

+ FAITH + HOPE + FAMILY + LIFE + PEACE + SHARING + LOVE +

The Anchor

St. Clement's Episcopal Church

Tampa's Hidden Gem

November 2017



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HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

An especial Congratulations go to

David and Barbara Bond

Who, though they now live near Miami, are still fondly regarded as members of our Saint Clement's family.

Have a wonderful anniversary!

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www.stclement.net





Editorial

Fr. Lewis considers me to be something of a '*liturgical dinosaur*' because of some of the things I do at the altar.

One thing that particularly caught his attention was when I broke off a small piece of the consecrated Host and placed it in the Chalice. This action is known as '*commingling*'.

Its origins are complex, but have an honorable heritage.

Originally, there was only one Eucharist in each city on Sunday. The entire Christian community gathered together with an apostle or one appointed in his place (a bishop). As Christianity spread, it became physically impossible for all to gather for one celebration and different Eucharistic celebrations began to be held throughout the area. For these additional celebrations the bishop appointed *priests* or *presbyters* to preside over these gatherings.

In order to maintain the connection between that and the bishop's liturgy, a small portion of the host consecrated by the bishop was taken to each of the other Eucharistic celebrations over which priests were presiding. This piece was called the *fermentum*, a Latin word that means *leaven*. It was placed into the chalice and "commingled" with the wine.

In our liturgy, we no longer receive a piece of the bishop's host for each celebration. But, because I'm a '*liturgical dinosaur*' I still break off a small part of the larger host and place it into the chalice – all to remind myself that my Holy Orders are devolved from the bishop, and that we as a congregation are a part of something far bigger. Episcopalians are *not* Congregationalists!

Another reason is also given for this '*commingling*': that this small rite symbolizes the Lord's resurrection. That is, in death, His body and blood were '*separated*', but with the Resurrection they were united.

The above may seem quaint and of little value today, but there is, perhaps, another of the things that I do – actually, it is something that I say – that may be more pertinent.

It isn't that long ago since we used our *ears* more than we used our *eyes*. Both senses have always been important, but our ability to communicate effectively and efficiently used to mean that the ears had it over the eyes.

Writing began to change this, but as only a few people could read and write, it was still the norm that *hearing* was the preeminent sense.

Then came along universal education, and what used to be unavailable to the masses suddenly became accessible. Stories, people's thoughts and lives, history – all of these things and more became available. But even then, we preferred our stories in oral form – and when radio was in-

It isn't that long ago since we used our *ears* more than we used our *eyes*.

vented it wasn't long before the airwaves were, quite literally, filled with our stories.

But then TV was invented, and quickly this visual medium began to dominate over radio. Indeed, many popular radio shows transitioned over to TV – some finding more success than others, as the newly coined saying '*He has a good face for radio*' might suggest!

Nowadays, something like 80% of the information we process comes from our sight, and our hearing has been relegated in importance.

There's a problem with this.

TV shows and the like present us with information that requires little of us. We sit back and absorb it in a *passive way* as image after image hits our eyes. It is all prepackaged, all predetermined; it is, alarmingly, very much like a TV Dinner!

Listening, on the other hand, requires *interpretation*. When we hear something we need to pay attention; it requires us to be *active* in making sense of the information in a way that sight does not.

I can't remember when the Bible readings began to make an appearance in the pews, but I believe that this happening is both a good and a bad thing.

It is good because it allows people to take home those Scripture readings and ponder them throughout the rest of the week. Reading – and pondering – Scripture is *always* a good thing!

It is bad because it is likely we no longer really *listen*. We read the words as the reader is speaking; we create our own inflections and voice rather than listen to the inflections and voice of the reader; we may get irked if someone pronounces a word differently than we would, or makes a mistake in the text.

But I'm a '*liturgical dinosaur*' so at every Eucharist where I present the Gospel I say: "*Hear the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to ...*"

At which, what I hear is a rustling of paper!

Might I suggest that as you stand for the Gospel Reading you leave your bulletin behind – and take the opportunity to hear the words of Jesus? Take this as an opportunity to let God speak to you through His Word.

Fr. Andrew.



...I haven't the heart to tell her the bishop went home 20minutes ago!

Careful!

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

The lady thought for a moment, and replied: 'Only the Ten Commandments.'

Those Amazing Children of Israel

In Sunday School one morning young Joseph raised his hand and proceeded to ask a question that had perplexed him for some time.

'There's something I can't figure out. According to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?'

'Right,' said his teacher.

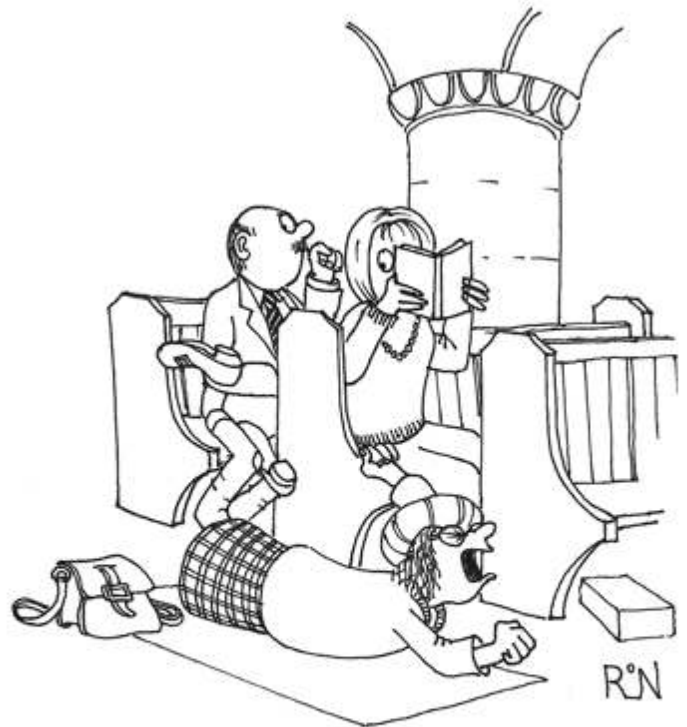
'And the Children of Israel beat up the Egyptians, right?'

'Er, right.'

'And the Children of Israel fought the Philistines and then the Moabites and lots of other tribes, and built the Temple, and were always doing something important, right?'

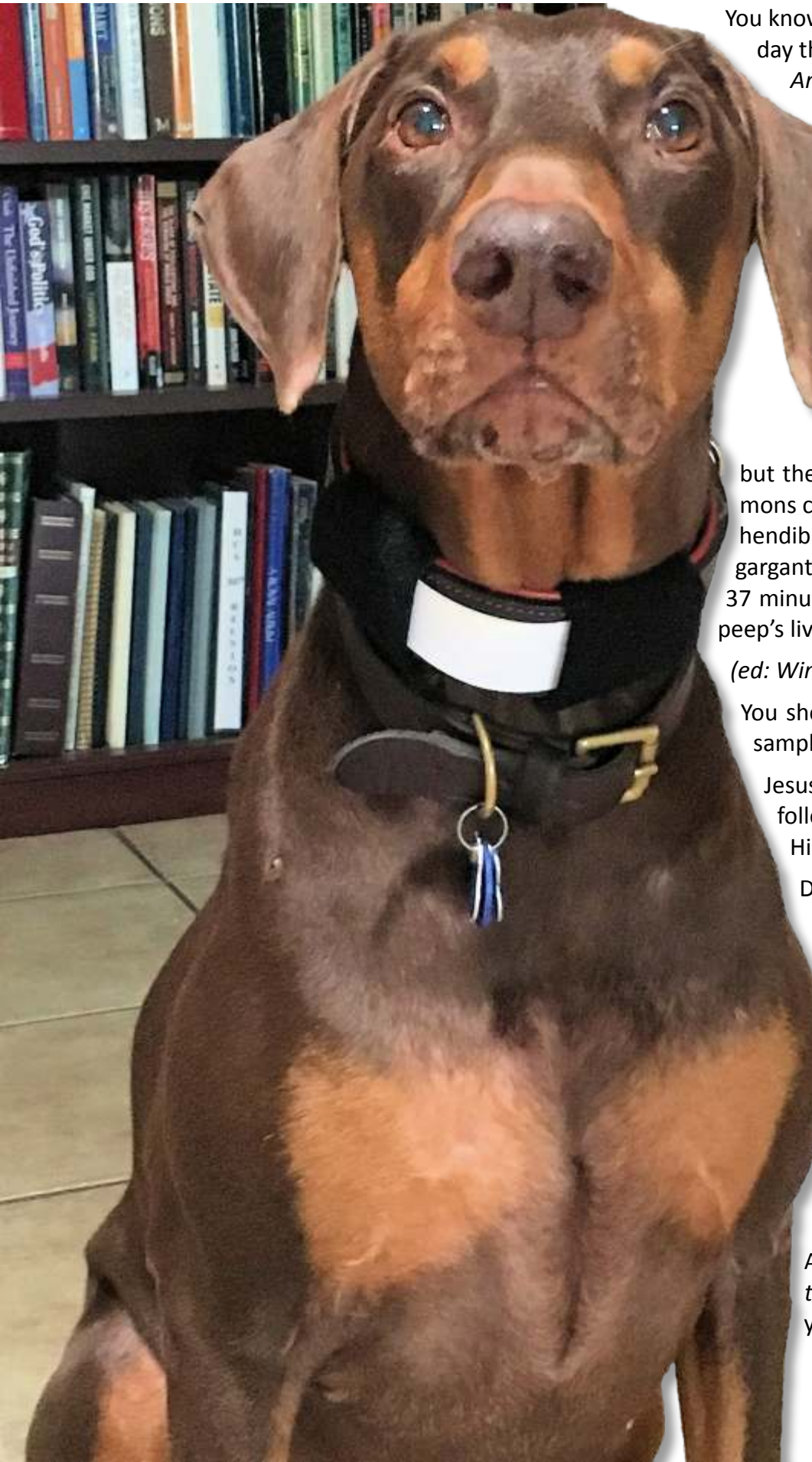
'All that is right, too,' agreed the teacher. 'So, what's your question, Joseph?'

'Well what were all the grown-ups doing all that time?'



Somebody sat in Minnie Hyssop's pew

A question: Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?



Hey Peeps,

How *awesome* was that, eh?

You know what I'm talkin' about – it was the day that was BOTA; the *Blessing of the Animals Fest-eeee-vaaaaaaaal!*

There were big cats, small cats, Big Cat Rescue; a whole heap of animal rescues, and peeps willing to look after unfortunate animals; and there were animal-related booths. It was *awesome!*

And Fr. Dad didn't do too badly with the weather. It could have been a tad cooler and breezier, but then that's only like saying his sermons could be a tad shorter and comprehensible. Do you know he recently did a gargantuan sermonization that took away 37 minutes and 37 seconds of you good peep's lives?

(*ed: Winston!*)

You should ask me to preach. Here's a sample:

Jesus = God = Good Guy. He tells you to follow Him, live like Him, and love like Him.

DO IT.

There you go. You're welcome.

Of course, as I've observed, there is a whole other heap of something that goes on between knowing *who Jesus is*, and *doing what Jesus asks*. This goes by the posh name of '*theory versus praxis*', with the word '*praxis*' being a poshified (German) word for '*practice*'.

And yet ... is what Jesus says *really that difficult*? Is what Jesus asking you to do *really that hard*?

From what I've learnt, being a Christian *isn't* like buying a car

I'm going to answer myself, because the answer to both questions obviously seems to be 'Yes!'

I've pondered this for quite some time, and it seems to me that most of the problem is caused by you fearing you're going to miss out on something if you act as Jesus asks.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Being poor, mourning, gentle (I prefer the old word – *mEEK*), hungry or thirsty for righteousness; being merciful, pure in heart, a peacemaker, and persecuted – which of those sound *fun*?

Nah – you peeps prefer power and wealth and prestige and glam and freedom from anything that cramps your style. So what if it causes inequality. So what if it oppresses others?

And if someone tries to persecute you, well, you're gonna hit right back twice as hard and, as someone recently said: it won't be pretty.

That's the problem with God: He's told you to live in '*such-and-such*' a way, but it was too hard for you peeps. And that's what you told God: "*Hey God – it's okay for You to tell us how to live, but You just don't know what it's like – You don't know what we go through.*"

And then along came Jesus – God in the flesh – and He blew your argument out of the water.

Because He *does* know what '*it's like*'.

He *lived* it and – because those around Him couldn't stand it any longer – He *died* it.

So when Jesus speaks, He's isn't just passing on some tidbits with the hope you'll find them interesting; Jesus is telling you that He *knows* what you experience – indeed, He's experienced *more* – but that if you want to live *fully* then the only way to do that is to *follow Him*.

From what I've learnt, being a Christian *isn't* like buying a car – you know, you buy a car and then decide which of the options to go for and all of a sudden you've added thousands to the price, so you cut some of them out. Following Jesus is a *whole package deal* – even the bits you neither like nor want *are included*. Even the bits about loving others, and forgiving, and sharing, and – you know – the '*generally being nicer than you normally would be*' part – are a *requirement*.

Of course, if you started living the way Jesus wants, you might find that not only is it *hard*, it also incurs another cost: it is *very likely* that other peeps – even your friends – will start having a go at you for not conforming to what *they* want; it is very likely that how you see society, and how society sees you will change dramatically. It is very likely that you will face lies and accusations against you.

"Being a Christian is easy", said no one ever who took the words of Jesus seriously.

Keepin' It Real,
Winston.





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#StCTampa

Give it a click!

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9	1	3	8	4	2	5	6	7
4	8	7	6	5	3	9	1	2
2	6	5	1	9	7	8	4	3

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Online giving is easy to set up, and means that you can maintain your *Estimate of Giving* even while you are away. This means that your tithe will always be up-to-date, and the Church's income remains stable.

We hope that you will take advantage of this new way of aiding your church.

For more details contact the Parish Office.



St. Francis Garden

ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

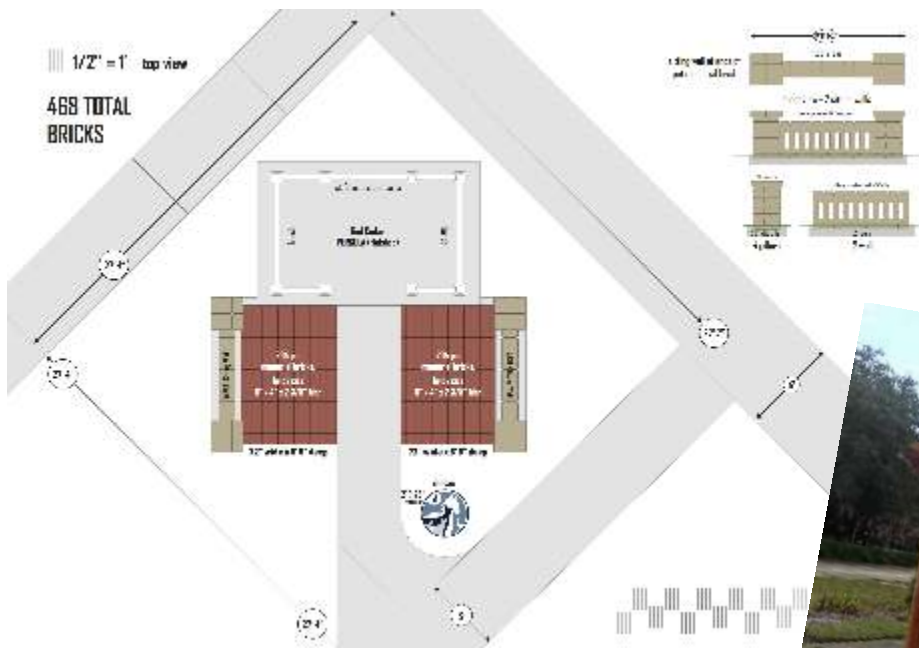
Progress continues in the St. Francis Garden. Dave & Carol continue their artistry – completing the mosaic circle at the garden’s entrance, building the sitting walls to frame the terrace, and preparing the terrace bed. The St. Francis statue is due to be delivered on Thanksgiving weekend.

Parishioners will be invited to join in a landscaping Work Day in early December.

The engraved bricks are scheduled for delivery during the second week in December. Thank you to all who participated. Together, we ordered 112 bricks.

The garden dedication and memorial service will be in January.

We will continue to place brick orders in the coming months. If you would like to order bricks, contact Kit Ingalls, BOTA@stclement.net, 352-588-5020.



A close-up, low-angle shot of the American flag waving against a clear blue sky. The flag's stars and stripes are prominent, with the top left corner showing the blue field with white stars.

VETERANS

SUNDAY
12TH NOVEMBER
9.30 A.M.

DAY

**Veterans are invited to
attend in uniform**

A Pot Luck Brunch will be served in the Church
after the ceremony.
Please bring finger foods to share.

**St. Clement's Church is
Proud of Our Veterans.**

**God Bless You
for Your Service.**





THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS FESTIVAL IN PHOTOS

Photos Courtesy of Erik Reece



Taking *The Faith of Dogs* Into Our Communities

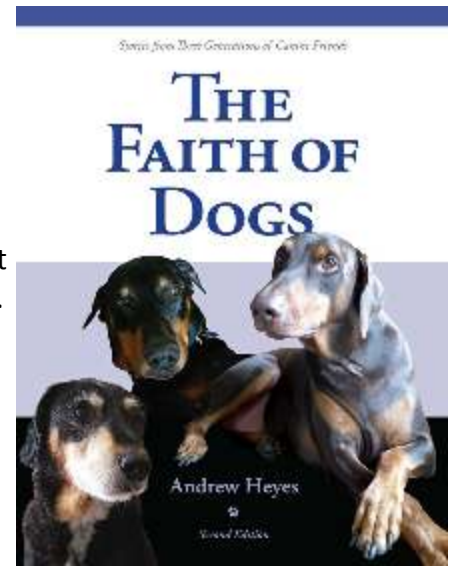
The Faith of Dogs is now available at The Hound's Meow, the popular pet food and supply store in Lutz. This is the first success in our effort to get this wonderful book out to retailers and pet service providers.

In *The Faith of Dogs*, Father Andrew has created both a delightful read and a unique tool for evangelism. Toby, Barney, and Winston – three dogs with distinct voices – introduce us to different perspectives on God's Creation – and our faith.

To be an *effective* tool, the book must get out into our communities. That's where we – the parishioners – come in. Will you help by taking several copies each to your local vet, groomer, trainer, pet store, and bookstore?

For details about distribution and consignment – and copies of the book, please contact me at BOTA@stclement.net or 352-588-5020.

Kit Ingalls



Refurbishment Update



After a somewhat slow start, the building work on our Parish Hall and CE Building has picked up the pace.

From the outside we can now see where the new entrance door for the Parish Hall will be. Meanwhile, the new entrance for the offices has now been framed out. Now-redundant doorways are being filled in, giving a completely new look to our buildings.

Inside, the buildings now show new framing, electrical wiring, and plumbing. Can you place the pics?



Taken from the September 26 & October 31 Vestry Meetings

Vestry Snippets

Smile! StC will be putting out a new phone book, with pictures. Corey Watson will take the photos on Sundays November 12 and 19.

Thanksgiving Worship Service: will be at 10:30 on Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving Community Dinner: Without a kitchen & Parish Hall, we are unable to host our 31st annual Community Dinner on Thanksgiving Day. To continue our tradition of providing Thanksgiving dinner to the residents of Mary Walker Apartments, a nearby affordable housing facility for seniors, StC will purchase prepared meals. Monetary donations to help pay for the meals will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sugar! Youth Commissioner Natalie Watson is planning a Sugar event, where the youth can decorate sugar cookies. Day and time TBA.

StC Choir: The new robes have arrived. Surplices are due by Thanksgiving. Father Lewis is shopping for suitable chairs for the choir. He is also arranging for the choir to carol at a local hospital.

Worship Development: Two acolytes are in training. Worship Development Commissioner Karen Western is preparing manuals for various roles in our worship services.

Security Committee: Kevin Frankenberg is forming a committee to develop protocols for church security. Contact him if you are interested in participating.

Men's Pub Bible Study Group: If you would like to participate in a Men's Pub Bible Study Group, please contact Christian Formation Commissioner BJ Hartshorne.

Vestry Nominations: Four Vestry positions will be open in 2018. If you are interested in being nominated to serve on the Vestry, please contact one of the outgoing Vestry members: Donna Chandler, Kevin Frankenberg, Kit Ingalls, Teresa Mack, and David Robinson.

St. Francis Garden Progress: Dave Hughes and Carol Shelleman have completed the pergola and benches. They are now constructing the sitting walls, at each

end of the terrace.

The engraved bricks will arrive in early December. The St. Francis statue should arrive just before Thanksgiving.

Estate Tithe Distribution: The Vestry voted to send \$3,000 to St. Philips Church of Uganda to purchase a public address system. Fundraising Commissioner Betty Akoli will serve as trustee of the money. The Vestry voted to use the remainder of the tithe to aid victims of Hurricanes Irma and Maria through Episcopal Parishes in both Florida and Puerto Rico. Johnette Robinson and Kit Ingalls are investigating potential recipients, including those working to help Puerto Rican residents who have relocated to Florida.

Parish Hall/CE Building Renovation: Old plumbing and electrical infrastructure has been removed; the sewage system has been repaired and drains relocated; and much of the framing has been completed. The exterior of the church will be painted at the same time as the Parish Hall and Christian Ed building. Also, gutters will be installed on the church.

2018 Budget: The Vestry has approved the 2018 budget, which is posted on an acoustic panel at the back of the church.

Blessing of the Animals Receipts: totaled \$9390. After expenses of \$1348,42, the net raised by the Festival was \$8041.58. K9 Partners for Patriots will receive 10%, or \$800. The remainder will pay for construction of the St. Francis Garden.

Digital Strategy Initiative: We have had nearly 2500 new visitors to our website since March 1. We are averaging more website traffic per day than we used to average in a month. 222 people have liked our Facebook page and our Blessing of the Animals Facebook ad campaign reached more than 20,000 people and garnered more than 400 responses. Jay Burkette is running our LinkedIn page, which is up to 59 contacts.





São Paulo Mercy Ministry

**Remember to Save the Date
Fr. Stephen and Mary Dass
will be visiting St. Clement's on
Sunday January 21st, 2018, at both services!**

It sounds a long way off but it will be here before we know it. As always, the Dass family will be on a shoe-string budget and are relying on members of his Diocese to provide lodging and a car to borrow in order for them to get around.

At my request, Fr. Stephen has given us a list of items to collect for them to take back down to Brazil for the young people.

Closer to the time, there will be a sign-up sheet for anyone wishing to donate any of these items. In the meantime, please continue to pray for Fr. Stephen, Mary and for all the young people they minister to, for their safety and protection, and for God's will to be done in all their lives.

To read the blog of Fr. Dass, click the link below, or go to:

<http://spmercyministry.com/blog/>



TRINITY CAFÉ NEWS

We will be volunteering to serve breakfast to some of the hungry and homeless of Tampa this month on Saturday November 25th. Yes, this is the Saturday right after Thanksgiving - what better way could there be to give thanks for our many blessings than to serve some of those who are less fortunate than we are? We will also be taking down the food which has been donated to Trinity during the month, so please continue to bring your donations forward during the offertory each Sunday.

We will meet at the Church at 8:15 AM on the 25th and will carpool to the Café together. If you would like to join us or have any questions, please contact Jenny Manley at 813-383-8673 or lyonhall@tampabay.rr.com. Anyone 16 years or older, and who has completed the Safeguarding God's People course, is eligible. We would welcome your involvement and you would be greatly blessed by the experience!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY OF TIME, TALENTS AND DONATIONS TO THIS MINISTRY.

"And the King will say to them 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to the least of these My brethren, you did it unto Me.'" Matt. 25:40





Bishop's Visitation

Our Diocesan Bishop, Dabney Smith, will be visiting us on Sunday, 5th November.

The bishop will lead us in worship during the one and only Service that day, which begins at 9.30 a.m. A finger food Pot Luck Brunch will follow.



Daylight Savings Time
ends at 2:00 a.m. on
Sunday,
November 5

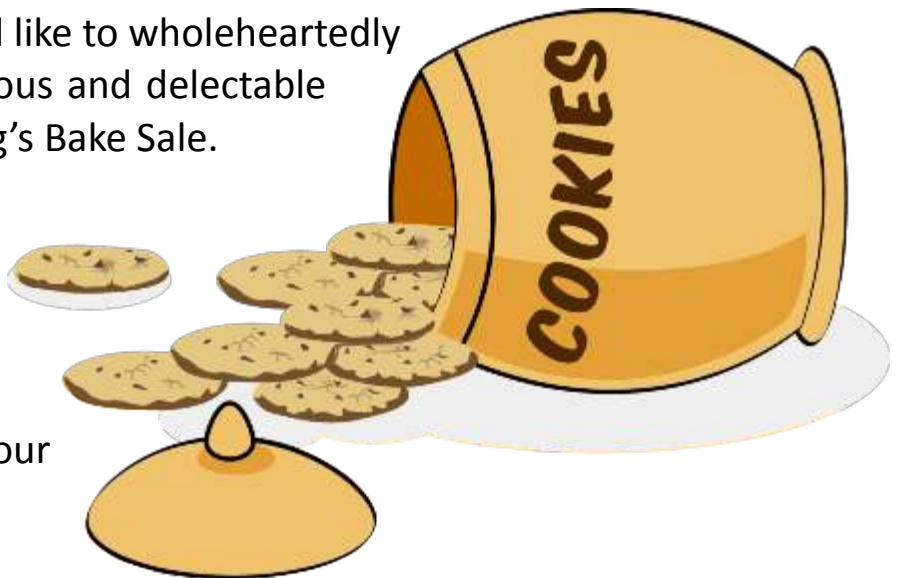
BAKE SALE COMMITTEE

Good Hands in the Cookie Jar.

The Bake Sale Committee would like to wholeheartedly thank everyone for their generous and delectable contributions to the Pet Blessing's Bake Sale.

Your support made for a day of fellowship, tasty treats and helping St. Clements.

Thank you, from the bottom of our Cookie Jar!





Thanksgiving for: Abby, Alex, Amelita, Becky, Betty, Bill, BJ, Cameron, Carol, Catherine, Corey, Dave, David, Denis, Donna, Elaine, Eleanor, Faithful friends, Family, Frs. Andrew, Lewis, and Rick, gifted composers and musicians, God's faithfulness, Jan, Jay, Jeanne, Jenny, Jerry, John, Johnette, Josh, Judy, Karen, Kat, Kevin, Kit, Lena, Leslie, Libby, Lucas, Lynn, Margeaux, Marianne, Martha, Mary Lou, Matthew, Mike & Jennifer, Natalie, Our Community in Christ, People of St. Clements, Peter, Reagan, Remy's new niece, Role, Ryan, Sam, St. Clements & its members, Steve, Teresa, the beauty in music, Vern, Vicki, Zachary.

Healing: Aaron, Amii, Andrea, Anita, Barb, Ben, Betsy, Betty, Bill, Carrie Lee, Christina, Cory, Cynthia, Darrell, Dave, David, Debbie, Denise, Devon, Don, Donna, Dylan, Ed, Edna, Elaine, Eric, Esther, Fr. Lewis, Frank, Gary, Georgianna, Haide, Hilary, James, Jave, Jean, Joel, John, Ken, Kim, Lashaunda, Lela, Lisa, Liz, Louis, Lynn, Marianne, Marie, Mary Jo, Mary, Maryann, Maxine, Megan, Mike & Jennifer, Mike, Milton, Murray, Oscar, Ray, Reagan, Regina, Ron, Sarah, Steve, Sue, Susan, Tom, Tonia, Tyler, Vern, Veronica, Vic, Vicky, Wanda, Yolanda, Zach.

Safety & Protection: Adeline, Alana, Alexander, Alganon, Andres, Annaliese, Anne Marie, Ava, Barbara, Bill, Bryan, Christina, Cynthia, Dan & Family, David & Johnette, Diane, Fr. Stephen, Frs. Alex, Andrew, Bill, Ian, John, Lewis, Rick, and Victor, James, Jasmine, Jennifer, Jenny, Kamilah, Kat, Kelly, Kimberly, Kristy, Liz, Lorenzo, Marie, Mary, Maxine, Melissa, Murray, Naphlim, Nikki, Richard, Shauna, Tashari, Teddy, Terry, Thomas, Tom, Tyler, Vern, Wanda, Youngsters in Sao Paulo, Zahra, Zoe, Zoey.

Blessings & Guidance: Alganon, Andrea, Anne, Avery, Barbara, Bella, Betsy, Bill, Brad, Chaz, Chrissy, Claudia, Cynthia, Dan, Darrell, David, Dennis, Diane & Bob, Django, Dorine, Dustin, Evie, Frs. Alex, Andrew, Bill, Ian, John, Lewis, Rick, and Victor, Gabby, Ginny, Graham, Greg, Helen, Israel, James, Jenny, Johnette, Joseph, Josh, Karen, Katie, Kera, Kirsten, Kit, Lee, Lew, Linda, Liz, Lorenzo, Margie, Mary Jo, Michelle, Mike & Jennifer, Naphlim, Natalie, Nick, Nicolle, Pam, Richard, Sam, Steve, Tommy, Tyler, Vern, Wanda, Zach, Zachry.

With Child: Holly, Jenny, Kate, Kimberly, Miranda.

Comfort: Alison, Barbara, Dennis & his family, Earlene, Ed, Fr. Lewis, Gary, James, Karen, Marcie, Marianne, Maxine, Rick, Sue.

Travel: B.J., Bertha, Beth, Betsy, Brian & Meghan, Bryan, Christina, Claudia, Eric, James & Madeline, Kelly & Dan, Michelle, Raynett, Steve, Susan, Toby.

Financial: Alganon, Carol, Charlene, Chris, Corey & Natalie, Dave, Django, John, Kim & Ken, Kimberly, Kurt, Mary Beth, Roger, Scott, St. Clements, Wade.

Employment: Betty, Chrissy, Dave, John, Kurt, M.B., Mary Beth, Michelle, Roger, Wade.

The Recently Departed: Beth Bussel, Brian, Mr. Lewis, Sandy, Tracy.

Year's Mind: 1st Laurence Eckley; 5th John Rabuse; 11th Jean Rabuse; 12th Ian Harris; 15th Mary Margaret (Peg) Spence; 16th Meriam Thompson, Irma Giron; 21st Etta Penn Swindal, Herb Wester Sr.; 22nd Veronica Paluszek; 23rd Wilfrid Carr, Edna Garrison; Dave Davis; Diane Davis.



If you would like the names of your loved ones to be added to our Book of Remembrance, please write/email to the Parish Office writing clearly the person's name and the full date of their death, if known. They will then be remembered annually on the month of their death, and during the All Souls Day liturgy.



DATE	OCCASION	Readings
Sun 5th 9.30 a.m.	BISHOP'S VISITATION Rite II Eucharist <i>followed by Brunch</i>	Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
Sun 12th 9.30 a.m.	VETERANS DAY Rite II Eucharist <i>followed by Brunch</i>	Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13
Sun 19th 8.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Rite I Eucharist Rite II Eucharist	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Psalm 90:1-12 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30
Thurs 23rd 10.30 a.m.	THANKSGIVING DAY Rite II Eucharist	Deuteronomy 8:7-18 Psalm 65 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Luke 17:11-19
Sun 26th 8.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	CHRIST THE KING Rite I Eucharist Rite II Eucharist	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46
Sun 3rd Dec 8.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Rite I Eucharist Rite II Eucharist	Isaiah 64:1-9 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

To see the readings themselves, click on the above links or go to www.lectionarypage.net There you can read or print the Lessons.

Please note that there will be no Wednesday Eucharist or Bible Studies during the refurbishing project.