



St. Andrew's Tidings

Message from Margaret+.....

We cannot live without institutions. Even a hermit retains some relationship to the culture he or she has left, although it may be no more than testimony to the spiritual inadequacy of that culture. Yet the institutions are tempted constantly to exaggerate their own importance. So it was during Jesus' ministry.

The temple expected support, and the larger the contribution one could make, the better. But the gifts of the wealthy were such as they could easily spare from their abundance, and involved little or no sacrifice—and certainly no genuine self-giving.

The Gospel this week begins with a warning against the hypocrisy and self-seeking exhibited by religious leaders. Those who are concerned for their personal privilege are always ready to exploit and defraud the helpless in order to maintain their position.

In the temple itself, Jesus can point to an illustration of his meaning. The wealthy bring their offerings to the temple treasury, substantial gifts in coin and in kind. But these gifts show only their prosperity. These people can readily spare all they give from their abundance. Their giving manifests no genuine commitment.

In contrast, there comes also a widow who can offer only two coins of little value. But these two coins are all that she has, and she possesses no resources to enable her to secure more. Nor could this poor widow who had no standing make herself prominent. The religious professionals were decked in elegant, official attire. They expected to receive respectful greetings wherever they went, and to have places of prominence reserved for them in every assembly. Yet their position was maintained by the exploitation of the ignorant and of those without resources—like the widow.

There can be no upper class without an underclass to support it. Jesus warned his followers about the institutions and the people who derive their advantage from them. Although the widow's gift was practically useless for temple upkeep, Jesus could tell his disciples that in God's sight her gift was worth more than all the others combined. Her commitment was not just what she could spare, but her own self. Always what God seeks is not *ours*, but *us*. *Blessings.M+*

VETERAN'S DAY
CELEBRATION
THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AT
10 A.M.

WE WILL RECOGNIZE THOSE
VETERANS WHO ARE PRESENT AT
WORSHIP



Please mail in your pledge cards or drop
them in the offering plate. Thank you!

Centering Prayer
Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
In the Chapel
Followed by a light lunch



Parish Meeting
Sunday, November 29th
Following the Service
To Elect Vestry & Convention Delegates
(Date had to be changed due to the diocese needing the names.)



Calling All Panama City Episcopalians!

Bill Buskell, owner of Pineapple Willies and The Wicked Wheel on Middle Beach Road, who is a good Episcopalian, will give St. Andrew's 15% of the total tab from now until February 16 if you bring a church bulletin and eat on Sunday at the Wicked Wheel. What a Deal! Let's see how much we can earn.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISIT

Bishop Russell Kendrick will make his annual visit with us on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at the 10 a.m. service. At this time he will baptize, confirm and receive. Anyone who has made a mature confession of faith as a member of another denomination, but has not been received into the Episcopal Church, may do so at this time. If you have not been confirmed into the Episcopal Church, there will be confirmation classes, so please let Margaret know if you are interested. Also, if you have a child or grandchild to be baptized, this is an excellent time to do this. Please call the office.

If you have a committee report to be submitted at the Parish Meeting, please turn it in to the office by Nov. 25. Thanks.

GROCERY CART MINISTRY

When the groceries collected by our parish were delivered to the food pantry at St. Andrew Baptist, the coordinator of the program said it was completely out of cereal- that the two boxes we gave were all that was available. When you are doing your grocery shopping this week please pick up some cereal and place it in the basket under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Thank you for blessing others.



Alternative Gift Market



This Sunday, November 8th, St. Andrew's holds its Alternative Gift Market in support of Episcopal Relief and Development. Cards will be available when gifts are purchased. Gifts include mosquito nets, farm animals and tools, clean water, medicine, literacy opportunities and much more. Please visit the display in Byrne Hall today to see all the possibilities to help others while paring down your holiday shopping. Order forms are available in Byrne Hall. Checks should be made payable to St. Andrew's with ERD on the memo line. There will be matching funds for ERD from a national donor for gifts received by December 31st. Questions? Please see or call Diane Tate 769-0941.

Election to Vestry and Delegates to Convention 2016 on November 29th.

Diocesan Convention: This is a new day in our Diocese. In concordance with our Cathedral, this year, rather than electing a new slate of 6 persons, (3 delegates and 3 alternates) to Diocesan Convention, the terms will be staggered among the delegates. After this year, 1 (one) person will be elected each year to rotate on to our delegation for a 4 year term. This will allow for both continuity of experience and service within the delegates, while allowing more people to participate in this important ministry. Requirements: to be a confirmed communicant of St. Andrew's, 18 years of age or older, to demonstrate sacrificial financial support of the church including making and fulfilling an annual pledge of support, and to understand that St. Andrew's vestry upholds the tithe as the standard of giving and to encourage the parish to consider proportionate giving and to work personally towards the tithe.

Vestry Election: In concordance with our Cathedral, and in conjunction with the vote from our vestry, there will be a nominating committee to nominate candidates for 4 places on the vestry. Please offer names to the vestry members

Requirements for Candidates:

- 1. To be a confirmed communicant of St. Andrew's, 18 years of age or older, to demonstrate sacrificial financial support of the church including making and fulfilling an annual pledge of support, and to understand that St. Andrew's vestry upholds the tithe as the standard of giving and to encourage the parish to consider proportionate giving and to work personally towards the tithe.**
- 2. Committed to faithful attendance in worship.**
- 3. To a faithful attendance of Vestry meetings, which permits only 3 absences.**
- 4. Committed to attending a majority of parish functions.**
- 5. Committed to welcoming newcomers.**
- 6. Committed for daily prayer for the parish and the rector.**
- 7. Committed to upholding the Canons of the Diocese, the National Church, and the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.**

2016 Master Calendar



We are putting the master calendar for 2016 together. If you are the leader of a church group or a community group that uses church facilities please write out:

1. The name of your group
2. Meeting dates and times
3. Location of meetings

Scheduling your meetings on the master calendar assures there will be space available for you and allows us to use our facilities to the greatest advantage. Space priority will be given to church groups. Do not assume that the office knows your group's information. Information can be emailed to the office (master calendar on the subject line) or written and left at the office by November 9th.

St. Mary's Guild

A month goes by so fast! Last meeting we had such a great time at our picnic in St. Andrews State Park. This meeting, Nov. 10, at 10:00 am we will meet in Byrne Hall and enjoy a craft that Camilla will lead us in. Please come and enjoy! Our hostesses are Vera Lansing, Snookie Raines, Julie Cheshire and Sally Brewer.

Please remember to add the names of people you wish the parish to pray for to the Prayers of the People located on the lectern in the Narthex.

Please keep the following in your prayers: Bob, Virginia, Patrick, Lisa, Adam, Lynn, Betty, Jimmy, Judy, Frank, Michelle, Angel, Janet, Linne, Lou Jean, Mary, Hazen, Lillian, Shawn

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

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