



# ST. MARY'S

## Episcopal Church

Our church on the corner of  
North Horry & West Marion  
PO Box 611, Madison, FL 32341  
850-973-8338

November 2020 Vol 7

### A Monthly Insight into St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Madison, FL



*...giving thanks to the Father  
Colossians 1:12*

#### UNITED THANK FALL INGATHERING – NOVEMBER 15, 2020

United Thank Offering is the many hearts that are filled with thankfulness and gratitude, consistently expressed through prayer, love and the coins from the little "Blue Box". The unwavering power of prayers and thankfulness bestowed upon UTO and it ministry expands God's faithful mission throughout this world through the gifts of love and the distribution of awarded grants. Let us remember that is was through one of these UTO grants that St. Mary's received the funds to enlarge our fellowship hall.

United Thank Offering Prayer – "Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept we pray these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ.



Amen"

#### *Vicar's Voice by Father Joe*

November is Stewardship month at St. Mary's where each of us is asked to carefully consider our relationship with God and how that will translate into support for the church and its many charities. Your pledge will be used to build our budget for 2021. It is very important and I ask you to prayerfully consider what I am about to write.

First, what does scripture say about God's commitment to us? In Luke 24:29, Jesus says just prior to his Ascension to sit at the right hand of God as our advocate, "And Behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you." Of course, this was the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide our lives, the third leg of the Trinity. In Psalm 116:12, King David asks, "How can I repay the Lord for all the good he has done for me?" How indeed?

Second, if we believe that God has our best interests in his heart and is committed to our spiritual well-being, how do we repay that commitment with our own to honor him? In 2 Corinthians 9, Saint Paul writes, "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Everyone must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." In Mark 12, Jesus speaks to the Holy Spirit within each of us when he says, "For where your treasure is, so is your heart."

St. Mary's is recovering from a difficult time as we learn how to operate within the confines of COVID reality. I implore each of you to support your church and our ministry with a generous pledge for the coming year. God Bless St. Mary's, Joe+

## Our Church's Stained Glass

For the last few months we have gone through the reason behind our beautiful pieces of stained glass. This month's newsletter wraps up the last three of the stained glass.



### Bible & Cross

This window was commissioned by Mary Jane Pfeil to honor the ministry of her husband, the Rev. Ben Pfeil, Vicar at St. Mary's from November 1992 until 2011. The open bible and cross were chosen to represent the clergy. Father Ben was a lay reader for forty years before becoming first a deacon and then our vicar.

*Glory to God in memory of Ben Pfeil.*



### Patriotic Shield

This window was given in memory of Gene and Vivian Oehlman. The window focal point is a patriotic shield chosen to represent the Oehlman's love of and service to our great country. Gene Oehlman was a Ret. Lt. Col. Of the United States Air Force. He served his country with pride in World War II (a prisoner in Germany) and in the Korean War. Vivian, a former school teacher, and office manager, faithfully served St. Mary's Episcopal Church as financial secretary for fifteen years.



### Jerusalem Cross

Melissa and I wanted a simple design to portray love and peace as the theme of our window. We selected the Jerusalem Cross with olive branches to convey this message. It is with this thought that we dedicate this window in loving memory of my parents, whom I enjoyed for a long time, and to Melissa's mother, who died too young.

## November Calendar



1 Lucas Cruce  
11 Fiona Boyles  
13 Cheryl Pfeil  
17 Danielle Dawkins  
18 Sue Kinsley



15 Dale and Jean Stone

## Church calendar

8 Mission Board meeting  
17 SHSV clinic - Madison  
19 SHSV clinic- Greenville



Turn your clocks back before bed Saturday evening so we can see you at church on time Sunday.



**Operation Christmas Child has begun, deadline to drop off boxes is November 19 by 2pm**

### Pray from home schedule:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
11am OR 7pm



The bible says when two or more come together there you will find him. During these odd and challenging times, when it's more difficult to come together, we can at least pray together, in our home, at the same time.