



ST. JOHN'S

E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

THE GOOD NEWS

May - June 2023

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Adult Christian Education,
Chapel (In-person and Zoom)

9:00 a.m. Youth Christian Education,
Parish Hall (In-person and Zoom)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
(In-person and Livestream)

Visit StJohnsMLB.org for links

MONDAY

7:00 p.m. AA meeting in Parish Hall

TUESDAY

5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in Hall

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts in Hall

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. AA meeting in Parish Hall

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Rector's Office

FRIDAY

8:00 a.m. TGIF (Men's Breakfast and
Bible study), La Loma Coney Island,
1180 Aurora Road, Melbourne

A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

It often seems that the schedule will slow down after Easter. Not so!

Sunday, May 14 is both Mother's Day and the beginning of a week of hosting Family Promise.

Sunday, May 21 is our final dinner and concert for this concert season, featuring the Harbor City Harmonizers.

Sunday, May 28 is Pentecost, the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit and, in many ways, the birthday of the Christian Church.

Monday, May 29 is Memorial Day, when we give thanks for all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we enjoy and all too often take for granted.

Saturday, June 10 is the Consecration of our new Bishop, Dr. Justin Holcomb. It is through the Bishop that we are connected to the wider church and reminded that we are part of something far bigger than St. John's on Young St.

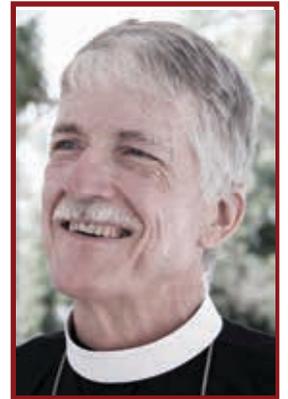
Sunday, June 18 is Father's Day.

Monday, June 19 is Juneteenth.

There is much to celebrate and many opportunities to gather with our family, friends, and church family. Mark your calendars and strap in for a good ride!

In Christ,

Fr. Eric Turner
Rector





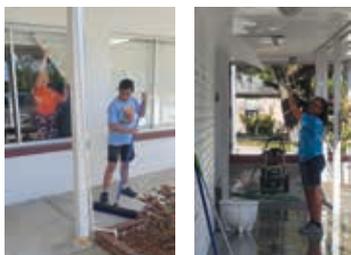
The deadline for the next issue of “The Good News” will be Tuesday, June 13. Please email or deliver your submissions to office@stjohnsmlb.org by June 13, 2023.

May Concert at St. John’s



Our concert series will continue **Sunday, May 21** with the Harbor City Harmonizers. Picnic dinner at 5 p.m., concert begins at 5:30. Don’t miss it! Barbershop harmony considered to be one of the few uniquely American-born musical styles, alongside jazz, with which it shares origins.

Scouts Clean-up



The Boy Scout troop that is now at St. John’s had a church clean-up day on March 30. They power-washed and cleaned up the front of the building.

Thanks!

Tapping the Big Questions



We are taking Jesus into the public square! Fr. Eric is hosting an open conversation about Jesus and faith at Intracoastal Brewery (652 W Eau Gallie Blvd.) on the first Tuesday of each month, 7 - 8:30 p.m. (Next sessions will be May 2 and June 6.)

Bring a friend, grab a beer (or other beverages, including non-alcoholic options) and let’s talk!

Family Dinner Night



We will gather for Family Dinner Night on Sunday, June 25, 5 p.m. at Meg O’Malley’s in downtown Melbourne, 812 E. New Haven Ave. Mark your calendar and bring a friend!

St. John’s Modern History Project

The last time our history was compiled and published was 1981. We think it might be time to collect the parishioner’s memories and remembrances for the past thirty years and create a sequel. Plans for this project will be published in the next edition but in the meantime cast your mind back to earlier years and write down your most memorable moments to share with the church.

A Worshiping Community

Pentecost



Sunday, May 28 is Pentecost, the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Christian Church! All are asked to wear red or white (we'll have some red or white ribbons if you don't have anything suitable) and we will have special music and coffee hour.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14 is Mother's Day. We will honor mothers by having flowers for all the ladies and the MEN will take over the kitchen for coffee hour duties. A sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall closer to the time. Remember, guys, this doesn't mean asking your wife to fix something and you carry it in! You make it, or visit the store to get it.

Father's Day

Sunday, June 18 is Father's Day. We will honor fathers by not asking them to wear flowers! Bring your family to church and remember that you have all afternoon for the hammock and the grill! Start the day right!

Bishop's Consecration



The Consecration of our new Bishop of Central Florida, the Rev. Canon Dr. Justin Holcombe, will be held on Saturday, June 10, 11 a.m. at Calvary Orlando Church, 1199 Clay St, Winter Park, FL 32789. All members of the Diocese are welcome!

Worship Volunteers

Worship volunteers are needed for a variety of roles at the Sunday services.

We will train you! All that is needed is a willing heart. Prayerfully consider one or more of the following ministries.

Ushers and Greeters: to welcome the Sunday worshippers.

LEM'S and Lay Readers: needed to read lessons and assist with Communion.

A/V & Livestream: to run our sound and livestream systems. Only moderate comfort with a computer is required.

Altar Guild: the parish ministry that cares for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish.

Please contact the church office at office@stjohnsmlb.org for more information, or any volunteer serving on Sunday.

Outreach Focus – Sharing His Love

May

THE Outreach Focus for May is Solar Light for Africa. SLA is a Christian ministry run by Charlene Turner that seeks to “Illuminate - Enlighten - Empower” the people of Uganda with clean, reliable, and cost-effective solar power in schools, clinics, orphanages, and other facilities. This summer, Charlene (and Fr. Eric) will take a team to Uganda to work on several planned projects, including a residential school for deaf children in northern Uganda and ‘slum schools’ in inner city Kampala but with no power. Visit solarlightforafrica.org for more information. Anything in the blue or lilac envelopes, or marked outreach, in the month of May will go to SLA.



Outreach Team Meetings

Monthly Outreach team meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. The upcoming meetings are May 9, and June 13 by Zoom only. All parishioners are welcome to join by clicking the link in the calendar, on the St. John’s web page. You can also send an email to office@stjohnsmlb.org and we will send you the zoom link.



Family Promise

From St. John’s Family Promise of Brevard Coordinators:

What have we learned? No two hosting’s are the same, but each has profoundly touched all volunteers with a glimpse into God’s grace and how He works through us to serve others. Being flexible, responding to last minute change, keeping communication open are our strengths. Setting aside ‘me’ for the benefit of ‘thee’, like regular exercise, improves with repetition.

Ben Kendall reminds us - St, John’s Family Promise volunteers are problem-solvers. While the organization gives us a framework of ‘how’, ‘who’, ‘what’, and ‘when’, each hosting asks us to solve problems with what we are presented. We recognize that families, who have signed on to FPOB, are profound problem-solvers, ultimately seeking stability, safe housing, and jobs to support families.



June

THE June Outreach Focus as been designated to go to Family Promise of Brevard. All donations in the blue or lilac envelopes, or clearly marked for outreach, will go directly to Family Promise. Working with the community, Family Promise provides temporary housing, meals, and services to more than 125,000 family members annually. They mentor families experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, teaching financial literacy, and helping to find jobs and affordable housing. Family Promise creates programs to meet specific needs in their communities, advocating for public policies that alleviate poverty and promote the economic stability of low-income families. Visit familypromiseofbrevard.org for more information.



Daily Bread



The upcoming duty days are **May 4**, and **June 1**, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. To volunteer please contact Jackie Bond at jbfromgb58@gmail.com.

Outreach Focus – Sharing His Love

Family Promise (con't)



From St. John’s Family Promise of Brevard Coordinators:

As St. John’s volunteers, we support the family problem-solvers by being flexible and dexterous while we also solve problems.

Come sample St. John’s FPOB Volunteering during hosting week May 14 - May 21:

- Join one of Gail Dunbar’s Heaven’s Kitchen volunteers as they prepare and serve an evening meal.
 - o Time investment - 2-3 hours, one day during hosting week.
- Join one of Sarah Kendall’s volunteers for a Saturday shift.
 - o Time investment - 2 hours, one Saturday of hosting week
- Join the mealtime / post-mealtime fellowship
 - o Time-investment - 2 hours, one day during hosting week.

Contact Ben Kendall (832) 229-0142 (text or call), ben.kendall@gmail.com via email or Linda Fletcher (321) 704 7100 (text or call), lcalvert1956@yahoo.com via email.



A Note from the Endowment Committee:

Many of you are aware that St. John’s has established an endowment fund. This is money that will be invested to provide a reliable source of income for generations to come. The fund is intended to be managed in perpetuity, meaning the principal will not be invaded. You may want to consider making a gift to the endowment fund as a direct gift of cash or as a planned gift. You can also consult your financial manager about utilizing gifts to the endowment fund to possibly reduce your taxes.

For more information, Endowment Fund brochures are available in the parish hall, or you may contact The Endowment Committee: Shannon Brooks-Hamilton, Jack Kenworthy, Julie Miller.



Choir at St John’s

NOW is the time to consider joining our choir. If you read music, we’d love to have you; there are no auditions - all that is required is a love of singing and a willingness to be faithful. Let Dr. D. know that you’d like to be a part of this important ministry. We think you’ll be glad you did.

Email him at jfd112@gmail.com

KEEPING UP WITH ST. JOHN'S ONLINE



St. John's Chat is an email list with the latest news at St. John's. You can also share things with the parish this way.

St. John's Weekly eNews includes a short reflection from the rector and news about events and what's happening Sunday. The eNews drops into your email Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m.

To subscribe to the **Chat** or **eNews**, please send your email address to Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org.

St. John's YouTube Channel is where we post worship live streams and sermons. You can find links to all past and upcoming worship services by visiting stjohnsmlb.org and clicking on Worship Live Stream.

St. John's Website at stjohnsmlb.org. You will find a variety of information there including schedules, the calendar, archives of the "Good News", Sunday Ministry schedules, the latest eNews and much more.

Visit Facebook, search for "St. John's Episcopal Church" and like our page. You will then receive updates in your newsfeed, notifications when we are live, and more.

NEW: OnRealm.org is where you can access the church database, contact information and more. See the article elsewhere in this Good News for more information.



Pictures and an App!

One of the priorities identified at the spring Vestry Retreat is getting our membership more engaged with the church online. The church database software we now use, called "Realm", is available as a website and also as an app on your phone! This isn't just to play with computers, but to enhance our connections and fellowship. We want to make it easier for you to connect with one another for fun, fellowship, church projects, outreach, and more!

To help accomplish this, we are undertaking two initiatives. First, to get members to use the web and app access for the database and, second, to get photos integrated into the database.

Some folks may have privacy worries about online data. Please rest assured that the security of the database has been guarded very carefully. One of our members used to work for Automated Church Systems, which writes and manages Realm, and she assured me that the CEO was "obsessed" with security and privacy. The truly private information, like giving records, are very strictly controlled. Accessing your information in the church database online will not expose it to hackers, nor will you looking up address or contact information on another member expose you or them.

The first step to get set up is that we will send you an email (if you have a valid email address for you), inviting you to log into Realm and create a password. We will have no way to access the password you create. If you forget, you will have to go thru a few steps to reset your account and create a new one – we can't fix it. So, please write it down!

Pictures and an App! (con't)

Once you have a log in and password, you can check your own data to make sure it is correct as well as look up and contact others. The system will not allow you to correct your own data. Let the office know if any changes are needed and we will make them. This is to make sure that all data is entered in a consistent way so that searches, etc., will work as designed.

Once in, you can find contact information for others, see pictures of them to remind you “who’s who,” and also to access church calendars, schedules, and even register for events.

Once you have logged in to the website, you will be able to get the app on your phone and access the same information there. The app is called Realm Connect and is available on both Apple and Android.

We will be working on collecting photos to include in the database, which can be either family or individual. With pics uploaded, we will be able to print hardcopy photo directories for you to use at home. The plan is to set them in a small binder on half of an 8½ x 11 paper, one family or individual per page, so that it will be easy to add new people, or update information by just printing a new sheet for that household.

Even if you don’t think of yourself as an online person, we encourage you to give this a try. Then find someone you’d like to get to know a little better and invite them to coffee or dinner!

Please address any questions to office@stjohnsmlb.org.

Musician’s Musings from Dr. D.



The “Anglican Music Bulletin Board” on the Internet is just what the name suggests: a locale for musicians in the Episcopal Church to query one another, provide information, and generally establish a sense of community. Like other bulletin boards on the Internet some of these things are better done than others.

Not too long-ago Ben Chi, the moderator, posted a message that said, “I ran across a short article by Bradley Lehman called “Decoro, Sprezzatura, Grazia” which sets out some ideas I find to be very insightful. I’ll quote just enough of it below to give you the flavor...

“Musical performances, speeches, acting, conversation, waiting tables, painting, cooking, or any other type of creative project (even a person’s entire way of being) can be assessed by the presence or absence of Decoro, Sprezzatura, and Grazia.

Decoro is basic poise and orderliness, getting the right notes with application of a good technique, being well prepared. It is correct pronunciation and good grammar. It is an understanding of the parts and the whole. It is knowledge of methods of expression. It is decorum, appropriateness. It is unity with the character of the material.

Sprezzatura is a deliberate nonchalance, the illusion that even the most difficult things are easy. A loose, casual delivery, an absence of strain, the ability not to be self-conscious.

Musician's Musings from Dr. D. (con't)

Anything unessential is disdained. The presentation is so direct that it seems to be improvised, and so natural that it seems it could not go any other way...

Grazia is a divine grace that shines through, the impression that the performer alone is not doing it, but something is happening through the performer. The performer is necessary but not sufficient..."

While Chi and Lehman are talking about music, I was struck by how these refer to our liturgy as well. In liturgy we all are the performers; God is the audience. When we think of our congregation as the "audience" we miss the point of liturgy totally.

How well do we apply Decoro, Sprezzatura, and Grazia to our liturgies at St. John's? We try for careful rehearsal by the choir of all music offered in the liturgy in order to prevent trivial and unseemly music-making; selection of music that amplifies and illuminates the ideas and themes of the day; asking parishioners not to chatter among themselves before the service begins and to arrive in their pews in time to prepare themselves properly for worship and to participate fully in the opening hymn and many others, too.

What is YOUR role in this? What other aspects can YOU think of that we need to address? Always remember: if you like what we're doing musically, tell everyone you see. If you don't like it, tell me. - Jerry Davidson



Easter Celebration!



Vestry Notes

The Vestry met on Thursday, March 16

Deborah Miller-Caldwell, Jr. Warden, reports some doors are being replaced. Florida Breeze did their yearly maintenance on the A/C units and reports that the unit that cools the nursery and treasurer's office will need replacing soon. The Scouts will do a project to clean the front area of the church before Easter.

Father Eric nominated Elizabeth Chludzinski for Treasurer and the Vestry elected her to replace Steve Bradley who is moving. She will fill the position when Steve resigns in a few months.

Father Eric hosted his first 'Tapping the Big Questions' gathering at the Intracoastal Brewery on March 7th. It went well with a half dozen people showing up. The success of the program depends upon parishioners bringing in 'unchurched' friends.

St. John's Stewardship Summary for February 2023				
	Feb 2023 Budget	Feb 2023 Actual	2023 YTD Budget	2023 YTD Actual
Income	\$19,350	\$16,971.69	\$38,400	\$34,420.50
Expenses	\$17,360.08	\$17,606.99	\$42,544.69	\$43,572.43
Net	\$ 1,989.91	- \$ 635.30	- \$ 4,144.69	- \$ 9,151.93
Outreach	\$1,945 for Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard			

Vestry Mini-Retreat

A vestry retreat was held March 25 at the home of Sr. Warden, Kathy Oas. The Vision Statement was reviewed and discussed. Two small word changes were agreed upon and will be confirmed at the April meeting, then disseminated to the congregation.

All agreed that the new concert series is a great success and will continue to be pushed as a major initiative of the church. Some possible tweaks were discussed, including adding a December event this year focusing on Christmas music.

We reviewed the church's online presence and new things being done: expansion of the eNews, more use of advertising on Facebook and Instagram, and more use of videos and reels to draw people to worship and other events.

It was agreed that following Easter this spring we would work to engage the congregation in using the church database, now available online and via a smartphone app. Additionally, we agreed to work to collect photos to be included in the database. This is really an effort to encourage more connection and fellowship.

The status of the Hispanic ministry was discussed. At this time, we are in a holding pattern awaiting some possible Hispanic clergy to lead the effort. The vestry remains committed to this.

A return of a "Blessing of the Animals" was discussed and will be pursued in the fall. We did not settle on the venue for this event.

May 2	.....	Tapping the Big Questions, Intracoastal Brewery, 7:00 p.m.
May 4	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
May 7	.....	Daughters of the King, at 11:30 a.m.
May 9	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
May 14	.....	Mother's Day
	.....	Family Promise Host (thru May 21)
May 18	.....	Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
May 21	.....	Concert in the Park, 5:00 p.m. supper; 5:30 p.m. concert
May 28	.....	Penetecost, wear red or white for church
May 29	.....	Memorial Day
June 1	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
June 4	.....	Daughters of the King, at 11:30 a.m.
June 6	.....	Tapping the Big Questions, Intracoastal Brewery, 7:00 p.m.
June 10	.....	Consecration of Canon Holcombe
June 13	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
June 15	.....	Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
June 18	.....	Father's Day
June 25	.....	Family Dinner Night, Meg O'Malley's, 5:00 p.m.

Many meetings include Zoom. Check the web page calendar for details.

ZOOM and Livestream Links: All Zoom meeting and Livestream event links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > Parish Life > Calendar or by sending an email to office@stjohnsmlb.org.



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