

# THE EVANGEL

September 2019

WEBSITE: [www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com](http://www.EpiscopalArcadiaFL.com)

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## CONVOCATIONS & CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

In September, the deaneries of the diocese will meet in convocation. The annual convention of the diocese is on October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> in Punta Gorda.

The 2019 representatives from St. Edmund Church are the clergy, Father Jim McConnell and Deacon Robert Vaughn, and delegates Ruth Adams and Joe Mancuso. Charlene Michaud is the alternate delegate.

St. Edmund Church is part of the Manasota Deanery. The Venice and Manasota Deaneries will meet in convocation on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Church of the Redeemer in Sarasota.

Convocations provide clergy, delegates and alternates the opportunity to learn what will be the business of diocesan convention this year.

As convention only has a one-day business meeting, it is especially important that all members of convention attend this convocation so that they become familiar with the resolutions and nominees which will be the business of convention in October, as well as receive copies of the budget and resolutions.

The first day of the convention, Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> is filled with workshops and trainings. This year's topics include healing, music, cybersecurity, and many other presentations. The full list and schedule is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The day concludes with the diocesan-wide Eucharist with all congregations represented by clergy, delegates, and visitors. Everyone in the diocese is invited to attend convention on Friday.

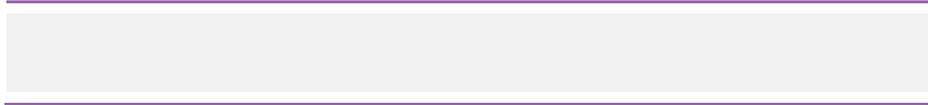
The business meeting of the convention is Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Remember: everyone is invited to participate in the sessions and liturgy of the convention on Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

## FINANCIAL REPORT (July 2019)

	CONTRIBUTIONS*	EXPENSES
July	\$8,362.00	\$7,511.42
YTD	\$56,537.86	\$59,523.19

NOTE: \*includes monthly contributions and prorated pre-paid annual pledges



## Upcoming Events

### September 4

7:00 pm  
Deanery Convocation

### September 5

10:00 am  
Daughters of the King

### September 18

5:30 pm ECW  
6:00 pm Men's Group  
7:30 pm Bishop's Committee

### September 23

6:00 pm  
Outreach Ministry Dinner

**327 West Hickory Street  
Arcadia, FL 34266  
(863) 494-0485**

The Rev. James McConnell  
Priest-In-Charge  
(863) 368-1465  
sailor2926@gmail.com

The Rev. Robert Vaughn, Deacon  
(863) 244-1369  
vaughn\_rj@yahoo.com

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

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## PRIEST – IN - CHARGE

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To say the least this has been an imposing and even frightening summer for this priest and maybe for our church family. What started out as an event (knee replacement) which has gotten to be a common place surgery, turned into a life and death event. God and faithful prayer intervened. The doctors were great and made all of the right calls. Thus being in church last Sunday will go down as one of the thrilling moments of my life. Thanks to Fr. Williamson and Fr. Mann who filled in for me, Deacon Robert and Fr. Williamson who brought me communion, Bob Harrington who came and anointed me and all that were prayer warriors.

The summer slowdown of church activity is almost at an end. Soon our northern branch of the family will be returning. Our first September events will be on September 18. The ECW will meet at 5:30, the Men's club at 6:00 and Bishop's Committee (Vestry) at 7:30. Evening Bible study will begin in mid-October on Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 followed by Evening Prayer. I will also call a meeting of all who want to be received into the Episcopal Church. When we have a list, I will endeavor to round up a bishop.

I am praying that this coming season will be a time of great growth at St. Edmunds. Not based on growth in numbers (that would be good too), but growth in faith, prayer and works. Through my ordeal I have seen faith and prayer at work. That same prayer and faith is a model of what our lives should be like daily.

May God continue to richly bless us as we grow in His grace,

Fr. Jim+



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## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

### June Average Attendance

8:00 - 8  
10:00 - 33  
7:00 - 20

### July Average Attendance

8:00 - 8  
10:00 - 34  
7:00 - 14

### August Average Attendance

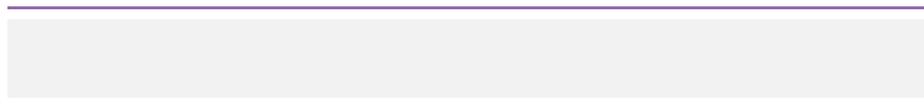
8:00 - 8  
10:00 - 32  
7:00 - 19

### Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden Joe Mancuso  
Junior Warden Charlene Michaud  
Patricia DiCioccio  
Bob Harrington  
Pat Novean  
Michael Pooser  
Vivian Stewart

Irene Pooser, Clerk  
Pat Moore, Treasurer

Roy Michaud & Bill Stephenson  
Property Managers



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## DEACON

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This time of year in our church life is full of anticipation as we head into another “program year” that occurs from Autumn into Spring following the Summer hiatus. The common components of the “programming” include ECW and the men’s group monthly gatherings, Bishop’s Committee meetings, regular educational opportunity, and various special activities around holidays and throughout the months ahead. A much appreciated part of the next few months, of course, is the return of our valued seasonal folks.

Of particular focus for me, as deacon, is the place of outreach ministry in our congregational life at St. Edmund Church. We have either lost or suspended what had been the congregational focus on outreach ministry with the closing of our food pantry ministry in 2017 and the decision to not have the 2019 “St. Edmund Has Heart” outreach ministry fund raising dinner. After all the 2018 involvements with our wonderful 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, everyone deserved a break! Many individuals have continued their own ministry efforts, scholarships given to high school seniors, and our benevolence and outreach funding still assists those in need.

I am convinced that outreach ministry is essential for a local church to have a healthy spirit with potential for growth not only in numbers but in holiness as well. Additionally, it is at the core of the message and ministry of Jesus. A church without an “outward” focus seems to be more of a religious club than the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Although outreach ministry efforts (the organizing of the local Habitat for Humanity is an example) existed before 2004, it is the response to Hurricane Charley that started the St. Edmund congregation on the path of ministering in our community over past recent years. Different types of endeavors have been successfully done: Christmas tree sales to generate funding, the food pantry, leadership in the formation of DeSoto Cares Homeless Services, youth focused assistance, scholarships, hurricane recovery relief, benevolence interventions with individuals and families in need, grants to community organizations, and “St. Edmund Has Heart” dinner for outreach funding.

Our good work in the name of Jesus continues even in the midst of change. This seems to be an excellent time to refocus and determine where we want to be as a congregation regarding outreach ministry.

**I invite you to participate in a discussion about outreach ministry with considerations of interests and possible focus for our outreach endeavors on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm during a dinner served in our parish hall. I hope you will attend and share your thoughts---or just listen!**

*Deacon Robert Vaughn*

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## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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- ❖ For the McConnells this past summer has been a time of terror, trial and reevaluation of capabilities. Terror is turning into joy as God strengthens them for service. They are looking forward to a great season at St.Edmund's. St. Edmund's is very blessed to be with Father Jim once again. His presence was truly missed; you could certainly tell that was true when the congregation joined him in singing "Amazing Grace" at his request. Our a cappella singing was truly heartfelt!
- ❖ We did appreciate the presence of our "Old Father Jim" (Williamson) as our supply priest in Father McConnell's absence.
- ❖ Ron and Carolyn Robins are still enjoying their time in California with their daughter Joy. They especially enjoy the cool temperatures and sea breezes. They visited San Francisco and have experienced wine/cheese pairings and Vodka/chocolate pairings which were delicious. They will be going to Las Vegas for a week later this month. They should be home in November when the hurricane season ends. I later received this from the Robins: "Please add my son Scott to the Prayer List. He has a mass on his kidney and will see the Urologist this week to test for cancer." We are praying!
- ❖ We are wishing Roy Michaud a complete recovery from his summer ear surgery! He is so wonderful and so important in the life of our church.
- ❖ James and Steven Bianco recently moved to Arcadia from Cape Coral. Steven is a native of Ohio and the EIT accessibility specialist at FSW State College in Fort Myers. His interests include computers, video games and gourmet coffee (especially Starbucks and Dunkin Donuts!). James is a native of North Carolina and Virginia and is an excellent author and homemaker. His interests include Alabama football, cooking and gardening. They have been married for eight years with an anniversary on July 26th. Steven was born on July 17th, and James on February 4th. They are joined by their two adorable cats, Maude, a gray and white rescue cat, and her brand new younger sister Velvet, a jet black shelter cat born just 6 months ago. James and Steven are delighted to be a part of such a welcoming and loving church and look forward to many future years. It is wonderful sharing St.Edmund's with them!
- ❖ Dave Hendricks wanted us to know that his wife Joyce's knee replacement in June was a success and she is doing excellent ahead of schedule on her therapy. Great news! She is walking without that nagging pain from before. They will see us all in late October.
- ❖ News from Shawn and Helen Bryan. During their spring, summer and fall months in Vermont they belong to Christ Episcopal Church in Montpelier, Vermont. (Montpelier has the distinction of being the smallest state capitol in the country, population around 7,000.) Christ Church celebrated its 150th anniversary last year but over the years needed maintenance on their historic sanctuary has been deferred. After several years of a capital campaign, this became the year to restore the bell tower, the most obviously neglected part of their sanctuary. As long-time members of Christ Church ((30+years),

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY

7<sup>th</sup>-Bob Stantz

8<sup>th</sup>-Barry Gromen

14<sup>th</sup>-Mary Ann Starrett

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY

4<sup>th</sup>-Carolyn & Fr Jim McConnell

9<sup>th</sup>-Sarah & Lonnie Kuhn

9<sup>th</sup>-Phylis & Joe Mancuso

17<sup>th</sup>-Linda & Barry Gromen

23<sup>rd</sup>-Connie & George DeWitt

25<sup>th</sup>-Donna & Bob Euerle

Helen and Shawn volunteered to help the restoration project along. Helen spearheaded the capital campaign and Shawn is the project manager for the restoration project which will cost almost \$500,000. Way to go, Shawn and Helen and thanks for sharing!

- ❖ Ruth Adams reports that John's health continues to improve thanks to prayers and new medications! Stephanie, however, has had a miserable summer. She had outpatient gallbladder surgery but was one of the 5% who had a complication following surgery. She was hospitalized and had a repair procedure. All of this upset her diabetes control. She ended up in ICU but has recovered quickly. Praise the Lord! It was wonderful that her Dad was here for the surgery and ICU days. He was able to take her bowling 2 days after she was released from the hospital.
- ❖ Pat Novean had a very nice summer and it is not over yet! In June she flew out to Silverton, CO for five days to attend her nephew's wedding which was held on top of a mountain, 14000 feet above sea level. The only way to get there was by ATV; it was quite an adventure with 12 vehicles making the trip. It was beautiful, but the altitude was not for her! Shortly after returning, her daughter Joey and granddaughter Katie flew in from Virginia; her son John from Seattle was working in Orlando and was able to join in the visit before going to Orlando. Bob and Pat took Joey and Katie to Broadway Palms to see Beauty and the Beast. From there Joey flew home and Katie stayed on a few days. We were so glad that she was able to join us at St. Edmund's and helped Pat with greeting at the door! At the end of July, Bob and Pat flew to Indiana. They stayed one night in Ludington, MI and Bob was able to share a tour of the area where he grew up. They then went to Grayling, Michigan where Bob's daughter Denise and Brian have built a beautiful home. Of course, Pat got the tour of Grayling since Bob and Carmel lived there for a while. Then they headed to Indiana where his other daughter Karen and family live. It was a wonderful trip! Next they head to Daytona Beach for a week where Denise and Brian have a time share condo that they will not be able to use this year so they offered it to Bob and Pat who are looking forward to more relaxing time.
- ❖ Sandy and Sam Easterwood are enjoying a hot and humid summer. She believes that North Carolina has had some higher temperatures than Florida this year! They just returned from a 4 week motor home trip out to Forest City, Iowa to attend the Grand National Rally at the Winnebago factory. They volunteered before and during the rally which was a lot of fun. They saw many of their Winnebago friends and got caught up with their travels. On the way back home they stopped in Lafayette, Indiana to see Joe's sister, then stopped in Springfield where Sandy grew up and finally spent three days in the Lexington, Kentucky area. What a beautiful part of our country. They toured some horse farms and, of course, they couldn't bypass a few distilleries! Now that they are back home Sandy is getting ready for her back surgery on August 19th. Prayers will be welcomed! Hope all is well at St. Edmund's!
- ❖ Nancy Jo and Robert Vaughn traveled to Indiana in June for Robert to attend a reunion gathering of the four surviving "young men" who made their first profession of vows as Holy Cross Brothers fifty years ago in June 1969 at Notre Dame. They also did a side trip to Nashville, IN where they spent the day with Barry and Linda Gromen. Both Nancy Jo and Robert say that it was one of their more enjoyable recent trips. Having settled in for the summer, they are now participating in the training sessions to become Guardian Ad Litem volunteers in the circuit court for child dependency cases.
- ❖ Speaking of Barry and Linda Gromen: They enjoyed the company of their three children and their spouses along with their grandchild the past few weeks. They began with a stay at Red River Gorge and Natural Bridge, both in Kentucky. Linda is happy to report that no one fell off the bridge or into the gorge. A lot of shopping and eating took up the next week or so and they ended by celebrating her birthday visiting Maker's Space at their library, riding the Connector to Findley Market and to the

Banks, where they rode the ferris wheel and enjoyed a Celtic Festival. Father Jim would have been right at home with all the kilts. Of course, the last night they celebrated with pulled pork and cake. Sadly, everyone left August 18th but Linda and Barry are looking forward to friends from Michigan visiting next week. They hope everyone is having a safe and happy summer!

- ❖ Larry and Patty DiCioccio would like to publicly thank Bob and Sandy Stantz for bringing them into their new home at St. Edmund's. What they have given Larry and Patty in love and faith can never be repaid. May God continue to bless Bob and Sandy and bless their friendship!
- ❖ Nancy and Bart Plymale and Matt, Jess and Josephine Plymale are planning an extended, exciting weekend at their Fort Pierce condo. Know they will have a wonderful time. The Plymales will also be celebrating the third birthday of their granddaughter in September. Time flies!
- ❖ Two of Joe and Phylis Mancuso's grandsons have started on their end of summer yearly adventure driving their cross country trip of two weeks to continue to see the great USA. This is their third year of travel and they have seen so many interesting and historical sights. They have a great collection of beautiful pictures which they share along the way with their Joe and Phylis. They will have wonderful memories to last a lifetime. Joe and Phylis hope their daughter Christa will enjoy the quiet with the boys away!
- ❖ Connie and George DeWitt flew to New York, met their son and daughter-in-law there to visit her sister and brother. Then they drove to Vermont to see their son's new house. He moved from upstate New York to Vermont this past spring. Here is a bit of humor: they went to tour the famous Bennington Monument. Connie wants us to know this is the first time she could not get in as a senior. She was too young! You have to be 90 years old!! She laughed then and the rest of the day. She guesses they figure if you can still walk and talk at 90, you deserve to be called a senior.
- ❖ Mike and Irene Pooser enjoyed a July visit from daughter Mary Frances, son-in-law Michael and granddaughter Elizabeth. They are beginning construction on a new house this month and the Poosers plan several trips up Gainesville way as things progress. In addition, Mike and Irene were blessed to celebrate their 46th wedding anniversary in New Orleans! Best time ever!

See you in church!

Irene

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## SENIOR WARDEN

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It was great to see Fr. Jim McConnell back at St. Edmund.

He went through so much those many weeks with Carolyn right by his side holding things together even though she was not feeling her best. Our many prayers were answered.

Thanks to Fr. Jim Williamson and Fr. Fred Mann for being there for us covering those Sunday Masses.

I must also thank Deacon Robert for his outstanding assistance during this time.

Here is a sure sign summer is coming to an end: Vestry meetings will again resume on Wednesday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>!

Joe Mancuso, Senior Warden

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## MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Please contact Carolyn McConnell with any changes or updates to your address and contact information

### Have you looked at our Online Church Directory?

### Follow the directions below to log on the directory

To log in to the directory:

1. Go to **members.InstantChurchDirectory.com**
2. Click on the link: First time signing in? Create a login now.
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a password. The password must be 8 characters long, and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype the password to confirm it and click "Request Login."
6. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchurchdirectory.com.
7. To complete the sign-up process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email
8. Once you confirm your email, you may sign at members.InstantChurchDirectory.com.

You can read the directory online. Simply click on the name to see the details: photo, address, phone number, email, birthdays, anniversaries.

Your email with the password you created will work on all the Instant Church Directory apps on any device. All you have to do is go to "Apps" on your device and search for "Instant Church Directory." If you have not made an account yet, follow steps 2 through 7 above. If you have already used the program just sign in with the same username and password.

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## DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

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The Daughters of the King (DOK) is a lay order of the Episcopal Church dedicated to prayer and service. The St. Edmund chapter was formed in 2006. The weekly prayer list is maintained by this group and used as focus for their prayer. The St. Edmund chapter meeting is the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. See chapter president Ruth Adams about becoming a member of DOK. This month's meeting is on Thursday, September 5th, at 10:00 am.

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## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

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All women of St. Edmund Church are members of Episcopal Church Women (ECW). The purpose of ECW is to empower the women of the Episcopal Church to carry out Christ's work throughout the world. As the eyes, ears, hands, and heart of Christ in the world, the women persist in work and prayer. ECW is organized nationally, in the diocese, and within the local congregation.

St. Edmund ECW is an important part of congregational life as well as involvements in various projects in our community. If you have not been attending our meetings, please come share in the fellowship and learn more about our local ECW chapter. Our "new year" begins on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm, at Beef O'Brady's; we will be planning our 2019-2020 activities and calendar. Our monthly meetings combine a devotion and business with food and friendship.

Hope to see everyone there!

Charlene Michaud, ECW President

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## OUTREACH & BENEVOLENCE MINISTRIES

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In July, St. Edmund outreach ministries provided \$1000 (in \$50 Wal Mart gift cards) to the Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) program to use for back-to-school expenses for DeSoto County children placed in shelter and foster homes. There are currently about 750 children in placements. This is the second year St. Edmund Church has been able to offer this assistance. Deacon Robert Vaughn is pictured with the GAL representative.

Please join us for the outreach ministry discussion on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> in the fellowship hall. Dinner will be provided at 6:00 pm.



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

DATE	ALTAR GUILD	LEM	ACOLYTE	8:00 LECTOR	10:00 LECTOR	PRAYERS	GREETERS
Sept. 01	Irene Pooser	Pat Novean	Joe Mancuso	Haila Lewis	Pat Moore	Carolyn McConnell	Irene & Michael Pooser
Sept. 08	Sandy Stantz Patty DiCiocci	Joe Mancuso	Pat Moore		James Bianco	Irene Pooser	Pat Novean Bob Harrington
Sept. 15	Carolyn McConnell	Pat Moore	Irene Pooser	Bob Euerle	Bob Harrington	Nancy Jo Vaughn	Phylis & Joe Mancuso
Sept. 22	Pat Moore	Irene Pooser	Joe Mancuso		Pearl Kiellman	Bob Harrington	Brenda Brazil Mary Williamson
Sept. 29	Sandy Stantz Patty DiCiocci	Joe Mancuso	Bob Harrington		Kent DeBruler	Pat Moore	Steve & James Bianco

### ST. EDMUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**ARCADIA FL**

This symbol, which is seen at every Episcopal Church, is the official "logo" of the Episcopal Church, and represents our history.

The red Cross of St. George on a white field is symbolic of the Church of England. The blue field in the upper left corner is the Episcopal Church. It features a Cross of St. Andrew, in recognition of the fact that the first American bishop was consecrated in Scotland. This cross is made up of nine crosslets or mini crosses, which represent the nine dioceses that met in Philadelphia in 1789 to form the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U.S.A. The 1967 General Convention voted to add a preamble to the Constitution, which states, "The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, otherwise known as The Episcopal Church (which name is hereby recognized as also designating the Church)...." The title page of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) states that the BCP is "According to the use of The Episcopal Church."

ST. EDMUND THE MARTYR EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2019

DOK=Daughters of the King NA=Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm Spanish language Eucharist

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Eucharist	2 Labor Day	3 7:00 pm NA	4 7:00 pm Deanery Convocation	5 10:00 am DOK 5:30 pm DeSoto Care 7:00 pm NA	6	7 6:00 pm NA
8 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Eucharist	9	10 7:00 pm NA	11	12 7:00 pm NA	13	14 6:00 pm NA
15 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Eucharist	16	17 7:00 pm NA	18 5:30 pm ECW 6:00 pm Men's Group 7:30 pm Bishop's Committee	19 7:00 pm NA	20	21 6:00 pm NA
22 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Eucharist	23 6:00 pm Outreach Ministry Dinner & Discussion	24 7:00 pm NA	25	26 7:00 pm NA	27 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	28 6:00 pm NA
29 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Eucharist	30					