

THE BELL TOWER

A Newsletter from the People of St. Martin Episcopal Church



Our ECW
participated in the
Diocesan gathering
at Trinity Cathedral
in Miami. See
article on page 5



The Vestry of St. Martin's

**-Senior Warden
Larry Norton (2014)**

**-Junior Warden
Marina Garrison (2015)**

**Joy Astrolio (2013)
Sue D'Amore (2014)
Ted Friedt (2014)
Linda Taylor (2015)
Lynne Antonucci**

-Clerk

John Moore

-Treasurer

Sylvia Pecaro

-Assistant Treasurer

Jane Broderick

-Bookkeeper

St Martin's Staff

The Reverend

Bernard J. Pecaro

-Rector

Janet Privas

-Parish Administrator

Madeline Zung

-Director of Music Ministry

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

**140 S.E. 28th Avenue
Pompano Beach, Fl. 33062
Phone: 954-941-4843**

www.stmartinchurch.org

Building Bridges Pre-School

Edith Moore

-Director

954-545-4703

St. Martin's Members Welcome You!**Our Parish Vision Statement**

**“St. Martin's Vision is to serve as a bridge to
Jesus Christ, embracing all people.”**

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Church Services

Sunday

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:30am Holy Eucharist with
Hymns and Sunday School

**Tuesday - Wednesday - Friday
Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist**

9:00 am in the Chapel

Thursday

**Children's Chapel, 10:00am
Healing Service & Holy Eucharist**

12 Noon in the Chapel

Chapel Hours

The Chapel of the Resurrection is
open for **prayer** five days a week

Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Closed for Lunch

12:20pm - 1:20pm

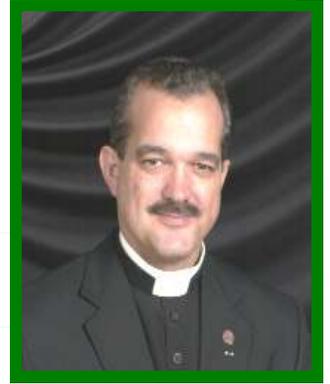
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janet@stmartinchurch.org

Dear Friends and Members of St. Martin,

Are you alive? You might be pinching your self and saying, "I think so? What kind of question is that? I'm here in the flesh, breathing, talking and taking in nourishment! Well, of course I'm alive!" But, are you really alive?

Many of us today go through the motions of living. Yet, we are really not alive. We're not alive in the sense that we have a purpose for living and a real zest for the life we are given and the person God created us to be and to become. Rather, many of us chase after ghosts, or illusions, of what one's life is to be. We hunt after our identity through such mediums as People Magazine or the TV show the Kardashians! No wonder our society is perplexed about life and its meaning and purpose.



Christian where is your center? Better yet, who is your center? Is it you? Or, is it the One who created you and redeemed you from sin?

I have labeled the next three Sundays of the month "A Trilogy of Sunday Celebrations." I have done so because each of the next three Sundays are Feast Days (Major Celebrations within the Christian Church). They each represent God's saving acts in Jesus the Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. They are: Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday (see below).

Does the significance of what God has done through the Ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit breath life into your heart. Does the Triune God inform your soul that you are not the center of your universe but only God can be? Does God's grace engage your life giving to you a purpose for living?

We Episcopalians, as a faith group, a denomination, will fade into insignificance within the greater Christian Church if we do not learn to claim and proclaim that Jesus Christ is central to our living! Moreover, we will continue to be insignificant to the vast host of society searching for meaning and purpose unless we can from the heart proclaim God, and God made flesh. The bottom line for us is we will not be able to proclaim this Faith unless we first claim His relevance for ourselves.

We have to honestly acknowledge within our souls, within our hearts, that we have no life in ourselves. We are only given *real life, real purpose for living*, as we find our identity in Jesus. Only in Jesus will we find our true identity. Without Jesus we will live our lives searching after what we think we should be.

We will soon enter the Season After Pentecost. This Season is a time for growth. We use the liturgical color green for our vestments and altar appointments. This color is symbolic of the growth of the land that occurs during these months. It may also symbolize the growth of our lives as we surrender them to and find them in Jesus. Do you wish to live your life really alive? Then surrender your self to Jesus where true life is to be found.

Have a blessed summer season of growth and life!

In His Love,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bernard J. Seco+". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a plus sign at the end.

A Trilogy of Sunday Celebrations: Ascension, Pentecost & Trinity



Ascension Day Sunday is this coming Sunday, May 12th. It is also Mother's Day! On this very important Feast we will reflect upon Jesus' ascension into Heaven, to the right hand of the Father. We will also honor with our love and a beautiful carnation all the women of our parish. A special blessing will be given to our ladies. We will also be blessed to celebrate the Baptism of Logan William Buerosse at our 10:30 Service. What a very festive day it will be!!

Pentecost Sunday is May, 19th. On this day the Holy Spirit lighted upon our Lord's disciples transforming them into Apostles, Bishops, and the Heads of Christ's Church. We will have festive celebrations of this Feast at both Services.



As well, this Sunday will be designated as Episcopal Charities Sunday. Episcopal Charities is an arm of evangelism within our diocese. They provide grants and other support to parishes that provide ministries to our communities. St. Martin is the recent recipient of a \$1,000.00 start up grant for our feeding ministry to the hungry and lonely.



Trinity Sunday is May 26th. On this day we celebrate the mystery of our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This day will also be for us our Annual Visitation of the Bishop. This year the Second Bishop of our Diocese, The Rt. Reverend Calvin O. Schofield and his wife Elaine will join with us at the 10:30 Eucharist. At this Service we will receive others into our communion and renew our baptismal vows. This festive Service will be followed by a luncheon in the parish hall provided by our Episcopal Church Women.

Our Veterans will also be honored on this day, at both masses, for their service given to our country for the defense of freedom...



Acolyte Festival

On Saturday, April 27th, acolytes and clergy throughout the diocese met at Trinity Cathedral in Miami to celebrate the Annual Acolyte Festival. Hundreds of persons processed from the Miami Herald building and into the entrance of the cathedral. Within those newly renovated and holy walls we celebrated the Eucharist. Our bishop, Leo Frade, offered the homily and was the chief Celebrant. One acolyte from each parish was recognized as the Acolyte of the Year. The person to hold this honor from St. Martin is Barkley Jackson. Congratulations Barkley.



OUR ECW AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL (See Photos on Cover)

Many Paths, One Journey was the theme of the 44th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of South East Florida Diocese on April 19th at the Hilton Hotel in Miami.

There were 150 women getting together for celebrating many paths we take "to the ultimate goal of the one journey-bringing others to Christ".

Sandy Tucker, Sue D'Amor, Josephine Picaro and Lena Norton rose up early on Friday to make 8 am start. With Sue D'Amor driving we got the Miami on time. All ECW delegates wore red colored tee shirts. I felt a little out of place because I didn't know anyone at the tables, but I felt OK because deeply inside I felt that I belonged. It was announced that we had 20 guests from the northern part of Florida and five guests were ACW (Anglican Church Women) from Bahamas.

After the opening meeting we broke up for workshops. A workshop Preparing the Altar was led by the lady who was born in Jamaica, and who is actively involved now in this ministry in her church in Miami. And she was very glad to share with us everything that she learned during years of this service. She was able to pass the spark into my heart. I became willing to join a group of this silent ministry. This leader couldn't do any better describing how rewarding it might become. When she said "you get as close to God during this ministry as you possibly can", I signed up for this ministry as soon as I returned to Sunday service in St. Martin's.

At night there was a dinner banquet with a fashion show and the followed dancing. Everyone looked beautiful in their formal dresses.

By the next day I felt like I was part of a family. The closing service on Saturday was in the Trinity Cathedral, known for its outstanding architecture and stained glass beauty.

Carrying the banner of our ECW and feeling part of "all good deeds" in the name of Jesus brought tears to my eyes. Knowing how much ECW is doing for our St. Martin's church and the Broward community made me feel honored to be chosen to carry the banner. By the end of the annual meeting everyone was hugging and kissing each other in hopes to meet next year with the report of good deeds again.

JKV Silver Angel Award

Each year John Knox Village offers to members of our community the "Silver Angel" Award. This award is given through local churches to one, or two, of its members who have served the parish above and beyond the call... This year St. Martin is honoring Richard and Luciana Pinto. Richard and Luciana have served St. Martin with selfless distinction for many years and in many capacities. The honorees will be recognized at a special dinner offered by John Knox Village. Thank you Richard and Luciana!

REVEAL Study

Our REVEAL Study workshops are almost complete. Our faithful ministry team has met three times over the past two months. Our purpose has been to discern the data we have collected from the parish's response to the REVEAL Survey. Much progress is being made during these 2.5 hour meetings. Our parish will soon reap the rewards of the labors of our team members as they are guided by the Holy Spirit. We offer our deepest thanks to them: Lynne

Antonucci, Joy Astrolio, The Reverend Robert Beicke, Tom Campbell, Charmaine Comprosky, Barkley Jackson, Larry and Lena Norton, Janice LaVrar, Janet Privas, Graham and Linda Taylor, Sandy Tucker, Madeline Zung, and Fr. Bernie.

**Bible Challenge**

The 2013 Bible Challenge is on! Many members of the diocese began their challenge of reading the bible in its entirety early in January. We began our challenge on Ash Wednesday. It is not too late for you to begin your challenge.

Please join one of our small groups who meet on Wednesday evenings, 6:30, in the library, or on Sunday mornings, 9:30, in the parish hall. You may access the Bible Challenge through our webpage at www.stmartinchurch.org. Click on "Bible Challenge." Take up the challenge Today!

Experiencing God The Course

The Experiencing God Course has been offered numerous times throughout the years at St. Martin parish. Its effects have strengthened the participants' understanding of God and God's purpose for their living.

In today's Church it is certainly one of the better evangelical tools for coming to know and accomplish the

will of Jesus. Fr. Bernie is discerning God's call to offer yet another course in Experiencing God for the spring and summer term. This 12 week course may be offered during the day, night, or both. Please be prayerful about God's will for St. Martin. Be prayerful about God's will for you in taking this course for the first time, or again for a second, or third time. You are guaranteed a closer, more intimate, understanding of God and His purpose for your living.

You will be asked this Sunday if you believe God is calling us forward to offer this class in the spring. Please be prayerful and discerning!!



St. Martin Ministry of Feeding the Hungry and Lonely Begins May 28th

Our parish has discerned God's call to join with Him to provide food for the hungry and lonely. We begin this monthly ministry of hospitality on Tuesday, May 28th, from 4:30-6:00pm, in the parish hall, and each *subsequent 4th Tuesday of the month*. Volunteers are encouraged to assist with this ministry. Areas of need are: food preparation and serving, hospitality, set-up and clean-up. Please sign up on the information table in the Narthex.

We are asking that you reflect on presenting this program to your family, friends and business associates in a manner in which you believe you can encourage volunteers, and most importantly get the message out that this program is available. Teenagers looking for Community Service Hours are welcome, as are youth accompanied by adults. No one should ever bear the pain of a broken spirit or empty stomach. This program is a start for all of us. Together we will make a difference.

Contacts: Lisa Benton: 954.978.5949 Lynne Antonucci: 561.706.6136

Email: 4foodandfellowship@gmail.com

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Graduation Sunday, June 6th

On this Sunday, we will honor all those who have graduated from their academic, professional, or other endeavors. It is important to recognize the achievements we have accomplished and the God who has given to us the abilities to accomplish them. You are invited to celebrate and give thanks to God for your milestones in life. Please join us at either the 8:00 or 10:30 Services.

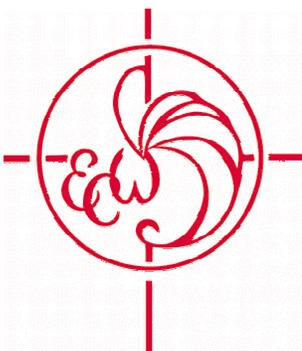
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Babs Kall Art Fund Raiser

I have recreated the central portion of our church's gorgeous central window into a stained glass panel. This piece is 8" wide by 12" tall and hangs from the top. Each piece is carefully hand-crafted by selecting various textures and intense colors of glass then assembling them into the chalice and grain art panel. No two will be alike. The cost is \$100, 50% will go to the church. I have already completed a few of these panels and will be taking orders for any more. Let me know if you would like to see one or if you have any questions. Babs - 954-675-4944



St. Martin
Episcopal
Church
POMPANO BEACH, FL



ECW NEWS

The Episcopal Church Women will be meeting on Saturday, May 11th at 10:30am in the Conference Room. We will be discussing plans for our 2014 Fashion Show. Lunch will be served. We will take a break for the summer, so please try to come. All women are members.

**Saint Martin's Episcopal
Church**

**140 S.E. 28th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33062**

**Bell Tower
Deadline for
May
will be July 1st
Please send photos
And news. This is your
newsletter**

