:
Mae Dunn, Joan-Marie Elam, LaVerne Foster, Catherine Warren, Chick Wohlert, Becky & Art Youngblood.

For victims of war and their families, and members of our Armed Forces and their families:
Ellis Garner, Eric Mattoon.

For our Friends and Family:
Come Worship With Us!
Monday—Friday:
8:30AM Morning Prayer
Sunday:
9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian Formation
10:00AM Holy Eucharist
Wednesday:
10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
Healing on the 1st Wednesday of the month.
Other Feasts and Holy Days are observed throughout the year; please see our website for the latest schedule.

Parish Office
Monday—Thursday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Telephone: 251-479-5474
Fax: 251-473-1230
www.stjohnsmobile.org

Thee Store Episcopal Books
Monday
Wednesday
Thursday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.
and by appointment
Telephone: 251-479-5086

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Come Worship With Us!
Monday—Friday:
8:30AM Morning Prayer
Sunday:
9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian Formation
10:00AM Holy Eucharist
Wednesday:
10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
Healing on the 1st Wednesday of the month.
Other Feasts and Holy Days are observed throughout the year; please see our website for the latest schedule.

Parish Office
Monday—Thursday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Telephone: 251-479-5474
Fax: 251-473-1230
www.stjohnsmobile.org

Thee Store Episcopal Books
Monday
Wednesday
Thursday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.
and by appointment
Telephone: 251-479-5086

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint John’s Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED