

the Key

News & Notes

from St. Peter's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church • Gulfport, MS

St. Peter's by-the-Sea
Episcopal Church
Gulfport, Mississippi
www.stpetersbythesea.net

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Cultivating Silence, Cultivating Gratitude

I come from a long line of vegetable gardeners. While I am not particularly adept at growing much of anything (I've even manage to pretty much kill off my last surviving peace lily), I understand some of the basic principles. To grow anything, we must give it a certain amount of care, a certain amount of attention. Adequate water and good, nourishing soil are also requirements for growth. My poor peace lily is dying because I just can't seem to remember to water it.

So it is with our souls. As we head into the busy holiday season, our culture around us will not offer us many opportunities to care for and nurture our souls. But I invite you to be mindful of that deep hunger, that deep need, and to spend some time and attention giving your soul what it needs to flourish and grow.

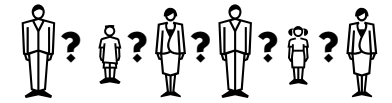
The first way you can do that is to cultivate silence in your life. Now some of us have too much silence that echoes with our loneliness, and others have too little which is crowded out by the competing demands for our time and our attention. So we are going to do this work of cultivating silence together. During the season of Advent, I ask that you help me by keeping an intentional period of silence ten minutes before

each of our Sunday services begins. It is something that we can help each other with and which we can support one another through our community that is gathered for prayer and worship. In silence, we are given the opportunity to "be still and know that God is God" and that we are not. In silence, we are given the opportunity to lay down the words and the burdens and the incessant chatter that we carry around

with us every single day, and we are invited to be before God as our most true selves whom God has created. When we allow ourselves to be silent, then we can hear things that God is speaking to our deepest souls that we've not been able to hear before for all of the noise.

The second way that you can feed your soul during this busy season is to cultivate gratitude. The following is a meditation written by Wayne Muller in his book *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in our Busy Lives*. "Meister Eckhart, the Christian mystic, asserted that if the only prayer we ever prayed our whole life was 'Thank you,' that would be enough. Gratefulness cultivates a visceral experience of having enough. When we are mindful of what we have, and give thanks for the many gifts we have



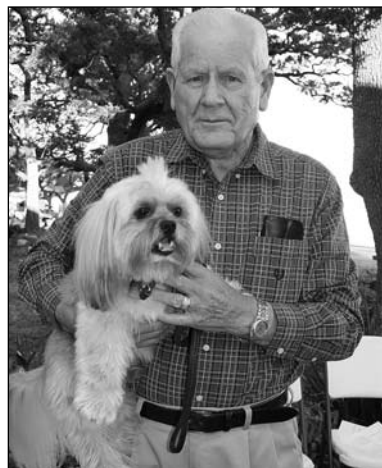


Guess Who?

This person is:

- ▣ Born and reared in New Orleans
- ▣ Graduate of LSU with a double major: Zoology and Chemistry
- ▣ Worked for a large Bleaching Company in Mobile to prepare large items for dyeing
- ▣ Later worked in the Humidity Testing Lab of a paper manufacturing firm in Mobile

(Answer on page 13.)




Eco•Tips

Did You Know—

- ▶ that about 75% of retired computers in the United States are in storage, 15% are in landfills, and only about 10% are recycled?

Less than 5% of all personal computers are donated to schools, charities, or non-profits. Before you store or throw out your computer, please consider donating it to a local school, charity, or non-profit.

- ▶ that you can use vinegar to clean your shower and tub? Straight vinegar kills 82% of mold. Just pour the white distilled vinegar straight into a spray bottle, spray on the mold, and let it set— no need to rinse! The vinegar smell will dissipate in a few hours.



Mission & Outreach

OPPORTUNITIES AND REPORTS

FEED MY SHEEP

Judy and Jim Ownbey were responsible for September's Second Sunday Feed My Sheep lunch. They were assisted by Phil Parker, Arlene Snyder, Pat McMahon, Earline Sawyer and Cris Ionescu. This crew did a great job of putting the 50 lunches together! Wonderful homemade cookies were made by Jane Glenn and Cheryl Smith to add to the lunches. Sarah and Joe Scott will be responsible for coordinating our November 13th Second Sunday Feed My Sheep lunches. Please join us in the kitchen to lend a hand!

Servers at Feed My Sheep for November 14th are Judy and Jim Joest, Susan Prendergast and Candace Ozerden and for November 28th are Jackie and Paul Krass, Margaret McCrary and Barbara Smith. A BIG thanks to all who serve in this mission.

IHN

November 27–December 3 will be our next week to provide meals for IHN. Please consider taking a dinner to the Rebekah House during this week. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex about mid-November. Patti Nicholas, who continues to coordinate St. Peter's efforts for the IHN, will be able to answer any of your questions.

Looking Ahead...

As we enter the Holiday Seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas there will be several missions from which you and your family may wish to choose to be involved. Information on some of these are below included.

FOOD PANTRY AND THANKSGIVING BAGS

You are encouraged to continue bringing food items in for the Food Pantry. We are working with First United Methodist Church to make up Thanksgiving Bags which will be handed out through Gulf Coast Community Ministries. The list of needed items is:

Thanksgiving Meal Bag List

- 2 cans of fruit
- 2 cans of vegetables
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 package of stuffing
- 1 package or can of gravy
- 1 box of instant mashed potatoes
- small canned ham or other meat
**** not refrigerated
- package of cookies or dessert item

You are encouraged to include any of the Thanksgiving Bag items in your Panty donations. We will need to have our Thanksgiving Bags ready to deliver to the Methodist Church by November 20th.

CLOTHING FOR HARRISON COUNTY CHILDREN'S SHELTER

Our Christmas/Winter drive to provide clothing for girls' sizes 6-6X (pants and tops) to the Harrison County Children's Shelter will begin Mid-November with delivery to the Shelter to occur prior to Christmas. Clothing for Harrison County Children's Shelter is a mission we undertake 3 times per year.

According to Leslie Stanfield, St. Peter's coordinator for this project, the clothing articles we provide may be the only new clothing these girls receive if they are placed in the Shelter during the Christmas season.

Christmas Angel Tree

As we have in the past, St. Peter's will be participating in the Angel Tree project. Cheryl Smith will again be coordinating this mission for St. Peter's. You'll be hearing more about adopting an angel once we receive information on the 30 angels we hope to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace B. Ozerden

Ocean Springs-Long Beach Interfaith Hospitality Network's Bridge – Walk for Rebekah's House



Sat., Nov 19, 2011 – 8:00-11:00 a.m. (Rain or Shine)
4 mile family friendly walk to promote homeless awareness
Begins/ends - Ocean Springs or Biloxi Bridge Entrance

Entry Fee and Registration: Entry forms must be completed in full, signed by the participant (*legal guardian if under 18 years old*). Registration fee is \$10 for 18 years old and above, proceeds will go to the Interfaith Hospitality Network "Rebekah's House". Registration packets will be available the day of the walk. Non-registered participants will not receive t-shirts. You do not have to walk to donate. All participants are asked to collect pledges and turn them in the day of the walk.

Course: Walkers may start at the foot of the Ocean Springs-Biloxi Bay Bridge either in Ocean Springs or Biloxi. The course is over the bridge and back.

Awards: None, other than the good feeling you get when helping others!

T-shirts: The first 100 pre-registered participants will receive a T-shirt.

For further information call Deb Melton at 228-760-2981.

The Ocean Springs-Long Beach Interfaith Hospitality Network is a non-profit 501 C 3 organization committed to helping low income families with children achieve lasting independence through the aid of local churches and volunteers. Our mission is to educate, empower, and mobilize homeless families with children to achieve self-sufficiency. At Rebekah's House homeless families with children receive temporary housing and intensive case-management; church volunteers provide meals, fellowship and hospitality for a week at a time on a rotating basis. All proceeds will go towards support of the Interfaith Hospitality Network and Rebekah's House. www.osbihn.org

DO NOT DETACH

Entry Form for the OS-LB IHN Rebekah's House Bridge – Walk, November 19, 2011

Name: _____ T-shirt Size: (Circle Size)
Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Adult: S M L XL
Sex: Male Female
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____ Phone: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Emergency Contact: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

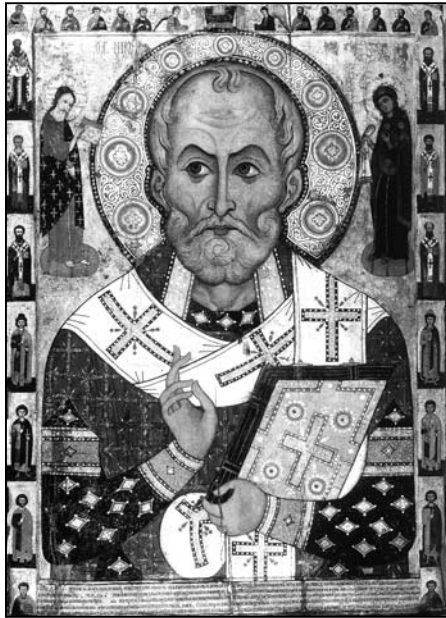
Make checks payable to:
OS-LB IHN
(Indicate Bridge-Walk in memo)
Mail completed form and entry fee to:
OS-LB IHN
PO Box 8562
Biloxi, MS 39535

PLEASE READ: ACCIDENT WAIVER AND LIABILITY RELEASE

I know that walking/running in an event is a potentially hazardous activity. I have checked with my medical provider to determine that I am medically able to participate. I certify that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in this event. I acknowledge that this event may involve walking/running for an extended distance and uphill and I assume all risks including, but not limited to, those caused by physical stress or strain, terrain, temperature, weather, including high heat and/or humidity, wind, contact with other participants and/or vehicular traffic, and falls, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I agree to abide by any orders of the event coordinators or volunteers to safely complete the event. I understand that I may be photographed or filmed while participating in this event and agreed to allow my image, photo, video, film, or likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose. By signing below, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS CONTRACT AND UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY THAT WILL BE CONSTRUED BROADLY TO THE EXTENT PERMISSIBLE UNDER MISSISSIPPI LAW; and I HEREBY RELEASE THE EVENT ORGANIZERS, DIRECTORS, SPONSORS, REPRESENTATIVES AND SUCCESSORS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS AND LIABILITIES OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT. (If I am signing for a minor, I hereby represent that I am a parent or guardian and have the proper legal capacity and do hereby agree to the waiver and release of liability, as written above, individually and on behalf of the minor). Please make certain to sign below (Parent signature is required in order for minors to participate!)

Signature (Parent signature if under 21 years)

Date

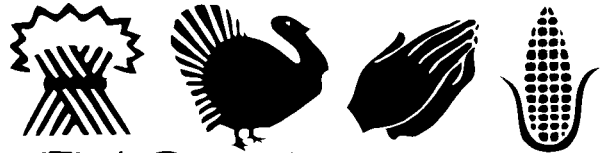


Feast of Saint Nicholas will be Wednesday, November 30th. We will begin with a dinner provided by the church at 5:30. We will then have time for people to make their Advent wreath for the season, and then we will have a brief service in the church Celebrating the life and witness of Saint Nicholas. This event is open to everyone and is especially appropriate for families and children of all ages to help begin your celebration of the season of Advent.

Anglican Aesthetics Continues

Sarah Scott will lead the Wednesday night adult formation hour exploring our identity with *Anglican Aesthetics* and the importance of beauty in our churches throughout the worldwide Anglican Community.

The four sessions will begin with *Creating with the Creator* and then on successive Wednesdays, *Church Vestments, Their Origin and Development, The First 20,000 Years of Fabric, and Color – Why the World Isn't Gray.*



Thanksgiving

Our Interdenominational Thanksgiving Service will be at Mississippi City United Methodist Church on November 20th at 5:00 pm.

Cultivating continued from page 1.

overlooked or forgotten, our sense of wealth cannot help but expand, and we soon achieve a sense of sufficiency we so desire. Practice thanksgiving before meals, upon rising, when going to sleep. Friends, family, food, color, fragrance, the earth, life itself—these are all gifts, perfectly gratuitous. How can we not give thanks? During Sabbath time we are less concerned with what is missing, focusing instead on sharing our gratefulness for what has already been given” (128).

In this season of thanksgiving and of preparation, may you become reconnected with your gratitude, and may you be willing to wait in silence with the Living God who is waiting to tell you that, in God’s eyes, you are already more than enough!



The new flagpoles outside the front of the church are given to the greater glory of God and in loving memory of The Honorable Edward Ray Gaines. We will have a brief service of dedication at some point in the near future, so watch your *Key* for more details.

CALENDAR

SERVING SCHEDULE

SERVING SCHEDULE

Called to Leadership

In January, the people of St. Peter's by-the-Sea will elect a new Junior Warden and three new vestry members. You may nominate qualified individuals by first obtaining their permission and then contacting a member of the nominating committee (Judy Joest, Alan Jones, Doug Singletary, or Bob Wolford) with that name and the specific office for which he or she will run. Please, consider taking part in the life of our church in this way. We will hold Vestry elections at the

Annual Parish meeting. Below are the expectations and qualifications for a member of the Vestry or Warden at St. Peter's by-the-Sea.

Attend 80% or more of Vestry meetings (date tbd by vestry)

Attend annual Vestry retreat.

Be visible (through regular church attendance and participation in parish activities)

Function on or within the commission of your designated area or areas

Serve as a liaison between congregation and leadership

Be a confirmed communicant in good standing who is over 18 years of age.

Be an upstanding member of the community.

Give regularly.

Be diplomatic and a team player.

Be prayerful.

CALENDAR

Inquirers' Class

Are you interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church? Do you want to know why we do certain things on Sunday and what we mean? Melanie will be leading a weekend retreat type Inquirers' class this year on Friday and Saturday, November 4-5 at the church.

We'll begin with dinner on Friday night at 6:00 pm, and we'll eat together and get to know one another, and then we will discuss a variety of topics about the Episcopal Church and our peculiar way of life and worship. Topics will include where did the Episcopal Church come from, unique Episcopal words, governance questions, the sacraments, a walk-through the Book of Common Prayer, Episcopal authority, how Episcopalians read the bible, themes seasons of the church year, and a little bit of church history. We will close our time with an Instructed Eucharist which is the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with explanation about what we are doing scattered through-out. There will be the opportunity to ask ample questions throughout the entire class (including the Eucharist). We will meet on Friday night from 6-9 and Saturday from 9-4. This class is very appropriate for adults who wish to be baptized, people who want to be confirmed or received from another tradition when the bishop comes in January, people who are new to the Episcopal church, and people who want a refresher course on all things Episcopal. Please, contact Melanie if you have any questions.

THANK
YOU!
THANK
YOU!

We received the following note from Luisa, Carl, and Santiago Loescher who moved from Gulfport to Colorado recently. *Melanie, Words are not enough to express to you and the congregation of St. Peter's by-the-Sea our gratitude for making us feel at home. Thank you for making a difference in our lives. We will forever be grateful and you all will have a special place in our hearts. We will deeply miss you. Always, Luisa, Carl, and Santiago Loescher*

Quiet Day scheduled for December 3rd

St. Peter's by-the-Sea will sponsor a Quiet Day Saturday, Dec. 3, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Church. Leader will be the Rev. Betsy Baumgarten, new chaplain at Coast Episcopal School. Bring a brown bag lunch and join us for readings and meditation as we usher in this beautiful season of expectation. The day will be framed in the context of the Holy Eucharist with the readings and meditation taking the part of the Liturgy of the Word, followed by the Liturgy of the Table at the end of the day.

St. Peter's will offer Centering Prayer at 5:30 p.m. each Monday during Advent, beginning Nov. 28 and ending Dec. 19. If you haven't yet experienced Centering Prayer, afternoons at dusk in Advent are the perfect way to start. Please enter the Church in silence through the front door on 15th Street and be seated quietly. This beautiful, silent way of praying welcomes God into our hearts and minds as we let go of daily cares and allow Him to take over. It lasts approximately half an hour. We leave the Church as we entered—in silence.

Details:

Maria Watson, 228-861-5738 or marialwatson@bellsouth.net.

Lessons Learned:
Life isn't tied with a bow, but it is still a gift.



Third Sunday Forum, November 20 *Mental Health Issues in Children from ADHD to Autism*

Dr. Bryant McCrary will lead our next **Third Sunday Forum** on Sunday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Dr. McCrary will discuss *Mental Health Issues in Children from ADHD to Autism*. He says mental health is the most rapidly expanding area of pediatric medicine. Most of us are aware that today's children and youth are suffering from depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, ADHD, autism and other mental health conditions. He will help us to understand this reality and available treatment options.

Dr. McCrary is considered by many as the most outstanding pediatrician in the Southeast U.S. and one of the largest providers of pediatric care from New Orleans to Mobile. He is a graduate of Rhodes College and the University of Arkansas School of Medicine. He did his internship at Arkansas Children's Hospital where he was the Chief of Residents 1980-81. He has been in practice on the Gulf Coast for 30 years.

The Forum will begin at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and fellowship, followed by the presentation and questions from 9:15 to 10:15. Every parent, grandparent and person interested in children should attend. In addition, please invite friends and family members to participate in this lively discussion of a very important topic.

Ladies' Night Out

Our next Ladies' Night Out will be at Salute on Tuesday, November 29th. Please join us for a fun gathering.



Earline Sawyer has invited the Book Club to her home on Thursday, November 3, at 5:30 pm for a light meal and book discussion.

I have always known that dogs are special and have a natural bond with humans. Now my beliefs have been verified by Enzo, the dog narrator of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn't simply about going fast. Using the techniques needed on the race track, one can successfully navigate all of life's ordeals.

December selection: *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter* by Tom Franklin

An atmospheric drama set in rural Mississippi. In the late 1970s, Larry Ott and Silas "32" Jones were boyhood pals, Larry the child of white, lower middle-class parents and Silas the son of a poor, single black mother. Their worlds were as different as night and day, yet, for a few months, the boys stepped outside of their circumstance and shared a special bond. But then tragedy struck: on a date, Larry took a girl to a drive-in movie, and she was never heard from again. Then flash forward 20 years and the story continues.

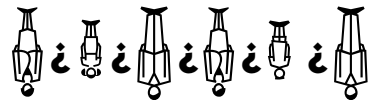
Directions: If you are unfamiliar with the area, suggest that you use the I-10 route. Take Exit 28 from I-10, drive South for a half mile. Their land is on the right, bordered by a black fence and with a gate (Sandi-Len Farm at 8409 County Farm Road).

From Hwy 90, take White Harbor Road (about 1 1/2 to 2 miles from Jeff Davis) North until you dead end, take a left on to Rail Road Street, at the curve, it becomes Beatline Road. Stay on Beatline Road until you pass the Dupont rail spur. The property is on the left at the black horse fence. Call Earline if you have any questions (452-0096).



November Angels:

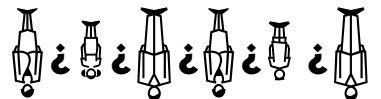
Gini Fellows, Barbara Blanchard, Judy Joest, Reddie McCaughan



Edna Grantham



Here's Who



**Coast Episcopal School
Holiday Greenery Sale
The Best Greenery
Sale on the Coast**

Support Coast Episcopal School by ordering your Holiday decorations through us, and we will deliver beautiful, fresh greenery to your home or business the week of November 28 through December 2



Item # Order Name
W2 22" Noble Fir Wreath

- * Fresh, fragrant noble fir
- * Pre-tied red velvet bow in separate bag
- * Snowy pine cones in separate, moisture-proof bag
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag

\$22.00



Item # Order Name
G3 Cedar Garland

- * Ten feet of gorgeous garland
- * Fragrant fresh-cut western cedar
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag
- * (Note: 2 garlands pictured)

\$23.00



Item # Order Name
C5 Holiday Centerpiece

- * Cedar, noble fir, pine and berried juniper
- * Arranged in oasis block and bowl
- * White faux snow berries and red faux holly berries for decorating
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag
- * Approximately 12" in diameter

\$20.00



Item # Order Name
W3 28" Mixed Evergreen Wreath

- * Our largest, most dramatic noble fir wreath
- * Pre-tied red velvet bow in separate bag
- * Red faux holly berries, incense cedar, and berried juniper
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag

\$32.00



Item # Order Name
W4 22" Mixed Evergreen Wreath

- * An aromatic combination of noble fir, incense cedar and berried juniper
- * Red faux holly berries
- * Pre-tied red velvet bow in separate bag
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag

\$22.00



Item # Order Name
B7 Holiday Center

- * Large, medium and small natural pine cones
- * Small snowy accent pine cones
- * Easy-to-handle, plastic carrying bag
- * (Note: Bowl Not Included)

\$10.00



**Contact: Lauren Schrantz
Phone: (504) 450-7428
Email: lauren@amroutos.org**

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Mission Statement:

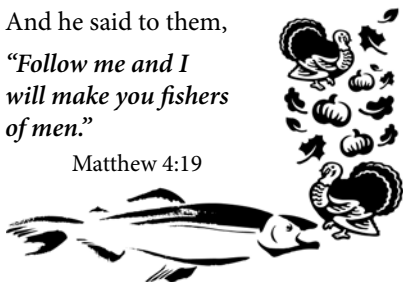
We are a community of faith that seeks to equip and nurture all persons to live out the love of God and to share the message of Jesus Christ through servant ministry to the greater community.

St. Peter's by-the-Sea
Episcopal Church
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GULFPORT MS 39501

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And he said to them,
"Follow me and I
will make you fishers
of men."

Matthew 4:19



MARK YOUR NOVEMBER CALENDAR

1st

All Saints' Day

3rd

Book Discussion Group

4th-5th

Inquirers' Class

13th

2nd Sunday Sack
Lunches

19th

Walk for Rebekah's
House

20th

Third Sunday Forum
Interdenominational
Thanksgiving Service

27th

St. Peter's week at
IHN begins

28th

Centering Prayer begins

29th

Ladies' Night Out

30th

Feast of St. Nicholas

Follow St. Peter's by-the-Sea on Facebook, blogspot

If you use Facebook, look for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea fan page.

The Rev. Melanie Lemburg now has a blog:
There's spiritual insight and the texts of her sermons,
in case you didn't hear all of it the first time!
<http://lemburgordinarytime.blogspot.com/>
There's a link to it at the top of the St. Peter's website, too.