



ALL SAINTS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Herald

May, 2014

Sundays of Easter

From the Rector: Of This Improbable Life

We were watching the news this morning when Katharine nudged me and asked me to look at what she had found on Facebook. You won't believe this, she said. It was a post from an old grade school friend touting his newly published book. Back in the day he was a football hero, student body president, member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes... You know. He has just retired from his career with American Airlines at age fifty-nine. His new book (his previous books chronicled his professional life as an airline pilot) is entitled *Solving the Money Puzzle: God's plan for Financial Freedom...* Yeah, I know.

The author opines that the book is a must-read for all ages, but most especially for young people planning for their financial future using biblical principles. It would make a great graduation gift, he says. My first thought was that the biblical principles concerning wealth demand that one give one's wealth away for the good of one's neighbor... maybe I read it wrong. But upon further thought, this book, or at least the title thereof, smacks of what's wrong with the theological kitsch that passes for Christianity these days. One, this theology is all about the individual's self-importance as the center of the religious enterprise, and two, it holds certainty as possible and necessary. Just follow God's plan and everything will be alright. God's plan for financial freedom? Just be an airline pilot.

As well we all know, if we but pay attention, life is anything but certain. There is no promise of certainty in scripture, nor of financial success, nor of good health, that our children turn out the way we think they should; no promise that we won't suffer. And most of all, scripture tells us that life is not a solitary journey, but a journey among friends, a journey necessarily wrought in community. And it is an improbable journey... One thing for certain about a journey is that it will never be what we expect. The future will arrive certainly... but always an improbable surprise... for us and for God, I think. Such is the creative process. The only so-called plan amid the joy and pain of life is that we improvise creatively using the gifts engendered among us.

The pathos of life, its comic and tragic dimensions, its very beauty, lie in its improbability. The life of the psyche, the soul, the life of faith, is ambiguous, improbable. It defies the illusion of a prescribed order. The word *journey* from its Latin root simply means "of a day." We live in an eternal present improvising the way ahead, each new day a new creation unto itself... each new day the only reality spawned for improbable, infinite possibility... each new day a leg of the journey and the journey entire, mysterious, beautiful, improbable. Life's meaning and beauty are found in its improbability.

To live our lives "of a day" is to, ironically enough, experience the fullness of life. Resurrection Life is an outward and visible symbol of such fullness. The two pilgrims in Luke's story called the walk to Emmaus encounter on their journey of a day the risen Christ. It is an improbable encounter, mysterious, surprising. The pilgrims at first don't recognize Jesus. It is not until their fellowship is deepened along the road in passionate conversation, and not until they break bread together, until they have established deep empathy, that they see the risen Christ... and the encounter is fleeting, but profoundly memorable, lasting... Such is the life of a day: We embrace the life we have together amid the improbability of life in its unlikely becoming, and in the space of a day we break bread, share our epic soul stories; own them with all due passion... And there among us is life, life enough for a day, and hope for the day to come... That is all there is, and it is enough... as improbable as it will be.

Family Promise Week begins May 4

Our week to host families from IHN/Family Promise will begin Sunday, May 4 with the evening meal and run through Sunday, May 11 breakfast. If you have signed up for a slot to host a meal or to be an evening or overnight host, thank you! Other slots are still open and need to be filled. Contact Henry Brewster at hbrewster@brewsterlaw.net or 251-338-0630.

The "Made for Goodness..." book study group will continue its discussion this Sunday morning. We will revisit chapter 7 but the focus will be on chapter 8, "Why Does God Let Us Sin?" We will consider an article from the Boston Globe in which Bishop Tutu reflects on the apparent "failures" (re: ch.7) of the situation in South Africa today. We will also discuss our next book selection and the summer schedule. Newcomers are welcome. If you would like to know more about this class call Woody Hannum (802-4362).

Graduates to be honored May 18

Our graduating high school seniors will be honored on Sunday, May 18, during the 10:30 service. Please email or call Mary Robert at asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org or 251-438-2492 to let her know if you have/are a senior. Anyone with a new college graduate, or beyond, is asked to let Mary know so these graduates may also be recognized in the June issue of The Herald.

Last day of Sunday School May 18

Children and youth Sunday School classes will end on Sunday, May 18 for the summer. The adult classes, as usual, will continue on their own schedules. We will honor the teachers of all classes during the 10:30 service.

Food Share in May Come help pack food bags at 7:15am on Saturday morning, May 17, just before the distribution at 8am. We'll pack the food, distribute it, and finish by 8:30.

Lectionary Readings for May

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Lessons: [Acts 2:14a,36-41](#)
[Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17](#)
[1 Peter 1:17-23](#)
[Luke 24:13-35](#)

Sunday, May 11, 2014

Lessons: [Acts 2:42-47](#)
[Psalm 23](#)
[1 Peter 2:19-25](#)
[John 10:1-10](#)

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Lessons: [Acts 7:55-60](#)
[Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16](#)
[1 Peter 2:2-10](#)
[John 14:1-14](#)

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Lessons: [Acts 17:22-31](#)
[Psalm 66:7-18](#)
[1 Peter 3:13-22](#)
[John 14:15-21](#)

The Sexton's Corner

The Rector's office has been painted and redecorated. Now some of the old furniture and rugs need to be moved to other areas, and the oldest things need to go to the street for pickup. Burl would like some help with the moving on Saturday, May 3, at 10:30am. If you can come, meet Burl in the Parish Hall.

Does anyone know anything about the Peavy amplifier that was found in one of the Stirling Hall closets? If you do, please call Burl, 251-438-2492, or email him at sexton@allsaintsmobile.org.

Please keep in your prayers:

✚ For healing for: Steve Doan, Clinton Wilson, Rusty Glass, Anne Carpenter, John Simmance, Robert Doyle, Sam Cockrell, Ivan Davidson, Jeannette Hall, Mary Lou Peake, Bonnie Brooks, Judy Strada, Sue Oom, Nancy, South Sudan, Larry Preul, Danny Moreau, Tommy, Ruth and Ruth Langan, Lee Hamilton, James Henry LeBatard, Ann, Vince Pilgrim, Jamie Pilgrim, Celita Burke, Baby Connor, Kim, Kris & Paul, John Stephens, Alisha, Sybil Wilson, Howard Young, Terrance Ulmer, Opal Berry, Cora Teague, Josh Watson, Kay Myers, the White family, Susan Hannum, Sharon, Katie Hammond, Skip Shirah, Amanda, Achol Guet, Barbara Blum-Barnett, Caroline Fletcher, Mackenzie Petersen, Nancy Golson Smith, Nancy Quittmeyer, Regina Slayton, Steven Bodiford, Walter Sims, Mitch Price, Austin Brown, Barbara Deming, Heather and family, Martha Collier, Dunn Chandler, Jessica Montalvo-Lopez, Evina Valera, Ed Givhan, Sharon Cleverdon, Patsy Childress, Anna Marie Brown, Laura

✚ For those who serve in the armed forces, especially: Spencer Abbot, Matt Abbot, Jonathan Carter, DeMario Sned, S.T. Heath, Forrest Brewster, Daniel Robert

Please mark your calendars right away with the dates you are to serve!

If you cannot be present for the date you are scheduled, please try to get a substitute and let the church office know who it is. If you can't find a sub, let the office know as soon as possible. 438-2492.

Lay Ministers for May 2014

Date	Time	Lector	Intercessor	Chalice	Acolytes	Ushers	Altar Guild	Flower Guild	Breakfast	Reception
May 4 3rd Sunday of Easter	8am	S Willcox	J Clearman	S Willcox		F South H Callaway	S Drew L Raouf B Ratcliffe J Rogers M Winkler	B Ratcliffe C Ryan	C Kelly C Doyle J Rivers	
	1030 am	J Hamilton B Hardaway	H Caddell	L Wood N Lancaster	D Williams M Williams Em Doyle SF Greene	C Doyle D Greene D Greene	Bread bakers: B Hardaway L Carsten			The Fosters
May 11 4th Sunday of Easter	8am	L Van Dyke	B Evatt	RE Stanbery		B & B Evatt		J Tucker B Wilson	J Clearman M Harris S Cleveland B Evatt	
	1030 am	A Blair L Carsten	F Rouse	B Bentley M Morrison	L Ayres B Ayres G Ayres A Atem	H Caddell J Ayres C Conte H Brewster				
May 18 5th Sunday of Easter	8am	J Basenberg	S Willcox	H Callaway		W English M Taylor		B Bentley R Bradford	J Tucker B Ratcliffe K Montgomery M Winkler	
	1030 am	SF Greene J Ayres	V Mitchell	B Ayres B Hardaway	D Williams L Wood C Mosley A Atem	D Mosley M Williams M Durant				C Cade- Lemmon J Cade
May 25 6th Sunday of Easter	8am	MH Slaton	L Hallett	S Willcox		J Basenberg B Case		B Brewster K Butler	C Mackey V Case B Schneider K Kelly D Mosley	
	1030 am	R Gray M Petithory	M Harris	R LaMonte B Harris	B Foster M Morrison El Doyle H Gardner	J Hamilton B Hines R Pappas				B'day Recep B Hardaway K Gray

May Birthdays

2 - Norma Bruce	7 - Emily Doyle	14 - Louise Chiepalich	24 - Jim Clark	25 - Paul Roper
2 - Katie Flowers Herndon	8 - Scott Schneider	15 - Meredith Mosley	25 - Suzanne Drew	26 - Beth Hardaway
3 - Bill Case	10 - Kim Kelly	15 - Ben Foster	25 - Lee Van Dyke	30 - Mary Kate Cook
5 - Flossie Leatherbury	11 - Bess Nichols	19 - Michel Shain	25 - Barbara Caddell	30 - Julie White-Spinner
5 - Wieu Kuot	12 - Suzanne Scott	20 - Greg House	25 - Greg Miles	
7 - Eleanor Pomerat	12 - Emily Mosley	22 - Sue Hawkins	25 - Ricky Bradford	



May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12N Al-Anon 4p St Cecelia Choir 7p AA, Smith Rm	2	3
4 3rd Sunday of Easter 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Godly Play 9:30 Youth, Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows	5	6	7 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 7p Adult Choir	8 12N Al-Anon 4p St Cecelia Choir 7p AA, Smith Rm	9	10 10:30a PFLAG
IHN / Family Promise Week			IHN / Family Promise Week		IHN / Family Promise Week	
11 4th Sunday of Easter 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Godly Play 9:30 Youth, Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows IHN	12	13 5p Murray House Board Mtg	14 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 7p Adult Choir	15 12N Al-Anon 7p AA, Smith Rm	16	17 7:30a Food Share packing & distri- bution
18 5th Sunday of Easter 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Godly Play 9:30 Youth, Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Recognition of grads & Sun. school teachers Reception follows	19 6p Vestry mtg	20	21 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist No Choir practice	22 12N Al-Anon 7p AA, Smith Rm	23	24
25 6th Sunday of Easter 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:30 Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Birthday Reception	26 <i>Office closed for Memorial Day</i> 6p 15 Place Board	27	28 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 7p Adult Choir	29 12N Al-Anon 7p AA, Smith Rm	30	31



All Saints Church

151 SOUTH ANN STREET
MOBILE, AL 36604

www.allsaintsmobile.org

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan II, Bishop
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector
rector@allsaintsmobile.org
Office: 438.2492 Home: 436.8932
The Rev. Mary C. Robert, Assistant Rector
asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org
Office: 438.2492 Cell: 458.8581
The Rev. Ruth B. LaMonte, Priest Associate
rblamonte@aol.com
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All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician
jeff@allsaintsmobile.org
Mary Holbrook, Financial Administrator
mary@allsaintsmobile.org
Office Volunteers
office@allsaintsmobile.org
Burl Ratcliffe, Parish Sexton
Gretchen Thiel and Aguol Kuot, Nursery Staff

All Saints 2014 Vestry

Don Mosley, Sr. Warden
Ricky Bradford, Jr. Warden
Joe Basenberg
Hank Caddell Richard Coarsey
Chris Conte Cecil Gardner
James Hamilton Valerie Mitchell
Don Mosley Burl Ratcliffe
Clayton Ryan Jana Simpson
Mary Hunter Slaton Rose Ellen Stanbery
Pete Wilson
Curt Doyle, Treasurer

All Saints Committee Chairs

Acolytes: The Rev. Mary Robert
Addiction & Recovery: Becky Wilson
Adult Christian Education: The Rev. Jim Flowers
Altar Guild: Betty Bentley, Melanie Petithory
Choirs: Jeff Clearman
Community Ministries: Matt McDonald
Constitution & By Laws: Pete Mackey
Episcopal Youth (EYC):
Finance Committee: Curt Doyle
Flower Guild:
Food Share: Mark Taylor, Burl Ratcliffe
Golden Circle: Wylly Stirling, Mary Hunter Slaton
Hospitality & Events: Jean Tucker
IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster
Lay Eucharistic Visitors:
Lectors, Intercessors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary Robert
Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle
Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter, Jim Ayres
Parish Development: Clark Kelly
Property: Ricky Bradford
Refugees: Martha Harris
Ushers: Harold Dodge, Louie Wood
Stewardship: Don Mosley, All Saints Vestry
Wedding Guild: Betty Bentley
Youth Christian Education: The Rev. Mary Robert

All Saints Episcopal Church

151 South Ann Street, Mobile, AL 36604 www.allsaintsmobile.org

Service Schedule

Sundays 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Breakfast
9:20 am Christian Education Classes (during school year)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays 12 Noon Holy Eucharist (Chapel)