
St. Edmund the Martyr Episcopal Church

The Evangel

May 2021

Website: www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com

Our Church Family Updates

May 2021

- The Michaud Household reports: Roy and I are making plans to go to Maine June 5th. We are looking forward to seeing our family and friends we haven't seen for 2 years. We plan to be away for about 5 weeks.
- From the Gromen Household: Barry and I had a very smooth flight to Cincinnati and found our home still standing. Barry's appointment with the retina specials went well and he was referred to a cataract surgeon and scheduled for surgery later in April. His blood pressure was too high at his physical, so everything is on hold for now. We did have a very nice weekend with two of our children and their spouses and our grandson. He is 14 and has grown so much! He even has a little mustache, but we didn't mention it because we remember what it is like to be a teenager. We sang the worst rendition ever of Happy Birthday to our son-in-law. The chocolate cake was delicious, though. We hope everyone has a safe and happy spring and summer. I look forward to hearing from everyone.
- Steven is enjoying the Vestry and is nearing the end stretch of his Master's schooling. James remains in poor physical condition but is attempting to remedy that. We are both very happy to hear so much from our church family!
- Ruth and Stephanie Adams have enjoyed the past few weeks. First she spent a week in St. Augustine with Steph's dad, sister, and brother-in-law. Next Ruth's sister Joyce visited for a week.



Upcoming Events

Current schedule:

- **May 16th & 30th** 8:00am - Service
- **Sunday** 10:00 am – Morning Service

Facebook Services: [Please Click Here](#)

**327 WEST HICKORY STREET
ARCADIA, FL 34266
(863) 494-0485**

The Rev. Robert Vaughn,
Deacon(Retired)
(863) 244-1369
vaughn_rj@yahoo.com

The Rev. Mario Castro,
Latino Missioner
(813) 562-2467
mcastro@redeemersarasota.org

Our Church Family Updates

May 2021

- From the Easterwood Family: We arrived home in NC on the 18th. Wondering why we came back, as we had frost warnings last night! We were finally able to get our first shot for Covid 2 days after we got home. Our middle daughter will be visiting us this weekend. Then in mid-May we will go up to Northern Virginia for our youngest granddaughter's graduation from George Mason University. Hopefully, the search for the new priest is going well.
- Robert & Nancy Jo Vaughn observed their 40th anniversary with a long weekend on Ft. Myers Beach. They enjoyed the view from their waterfront lodging and sunsets over the gulf.
- Dante Lanzetta Reports: Off COVID house arrest, but still not doing ANYTHING fun or interesting. Thank God all our progeny in two generations soon will be inoculated and we once again will gather "normally." Look for that silver lining!
- Halla Lewis Reports: The procedure to remove the cervical cancer was done on the 9th, I'm home and so far, so good. I send much "thanks" for all the prayers that were lifted up for me. I've also received my new glasses and now can read without straining. A lot of my neighbors, here in Arcadia Village, have gone North and more are leaving daily....most will be glad to return before the snow starts to fly.

A banner for a church picnic. On the left, there are images of hot dogs in buns and a red and white checkered tablecloth. The background is a light blue wooden texture. Text on the banner includes the event name, date, location, and time. There is also a safety advisory, a list of activities, and a small shield-shaped logo with a cross and stars.

ST. EDMUND CHURCH PICNIC - SUNDAY MAY 30, 2021
Morgan Park Pavilion - Starting at 12:00 Noon

 "Observing appropriate precautions
in a shaded outdoor environment"

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers on the grill
Horse Shoes & Corn Hole Competitions



How to Access the Church Directory

Type in <http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com>. If this is your first time signing in, use your email address on file and choose a password.

Look up your information and verify everything is correct!

ECW NEWS

May 2021

May is the yearly election of officers for the ECW, if you would like to run for one of the offices, please let either Irene or myself know. We haven't had any in person meetings for the last year, but we have through email been able to meet our Outreach obligations. I sincerely hope that in September, when our new year begins, we will again be able to meet at Beef O'Bradys and enjoy the fellowship of the wonderful women of St. Edmunds.

Carolyn Robins
ECW President

Liturgical Ministries

May 2021

DATE	ACOLYTE	LECTOR	PRAYERS
May 2	Pat Moore	Irene Pooser	Bob Harrington
May 9	Joe Mancuso	Pearl Kiellman	Nancy Jo Vaughn
May 16	Bob Harrington	8:00 Wendy Carter 10:00 Pat Moore	Irene Pooser
May 23	Joe Mancuso	Bob Harrington	Pat Moore
May 30	Bob Harrington	8:00 TBA 10:00 Irene Pooser	Pat Novean

***If you are unable to serve on assigned date, please notify Joe Mancuso.**

Flowers and Candles

May 2021



COFFEE HOUR

Now that St. Edmunds will be back to regular church services, we are planning on re-establishing the coffee hour that is held after the 10:00 am service. However, at this point we do not think that having homemade goodies is a good choice due to COVID concerns. What we would like to see is donations of store-bought goodies and keep it simple. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the Parish hall. Thank you!

FLOWER AND CANDLE MINISTRY

This ministry will now be handled by 2 different people. Pat Novean will be in charge of Flowers and Irene Pooser in charge of candles.

Due to problems that have arisen with purchasing real flowers, we will temporarily be using artificial flowers. If you wish to dedicate the flowers to someone special, we can mention that in the Sunday bulletin. Donations would be appreciated. (check could be put in the Offertory plate and designated it for flowers) Also, if anyone would like to purchase real flowers and bring them to the church, the Altar Guild is at the church on Saturday AM setting up so they could be brought to the church at that time. We would need 2 bouquets. Please let me know if you are planning on doing this. (If you have any questions, you may email me at pnovean111913@gmail.com or call me at 863-884-9809.

In the Episcopal Church, candles are a beautiful and symbolic element of our worship. The Sanctuary Candle is a single lamp burning with a ruby light in front of the tabernacle. That burning candle is a sign of the presence of Blessed Reserve Sacrament within the Tabernacle ready for any one of us if needed.

Each candle costs the church \$5, burns for a week and is then replaced.

If you would like to express a memorial or thanksgiving by paying for one or more of these candles, please see Irene Pooser to indicate your preferred dates and dedications.

Whether you are donating in person, by mail or in the offering plate, by cash or check, please indicate "Sanctuary Candle" and how and when you would like it dedicated. I will do the best I can to honor your date request.

Your dedication will be listed in the weekly bulletin.

Thank you.

Irene Pooser

Stewardship Ministries

May 2021

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP CHAIRMAN, PAT NOVEAN

Reminder

If you have not yet sent in your pledge, please give this serious thought. It takes a lot financially to run our church and the money for this comes from the congregation only. Pray about this and consider sending in a commitment for 2021.

You may complete the form below and return it by mail : 327 W. Hickory St., Arcadia, Fl 34266, or you may drop it in the Offertory Plate when you come for the service. Thank you for your pledge.

Remember, tithing is an important principle in God's kingdom and it's also meant to be a sacrifice on our part. It is how we help fund ministries and how we provide for anyone who finds themselves in need.

We offer this pledge in gratitude for the faithfulness of this community and for the faithfulness of God.

My commitment is \$_____ per week ___ per month ___ per year ___

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Special Vestry Meeting with The Bishop Notes

For April 2021

Call to Order: Meeting at 11:35 on April 11, 2021, in the Parish Hall on welfare at St. Edmund's Church

Present: Bishop Dabney Smith and his wife Mary; Senior Warden Joe Mancuso and his wife Phylis; Junior Warden Roy Michaud; Mike Pooser, Pat Novean, Bob Harrington, Sandy Stantz and Steven Bianco; Pat Moore (Treasurer); Irene Pooser (Clerk)

Condition of the Congregation: Much improved since the beginning of the pandemic. Since St. Edmund's reopened, attendance has risen from the teens to the 20's and was 38 the last two Sundays.

Issues between the retired priest-in-charge arose, possibly due to his illnesses and/or personality conflicts between the priest and the members of the congregation.

Concern has arisen about the lack of volunteerism (which has always been a strong feature at St. Edmund's)-hoping it will return.

Treasurer's Report: Most people sent in their pledged money; however, the numbers of pledges has dropped drastically and there is a sense of loss and concern for the passing of our largest donor. The Bishop shared that most churches in our Diocese have maintained their giving status during the pandemic. In 20-21 we had a retired pensioned priest we paid \$36,000 for salary and housing.

We have few visitors at this time, and we do need new members to meet budget.

Options: Supply priest for a while understanding that we will eventually need a consistent presence at our altar. We will need a priest-in-charge at some time.

Sr. Warden Joe Mancuso is currently in charge of life at St. Edmund's-but remains a member of the Vestry (voting, making motions, etc.) He may call the Diocese anytime for assistance.

The Vestry needs to remain positive and encouraging to the congregation.

St. Edmund's can call Diocese for care or care visits as needed. The possibility of our retired deacon providing spiritual care and assistance was suggested if needed. The Bishop was supportive about the possibility saying many retired clergy work after retirement. Hopefully, a plan will be developed.

Adjournment: Bishop Smith closed with his desire for St. Edmund's to succeed and do well.

The Meeting ended at 12:15.

Financial Notes: We would like to publish monthly brief financials for the state of the church in the newsletter to give our church community the information.

Total Income	\$4,705.00
Monthly Prepaid Pledges	\$2,283.37
Total Expenses	\$11,500.15
Net Income(Loss)	(\$4,511.78)

Sr. Warden Notes

May 2021

It was great to see many of our parishioners back in the pews for the Easter service and again for the Bishops visit.

Speaking of which, the Bishop was very encouraging and the meeting with him went very well. I don't mind telling you there was some apprehension prior to his visit. Irene took notes which are published in this newsletter.

Keep an eye out for info on our picnic to be held Sunday May 30th at Morgan Park.

Please come out and support your church.

Don't forget to sign up for coffee hour, we need to get back just a little toward normal while still keeping in mind this pandemic is not over and we should still be very cautious.

Joe Mancuso

Sr. Warden

A Message from Bob Harrington

May 2021

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are a small congregation, and to help make our worship experience meaningful, we need more participation by members of the congregation. We need more **LECTORS** (readers), **ALTAR GUILD**, **CHOIR MEMBERS**, **GREETERS**, **KITCHEN HELP**, and **ACOLYTES**. There is a large sign-up sheet in the back of the church, or you can either call or e-mail me. Don't be bashful, we will train you until you feel comfortable. I know there is a lot of talent available within the church family. Please let us hear from you. Bob Harrington 863 558 3459, or bcharrington2@yahoo.com.

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR DEACON

MAY 2021

Following his visit to St. Edmund Church and meeting with the Bishop's Committee on April 11th, Bishop Dabney Smith had a phone conversation with me about being available to support and assist the congregation during the transition to a new priest-in-charge/vicar. The length of the transition period is not known as the Bishop's Committee leads the congregation in reviewing and planning for the next era in the life of St. Edmund Church.

The COVID pandemic has been difficult for us as individuals and for the church as a community. I think we can be hopeful that we are coming to a time that will be conducive for safe lessening of absence from group activity and events. I know I have missed those social interactions and church attendance. With increased vaccinations and continued adherence to guidelines we should be able to more safely gather together.

When I wrote the history of St. Edmund Church in 2018 for the 125th anniversary, I titled the book LOVE, FAITH, SERVICE, AND ENDURANCE. That was based upon a verse from the Book of Revelation: "I know your works—your love, faith, service, and patient endurance. I know that your last works are greater than the first." (Revelation 2:19) For the first 19 years (1893-1912) St. Edmund Church did not have an assigned priest. The period following the appointment of the first vicar in 1912 was a time of growth. Between 1935 and 1938, St. Edmund Church did not have a priest, went months without worship services, and the diocese considered closure. Following that time, St. Edmund Church again experienced a time of growth and stability. In the late 1990s and early 21st century, St. Edmund Church experienced financial hardship and leadership issues as well as the devastation of Hurricane Charley in 2004. The subsequent years again was a time of growth and stability for the church. Love, faith, service, and endurance are the hallmarks of St. Edmund the Martyr Church. There is work to be done in 2021; St. Edmund Church will endure and thrive in love, faith, and service.

As agreed upon with the bishop, I will be joining you at St. Edmund Church starting May 2nd. It is important to understand that in the absence of a priest-in-charge/vicar the Senior Warden is in charge at the local church. I will collaborate with the Senior Warden about how I can best be of service during this time of transition. St. Edmund Church is fortunate to have Joe Mancuso as an excellent and experienced Senior Warden. He and the Bishop's Committee members have a major task during this transition period in leading the congregation to address all aspects involved with having a stable healthy church community in preparation for a new priest. I'm confident you will join me in keeping the Senior Warden and the members of the Bishop's Committee in our prayers as well as supporting them in their work to benefit the mission and ministry of St. Edmund Church.

I look forward to once again seeing, or at least have contact, with all of you in the months ahead.

---DEACON ROBERT VAUGHN

Editor's Corner

As we near the wonderful holiday of Mother's Day, I wanted to share one of our family's favorite Mother's Day meals, lasagna.

Italian Lasagna

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. Hamburger
- ¼ lb. Italian Sausage
- 1 Medium Onion (chopped)
- 1 Clove Garlic (Pressed)
- 16 oz. Whole Tomatoes
- 16 oz. Tomato Sauce
- 4 tbsp Dried Parsley
- 1 tsp Salt
- 1 tsp Dried Basil
- 1 tbsp dried Oregano
- 2 tbsp Garlic Salt
- 8 oz Lasagna Noodles (cooked)
- 1 Ct. Ricotta Cheese
- ½ c Grated Parmesan
- 2 c Shredded Mozzarella

How to Prepare:

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2) Cook and Stir hamburger, sausage, onion, and garlic in a skillet until meat is thoroughly browned.

- 3) Drain and add Tomatoes, 2 tbsp parsley, basil, garlic salt and half of the remaining salt.
- 4) Heat to boiling, stirring occasionally then simmer until the consistency of Spaghetti sauce.
- 5) Reserve ½ cup of the sauce mixture
- 6) Mix Ricotta, parmesan, remaining spices, and salt.
- 7) Layer a thin coating of sauce on bottom of 13X9X2 pan
- 8) Place a layer of noodles, then 1/3 of the ricotta mixture and 1/3 sauce
- 9) Repeat 2 times.
- 10) Cover with Mozzarella Cheese
- 11) Bake uncovered 45 mins.
- 12) Let stand for 15 mins. Before serving.

---James R. Bianco





Birthdays

May 1st – Ray Stewart

May 5th – Karen Schuller

May 9th – Sandra Stantz

May 24th – Bob Blank

May 31st – Deborah Long

Anniversaries

May 11th – Bob and Shelly Baumann

Reminders & An After-Thought

One of my favorite verses of the Bible:

Romans 7:24-25

O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Please email all updates to jamesbiancoesq1981@gmail.com

Or call them into James Bianco (239)671-5101

Or Mail them to:

James Bianco

2693 NW Garvin Ave.

Arcadia, FL 34266

Want a Paper copy? Just send your address to one of the means above and I will be happy to mail you a copy!



Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden Joe Mancuso

Junior Warden Roy Michaud

Clerk Irene Pooser

Treasurer Pat Moore

Property Managers Roy Michaud & Bill Stephenson

Bob Harrington

Steven Bianco

Pat Novean

Michael Pooser

Sandy Stantz