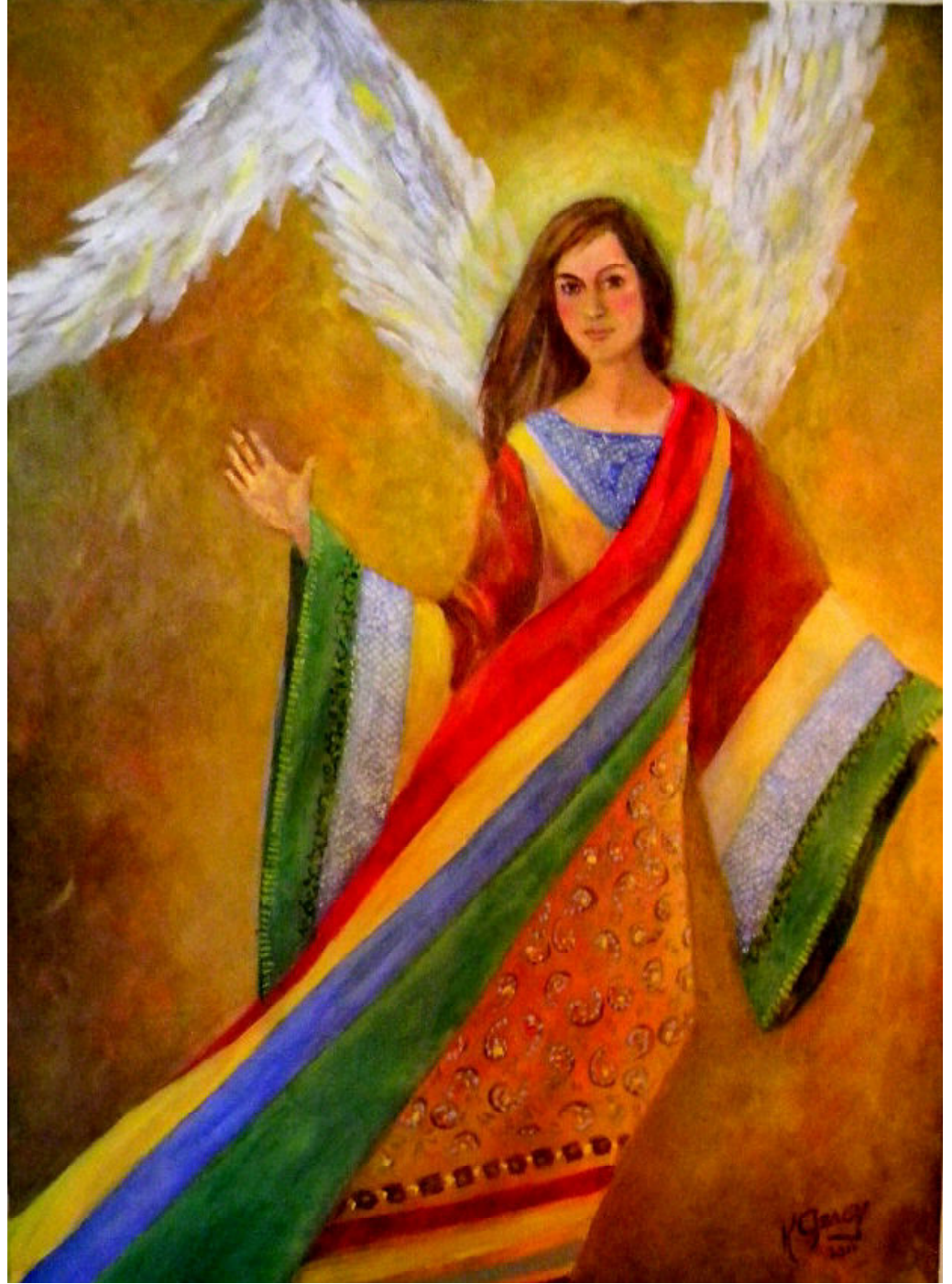


# PARISHLIFE

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples, Florida



Vol. 31, Issue 12- Dec. '15  
Vol. 32, Issue 1 – Jan. '16



# CHRISTMAS

Tidings of Great Joy

# Committee Nominates three for 2016 Vestry

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce three candidates for the 2016 Vestry: Ruth Adams, Vickie Bauch, and John Gualdoni.

The three will stand for election at the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held Monday, January 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Sugden Hall.

All the By-Laws and procedures have been followed and the qualifications of these candidates have been found to conform. Nominations may also be made from the floor, providing such nominations have been previously filed with the Parish Secretary at least five working days before the election meeting.

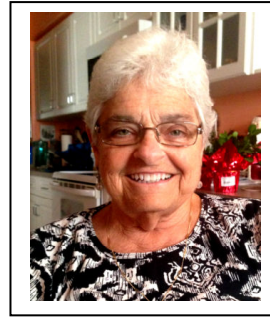
Vestry persons elected shall take office immediately and fill vacancies left by retiring Vestry members Fran Disselhorst, Mike Johnson and Peter Zimmermann.

The Nominating Committee met four times and consisted of Fran Disselhorst and Mike Johnson of the Vestry and Robert Brownlee, Jane McDermott and Walter Roxey from the Laity. □

Jane McDermott, Chairperson



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Official Notice of Annual**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**Monday, January 25, 2016**  
beginning with potluck supper  
at 6 pm in Sugden Hall.



**RUTH ADAMS**

My husband Dallas and I have resided in Naples since May of 2001, having moved here from the suburbs of Philadelphia. At that time, we began to attend services at St. John's. We have been married for nearly 54 years (as of December 30), have three sons, one daughter and eleven grandchildren. We are "cradle Episcopalians."

I feel I am well-qualified for a position on the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church because I have been well-known due to the many activities in which I have participated. I worked in the church office as Interim Secretary, chaired the committee for the Garden of the Resurrection and was instrumental in the redesigning of the Garden during the restoration phase of the Patio. I was on the restoration committee from its inception through its completion and served on the committee for the Rain Gardens.

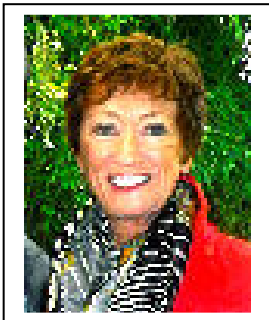
I have been a Lay Reader for a number of years and schedule Lay Readers and Acolytes for all services. I also do the scheduling for Ushers and Greeters and have been a delegate and/or alternate delegate to the Diocesan Convention a number of times.

I attend the Healing Services on Wednesdays, am a member of Sisters for Life and Foyer Group. I made my Cursillo in 2012 and since then have attended small group meetings and Ultreyas at another parish.

I appreciate your consideration of me as a candidate to serve on the Vestry of St. John's. □

Ruth Adams





## VICKIE BAUCH

My name is Vickie Bauch. I have been involved in the Episcopal Church ever since I was five, when my parents helped to start St. Francis Episcopal Church, a new parish in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. I grew up in a Christian community and have always found that to be a big part of my life.

As I grew older and had children, my sons and I were members of St. Peter's in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. There, I was a member of the Vestry and also part of a search committee for a new priest. When I moved to Delafield, Wisconsin, my husband, Rick, and I were members of a start up parish, St. Bartholomew's, in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. I also served on the Vestry at this church. I became very involved with ECW and, after serving on the board for five years, I became President for the Diocese of Milwaukee. During this time I was on the search committee for a new Bishop.

Now that we spend most of our time in Naples, we feel that St. John's is our home. Being a member of the Order of St. Luke has brought new meaning to my Christian life.

My journey with the Lord has always been an exciting one. I hope my experience in all these areas can be of a benefit to the community at St. John's. □

Vickie Bauch

**NOTE:** Vestry minutes are no longer being published in Parishlife; however, once, approved, they are posted on the bulletin board outside Sugden Hall. All Vestry meetings are open to members of the congregation. Contact the office for dates. □

## JOHN GUALDONI



I grew up in Marquette, Michigan, until my teenage years when I moved to Roanoke, Virginia, for high school and eventually college at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

I met my wife, Lindsey, there and we eventually moved to Washington, DC, after graduation to start our careers. She worked as a government consultant and I worked in the medical device industry.

In 2008, we were married at St. Mark's Episcopal church on Capitol Hill and, in 2013, I was offered a work opportunity in Naples.

We jumped at the chance to live in such a beautiful place and, once here, we did what most families do when they're looking for a church home. We bounced around until one Sunday we made our way to St. John's and the rest has been history.

We have two young daughters, Emaline and Dorothy, who have been baptized at St. John's and it's been an absolute perfect fit for our family. □

John Gualdoni

## EVENSONG

a service of singing and prayer

## Sunday, December 6

Please join us for Evensong at 5 p.m. You are also welcome to join the choir at 4 p.m. for rehearsal prior to the service.

Don't miss this special opportunity to rejoice in the coming birth of our Savior in this Advent season. □

Glenn Saffron, Music Director

Join us as we connect, share  
and grow together in Christ!



## Sunday School in full swing

On the first Sunday of each month, the children begin with the adults in worship and are invited forward for the Children's sermon, after which they are excused to have a follow-up teaching and activity in Sugden Hall. The children return at the Peace for the remainder of the service.

On all other weekends, Sunday School for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger begins in Sugden Hall at 11:15 a.m. where students engage in Godly conversations related to the same lessons the adults hear during Sunday worship in the hope that families can talk together on their way home about what they learned in church.

For our junior and senior high school youth, we gather together on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays after the 11:15 a.m. service. All I have to say is food, fun games, laughter, fellowship and biblical teaching – which is a recipe for good, clean fun and growing in our faith.

For our youngest children, we offer nursery care at the 9 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday services. We also invite any stay-at-home parents and children to join us for Kids Connection on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 8:30-9:30 a.m. This is a great opportunity for parents to connect with parents and kids with kids in a godly, fun and safe atmosphere. †

Fr. Christian Maxfield  
Assistant Rector





## Upcoming activities and dates to remember

**Dec. 6** - Children's sermon  
at 11:15 a.m. Sunday service

**Dec. 8** – Kids Connection  
8:30-9:30 a.m.

**Dec. 12** – Safeguarding  
God's Children Training 9  
a.m. to noon. *\*Training for  
anyone working with chil-  
dren at St John's*

**Dec. 13** – Jr./Sr.High Crist-  
mas Party at Fr. Joe's house.  
*\*Bring a fun "White Ele-  
phant" present to exchange at  
our party. Remember, do not  
buy a gift, rather bring some-  
thing fun or unusual from  
around the house. If it's not  
yours, ask first before you  
give it away.*

**Dec. 20** – Children's Pag-  
eant. All ages of youth are  
invited to participate with  
this. All you need to do is  
show up. *\*More information  
to be announced.*

**Dec. 27** - No Sunday School,  
No Youth Group

**Jan. 3** - Children's Sermon

**Jan. 10** - Resume regular  
Sunday School & Youth  
Group

**Jan. 12** - Kids Connection  
8:30-9:30 a.m.



**Saturday**

# January 9

**3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

## Sudgen Hall

**"Glory to the Risen Lord"**  
Ivy Sommerbell – Rectora

Please come welcome the  
team for February 4 -7, 2016  
Cursillo weekend and prayer-  
fully consider serving on the  
team or sponsoring a pilgrim. □

Dorothy Lowrey



## Sunday Co-Ed Study begins January 3

"Discovering Our Spirit-  
ual Identity: Practices for  
God's Beloved" by Trevor  
Hudson is an invitation to  
deeper relationship with God  
through reflection and "holy  
experiments." Team-taught  
by Skip Ruch and Mike  
Johnson, this co-ed study be-  
gins Sunday, January 3 at  
10:30 a.m. in Brewster Hall.  
□



## Thrift Shoppe counting blessings

We are entering the  
blessed season of Christmas,  
religious celebration, family,  
fellowship, and gratitude for  
our many blessings.

In this season of hope  
and generosity, many local  
charities benefit from St.  
John's Shoppe's proceeds.  
Through our Parish's Out-  
reach, we are celebrating  
2015 charitable grants at the  
9 a.m. service at St. John's  
on Sunday, December 13.  
Please join us in this celebra-  
tion.

As a new year begins,  
our hearts are filled with  
gratitude to you, our donors,  
volunteers, and customers  
for the gifts we are able to  
provide for those less fortu-  
nate in our community. We  
are truly blessed this year  
with your support and the  
success of the "new" St.  
John's Shoppe. □

***Thank You!***  
***Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year!***

*Board of Directors  
St. John's Shoppe*



# St. John's Financial Reports

St. John's Episcopal Church Financial Report – Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2015		
	Actual Unaudited	Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Pledges	\$ 320,637	\$ 328,000
Non-pledged	205,790	157,948
Other	10,134	1,500
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>536,561</b>	<b>487,448</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Salaries & Benefits	248,180	258,280
Church Facilities	53,849	67,275
Utilities	15,429	18,517
Administration	94,232	96,140
Ministries & Committees	62,766	73,125
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>474,456</b>	<b>513,337</b>
<b>Net Operating Result – Gain/ (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 62,105</b>	<b>(\$ 25,889)</b>

This is a summary financial statement of the church's operations compared to budget for the third quarter of 2015.

The financial success of 2015 to date is due to two principal factors: unexpected gifts and management control over expenses.

This is the financial report of the Thrift Shoppe through September 30, 2015, compared to budget.

The Thrift Shoppe has exceeded expectations, generating a net gain of \$44,265 compared to budget of \$19,902.

Peter Zimmermann  
Treasurer

St. John's Episcopal Church Church Thrift Shoppe thru Sept. 30, 2015		
	Actual Unaudited	Budget
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 211,228</b>	<b>\$ 182,718</b>
Less credit card fees	2,521	4,250
<b>Net revenues</b>	<b>208,707</b>	<b>178,468</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Salaries and benefits	56,087	54,540
Rent	66,213	65,218
Relocation	5,816	0
Maintenance	7,865	9,225
Utilities	3,944	4,675
Advertising	10,533	11,258
Delivery pick up	4,895	3,550
Administration	9,089	10,800
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>164,442</b>	<b>159,266</b>
<b>Net Operating Result</b>	<b>\$ 44,265</b>	<b>\$ 19,202</b>

## Becky Jarrell

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A month ago, I had an elective colectomy. This is a surgery that is not all that uncommon in today's surgical world, but nonetheless, a prayerful decision that Gary and I made together knowing it would likely be a big surgery and perhaps a difficult recovery. Many, many people held us in prayer and I rather flippantly stated that with that many prayers, how could anything go wrong. What we didn't anticipate was the journey ahead would include serious complications and I would come very close to death!

My family had been called. I was sinking fast. Our all-knowing Lord knew my fear and He knew I needed some really strong reinforcements! And suddenly, wouldn't you know, Fr. Joe appeared in ICU. He knelt down, took my hand and began to pray. Then he began to speak in tongues! Words that I clearly didn't understand became an amazing "God moment" for both of us, for in that instant, there was a palpable electric current from his hand to mine. The Holy Spirit had filled my room and I felt myself suddenly relax. What an awesome experience!

Although arduous, these months of healing have brought unexpected blessings for me! The prayers and presence of Fr. Joe and Fr. Christian, the blessed prayer shawl that became my safe cocoon, and the continued prayers of all of you have been such gifts from the heart! The learned advice from my CCBB sisters, my time for quiet reflection and thanksgiving, your outpouring of cards, beautiful bouquets of flowers, phone calls, texts and e-mails and continuing meals have been blessings of such magnitude that "thank you" could be said a million times and still be inadequate! You all have been there each step of the way and Gary and I are so very grateful!

Simply said, you are loved and we are blessed to call you "family!"

Hugs,  
Becky

## St. John's 2016 Healing Mission



featuring

**Fr. David Reed**

(protege of Fr. Terry Fullam),

**February 6 & 7**

Fr. Reed has served as Rector of St. Paul's Harrington and is currently Professor Emeritus at Wycliffe College, University of Toronto.

He has brought the Gospel and renewal to some 38 countries.

Please join us for an exciting time of worship, learning and commissioning to bring God's healing power to our world! ☐





## Calendar of Events:

### Caring Card Ministry

Ongoing — all year round  
Requesting referrals

### Palm Cottage Field Trip

Thursday, January 28, 11 a.m.

### Renewal & Healing Week-End

February 5 — 7

Fr. David Reece

### Book Discussion

Thursday, February 25, 10 a.m.

*Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*

By Nabeel Quershi

### Quiet Day at St. John's

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

8:30 a.m. — 2 p.m.

Spirit Alive welcomes volunteers to assist with our yearly activities. If you have some time and enjoy sending cards, helping with events and activities, or like assisting with planning our events, we would like to talk and share Spirit Alive with you.

### For more info, please contact:

Katy Esterline

517-206-4641

239-325-8283 or

katvesterline@gmail.com

**Reminder:** Please let us know of other parishioners' needs for a caring card. It could be for health, healing, sympathy, baptism, wedding, or simply thinking of you. Please call or e-mail the office.

## Spirit Alive announces activity plans for 2016

Spirit Alive has planned another full season of activities. The first of these will be our annual field trip, which will take place on January 28. This time it will be to Naples Historic Palm Cottage and include a walk out the newly-refurbished Naples Pier before lunching together.

Under the preservation of the Naples Historical Society, the Palm Cottage House Museum will let us experience the rustic, hand-crafted charm of Old Naples through a guided tour. Trained docents will share unique insights, historic facts and colorful tales about this local architectural gem and the community surrounding it.

The oldest house in Naples (built in 1895) is constructed of tabby mortar, a hand-made concrete consisting of sand, shells and water. This two-story home was built by one of Naples founding residents, Walter N. Haldeman, and boasts 3,500 square feet of original and donated artwork, furnishings and tools spanning over 100 years.

The Palm Cottage admission is \$10 per person. The lunch details have not been completed at this time, but they will be available in January. We have enjoyed sharing together over lunch after our Spirit Alive visits.

We praise the Lord for gathering us together to build relationships at St. John's. We pray you will join us this year so we can get to know each other and Jesus better, and celebrate our rich lives here in Naples. ☐





# God's next step



I had the blessing of a rich sabbatical experience, varied and challenging in so many ways, with different themes appearing over time. One consistent picture that emerged for me was God's continued blessing of His people in prayer. In my travels, readings and study, I heard repeated stories of the miraculous ways our Heavenly Father is answering the prayers of His people to transform the world.

In particular, God is blessing His church as they take time for extended worship, prayer, fasting and repentance. Bodies of believers have been engaging in forty days of worship, fasting and prayer, inviting churches throughout the city to participate, with amazing conversions, healings and reconciliation taking place. God's people are being moved to cry out to the Lord as their only hope in this hour, seeking personal, corporate and national renewal.

## **The Light of God is breaking forth into the Darkness of the World**

Beloved, St. John's is a house of prayer, and over the past years we've been involved in numerous prayer vigils, fasts and intercessions for the world, with God moving in amazing ways!

All those experiences have been a preparation for God's next step for us:

## **A forty-day season of Worship, Fasting, Prayer and Repentance!**

- To take place during Lent 2016
- Invite Naples churches to participate
- Seek guidance and blessing from trailblazers
- Training in different forms of fasting and prayer
- Inspiring videos of what God is already doing in the world
- Prepare for significant break through in every part of your life

More details will follow but, for now, please keep this step in your prayers and the following Scripture in your heart:

***"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chron 7:14)***

## **Christmas Week Worship:**

### **Christmas Eve:**

5 p.m.-Festive family service with special Christmas carols, guest musicians, candle lighting and Holy Eucharist.

9 p.m. -Christmas celebration of wonderful carols, inspiring message, Silent Night by candle light and Holy Eucharist.

### **Christmas Day:**

10 a.m.-Celebration of Jesus' birth with singing, reflection and Holy Eucharist

Saturday (12/26): 5 p.m. Traditional Holy Eucharist

Sunday (12/27): 10 a.m. Blended Musical Celebration and Holy Eucharist



## Vestry busy with November meetings and retreats

Since last *Parish-life*, Vestry has met in two regular meetings, at a Christian Listening class brought to St. John's by the Order of St. Luke, in the 24-hour prayer vigil, in Eucharist and in retreat. God used these gatherings to reveal Himself in the details of our lives and with grand strokes of love. We were looking for Him to show up in our gatherings — maybe more so than ever — and He did.

Out of the meetings came this and more:

- Use technology so vestry members can join in meetings wherever we are on the globe;
- Improving church resource organization to be more responsive to mission and ministry in and out of Collier County;
- Heighten promotion of the ministries of St. John's and fully participate in ministries we are passionate about;
- Primary focus on growing family and youth ministry and mission;
- Corporate prayer is blessed by God

During retreat, clergy gave Vestry insights of God's direction for St. John's in these formidable times. Fr. Joe shared his vision of combining corporate worship, prayer and fasting to bring about changed hearts and revival — awakening us to God's time and purpose — moving us to action in the realm of impossible except for God. I pray everyone will participate in the call when it comes. This is a global movement of God for a global awakening in Jesus and it is happening now. What a time to be alive is this!

Steps in faith toward God result in God-partnering to create God power results! Shalom. □

Mike Johnson, Sr. Warden



## Thirteen local charities to receive 2015 Outreach Grants

The first week of November, the Outreach Committee met to interview various charities to be awarded grants from the proceeds of St. John's Thrift Shoppe.

The 2015 recipients are: Angels Undercover, Baby Basics, Charity for Change, Habitat for Humanity, Harry Chapin Food Bank, Helps Outreach, Laces of Love, Literacy Volunteers, Naples Equestrian Challenge, St. Matthew's House, United Cerebral Palsy (Sunrise Community) and YMCA of the Palms.

These agencies will be honored at the Outreach Grant Celebration on Sunday, December 13, at the 9 a.m. service. This will be a great celebration and you are encouraged to attend.

During the interview process and the telling of their story, we could sense the compassion and love each representative expressed for their charity and meeting the needs of underprivileged and impoverished. All show grace and mercy to those they serve.

Each year, when the Outreach Committee meets, we look at not only who is our neighbor, but to whom we can be a neighbor. The parable of the Good Samaritan calls us to open our eyes and ears to know where the suffering are crying out for help.

Since 1982, St. John's Thrift Shop has donated \$2,560,393 supporting local charities, serving local people in need and making a difference in the lives of others. We are very thankful for all who contribute their time, talent and treasure, so the needs of our neighbors can be met.

Members of the Outreach Committee are: Sue Boujoukos, Julia DuRoss, Kay Geroy, Beverly Herr, John Soggs, Nevin Souers and Leo Velazquez. □

Nevin B. Souers, Outreach Chairman



As Christmas and the New Year fast approach, I find myself thinking of the many people I hold dear who have passed on from this life. Some have been gone for decades, but when the memory of them settles in on me, so many thoughts cascade in my mind, a cacophony of experiences I treasure and ponder. Close family or friends always die too soon, and if one could make a deal to extend their lives with the Almighty, many would. But things don't work that way, and when death kisses life, God's invitation to His children is to believe it's a new beginning for those no longer here.

In that spirit I share "My First Christmas in Heaven." May it be a healing balm and comforting vision for each of us this Christmas. ✚

Fr. Joe

### *My First Christmas in Heaven*

*I see the countless Christmas Trees around the world below  
with tiny lights like heaven's stars reflecting on the snow.  
the sight is so spectacular, please wipe away your tears,  
for I am sharing Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*

*I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,  
but the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir here.  
I have no words to tell you what joy their voices bring,  
it's far beyond description to hear the angels sing.*

*I know how much you miss me, I see the pain within your heart,  
but I am not so far away. We really aren't apart.  
So be happy for me, loved ones. You know I hold you dear,  
and be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*

*I send you each a special gift from my heavenly home above.  
I send you each a memory of undying love.  
After all "love" is the gift, more precious than pure gold.  
It was always most important, in the stories Jesus told.*

*Please love and keep each other, as our Father said to do,  
for I can't count the many blessings, or the love He has for you.  
So have a Merry Christmas, and wipe away those tears,  
for I am sharing Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*

-Author Unknown



# PARISHLIFE

St. John's Episcopal Church  
500 Park Shore Drive  
Naples, Florida 34103  
Telephone: 261-2355

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S.  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
Naples  
Fla 34101  
Permit No. 84

*Thank you, Lord, for current resident or*

## CONTACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### St. John's Episcopal Church

500 Park Shore Dr., Naples, FL 34103  
Ph: 239-261-2355 FAX: 239-261-2591

**Office Hours:** Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

### After Hours Emergency:

Rector 239-216-2333  
Assistant Rector 309-229-6572

**Rector:** The Rev. Joseph F. Maiocco, III  
E-Mail: Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com

**Asst. Rector:** The Rev. Christian Maxfield  
E-Mail: Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com

**Secretary:** Ann Witmer  
E-Mail: ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com

**Treasurer:** Peter Zimmermann  
E-mail: Treasurer@stjohnsnaples.com

**Music Director:** Glenn Saffran  
E-mail: MusicDirector@stjohnsnaples.com

**Interim Youth Director:** Barbara Johnson

**Parishlife Editor:** Kay Geroy  
E-Mail: kay-geroy@mindspring.com

### Websites:

St. John's: www.stjohnsnaples.com  
Diocese: www.episcopalswfl.org

**St. John's Webmaster:** Glenn Saffran

**St. John's Archivist:** Bob Geroy

### Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests:

Pat Mills 239-596-8890

### 2015 Vestry:

**Sr. Warden:** Mike Johnson

**Jr. Warden:** Sue Boujoukos

**Treasurer:** Peter Zimmermann

**Clerk to the Vestry:** Ann Witmer

**Members:** Richard Clapp, Fran Disselhorst,  
Gary Jarrell, Robert Matthews, Linda Smith,  
Jack Wert

**Ministries:** Worship, Fellowship,  
Discipleship, Outreach

### St. John's Shoppe for Upscale Thrift

Tamiami Square  
14700 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL  
Ph: 239-597-9518

**Hrs:** Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Website:** www.stjohnsshoppe.com

### Shoppe Board of Directors:

**Chairperson:** Pat Costa

**Vice-Chairperson/Secretary:** Myra Tutwiler

**Treasurer:** Barbara Bongard

**Volunteer Recruiting:** Jean Morley

**Vestry Liaison:** Richard Clapp

**Outreach partnering:** Sue Boujoukos

**Member-at-Large:** Lisa Kupcunas

**Manager:** Sharon Marceau

**Asst. Manager:** Rosanne Sausser



## New Members:

Griselda (Peki) G. Wilson

Peter D. Pierce

Mary Lee Pierce

## Transfers Out:

Michael Benigno

Ernest P. Waud III

*Please inform Parish Secretary Ann  
Witmer of any additions  
or corrections.*

**Deadline for the February Parishlife is noon, Friday, Jan. 29.  
Word limit is 300. Send to  
kay-geroy@mindspring.com**