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Today is Rose Sunday, one of our two refreshment Sundays during the church's penitential seasons. The Rose Sunday during Lent is also Mothering Sunday. The practice of visiting one's "mother church" has been practiced since the middle ages. While all children celebrated their mothers and mother churches, the holiday was especially meaningful for those who were off to school or in domestic service. It is a more than a thousand year old tradition to allow those in service the day off to go visit their mother churches (and their mothers). The timing of academic Spring Break is also thought to be tied to the practice of sending children home to mother church at this time of year. There must be many mother churches in Daytona and Cancun. Along the walk home, it has also been a long tradition for children to collect flowers along the way and offer them to their mothers. We will continue to honor mothering Sunday by having a brief Mother Child Tea for our Sunday School immediately after the service.

Blessings, Marc

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Eucharist -3/13 @ 1030am

Lenten Series – 3/14 @ 6pm

St. Patrick's Dinner – 3/16 @ 5:30pm

Happy Birthday! Marsha Hartlieb Michael Hall Laura Jasak Gene Marinelli Maureen Toth Scott Fields Stephen Harshly Gretchen Shea

Rose Sunday Tea

After the 10:00am Eucharist, we will host a Mother/Grandmother and Child Tea in St. Mary's Hall. Coffee hour will proceed as normal, but the Sunday School children are invited to sit with their special person and enjoy some snacks and a warm beverage.

St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner – Please join us for the 13th annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on March 16th @ 5:30pm in St. Mary's Hall. Ticket prices are: Adults \$10/Families \$25. Vegetarian and child meals will be available if requested. Anyone interested in helping with cooking or decorating please contact Lois Valliere <u>lvalliere1@icloud.com</u>. Tickets will soon be available in the narthex after services.

Join Episcopal Relief & Development on a Lenten Journey - For 15 years, Episcopal Relief & Development has been blessed by the opportunity to join readers on their spiritual journeys with thought-provoking meditations. During Lent, we pray, "Create and make in us new and contrite hearts." Our 2024 meditations focus on embracing this new heart, this new life in Christ, and looking deep within ourselves and acting in ways that seek and serve Christ in others. Visit our website to subscribe to daily emails, download a PDF, read the meditations and access a Group Study Guide to reflect on the meditations and Scripture with others. Go to episcopalrelief.org/Lent or scan the QR code to read the daily meditations.



Lenten Series - The Brothers at the Society of St. John the Evangelist will lead us through a video Lenten Series called "In the Midst" an exploration God's presence even in the hardest, messiest parts of life. Join us on Thursdays beginning on February 22nd at 6:00pm. We will begin our time with a soup supper, have conversation, and conclude with a brief Eucharist.

2024 Stewardship - Our 2024 Stewardship program will run from Ash Wednesday, February 14 through Palm Sunday, March 24. Throughout Lent we plan to again have a very active stewardship conversation with our parish family. We will be asking our parish to reflect on their many blessings and offer gifts of their treasure as a thanksgiving to God, who has made all things possible.

To that end, we are seeking parishioners to share your personal insights and testimonials regarding your own stewardship journeys during each Sunday service's Stewardship Moment. Please contact Skip Sutcliffe at 860-978-0091 or by e-mail at <u>jw9714@yahoo.com</u> to discuss or arrange the Sunday you can share your thoughts with the parish.

LUNCH BUNCH IS BACK! - On Thursday, April 4th Lunch Bunch is making a comeback. All parishioners are welcome to attend a potluck luncheon in the St. Mary's lower parish hall. Doors open at 12 noon for socializing with a potluck lunch to follow at 12:30. Bring a hot or cold dish of your choice to share (the kitchen oven will be available for any hot foods). Additional potluck lunches are scheduled for May 2nd and June 6th. Mark your calendar and join in for some food, fun and fellowship. For any questions contact Chris Emery at 860-593-3176 (calls or texts).