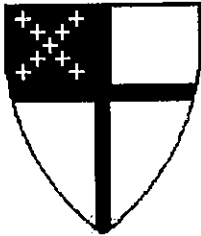
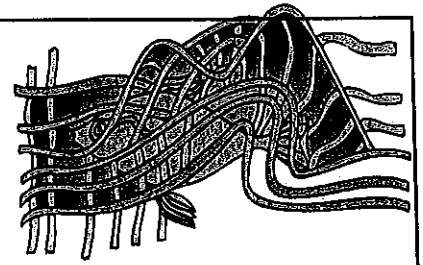


THE SEA NET

March 2001



St. Andrew's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 307 Hwy 98, Destin, Fl 32540 Phone:850-650-2737
The Rt. Rev. Charles F. Duvall, Bishop of the CGC
The Rev. Don Cramer, Interim Rector

From our Interim Rector Father Don Cramer

GOD continues to bless us here at St. Andrew's - We have recently enjoyed a champagne and strawberry "toast" after reaching the magic 100 mark of attendance.

If you haven't ventured into the area adjacent to the Parish Hall, you have a shock coming! We will have a new reception and office area completed about the end of this month.

We have begun expanding our program starting with the pancake supper held on Mardi Gras Tuesday. All through Lent, we will start our Wednesday evening programs beginning with a light soup supper at 5:30pm followed by a teaching. An informal communion or music offering will be at 7:00pm. The Rev. Jim Spencer and The Rev. Martha Harris will rotate with me here at St. Andrew's in teaching the 5 weeks of Lent. When one of them is here, then I will be teaching at St. Simon's. We have asked two Priests who are well

known nationally to do a "joint" session for us on March 14 and March 28- so mark your calendars. Lent will be a great time for all of us to renew our faith and connect with GOD. I will continue teaching after Lent on Wednesday evenings and we will continue the mid-week program of soup supper, teaching and informal communion.

The Parish meeting gave the Vestry some helpful information and we will try to incorporate this into our plans for the future.

**WELCOME
Jack Thomas
to the Vestry!**

I know you are probably wondering what you can do to continue helping our growth in numbers and deepening your love of our Lord. I know that it sounds strange, but first importance right now is your Pledge. If ever there was a time for you to consider your thanks to GOD for preserving your worship and spiritual growth community, it is now. Many of us came close to losing it.

As a congregation, because we had such an unusual start, we did not have time to conduct an official Pledge campaign. Now that things have settled down and our future is secure, we need to put our financial house in order. The Vestry needs your pledge to do adequate planning for our future growth and outreach. Please consider your pledge carefully. Let GOD speak to you in the process of deciding how important St. Andrew's is to you. Please return your pledge, or put it in the plate on Sunday. It is confidential and will remain so.

**Lenten Lectures begin
this Wed.**

**5:30pm Soup Supper
6:00pm Teaching**

I want to thank all of you for your love and support during my grief at the death of my mother. You were wonderful. I might add that the Bishop was a caring pastor to me as well. I don't know how people endure losses like this without the loving support of a congregation.

Don+

RECORD BREAKING NEWS

For the last three Sunday's in a row, St. Andrew's By-the-Sea has had more than 100 to attend Holy Eucharist at 10:00am. This is an outward and visible sign of our growth in this community. Many, many thanks to everyone for making this milestone a reality. Keep spreading the news that we are here and would love to have visitors.

From The Senior Warden

On the Record.....

On Sunday, February 4th, the congregation was inspired by Fr. Don Cramer's sermon. In spite of the fact he received word at 2am Sunday morning that his Mother had passed away in Hawaii, he gave what I can best describe as a "barn burner". I truly hope you were there to hear it.

This brings up a point, which I will bring to the vestry at our next meeting on March 5. We need to share his messages with those who can't, for one reason or another attend a particular service. We need to record his sermons each Sunday and have them on file to share with not only the infirmed and shut-in, but also with friends you think would benefit from hearing his words or would like to hear again yourself.

I'm looking for someone who would take charge of this project and see to it that the tapes are produced and kept on file. The Church office can take care of lending them out or selling copies for a nominal charge to cover the cost. Please consider this very important task.

The walls came tumbling down.....

Monday, February 5th, the construction crew started on the refurbishing of the administrative and meeting rooms area. It was like a whirlwind. By Friday, the drywall was being nailed up. It's the finishing touches that will take the time, but we should be back to normal very early in March.

Feeding the flock.....

St. Andrew's is following a long tradition of the Episcopal Church. We are getting off to a good start in the feeding of the flock. The parish "Thank You" dinner showed many of those who helped us get on our feet we are here to stay with our feet firmly planted and full of unbounded spirit. Oasis has had two feeding functions in our parish hall, both numbering about 100 folks. We had the February 4th parish meeting with about 50 being fed ham, baked beans, potatoe salad, and sweet potatoe pie for dessert. Thanks to all who provided the food.

The combined St. Simon's, Christ the King, and St. Andrew's monthly 2nd Saturday morning breakfast numbered 45 for a real kitchen prepared repast including pancakes, scrambled eggs, homemade biscuits, sausage patties, cereal, fruit, coffee, tea, and milk. All the above is possible because we have a freshly sanitized, painted, functional kitchen, with wonderful resurrected commercial stove and grill.

Many wonderful people are making things happen at St. Andrew's and we need everyone to help shoulder the load. The vast majority of the folks at the parish luncheon stood up when asked, "Who has helped do things in the church?"

Fly away, fly away home.....

Speaking of wonderful people - we wish all the snowbirds in our family a safe trip back to your northern homes. You are leaving your southern home and extended family. You have been so generous with your time, talent, and treasure. It is hard to realize you will one day soon be leaving us for a period of time. The good news is you will be back and we can't wait to have you here with us again. As Fr. Don has said so many times, "You are very cherished members of our family." As is the case at any family parting, our hearts are saddened to see you leave and gladdened for having you among us while here.

Good luck and GOD speed

The THIRTIETH Annual Diocesan Convention was held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Mobile on February 8-10. Kathy McGee, Nancy Skinner, Father Don and Peggy all attended. It was quite an experience as so many of our friends in Christ were very interested to learn all about our growth and survival in Destin. Bishop Duvall and Nancy were presented with a \$40,000 cash gift. It was announced that the Diocesan Office Building in Pensacola would be officially named, "The Charles F. Duvall Diocesan Center".

THE SEA NET PREPARES FOR LENT

The Season of Lent

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter. It began on Ash Wednesday. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. Thus in 2001, Lent began on February 28 and will end on April 14.

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. This is a time to relive the major events in Jesus' life in real time.

Those who do something extra during Lent - to give up or take on - "show that Christ is in your life."

The Power of God

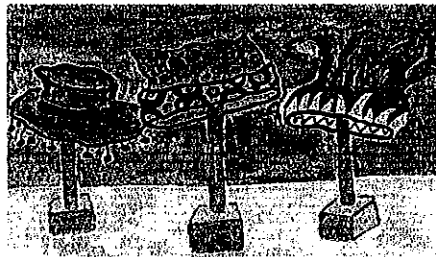
Have you ever been down and out and nobody seems to be around for you to talk to..THAT'S GOD..he wants you to talk to him.

Have you ever been just sitting there and all of a sudden you feel like doing something nice for someone you care for..THAT'S GOD..he talks to you through the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever been thinking about somebody that you haven't seen in a long time and then next thing you know you see them or receive a phone call from them..THAT'S GOD..there is no such thing as "coincidence."

Have you ever received something wonderful that you didn't even ask for, like money in the mail, a debt that had mysteriously been cleared, or a coupon to a department store where you had just seen something you wanted, but couldn't afford..THAT'S GOD..he knows the desires of your heart..

Have you ever been in a situation and you had no clue how it is going to get better, but now you look back on it..THAT'S GOD.. he passes us through tribulation to see a brighter day..



ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR RUMMAGE SALE ON MARCH 17

Guest Speakers March 14 and March 28

On Wednesday night, March 14, The Rev. Gray Temple will be our Lenten Guest Speaker. Rev. Temple is from Atlanta and is the author of several religious books. He is well known for his "one liners". His topic for this program is entitled, "Your Sin Is Not The Most Interesting Thing About You"

St. Andrew's will host the Soup Supper and Lecture and St. Simon's will provide a special music program immediately following the lecture.

St. Simon's will host all of us on Wednesday night, March 28. The Rev. Tom Butts, a distinguished, retired Methodist Minister will be the guest speaker. We will all enjoy going over to St. Simon's for fellowship and hearing the message brought to us by Rev. Butts.



ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS

Be sure to give us your northern address so that we can send you the newsletter during the summer.

A Master Contact list is in the Narthex. Please write down your address so that we can get it on file and continue our communication with you.

Who knows, we might hit another milestone and we will want to share that news with you!

THE SEA NET GIVES THANKS

If Earth's population was shrunk into a village of just 100 people-with all the human ratios existing in the world still remaining - what would this tiny, diverse village look like? That's exactly what Philip M. Harter, a medical doctor at the Stanford University School of Medicine, attempted to figure out. This is what he found.

*57 would be Asian
21 would be European
14 would be from the Western Hemisphere
8 would be African
52 would be female
48 would be male
70 would be nonwhite
30 would be white
70 would be non-Christian
30 would be Christian
89 would be heterosexual
11 would be homosexual
6 people would possess 59 percent of the entire world's wealth, and all 6 would be from the United States.
80 would live in substandard housing
70 would be unable to read
50 would suffer from malnutrition
1 would be near death
1 would be pregnant
1 would have a college education
1 would own a computer*

The following is an anonymous interpretation:

Think of it this way. If you live in a good home, have plenty to eat and can read, you are a member of a very select group. And if you have a good house, food, can read and have a computer, you are among the very elite. If you woke up this morning with more health than illness ... you are more fortunate than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation ... you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death...you are fortunate, more than three billion people in the world can't.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep ... you are richer than 75% of this world.


If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace...you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy. If your parents are still alive and still married ... you are very rare, even in the United States. If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful ... you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on shoulder you are blessed because you can offer healing touch.

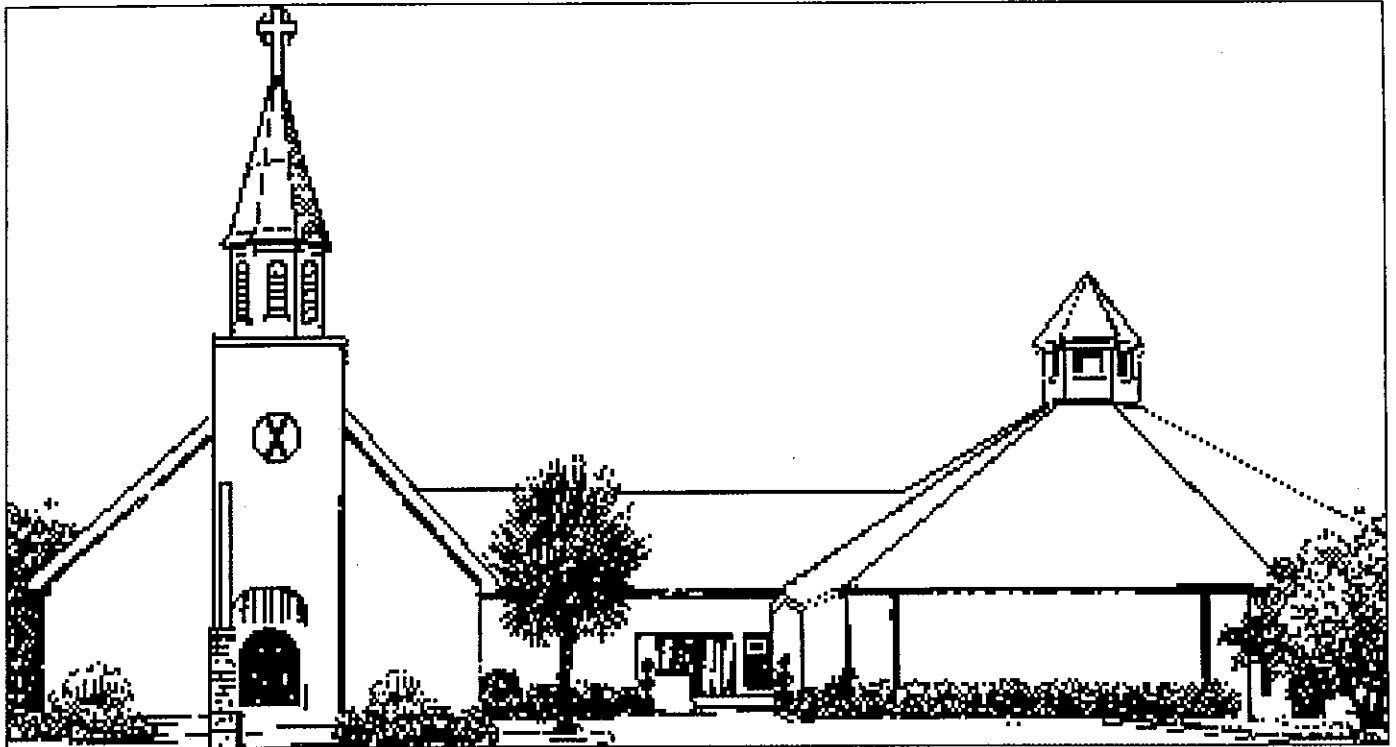
If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you, and furthermore, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot read at all.

Have a good day, count your blessings, and pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.

March 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10:00am Holy Eucharist	5	6	7 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00-7:00pm Lenten Lecture 7:00pm Informal Communion	8	9	10 Cursillo Workshop St. Simon's 9:30am-3:30pm
11 Installation of Alter Guild Members and Holy Eucharist 10:00am	12	13	14 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00-7:00pm Lecture by Rev. Gray Temple 7:00pm Informal Communion	15	16	17 Rummage Sale 
18 10:00am Holy Eucharist	19	20	21 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00-7:00pm Lenten Lecture 7:00pm Informal Communion	22	23	24
25 10:00am Holy Eucharist	26	27	28 5:30pm Soup Supper at St. Simon's 6:00-7:00pm Lecture by Rev. Tom Butts 7:00pm Informal Communion	29	30	31

St. Andrew's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church
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SERVING St. Andrew's

Senior Warden	Duane St. John	654-1013
Junior Warden	Stu Smith	269-2170
Worship	Kathy McGee	837-2539
Outreach	Len Doty	267-0672
Communications	Nancy Skinner	650-5304
	Jack Thomas	837-7302
Clerk	Cece Allen	654-4115
Treasurer	Joyce Waters-Smith	269-2170
Caretaker	Wesley Poole	650-1595

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