

MAY 2023

St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

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The Epistle to the Elizabethans

A WORD FROM FATHER NORM....



With the onset of the month of May, I am always reminded that this is the traditional planting season as we prepare the gardens and get the plants ready to go into the ground. Growing up in New England, we were finally assured that we had passed the last of the frost and the ground was warming and ready to receive the new growth of the season. The first of May is also celebrated as May Day in many locations. I often wondered about its beginnings so I turned to Wikipedia for help. Here is what I found: "The earliest May Day celebrations appeared in pre-Christian times, with the festival of Flora, the Roman Goddess of flowers, and the Walpurgis Night celebrations of the Germanic countries.

It is also associated with the Gaelic Beltane. Many pagan celebrations were abandoned or

Christianized during the process of conversion in Europe.

A more secular version of May Day continues to be observed in Europe and America. In this form, May Day may be best known for its tradition of dancing the Maypole and crowning of the Queen of the May. Various Neopagan groups celebrate reconstructed (to varying degrees) versions of these customs on May the 1st. The day was a traditional summer holiday in many pre-Christian European pagan cultures.

While February 1st was the first day of Spring, May 1st was the first day of Summer; hence, the summer solstice on June 25th (now June 21st) was Mid-Summer. In the Roman Catholic tradition, May is observed as Mary's month, and in these circles May Day is usually a celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In this connection, in works of art, school skits, and so forth, Mary's head will often be adorned with flowers in a May crowning. Fading in popularity since the late 20th century is the giving of "May baskets," small baskets of sweets and/or flowers, usually left anonymously on neighbors' doorsteps." It is interesting how many pagan ceremonies transformed into Christian celebrations over the years.

The church has given honor to Mary in the month of May in celebration for all she contributed to salvation history.

Easter has just been celebrated, so maybe we should focus on the life of our Lord and give Mary her due on this first day of May. I guess that may be a contributing factor to the celebration of Mother's Day on May 14th. We honor the role of mothers everywhere for their sacrifices and unconditional love in the family.

I hope we can pause this month to remember that, as new life begins in the garden of many of our houses, so also new life begins with the mothers among us. Let us celebrate with mothers everywhere and rejoice in God who gives this wonder of life to us all.

Fr. Norm +

May 14



May 20



May 28

The Day of Pentecost



May 29



May Birthdays

Pamela McKenzie	2
Daisy Williams	6
Linda Dean	16
Janet Dordelman	19
Linda Pelchy	24
Diane Garrison	26
Denise Bersos	28
Betty McNutt	29
Peter Cleary	31

May Anniversaries

Jerome & Athena Adams	7
Frank & Bernice Montefusco	7
John & Chrissie Grimison	20
David & Danielle Farmer	21



May 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study and Prayer & Healing Service: Join Deacon Bob on Wednesdays at 10:00am for a Bible Study "The Gospel of John" in the Russell Bldg. Prayer & Healing Service first Wednesday of each month at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. **The next Prayer & Healing Service will be on Wednesday, May 3rd.**

Daughters of the King Prayers & Meeting : DOK are available for Prayers in the Chapel during Communion, 1st Sunday of the month at 8:00am Service & 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 10:00am Service. **All DOK Prayer Cards and verbal requests will be kept strictly confidential.**
DOK Meeting May 6th at 10:00am. Last meeting until September!!

****DOK & Holy Trinity DOK will be having a TEA Gathering on Saturday, June 3rd 2:00pm - 4:00pm in the Russell Bldg. For DOK members only.**

VESTRY - Next Vestry meeting Sunday, May 7th at 11:00am

ECW - Next ECW meeting....Saturday, May 20th at 10:00am. **Last meeting until September!!**
SAVE THE DATE !! Spring Luncheon - May 20th at 11:30am. See bulletin board for Sign Up sheet & Menus. **All Money will be due by May 14th.** Money will be collected by Pat Cleary and Janet Mandeville.

VBS - Next VBS meeting Sunday, May 21st at 11:00am.

Vacation Bible School is coming !! July 17 - 21 Grades K - 8. (Dinner is included !!)

Volunteers are needed!! Dinner will be provided for all Volunteers from 4:30pm - 6:00pm. See bulletin board for more details & Sign Up sheet. Please sign up to donate any availability you may have or donate materials needed. It will be greatly appreciated !!

PENTECOST - Sunday, May 28th - The Day of Pentecost....**wear RED !!**

MEMORIAL DAY - Monday, May 29th - Admin Office will be CLOSED.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE - If anyone is interested in being on the Fellowship Committee, please contact Ken Dean for more details.

Be Bold

I Timothy 1 : 7- 8 *God fills us with the Holy Spirit, who is bold and courageous. We do not have to muster courage and strength on our own.*

We simply submit to the Spirit of God that is within us.
 I ask you family of St. Elizabeth's. Are you being bold sharing the Gospel?

I Thessalonians 2 : 2 *The Spirit of God Emboldens us to proclaim the Gospel without fear.*

Are we afraid to share God's word? Don't be....

Philippians 1 : 14 *Boldness is contagious. When we are bold for Christ, enduring hardships for our Faith, others are provoked to do the same.*

The DOK is asking you to please pick up a St. Elizabeth's pamphlet located in the Narthex. Have it ready to hand out as you increase your boldness to share the good news of Christ and our Church.

THANK YOU and GOD BLESS !

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SR. WARDEN....

Church Picnic - April 16th - **THANK YOU** to all who helped make this a wonderful event!!



PRAYER CARDS



There are several opportunities for you to ask your fellow Parishioners to pray for your needs. **Daughters of the King Request for Prayer Card.** They are prayed ceaselessly **for a month and kept in strict confidence by the Daughters.** Fill out a DOK Request for Prayer Card on the Pedestal near the Audio Booth and place it in the **DOK Blue Box.** There is another prayer card in your Pew called **A Prayer Request.** Prayers requested on these cards are included in the Prayers of the People in your Sunday Bulletin. They can be taken home to pray for during the week and will be kept in the Bulletin for **three months.** Only include information you want shared with your fellow Parishioners. Place these cards in the Collection Plate on Sundays.

THE JOY OF SOX



THANK YOU to all who donated Socks during Lent!

We collected **261 pairs of Socks !!**

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who helped prepare the Socks which were donated to the Senior Resource Center in Vero Beach by Valery Rice !

