

THE GOOD NEWS

Holy Faith Episcopal Church
6990 South Federal Highway
Port St Lucie Florida 34952

A congregation of many
nationalities worshipping
together in joy.
JUNE 2012. Vol. 13 No. 6



This *GOOD NEWS* is
especially for

You

Rev. William H. Smith – Priest – in - Charge

HOLY FAITH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Office Telephone 772-464-4570

Email holyfaithpsl@aol.com

Website: www.holyfaithpsl.org

Clergy

Priest in Charge - The Rev. William H. Smith 337-4887

Assistant Priest –The Rev. Jose P. Fernandez (Spanish) 340-4910

Associate Priest – The Rev. Burnet Cherisol (Haitian) 672-1310

Organist – Susan Adams 873-9493

Email eyequilt@bellsouth.net

Services

Sunday

8 am. Rite I with music

10 am Rite II with Choir

Noon Rite II Spanish

Sunday School at 10am and noon

Wednesday

10am. Holy Communion and Healing Service.

6:30pm – Bible Study

THE GOOD NEWS is published monthly by Holy Faith Episcopal Church,
6990 S. Federal Hwy, Port St. Lucie Fl. 34952

Leadership
Vestry

Senior Warden: Olga Chavez (2013)
Junior Warden: George Cleary (2014)
Bonnie Claren (2015)
Elias Jansen (2015)
Aquinda Toppin (2015)

Wayne Griffin (2014)
Janet Clarke (2013)
Juan Gomez (2013)
Carmen Mendoza (2014)

Treasurer: George Adams
Assist. Treasurer: Fay Edwards Taylor 879-4557

Recording Secretary: Susan Adams
Parish Coordinator:

Committee Chairs

Acolytes: Ginny Williams – 873-9428
Aurora Mata – 561-704-3495
Activities: Aquinda Toppin – 237-2501
Adult/youth Ed: Terri Mullins – 465 - 4184
Carmen Mendosa
Altar Guild: May Thomas - 871-1740
Jocelyn Newport – 879-7920
Buildings & Grounds: George Cleary
Coffee Hour: Aquinda Toppin
Daughters of the King: Ethlyn Moody – 344-4777
Florists: Paula Smith - 337-4887
Finance: Wayne Griffin -
Lectors: Linda Crossett - 343-9777/ Aurora Mata
LEM: Linda Crossett/ Maria Publito Barrios
Mens Group:

Music/Choir Director, Spanish: Miguel Pena
Newsletter: Editor-in-Chief - 464-4570
Editor - Arlene Mighty - 879-3071
Organist/ Choir Director: Susan Adams - 873-9493
Outreach: Jennifer Gardner - 408-6699
Pastoral Care: Shirley Heath - 344-5043
Publicist: Allan Anter - 468-8560
Search: Terri Mullins - 465-4184
Stewardship:
Thrift Shop: Ethlyn Moody - 344-4777
Ushers/Greeters: Martha Hovsepian - 460-8777
Leo McCalla - 871-9621

Vision:
Web Mistress: Carole Gooden - 336-0329
Youth Group: Bonnie Claren - 621-9803
Cecilia Escorbore -

Episcopal Church Women/ St. Margaret's Guild/Happy Talk : Janet Clarke – 878-2140

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6/01 Grace Braithwaite
6/03 Douglas Warren
6/04 Kristi Griffin
Nicolas Pelaez
6/06 Fabian Morales
6/11 Cecil Alleyne



6/13 Aurora Mata
6/15 Ennis Johnson
6/19 Juliet Cozier
6/20 Janet Clarke
6/26 June Inniss
6/27 Curtis Inniss

HAPPY

6/02 Fr. Bill & Paula Smith
6/09 Norman & Ruby Hudson
6/10 David & Doris Shenandoah



ANNIVERSARY

6/11 Bishop John & Ann Said
6/18 Rudolph & Merle Stephenson
6/29 Leandus & Caroline Campbell

ON RELIEF OF SUFFERING

Some thoughts from Father Bill

When I was serving the parish of Christ Church, Bangkok, there were two particular fields of ministry that I found particularly tough. Both had to do with the abuse and misuse of narcotic drugs. Our word, “narcotic”, comes from the Greek word, νάρκη (narkee) which means numbness to the state of being in a stupor.

The first field of ministry was to those who had died from an overdose of heroin, which was and is available in Thailand in almost a pure form, unlike what is available in the West. I used to work with the consuls of the foreign embassies, most often the British. Americans tended to be non-Episcopalians and my Baptist, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian colleagues would be called upon to minister to them. Usually the person had come to Thailand alone and when the body had been discovered all we could know about them was what was in the passport that was found at the scene.

For many it was a simple matter of conducting the funeral rites at the Temple of the Golden Buddha, the Abbot of which graciously provided facilities for the cremation of non-Buddhists. On such an occasion the only people present were the Consul, or a member of his staff, and myself. However, there were times when the next-of-kin would indicate that she – it was usually a grieving mother – wished to come out to Thailand, and then we would hold the service following the rites of the old 1662 Book of Common Prayer. It was the job of the Consulate to provide a Certificate of Death in English, and it had to include the cause of death. And often that was the first time that a mother would learn that her child was an addict.

The second field of ministry had to do with people known as mules. I shared this ministry with a Roman Catholic colleague. Once a month we would spend a Saturday morning at the prison in the northern suburbs of Bangkok where expatriate convicts were incarcerated. The Prison Authority agreed to allow us to carry out this ministry and we were the only two non-Thai clergymen who were permitted to enter the gaol. The prisoners were segregated by gender, so Father Jo and I would take it in turns to celebrate the Eucharist and to preach. Most of the prisoners were there because they had been convicted of carrying drugs – hence the term mules. They had either been arrested at the hotel in which they had been staying or at the airport, and always after tip-offs from informers. Usually they had been set up by the drug traffickers to be arrested with a small amount of some narcotic, while the real carrier traveled safely.

Of course they all pleaded not guilty to the charge, even though the drugs had been found as a result of a strip search at the airport, many times in some orifice of their bodies. The punishment for being found guilty of trafficking in drugs in Thailand is death. However, if the accused pleads guilty, then the punishment is fifty years imprisonment in a very unpleasant gaol, with only a ration of rice. We always advised those we visited to plead guilty and accept the fifty-year sentence, because we knew that twice a year, on the occasion of the King’s birthday and the anniversary of his accession to the throne, all sentences would be reduced by a third, so that a fifty-year sentence would be served in about seven years, and in that time the Consulate staff would be able to arrange a transfer back to the convict’s own country.

What I saw in the course of those two fields of ministry was just how terrible are the effects of narcotic drugs, on users and their families. These drugs are highly addictive and they have the potential to destroy the lives of the user completely, and to a lesser extent, but still in a very real way, the families of the users. Of course, the use of all these drugs is classified as illegal when it occurs outside the prescription of medical practitioners. Most users of illegal drugs claim that they ingest them to relieve some form of suffering, physical, emotional, mental or spiritual. They also fondly and foolishly think that they can break their addiction, but experience shows that it is no easy feat to break an addiction to anything, and least of all to hard drugs.

What worries me is that today we are seeing a similar phenomenon in terms of legal drugs. Of course we do not call them drugs, for that is a dirty word and only criminals use drugs. Instead we call them pharmaceuticals. But when we look up “pharmaceutical” in the dictionary we see that it is derived from the Greek word, φάρμακον (pharmakon), which means, “drug”! And whether we call them drugs or pharmaceuticals, their effects on the human body, mind, and, I daresay, spirit is much the same, or perhaps worse.

Back in the 1970s I was walking along Twelfth Street in Lower Manhattan late one evening when I was accosted by a couple of young hoodlums. At razor’s edge they demanded my money but as it was the day before payday I only had two dimes and a subway token. I gave each of them a dime and kept the subway token so I could go to work the next day. The three of us agreed that they were wasting their time and we sat on the kerb to discuss why they were doing this sort of thing. They needed money, they said, for heroin. I pointed out to

them that there was a methadone clinic just a block away, but they informed me that methadone was not as good as heroin and was just as addictive – their words, not mine. Often the cure is no better than the disease, and may be worse.

I was reminded of this when I was reading some recent statistics on pharmaceuticals. The industry spends upwards of \$4 billion each year on advertising. It has sales representatives calling on medical practitioners to convince them to prescribe the products of the industry. A couple of years ago people in this country were paying out well over \$8 billion on narcotic painkillers, and over \$3 billion of this was on OxyContin alone. If the manufacturers were not considered respectable, they would be called drug dealers and the members of the medical profession who prescribe, and often overprescribe, these products would be called drug pushers.

OxyContin and methadone are derived, as is heroin, from opiates, and as many, if not more, overdose on these legal substances as do on the illegal. It is true these pharmaceuticals help enormously those suffering from diseases whose symptoms include intense pain, but far too often they end life rather than improve it. Deaths

per annum from prescription drug overdoses have in recent years been more frequent than those arising from automobile crashes.

I hate to say it, but it does rather sound as though some medical practitioners are taking the easy route of prescribing substances that mask pain rather than seeking the cause of that pain and then treating that cause. Perhaps that is what some patients prefer, to hide the pain rather than face the perils of a procedure that could lead to a cure. Yet surely our faith encourages us to face up to the reality and to take steps that change that reality for the better, no matter how difficult and demanding those steps might be.

We read in the Gospel narratives of the Crucifixion that Jesus was offered a drugged drink to lessen the pain that he was to undergo. He chose not to accept it, but instead underwent the suffering to bring about change for us all. I would like to believe that we would follow that example and seek the remedy that is meant to cure what really besets us, rather than hiding behind some pharmaceutical – and do remember the Greek word from which pharmaceutical is derived. And put the so-called legal drug dealers and drug pushers out of business, while saving your own life and a lot of money.

PASTORAL CARE

God's Accuracy

*Fascinating, I've never given most of this
a thought!!!!*

*God's accuracy may be observed in the
hatching of eggs.*

For example:

-the eggs of the

potato bug hatch in 7 days;-those

of the canary in 14 days;

-those of the

barnyard hen in 21 days;

-The eggs of ducks and geese

hatch in 28 days;

-those of the mallard in 35

days;

-The eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in

42 days.

*(Notice, they are all divisible by seven,
the number of days in a week!)*

God's wisdom is seen

*in the making of an elephant... The four legs of this great
beast all bend forward in the same direction.. No other
quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a
huge body, too large to live on two legs... For this reason He
gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground
easily.*

*The horse rises from the ground on its two
front legs first.*

*A cow rises from the ground with
its two hind legs first.*

*How wise the Lord is in
all His works of creation!*

God's wisdom is

*revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as
in the number of grains.*

-Each watermelon has

an even number of stripes on the rind.

-Each orange has

an even number of segments.

-Each ear of corn has an

even number of rows.

-Each stalk of wheat has an

even number of grains.

*-Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of
bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an
even number and the next row an odd
number.*

*-The waves of the sea roll in on shore
twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of
weather.*

*All grains are found in even numbers on the
stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold,
and a hundred fold - all even numbers.*

God

*has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified
times during the day, so that Linnaeus, the great botanist, once
said that if he had a conservatory containing the right
kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time
of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that
were closed!*

*The lives of each of you may be
ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you
will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to
regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a
failure..
Only the One Who made the brain and the heart
can successfully guide them to a profitable end.*

I HOPE YOU FIND THIS AS FASCINATING AS I DID!

*..
...WOW!!!!*

*May God Bless You In Ways You
Never Even Dreamed Today!*

Submitted by Linda Crossett

The Word for 'Worrywarts'

'Martha...you are worried and upset about many things.'

[Luke 10:41 NIV](#)

Worry acts like a thief; it robs us of the joy God wants us to experience each day. Basically, all our worries come down to two things: that we won't get what we need or that we'll lose what we've got. Martha was a 'worrywart' and it showed up when Jesus came to dinner. She worked hard in the kitchen while her sister Mary sat listening to Jesus. In frustration Martha asked, '...Lord, don't You care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself?' (v40 NIV) Worry makes us forget who's servant and who's Lord.

Notice three things in this story:

(1) Martha was busy serving, but she wasn't enjoying it. No doubt she wanted to please Jesus; it's just that she allowed her work for the Lord to become more important to her than her relationship with the Lord. Has that happened to you?

(2) Satan didn't take Martha out of the kitchen; he just stole her purpose for being there. Satan doesn't turn you against the church; he just makes you focus on yourself. He doesn't take away your ministry, he just discourages you by saying you're overworked and not appreciated.

(3) God values your attitude more than your actions. 'Do everything without complaining...' ([Philippians 2:14 NIV](#)) A bad attitude spoils the gift you offer to God. Jesus said, 'Martha...only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen...it...' ([Luke 10:42 NIV](#)) What did Mary choose? Sitting at the feet of Jesus. He always prefers the quiet devotion of a sincere heart to the noisy attitude of a complainer. Think about it.

Bob Gass – The Word for Today

HAPPENINGS AT HOLY FAITH

Holy Faith held their Spring Barbeque on May 12th. It was a resounding success. All segments of the congregation were represented, and a good time was had by all. Thank you to Monty for the music. A huge THANK YOU to all who assisted, supported, and attended. Your help and presence made this affair a success. A net profit of \$1200 was realized.

THANK YOU goes out to the men of Holy Faith who provided and served that scrumptious Mother's Day Brunch. Your thoughtfulness was really appreciated.

Thank you to all who assisted with the supper for the Four Parish Service for Ascension Day. The service was well attended. It was heartwarming to see so many attendees, old and new faces. A special thanks to the members of the various choirs.

On Saturday June 2nd there will be a Child Abuse Prevention Program, starting at 1:30pm in the Parish Hall. All Vestry and Church members involved with or would like to become involved with children's programs such as Youth Group or Sunday School are strongly advised to attend or they will not be able to be involved in these activities.

On June 17th the Women of Holy Faith will be hosting a Father's Day Brunch. All the women are asked to bring a dish to share. Please inform Aquinda Toppin of your donation.

On September 30, 2012, the Fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida, Gregory Brewer, will be visiting Holy Faith.

This is an invitation to all who wish to be confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church, or who wish to Reaffirm their Baptismal Vows. Please inform Fr. Bill or Fr. Pepe, so that steps can be taken to prepare the candidates for this event.

On November 15, 16, 17, Lifetouch will be taking pictures for the Pictorial Directory. Information will be forthcoming.

CURSILLO PICNIC

The Annual Central Florida Cursillo Picnic
Saturday, July 21, 2012
11AM - 2PM
St. Peters, Lake Mary (700 Rhinehart Rd)
Bring a covered dish to share
Bring a chair for yourself
Bring your instrument if you are a musician
Open to all so bring those you and God feel called to ask to participate in a weekend

Parish Coordinators (and those interested in this aspect of the Cursillo Movement) will meet from 9-11AM. Our hope is that a representative from each parish (and at least each deanery) will participate>

For additional information please contact:
Phil Phillips strumminguy55@yahoo.com
or Nancy Gordon
munsonn04@yahoo.com

Ultreya

Maggie Thompson, Communications Chr

"Sing and make melody in your heart!"

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Canon Bennett will visit with the search comm. on June 24, 2012. At that time he will give us the list of names that he has collected for consideration. We will then begin to screen candidates for the position of part-time Rector.

Terri Mullins, Chair,
Search Committee

SERVERS' SCHEDULE ---- JUNE 2012

<u>LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS/ GREETERS</u>	<u>FLORISTS</u>
<p>3. 8am - E. Francis 10am - H. Walcott</p> <p>10. 8am L. Crossett 10am - G. Williams</p> <p>17. 8am - S. Heath 10am - B. Claren</p> <p>24. 8am - L. Crossett 10am - L. McCalla</p>	<p>3. 8am - E. Francis M. Upright</p> <p>10am - D. Moehl G. Horne</p> <p>10. 8am - L. Crossett V. Alleyne</p> <p>10am - B. Claren C. Inniss</p> <p>17. 8am - S. Heath L. Crossett</p> <p>10am - J. Stone D. Moehl</p> <p>24. 8am - L. Crossett A. Anter</p> <p>10am - I. Duncan M. Sangster</p>	<p>3. 8am - J. Newport G. Adams</p> <p>10am - D. Huggins</p> <p>10. 8am - J. Newport G. Adams</p> <p>10am - TBA</p> <p>17.8am - G. Adams J. Newport</p> <p>10am - TBA</p> <p>29. 8am - G. Adams J. Newport</p> <p>10am - TBA</p>	<p>3. A. Toppin G. Abrahams</p> <p>10. E. Francis R. Malcolm</p> <p>17. M. Stephenson</p> <p>29. P. Smith E. Hunt V. Stephenson</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ALTAR GUILD</u></p> <p>3. 8am - M. Thomas 10am - I. Vaceannie</p> <p>10. 8am - J. Newport 10am - I. Vaceannie</p> <p>17. 8am - M. Thomas 10am - I. Vaceannie</p> <p>24. 8am - J. Newport 10am - I. Vaceannie</p>			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COFFEE HOUR HOSTS</u></p> <p>3. Ushers/Greeters</p> <p>10. DOK</p> <p>17. Father's Day Brunch. Women of Holy Faith.</p> <p>24. Men's Group</p>

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE PLEASE ARRANGE FOR A SUBSTITUTE