

# St. Mary's Messenger

*The theme of this month's newsletter is "Coming Home" - to safety in Christ's arms, to our parish family, to grace and peace, hope, and love.*

September, 2012

Volume 2 - Number 9

## ECW Meeting

All women (and confident men - lol!) are invited to ECW on Sunday, September 2 at 9am. Sweeties will be served. We have LOTS of ground to cover - planning for fall fundraiser, revisiting our plan for community support. If you like to laugh - then **COME TO ECW!!**

## Treasure Hunt

(aka "Trash Pickup")

Get a jump on your Christmas shopping (just kidding!).

**Saturday, Sept 8 at 9am - meet at Guyco.** Enough muffins, water, and hand sanitizer to go around. Questions? Contact Victor Reed.

## W.O.W. Wednesdays

All kids invited to Wednesday night "fun" at St. Mary's! Starting Sept 12 all kids (grades 6-12) can get together at 5:30 for dinner. At 6pm they will have a short service, and following that, a religious activity from 6:30-7:30. See page 3 for more...

## Adult Formation 9-9 at 9 (pretty cool, huh?)

**Hirst House - 9am on September 9th** - lots of activities ranging from history to theology to fun activities (interpretive dancing?...just kidding!). Rev. Susie will educate, enlighten, challenge, and entertain. All invited! (p. 4)

## "His Kids" - fourth Monday of each Month

Come and eat dinner with the kids...come and serve dinner to the kids...come and talk to - or listen to the presentation...or make and bring food. Regardless of HOW you get involved - this is the place to BE! (Grace Fellowship Church at 5:30pm) See p. 5 for more

## Compline and Potluck Supper

**September 5 at 6:00.** Come and enjoy a short service at 6pm, followed by potluck fellowship in the Parish Hall. Even if you don't have time to cook - come anyway! We will have music, laughter, and GREAT food!

## In Susie's Words...

It is with a sense of renewal that we are looking toward the coming year at St. Mary's. There are times when a new place can have an uncanny sense of home to it, and as I get to know each of you, walk around the buildings at St. Mary's and learn my way around town, I have felt the joy of homecoming.

Repeatedly, as I have met and talked with you, I have kept running into a remarkable sense of hope about St. Mary's and a deep love for the church and its community. I have also been moved to discover people with a wealth of talent and deep faith, and I am excited at the prospect of being your priest in the coming years.

In the midst of my happy introduction to St. Mary's, we as a community have been

saddened by the loss of a beloved friend and church member, Barbara Potts.

St. Mary's provided Barbara and her family with a wonderful memorial service, and I thank each of you for helping out in a variety of ways. The sanctuary was full, and the reception in the parish hall was wonderful, crowded with family and friends who lingered, just as Barbara would have liked. It was a return to this church for many people, and a final home coming for Barbara.

Here is a lovely hymn that I feel captures that experience:

*Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
Calling for you and for me;  
See, on the portals He's waiting and watching,  
Watching for you and for me.*

*Come home, come home,  
You who are weary, come home;  
Earnestly, tenderly,  
Jesus is calling,  
Calling, O sinner, come home!*

(Written by Will Thompson and published in 1880)

It is my wish for all of us as we enter September together and return to busier schedules, that we continue to return to the well of living water that is offered through our community of faith. In addition to our worship schedule, (which now includes Tuesday morning Eucharist), we will be moving the Sunday evening service to Wednesday nights, at the 6 o'clock hour, as the schedule allows. I will kick off our Sunday morning adult formation hour in September at 9:00 with a focus on Baptism, and will treat you to a hymn on Baptism that I wrote, and we will learn to sing it together!

*Rev. Susie*



## Cheryl Ann Wendele gives us a Cursillo Update ~ at Camp Allen and St. Mary's

**Nov. 1-4 Cursillo at Camp Allen.** Cheryl Ann Wendele is going to be the Music Director for this Cursillo. Please consider being a participant, coming to the Ultreya's, weekly fourth day meetings and pray for those who are attending the transforming weekend.



Last year in November Tulisha Carson and Cheryl Ann Wendele attended the Campsite Camp Allen Cursillo and had the best cursillo ever! Richard Hammett attended the May Cursillo with Linda Joseph as his sponsor. Please talk to Richard, Tulisha, Cheryl Ann, Linda and many others who have attended. It was a rocking blast of praise, worship and renewal and super

strengthening of our faith.

(an ad as well as a 2-page registration form is at the end of this newsletter)

**Tulisha Carson adds some  
EXCITING NEWS!**

**You are cordially invited to attend  
~ ULTREYA ~**

**On Sunday, September 9th at 4 pm  
In our Parish Hall at St. Mary's**

Ultreya is a Cursillo Reunion (Ultreya is a Spanish word meaning Onward!) To my knowledge this is the first Ultreya to be held in Lampasas! You do not have to have attended a Cursillo weekend to attend an Ultreya, anyone is welcome at Ultreya. This particular Ultreya is Bi-Convocational and will include the Central Convocation (Killeen, Temple, Cameron, etc.), as well as our own Austin Convocation, so there will

be a lot of great folks here, great fellowship, food & music!! I know that we will be wonderful hosts to members of the Austin and Central Convocations and show them what we are all about. Since St. Mary's doesn't often host others from our diocese, I think it would be wonderful if we had a large group of parishioners from St. Mary's come and make them all feel welcome and feel our excitement to be hosting this event! Attending an Ultreya is a wonderful way for you to get to see the Cursillo Community up close – to see that they are your friends in Christ and they are no different than you are! Please plan to join us! (The event is potluck, but there is always more food than needed and you do not have to bring food to attend. Of course, you are welcome to bring food; we know how many good cooks St. Mary's has!!)

I also want to encourage you that if you have questions about Cursillo or are interested in being sponsored to attend a Cursillo weekend, please feel free to ask one of our parishioners that have attended. I am sure you all know one or more of us. They include (and I apologize if I miss anyone) Bill and Maureen Adams, Jim Anderson, Jack Newsom, Linda Joseph, Cheryl Ann Wendele, Richard Hammett, Tulisha Carson, Randy, Bunny and John Johnson. We would love to share our thoughts about Cursillo! The next 3-day weekend is at Campsite 3 at Camp Allen November 1-4th ... and our very own Randy Johnson and Cheryl Ann Wendele will be part of the team, it will be awesome!

In the Cursillo Community we also use the word "Ultreya" as a word of greeting and encouragement....

ULTREYA to each of you!

~Tulisha Carson



# Rev. Susie's Stewardship thoughts for September

We take care of each other, take care of the church, and take care of God's gifts to us, year round. Being a steward is not a seasonal thing, and Stewardship is something we do all year. Here are some thoughts for September:

## Season - Ordinary Time

Jesus calls us to love one another as He loves us, which includes having merciful and forgiving hearts. This is hard work, but it is the work we are called to do as Christians. We are also called to welcome all in the kingdom of God regardless of when one's heart is transformed by the Holy Spirit. Fall is a time in the life of the church when we reconnect with those who have been gone over the summer as well as a time of welcoming newcomers to the community. The ministry of hospitality is an integral part of our mission as a church regardless of when someone shows up in our midst!

**GOD  
IS  
LOVE**

*Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matt. 20:16*

## The Rhythm of Fall

In late August and early September, we anticipate returning to the rhythm of our normal routine. For some, this time finds us preparing for a new school year and returning to extracurricular activities such as soccer, football, or piano



lessons. In our church communities, Sunday School is gearing up and plans for Rally Days and Ministry Fairs are right around the corner. There is a rhythm, perhaps rapid for some, and familiarity to this season; everyone seems to be back to "where they belong." As Nat King Cole used to sing, "Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer" are drawing to a close, and our faces are turned towards fall.

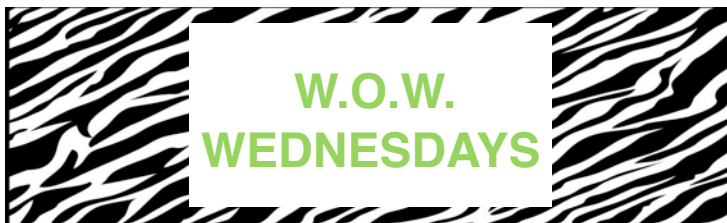
The St. Mary's Youth Group will begin meeting again on Wednesday, September 12th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Hirst House. We have decided that these will be **W.O.W. WEDNESDAYS!** (Wild Over the Word) and are super excited about the upcoming year. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm, we will attend the Wednesday evening worship service at 6:00 pm, followed by our program

Youth in grades 6-12 are

from 6:30-7:30 pm.  
welcome!

**FIX A DINNER?** Adults ... youth group at 5:30 pm looking for volunteers that meal. We have 4-8 kids in adults. Cooking for 12 people

If you are interested contact Tulisha Carson 512-734-1447 or email [youth@ourstmarys.org](mailto:youth@ourstmarys.org)



We have dinner for the each Wednesday and we are might like to cook a simple attendance plus a few is sufficient, as of right now.

(Tulisha Carson)





## Camp Allen Mom's Camp

Cheryl Ann Wendele and Kathy Smart attended Camp Allen's MOM Camp this summer and had a blast, learned lots of fun things, beading, gardening with herbs, movie night with awesome candy, wine and cheese with dessert bar, horseback riding, zumba water aerobics and lots more...food food food...fellowship weekend is a new annual event for them. Please consider in 2013 to attend. 150 slots so sign up early....

### Adult Formation starts Sunday, September 9th, at 9:00.

We will talk about Baptism together. There will be history, scripture, theology, a little singing, and maybe some play-acting as well! No preparation needed, just come and enjoy! Our baptism hymn is set to "Come thou fount of every blessing"

*"Grace has kindled our desires!  
Trusting, we shall be restored!  
We renounce all evil powers,  
Turning to obey our Lord.*

*We believe in God the Father,  
We believe in Christ the Son,  
Death and blessing in the Water,  
Holy Spirit, Three in One."*

## Safeguarding Trainings and Recertification!

Friends, If you were part of that first group which received Safeguarding God's Children at St. Mary's, it is time to be recertified.

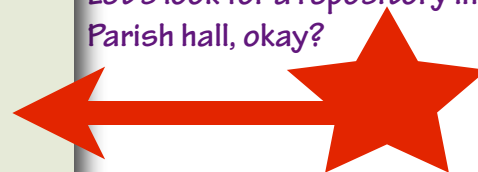
Linda Joseph will be offering two training sessions to pick from:

- Sept. 15th, from 10-1
- October 14th as well.



### Here's an idea!

Kathleen Woodby has emailed to suggest that St. Mary's creates a loan/trading library of books and CD's for the parish. Each of us could supply books or DVD (or VHS tapes) that we are willing to share. We could "bring one - get one" .... or just get one! Kathleen writes: "For example, I'd love to watch the British comedies (like the female priest and the one I think is called "The Chatterlies" (where the women of the church knit covers for EVERYTHING). I just recently gave away a bunch of books, so I don't have much to offer. I do have one of the "Two Fat Women" (cooking/travel) series." I am all over this one, Kathleen (and I want to see the Chatterlies now!). Let's look for a repository in the Parish hall, okay?



### Move Over Stacy Lewis...Here Comes Abbie Carson!

Abbie Carson qualified to participate in the Tour Championship of the West Texas Junior Champions Tour on August 2-3 at the San Angelo Country Club where she was the runner-up in the 12-14 year old girls age division. If you have wondered why you haven't seen Abbie much lately – it is because she played tournaments all summer in the tour at golf courses in Abilene, San Angelo, Lampasas, San Saba, Kerrville, Eden, Robert Lee, Llano, Goldthwaite and Brady. At the year-end awards banquet held during the Tour Championship Abbie also earned the award for most wins for the season in her age division. Abbie is a freshman at Lampasas High School and will be a member of the Lady Badger Golf team. She has worked hard all summer and is hoping to make the Varsity Team.

# His Kids....*latest news and update*

*by Libby Bluntzer*

HIS KIDS is just a wonderful organization. I'd loved to say it's just for the kids but it is a ministry for the adults who are so blessed to serve these children and their sponsors once a month. In August we planned on serving the children chicken tenders and mashed potatoes, doesn't that just make your mouth water ?

We started asking for donations and as always they starting coming in, first with \$ 92, then \$55 another Sunday, and the third Sunday a blessed gift of \$200 was given for

our continued support of Richard Williams and HIS KIDS.

I am continually amazed that our little St. Mary's is so powerfully driven to service. We are wholeheartedly committed to cooking and serving and visiting and hugging and being with these children, and the bigger *Ah Ha* is that you can feel God is there with us. A thank you to all of you who have helped by volunteering your time and talents, cooking, donating money and asking about these children.

We 'are' part of their lives. We will continue our service for as long as there is a need.

## Server Update

Now, we tried to spread the servers (Team 1,2,3) around a bit but it was just confusing to everyone. Linda and I talked with Mary Halvorson and we thought it best to go back to our previous method of signing up for servers when you could fit it into your own schedule.

Linda or Libby will be at Grace Fellowship the 4th Monday of each

month as a primary server and will always sign up to bring a food item or two. Linda or Libby will see that the plastic tub of paper plates, napkins and cups will be at the church for the servers.

Volunteer for the food just as you've done before, bring it to the church on Sunday or Monday before 4:30 so we can get it to Grace in time for the meal. We will try to serve the meal between 5 and 6.

If you have any questions call Linda on Fridays at the

church or call Libby at 752-3841. The menus will be posted on the bulletin board.

REMEMBER no more server groups...just sign up if you want to help serve or help to prepare a food item.

As always thanks so much for helping with this project, it is greatly appreciated.

*Libby Bluntzer and  
Linda Joseph*

## Our Christmas Giving Project Is Just Around the Corner.....Are You Thinking About It Yet ?

*Be looking for more information*

## Some Weird Facts...that are fun to know! (submitted by Ann Gilmore)

If you are right handed, you will tend to chew your food on the right side of your mouth.

If you are left handed, you will tend to chew your food on the left side of your mouth.

To make half a kilo of honey, bees must collect nectar from over 2 million individual flowers

Heroin is the brand name of morphine once marketed by 'Bayer'.

Tourists visiting Iceland should know that tipping at a restaurant is considered an insult!

People in nudist colonies play volleyball more than any other sport ..

Albert Einstein was offered the presidency of Israel in 1952, but he declined.

## Practicing Our Slogan

by [Scott Gunn](#) on September 30, 2011

excerpt from: (<http://www.ecfvp.org/posts/practicing-our-slogan/>)

*"The Episcopal Church welcomes you!"* That's our deal, right? We're welcoming. Or not so much. I have been visiting lots of Episcopal congregations. It's been illuminating, both in good and in troubling ways.

I'm not breaking new ground when I say that most congregations simply aren't welcoming. Sure, the current members feel welcome, but that's because they're already in the club. If you show up as a new face, there's often a distinct lack of warmth. When I visit congregations, I'm usually not wearing a clerical collar, so I get the same welcome that they'd give any guest. It's usually not much of a welcome at all.

Here are five things I encourage:

**1. Stop saying "visitors" and start saying "guests."** It's a constant reminder that our vocation is to welcome people with gracious hospitality, not merely to tolerate people to "visit" "our" church. Words matter.

**2. Preach about hospitality regularly.** When guests arrive, statistics show that the vast majority of them are experiencing a major life transition (e.g. new job, new home, death, birth, marriage, divorce). How we treat people, who are often vulnerable, will have a tremendous impact — good or bad — on those who come to us. What we do reflects not just on our congregation, but upon the whole church. This is a massive responsibility which we must never take lightly.

Preaching about the theology and the practice of hospitality raises the bar, because we realize that our vague promises about "seeking and serving

Christ in all persons" can begin at coffee hour. We can practice being agents of healing in a broken world simply by offering gracious welcome to a stressed-out family. Our goal is not to convince someone to be a member of "our" congregation, but rather to offer the peace of Christ in word and deed.

**3. Teach Benedict's rule: "Let all guests who come be received as Christ."** One congregation I know proudly invites guests to sit in its best pew. "George Washington sat here, and we would like you to have our best seat." Sounds a bit like the Gospel: offering our best to those who come our way. What if we made it our top priority on Sundays to ensure — above nearly everything else — that our first-time guests had a good experience?

In the last parish I served, we put a sign on the outside of the church with Benedict's words. It was a regular reminder to our members and our guests of our high standards. Think about it: let all guests be received as Christ.

**4. Invite "mystery worshipers" to attend, and listen to their feedback.** I like to invite friends, who do not attend the congregation (or perhaps any congregation), to come on a Sunday. Then after they get home, I pepper them with questions. "Did the greeters welcome you at the door?" "What did you think of the service, and were you able to follow along with our service leaflet?" "Did anyone invite you to coffee hour?" And here's the big one, the acid test: "Did anyone talk with you at coffee hour?" Then I pass this feedback along to relevant folks.

If we get a good report, we celebrate our success at hospitality. If the report is

problematic, we talk about how to improve. Rinse and repeat. After a while, every guest has a consistent experience, and the congregation begins to understand that welcoming is the vocation of everyone, not just of a few. It becomes a joy, and we start to live up to our Episcopal slogan.

**5. Get key leaders to be guests in another congregation.** One of the first things I recommend, especially if people believe their congregation is "very friendly" is encourage folks to attend a church to which they've never been. No cheating. In one congregation, this was homework for a task group aimed at improving our welcome.

When people got back, they said things like this:

- I wasn't sure where to park.
- After a parked, I didn't know which door to go in.
- I couldn't find the bathroom.
- Their liturgy wasn't the same as what was in the bulletin.
- I went to coffee hour, and not a single person spoke with me.

Then I asked, "Do you think there are similarities with how a guest might experience us?" Glimmer of recognition. Suddenly the task force wanted to work on signage. They worked to establish a coffee hour host whose only task was to ensure that any guests were seated at a table and welcomed at coffee hour. And so it went. Seeing another congregation through guests' eyes helped them to see our congregation through guests' eyes.

Our vocation as Christians, called to share the love of God and to serve Christ in all persons, demands it.



# An Excerpt from “History of the Hirst House”

Jane McMillan



*The Rev. and Mrs. Penrose Hirst, with daughter Wendy, in the living room of the rectory at St. Mary's, which would be named "The Hirst House" in their honor some 60 years later.*

Often when entering the Hirst House, memories surface of the years when the former rectory was the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Penrose Hirst and their daughter, Wendy. They moved to Lampasas in 1952, only months after St. Mary's had attained status as a parish in the Diocese of Texas. Penrose ("Pen") succeeded the Rev. Haskin Little as the second rector of the new parish. Despite devastating drought in the mid-1950s that ended with the disastrous flood of 1957, St. Mary's flourished under the Hirsts. Pen and his wife, Derby, proved a popular and unbeatable team to the many families that joined the church during the post-World War II era.

Among those who came into the parish during the Hirst years were a few whose names are likely still familiar today: Jane

and Sid Wieser, parents of Jean Roesler; Dixie Sewall and husband, Frank; and Priscilla and Robert L. "Bob" Guyler, parents of Judy Lansford. Also, "Babe" and W.M. Brook; and LaVerne and Rush McMillin, parents of Sue Faulkner and Jane McMillin. "I do not know exactly how many young people belonged to St. Mary's during the Hirst years, but I can remember at least 40 of them from 1958, when my family joined the church, to 1960, when the Hirsts left," recalled Sue Faulker. Youth during that time included Gavin and Bonilee Garrett's brood of five, two Oliver boys, two Wieser girls, two or three Hetherlys, two Sewalls, Linda Pool (Joseph), three McMillin girls -- and, of course, Wendy Hirst.

By 1959, membership, as reflected in the number of baptized persons recorded in the church register, reached 167, a number that would not be topped for almost 20 years. Attendance at Easter services peaked in 1958, with 169 in attendance. This record was not broken until 267 attended Easter services at St. Mary's in 1985, when the Rev. Dr. Richard E. Johnson was rector. The Hirsts' rich and enduring legacy, however, transcends mere numbers. Often tapping into Anglican tradition, the Hirsts always seemed to have something interesting, enlightening, fun and engaging to mark every season of the Church Year. Some customs included at least one element that carried over into the next season or even the next year.

The Sunday Next Before Advent, the last Sunday of the church year, was reserved for the making of "stir-up" cakes. The English originally assembled their Christmas or plum puddings on the fifth Sunday before Christmas to allow ample time for the holiday pudding to cure in whiskey or brandy. Later on, fruit cakes became the confection of choice. They became "stir-up" cakes, when each person present took a turn at the mixing bowl to blend ingredients of the Christmas cake while reciting the Collect for the Day:

*"Stir up we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen."*

A talented writer and graphic designer, Mr. Hirst produced an instructive booklet, "A Family Advent," to help his parishioners stay focused on the four weeks before Christmas as a time of preparation for the coming of Christ into the world -- not just the arrival of "old St. Nick."

"I can't remember all the booklet contained, but it included instructions on how to make an Advent wreath, so all parish families could have Advent wreaths in their homes. The little book also explained all the symbolism of the Advent wreath and included special prayers for the season," Sue Faulkner also recalled.

On the evening of the first day of Epiphany (Jan. 6), was the Feast of Lights, followed by the burning of the greens from the Christmas just past. The day traditionally commemorates the Adoration of the Magi and the manifestation of Christ, the Light of the World, to the Gentiles. The beautiful and instructive service progressed from darkness to light as candles were lit, each in turn, to honor the Disciples, the Apostle Paul and others in Christian history who carried the message of Christ throughout the world. On entering the church everyone received a candle, and at the end of the service, each candle was lit from the previous person's. Then all recessed -- that is, they went out into the world taking "the light of Christ" with them-- singing "Onward Christian Soldiers." Once outside all gathered in the churchyard around a tall stack of what had once been parishioners' Christmas trees, wreaths and garlands. Then they threw their burning candles on the greens to ignite a great bonfire, a signal fire, as it were, in the cold winter's night.

During the Hirst years, as today, small palm crosses were made for each parishioner to wear on Palm Sunday. Parishioners usually returned their palm crosses to the church, so the priest could burn them and use the ashes for Ash Wednesday services the following year.

The Hirsts never failed to include activities and events for parish children. Many survive to this day, including the flowering of the cross on Easter Sunday.

Besides the time-honored Wednesday night Lenten services and parish suppers during the Hirst years, there also were early

morning services on Tuesdays, followed by Lenten *breakfasts* -- just for school-age children and Mr. Hirst. As the children scarfed down their breakfasts so they wouldn't be late for school, Mr. Hirst entertained them -- and taught them -- about the church and its faithful servants. Who was there that could ever forget Mr. Hirst's spellbinding tale of Viking raids on the British Isles during the Dark Ages and how that prompted inclusion of prayers in the Great Litany for deliverance from the fearsome Norse warriors?

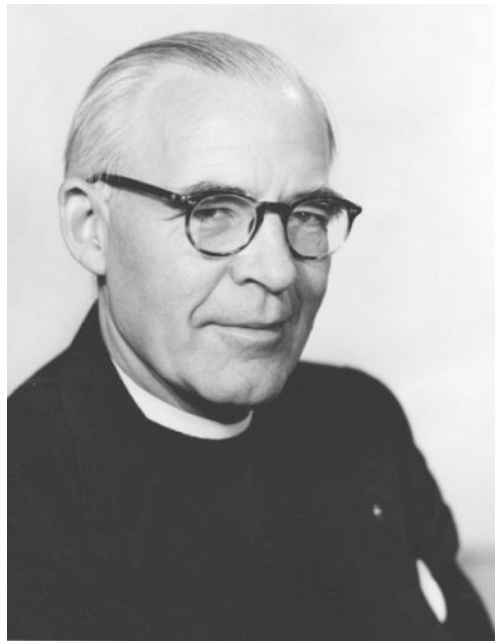
Perhaps the most memorable, most inspiring services during the Hirst years were the celebrations of Holy Communion at midnight on Christmas Eve. It was a rare event in Lampasas during the 1950s, for no other Protestant churches held services on Christmas, unless it fell on a Sunday. Since there was no afternoon service at St. Mary's at the time, everyone in the parish came to the Midnight Mass. Apparently when word got around about the beautiful and impressive service at the Episcopal Church, many townspeople started coming, too, so there often was "standing room only" on Christmas Eve at St. Mary's.

Come to think of it, every service was special. With his rich, fluid baritone speaking voice Mr. Hirst's reading of the liturgy seemed always to unhurriedly integrate itself into a seamless whole of beauty, majesty and mystery as both written and spoken word, music, art and architecture converged to glorify God and fill every person and space in the church with love, awe and reverence.

The Hirsts had a special gift for extending their love of God and the Church to all parishioners and for helping each of them feel valued, loved and an integral part of the parish family -- and all of Christendom as well.

No wonder it's called the Hirst House!

-30-



**Rev. Penrose Wiley Hirst**  
**St. Mary's Rector, 1952-1960**

Born in Camden N. J. in 1897, Penrose "Pen" Hirst moved with his family to California in 1917. He earned a degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1922, and went on to graduate from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley. He was ordained in 1927. The young Episcopal priest then served on staff of St. Mark's Berkeley, and his first parish was St. Mark's in King City, California.

In 1935 Hirst married Eleanor Derby Quin, the daughter of The Right Reverend Clinton S. Quin, Bishop of the Diocese of Texas. Pen and Derby had met several years earlier, while her family was vacationing in California.

Hirst went on to serve as rector of churches in Brownsville, Marietta, Ohio, Houston and Lampasas. His last position was Episcopal Chaplain at the University of Houston and Texas Southern University. He died in Houston in 1971, at the age of 74.

Not included on the resume is the fact that to hundreds of children -- at least those who grew up in Lampasas -- Hirst will always be fondly remembered as "Mr. Hirst." The one exception at St. Mary's was little Stevie Arthur, who never failed to address him as "Father Hirst."

Always in black cleric's clothes, Mr. Hirst was striking figure with white hair and dark bushy eyebrows which crowned eyes that reflected a formidable intellect and a

steadfast faith. Yet those same eyes could dance with delight at the smallest of everyday things. For it was evident that he loved everyone and everything -- from the majestic to the mundane -- because they all were part of God's Creation.

"Mr. Hirst often smoked a pipe, and I loved the odor that followed him and lingered in the rooms where he had been. If I stepped into the church office at St. Mary's today, I would expect to smell the odor of his pipe. When I think of him, I see him studying in his office with his pipe in his mouth and being surrounded by his wonderful books," recalled Karon Barnett Brown, one of Wendy Hirst's best friends, who would one day go on to teach at St. Mary's kindergarten.

"Penrose was Mr. Hirst to me, of course, and I enjoyed seeing the love he had for his daughter. They seemed so close, and I enjoyed the teasing that flowed between the two of them," Mrs. Brown continued.

"I always thought the Hirst family was a happy, close family who enjoyed their time in Lampasas. I certainly admired each of them and was blessed to have their influence in my life."



*Derby Hirst, once described as "the consummate do-er," stands outside St. Mary's with some of the parish children in the 1950s. They no doubt were about to embark on some grand adventure, with Mrs. Hirst leading the way. The little first grader in front is Judy Hetherly, who would go on to one day be Mayor of Lampasas. She now serves on St. Mary's vestry. Behind Judy are the Haynie sisters, Sarah and Charlotte, whose great grandfather was T.H. Haynie, one of St. Mary's founders.*



## Derby Hirst: The Bishop's Daughter

"Even though she was born in Louisville, practically in the shadow of Churchill Downs on the eve of the Kentucky Derby in May of 1910, Derby Hirst was NOT named after the race. The Derby family has roots in 17<sup>th</sup> century New England, and her grandmother was Julia Derby," so says Eric Fredland, the Hirsts' son-in-law and family genealogist.

"Mrs. Hirst was tall and such an outspoken, confident lady...She was our Girl Scout leader and had many opportunities to share life with us and encourage us to make good decisions...The parish house was the usual meeting place for our Girl Scout troop," recalled Karon Brown.

"Mrs. Hirst encouraged Wendy to be self-sufficient and confident in her actions. And this was during the years when we were learning to drive!

"I remember going into the church with Wendy and her mom on Saturday evenings to prepare for the Sunday service. They showed such respect to the altar, and as a Baptist, that was unusual to me."

"Derby was the consummate do-er," Fredland said during his loving eulogy of his mother-in-law, who lived to be 97.

"She combined those traits – being a caring person and being a do-er – there was no better advocate on earth if, say, you were confined in the hospital. Derby was also a woman of strong faith – she was incarnational. She knew that God had a purpose for her and for her life, and she constantly worked to discern that purpose and to act decisively in concert with it. In that, she was a role model for me and for us all."

As the daughter of The Right Reverend Clinton S. Quin, Bishop of the Diocese of Texas, Derby was reared in Houston. She graduated from Rice University in 1931 and married the Rev. Penrose Hirst four years later.

Derby served the Church all her life. She was a member of the national board of Forward Movement and the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross. For many years in Houston she worked with the Harris County Center for the Retarded. She also actively supported the YWCA in Houston and Annapolis, MD, where she moved

during the 1990s to be near Wendy and her family.

[Caption below]

(The Annunciation window in the church is a memorial to him.) Behind the Haynie girls are two of R.A. "Colonel" and Eva Jones' children, Lynn and Bobby. The boy on the back row, peeping out from behind Bobby is Dennis Brown Mays. Dennis' father, Brown Mays, was Junior Warden when St. Mary's Mission became St. Mary's Parish in 1952. [stop here?] Dennis' great grand aunt and uncle, Harriett and John N. Manuel owned Manuel Hardware, once located in the recently restored building at Third St. and Western Ave. The Manuel's Victorian Queen Anne home at Third and Park Streets was beautifully restored in the mid-1980s by longtime parishioners Pat and Jim Anderson.

Wendy Hirst outside the Parish House with her lively mutt, "Freckles," a stray who followed her home from school one day and decided to stay and become an Episcopalian dog.

[Note: All photos courtesy of Wendy Hirst Fredland]

## Words to Live by...

**This month's theme of "coming home" bears careful reflection. As we close out this month's newsletter, we'd like to share some thoughts on this topic.**

**"A house is made of walls and beams; a home is built with love and dreams."** (unknown)

**"Home is a place you grow up wanting to leave, and grow old wanting to get back to"**

(John Ed Pearce)

**"Love me when I least deserve it, because that's when I really need it."**

(Swedish Proverb)

**"I long, as does every human being, to be at home wherever I find myself."** (Maya Angelou)

**"Home is a name, a word, it is a strong one; stronger than magician ever spoke, or spirit ever answered to, in the strongest conjuration."**

(Charles Dickens)

**Love begins by taking care of the closest ones – the ones at home.**

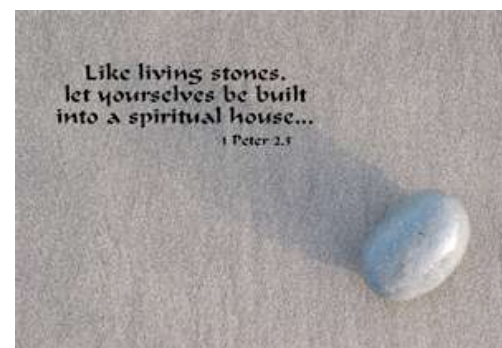
Mother Teresa

**Home is where you feel at home and are treated well.**

Dalai Lama

**THE ACHE FOR HOME LIVES IN ALL OF US, THE SAFE PLACE WHERE WE CAN GO AS WE ARE AND NOT BE QUESTIONED.**

Maya Angelou



**All our best...see you in church!**

Tom and Mary

Cursillo #238 - Campsite - Nov 1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

*Cursillo Of  
"The Beloved Neighbor"*



*November 1-4, 2012*

**#238**

Please join us for Clausura at All Saints Chapel, Camp Allen on November 4, 2012 at 4 P.M. Please do not arrive before 3 P.M. Join us for Mananitas on Sunday morning at 6:30am, Campsite #3 - Bldg. A
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**Rector**

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**Spiritual Advisors**

Rev. Steve Ferguson – St. Luke's  
Rev. Rob Price – St. Dunstan's

**Music Director**

Cheryl Ann Wendele  
[prayknitlove@gmail.com](mailto:prayknitlove@gmail.com)

**Team Members**

Cristina McDonald  
Jeff Humphrey  
John Ahrens  
Eric Sawyer

Dora Laird  
Damien Thompson  
Rollin Smith  
Laura Lee Carter

Lin Lockamy  
Laurie Schwarzbach  
June Hatfield  
Richard Blumberg

Jerri Humphrey  
Lorraine Rogers  
Susan Hunter

The Team requests your <b>PRAYERS, PRAYERS, PRAYERS</b> and palanca....letters, cards, canned drinks, fruit juices, bottled water, peanut butter crackers, cookies, chocolate, etc.
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<b>Monetary or Cash Palanca</b> - to purchase supplies
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<b>Service Palanca</b> - at mealtimes and in preparation for agape. If possible, plan a time for Stations of the Cross Thursday night, Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> in your local church or convocation to support us as we do the Stations at Camp Allen Campsite
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The Episcopal Diocese of Texas  
Application for Cursillo #238  
November 1-4, 2012  
A Camp Allen Campsite 3 Weekend

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS WEDNESDAY, October 24, 2012.

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_ "Goes-by" name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work or cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, TX Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you attending with your spouse? Y N Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (MM/DD/YY) / / \_\_\_\_

Parish Information:

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Convocation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Rector or Head of Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work or cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, TX Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures (required)

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Clergy/Sr. Warden/Lay Vicar: \_\_\_\_\_



Special Needs: Y N If Yes, please describe:

Fee is \$125 per person. Please make out check to "Cursillo" and enclose but do not staple to form. Couples attending together may submit one check; however, applications for both persons need to be filled out completely. Applications are on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Cursillo Weekend begins on Thursday evening and continues until approximately 6:00 PM on Sunday. Individuals applying for Cursillo will commit themselves for the entire weekend, including the closing service at All Saints' Chapel, Camp Allen, on Sunday afternoon.

- A communicant in good standing of an Episcopal congregation in the Diocese of Texas and at least 18 years of age
- Spiritually/psychologically stable and not suffering from any known unusually stressful situations in their lives which would unduly interfere with the ability to profit from the experience or which would disrupt the orderly functioning of the weekend.

No shows: Determined on individual basis

Call Sharon at 832-249-1203 or email her at [sharon0947@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharon0947@sbcglobal.net).