



Spirit Alive tours Palm Cottage

Each year, Spirit Alive hosts a day trip for fun and education. This year's trip was to the historical Palm Cottage and the surrounding gardens.

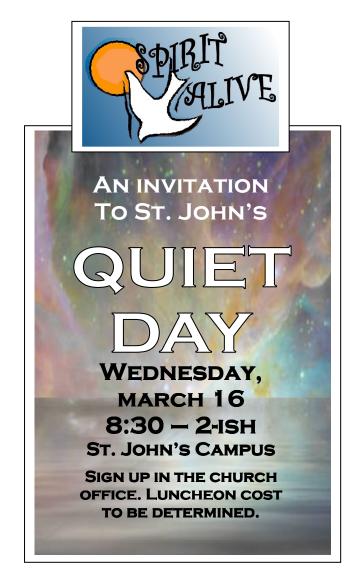
The tour of one of Naples oldest structures was extremely informative. It shared the struggles and good times of the earliest year-round residents and tourists. The cottage has been beautifully preserved to the standard of the early nineteen-hundreds. Everyone on our tour recognized many of the house's amenities and thought of our own personal memories of our childhoods.

The history of the original residence and its importance to the development of Naples was fascinating. Its relationship with the Naples Hotel and the Collier family was the early start of today's "snow birds."

Our tour guide, Jerry Ruane, was fun and enthusiastically shared the great history of Naples. Each of us on the tour left with new knowledge and a real appreciation of the early residences of our early city.

We finished the day with a meal and fellowship at the Ridgeway Restaurant. We left with new friends, renewed relationships and lots of interesting information of the history of the paradise in which we live. \Box

Katy & Don Esterline



Quiet Day is an opportunity to be in the presence of our Lord the week before Holy Week begins. One way to be in relationship with God is to be still and listen to him. Quiet Day provides a time to praise the Lord in song, experience some meditations, and choose to find a quiet place to read the Bible, your Lenten Mediations or a spiritual book, or join others in Centering Prayer (quieting our minds to BE with our Lord), or sharing a meditation with others before joining others for lunch, pictures, and then a trip to the beach for our special Eucharist.

Please check out the church bulletin board on the wall across from Sugden Hall for all church activities. \Box

Katy Esterline



Kids Connection Tuesday, March 8 9 - 10 am

A great opportunity for parents to connect with parents and kids with kids in a godly, fun and safe atmosphere.



Easter, March 27 Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. following the 9 a.m. service.





This Lent, Galatians 2:20 has been even more present in my heart and upon my mind than usual. "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me."

Some of you know that this verse is near and dear to my heart, being my life verse and something I am reminded of everyday. St. Paul wrote it reminding Christian believers that we are justified by faith apart from the Law. That is not to say that God's law is null and void. St. Paul himself maintained that God's Law is Holy, righteous and good (Romans 7:12).

It is through our attempt to live up to God's Law that we know we are sinners and will always fall short, hence the need for a savior. This is where grace comes in, for it is by grace that we have been saved (Ephesians 2:8). Grace is what we must hold on to and share with others who do not know the truth, as St. Paul said, *"I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"*

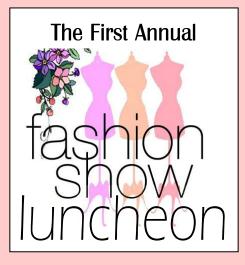
Many people today believe that following Jesus and living the Christian life is just about following a lot of rules. Brothers and sisters, if we begin with grace instead of God's Law (rules), we may indeed gain some ground with those who have been closed off to the Good News, and rather than coming up to a closed door, we may find an open heart and unstopped ears in those around us.

Once we have been won over by the grace of God, allowing God's love for us to penetrate our heart and soul, we are much more open to following God's Law to the best of our ability, becoming holy as He is holy, living no longer to ourselves, but living for Christ in whom we live, move and have our being.

If you need a little boost this Lent, consider taking time to ponder Galatians 2:20 and bask in the truth God's Word has for each and every one of us. ♥



proudly presents



All apparel from St. John's Shoppe A benefit for Collier County charities

Saturday, March 12

\$30 per person (cash or check only)

Noon in Sugden Hall

at St. John's Episcopal Church 500 Park Shore Drive

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RESERVATIONS NEEDED:

Call 597-9518 or e-mail: <u>stjohnsthriftshoppe@gmail.com</u> or Sign up with the cashier at the Shoppe

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Tickets will also be available at church services on February 27 & 28 and March 5 & 6



March designated "Donation Month" at St. John's Shoppe

For the month of March, our parish is highlighting the Ministry of St. John's Shoppe. Along with the Fashion Show Luncheon on March 12, it is "DONATION MONTH" at your special Shoppe.

Please bring your "nearly new" donations to the Shoppe during business hours 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Our inventory is low due to seasonal sales. We accept clothing, jewelry, antiques, electronics, books, home furnishings, artwork, housewares, linens, curios and antiques.

Always receive a tax exemption receipt for your donations and don't forget us with your furniture donations. Home furnishings are always needed and bring more dollars for Outreach. Call Sharon at 597-9518 for furniture inspection and pick-up.

As members of St. John's parish, you will join us in sharing a special kind of Love — the "*Love of our Fellowman*"— by helping those less fortunate in Collier County through our parish's outreach and St. John's Shoppe.

Visit us at Tamiami Square, 14700 Tamiami Trail, North. $\ \Box$



A change would do you good!

So goes part of a Sheryl Crow song that tells about plastic lives and shallow goals, singing about the need for a change! "A change would do you good" are timeless words, and as we continue in Lent and look toward Holy Week and Easter, the season we're in is all about transformed life.

Spiritual disciplines like fasting and prayer, 40DAYS4HIM, one of St. John's Lenten Series and numerous other opportunities that have come before you, have all been invitations to needed change. For those of you who have accepted this invitation, trust that a wonderful metamorphosis is occurring right now and will continue to bring a multitude of blessings and challenges.

You'll see the truth of what I'm saying in your changed life:

- A felt and deeper humility in spirit and posture with God and others!
- Greater spiritual power from your union with the Holy Spirit!
- Heightened awareness of your sins and GREAT JOY in being forgiven!
- A love for others and life that is Wonderful!
- Increased desire for our Lord and spiritual nourishment!
- Love, Joy, Peace replacing Hatred, Despair, Turmoil!
- Relationships end or begin, goals are different and you're not the same!
- "He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil.1:6) 🗘

Fr. Joseph Miaocco





Maundy Thursday March 25

Join us at 7 p.m. as we remember Jesus' Last Supper and foot washing.

Good Friday March 25

Stations of the Cross at Noon.

Holy Saturday March 26

The Easter Vigil is celebrated at 5 p.m.

Easter Sunday March 27

Celebrate our Lord's resurrection at 7:30, 9:00 or 11:15 a.m.

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Archibishop says European aid to Christian Syrians tantamount to deportation

Some countries are offering free flights and visas to middle-class Christians in Syria. A church leader in Syria has compared the aid given by some countries (to enable Christians to emigrate) to a deportation.

On a visit to Paris, the Melkite Greek archbishop, Archbishop of Aleppo, Jean-Clement Jeanbart, said half of the Christians in his city, the largest in Syria, had already left. Christians (mostly Eastern Orthodox, Eastern Catholics and Oriental Orthodox) made up about 10 per cent of the country's pre-war population.

"We've not only seen people leave, but also seen countries offering them free flights and visas they've hardly asked for," he told Radio Notre Dame. "They are taking the few remaining people. It is as if there were a deportation."

Those who left were mostly the same ones who could rebuild the country after the war, he told another radio station, RTL. "It is the middle class, the backbone of our society, that is being absorbed."

Jeanbart did not say which states he meant but said that foreign countries saw only suffering refugees who had needed to be taken in, while Syrians saw the damage that the exodus had caused.

"We think that leaving harms the country and the migrants themselves, because they are dreaming of a better world, which would/could exist if there are reforms in their own country," he added.

"The Christians remaining in Aleppo attend religious services more actively now than before. We have no problem practicing our religion wherever the government is in control. We have very good relations with the Muslims, who make up 80 per cent of the population. The Church's schools can also operate in government-controlled areas, educating Christian and Muslim pupils," he said. Jeanbart said he was neither for nor against President Bashar al-Assad, but added: "If the regime collapses and the president leaves, there will be countless local wars everywhere. People will kill each other. It will be terrible."

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This article by a European source is forwarded by Jamie Treadwell who says, "It's helpful to get the church leader's perspective on what is actually happening. The media tends to avoid these direct comments. The Archbishop's comments highlight the importance of what the Emmanuel Community is doing.



What a time and place to be right now! St. John's winter schedule has been overflowing with opportunities for all of us in which to take part.

I mention a few that I've attended: the weekend with Terry and Barbi Franklin; the Healing Mission with The Rev. David Reed; and with Lent upon us, the upcoming Lenten series.

I speak of being humbled by many of these opportunities — especially the very uplifting Sunday morning gatherings beginning at 7:14 a.m. where we gather to worship, pray and walk in our neighborhood -

Do join us! You won't be disappointed, but filled with the love of the Lord!

> Sue Boujoukos Senior Warden

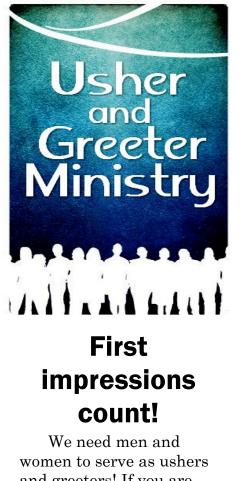
Palm Sunday Concert

4 p.m., Sunday, March 20 Joseph Haydn's

"Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross" for Piano Trio and String Quartet

Tickets available from the office: \$30 each





and greeters! If you are interested in serving, please contact the Parish Office 239.261.2355.□



... and first impressions from Archives 1977

A look back at St. John's as it was before almost anything! No stained glass windows, no organ, no Sugden Hall, Brewster Hall and no stoplight at Park Shore Drive and Crayton Road intersection! All maintenance and office work was done by volunteer parishioners. (*Photos by Bob Geroy*)



Soup & Bread Suppers and Lenten Study

begin

Wednesday, February 24

6 p.m. in Sugden Hall

Four more weekly sessions will follow and include parishioner video interviews, fellowship and small group reflections. □



New Members and/or transfers in:

Christine & Stan Lane

Sarah T. & Jason D. Patrignani

Barbara Watson

Louis P. Brickelmaier

Please notify Parish Secretar Ann Witmer of any corrections or additions.

WWII Vet to share war experiences

Carrier discovered and liberated Buchenwald

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, during the Great Depression, Frederick (Rick) Carrier was drafted into the U.S. Army shortly after his 18th birthday, April 10, 1943. On New Year's Eve, he sailed on a troop-packed *Aquitania*, unes-



Frederick (Rick) Carrier

corted through a U-boat infested North Atlantic Ocean. In England, he became a T/5 Corporal Specialist in mines, booby traps, and explosives as he trained in amphibious warfare. Six months later, as part of the First Army, Seventh Corps, First Engineer Special Brigade, Rick hit Utah Beach in Normandy, France, in the first wave on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Following Normandy, Rick participated on the front lines of five major European battles, including the Battle of the Bulge and the Remagen Bridge. On his 20th birthday, April 10, 1945, while scouting for military supplies for Lt. General George Patton's Third Army, he accidentally discovered Buchenwald. The following day, he was among hundreds of U.S. Army liberators who brought freedom to thousands of prisoners.

When the war ended, Rick studied painting at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, and later at the Tyler School of Fine Art at Temple University. Moving to New York City in the early 50's, he worked as a graphic artist, writer, and filmmaker, wrote and produced a Cinema Scope feature motion picture, "Strangers in the City" and authored four successful how-to books, all published by major houses.

In 2012, Rick was proud to be on of sixteen U.S. liberators who participated in the 25th Annual March of the Living in Poland. In late 2014, he received the prestigious French Legion of Honor Award and, in January 2015, went to Hong Kong to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps, which was hosted by the Hong Kong Holocaust and Tolerance Center and the U.S. Consul General to Hong Kong. While in UK, he spoke to almost 8,000 students about his WWII experiences. **Rick will share his experiences at St. John's Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 6.**

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Below is a summary financial statement of the church's operations compared to budget for the year ended December 31, 2015. The financial success of 2015 is due to the generosity of the members of St. John's, some unexpected gifts and management control of expenses.

St. John's Episcopal Church Financial Report			
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2015	Actual (Unaudited)	Budget	
Revenues:			
Pledges	\$427,544	\$420,000	
Non-pledged	328,628	252,548	
Other	1,821	2,000	
Total Revenues	757,993	674,548	
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits	330,900	342,780	
Church facilities	70,882	89,700	
Utilities	21,233	24,800	
Administration	119,583	122,628	
Ministries/Committees	84,088	94,640	
Total Expenses	626,686	674,548	
Net Operating Result Gain/(Loss)	\$131,307	\$0	

Not included in these numbers are the revenues received from the Thrift Shoppe, special contributions from members and monies from Vestry-designated funds totaling \$110,000, which were distributed to needy charities as part of the St. John's Outreach Program. \Box

Peter Zimmermann, Treasurer

Below is the financial report of the Thrift Shoppe through December 31, 2015, compared to budget. The Thrift Shoppe has exceed expectations, generating a net gain of \$77,445, compared to budget of \$34,223. This enabled the Thrift Shoppe to support the St. John's Outreach Program with \$50,000.

St. John's Episcopal Church Thrift Shoppe			
	Actual (Unaudited)	Budget	
Total Revenues	\$294,736	\$250,218	
Less credit card fees	3,675	5,850	
Net revenues	291,061	244,368	
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits	73,343	72,668	
Rent	86,125	84,799	
Relocation	5,816	0	
Maintenance	10,340	12,300	
Utilities	5,297	6,100	
Advertising	14,520	14,428	
Delivery pick up	6,628	5,750	
Administration	11,547	14,100	
Total Expenses	213,616	210,145	
Net Operating Result	\$ 77,445	\$ 34,223	



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

Thank you, Lord, for current resident or

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CONTACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

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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

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<u>Parishlife Editor:</u> Kay Geroy E-Mail: kay-geroy@mindspring.com

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St. John's Webmaster: Glenn Saffran

St. John's Archivist:: Bob Geroy

Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests: Pat Mills 239-596-8890

2016 Vestry: Sr. Warden: Sue Boujoukos Jr. Warden: Gary Jarrell Treasurer: Peter Zimmermann Clerk to the Vestry: Ann Witmer Members: Ruth Adams, Vickie Bauch, Richard Clapp, John Gualdoni, Robert Matthews, Linda Smith, Jack Wert

<u>Ministries:</u> 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: Myra Tutwiler Secretary: Sue Boujoukos Treasurer: Barbara Bongard Volunteer Recruiting: Jean Morley Vestry/Outreach Liaison: Richard Clapp Manager: Sharon Marceau Asst. Manager: Rosanne Sausser

2016 PARISHLIFE DEADLINES			
Publication Month	Deadline: Noon, Friday		
February	January 22		
March	February 19		
April	March 25		
Мау	April 22		
June/July	May 27		
August/September	July 22		
October	September 23		
November	October 28		
December/January	November 25		
Please enter these dates on your			

calendar NOW.

Deadline for the April Parishlife is noon, Friday, Mar. 25. Word limit is 300. Send to kay-geroy@mindspring.com