

## The Vicar's Message

Dear People of God:

In spite of the many benefits God has blessed us with, how many times do we complain and grumble about little difficulties and trials? We lose sight of the big picture and fail to appreciate the really important things. Just as we cannot benefit from a wrapped gift until we open it, so gratitude can be seen as our way of opening the gift of God's love intended by all the small and large positive events in our lives.

"In all things give thanks." (Ephesians 5:20) We can increase our joy in daily living, as the saints did, by letting our thoughts dwell on all that is good, especially the promise of our final redemption.

St. John of the Cross penned these words, "He that complains or murmurs is not perfect, nor is he even a good Christian."

St. Paul writes, "We must not put the Lord to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. (1Corinthians 10: 9-10)

The next time you want to complain or grumble, try counting your blessings first!

Pax Christi !

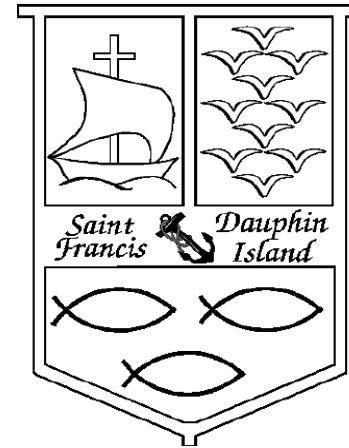
Roy†



St. Francis Episcopal Church  
P.O. Box 407  
401 Key St.  
Dauphin Island, AL 36528

## Newsletter August 2010

### St. Francis Episcopal Church



The Rev. Dr. Walter LeRoy Clam, 111, Vicar  
The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan, 11, Bishop  
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

401 Key St.  
P.O. Box 407  
Dauphin Island, AL 36528

Church Phone 861-2300  
Vicar Phone 990-3596

Every Sunday  
Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 AM  
Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 AM  
Church Service @ 10:30 AM  
Nursery

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!**

## ECW News

The ECW has not held regular meetings during the summer, but our resourceful and hard-working members have not been idle! All of the gumbo has been sold! This very popular item will be replenished in the fall when we don't have to worry about those possible hurricanes. Wimberly sold the very last jar of pickles last week but Blanche Emerson and the other faithful Alter Guild ladies immediately got busy making more of those delicious condiments. Seen helping in the pickle making process were: Stella Anderson, Dana Fleming, Anne Heard and Mary Hutchinson. If you have never tried a St. Francis pickle I highly recommend you do so. They are really delicious – the perfect side item for summer picnics and also the perfect gift for a hostess.

We are still in the process of choosing a date for a Pot Luck Dinner this summer. So many of our members and friends are out of town or have house guests – but we really need to get together. So stay tuned for the date!

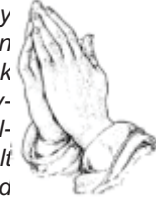
The next meeting will be September 13, 2010, 10:30 in Wilkins Hall. Lamona Lucas will be our leader; please join us in making plans for the fall.

*Above all, keep loving one another earnestly,  
since love covers a multitude of sins. Show  
hospitality to one another without grumbling.*  
1Peter 4:8-9

Mary Porter, ECW Interim Treasurer

## **Remember in your Prayers:**

Ross Havard, Glenn Foster, Caroline Hall, Clifford Kircus, Glay Greene, Helen Ningham, Frank Cruse, Hap My-sell, Carolyn Al-Jan Zirlott, Walt Todd Dorian and  
Maggard, Marolyn Wilson, Hetty Cunningham, John ers, Marianne Ruler, Betty Torbert, Hayes, Tillie Semple, those in our armed forces, especially Stacy Eubanks, John Boone and Stanley Robinson.



**From the Editor:**

To receive your newsletter by e-mail please send an e-mail to: John Porter, [dibirdr@gmail.com](mailto:dibirdr@gmail.com) with the subject "subscribe St. Francis Newsletter." This will save the postage.

Also... Visit our website where you will get all the news and more: <http://www.stfrancisdi.com>  
You'll really enjoy this!

## Church News & Announcements

Well, July descended with rain and oil! Oh me,--what are we to do? The number of “workers” seems to multiply daily ---I think that every office or vacant building on this island is rented to BP, Waste Management or Clear Harbor. Actually, our island has been spared a huge oil hit and I pray that continues. I think I can safely say that we will all be happy when we take our island back. At times, Bienville Blvd looks like Interstate10 with all of the vehicles! Other than that, the Purple Martins are staging their elaborate “gatherings” ---I would guess that by the time this newsletter is out that they will be well on their way to wherever!!! We love observing these fascinating birds --- I think they are a whole lot like people in their daily habits --- nicer and more fun to watch, perhaps. Something really fun to watch was the blimp! This blimp is on the lookout for oil in our area and you cannot believe the creepy feeling you have when you look up and see that big thing floating overhead! Personally, I think it needs stripes, a flag or something ---it's the same color of an overcast sky! I guess whatever it takes to do the job, huh?

Stella got a head start on the martins as she headed for Perdido for the 4th weekend --- she was instructed to bring 36 pieces of cooked bacon!!! Actually it was for a broccoli salad for the 29-1/2 family members that gathered there for a gala fourth! Interesting, huh? Wimberly's family was here en masse --- you can just imagine the delicious things they cooked up. I can bet you that Walt and Marcia Hayes and all of their family cooked up delicious dishes and a lot of “thanksgivings” for Walt's recovery and the fact they were all together here on the island to celebrate the holiday. Mack and Joy Russell's house was in high gear as their children were here for the big weekend – must say that Marianne looks so good and is on her way to a full recovery! Our bay had fantastic fireworks on Saturday and Sunday nights--- every house was filled with family and friends celebrating our country's independence! Also celebrating is Cathy Miller as her daughter, Kathleen, is off to enter her freshman year at Tulane University --- congratulations! By the way, it was so nice to see Sue Pond at church on the 11th! (she'll get me for this!) Chris and Angela Ashcraft packed up their boys and headed for Baton Rouge in order to be with his family to celebrate his parents 50th wedding anniversary! Stevie Tatum is sporting a great looking new haircut – very flattering to her – big girl look! We are so sad to lose Stephanie Willis – she and husband, John, are off to Richmond, Va for his new job ---Look out, Polar Bears!!!! Here come Sally & Tom Czepiel cruising your way ---Newfoundland, Iceland, the

Artic circle (brrrr) We'll learn the fun details when they return. Also our Eugenia is off to Papua New Guinea in search of some elusive creature, outback camping and a fun reunion with some dear friends! Kathryn Carver loved having her daughter and two good looking grandsons here for a visit -- also visiting was Howard Fleming's daughter and her family! Good looking and fun to visit with --- don't we so enjoy meeting each other's family?

A huge hit at St. Francis was the “Save our gumbo” tee shirts, aprons, and caps ----colorful shirts for all sizes that were displayed on card tables on the breezeway on Sundays ---of course, Joy Russell had added a mannequin sporting it all -- an enticing display for sure. The money all goes to charity – the people putting this out -- S O S for Save our Shores -- uses the monies to distribute to those hurt by the oil spill. Our Wimberly first saw these items – talked with Joy and Mack Russell who kicked it off in fine style -- \$15.00 goes to SOS and \$5.00 to St. Francis! “Mack 'n' DD's Emporium has these items for sale in the shop or Mack is able to order for you!

Need I even mention the horrific heat? Oh my, it was so hot even Paul Mayson stayed inside! We complain but that very heat might be partly responsible for the divine fruits we've enjoyed this summer -- cannot remember when the peaches, watermelon, corn, were so sweet and juicy! See, GOOD comes from everything! Paul was not hot enough to not figure out how to get rid of the doves that roost in our oak tree every night –thus completely messing up the stairs each morning! He tied some bottle rockets to a cane pole, lit them and stuck the pole up in the tree -- ah ha — the doves moved on! Love that good ole American ingenuity!

We also love Mel's breakfasts each month ---as head of the men's cooking crew, Mel does a fabulous job and WE THANK THEM ALL!!!!

For those of you not here on the island with us, we are seeing the “light at the end of the tunnel” I do believe! BP has drastically cut the number of workers and boats in our area ----I have yet to see a tar ball! The cap seems to be holding, tropical storm Bonnie seems ready to bring us much needed rain---nothing to worry about as far as the oil goes --- maybe by this time next month --we'll have seen the end of all of this mess! Another bump in the road survived, lessons learned – we're moving on and are thankful for our blessings, lessons learned by this and a renewed sense of responsibility and respect for our wonderful environment -- so you see---GOD IS GOOD! martha

| Sundays August   |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am</b><br>Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am<br>Choir Practice @ 9:45 am<br><b>Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am</b><br>1st Lesson - John Porter<br>2nd Lesson - Mary Porter<br>Ushers - Paul Mayson Stella Anderson<br>Refreshments - Judy Bogar                                  | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am</b><br>Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am<br>Choir Practice @ 9:45 am<br><b>Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am</b><br>1st Lesson - Cindy Smith<br>2nd Lesson - Chris Ashcraft<br>Ushers - Mel Lucas & Wimberly Hory<br>Refreshments - Anne Elam<br><b>Vestry Meeting @ 11:45</b> | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am</b><br>Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am<br>Choir Practice @ 9:45 am<br><b>Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am</b><br>1st Lesson - Julia Willis<br>2nd Lesson - Lamona Lucas<br>Ushers - Bob & Cindy Smith<br>Refreshments - Wimberly Hory                                       | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am</b><br>Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am<br>Choir Practice @ 9:45 am<br><b>Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am</b><br>1st Lesson - Linda Percival<br>2nd Lesson - Blanche Emerson<br>Ushers - Mack & Joy Russell<br>Refreshments - Blanche Emerson                               | <b>22</b> |
| <b>Men's Breakfast @ 9:00 am</b><br>Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am<br>Choir Practice @ 9:45 am<br><b>Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am</b><br>1st Lesson - Linda Miller<br>2nd Lesson - Martha Mayson<br>Ushers - Mel & Lamona Lucas<br>Refreshments - Linda Miller  | <b>29</b> |

***Dates to Remember:***  
**Aug. 7 - Vestry Workshop @ 9:00am**  
**Aug. 8 - Vestry Meeting @ 11:45am**  
**Aug. 29 - Men's Breakfast @ 9:00am**

## From the Vestry

### JULY VESTRY NOTES

The St. Francis Vestry had a quick called meeting to get started on some business. It has been difficult this summer with accidents, illnesses, trips and other interferences to get the Vestry Retreat to really happen. Father Roy has cleared with the consultant and his calendar and it really looks like everyone can attend on Saturday, August 7. So here I am again asking that you pray for that meeting and our work as we undertake to develop a Five Year Plan for St. Francis.

On Sunday, July 11, we met with all members present except Father Roy. He had a conflict but he blessed our meeting. We talked about our plans to re-gravel the parking area, extend it further north and repair the sidewalk where there are breaks due to the tree roots. If you have seen us on, more than one occasion, with our tape measures out or “stepping it off” that is what we are about. John Porter pointed out that we are using 17 feet of Town right of way. We have been grandfathered in, since we were parking there before the Town was a Town. However, the rules are such that we will be going before the Town Council on August 2 to get their approval. Hopefully we will be able to give you a better parking area that is somewhat dry when the rains come.

The only other business was a thorough report from Gail telling us that contributions are down and expenses are up. She is having the annual audit completed and will report on that at the Vestry Retreat.

Be sure to remember the breakfast on the last Sunday of the month.

Mel Lucas, Senior Warden

### A note from Father Roy about the Litany for the Gulf

Since pressure is easing up on the Gulf Oil Crisis we will suspend the Wednesday Evening Prayer Vigil and ask that you continue your individual prayers.

Should there be a future need we will resume the Wednesday Evening Vigil and the schedule will appear here in the newsletter