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Dear Family:

I'm sitting in our hotel room at Gulf State Park in Orange Beach, Al. Thinking about the ties which bind us all together and how that looks in the year to come.

We are here because Cindy and Daniel (my niece by marriage) are tying the knot today and they asked me to do the honor of presiding at their wedding on the beach. In a little while, most of the rest of my side of the family will arrive at the beach to help celebrate.



Harrison is still asleep. Kathleen and Evie are at home because Evie's got that bug and is on the mend.

2019 is coming to a close and it has been....

It has been hard. Beloved people have been diagnosed. Powerful witnesses have gone to glory. Holy people have been broken and kind souls have struggled with loss.

But 2019 has also been good. Because through it all, YOU have been there. Right beside each other. Thick and thin.

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Of course, there have been epic moments of joy too. Marriages, baptisms, remissions, homecomings, and miracles of other kinds.

It amazes me still how St Marks lions refuse to let go, stay down, or stop rejoicing.

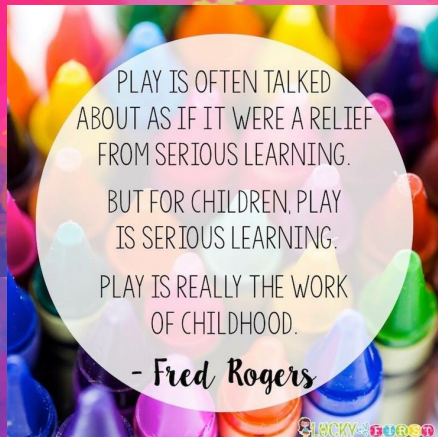
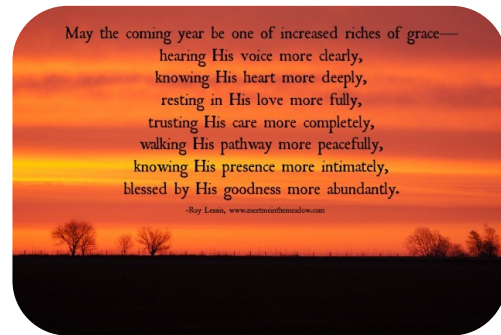
Looking back over 2019, it seems fitting to be help two more people “tie a knot“ that will, if they let it, hold them together through ”richer or poorer, sickness and health, better and worse.” Saint Marks is like that. Christians are like that.

It seems so clear to me that love and life are hard, messy, easy and beautiful all at the same time. But most clearly so when we are together. Crystal clear. You might say (pun intended) 2020 clear.

In 2020, I pray each family will be loved and blessed more strongly and deeply in Christ. That healing will abound. Hope will triumph. Joy will overflow, and God’s Holy Spirit will bind us all together in new ways.

Welcome to the family Cindy and Daniel.

In Christ,
I am,
Sincerely,
Fr. Alan+



Please join the staff of St. Mark’s Day School for a

Fun and hands on PARENT WORKSHOP on

THE PRESCHOOLER BRAIN & LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

On Thursday, January 23 at 6:30pm

In the St. Mark’s Church parish hall

* Childcare will be provided

For more information, visit the SMEDS Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/St-Marks-Episcopal-Day-School-265644626802844> or call (912) 265-1090

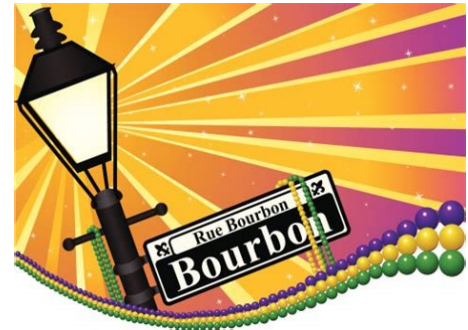


BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW
 St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 Prayer, Study & Service

7th Annual "Night on Bourbon Street"

Low Country Boil

February 22, 2020!!!



The 7th Annual "Night on Bourbon Street"

Low Country Boil will be held

Saturday, February 22nd, 2020.

Seating begins at 6:00pm on Bourbon Street (the Parish Hall).

Tickets go on sale beginning **Sunday, January 26nd!** Tickets are \$30.00 each and include the low country boil dinner and 2 complimentary drinks of beer or wine.

All proceeds from the low country boil go towards the outreach projects of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew!

Alert: This event sells out quickly. There is limited seating, so purchase your tickets early!!!!

Brotherhood January 2020 Calendar:

January 2nd: Directors Meeting @ 6:00pm

January 16th: General Meeting @ 6:00pm in the Parish Hall: All men of the Parish invited!

January 26th : "Night Bourbon Street" Low Country Boil ticket sales begin!

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a national men's ministry. We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00pm for a quick dinner and business meeting, a brief prayer service and conclude with a great study session facilitated by Gareth Allcott. All men of the parish are invited!!! Questions...call or text Bill @ 813-503-9027.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Christmas Eve Family Service 2019
Christmas Program





hello, Goodbuy – The Monthly Scoop

With the end of 2019 we reflect on the many blessings we've received and the challenges we've faced & overcome. At *hello, Goodbuy* our biggest blessing at times became our biggest challenge. The growing support from our community this past year has been incredible. More & more people are coming to our back door, telling us they love what we are doing for our community and that they want to continue to support us with their donations. Thus, the donations have poured in over the past year, becoming unmanageable at times. Through group efforts we have tackled this challenge, but with the new year we hope to see continued growing support from our community. While the donations have increased, the number of volunteers to help match the need for processing has not. In 2020 we need to increase our volunteer support in order to grow, to Give back more to our local Community, and avoid burning out our Staff & Active Volunteers.



THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

A New Year brings New Beginnings & New Opportunities to breathe life into your personal goals & efforts to improve both yourself and your surrounding Community. We challenge YOU, in the year 2020 to make supporting YOUR *hello Goodbuy* Outreach Ministry one of those goals! *Hello, Goodbuy* is more than 'just a thrift store.' Here, you can contribute to a 'cycle of giving' that fuels our Mission to support the Glynn Co. Community. Whether you are generously Donating items you no longer need or use, dedicating your time as one of our Volunteers, or doing some 'guilt free shopping' as one of our loyal Customers you are contributing to that cycle.

Grow what matters
One step
At a time.
Little by little, your
Steps will add up.

#2020GOALSETTING | LARACASEY.COM

YOUR CHALLENGE: Dedicate 1 - 5 hours of your Time per Quarter (every 3 months) doing SOMETHING to help support this Important St. Mark's Outreach Ministry - Collecting items to donate, talking to people about who we are & what we do, helping recruit Volunteers for the store, VOLUNTEERING at the store sorting clothes/ merchandising/processing goods, even shopping supports our Mission - THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP HELLO, GOODBUY: make it a family event & help pick up litter around the parking lot, prepare rolls of fabric to be sold, help dust & clean around the store & SO MUCH MORE!

Since opening in 2012, we have distributed **NEARLY ONE MILLION DOLLARS** back to the Glynn Co Community by supporting projects & efforts led by Local Charities & Community Organizations. We also dedicate a 10% tithing back to St. Mark's Episcopal Church. In 2020 this tithing generated **+\$55,000**, distributed on a monthly basis. NONE of this would be possible without the Continued & Growing support of **Generous Donors, Loyal Customers, & Dedicated Volunteers**. At *hello, Goodbuy* we are making a difference one donation at a time. In 2020, we ask you to join us in our efforts.

Stop by the store @ 1523 Glynn Ave on the Corner of Gloucester & Hwy 17 OR Call us at (912) 264-8181

****Remember to Like, Follow, and Share our posts on Facebook & Instagram****

ANSWER YOUR CALL TO SERVE TODAY



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN . . .

January 2020

January brings a new year and the promise of things to come. For our Episcopal Church Women this will include many celebrations and our outreach to our community.

In December we were very busy. The Christmas Bazaar was a great success. Kudos to GeorgeAnne Youngner and all who helped. The Pastoral Care Team and the ECW once again joined to create and fill some gift bags for those in our church family who don't get out much or needed a lift. We delivered thirty bags with homemade cookies, candy, tangerines and other goodies.

We said goodbye and bid a fond farewell to our President, Jane Lafferty who moved to Atlanta. We hope to name a new President in January.

We joined for the funeral of Carole Howell on December 20. Carole was a devoted and hardworking member of ECW and will be missed by all who had the privilege of working with her.

We are very appreciative of all who joined to give gifts to the children at Morningstar. The kids all got fanny packs that were packed with goodies. ECW voted to provide up to \$320 to purchase gifts for any other boys or girls whose name was not chosen from the Chrismon tree.

The Altar Guild

The *greening of the church* after the service on December 22 was fun for all. The Altar Guild beautifully decorated the church. Thanks to Steve Crowder for his ability to get us all organized and to all who helped.

St. Agnes Guild

St. Agnes Guild prepared shoeboxes for the seamen coming to the International Seafarer's Center. They collected 12 cereal boxes at their last meeting and hosted the coffee hour on November 17.

St. Mary's Guild

St. Mary's Guild prepared crafts to be sold during the Christmas Bazaar. The table at the Bazaar was very successful and \$591.50 was collected with half of the proceeds going to GeorgeAnne's Christmas project. They prepared 20 bags and boxes for the seamen coming to the International Seafarer's Center and have collected a total of 816 food items St. Athanasius food pantry. Their Christmas party was held in Mixon Hall.

Daughters of the King

Daughters of the King hosted the coffee hour on November 24th and Jenny London is a new member.

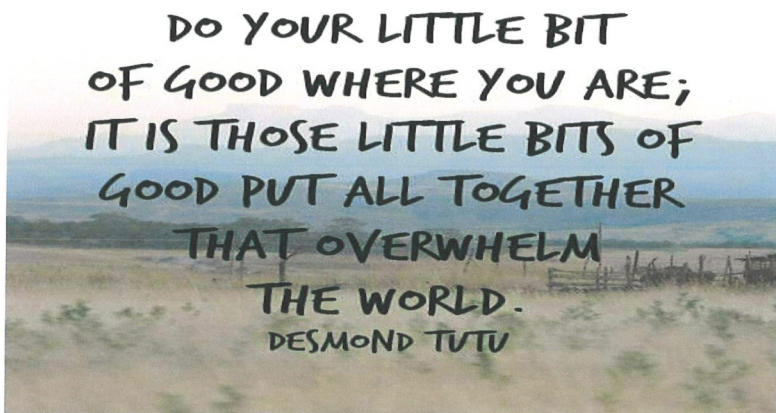
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The Church Garden

Linda Dorsey reports that the garden is flourishing, and we are harvesting collards, broccoli and cabbage. Sweet potatoes are being cured. Bags of produce were given to Morningstar for distribution to the staff. She noted that grass is a problem because of the fungus it contains and needs to be replaced. The website is close to being finished.

The representatives of the organizations represented by ECW meet on the 2nd Monday of every month at 11:00 in Mixon Hall. The next meeting will be on January 13. All are welcome to attend.



UNITED THANK OFFERING

St. Marks's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 1155
Brunswick, GA 31521
Dear Members of St. Mark's

Thank you so much for the gift of \$747.40 from the Fall Ingathering for the United Thank Offering. Through this generous gift, the work of Christ will continue to expand throughout our world. Your gift demonstrates how St. Mark's shares their love. We appreciate your dedication and hard work to make this offering possible. The offering is an outward and visible sign of your thankfulness to God for his abundant blessings so that others may be blessed.

Again thank you for your dedication.

May you all have a very Blessed and Merry Christmas.

Love and Peace,

Linda Sigg, UTO Coordinator
Diocese of Georgia

2020 Vestry

Dan Burr 2020	435-559-0222	burr@d@mountainwest.net
Mike Parrish 2021	404-805-3450	mikeparrish@comcast.net
Julia Gerrett - 2020 <i>10 Block Radius</i>	912-242-2044	juliagerrett46@gmail.com
Rosalind Crowder - 2021 <i>Communication/Hospitality</i>	980-721-4113	rcwbds@yahoo.com
Owen Dorsey—2021 <i>Communication/Hospitality</i>	404-668-4880	oed@oedorsey.com
Mona Irwin—2022 <i>Oldest & Youngest</i>	912-230-3151	monairwin@bellsouth.net
Edith Gross—2020 <i>Formation</i>	704-466-6633	millstonecabin@gmail.com
Nancy Breland—2022 <i>Formation</i>	912-264-2041	nancybreland@comcast.net
Rogelio Quintanar—2020 <i>Oldest & Youngest</i>	912-223-5391	Rogelioq@gmail.com
Baxter Peffer –2021 <i>10 Block Radius</i>	412-491-5989	baxterpeffer@gmail.com
Audrey Postal—2022 <i>Communication/Hospitality</i>	904-491-5989	arpostal@outlook.com
Ralph Dembowczyk 2022	912-580-0926	rdembow@gmail.com
Rev. Alan Akridge <i>Rector</i>	912-222-8746	aakridge@saintmarksepiscopal.com
Wallace Harrell		Chancellor of the Vestry
Joel Arline		Parish Treasurer



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!

**J
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Andy Broderick	1	Joan Miles	18	Eddie Lambright	27
Ed Berg	2	Daniel Redanz	18	Mary Claire Jones	27
Terry Carroll	3	Will Borden	18	Wallace Harrell	28
Evelyn Drawdy	4	Harper McIlvaine	19	Chris Taylor	28
Jason Snyder	5	Andy Tipaldos	21	Steve Crowder	28
Skyler Gleason	6	Sofia Quintanar	23	Sydne Youngner	29
Daryl Moore	8	Baxter Peffer	24	Herman Hudson	31
Emory Hatcher	11	Jackson Havens	25	Nancy Girdler	31
Lily Redanz	12	Erin Osbourn	25	Madelyn Carmical	31
Richard Stubbs	16	Akira Stobaeus	26		
Kimberly Mitchell	18	Anna Beth Carroll	26		

Richard & Debby Stubbs	4	Carter & Mary Claire Jones	29
Dale & Ruth Williams	19		