

we believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, even when it costs us something? We have many ways of knowing that he is all that eyewitnesses claimed him to be. We have his Scriptures, the story of his love for us all. We have the transformed lives of believers, beginning with eleven fearful disciples who deserted him at the cross but who later became saints. We have our own personal experience of the joy that glimpses of his love and presence have given us.

Let us pray that the Father will transform us all into what He would have us be and that He will “plant in every heart the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ” (BCP, page 213).

Genesis 43:16-34; Psalms 75, 76; 1 Corinthians 7:10-24

Birthdays: Josephine Gallo, Peter Dayton, Joy Allison

Saturday’s Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	Step Sisters Meeting
10:00 am	Bible Study ONLINE
5:00 pm	Holy Eucharist Rite II
8:30 pm	Not Alone Group

Today’s Ministry: Interfaith Forums

Reflections by Sister Mary Michael, SSM

Used with permission from the BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP
 PO Box 380, Winter Park, FL 32790
www.biblereading.org



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

“Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love”

The Clergy

The Rev. Joseph Shepley, Rector - frjoe@stmarys-stuart.org

The Rev. Christian S. Anderson, Vicar of Operations - christian@stmarys-stuart.org

Affiliated Clergy

The Rev. Tom Hartley

The Rev. P.J. Woodall

Lay Staff

Tom Winter, Director of Finance - tom@stmarys-stuart.org

Ashley Guzi, Director of Administration - ashley@stmarys-stuart.org

Brandon Glick, Director of Music & Liturgy - brandon@stmarys-stuart.org

Malinda Fritz, Youth Director - malinda@stmarys-stuart.org

Justin Breese, Director of Facilities & Events - justin@stmarys-stuart.org

Kate Abate, Administrative Assistant - kate@stmarys-stuart.org

Pat Channing, Praise Band Director - patchanning@hotmail.com

Robert Mancuso, Mary’s Closet Manager - robert@stmarys-stuart.org

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
 623 SE Ocean Blvd. | Stuart, FL 34994



ST. MARY’S
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Good News Daily

Volume XXIV

February 25-March 2, 2024

Number 8

Sunday, February 25

Psalm 24 *Who is this King of Glory?* (v.10 NRSV)

Today I would answer just like Peter did: “We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God” (John 6:69). And like the centurion at the foot of the cross, I would say: “Truly this man was God’s Son” (Mark 15:39).

My answer, however, was not always thus. When I was a college sophomore, I considered myself to be an atheist. An essay which we read in an English class cast the first doubts on my self-confident, new-found belief in nothing! The author wrote that if there really were such a thing as an atheist, so-called atheists would stop arguing forever about their atheism.

Several years later when my mother died—the first agonizing sorrow of the death of a loved one that I had experienced—I had such a profound sense of God’s love and presence surrounding me that I would never again think of myself as an atheist. The King of Glory, the Lord, strong and mighty, became the God of my salvation, my healer, my joy.

Genesis 41:14-45; Psalm 29; Romans 6:3-14; John 5:19-24

Birthdays: Bob Bysshe, Michael Lovett, Carol McLaughlin, Scott McNabb

Sunday’s Calendar:

7:30 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 am	Contemporary Family Worship
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II
6:00 pm	Volunteer Recognition Event

Today’s Ministry: Gardening Ministry

Monday, February 26

Genesis 41:46-57 *“What he says to you, do.”* (v.55b)

These words of Pharaoh’s to the Egyptians telling them to do whatever Joseph, his second-in-command, ordered them to do remind me of the words Jesus’ mother, Mary, spoke to the servants at the wedding in Cana. In the midst of the festivities, she was told that the wine had run out. She told her son: “They have no wine” (John 2:3), and then she told the servants—and us—“Do whatever he tells you” (John 2:5). The serv-

ants were told by Jesus to fill the nearby water pots with water. As we all know, the water became wine (John 2:9).

Pharaoh's words remind me also of the Father's words to the disciples—and us—at the Transfiguration. He said to them: "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" (Mark 9:7). Could we would-be faithful followers of Christ and his way ever have any better advice than that? If we are ever going to become Christ-like (the sole purpose of our life on earth), we must listen carefully to all of his words in Scripture. If we would be true followers, and not just spectators and admirers of our Savior, we must listen to him and obey him.

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

Birthdays: Nancy Del Priore, Julia Garcia

Monday's Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
10:00 am	Praying Hands (1 st & 3 rd Mondays)
3:00 pm	Daughters of the King (2 nd Mondays)
5:45 pm	ACOA

Today's Ministry: Global Missions

Tuesday, February 27

Mark 3:19b-35 *"Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."* (v.35)

One of my Sisters once read at a Chapel service of ours an article by someone who was writing about what he considered the enormous difference there is between a follower and an admirer of our Lord. I don't know who wrote the article, but the author's assertion that there is indeed a tremendous difference has stuck with me.

When our beloved Lord called one disciple after another, he did not ask them to admire him or to think well of him, but he invited them to follow him. And he is urging us, as he urged them, to leave our false self (our self-centered, self-absorbed, self-concerned self) behind and allow our truest, deepest, most real self—the one made in the Image of God—to stand up and follow him with joy into the abundant life to which he has always been calling all of us. Could there ever be a greater calling than that of becoming his follower, his friend?

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

Birthdays: Ken Wall, Heidi McNabb, Charlie Fecko, Kathy Rogers, Julien Soares

Tuesday's Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
12:10 pm	Healing Service
5:30 pm	Ladies Night Out

Today's Ministry: Grief Support Group

Wednesday, February 28

Mark 4:1-20 *And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables."* (v.11)

Our verse for today reminds me of one in another Gospel in which Jesus tells his disciples—and us—how wondrously blessed we Christians are. "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it" (Luke 10:23-24).

We have been given God's living words which speak to us again and again in His Scriptures, His love letter to us all. We have been drawn by His love to His Church and His Sacraments where we have been fed, nourished, and empowered, and we have been given the gifts of one another.

The Archbishop of Canterbury once told the Primates of our Church, meeting in Ireland: "A priest is someone who by his or her friendship reveals to us the face of God." What better description could we have, not just for a priest but for any of us Christians? We have been so richly blessed; not just for ourselves, but that we may share our Good News with all. People are indeed supposed to see Christ in us because of the way we live, speak, and act; do they?

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

Birthdays: Jeanne Ralicki, Caden Tucker, Matthew Gallo, Stephanie Paul, Mary Gordon, Joanne Salvaggio, Marilyn Oates, Jill Britt

Wednesday's Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	School of Prayer
10:00 am	Life Group
4:30 pm	Mary's Kitchen
6:00 pm	Soup Super & Lenten Study

Today's Ministry: Heritage Fund

Thursday, February 29

1 Corinthians 6:12-30 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?* (v.19)

Paul asks the Corinthians—and us—in our reading for today if we don't know that the Holy Spirit lives within us. In other words, at our Baptism we were given the gift of the Holy Spirit and "marked as Christ's own forever." We began our journey home that day when we entered God's kingdom of love. Our faith was then "like a mustard seed...the smallest of all seeds on earth...but it can grow up and become the greatest of all shrubs..." (Mark 4:31-32).

The Very Rev. Sam Lloyd, former Dean of Washington Cathedral and former Rector of Trinity Church in Boston's Copley Square, told an Adult Forum audience that if they want to deepen what faith they have, the very best way is to do what Jesus told his first questioning disciples to do: "Come and see" (John 1:39). Enter into the life of the Church that Christ founded. Live your faith. Practice it. Follow as much

of Christ and his way of love as you know of him and your faith will keep on growing and growing. I couldn't possibly think of any better advice than that for all of us.

Genesis 42:29-38; Psalms 70, 71; Mark 4:21-34

Anniversaries: Dave & Nancy Von Holle

Thursday's Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
7:30 am	Men's Bible Study
10:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II
4:30 pm	Life Group, Smith Hall
5:30 pm	AA California Group
7:00 pm	Al-Anon- Stepping Stones

Today's Ministry: Hospital Visitors

Friday, March 1

Mark 4:35-41 *He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"* (v.40)

One of the most awe-inspiring, mind-boggling verses in the whole Bible for me is the first verse of Mark: "The beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." We know at the very beginning who Jesus is—the Messiah, the Anointed One. The disciples, however, didn't know. They kept on asking: "Who is this?" In today's passage, they are anxious and fearful. The tiny mustard seed of faith hasn't grown much yet.

What about you and me here and now? Do we recognize Jesus when he comes to us in his Scriptures, his Church, his Sacraments, and his people? The reality is that he is here with us whether we recognize him or not, just as he was with his first disciples. We must watch for glimpses of his loving presence at all times, in all places, and in all people.

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

Anniversaries: Linda Love, Georgia Smith

Birthdays: Spencer Nardone, Nick Nickerson, Mary Maskal

Friday's Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	Life Group
10:00 am	Grief Support Group
8:00 pm	AA Friday Nite Young People

Today's Ministry: Hospitality Ministry

Saturday, March 2

Mark 5:1-20 *They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid.* (v.15)

When the Gerasenes heard that Jesus had caused the death of 2,000 pigs—their livelihood—they begged him to move on. They ignored completely the incredible miracle Jesus had performed for the demoniac, whom they could now see sitting near Jesus clothed and in his right mind. Our Gospel story today raises some very important questions for us. Do