

# Praying Expectantly

Ryan Cecil | Pastoral Curate

We often hear the words Healing Prayer and Intercessory Prayer in the modern church. Beginning in childhood and into my teenage years, I consistently found myself around people challenged by health issues. During that time, I developed a keen interest in prayer and, more specifically, Healing Prayer. It seemed powerful, life-changing, and almost mysterious, but I remained uncertain. It wasn't until entering seminary and, ultimately, full-time ministry that I felt a true calling to study and participate in Healing Prayer with complete devotion. Through this experience and recognizing the role of the Holy Spirit in my own life, to move in and through me, to guide and lead me, Healing Prayer and Intercessory Prayer came to life. You see, Healing Prayer isn't something to be merely studied; rather, it must also, by faith, be practiced. A practice which allows one to be opened up to the miraculous work of our Lord. Healing was central to the ministry of Jesus, our incarnate Lord, and Healing is central to the ministry of the Church and to the Body of Christ.

At the Strategic Planning Event in May of 2023, the Gulf Atlantic Diocese set forth a goal for Healing Prayer to be part of the culture on a diocesan level, and we, as the cathedral, are charged with leading that effort. Diocesan leaders recognized that prayer is an integral part of congregational life. Additionally, they recognized that many congregations are underdeveloped in this area while some are well-developed. Through the leadership of Fr. Marcus and Bp. Andy Miller, we have seen an active Healing Prayer ministry at St. Peter's begin. Through this ministry, we have witnessed lives being transformed and hearts for prayer being ignited. The prayer trajectory for us as a church and for the diocese as a whole is a reflection of loving God through the Spirit.

Reflecting on the Anglican tradition, we see how the relationship between the eucharist and healing in the sacramental tradition is evident. As we partake of the body and blood of Christ, Jesus makes himself present to us, and his healing power is uniquely released when we come to the table.

One of the ways in which we can train more people to participate in our Healing Prayer ministry here at St. Peter's is to equip those who feel called to Prayer Ministry. Bp. Andy Miller will be offering four training courses throughout 2024. In addition, we will be offering at least two Healing Prayer services in 2024. My prayer is for each and every person at St. Peter's to go through the Christian Healing Ministries Level 1 and 2 training offered quarterly through St. Peter's. The first training weekend is February 23–24. We will meet on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6–9pm, and on Saturday from 9am–3:30pm.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for training signup. You can also reach out to me directly with any questions at RCecil@stpetersfl.com.

God's peace to each of you, Ryan

"With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." – Ephesians 4:2-3

### MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

EACH OF OUR EIGHT CORES HAS A SPECIFIC MONTH OF THE YEAR IN WHICH IT WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED.

JANUARY IS LIFE MONTH.

#### LIFE: BELLY BOUTIQUE IN NEED!

The Belly Boutique desperately needs

- BOYS' ONESIES (MED & LARGE)
- BOYS CLOTHES
- SIZE 2,3,4, & 5 DIAPERS
- SLEEP SACKS

Please consider how you can support this ministry with your donations of new and very gently used items. (*Diapers must be new...*)

#### INTERNATIONAL: WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Join us next Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate World Mission Sunday with Anglicans around the globe. Many of our ministry partners will be here on the front lawn between services to share the great work that they do. Please stop by to encourage them and see if there might be a new opportunity for you to volunteer. The Nicaragua Mission team will have Sausage Dogs available for purchase so come hungry!

#### **DISCIPLED EVANGELISM: UPCOMING PRAYER**

WALK | Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> | 9–10:30AM | Come join us! St. Peters is answering the call to love our neighbors at a time when people need our love, perhaps more than ever. No one is too young or old to join. Very simple agenda: we share a small gift and an invitation to a neighborhood gathering, and offer to pray for them. This is an easy but important opportunity to serve with your family and friends. We will meet in the ECHO parking lot in the Betton Hills area (548 E Bradford Road). Contact Discipled Evangelism Core Captain Chuck Lang at CHUCKLANG45@GMAIL.COM or 850.264.3377 with any questions.



### DISCIPLESHIP

#### MONTHLY MEN'S BREAKFAST



Thursday, 1 February | 7AM | \$5 Join us in the Parish Hall where the Men's Ministry Leadership Team will have hot coffee and a sausage biscuit breakfast ready for you! Enjoy your

breakfast over a time of fellowship with other men! Visit STPETERSFL.COM/MENSBREAKFAST to RSVP to ensure we have enough breakfast, or you are welcome to bring your own breakfast. Our speaker is Florida's 4<sup>th</sup> District Representative, and fellow Anglican, Brigadier General Patt Maney, U.S. Army (retired). He has an incredible testimony of serving God and country throughout his life. Wake up and come hear it!

#### CHILDREN'S CATECHUMENATE TEDDY BEAR

**COLLECTION** | Who doesn't need a hug from a lovable Teddy bear? It's that time of year when our Children's Catechumenate class collects stuffed animals for kids needing encouragement. Our 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> graders invite you to join in their Spring Missions Project to collect as many stuffed animals as we can muster. This year, our collection will benefit *The PHI Center*. Donated items must be new, with tags still attached. **Please drop your donations off in Room 201** (South Transept) by February 25<sup>th</sup>!

#### **WOMEN'S RETREAT | REGISTER NOW!**

Friday, 16 February & Saturday, 17 February
Visit STPETERSFL.COM/RETREAT2024 to learn more about our speaker, Jodie Berndt!

#### MOVIE ON THE LAWN! | SAVE THE DATE!

Friday February  $2^{nd}$  | 6PM | Join us for a movie under the stars! on the lawn in two weeks! Bring your blankets and snacks—we will provide the move outside on the big screen! Got an idea for a movie?! Let Amy Stewart know at ASTEWART@STPETERSFL.COM

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS! LENT TRADITIONS CONVERSATION WITH THE DEAN (ZOOM

CALL) | Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> | 8:30–9:30<sub>PM</sub>
Parents of Children and Youth, you are invited to join Fr. Marcus on a zoom call about Lent. The topic of discussion is "How do you use Lent to help your family prepare for Easter?" Do you do something different as a family during this season in prayers, devotions, or worship? Is this the year to start? If you have something you love, please come prepared to show and tell. This call is all about inspiration and encouragement for Christian parents! Interested? Please email <u>ASTEWART@STPETERSFL.COM</u> for the link.

## FAMILY MINISTRIES & THE ST. PETER'S ARTISANS PRESENT GALS' ART NIGHT!

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> | Save the Date! Annie Pajcic returns to St. Peter's for Gals' Art Night. She will lead our ladies in a devotional centered watercolor. This an intergenerational event open to all women 6 years and older. Stay tune for registration information. Space is limited.

#### NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR VESTRY ELECTION AT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

We will hold our **Annual Parish Meeting on May 5, 2024** at **6:30pm.** At that meeting, we will elect four candidates to the vestry. In that regard, we need your help. The election will be from a slate of candidates, and every member of the congregation has the right to suggest nominees to the Nominating Committee during the Nomination Phase. Please pray, asking God to reveal to you the name of anyone God may be calling to this ministry. Nominations may be made until February 5, 2024.

Please make nominations by email to Ellen Culpepper at <u>ECulpepper@StPetersFL.com</u> or you may submit to her in writing at the parish office.

Learn more about the process at <u>StPetersFL.com/vestry</u> and mark your calendars for the Annual Parish Meeting on May 5, 2024 at 6:30PM.

#### VISITING THE CATHEDRAL?

Welcome—we're so glad you're worshiping with us today! Our nursery is available during Sunday morning services for children newborn through Kindergarten. We hope you'll join us for coffee & other refreshments between morning services! Whether today is your first time or you've been with us for awhile, we're so glad you're here!

#### CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST & CARE MINISTRIES

If you have any pastoral needs or know of someone who needs pastoral care and prayer, please contact Care Ministries Coordinator, Alice Sanderson at <u>ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM</u>

To be added the the Cathedral Prayer List, email <u>ASanderson@StPetersFL.com</u> or submit a prayer request or Care Ministry Need at <u>StPetersFL.com/Prayer</u>

*Military:* Lucas Bell, Jose Betancourt, Lt. Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, LCpl Sam Henri, 1st Lt. Carson Jax, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, Capt. Parker Jax, Capt. Chandler B. Jax, 1st Lt. Rebecca Jax, Col. Burt Newman, SSgt Corey Owen, Lt. Col. Daniel Dean, Capt. James Dilworth, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, Airman Drew Edwards, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, Gabriel Melendez, Major Gen. John Richardson, Capt. Oliver Rushing, Spc. Andrew Sanderson, Lt. Cmdr. Chris Smith, Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, PFC Noah C. Bielling, MM3 Tommy Van Landingham, SN Benjamin Waddill, PFC John P. Warren, 2nd Lt Jack Ubben, Lt. Drew Stockstill, LTJG Emily Redmond

**Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends:** Felicia Rodriguez, Jane Janes, Bob Snider, Kirby Donovan, Vicki Phillips, Van Jones, Marilyn Scott, Carol Long, Jackie Kemp, Fay Ann Hannon, Patty Applegate, Marsha Hall, Rob Wheeler, Beth Lawrence, Bonnie, Eva, Fred, Vicki, David Ferguson

as of 1.25.24

#### **HOLY RECYCLING | PALM CROSSES**

Due Sunday, 11 February | Ash Wednesday is on February 14<sup>th</sup> and marks the beginning of the penitential season of Lent.

Did you save your palm crosses from last Palm Sunday? Please leave them in one of the baskets marked "Palm Crosses" at the back of the church or at the Parish Life desk in the Narthex, no later than *February 11<sup>th</sup>*. After the crosses are collected, they will be reverently burned and used for the Imposition of Ashes during the Ash Wednesday services. Thank you!

**DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN SUBMIT A FLOWER DEDICATION FOR A SPECIFIC SUNDAY DURING THE YEAR?** Our 2024 Altar Flower Chart is now up—located on the Parish Life Desk in the Narthex. Our talented Flower Guild will create beautiful arrangements to glorify God! Honor a special day or loved one by signing up on the chart and filling out the purple form next to it. Dedications are \$150.

**INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FLOWER GUILD?** WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS—NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! CONTACT KELLEY DISALVO AT <u>DRDISALVO@COMCAST.NET</u> FOR MORE INFORMATION.

#### Banns of (Darriage

We publish the Banns of Marriage between Mary Claire Medina and Cole Matthew Brown and bid your prayers on their behalf. If any of you know cause, or just impediment, why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are to declare it.