



May 6, 2020

St. Mary's **MESSENGER**

Hello St. Mary's Family,

Bishop Doyle has continued the suspension of "at Church worship" for the time being. Check your email for your copy of the readings for this Sunday, and tune in on our website, www.ourstmarys.org Sundays at 10:00 AM for live worship services. (Click on "Worship" tab then "Live Media"). We will continue to keep you updated!

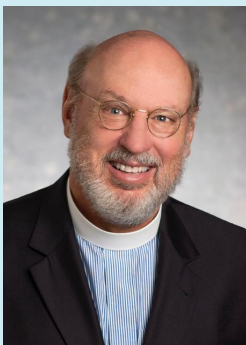
**In His Peace,
Rev. Bill**



*Readings for 5th Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020*

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

From Your Priest:



"Plenty of Room in the Inn"
John 14:1-14

Christmas seems a long time ago. We had a big crowd on Christmas Eve, packed in to hear Luke's story about Mary giving birth to the Christ child in the stable because there was no room in the inn. Now, in the Easter season, we hear from John's gospel the memorable line, "In my Father's house there are many

dwelling places." This is a stark contrast.

We might take from this that God is accommodating us more graciously than we often do when it is our turn to welcome God. As we face a rather uncertain future, we may still be confident that Jesus has prepared a dwelling place for each of us. In the meantime, we are given opportunities to host God in our hearts, especially in times of great stress. Is there a room prepared by us for Christ in his daily visitations?

THINK ON THIS:

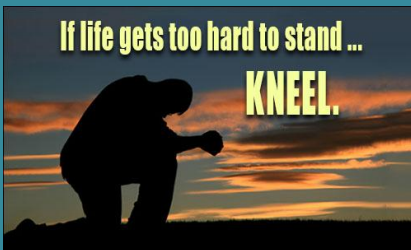


"When we celebrate the blessings of others--genuinely, with our whole hearts--we do something God always calls us to do: We take our eyes off ourselves and serve others. Not only does rejoicing with them allow us to participate in their blessing, it forces us to evaluate what we are thankful for." - Karen Kingsbury , *The Family of Jesus*, 2014.

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." **Romans 12:15**

"The world says, *love yourself, grab all you can, follow your heart*. Jesus says, *deny yourself, pick up your cross and follow Me*." -Francis Chan, *Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God*, 2013.

"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him." **John 12:26**



Bow the Knee

"Trust the heart of your Father when the answer goes beyond what you can see...in the presence of your King, bow the knee." -Chris Machen



From Dr. Hay:

May 6, 2020

Dear fellow members of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church,

I hope this letter finds you all well. These are very different times. Some of you know that I am the Local Health Authority for Lampasas County, and I am doing my best to serve our community. Part of that includes me acting as others should and trying to educate everyone on how to protect our friends and neighbors. We have a congregation that is high risk and vulnerable, and many people in our



Prayer List:

Larry & Becky Hart, Ricky Gilmore, Anne Brown, Jim & Pat Anderson, Alec Richardson, Katherine Mezger, Lynn, Dusty, Buck,

congregation may be beloved caregivers for those in the vulnerable age group. I am personally asking each of you to do your best at practicing social distancing. (which I wish we could rename physical distancing, but that is another story) I do believe the time will come when in church services will be offered again, but I don't think our community is out of the woods yet. Staying further apart (6 feet) from anyone who does not live in your household and avoiding physical contact really does limit the spread of this disease. I have met many who tested positive and didn't even know it, and therefore could spread it without knowing. I am encouraging everyone to wear cloth masks in public because that also helps reduce spread. I am happy to talk to anyone individually with specific questions and would also encourage you to contact your doctor if there are more acute concerns. I am so thankful that St. Mary's is providing the online services for us to enjoy on Sunday mornings. Father Bill gets put on the big screen at our home. The boys are getting too used to church in our pajamas and allowing the cat to join us. I miss you all.

Sincerely,

Georgia C. Hay, MD

**Alex, Randy, Debbie, Jack,
John, Buddy, & Rebecca.**

**May we remember that the
presence of Christ is with us.**

"Oftentimes God's greatest display of power in our lives is in our places of loneliness, battles with infirmities, and painful losses."

- **Kelly Minter**, *All Things New - A Study of 2 Corinthians*.

**My grace is sufficient for
you, for My power is made
perfect in weakness. 2**

Corinthians 12:9

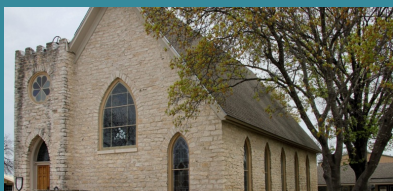
QUICK LINKS

[Our Website](#)

[Diocese of Texas](#)

[The Lectionary](#)

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