



May 13, 2020

St. Mary's **MESSENGER**

Hello St. Mary's Family,

Bishop Doyle has continued the suspension of "at Church worship" for the time being. Check your email for your copy of the readings for this Sunday, and tune in on our website, www.ourstmarys.org Sundays at 10:00 AM for live worship services. (Click on "Worship" tab then "Live Media"). We will continue to keep you updated!

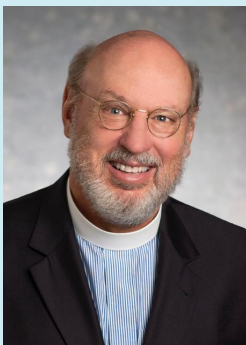
**In His Peace,
Rev. Bill**



*Readings for 6th Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020*

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:7-18
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

From Your Priest:



"Not as Orphans"

John 14:15-21

Jesus demonstrates great concern for us. At the moment of his painful departure from mortal life, Jesus tells his disciples that he will not leave them (or us) orphaned. That may take some time to sink in, because we do not typically think about grown-ups who lose their parents as being

‘orphaned’—quite a different experience than it is for those orphaned at a young age. Still, that is the frame we ought to consider. Jesus is telling us that God cares for his creation in a very parental way: active, protective, nurturing, and guiding.

Jesus is not a passive observer of the human condition. He is with us, as he says, and he is living. In the lesson this week, Jesus makes clear that as he lives, so he loves the human condition. God in Christ is watchful in our hours of stress and need, very much like loving parents would be. In our time of illness and worry, that is the image we have before us.

THINK ON THIS:



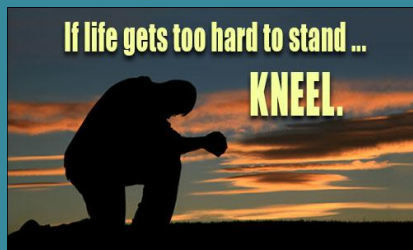
"Jesus aimed at one goal--to save humanity from its sin. He could summarize His life with one sentence: *The Son of man came to seek and to save the lost* (Luke 19:10) The same One who saved your soul longs to remake your heart. God is willing to change us into the likeness of The Savior. Shall we accept His offer?"

- Max Lucado, 3:16 - *The Numbers of Hope*, 2007.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, and whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

"Jesus endured the cross so you could join Him where you were made to be. Beyond His sacrifice is the place you have longed for - a place of joy. The joy you've been waiting for." -*Homelife Magazine*, Volume 74, No. 8, May 2020.

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." **Hebrews 12:2**



Bow the Knee

"Trust the heart of your Father when the answer goes beyond what you can see...in the presence of your King, bow the knee." -Chris Machen



From Dr. Hay:

May 6, 2020

Dear fellow members of Saint Mary's

Episcopal Church,

I hope this letter finds you all well. These are very different times. Some of you know that I am the Local Health Authority for Lampasas County, and I am doing my best to serve our community. Part of that includes me acting as others should and trying to educate everyone on how to protect our friends and neighbors. We have a congregation that is high risk and vulnerable, and many people in our congregation may be beloved caregivers for those in the vulnerable age group. I am personally asking each of you to do your best at practicing social distancing. (which I wish we could rename physical distancing, but that is another story) I do believe the time will come when in church services will be offered again, but I don't think our community is out of the woods yet. Staying further apart (6 feet) from anyone who does not live in your household and avoiding physical contact really does limit the spread of this disease. I have met many who tested positive and didn't even know it, and therefore could spread it without knowing. I am encouraging everyone to wear cloth masks in public because that also helps reduce spread. I am happy to talk to anyone individually with specific questions and would also encourage you to contact your doctor if there are more acute concerns. I am so thankful that St. Mary's is providing the online services for us to enjoy on Sunday mornings. Father Bill gets put on the big screen at our home. The boys are getting too used to church in our pajamas and allowing the cat to join us. I miss you all.

Sincerely,

Georgia C. Hay, MD



Prayer List:

Larry

**& Becky Hart, Ricky Gilmore,
Anne Brown, Jim & Pat
Anderson, Alec Richardson,
Katherine Mezger, Lynn,
Dusty, Buck, Alex, Randy,
Debbie, Jack, John, Buddy, &
Rebecca.**

**May we remember that God is Our
Kind Father.**

**Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father of
mercies and God of all
comfort;**

2 Corinthians 1:3

**"Sometimes God rescues us from
things.**

**Sometimes He rescues us out of
things.**

**And sometimes He changes us in
things.**

Let Him choose. He knows best."

-Dr. Tony Evans, "Hope Words," TE Study Bible.

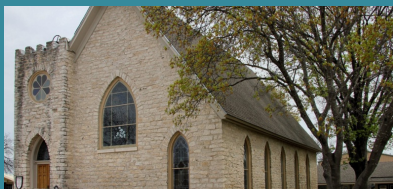
QUICK LINKS

[Our Website](#)

[Diocese of Texas](#)

[The Lectionary](#)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
501 S. Chestnut
P.O. Box 29
Lampasas, TX 76550
(512) 556-5433 Phone
www.ourstmarys.org



CONTACT :

Rev. Bill Fowler
(979) 204-7160 cell/text
revbill@ourstmarys.org