

# St. Matthew's Episcopal Church



Issue 123

February 3, 2016

## The Seven Deadly Sins

One of my relatives attended Catholic schools as a child. She told me once that when it came time to go to Confession, she couldn't think of anything to confess, so she made up sins! I'm not sure, but being untruthful in the confessional is probably, itself, something that needs confessing! We Episcopalians have it easier, I suppose, since we say the "General Confession" each Sunday as part of our Sunday worship. Although the Episcopal Church does administer the rite of Reconciliation of Penitent (which is the equivalent of "going to confession"), not very many Episcopalians choose to receive this sacrament. And so most of us never think too much, or look too closely at things done and things left undone.

So, given that Lent will soon be upon us, I've decided to offer a series of reflections based on the "Seven Deadly Sins." Can you name what they are? Well, if not, you'll be able to after this series. This series will be offered on Tuesdays, from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM. We will meet in the Parish Hall. A light lunch will be served, followed by a reflection on the sin of the day, and then we'll conclude with "Noonday Prayer." For those of you who are especially studious and might like to do some reading, I recommend William Stafford's book, Disordered Loves—Healing the Seven Deadly Sins. I believe it is out of print, but I was able to get a copy quite easily on Amazon.com. Classes will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15.

I'm hoping folks will find it easier to commit to attending a midday function, in lieu of our usual attempt to have a program in the evening. Please know that any and all folks are welcome. The only requirement to attend is that you be a sinner. Saints already know all this stuff anyhow and would probably be bored!

Two other things we're doing to step up our spiritual game in Lent is to focus on doing service projects. First, we are partnering with Jonathon Foret to help clean up Bayou Terrebonne on Saturday, March 12. I'll have more info for you in the near future. Second, a group will gather on Saturday, March 19, to volunteer for some landscaping and grounds work at St. Matthew's Episcopal School library. So, go ahead and pencil those dates on your calendar. Volunteering to do good stuff for others is the opposite virtue, by the way, of the sin of "sloth"! So plan to come out and lend a hand. It's good for the soul!

Finally, please know that Ash Wednesday services will be held in the church on Wednesday, February 10 at Noon, and again at 5:30 PM.

See you in Church,



Fr. Craig

# Announcements:

## United Thank Offering

From Ash Wednesday, February 10 until Easter Sunday, March 27 (the Lenten Season), St. Matthew's ECW will be sponsoring the UTO (United Thank Offering). The United Thank Offering is a program of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole Church, founded and administered by women since 1889. UTO is a corporate act of worship, by people around the world, growing out of the desire to express deep gratitude for God in their lives. The mission of UTO is to invite people to offer daily prayers of thanksgiving to God, and as outward and visible signs of these prayers, to drop coins or dollars in the blue UTO box, or perhaps put a check in the blue UTO envelope, for the benefit of others. After a period of time, these monies are collected, sent to the UTO Committee, and then redistributed by it to groups who have submitted grant requests for various needs. Several locations in Louisiana have benefited from this worthy cause, including St. Matthew's. Boxes and envelopes will be available for pickup beginning Ash Wednesday. **Wednesday, February 10 - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES - NOON and 5:30PM**

**SMES BOOK FAIR:** After the church service on Sunday, February 21, the SMES Book Fair will be open in Parish Hall. Please come by and see what is available. Contact Marue Soudelier for more information: [marue.soudelier@stmattshouma.org](mailto:marue.soudelier@stmattshouma.org)

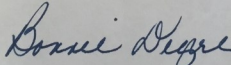
	St. Vincent de Paul TriParish Community Pharmacy 7385 Main Street Houma, Louisiana 70360 Pharmacy PH: 985 872-2253 Store PH: 985 872-9373	
<b>Board Members</b>		
William P. Walsh, DDS President	January 23, 2016	
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Dear Pastor Dalferes & Members of St. Matthew's:

Thank you so much for your church's generous donation of \$425.00 (Check #11481 dated November 16, 2015) in support of our local free pharmacy. Through donations such as yours, we can assist those in need to have the much needed medicines that they simply cannot afford to buy.

Through December 2015, the pharmacy has filled 11,160 prescriptions with an estimated value of \$ 1,228,693 through your donations and the donations of others. Many lives are saved and the quality of life for so many has been improved through the services provided by our TriParish Community Pharmacy.

In service to others,

  
 Bonita L. Dupre  
 Treasurer

We are a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Pursuant to IRC §170(f)(8)(B), no goods or services were provided for this gift. Your gift is deductible to the fullest extent of the law.



## SMES Book Fair

February 21-26

7:30-3:30

(close at 12:30 on the 26th)

Parish Hall

**SMEC Website:**

[www.stmatthewshouma.org](http://www.stmatthewshouma.org)

**Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana**

[www.edola.org](http://www.edola.org)

**SMES Website:**

[www.stmattsschool.com](http://www.stmattsschool.com)



**St. Matthew's  
Episcopal Church**

**Sunday Service 10:00am**

Nursery & Youth Programs

### Prayers & Thanksgivings

Barbara & Alex S., Kathy, Margaret, Frances, Wilma, Ingree, Andr  e, Sharon, Sybil, Marian, Johanna, Angelle & Taylor, Emily, Rocelle, Warren, Harold, Gordon, Phil and Shirleen, Pete & Paula, Russell, Jennifer, Hunter, Penny, George, Delores, Kellie, Anna Belle, Barney, Flo, Ray, Louise, Kimble, Gerard, David, Denise, Gina, Jeanie, Steven, Aivyn, Chris, Genevieve, Connie, Fannie, Frank, Ed, Ben, Herman, Barbara, Grady & Teresa, Kim & baby, Janet, and our Partner-In-Mission sister parish, San Jose in Honduras. We give thanks and pray for St. Matthew's Episcopal School, S. Myers McAllister, Head of School, members of the Board, faculty, staff and students, our Parish Vestry and Building Committee.

### Happy Birthday!

1-Glenda Verdin	14-Jerry Turner
2-Trish Berry	21-Pearl Moss
4-Martha Lynn Lewis	23-Brian Rushing
4- Brendon McNelis	24-Suzanne Alexander
8 – Reece Gaudet	25-June Allemand
8 – Samuel Gaudet	27-Joseph Dalferes
9-Amanda Pellegrin	
12-Anne Bates	

### Happy Anniversary!

4-Lyle and Stacey Lirette
12-Gerard and Sharon Pontiff
17-Robert and Janet McKim
29- James and JoAnn Caillouet

### **BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

Watch over your child, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# SCHEDULE

## Wednesday, February 3 – Hilda Blanchard

### February 7, 2016

#### Team 1

Eucharistic Ministers	Emilie Daye, Beulah Rodrigue
Lector	Glenn Blair
Acolyte	Grace Blair
Eucharistic Visitor	No visits today
Ushers	Jack Shutts, Brendon and Wendy McNelis
Vestry Member on Duty	TBD
Altar Guild	Sandy Ostheimer, Karen Kelly
Flower Guild	Betty Lyons
Hospitality	Sybil Webb

## Wednesday, February 10 – Ash Wednesday – 7:30AM, Noon, 5:30PM

### February 14, 2016

#### TEAM 2

Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon Pontiff, Donna Knight
Lector	Jan McKim
Acolyte	Charles Dalferes
Eucharistic Visitor	No visits today
Ushers	Julio and Rina Medina, Karen Kelly
Vestry Member on Duty	TBD
Altar Guild	Gail Duhe'
Flower Guild	No Flowers
Hospitality	Debby Fortier

## Wednesday, February 18 – Hildegard Blanchard



## **Andrei Rublev, Icon of the Hospitality of Abraham** Russian, early 15th century

Today, this beauty is usually called the Icon of the Trinity, though at its narrative level it depicts the three angels who visit Abraham at the Oak of Mamre in Genesis. It is the most beloved of the Russian icons -- at least in the West: it was even rumored (with not a shred of evidence) that it must have been an Italian who painted it, not a Russian!

God the Father is on the left, God the Son in the center and God the Holy Spirit on the right.

A house (Abraham's) stands behind the Father, a tree (Mamre) behind the Son and a mountain (Moriah) behind the Spirit. There is a calf's head in the cup (the sacrifice). The three figures describe a perfect circle.

So much has been written about this beautiful icon, which is now in Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow. Of course it belongs there, for its own safety. But one might wish it were still in a church where people could pray with it. Thousands of copies throughout the world continue to fill this need.

For a brief overview of Russian icons, visit

<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/slavic/dept/WebBasedLanguage/Russian/Culture/RussianIconPainting.htm>

And the Wikipedia article on this piece is extensive and -- it seems to me, though I am no authority, -- well-documented. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity\\_\(Andrei\\_Rublev\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(Andrei_Rublev))



# Kid's Night Out!

Saturday, February 13, 2016

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
Parish Hall ♥ 243 Barrow Street

Donations accepted  
& appreciated!

**ALL AGES WELCOME!!**

Please RSVP if you plan on bringing a  
Child 3 years or younger

Kid-Friendly Supper  
will be served

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)  
Mission Trip Fundraiser

More Info? Contact:  
Becky 985-860-5047

