

**Today's Calendar**

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
 9:30 a.m. Life Group  
 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
 12:00 p.m. NarcAnon "Clean at Noon"  
 8:00 p.m. Friday Night Young Peoples' AA

**Today's Ministry:** Alpha Course**Saturday, February 27**

1 Corinthians 7:10-24 *God paid a high price for you, so don't be enslaved by the world.* (v.23)

I had to stop right here! God's payment; my slavery to the world. So often music—hymns and praise songs—reaches deep into my soul with the truth of the depth of that sacrifice! Today, pondering the powerful, painful price the Lord paid for you and me, I think of the words of Isaac Watts in his hymn, *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*: "Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

I must also do a self-survey of any slavery to the world in my life. In what ways am I a slave to the world—of opinion, fashion, and the frantic pace of life today? As *The Message* Bible translation states Psalm 46:10, "Step out of the traffic! Take a long loving look at me, your High God, above politics, above everything." I think I'll do just that!

Genesis 43:16-34; Psalms 75, 76; Mark 5:1-20

**Birthdays:** Ken Wall, Heidi McNabb**Anniversaries:** Jennifer and Jason Hart**Today's Calendar**

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
 12:00 p.m. NarcAnon "Clean at Noon"  
 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 6:00 p.m. ST. MARY'S CLOSET FASHION SHOW  
 6:30 p.m. Klean N'Krazy  
 8:30 p.m. NarcAnon "Not Alone"

**Today's Ministry:** Altar Guild**Good News Daily****Volume XVI****February 21-27, 2016****Number 8****Sunday, February 21**

Genesis 41:14-45, "It is beyond my power to do this," Joseph replied. "But God can tell you what it means and set you at ease." (v.16 NLT)

Joseph knows interpreting Pharaoh's dream is beyond his power! The ways of the world can overwhelm us, and we may feel helpless to make a difference with the hunger, violence, and self-focused attitudes of our times. I take hope from Joseph's honesty about his own helpless state and his trust in God's power, wisdom, love, and grace. I may not be filling storehouses with grain, but I can pray for the ears to hear and the heart to believe God can and will tell me what I need to know so I can seek to fill the storehouse of my heart with truth. I don't want to miss the plans God has for me! Plans not to harm me but to prosper me, plans of a hope and a future! (Jeremiah 29:11).

Psalms 24, 29; Romans 6:3-14; John 5:19-24

**Birthdays:** Dee Dee Nice**Anniversaries:** Jacqueline and Art Lorr**Today's Calendar**

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Family Worship Service  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 10:00 a.m. Coffee in the Courtyard  
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Education  
 10:15 a.m. CFW Band Rehearsal  
 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 12:15 p.m. Confirmation Classes  
 4:00 p.m. Life Group  
 6:00 p.m. R.O.C.K.  
 6:00 p.m. Financial Course

**Today's Ministry:** St. Mary's Closet Thrift Store**"Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with love"**

**Clergy and Staff:** The Rt. Rev. Peter Eaton, *Bishop of Diocese of Southeast Florida*; The Rev. Dr. Todd Cederberg, *Rector*; The Rev. Steve Fregeau, *Assistant for Pastoral Care*; Joanne Nelson, *Music Ministry Director*; Melissa Lewis, *Parish Administrator*; Mimi Swaringen, *Receptionist/Membership Secretary*; Kelly Garner, *Children's Ministry Director*; Alexis Stuckey, *Youth Ministry Director*; Debbie Flerx, *Facility Manager*; Jesse Little, *Sexton*, Phil Lindecamp, *Church Sexton*

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This week's readings **by Barbara Maybee**

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## Monday, February 22

Genesis 41:46-57 *As predicted, for seven years the land produced bumper crops. During those years, Joseph gathered the crops grown in Egypt and stored the grain....* (vv.47-49a)

There are “bumper crops” and famines in more areas of our lives than food! Seasons of joy, laughter, companionship, and vibrant health may be followed by seasons of sickness, grief, and isolation. Can we call upon the wisdom God gave to Joseph? What can we put in the storehouses of our hearts during those times of plenty to nourish us in times of famine?

Perhaps the psalms of David reveal the answer: “My heart is confident in you, O God; I will thank you, Lord, among all the people. I will sing your praises among the nations. For your unailing love is as high as the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.” (Psalm 57:7a, 9-10). We can we store up gratitude, recognition of God’s love, and faithfulness, and trust that God is who He is. Then we can “hide beneath the shadow of [His] wings until the danger passes by” (Psalm 57:1b).

Psalms 56, 57, 58; 1 Corinthians 4:8-21; Mark 3:7-19a

**Birthdays:** Eddie Beverly

### Today’s Calendar

7:00 a.m.	AA “Hour of Power”
6:30 p.m.	Life Group

**Today’s Ministry:** Sunday School Teachers

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## Tuesday, February 23

Mark 3:19b-35 *“Anyone who does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”* (v.35)

Critics and accusers surround Jesus. His family is concerned for his sanity—worried, confused and deceived—having a limited picture of who Jesus is. Yet Jesus stands firm, teaching truth that cuts through confusion and nullifies deception: “How can Satan cast out Satan?” he asked. “A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse. Similarly, a family splintered by feuding will fall apart” (vv.23-25). Jesus brings truth in confusing experiences.

I want to be secure in God’s family—obedient with His teaching tucked in my heart, leaning on the image of being “safe beneath the shelter of [God’s] wings” (Psalm 61:4b). In these times when confusing statements, teachings, and beliefs are being proclaimed, I am determined to follow this advice: “O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge” (Psalm 62:8).

Genesis 42:1-17; Psalms 61, 62; 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

**Birthdays:** Spencer Nardone, Sue Patrick, Roy Holding, Bob King, Bob Hurd, Wesley Phillips, Daniel Ucelo

### Today’s Calendar

7:00 a.m.	AA “Hour of Power”
9:00 a.m.	Beth Moore Series “To Live is Christ-The Life & Ministry of Paul”
10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
12:10 p.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing
6:30 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
7:30 p.m.	NarcAnon “Just for Today”

**Today’s Ministry:** Ushers

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## Wednesday, February 24

Mark 4:1-20 *“The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced.”* (vv.18-19)

Distinguishing between thorns and truth is a daily challenge! What thorns attempt to take root in the soil of my soul—my mind and heart? This is a great self-inventory question. What are my “core thorns,” things tempting or blinding me to truth, the love of Jesus, and the leading of the Holy Spirit; thing that get in the way of my knowing God’s purpose? Reflecting on yesterday, do I see seeds of thorns of pride and selfish ambition? In the day ahead will I be motivated by thorns of fear of failure, need for approval, fear of the future? Or can I “hear and accept God’s word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” (v.20)?

Genesis 42:18-28; Psalm 72; 1 Corinthians 5:9—6:8

**Birthdays:** Laura Spring, Jennifer Korber

### Today’s Calendar

6:30 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study
7:00 a.m.	AA “Hour of Power”
9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11:15 a.m.	Program Staff Meeting
4:45 p.m.	Mary’s Kitchen
5:30 p.m.	AA “Daily Reflections”
6:00 p.m.	Lenten Series
6:15 p.m.	Beth Moore Series “Children of the Day”
7:00 p.m.	Life Group
8:30 p.m.	NarcAnon “Klean and Crazy”

Today’s Ministry: Youth Group

## Thursday, February 25

Mark 4:21-34 *Jesus said, “How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What should I use to illustrate it? It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches and birds can nest in its shade.”* (vv.30-32)

Have you ever seen a mustard seed? It is miniscule... perhaps a fifth of the size of a peppercorn. I am struck by how small the deposit of God’s kingdom in me can be and yet grow to unending, unlimited proportions! That truth is reinforced in my heart by learning, “your bodies are actually parts of Christ...one spirit with him” (1 Corinthians 6:15, 17). As the “birds nest in its shade,” so can I rest in the security of belonging in God’s kingdom—embraced by His truth and love, taking care to stay within the protection of those “long branches” of His faithfulness, truth, and love.

Genesis 42:29-38; Psalms 70, 71; 1 Corinthians 6:12-30

**Birthdays:** Patty Hardman, Bob Bysse, Jean Lockwood, Carol McLaughlin, Scott McNabb, Tom Bevan, Michael Lovett

### Today’s Calendar

7:00 a.m.	AA “Hour of Power”
10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
12:30 p.m.	Overeaters’ Anonymous
4:00 p.m.	St. Mary’s Choristers
6:30 p.m.	Life Group
7:00 p.m.	Choir Evening Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	AIAnon “Stepping Stones”
8:30 p.m.	DAA

**Today’s Ministry:** Acolytes

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## Friday, February 26

Mark 4:35-41 *When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Silence! Be still!” Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was great calm. Then he asked them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”* (vv.39-40)

“The storms of life” is an old and familiar phrase! It describes the turmoil I feel when confronted with uncertainty—when I’m out of time and resources are dwindling. Life does make me seasick in those times! I like the *English Standard Version* translation here: “Peace! Be still!” Peace comes as I look up and inward, looking for Jesus; knowing his voice will calming the rocking of my boat. “For the LORD hears the cries of the needy; he does not despise his imprisoned people” (Psalm 69:33). As Annie Hawks cries out in her hymn, *I Need Thee Every Hour*, “I need Thee. O, I need Thee. Every hour I need Thee!”

Genesis 43:1-15; Psalm 69; 1 Corinthians 7:1-9