

The Testament

July 2021

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church

Durham, NC

A timeless message from the archives...

The Family Business

- by Bro. Dean Jernigan

In 1942, entrepreneur John Johnson realized his dream of owning a publishing business when he started his *Negro Digest* magazine. Years later, he created *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines and became a wealthy and influential individual. After many decades of success, Mr. Johnson transferred the leadership and management of his company over to his daughter, Linda Johnson-Rice, to explore new markets and extend the reach and influence of the family business.

Like Johnson, Earl Graves dreamed of converting his entrepreneurial aspirations into success. In 1970, Graves started his *Black Enterprise* magazine as a means of providing information designed to promote economic prosperity in the Black community. His success extended into radio and television as well. Consistent with the actions of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Graves transferred the leadership of his company over to his son, Earl "Butch" Graves, Jr., to continue the growth and legacy of the family business that he nurtured to prosperity.

If you were in a room long enough with John C. "Skeepie" Scarborough, III, he would have been sure to tell you about his role in the enduring legacy of Scarborough and Hargett Funeral Home here in Durham. Born into the family business and walking in a path that was also traveled by his father, Mr. Scarborough represented the fourth generation of leadership at the funeral home. For over 140 years, their formula for success has been to provide "A Dignified Service in a Sympathetic Way" to each family in need of their services during a time of bereavement.

Each one of the individuals named above assumed a meaningful role in promoting the growth of their individual family businesses. Success and prosperity were the blessings bestowed upon them for their efforts.

As Christians, we too belong to a family business and it is in constant need of our help in order to grow. It is a business that was started by our Heavenly Father when He transformed the dust of the earth into the flesh of man. We're in the soul-saving business and our primary responsibility is to lead the unsaved to Christ. Equally important is our duty to help our saved brothers and sisters fight off the enemy of God and to stay on the path that leads to salvation and eternal life.

It can be a tough and trying responsibility, but by being grounded in the Word and fueled by faith, each of us can make a positive contribution to ensure the success of our family business. Our Heavenly Father has strengthened us in special areas and placed spiritual leaders among us to provide guidance and support. *But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:7;11-12)*

If you're not already doing so, make it your purpose to become actively involved in the family business. ***There is always plenty of work to do and the compensation package is out of this world!*** See you

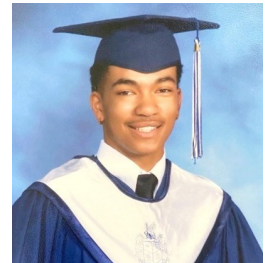


Congratulations Graduates!!

With hearts full of joy, the Lincoln family extends a well earned round of applause and congratulations to Bro. Myles Brodie and Bro. Trevor Williams on their graduation from high school. We pray for God's continued blessings upon them as they embark upon the next phase of their lives. Congratulations!!



Bro. Myles Brodie
Mt. Zion Christian Academy



Bro. Trevor Williams
Hillside High School

The Best Is Yet To Come!

Sunday School and Morning Worship

Reminder - Sunday School sessions will return to the sanctuary beginning on Sunday, July 4th. In person attendance for morning worship service is encouraged as well. Masks/face coverings will be required in the sanctuary until further notice.

at work - out on the battlefield for our Lord!

Around Lincoln...



Sis. Apryl Jernigan, a rising Junior at Fayetteville State University, provides words of encouragement to our high school graduates during Youth Day.



Bro. Myles Brodie celebrates his graduation from Mt. Zion Christian Academy with his parents, Deacon Robert and Sis. LaTonya Brodie. Congratulations Myles!



Bro. Trevor Williams celebrates his graduation from Hillside High School with his parents, Deacon Tony and Deaconess Kathy Williams. Congratulations Trevor!



Deacon on Duty for the month of July:

**Deacon Tony Williams
(919) 625-2829**

Minister's Corner

- by Rev. Patricia Lee

"MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE" EXODUS CHAPTERS 14 & 15

Sunday morning services at our church usually begin with Call to Worship. Most times the Worship Leader is responsible for opening the service and the congregation follows with repeating Psalms 100. I wonder if we really understand the significance of this spiritual practice or are we just calling words?



A closer look at Exodus chapters 14 & 15 in its entirety answers this question. We remember the story. The Israelites had finally been delivered from a ruthless Pharaoh. Their deliverance included crossing the Red Sea. They had no place to run. God opened the sea and provided them a way of escape by parting the Red Sea and allowing them to pass through on dry ground.

The first verse of Exodus 15 begins with one of the most exciting worship services in bible history after the occurrence of this amazing event. The verse begins with, "Then Moses", and the children of Israel began to sing a song about the awesome God they were just coming to know. The people were joyous and they "Made a joyful noise". Without coaxing or any hesitation they loudly worshipped God for his greatness. Honoring a God who could make all things possible was important to them at that moment. So they sang, and danced to the sound of a timbrel all the while glorifying and worshipping the God who is "God".

June 20, 2021, begins a summer that so many people didn't live to see. The deadly COVID-19 virus claimed the lives of many throughout the world. COVID along with other illnesses and conditions took our loved ones from us. The isolation and distancing from one another that COVID demanded impacted us even more. Lincoln also felt its powerful effect and it isn't over yet.

However, that's even more reason for us to "Make a joyful noise" unto the God who kept us. Because no matter what He is still in control. His grace and mercy remains. "Make a joyful noise." Though the storms keep on raging in our lives God's anchor still holds. "Make a joyful noise!" If your basic needs of food, clothing, shelter and other things were taken care of by His providing hands, "Make a joyful noise!"

Yes we do and should praise God for the things he has done. We should always give thanks for his many blessings.

OF EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE IS THE FACT WHETHER THINGS IN OUR LIVES ARE GOOD OR BAD, HAPPY OR SAD GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL. KNOWING THIS GREAT TRUTH SHOULD MAKE IT EASY FOR HIS CHILDREN TO **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!!!!**

Sing unto him a new song while enjoying this summer you have never seen before. I certainly plan to!

Black History Spotlight

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Series



North Carolina A&T State University

North Carolina A&T has a long and rich history as a university and has played a significant role in the struggle for Civil Rights for African Americans in the United States. Established in 1891 with the intention "to teach practical agriculture and mechanic arts and such branches of learning as relate there to, not excluding academic and classical instruction" to African American citizens of North Carolina. John Crosby was elected the first president of the College in 1892 and female students were admitted beginning in 1928.

In 1957, the college becomes "Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina," and in 1960 four freshman students, Ezell Blair, Jr. (Jibreel Khazan), Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil and David Richmond, initiate the Lunch Counter Sit-In demonstrations in Greensboro on February 1st. They become known as The A&T Four, and their non-violent protest starts a wave of similar sit-ins that play a key role in raising awareness of and ending segregation in North Carolina and across the south.

In 1967, the college is designated a Regional University and the name is changed to *North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University*.

In 1983, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a 1964 A&T graduate, becomes a candidate for the presidency of the United States, launching the first of two high-profile presidential campaigns (the second came in 1988). The following year, alumnus Dr. Ronald E. McNair orbits the earth in the Space Shuttle Challenger. Sadly, two years later Dr. McNair perishes in the Challenger explosion.

In 2012, Michelle Obama makes history as the first First Lady of the United States to be North Carolina A&T's commencement speaker. Four years later, Barack Obama, the 44th president of the United States, sits down with ESPN's Stan Verrett on A&T's campus for a nationally televised conversation on sports, race and achievement.

Renowned as the largest HBCU in the country, NC A&T is a diverse community, bound by intense pride and tradition with a fiercely loyal alumni base. "We are achievers, driven by a curious, limitless, fearless spirit that fuels discovery and innovation."

Continuing its mission, North Carolina A&T creates solutions that address the challenges and economic needs of North Carolina, the nation and the world.

<https://www.ncat.edu/about/index.php>

The Testament is produced monthly by our Newsletter Committee. Please send articles, photos or other items for publication to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Newsletter Committee

Reginald Davis • Willee Murphy
Joan Lofton • Marva Atkins • William Mayfield
Earleen Sharrock, Editor • Dean Jernigan, Chair

Moments That Make Memories!

Like so many others, Min. Antoinette Daye took time out during Father's Day to enjoy some quality time with her dad. Making memories and enjoying the moment, she and her dad, Bro. George Harris, spent an afternoon together fishing. In addition to strengthening the tie that binds them together, they were also able to catch the fish that would turn into a wonderful dinner!



Happy Birthday

to our

July Birthday Celebrities!

Willee Murphy (1st) • Shekina Wooten (5th)
Angela Brodie (10th) • Dorothy Reid (10th)
Delma Slade (14th) • Latisha Johnson (14th)
Joseph Toomer (16th) • Willa Clark (17th)
Peggy Brodie (18th) • Justin Brodie (18th)
Myles Brodie (19th) • Kenneth Dennis (20th)
Sean Dinguall, Jr. (23rd) • Earleen Sharrock (23rd)
Robert Belcher (24th) • Gwendolyn Perry (29th)

Happy Anniversary!

Bro. Darnell and Sis. Jacqueline Boone (8th)
Deacon Eugene and Deaconess Joan Lofton (16th)
Bro. Sean and Sis. Tennille Dinguall (30th)
Deacon John and Deaconess Vera Hodge (31st)

Best Wishes For Many More!!

Who You Were Makes You Who You Are

A beautiful thing about being a Christian is understanding that wherever you go, your past goes with you. You are what you've done as much as what you've done is seared into your being. It's all part of recognition, confession and acceptance of the sinner in you. Then and only then can we understand the reality of "God so loved the world that He..." well, John 3:16 then becomes our personal truth. Once this occurs and we attempt to live out our faith as a matter of course, salvation and its reality to us become plausible, even in the face of acts you're not particularly proud of. That, I believe, requires an understanding that whatever you've been through, whatever you've done or, had done to you is an integral part of God's plan to bring the most and best out of you.

A real man or woman of faith has been through stuff that neither he nor she is particularly proud of. Honest Christians will share their faith with you from this perspective. It's called testimony. Their truth is based on knowing that God has been faithful to them in spite of the hell they raised and the heaven they ran from. I know this from experience and not rhetoric.

My testimony includes having a first-class ticket to hell with a welcoming committee and band prepared for my arrival. Then as most of us who finally get it, through God's mercy and grace, I came to know..." If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all righteousness." John 1:19.

At first, I wouldn't, I couldn't accept this. I couldn't believe anyone, let alone God, would see all of my flaws

and faults and love me unconditionally anyway. Wrong! It's because of those flaws and faults and yes, sins, that allowed me, forced me to ask God for forgiveness and know without a doubt that He would, even before I asked.

It's not my job to bury my past for the sake of outward appearance. If I do that, then I can't help someone else who is perhaps going through the same thing I did and can't find peace or a roadmap to the truth. From one sinner to another, it's now very simple for me. Trust and obey. Trust God's love and obey His direction for you. It's because of where He brought me from that gives you the spiritual insight to see, in part, where He's leading you to. His belief in who I am is so much more than my belief in who I can be.

There is a certain degree of freedom in being true to yourself and God. There is, or ought to be, great joy in understanding one's past as a great prelude to a glorious future. It all begins with recognizing the 'you' in God's rear-view mirror. It sounds simple enough but, as a Christian, you can't get where you want to go until you swallow where you've been. God already has and Jesus was His antacid..."though your sins be scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land." Isaiah 1:18-19.

May God bless and keep you always.

*James Washington
www.blackpressusa.com*

The Scars of Life

Some years ago on a hot summer day in south Florida, a little boy decided to go for a swim in the old swimming hole behind his house. In a hurry to dive into the cool water, he ran out the back door, leaving behind shoes, socks, and shirt as he went. He flew into the water, not realizing that as he swam toward the middle of the lake, an alligator was swimming toward the shore.

His mother in the house was looking out the window saw the two as they got closer and closer together. In utter fear, she ran toward the water, yelling to her son as loudly as she could. Hearing her voice, the little boy became alarmed and made a U-turn to swim to his mother. It was too late. Just as he reached her, the alligator reached him.

From the dock, the mother grabbed her little boy by the arms just as the alligator snatched his legs. That began an incredible tug-of-war between the two. The alligator was much stronger than the mother, but the mother was much too passionate to let go.

A farmer happened to drive by, heard her screams, raced from his truck, took aim and shot the alligator. Remarkably, after weeks and weeks in the hospital, the little boy survived. His legs were extremely scarred by the vicious attack of the animal. And, on his arms, were deep scratches where his mother's fingernails dug into his flesh in her effort to hang on

to the son she loved.

The newspaper reporter who interviewed the boy after the trauma, asked if he would show him his scars. The boy lifted his pant legs. And then, with obvious pride, he said to the reporter, "But look at my arms. I have great scars on my arms, too. I have them because my Mom wouldn't let go." You and I can identify with that little boy. We have scars, too. No, not from an alligator, or anything quite so dramatic. But the scars of a painful past. Some of those scars are unsightly and have caused us deep regret. But, some wounds, my friend, are because God has refused to let go.

In the midst of your struggle, He's been there holding on to you. The Scripture teaches that God loves you. You are a child of God. He wants to protect you and provide for you in every way.

But sometimes we foolishly wade into dangerous situations. The swimming hole of life is filled with peril - and we forget that the enemy is waiting to attack. That's when the tug-of-war begins - and if you have the scars of His love on your arms be very, very grateful. He did not and will not - let you go.

www.heavensinspirations.com

Congratulations Graves Scholarship Recipients!



Continuing its mission of providing financial assistance to high school graduates entering higher institutions of learning, the LMBE Jimmy and Torian Graves Memorial Scholarship Ministry awarded scholarships to the following students:

Myles Brodie: Mt. Zion Christian Academy/
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Franklyn Evans: Hillside High School/
North Carolina A&T State University

Joryanne McNeil: City of Medicine Academy/
Winston-Salem State University

Ja'Nae Kayla Miles: Hillside High School/
North Carolina A&T State University

Jordan Norwood: Hillside High School/
North Carolina A&T State University

Jordyn Steverson: Hillside High School/
North Carolina A&T State University

Kyrah Taylor: Hillside High School/
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Gabrielle Tita: Hillside New Tech High School/
High Point University

Trevor Williams: Hillside High School/
Winston-Salem State University

We pray that God will continue to shower His many blessings upon these aspiring young men and women!



Bro. Myles Brodie and Bro. Trevor Williams are recognized by the Lincoln family on Youth Day. May God continue to watch over and bless them on the road to new windows of opportunity!

Obedience Unlocks God's Power

Let the Spirit change your way of thinking.

Ephesians 4:23 (CEV)

Over and over again, the Bible illustrates this important truth: The Holy Spirit releases his power the moment you take a step of faith.

When Joshua faced a seemingly impassible barrier, the floodwaters of the Jordan River receded - but only after the leaders stepped into the rushing current in obedience and faith. Obedience unlocks God's power.

In these situations, God's power follows your action. But you don't have to wait until you feel powerful or confident. Just move ahead in your weakness; do the right thing, despite your fears and feelings. This is how you cooperate with the Holy Spirit; it's how your character develops and how you grow spiritually.

The Bible compares spiritual growth to a seed, a building, and a child growing up. Each metaphor requires active participation: Seeds must be planted and cultivated, buildings must be built - they don't just appear - and children must eat and exercise to grow.

Effort has nothing to do with your salvation - but effort is essential to your spiritual growth. At least seven times the New Testament tells you to "make every effort" in your growth toward becoming like Jesus (Luke 13:24, Romans 14:19, Ephesians 4:3, 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 4:11, Hebrews 12:14, 2 Peter 3:14).

You can't just sit around and wait for it to happen. You need to act.

Paul explains in Ephesians 4 your three responsibilities in becoming like Christ.

First, choose to let go of old ways of acting. "Everything - and I do mean everything - connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it!" (Ephesians 4:22 The Message). Your new life is based on God's truth and living according to his Word. That means there may be some behaviors you need to change in your life.

Second, change the way you think. "Let the Spirit change your way of thinking" (Ephesians 4:23 CEV). The Bible says you are "transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2 NIV). The Greek word for "transformed" is metamorphosis. It's used today to describe the amazing change a caterpillar goes through in becoming a butterfly. It is a beautiful picture of what happens spiritually when you allow God to direct your thoughts. You're changed from the inside out. You become more beautiful, and you're set free to soar to new heights.

Third, put on the character of Christ by developing new, godly habits. Your character is essentially the sum of your habits; it's how you habitually act. The Bible says, "Put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:24 NIV).

Don't just sit around and wait for spiritual growth to happen - it never will on its own. Instead, be obedient so that you can unlock God's power in your life!

Pastor Rick Warren
www.pastorrick.com

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock



PRAYER: TALKING TO GOD

"Hear me as I pray, O Lord. Be merciful and answer me!" Psalm 27:7 NLT

This lesson teaches the basic elements of prayer and will encourage you to establish prayer as a habit in your own life.

- Do you like to talk on the phone?
- Do you talk on the computer with emails, Google Meet, or Skype?
- Who do you like to talk to and what about?
- Do you have a cell phone?
- Do your parents have cell phones and do they get upset if they lose their phones?

Talking with people is important to us! We make sure that we can call others whenever we want. We also make sure people can reach us wherever we are.

So if talking to people is easy and we do it all the time, why is it so hard to spend time talking with God? Here are some common excuses:

- We get busy.
- We don't see Him all the time so we forget.
- We don't know how.
- We might question whether God is really listening.
- We might think our problems are too small.

Why is it important to talk with God?

1. God wants us to know Him.
2. God really does answer prayer.
3. God loves us through prayer.
4. We love God through prayer.

Today our hands are going to help us learn how to pray. As long as your hands go home with you today (please tell me they will!) you should remember our lesson. Using our five fingers, we will learn the **FIVE PARTS OF PRAYER**. You ready?

1. **PRAISE:** Praise is saying what you love about someone. Praise is also addressing God directly by saying "Heavenly Father," "Dear God," or simply, "Lord."
2. **CONFESS:** Confession is a big word! It means admitting guilt or something that one is ashamed of or embarrassed about. It's when you ask for forgiveness of your sins. It's saying, "I'm sorry that I lied. Forgive me for getting in a fight with my brother or sister."
3. **READ:** Reading God's word helps us see ourselves as in a mirror. It helps us understand who God is and who we are. It helps us to pray because we know who we're praying to.
4. **ASK:** God says in Matthew 21:22 that, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." Pray for others. Pray for yourself. Ask for people to be saved, for God to provide, for wisdom to understand, for help in temptation, for people to be healed.
5. **THANKS:** God has done so much for us. What can you be thankful for today?

WHO CAN WE PRAY FOR?

The 5 Finger Prayer

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.



The Knots Prayer

Dear God:
Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life.
Remove the have nots, the can nots and the do nots that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots, may nots, might nots that may find a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots And should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all, dear God,
I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life all of the 'am nots' that I have allowed to hold me back, especially the thought that I am not good enough.
Amen

Author known to God

KIDZ ZONE

-submitted by Sis. Earleen Sharrock

HOW TO PRAY For Kids

- Question:** What can I pray about?

Answer: ANYTHING! God wants you to talk to Him about everything in your life. Nothing is too big or too small to talk to God about.
- Question:** When and where should I pray?

Answer: ANYTIME and ANYWHERE! It doesn't matter where you are; you can always talk to God. He is always with you.
- Question:** How long should my prayer last?

Answer: You can pray for one second or for hours. God is always listening! He loves for you to talk to Him.
- Question:** Can I pray with my friends?

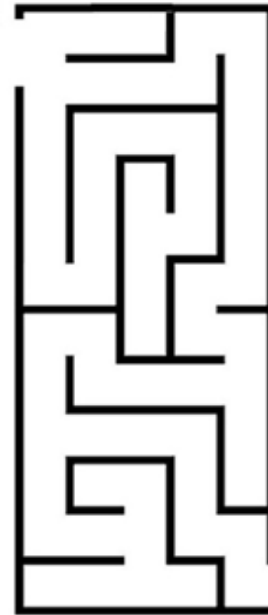
Answer: ABSOLUTELY! Praying with your friends will make your faith and your friendships stronger.
- Question:** Should I always fold my hands?

Answer: Folding your hands and closing your eyes may help you to concentrate on your prayer, but you don't have to. You can talk to God while riding your bike or just sitting quietly.
- Question:** Should I pray out loud?

Answer: God hears you whether you pray out loud or silently. Sometimes praying out loud helps you to stay focused on your prayer. Praying silently can be done wherever you are. God hears your prayers no matter how you say them!



Our prayers travel from our mouths to God's ear.



I know He hears me.

Types of Prayer

B E N E D I C T I O N C I
 N R W J M L P H B M O M N
 O Z P W F B F E L M J R T
 I N K E K K S R M K M P E
 S R L Z T I R I N N J H R
 S G K P A I T J V R B H C
 E W L R F M T T B J K N E
 F R P B E R D I X W G Z S
 N C Z N D N T Y O R T N S
 O D T X K N N L K N V J I
 C K N H K B M V M F L F O
 T S S E N E V I G R O F N
 T H A N K S G I V I N G K

www.churchhousepuzzles.com © 2011

- Benediction
- Commitment
- Confession
- Forgiveness
- Intercession
- Petition
- Praise
- Thanksgiving

BibleWise

Lord's Prayer Maze

Find your way through the maze by connecting each phrase of the Lord's Prayer. Then color the picture of Jesus at the end of the maze.

Our Father which art in heaven, Thy kingdom come,

Hallowed be thy name.

Give us this day our daily bread. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Copyright © 2018, BibleWise. All Rights Reserved.

July 2021

“Building the Church in the Community and the Community in the Church”

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>*Conference Call Prayer Line: Dial (605) 475-3235 and enter the pin - 20396# after the prompt.</i></p> <p><i>To add an event to the church calendar, please contact Sis. Janice Campbell by calling the church at 919-688-1886. You may also reach her at churchcalendar@mylmbc.org.</i></p> <p><i>Please send articles, photos or information for The Testament to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.</i></p>				1 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Mass Choir	2	3 10:00am Trustees 12:00Noon Women of Faith 1:00pm Missionary Ministry
4	5 6:30pm Music Committee	6 6:30pm Mixed Choir	7 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	8 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:00pm Christian Education 6:30pm Mixed Choir	9	10 10:00am Deaconess
11	12	13 6:30pm Voices of Praise	14 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	15 1:00pm RTTC Community Group TBA Voices of Praise 7:00pm Church Conference	16	17 TBA Layman’s League
18	19	20 6:30pm Male Chorus	21 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	22 1:00pm RTTC Community Group 6:30pm Male Chorus	23	24
25	26	27 6:30pm Computing & Technology 6:30pm Mass Choir	28 6:00am 12 Noon 6:00pm *Conference Call Prayer Line 7:00pm Bible Study	29 6:30pm Mass Choir	30	31