



*Cares, Prayers
and Current Affairs*

October 2020

Greetings Saint Joseph's Church Family
and Friends,

To God Be the Glory! This past Sunday we were blessed to be back into the sanctuary for service. We will continue to maintain the guidelines mandated by the CDC, our Governor and our Bishop. People may utilize every other pew which are marked. Families may sit together, while single members may occupy either end of a designated pew. Temperatures will be checked at the doors. All entering the sanctuary will be counted. After our numbers reach 25... all other members and friends will be directed to the Butler Parish Hall to enjoy service live streamed on our big screen. We will continue to collect alms as we did during service while worshiping on the lawn. Members will

deposit their envelopes into the basket located near the assigned usher for the day in both buildings. For the time being every reading for service will be located in the bulletin to avoid handling the books. At which time all books have been properly sanitized, an announcement will be made.



COVID 19

In that our statistics for positive cases, deaths and hospitalizations are looking more promising and as sanctions are slowly being lifted, let us not become too comfortable in our new normal. This virus is mutating... becoming stronger and more difficult to control. Many of the people who survive the virus are being left with life-long health and mental issues. This being said, keep cleaning and disinfecting items that are handled by family members particularly if they go out to work or shop in public places. If workers are called to come into your home for repairs, please protect yourself by wearing a mask. In the event a repairman comes without wearing a

mask, if you do not have a clean one to offer... then do not allow them inside. If allowed to enter, take note of everything they touch and be prepared to wipe it all down with disinfectant. I urge everyone to get their flu shots. Some protection is better than no protection. If you are not feeling well, contact your health care provider.

With all that is going on around the world...God is Good even in the midst of it all and with His help we can persevere.



The Vote

The next big issue in this country is the 2020 Election! This election is one we cannot fail to make our voices heard. I am but

1 but my 1 may be the vote that makes a difference. I cannot afford to think that my vote will not matter, or that my vote will not count. If you plan to mail in your vote, our Deacon Mary Mac Shields has consented to be a witness. If you have a need regarding voting, please get in contact with a member of the church

and you will be directed to someone who is willing to assist you.



Bereavement

It was with grave sadness that we had to bid farewell to our dear sister, Janice LeeNora Butler, daughter of our beloved Mae Butler. She was called to her heavenly home to join her great ancestors. She was survived by her daughter Angela and sister, Diane. Janice had been battling a rare form of cancer for a number of years. With God's infinite love and mercy, he called her home to fight no more. She will be sorely missed by all who love her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

What's Been Happening at St. Joseph's

We at Saint Joseph's continue to press forward with God's work. We are looking forward to planning into the coming year of 2021. Two vestry members are rotating off the vestry making two slots available to be filled. Mr. Sam Lloyd, church administrator and Mr. Tony

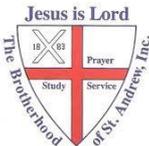
Ferguson will rotate off the vestry. There are also two positions that are also being sought. We are in search of an administrator and a treasurer. Neither of these positions require a position on the vestry. Persons for both positions will be trained. The church administrator is responsible for completing a yearly parochial report, presides over the yearly audit, prepares the license for lay ministers, and report to the diocese the names of vestry appointees. Some members will serve a one, two or three year term.

The church administrator is responsible for responding to correspondence from the diocese. He or she will also manage the logs of members such as documents to add or transfer memberships as well as keeping the Book of Life current. The church administrator is responsible for making sure delegates are properly registered for the annual convention. Where as documents may be time sensitive.... time spent in the office is not. The administrator's time is not required daily

nor weekly except for when a report is due.

The position of the treasurer will be trained on the accounting platform. Once trained and the trainee is comfortable in their position, time spent as the new treasurer will require approximately two hours per week. The individuals who count the weekly intake and enter amounts into the system, is separate from the position of the treasurer. The treasurer is also responsible for balancing the books, paying church bills and salaries.

We are prayerful that all will search their hearts and minds for how others may be of a greater service for the good of the church. It takes a village to smoothly keep all aspects of the church going and growing.



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

The first load of goodies for the children of TC Berrien school has

been delivered. This is an on-going project and you did not make your contribution did not make the first round... there is still time!



Episcopal Church
Women

ECW (Episcopal CHURCH WOMEN)

It will soon be time for our hands to really get busy with the following projects:

- * Snip and Stitch (repurposing used blankets for the Homeless and Seth's Wish Project
- * Deliver Cargo pants for the farmworkers
- * Crochet baby blankets, booties, hats and sweaters for the NIC Unit at Cape Fear Hospital



CWU (Church Women United)

This time of year we collect blankets for the farmworkers in Newton Grove. They are newly purchased blankets. Since the pandemic, I have not seen any correspondence regarding this event. I

will make some inquires and have the announcement placed in the weekly bulletin.



DOK (Daughters of the King)

All members please check your emails for the next ZOOM meeting.



October Birthdays

15th Aniyah Walcott
17th Mia Davis
27th Kyrone Nebolisa
30th Anozie Nebolisa



Bible Trivia

How did Herod order James to be killed?

- A. Poison**
- B. Crucifixion**

- C. A Sword
- D. In prison

(C. A sword ; Acts 12:2)

Bible Humor

Download your worries

(AND GET **ONLINE** WITH GOD)



CHUCKLE CORNER

Once upon a time I rescued a starving pup that crawled out of the woods near the grand children's bus stop. As soon as the girls got off the bus....this cold and icy day in January, they said, "Gram, whose puppy?" When I turned and looked, there sat the most pitiful pup with its head down and eyes staring up at me! The girls said, Gram, he's starving and cold. Well, I had to agree. I could count his bones and he was shaking like a leaf on a tree. Now, I needed another animal or pet like I needed a hole in my head and I had to think quick to have a way out of taking

this dog home. So we made a deal.....
if this pup is a male....no deal! Both my
dogs at home were females and I was
not about to rock the boat. I prayerfully
lifted his leg as I recited in my head...
please be a male, please be a male. I
lifted its bony paw ever so slowly. Gosh
Darn! It was a female. I had to quickly
come up with other parameters... okay,
I said to the girls... we will take her
home, feed her , clean her up and if she
survives a week, I will take her to the vet
for an evaluation. We named her Grace
and called her Gracie because she
seemed so humbled to be cared for.
She first got a hearty meal and lots of
water before she was introduced to the
Beagle named Bailey. The two got along
and tried to play but Grace was too
weak for frolicking about the yard.
Mandy, my springer spaniel, was bougie
and wanted no parts of the refugee
mutt. Well, she survived and she and
Bailey became best buds. It was not
long before Gracie had surpassed
Bailey in size and she took on the role of
Bailey's protector. One day Bailey,
being a hunting dog, and her attraction
for anything with a foul odor decided to

venture down the embankment of the pond into the stinky mud for a stick. Gracie, not being familiar with her friend's intentions, decided that the pond was not a safe place for Bailey to venture. Gracie grabbed her friend by the collar and dragged poor Bailey and her stinky stick back to the safety of the green grass above the pond. It was a long time before Gracie allowed such shenanigans on her watch!



From our Senior Warden

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.

Plato

What is a fear of living? It's being preeminently afraid of dying. It is not doing what you came here to do, out of timidity and spinelessness. The antidote is to take full responsibility for yourself - for the time you take up and the space you occupy. If you don't know what you're here to do, then just do some good.

Maya Angelou

One of the greatest discoveries a man makes, one of his great surprises, is to find he can do what he has afraid he couldn't do.

Henry Ford

The first duty of man is to conquer fear; he must get rid of it, he cannot act till then.

Thomas Carlyle



From our Deacon

Happy Fall!

The cool weather brings on new energy for our outreach ministries.

Congratulations to the Sewing Triangle for

having completed 2,000 masks. *Snip and Stitch* will resume in the coming weeks. We will once again be repairing blankets to give to Seth's Wish. These blankets are given to those who might not have indoor sleeping accommodations. Please consider joining these activities. For more information reach out to Jan Mumford, Bernice Motley, or Deacon Shields.

Lord, guide our hands and minds in all we do so that we may reflect your love and grace to the world. Amen



Rev. Ralph's Corner

When you spend any time around a church it does not take long to hear about stewardship. This word, stewardship, is often charged with feelings and emotions that come from church teachings, church politics, and maybe even an every-member canvass that left marks whether good or bad.

Now please do not stop reading. The intent of this article is to explore the concept of stewardship not to tell anyone what they ought to be doing. If we are going to follow the teachings of Jesus as Christians, then it makes sense that we have a working understanding of stewardship and a plan to implement this stewardship to the glory of God. The biblical teachings on stewardship tell us that stewardship encompasses contributions of one's time, one's talent, and one's treasure.

A good place to start is the definition of the word, stewardship. Merriam-Webster defines stewardship as having the duties and obligations of someone who is supervising or managing of something, especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to our care. So, this month I want to focus on the contribution of talent.

The common thought in the church is that the talents we have are gifts from God. This fits with the biblical concept of all things come from God and it is out of these gifts from God that we are to not only be good stewards of these gives but to also give back to God out of these gifts. We all have gifts and talents. Moreover, there is an adage in the church that says every parish community has all the talents needed to accomplish the tasks necessary to be the church. That would include St. Joseph. In our church community we have the talents necessary to conduct the ministry God has given us to do. We are at a place now where we have the opportunity for persons to exercise their talents.

St. Joseph has had several faithful persons in positions of service to God and service to this parish for a long time. It is often important to share the work of the church to keep a healthy balance of fresh minds and fresh workers so persons don't get worn out with the work. When our sisters and brothers become worn out, we all suffer as a community of faith. There are currently two positions at St. Joseph where we need talented persons to exercise their talents. First, St. Joseph needs a treasure. Our current treasure has faithfully filled the role of treasurer for the last eight years and finds that the daily responsibilities of her life are continuing to creep into the ability to fulfill the ministry of treasurer. Secondly, our current parish administrator has served in that role for the last 15 years. Fulfilling this role as administrator has kept him from fulfilling other roles in the parish that are needed. My question to all of us is who among us has the talent to serve God and St Joseph as our new treasure and our new parish administrator? I am certain that there are those among us who have the talent

to step up and serve as our treasurer
and parish administer.

Priest-in-Charge..The Rev. Ralph Clark
The Rev. Deacon Mary Mac Shields
Senior Warden...Mr. Tyrone Francis
Junior Warden...Mr. Karl Vaughn
Director of Music.. Mrs. Sharon McNair
Newsletter Author....Ms. Jan Mumford
Newsletter Editor.....Mr. Sam Lloyd