



ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS

May - June 2025

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. - Christian Formation

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

MONDAY

5:30 p.m. - AA. Parish Hall

TUESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Scouts in the Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

9:00 a.m. - Staff meeting
6:30 p.m. - AA Ladies

FRIDAY

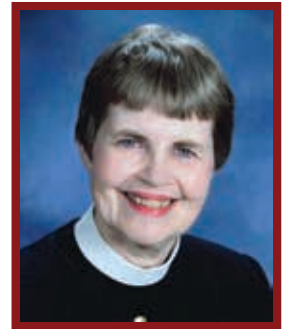
8:00 a.m. - TGIF (Men's Breakfast and Bible study), La Loma Coney Island,
1180 Aurora Road, Melbourne

Visit Stjohnsmblb.org for links and more info.

FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR:

Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Won't it feel good to have the alleluias restored to the Liturgy? St. Augustine of Hippo, whose life spanned much of the 4th – 5th Centuries, is quoted as saying “A Christian should be an alleluia from head to foot.” That's a great model for us as we enter Eastertide! This newsletter covers most of the 50 days of Easter, the Day of Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and the first couple of weeks following the celebration of that holy mystery and carries us into the beginning of the summer. This will be an exciting time in the life of St. John's, with lots of opportunities for singing alleluias! The parish may well call a new Rector during this joyful season. How will you prepare to greet your new rector and their family? Will there be special events? Summertime, with its slower pace, allows time to gather and get to know one another without the pressures of preparing for major liturgical events. I encourage you to listen in your conversations with the Lord to hear with the ears of your hearts how the Holy Spirit might inspire you to new and exciting ways of being the people of God – the risen Body of Christ - at St. John's. When the new Rector arrives, I must depart – that's the way of Interim ministry – and I encourage you to love your new Rector with the same enthusiasm (did you know that word means “in God?”) with which you have shared your love with me. Know that my love and prayers will go with you throughout this new, Easter life in Christ.



In Christ,

Mother Susan Davidson
Interim Rector



“GOOD NEWS”

July - August 2025

Schedule & Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of “The Good News” will be **Tuesday, June 17**. Please email or deliver your submissions to office@stjohnsmlb.org by **June 17, 2025**.



From the Senior Warden’s Desk

The search team has been working hard on reviewing information on the 4 candidates they were given by the Diocese. They narrowed the list down to 2. The search team invited the vestry to join Meet and Greet gatherings for each candidate which includes taking them on a tour of our campus. Stay tuned!!!!. – Kathy Oas

Facebook

Do you check the St. John’s Facebook page? Marie Salmon has done a wonderful job reviving our content, and is constantly updating the information. Take the time to check it out and if you have any ideas to make it more accessible to people let us know.

Fellowship Coffee Hour

To continue this much enjoyed ministry a sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall for volunteers as they are needed every week to set-up, serve, and clean-up.



Pentecost

Sunday, June 8, 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.



Sunday, May 11 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 hours 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.



Can you read in another language? If so, we need your help for the Pentecost reading. Look for a sign-up sheet or let us know at office@stjohnsmlb.org



Sunday, June 15 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!

A Worshiping Community

Prayer at the Altar

Prayer is available at the altar after Sunday service. If you need prayer, we encourage you to come to the altar. If anyone in the congregation would like to be an intercessor in prayer at the altar after the service, please contact Sarah Kendall.



Guided by Scripture

Chalice Bearers and Ushers

One of the most important ministries in the church service is the chalice bearer, a close second is the usher.

At St. John's we are one vacation or one illness away from not having either at a Sunday service.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a chalice bearer or usher.

Daughters of the King

May 11, Vanessa Cato will be installed as the new St. John's Chapter Chaplain.

The Chapter meetings are the first Sunday of every month, and we always welcome new members.



Our partnership with Christ Episcopal Church on the March Madness Diaper Drive for New Life Mission was a huge success! Thank you St. John's for your donations. A list of items needed by New Life Mission is on the Daughters' table in the Parish Hall.

During the summer the Daughters will meet at a local restaurant for lunch. Information on the date and location will be in the upcoming weekly announcements. We welcome all to the lunches and if you would like to attend please contact Sarah Kendall.

Prayer Request Box in the Sanctuary

A prayer request box is available in the Sanctuary beside the Daughters of the King banner. The Daughters have taken a vow to pray for others and we take this vow seriously. All prayer requests are strictly confidential, and we, as Daughters, honor that confidentiality.

Tending to your Spiritual Life

Let us resist the temptation to believe that we are all too busy to make time for prayer and devotion in our lives. I encourage you – even urge you – to set aside just a few minutes each day to sit (or walk) in quiet contemplation of the beauty and wonder of this world which God has created for us and given to us to enjoy and maintain.

I encourage you to **use the Daily Office as it is given us in the Book of Common Prayer** in both the language of Rite I and Rite II: Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer; Evening Prayer, and Compline (bedtime prayer) are all published in the BCP, both in their formal version and in a shorter version for Individuals and Families (beginning on p. 136). If you wish to join others around the world in the Daily Office, try going to missionstclare.com and you will find the services complete with hymns. It's a delightful way to begin or end the day! The **devotional booklet "Forward Day by Day,"** published by the Episcopal Church is available for daily reading online. I hope you will find them helpful in strengthening your prayer life!

Guided by Scripture

TGIF Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

Dear Brothers in Christ, We warmly invite you to join us for our Men's Bible Study at LaLoma Restaurant on Friday mornings. Our gathering takes place from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM, with breakfast served at 8:00 AM.

This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen our faith, share fellowship, and support one another in our spiritual journeys. As we break bread together and delve into God's Word, we strengthen the bonds that unite us as a community of believers.

Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church, we welcome you to be a part of this enriching experience. Let's grow in faith and friendship as we seek to live out God's will in our daily lives. We look forward to seeing you there!



Musings from Dr. D

“Why do Christians sing when they are together? The reason is, quite simply, because in singing together it is possible for them to speak and pray the same Word at the same time; in other words, because here they can unite in the Word. There should be singing, not only at devotions, but at regular times of the day or week. The more we sing, the more joy will we derive from it, but, above all, the more devotion and discipline and joy we put into our singing, the richer will be the blessing that will come to the whole life of the fellowship from singing together.

It is the voice of the Church that is heard in singing together. It is not you

that sings, it is the Church that is singing, and you, as a member of the Church, may share in its song. Thus, all singing together that is right must serve to widen our spiritual horizon, make us see our little company as a member of the great Christian Church on earth, and help us willingly and gladly to join our singing, be it feeble or good, to the song of the Church.”

~from LIFE TOGETHER by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Jerry's Note: In the two years I attended Union Theological Seminary in NYC, I lived in Hastings Hall, where Bonhoeffer lived before me. Unfortunately, no one would tell us which room he had... It was a heady experience, walking around the cloisters where some of the great theological minds had walked.

- Jerry Davidson

Outreach Focus – Sharing His Love

May

Our Outreach Focus for the month of 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 year Charlene will travel to Uganda to work on several planned projects. If you have questions contact Susan Badgio, a member here at St. John’s, as well as a Board Member of SLA. Visit solarlightforafrica.org for more information. Anything in the blue or lavender envelopes, or clearly marked for Outreach in the month of May will go to SLA.

June

Our Outreach partner for the month of June is Complementary Cancer Care. We invite you to donate to this worthy organization in June. This non-profit program offers counseling, transportation, yoga, art, support groups, wigs and head coverings, and many other resources to complement traditional cancer treatments. All services are free, and they are funded by donations and grants. Their Statement of Mission and Values is to promote an overall sense of wellbeing in individuals impacted by cancer by providing accessible complementary therapies. More information may be found at compcancercare.org.



Family Promise



If you would like to help please contact:

Ben Kendall 832-229-0142 (cell),
ben.kendall@gmail.com (email)

Linda Fletcher 321-704-7100 (cell),
lcalvert1956@yahoo.com (email)

Outreach Meetings

The Outreach Committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. by Zoom. Upcoming meetings are May 6, and June 3. A Zoom link for the Outreach meeting is on the St. John’s website.

Daily Bread



The upcoming duty days are May 1, and June 5, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer, please email the office.

Loaning of Church Items

If you would like to borrow tables, chairs, cribs, linens etc. please speak with Kathy Oas, Sr. Warden or Paul Mitz, Jr. Warden, first as there might be an event on the schedule where these items are needed. And, of course, we need to keep track of the church’s property.

Please contact Kathy at kmoas40@gmail.com; Paul at 321-288-4050, or email the church office.

Stewardship

Our Stewardship campaign is over but we do have pledge packets available at the back of the church for folks unable to participate earlier in the year.

- Jack Kenworthy.



A Request from the Finance Team

To all who faithfully gift your treasure to St. John's – thank you! Your financial gifts have kept the lights on, the heat/air conditioning running, and the water flowing. Without you, none of this would be possible.

When a check is written to St. John's and the memo or note designates that the amount of the check be parsed so 'amount \$ X' goes to Outreach, 'amount \$B goes to Flower', etc., this creates problems within the bookkeeping/accounting process.

It requires many manual steps to carry out these directions and the opportunity for human error is significant including assuring your generous gift gets recognized as yours. The check must be deposited as written and the noted funds must be redirected through a series of steps that may get delayed or missed.

We understand the cost efficiency of writing one check versus multiple. We also understand how important it is to the giver that the funds be allocated according to directions. In order to support the accurate allocation, writing individual checks with clear notes on how each is to be allocated would be greatly appreciated.

- Finance Team

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

If a person is old enough and possesses an IRA or some other tax-deferred account, he or she should be able to realize some tax-saving benefits by donating to St. John's, using a "qualified charitable distribution" referred to as an RMD.

If you are required to withdraw a percentage of your tax-deferred accounts and pay taxes on that withdrawal avoid paying taxes on that required annual withdrawal by donating to St. John's. Your financial advisor can explain the details.

St. John's Endowment Fund

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.

Consult your financial manager about gifts to the endowment fund to possibly reduce your taxes. Endowment Fund brochures are available in the parish hall.

Vestry Notes

Vestry approved Minutes are now posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

March

It was agreed to prepare the nursery for use during Sunday services since we have families with small children. Volunteers have shown an interest to help.

March (cont.)

Mother Susan discussed the safe-church training and urges everyone to participate when it is available in our area. The bishop is encouraging every church to do this. Safe church training and background checks are required for everyone working with children, and Eucharistic Visitors.

Minutes of Annual Meeting and the February Vestry meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Financial Report for January, 2025.

- A question regarding the \$1,500 in the Reserve Restricted Fund was discussed and a recommendation to leave it as a contingency fund was put forward. An explanation is in the March Parish Minutes on the bulletin board in the parish hall.
- The Diocese did not receive the January \$3,000 check and another was mailed on the understanding they would destroy the first, but they cashed both. We did not send a check in March and will resume payments in April.
- Surplus in February is \$3,980. Cumulative surplus at the end of February is \$9,041.
- The parish audit is due Sept 1. Two people are required and Ben has volunteered. Linda Fletcher was recommended as the second member of the committee.
- Diocese suggests quarterly reports to parishioners. The Vestry considers this to be too frequent for St. John's considering the work and postage. Will reconsider if pledges are down.
- Treasurer's report was approved.

Senior Warden Report:

- Work Day. Major clean-up throughout the church included painting and carpet cleaning.
- During the summer the kitchen and parish hall floors will be cleaned.
- A new computer is needed in the front office. The vestry approved up to \$2,000 for this purchase.
- Vestry reminded that the following Wednesday they were responsible for the Soup Supper.
- Small freezer in kitchen will be defrosted and shut off as it is no longer used.
- Desperate need for more ushers and LEMS.
- Susan Badgio replaced Jamie Hamilton as head of the Search Committee, and dates were set to interview two candidates.

Junior Warden Report:

- Front parking lot power washed, and stripes to be painted.
- Cement repair, sprinklers, church door, bathroom light switch, switch in bathroom needed attention.
- Pickets in gazebo needs attention.
- Dehumidifier in Nursery needs repair.

Rector's Report:

- Wedding in park cancelled.
- Hope to include the Reverend Vanessa Cato in holy week services.
- Katie, Julie, and Kathy have done safe church training.
- Angie Brown's daughter, Mary offered to take care of courtyard.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Vestry Notes (cont.)

Financial Summary for January, 2025				
	Jan 2025 Budget	Jan 2025 Actual	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual
Income	\$ 20,933	\$ 17,979	\$ 20,933	\$ 17,979
Expenses	\$ 20,785	\$ 11,841	\$ 20,785	\$ 11,841
Net	\$ 147	\$ 6,138	\$ 147	\$ 6,138

Daily Bread Transition

Melbourne's City Council voted unanimously to support Daily Bread's housing development on Apollo Blvd, committing \$3 million to help bring Providence Place to life. This transition means the day shelter at Fee Avenue will close on May 9.

For 37 years, Daily Bread has been a place of refuge, dignity, and hope for our neighbors in need. Going forward two mobile offices, a Daily Bread food truck, and Streetside Showers will meet people where they are, providing housing-focused case management, hot meals, showers, clean clothes, and essential supplies at partner locations. In 2027 Providence Place will open its doors, providing a permanent solution for 150 individuals overcoming homelessness.

Three regular outreach sites are lined up and are already seeing the fruits of these efforts. In every outreach opportunity, whether at a regular site or in an encounter with an outreach specialist on the street, the focus will be working with each person to overcome their homeless situation.

If you are interested in helping Daily Bread during their transition period they have orientation sessions to provide the details. The sessions are hosted at the South Brevard Sharing Center, 17 East Hibiscus, Melbourne, as follows:

May 5, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

May 6, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

May 7, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

RSVP: Claudia@dailybreadinc.org

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

May:

Jim Lacy	5/3	Lillian Collins	5/9	Carol Hawkins	5/23
Will Lester	5/5	Carl Holliday	5/14	Bob Stitzel	5/28
Floyd Trogdon	5/7	Frank Hernkind	5/16	Bill McDonald	5/29
Lois Thayer	5/7	Jamie Hamilton	5/18		
Charlie Williams	5/7	Amanda Coleman	5/23		

June:

June Stitzel	6/1	Carole Taylor	6/12	Teckia Greene	6/21
Christine Bamberger	6/4	Lauren Stitzel	6/16	Berry Trogdon	6/27
Elias Hambel	6/10	Rachel Crane	6/17	Murray Ludwig	6/28
Josh Seymour	6/11	Susan McDanel	6/17		
Betty Ricones	6/11	Gary Harrell	6/19		

ANNIVERSARIES

May:

Jerry & Susan Davidson 5/21

June:

Michael & Sallie Razor 6/2 Bill & Susan McDanel 6/17 John & Dorinda Campbell 6/20

Exit Doors in an Emergency

In the unlikely event of an emergency exit routes from the parish hall are posted on the bulletin board. If you are new to St. John’s please take the time to review these routes.

Apart from the main door into the Sanctuary there are also exit doors in both the right and left sacristy, either side of the altar.

St. John’s Pet Cemetery

Our Pet Cemetery is located on the East side of the sanctuary and lovingly maintained by Amy Lacy and Laure Bennett.

Please contact the office if you would like to have your pet laid to rest there.

Seaside Stitchers

THE SEASIDE STITCHERS

At the Monday meeting the ladies bring in the items they have created during the month. All items are donated to local organizations including Vitas Healthcare, Reflections of St Francis, Alzheimers Foundation, Grand Villa, Brevard Health Alliance, Sarah's Care, Florida Shores of Melbourne, Assisted Living, Community of hope - mostly linens, socks, toilet articles, Daily Bread - mostly linens, socks and toilet articles, Companion Animal Care of Brevard, Palm Bay, Harbor City and Croton Elementary Schools.

If you are interested in joining the sewing group stop by and join in. For more information contact Shirley Muzzy 321-254-2206 or shirleymuzzy@aol.com.



Seaside Stitchers (cont.)



KEEPING UP WITH ST. JOHN'S ONLINE



St. John's Chat - an email list to receive the latest updates from St. John's. You can also share things with the parish this way.

St. John's Weekly eNews - will be sent periodically to promote events.

St. John's YouTube Channel - you will find worship live streams and sermons, and links to all past and upcoming worship services.

Visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Worship Live Stream.

St. John's Website at stjohnsmlb.org. A variety of information 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, Melbourne" and like our page. You will receive updates in your newsfeed, notifications when we are live, and more.

To subscribe or to contact St. John's - email office@stjohnsmlb.org.

May 1	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
May 4	.....	Daughters of the King, in the chapel, at 11:30 a.m.
May 6	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
May 11	.....	Mother's Day!
May 15	.....	Vestry Meeting, Chapel & Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
May 26	.....	Memorial Day!
June 1	.....	Daughters of the King, in the chapel, at 11:30 a.m.
June 3	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
June 5	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
June 15	.....	Father's Day!
June 19	.....	Vestry Meeting, Chapel & Zoom, 7:00 p.m. (to be rescheduled)

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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