



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

### *For the Week of August 7*

*This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.*

Sister Camille D'Arienzo, RSM tells a story that occurred back in the -50s when several hundred people traveled to a Benedictine monastery for the mountaintop Easter Vigil service, to be held at dawn's first light. They found themselves driven by battering sleet into the crypt beneath the monastery chapel. They huddled together in the darkness as the abbot started the new paschal fire. Startling everyone, a second flash pierced the darkness.

Reacting to the intrusion, the abbot turned and shouted to the spot in the darkness from which the flash had come: Put away the camera. You cannot capture on your camera the mystery enacted here. God's action in this Easter Vigil doesn't need your photographs for its survival in the world." People were amazed by the well-loved abbot's uncharacteristic tirade against the invisible camera buff. Later on, when, during the breakfast the monks shared with their guests, the upbraided photographer revealed his identity, the abbot proved the most amazed of all. It was one of the monks whom the abbot had commissioned earlier to begin a collection of photos for an upcoming anniversary journal. It hadn't occurred to the abbot to exclude the sacred liturgy from the dutiful monk's flash and focus. The abbot and the monk led in the hearty laughter, but the lesson—the vain attempt to capture and freeze a moment of the Eternal—wasn't love on anyone.

There are indeed moments we want to hold on to, and the desire to hold on to the fleeting moment is at the basis of a multimillion-dollar industry, and we have now moved on to cell phone shots. Still, the abbot was right. A photo can recall, but it cannot precisely recreate the moments of our lives that are richest in love, faith, expectation and joy—or for that matter, those that are awash in grief, loneliness, suffering or despair. Cameras were centuries away from being invented but tents on the mountaintop—one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah—not those were constructions that could house the memory of the glory of God. Something extraordinary had happened to three simple men. Close your eyes, and in that momentary darkness consider what Luke reports happened when Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain to pray:

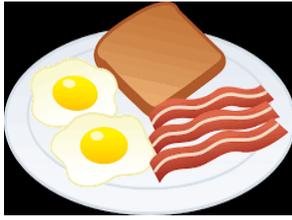
“As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became as brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory...and as these two men were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah....And a voice came from the cloud saying, ‘This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him’” Modern photographers take pictures because they are afraid to lose the memory of the moment. Perhaps Peter suggested the tents to preserve the memory; however it was just as likely, that he wanted to escape his own powerlessness and to please the complicated person Jesus was becoming for his disciples. Luke adds “He didn’t know what he was saying.” Mark is more specific: Peter was terrified. Matthew is more graphic: “The disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear.”

The purpose of the event we call the transfiguration is set more in the future than in Luke’s passage of salvation history. The blinding brightness of that moment is a foretaste of a glory on which we can set our minds during life’s hard times—when suffering or loss, or persecution might otherwise rob us of our hope. One lesson that is sometimes over looked: The light of faith that illumined Jesus, Moses and Elijah, shone on the three disciples whom Jesus invited to pray on the mountaintop. If our perseverance in the Christian life of prayer and acts of kindness mirrors the love of god, we too may radiate that same light of faith and provide flashes in the darkness to make others stop and perhaps, listen to Jesus.

*Blessings and love,  
Margaret+*



We are collecting Back to School items for the children at Oakland Terrace School, who otherwise would have a hard time purchasing them. Items a needed are composition note books, crayons, pencils, glue sticks, erasers, folders, note book paper, three hole binders, Expo markers, pencil pouch. There will be a table on the carpet area of Byrne Hall for your items. Thank you in advance.



**SUMMER BREAKFAST !!**

GRAB YOUR FRIENDS, REUNION GROUP, ETC. AND SIGN UP FOR SUMMER BREAKFAST WHICH GOES THROUGH AUGUST 28 !! Breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:30.

***BAYLIGHTS! IS COMING-If you are interested in going, make your room reservation NOW, or you might not get one if you wait.***

**BAYLIGHTS September 30-Oct. 2**

***Ways to Help St. Andrew's***

***Donate a carton of 11x17, or 8 ½ x11 paper***

***Make sure the thermostats are turned up to 78 after your meetings.***

## CURSILLO

*There are 2 Cursillos coming up! Let's have a great group to go! If you want to go, fill out an application-found on the rack in Byrne Hall and give to Margaret+. Also, if you would like to serve as our Liaison for Cursillo, let Margaret or Fran know.*

**CURSILLO 157**

Nov. 10-13

Bob Donnell, Lay Rector

St. Paul's - Mobile

**CURSILLO 158**

March 8-12, 2017

**CURSILLO APPLICATIONS: ON THE RACK IN BYRNE HALL**

**THERE WILL BE A YARD SALE SOON BENEFITTING  
THE NURSERY. IF YOU HAVE ITEMS, PLEASE BRING  
THEM TO ROOM 6 BY THE PET GARDEN. PLEASE  
PRICE YOUR ITEMS. THANKS!**

**\*\*\*New Parish Directory\*\*\***

**We are working on a new parish directory and need your help. There will be an information sheet inside your service bulletin on Sunday. Please complete the form before or after the service and place it on the card table near the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Please PRINT your information. Thanks!**

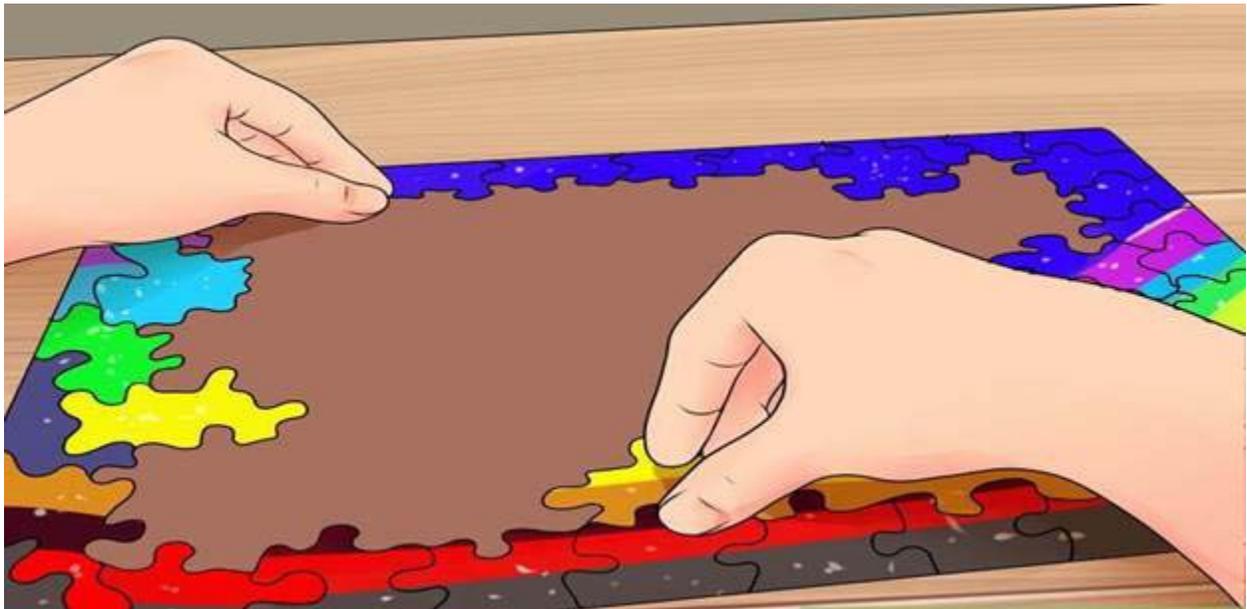
## St. Andrews Jigsaw Puzzle Night.

On Friday, August 19, 2016, St. Andrews Episcopal Church will host the St. Andrews Jigsaw Puzzle Night.

Where: Byrne Hall, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1608 Baker Court, PC 32401

We are taking a 1-month break from Movie Night to host “Jigsaw Puzzle Night.” Jigsaw puzzles will be provided, participants will be divided into small groups. Enjoy food, drink, company, and puzzle solving together. Puzzle solving is good brain exercise and is relaxing.

Dinner: **We are asking everyone to bring a pot luck dish and/or a side dish.** Dr. Dan will supply red and white wine, beer, ginger ale and chilled bottled water.



Other: No admittance fee, but ***donations are accepted and encouraged.*** One-hundred percent (100%) of all donations will go to **St. Andrew’s Backpack Program to benefit Oakland Terrace Elementary School**

Questions: Contact Dr. Dan Finley at [dfinley@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:dfinley@gulfcoast.edu)



## Celebration of Life Potluck

*A sower went out to sow....Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a Hundredfold. Luke 8:5, 8a*

Sunday, **October 30<sup>th</sup>**, St. Andrew's Foundation is sponsoring a potluck in Byrne Hall immediately following the service. Start thinking now about that special dish you would like to prepare and share.

At the potluck there will be information and handouts about planning your final Celebration of life and opportunities to remember your church in your final plans. Our goal is to inform you of possibilities that you can discuss with your family to decide what your final wishes will be. A will can be a vehicle not only to distribute assets, but also to make a statement about a person's values and priorities.

We are working hard to make this event be informative, fun and yummy. Please plan to attend.



*Coming up in September:*

*A Service of Taizé 'in  
Commemoration of the 15<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of 9/11, accompanied by  
string quartet. 4:00 p.m. Mark your  
calendars and invite your friends.*

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, is St. Andrew's turn to serve Supper at Grace. We meet at 9 a.m. in Byrne Hall to pack lunches and do some of the dinner prep work. At 3 p.m. we start cooking at Grace Episcopal Church on the beach. We prepare dinner and set up for our guests so we are ready to serve at 6 p.m. Dinner is served until 7 p.m. and then we clean up. We welcome all helpers for any time you can come and support this ministry. Schools in Bay County open the next day so this is an opportunity to give pack lunches and a healthy meal to the many children who come to Supper at Grace. If you can, please join us. For more info, contact Teri Floore or Diane Tate.



*(Names are left on the prayer list for 3 weeks, unless specified for a longer time)*

*Please keep the following in your prayers: Bob, Virginia, Mike, Warren, Ed, Nell, Sandra, Vincent, Margaret & Bill, Dr. Benton, Peggy, Norma, Daniel, Pat C., Kathy, Melinda, Logan, Brooke, Nancy, Gene, Jessie, Jessica, Mary, Cynthia, Russell, Teresa, Lori, Doris, Michael, Margaret, Judy, Hannah, Robbie, Betty, Mary Lou, Dawn, Doris, Malia, Donna, Lori, Elizabeth, Dawn, Glenda, Mark, Patricia, Richard, Jeremy, Mark, Alex*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad: David, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Jordan, Jeremiah, Richard, Ivan, James*