



Saint Mary's Episcopal Church



Daylight Saving Time Is Here

Don't forget to "spring ahead" and set your clock forward one hour!

What's Happening at St. Mary's

March 2019

Bill Haines, Editor [View as Webpage](#)

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel at St. Mary's for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP pg. 818

I asked Fr. Bob Fitzpatrick from the **Stewardship Commission of the Diocese** to come down to speak with a group of us about planning for our 2020 pledge campaign. Seven of us, representing Clergy, Vestry, past and present, the Discernment Committee, and the Stewardship Committee met with Fr. Bob on March 4. We had a very informative and frank discussion. We'll keep you informed of our future plans.

The First Presbyterian Church in Cape May was rocking as The Salty Dogs Jazz Ensemble and the Bittersweet Duo performed for the **3rd Annual Concert for the Homeless**. Sandra Lockhart reported that \$7500, with more money expected, was raised to benefit the Emergency Fund of The Branches. Another fund raiser for The Branches was held at Fins in Cape May on March 3rd. I understand \$2000 was added to their coffers. Sandra would like to thank everyone involved in both events for their generosity of time, talent, and treasure.

I don't have to tell you we're having an extra cold winter. The weather mandates that **The Branches** has to go into another gear. They open early in the morning and supply shelter and food until every homeless client is housed for the night. It makes for a long day! Words cannot adequately express our

gratitude to Sandra, Terri, and the many volunteers for their dedication and caring.

St. Mary's This 'n Thrift Shop continues to offer gently used items at an affordable price. Thanks to Tim Noble for cleaning his shelves of mystery books, which now fills the shelves of the thrift shop.

March is Women's History Month. Sue and Matt Dowling, as usual, are right on top of things. **St. Mary's Seniors Lunch Club** will meet on March 14 at 11 am sharp with two speakers on the agenda. Their topics are "Old Stone Harbor" and "Forgotten Cape May." Bring a bag lunch and enjoy a few hours of fellowship and learning. A \$5 contribution is requested.

I hope you didn't miss out on our **Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner**. It was a fun evening. After a dinner of pancakes and sausages, a "Pancake Race" around the parish hall was held with prizes given, and Fr. Gorman prepared dough for us to try our hand at pretzel making. Fun and delicious!

No more "Alleluia"! Father Gorman collected them in the "Alleluia box" and hid them until Easter. Lent began on March 6. **Lenten Meditation booklets and Lenten Hope Chest boxes** from Episcopal Relief & Development are available in the church narthex and parish hall. Please help yourself.

Embracing the Uncertain written by Magrey R. deVega is the book the **Adult Forum** is reading and discussing during Lent. We meet from 9 - 9:45 am in the chapel. Feel free to join us.

Yes, Lord, I have sinned...but I have several excellent excuses. David Condo and Fr. Gorman are teaming up to offer a **program of music and discussion on Wednesdays during Lent**. David, naturally, will provide the music and Fr. Gorman will lead the discussion on the book. The program will begin in the church at noon, followed by lunch and discussion in the parish hall. Make sure to bring a bag lunch. Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided.

SWEEP will meet on March 13 at 6:15 pm in the parish hall. Note the time change. During Lent, **conTEXTS** will be replaced by a discussion with a different theme on Yes, Lord, I have sinned... but I have several excellent excuses. As usual, we'll meet in the parish hall at 6:30. You can participate at noon and again at 6:30 as a Lenten discipline.

Food for Thought from Reader's Digest. "Extremely suspicious that there's no information about brains that didn't come from a brain."