



St. Andrew's Tidings

For the Week of August 21

Christianity and the Sabbath?

The Rev. Raymond Wishart, Deacon

This week's Gospel reading has the local religious leaders upset with Jesus for healing a crippled woman on the Sabbath, they considered healing to be "work." When I have discussed this in the past with people in various situations the question always comes up if, as Christians, do we have to observe a Sabbath? Well, as usual, the answer is "yes" and "no."

Technically the answer would be strictly "no." The Sabbath is, and always has been, a strict tradition of the Jewish faith to observe a day of rest on the seventh day, just as God did when He created the world. The Jewish calendar considered the seventh day to start at sunset on Friday night through sunset Saturday. During that time those of the Jewish faith would do no work, and this included healing.

So do Christians need to observe a Sabbath? We may not observe a strict Sabbath, but I do think we need to observe a Sabbath-like time, usually Sunday. In the early days of Christianity most observers were also faithful Jews, they viewed Christianity as a form of the Jewish faith and not a separate faith. They would observe the Sabbath Friday night and Saturday, then gather on the first day of the week, Sunday, to "break bread" and pray. Breaking bread in the Eucharist is work, and therefore could not be done on the strict Jewish Sabbath.

It was centuries later before Sunday became the traditional day to be the Lord's day, something that most Christian churches still do. Some people say it's because Jesus rose from the tomb on a Sunday, which is probably a good reason. There is also a strong background of political and pagan reasons why we attend church on Sunday, but that can wait for another time to explain.

So we observe our "Christian Sabbath" by attending church on Sunday, but I hope most of you go beyond that hour in church as an observation of your own Christian Sabbath. Some people will use Sunday to spend time in reflective quiet time, like

prayer. Others will use Sunday as family time, and others due to work conflicts will spend some other time in the week as their own dedicated Sabbath time.

For our family it usually includes lunch with my mother, family time together when we can and frequently dinner as a family. Sometimes we will use Sunday afternoons to kayak together or a family road trip. Sometimes we each go off to do something that we want to do with our own quiet time. Diane like to quilt on Sundays and I like ride my bike or take photos. We never do what we consider real work on a Sunday, like mowing grass or cleaning the house. It may not be a strict Jewish Sabbath but it what we need to do observe our own Sabbath.

I strongly encourage you to follow the words of the 4th commandment as is listed in both Exodus and Deuteronomy, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.” Maybe we do move it to the first day of the week, Sunday, but use the day to observe by doing no work. Use some time to pray, rest, reflect, and re-nourish your soul!

Peace+, Ray



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW NURSERY ATTENDANT

Jeanette Hernandez, our new adult Nursery Attendant who will be in the nursery from 9:30 a.m. until after the service. Jeanette comes to us from Circles to Bridges at St. John's Catholic Church. She will register the children, and get permission slips. She will also be taking the Diocesan course: "Safeguarding Our Children" program through the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.



Please join us for BayLights 2016

September 30 - October 2

A Diocesan Homecoming Weekend and

Beckwith Event Fundraiser

Contact

Eleanor Reeves
Beckwith
251-928-7844
eleanor@beckwithal.com

When:

Friday September 30, 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Saturday October 1, 10:00 am - 10:00 pm

Sunday October 2, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

[Add to Calendar](#)

Weekend Events Include:

Friday, September 30th

The Undercroft Cafe sponsored by Nativity, Dothan

with Music by Rock Bottom

The Cafe opens at 6:30 pm with music starting at 6:30 pm



Saturday, October 1st

Bishop's BBQ sponsored by Holy Spirit, Gulf Shores

12:00 pm

Diocesan Ultreya 2:00 pm

Fun Activities for the Family & Youth all day

**Giant Water Slide, Cornhole, Badminton, Blooper Ball, Pool
Volleyball, Kayaks, Canoes, Paddleboards, Climbing Wall**

College Football in Wilson Hall

Saturday Night

Live Auction, Low Country Boil & Party sponsored by
St. Christopher's, Pensacola

with music by

Kate Kelly and The Forest Fire Gospel Choir



Music starts at 5:00 pm

First Pick Raffle draw 6:00 pm

Live Auction begins immediately after the draw

Low Country Boil 6:45 pm

Live Auction items include Vacation Homes, Condos,

Hunting & Fishing Trips, Art, & Themed Baskets

Please consider a donation to our Auction - contact Eleanor@BeckwithAL.com

Sunday, October 2nd

Holy Eucharist - 10:00 am

A Special Thank You to our Sponsors:

Church of the Nativity, Dothan

Holy Spirit, Gulf Shores

St. Christopher's, Pensacola

St. Andrew's, Panama City - St. Luke's, Mobile - Joe McDaniel

St. Paul's Chapel, Magnolia Springs - Kathy & Gary Moore

Karen & Matt McDonald - Teri & Joel Williams - Becky & Lee Scott

Cursillo Commission - Margaret & Mark Deakle

Cynthia Tappan - Janet & Michael Foote

McGee & Lonnie Lorren - Becky & Wayne Brunson

Katherine & Ellis Allen - Magoo & Bill Hamilton

Bishop Kendrick and The Diocese of The Central Gulf Coast

PR Chemical and Paper Supply Company

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 APPICATIONS: 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!**

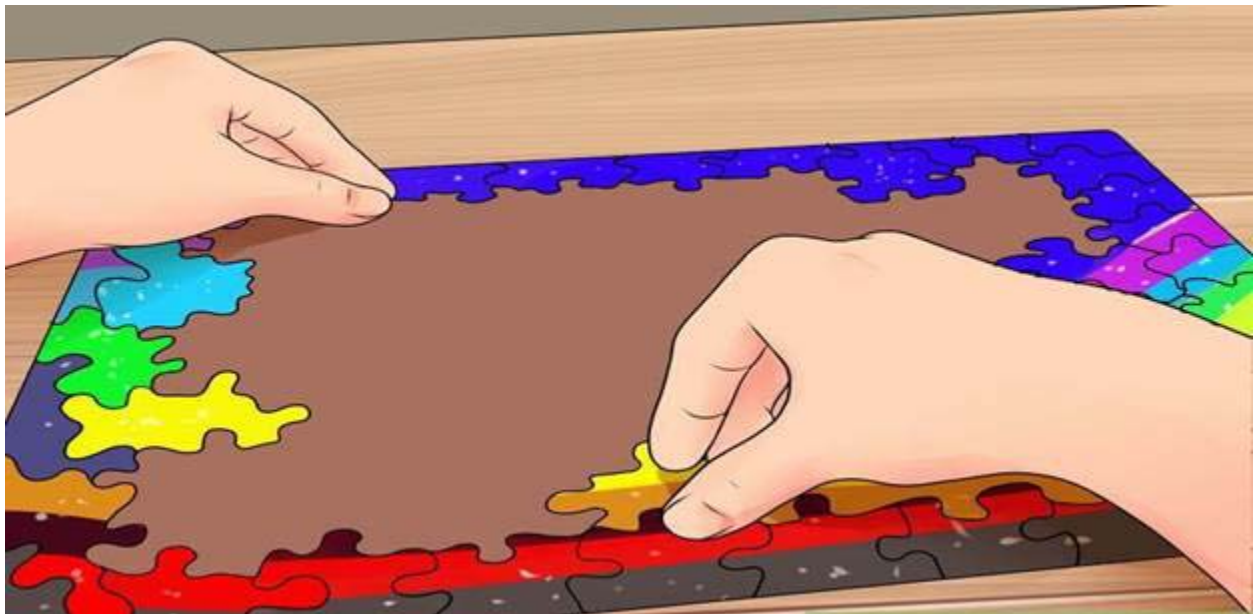
St. Andrews Jigsaw Puzzle Night.

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

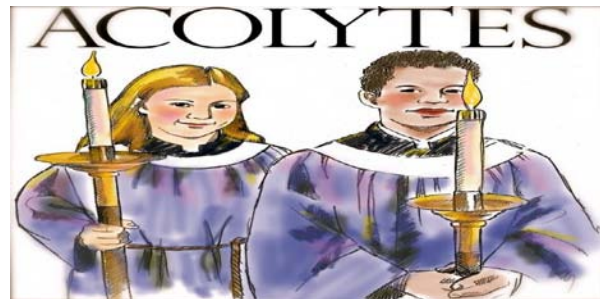


Coming up in September:

September 11th

*A Service of Taizé 'in
Commemoration of the Anniversary
of 9/11, accompanied by string*

quartet. 4:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and invite your friends.



Acolyte Festival

The Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast is having a Youth Acolyte Festival on Saturday, August 20, at **Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, AL**. This is a great opportunity for our youth acolytes to come together and worship, learn, enjoy fellowship, and have some fun. Bishop Russell Kendrick will be on hand.

Workshop topics include: how to process, an instructed Eucharist, and how to use a thurible. Lunch will be provided. There will be a closing Eucharist service, which is open to the public to attend, where Bishop Kendrick will commission the acolytes. If travel is a concern, Camp Beckwith will be available Friday night. The cost for the event is \$12. To register, please go the Diocese's home page, <http://www.diocgc.org/> Ted and Chandler Broome have already signed up!

(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, 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, Toni, Luz & Ryan, Abby, Chris, Kirsten

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