



*Mew-sings from the Senior Warden.....*Carol Griffin 386-497-2292

Lent is a period of preparation for Easter beginning with Ash Wednesday and lasting 40 week days to Easter. It is a time to develop a closer relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ. It can also be a time to strengthen relationships with our fellow Christians.

Consider the Wednesday opportunities of worship.

The Wednesday morning Bible Study at 9:30 not only gives us the opportunity to read, discuss and grow in the Word of God, but to encourage each other on our spiritual journey. Wednesday evening offers another opportunity to Fellowship during our Evening Prayer and Healing service at 5:00. It is a beautiful, intimate and short service, which will enhance your spiritual life during this Lenten season and beyond.

This Lent try adding something to your life by enjoying additional fellowship with your St. Bart's family.

As stated in Hebrews:

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”
Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV).

F ind Strong Relationships

E ncourage Each Other

L ive in Harmony

L earn Contentment

O ffer Assistance

W illing to be involved

S avor Christian Fellowship

H armony with All

I dentify Satan's Deceptions

P articipate Regularly

This month's Godwink: Listen To The Voice!

Squire, I'm so thankful for your book "When God Winks". It has become one of my favorite topics. Here's our story.

My husband used to go to the woods outside our home and shoot his pellet gun. He'd shoot squirrels and birds "for recreation". He's never done it again...not one time since "that" day.

It was a beautiful day and I was inside the house playing with my little 2 year old son. My husband walked in. His face was ashen. He just stood there. I asked him what was wrong.

"I shot a bird," he said.

"But why are you looking like that?"

"I shouldn't have shot it. But I did."

"What in the world are you talking about?" I asked.

Expressionlessly he explained: "I had the gun pointed up at the bird...when I distinctly heard a voice tell me NOT TO SHOOT THE BIRD OR LIGHTENING WILL STRIKE. But...I shot it anyway."

I kind of laughed, shrugged it off, with a little sarcastic, disbelieving tone to my voice: "Well, you don't need to worry about lightening striking today-it's beautiful, no rain in sight! So, come on in and relax."

Later on, I fed my son a hot dog and put him to bed. But, when my husband and I sat down to have spaghetti I decided to get my son up to join us.

Just as he sat down in the chair, we heard the loudest "BOOM" you could ever imagine. Then we smelled smoke. We jumped up and ran to where the hot water heater was, thinking it had exploded. It wasn't the hot water heater.

Then we ran into my son's room, where moments before I had taken him out of bed. We couldn't believe what we saw! It was in shambles. The wall was blown out all over the room. Debris everywhere.

We couldn't understand what was going on. My husband's aunt and uncle, who lived next door, came running over to see if we were OK.

They said, "Strangest thing...even though it's not raining and there isn't a storm, we saw lightening hit that tree right outside the room."

Chills ran down my spine at that moment. They still run down my spine each time I think about it.

To this day, my husband goes out of his way to avoid killing even a spider. And now, I have come to know who "That Voice" came from.

I'm so thankful that, at just the right moment, I decided to get my son out of bed that night. I'm so thankful that the Lord showed us His mercy, but also taught us a lesson: Listen to His voice.



March was the beginning of our year until we changed to the 'New Style' or 'Gregorian' calendar in 1752, and it is only since then that our year begins on 1st January.



Hostess List for March



Mar 3 -- Pot Luck

Mar 10 – Cornelia

Mar 17 – Marje/ Betty

3/24 – Lisa/Carol

Mar 31 – Tracie/Jane

If you would like to volunteer to provide a light snack and drink, please contact Nancy Brewer 386-496-3445



Lessons for March



March 3rd: Exodus 34:29-33; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2; Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)

6th: Ash Wednesday Joel 2:1-2,12-17; Psalm 103; 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10;
Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

10th: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2,9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

17th: Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17—4:1, 12-17; Luke 13:31-35

24th: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

31st: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

DIOSCESAN CONVENTION REPORT.....Cherie Harris

Ladd & I would like to thank you for electing us as your delegates to the 176th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida. This year's theme was "Living in the Spirit." A lot of what is being applied at the Diocesan level can also work here at St. Bart's.

We heard that "all we have is God's and all we have will be multiplied back to us as we give generously." We need to dig deep and see where EACH of us can give of our time, talents, and treasure. We all have unique gifts that can be used to glorify Christ here in our beautiful church community.

We heard that Bishop Howard would like to see us have Biblically literate congregations. He has the goal of reading the Bible in a year as a Diocese. What are YOU doing to further your study of the Word?

We heard how evangelism is NOT a program. It's a renewal of ourselves and our communities. We need to depend on the Holy Spirit, through prayer, orienting our hearts towards Him. Where is God redirecting us as a church?

It was evident that the Holy Spirit is at work in every aspect of our Diocese. We were inspired as we listened to the different speakers and are hopeful for the future of our Diocese and church.

News Flash BEN HILL RECEIVES BISHOP'S CROSS AWARD

Following is the speech given by the Bishop at the time he awarded the Bishop's Cross to our own Ben Hill.



Benjamin Hill

St. Bartholomew's, High Springs

Ben has been an active member of St.

Bartholomew's in High Springs for 17 years.

Ben grew up in church, but it wasn't until after college that he became more involved in church ministries. He moved to Florida in 2001 and began attending St. Bart's.

Early after I arrived as your Bishop, Ben's leadership was instrumental in the healing of a split in the St. Bart's congregation which decimated membership at the church. At St. Bart's he served as Junior and Senior Warden, Sunday School teacher and youth mentor, and lead the capital campaign to build a new parish hall without incurring any debt.

Ben is also very involved in the Diocese, serving as a member and Vice-chair of Diocesan Council, a member and Chair of the Communications Commission, as Santa Fe Regional Warden, and has led many mission trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast as a member of the Katrina Task Force which led over 40 mission trips to Camp Coast

Care in Long Beach, Mississippi.

I asked Ben to serve as Diocesan Treasurer several years ago, which he viewed as a new challenge. In this position, Ben's gift of business administration skills were put to use on behalf of the Diocese. Observing an obsolete and dysfunctional finance process, Ben began the overhaul of people, processes, and systems, contracting with a consultant firm to launch a search for a new Controller. The goal of these changes was to simplify the Diocesan finances, while making them more accurate, timely, transparent and useful in fiduciary decision-making. During this transition he partnered with almost every ministry, especially the Foundation, Council, and the Budget and Finance committees, to bring state-of-the-art, accurate information to the fiduciary decision makers. We now have the ability to document the ACTUAL income and spending of the Diocese. It is my honor to give Ben Hill the Bishop's Cross for his service, his talent, and his friendship.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 11, at 2:00 A.M. Don't forget to set your clocks forward!



Pictures from Chili Cook-off



The winners with their "awards!"
Ben Hill – 2nd Place
Sharon Scianimanco – 1st Place
Ed Shiver – 3rd Place

Great fun was had by all





Nancy, Betty and Lisa, great servers who kept the chili coming!



March Birthdays

- 1 – Adam Cason
- 16 – Lisa Rhan
- 16 – Alex Scianimanco
- 20 – Adele Marston
- 20 – Chris Ellison
- 21 – Cole Diepersloot
- 23 – Jane Woodward
- 31 – Mason Ellison

Anniversaries in March



- 6 -- Cornelia & Richad Swann
- 19 – Rosina & Jason Dennis

Congratulations to Each of YOU! If your name does not appear here, please contact your Editor to have it added for next time.

March has two full Moons this year! The first full Moon, the *Full Worm Moon*, occurs on the 1st at 7:51 P.M. EST. The second, the *Full Sap Moon* (also a Blue Moon), occurs on the 31st at 8:37 A.M. EDT.



Children's Activities and Family Fellowship



Sunday School Teaching Schedule for 10am Services

March 3rd: Betty
Ben

March 10th: Sheryl
Cherie

March 17th: Ben
Sam

March 24th: Sheryl
Cornelia

March 31st: Youth Sunday

Upcoming Children & Youth Events

~ Tues. March 5th: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

~ Wed. March 6th: Ash Wednesday service

~ Wed. March 13th at 7pm: Youth Group

~ Wed. March 20th: No Youth Group Meeting this Week

~ Wed. March 27th at 6pm: Leadership Meeting for Sr. Youth
7pm: Youth Group

~ Sun. March 31st at 10am service: Youth Sunday!!



Chalice Bearers - March

3/3 - Annette
3/10 - Wes
3/17 - Margaret
3/24 - Gregg
3/31 - Cherie

Lay Readers - March

3/3 - Margaret Palmer
3/10 - Annette Jones
3/17 - Charles Jones
3/24 - Debra Wright
3/31 - Our Youth



The third in the series of short articles on the twelve apostles which your editor will be sharing in this year's issues of the BartholoMewsings.

Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? ~John 1:46 (KJV)

THE TWELVE IN EACH OF US

Nathanael, The Discriminator

By Terry Helwig

When Philip told Nathanael about Jesus, Nathanael asked, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Nathanael questioned whether the Son of God could come from such unlikely surroundings, a small town eight miles south of his own hometown of Cana.

I once talked with a minister of an inner city church who wanted his congregation to welcome street people more readily, so he disguised himself one Sunday. He dirtied his face and hands, messed up his hair, and put on a beard and old ragged clothes. He went into the church, slid into a pew, and waited to see what would happen.

The congregation buzzed with conversation around him. People slapped each other's backs and shook hands, but no one offered their hand to him. No one spoke. Even his mother walked past him.

When everyone was settled, the minister rose and walked to the pulpit. He removed his beard and looked out at the astonished congregation. The sermon had already been preached.

Mother Teresa said she always saw, in the faces of the poor and suffering, the distressing disguise of Christ. Perhaps she and the minister discovered an answer for that part of me that asks, like Nathanael, "What good can come from Nazareth?"



MARDI GRAS/SHROVE TUESDAY

Mardi Gras is French for "fat Tuesday"--the final feasting before the fasting of Lent, which begins tomorrow, Ash Wednesday. Fat Tuesday is also called Shrove Tuesday, a name that comes from the practice of shriving--purifying oneself through confession--prior to Lent. Many of the names applied to this day relate to food and eating. In many Latin countries, Mardi Gras is the culmination of the carnival season of revelry and feasting. (Carnival from the Latin *carnem levare*, means to take meat away.) Among the Pennsylvania Dutch, this Tuesday is Fastnacht (fast night), and everyone enjoys the traditional fastnachtkuchen, a rectangular doughnut with a slit in the middle. For the English, Shrove Tuesday is also called Pancake Day, as they use up the cooking fats that are forbidden during Lent



**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Easter Lilies Order Form**

Name _____

Telephone number _____

Number of **Easter Lily plants** ordered at a cost of **\$10.00**

each _____. **Check or cash must accompany order.**

Make checks payable to "St. Bartholomew's" and put "Easter lily" in memo line.
Turn completed form in to church office or mail to:
PO Box 906
High Springs, FL 32655

Is your plant in honor ? _____ or in memory ? _____

Name of loved one _____

Thank you for your order. These Easter lily plants will be used to beautify our sanctuary during the Easter Holiday. You may take them home afterward to plant in your flower garden.

Please be careful to write clearly when filling in your form so that your loved one's name can be read correctly at Easter. Turn in, along with your check or cash, to Carol Griffith or Nancy Brewer. If neither is available, leave in Fr. Lance's office.
