



THE HERALD



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A Letter from our Interim Rector

Grace and Peace to our new Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sandy and I are thrilled to be a part of the St. Mary's community. When you see us on Sundays, you will notice we bring with us, to our joy and delight, our grandson Robbie. He is four years old, and if something becomes a tradition when it happens twice, this Sunday he will be looking for "what's happening for lunch." Our first Sunday was a lot of fun for as we were seeing everything new and a real highlight was seeing him in his first Sunday School class at "my St. Mary's." We have all felt so fantastically loved and cared for—we are excited about being here and calling it home.

As the fall is getting off and running, I find myself with countless opportunities for "spending my time" and I must put the stake in the ground for my spiritual life. If I do not take care of that, we, as God's faithful community, all suffer. With that in mind, I want to share with you a quote from St. Francis of Assisi which I find personally true:

*The Preacher
must first draw from
secret prayer what s/he will later
pour out in holy sermons;
S/he must first
grow hot within
before s/he speaks words
that in themselves
are cold.*

I believe it is God's desire that when we go in peace to love and serve the Lord, we do so with the burning fire of the Holy Spirit to make a difference in God's Kingdom wherever we are. To God be the glory. See you in church.

Shalom,
-Bob Cook

THE HERALD
OCTOBER 2008 Edition

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A Letter from the Senior Warden

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It is nice to be back in the rhythm of our spiritual lives together with Christian Education underway, the youth choirs having begun practice, EYC gearing up, a full complement of musicians back with the Adult choir, and our new interim youth minister and rector in place. Many thanks to the ECW and the chairs of each of the church's committees for preparing the receptions for Chantal and Bob and to Parish Connections and the Brotherhood for the wonderful parish picnic last Sunday. Bob reported in our Vestry meeting on September 15th that he and Sandy feel truly blessed to be at St. Mary's where their welcome has been warm and where their admiration for all that is going on here grows daily. Please do whatever you can to make yourself known to Bob. As you can see from Bob's demeanor, he and Sandy are eager to get to know each of us and to fully involve themselves in St. Mary's.

Now that our Interim Rector is in place we are prepared to begin the discernment process. That process will involve two very important steps, the first being our self-study. I am so pleased to tell you that Craig Popalis has agreed to lead this process which will involve determining where we are now, where we would like to be in the future, and what type of person we are seeking to help lead us there. We will all be involved in the prayer and introspection needed to complete this task so that at the end of the self-study the Vestry will be prepared to issue a charge to the Search (the other step of discernment) Committee describing the candidate that St. Mary's will call. There is no way to accurately predict how long each of the steps will take. Common sense would tell us that it will take longer to search for a new rector than it will to conduct the self-study. What is certain is that there will be twists and turns along the way, as there have been in the months since Glenn's retirement. What I have been blessed to discover as Senior Warden is that each twist or turn may simply serve to lead us in a wonderful direction that we were too limited to imagine. As Bob said in his sermon on Sunday when he spoke of Moses leading his people out of Egypt - there is a pillar of fire protecting us and lighting our way. Certainly we need to work hard and take our responsibilities seriously but, in the end, what is most important is to remain faithful and earnest in our prayers. I believe that we have done that. Please forgive me for being "preachy" but the opportunity you've given me to act as Senior Warden has truly served to strengthen my faith in the people of St. Mary's and to confirm my belief that God will ultimately lead us to the place we need to be.

Faithfully yours,

Carroll Ann
Senior Warden

If you have had a change of address, phone number and/or e-mail address, please notify the office. It costs the church if your Herald is returned to us. So, please keep us informed. Thank you!

The deadline for the November issue of the Herald is **October 20th!**
If there is anything you would like included, please email it to Shannon at administrator@stmarysepisc.org. Thank you!

Adult Christian Education - Fall 2008

Classes are Sundays 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. The first two classes will run the duration of the fall, and the latter two classes are briefer. Please note the dates.

Lectionary Class

Dates: Sept. 7 - Nov. 23

Facilitator: Ed Crissman

Location: Room 115 Ed. Bldg.

This class discusses the lessons for each Sunday. Usually we focus on the Gospel lesson, since most of our sermons are based on the Gospel. Each Sunday you will receive a copy of the Synthesis, a lectionary guide, which gives background and additional information about the events going on in the lessons. A discussion then takes place inspired by the lessons and application to our daily lives.

The Bible and Theology: A Kerygma Bible Study

Dates: Sept. 7 - Nov. 23

Facilitators: David Idol & Craig Popalis

Location: Common Room

Join this group of parishioners as they delve into deep conversations of doctrine. Each participant will receive a resource book specific to this particular class: sacraments and the Kingdom of God. Kerygma is a nationally renowned program that focuses on learning the basics and complexities of the Bible, and encourages participants to apply learning to personal and corporate life in today's world.

Environmental Series: by the Environmental Stewardship Committee

****Dates:** November 2-23 - Four weeks**

Location: Parish Hall

Save the date! Please see page 8 for more details.

Advent Study Course:

****Dates:** Nov. 30 - Dec. 21 - Four weeks**

Facilitator: Ed Crissman

Location: Common Room

This class will study *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Birth*, a book by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan.

Youth Christian Education - Fall 2008

Classes begin September 7 through November 30.

Grades	Curriculum	Room
Pre K (4) - 1st	Godly Play I	217
2nd - 4th	Godly Play I	215
5th - 8th	Making It Real	210
9th - 12th	Making It Real	201

For information about programs for children and teens, contact Duana Cisney at 886-4756 ext. 26 or duanac@stmarysepisc.org.

Important Dates

October 5th - Blessing of the Animals will be held at 4p.m.
 October 12th - UTO Sunday, Informal Worship at 9a.m.
 October 19th - Bishop Curry's visit, Adult Confirmation
 October 20th - Deadline for the November edition of the Herald, High Point Furniture Market begins, and ends on October 26th.
 October 23rd - 26th - Cursillo

Fall UTO

The fall United Thank Offering will be Sunday, October 12, 2008. Offering envelopes will be in the bulletins.



Nametags

Please remember to wear your nametags on Sundays, so that Bob, Scott and their families, as well as new parishioners, can associate a name with a face. If you do not have a nametag, please write your name on the clipboard located on the information table in the Parish Hall, and one will be created for you.

Planned Giving



Is God's will reflected in your will? For more information on the "St. Mary's Order of the Oak" campaign, please call or email Bill Fenn Jr., committee chair - 883-0392 or billfenn00@hotmail.com.

Jr. Altar Guild

Junior Altar Guild is looking for new members. Girls in grades 6-12 are welcomed. We work on alternating weekends setting up communion and finding out what goes on "behind the scenes" in preparation for our worship services. Adults and/or moms are also needed and welcomed to join in. No prior experience is necessary - you will be trained along with the young people. Please call Judy Boggs (431-6898) for more info.

Flower Guild

Rena Smith has recently moved to a retirement center. For those of you who wish to donate altar flowers on Sundays, please note her new address and phone number!

Mrs. Rena B. Smith
 Piedmont Crossing
 100 Hedrick Drive, #107
 Thomasville, NC 27360
 336-474-3812

Presentation Cancelled

Presentation Cancellation: The program scheduled for 7:00pm on Thursday, October 9 on human trafficking to be presented by Sandra Johnson, Triad Ladder of Hope Ministry, had to be cancelled due to illness. We hope to be able to re-schedule as soon as possible. Thank you, Paul Siceloff, Matthew 25:40 Committee

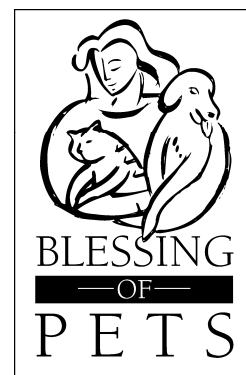
St. Anne's Chapter

St. Anne's has new books for sale in the Parish Hall. Hardcover books are \$2.00 and paperbacks are \$.50. Come by and check out the new selection and purchase a couple for some enjoyable reading.

Also, St. Anne's will meet Monday, October 13th at 6:30 p.m. at Noble's Restaurant. Please plan to attend!

Blessing of the Animals

The annual St. Francis pet blessing is all set for Sunday, October 5 at 4:00 PM. This should be a very special day with pet and people treats. I am not sure just what kind of pets may arrive but I have heard of the famous Glenn Bush wrestling match with what was reported as a most kind and loving critter. I personally enjoy this day and will have our two dogs here: Barnabas, the collie, and Sydney, the golden retriever. - Bob Cook



Cursillo?

Perhaps you have heard of this perhaps not but what is Cursillo? And why would I bring this to the table right now?

In a quick nutshell: Cursillo is a very good opportunity for someone to step away for a weekend (Thursday evening through Sunday) and come back with spiritual refreshment. It is totally about the Episcopal Church and your spiritual life. On the weekend, you will listen to presentations on aspects of faith, you will sing uplifting gospel type hymns, you will laugh, pray, talk, meet new friends and worship. It has been our pleasure to work on several weekends and each time we come back refreshed and invigorated. The next weekend is October 23 - 26. Any questions please see Bob or Sandy Cook. Home phone 656-1328, church 886-4756

193rd Annual Convention - Youth Delegates Being Sought...

If you are interested in government, politics and organizational structures, if you would like to have input into the decisions our church leadership is making, you should consider being a Youth Delegate at Convention. The dates on which it will be held are Jan. 22-24, 2009 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. Youth must be between the ages of 15-19 years old, (currently high school), and an active member of your church. Full attendance is required from Jan. 22 @ 6:00 PM to Jan. 24 @ 4:00 PM.

Serving as a youth delegate is lots of fun, but it also requires a great deal of work and commitment. The hours are long, but the joy of sharing this special experience with other people is awesome! Serving as a youth delegate is a privilege and an honor.

Please email or mail your application, including a \$25 deposit, by October 15 to the Youth Ministries Office at the Diocesan House, 200 West Morgan Street, Suite 300, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601. Each convocation will make the final selection. Applications are available at the information table outside the Common Room. If you have questions, please contact Duana Cisney.



From a church newsletter in Columbus, Ohio:

IN THE NEWS

The choir will present an evening of scared music. Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

A reception with refreshments will follow.

Is nothing sacred?

A Note from Chantal

Dear St. Mary's parishioners,

Thank you so very much for such a lovely send off! The reception was just wonderful, and I will treasure the print of St. Mary's. Bryson and I will find just the right place in our home to hang it and we will always think of you all when we see it. (Nancy, the frame is just beautiful, thank you!) I was also moved by your generosity in giving me a purse. As I look back on my time at St. Mary's, I am so grateful for each of you. Know that I will continue to keep you in my thoughts and prayers as you begin your Rector search.

With Christ's love,

Chantal McKinney

Fall Middlers Conference Leaders

Being the 'new kid' is never easy and always scary, but our own Asia Brown and Katie Cottam didn't let that deter them from jumping feet first into helping to develop and plan the upcoming Fall Middlers Conference for the Diocese.

In mid September, we attended an overnight planning session to get ready for over 60 middle school kids to descend upon us at the Summit Conference Center. Not a small task, but Katie and Asia enthusiastically participated in all parts from planning worship to playing really crazy games.

Katie will be one of the leaders of the 'hospitality' team. Her gifts will go a long way to insuring that nervous 6th graders are greeted warmly and making them feel at home and amongst friends.

Asia is helping to lead the worship portion of the weekend. Immediately Asia was engaged in contributing to the spiritual aspect of the weekend helping to plan a sacred environment that will be comfortable for the newest of participants.

Katie and Asia should be applauded for their willingness to step out of their comfort zones and into the unknown so eagerly and courageously. It is important to know that of the 20 team members, these ladies are of the youngest. Thank you Katie and Asia! Because of you, this will be a great weekend for many!!
-God's Peace, Duana

Pumpkin People

How is being a Christian like being a pumpkin?

God sees us, picks us out of the dirt, cleans us off, takes the yucky material out of us by forgiving us, puts a smile on our faces, and places a shining light within us for others to see.

Jesus said: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)



How Much Should I Pledge?

By Joe Fisher, Stewardship Chair

How much should I pledge? It's a question I have been asked several times recently. Over the past decade, a growing number of Episcopalians have begun tithing (giving 10 percent of their income to God through the Church), and have experienced a new spiritual joy in their lives.

Tithing is a way for us to give sacrificially, meaningfully and joyfully. It has been adopted as a standard measure of stewardship among many denominations and has become for many the practice of "giving to God first."

Making the decision to tithe may be a difficult one in these challenging economic times. As I write this, the DJIA has just closed down more than 500 points. This is an opportunity for many of us to experience sacrificial giving. What we convey to God, we receive back many times over. Tithing can be a goal for each of us. Obtaining that goal can be done through proportional giving, which was the focus of our stewardship education last year.

It is our hope that all members of St. Mary's become proportionate givers, determining the amount they give to support the mission of our Church as a percentage of their income – and not just what might be "left over" or convenient. The practice of proportional giving, moving towards and beyond the tithe, will provide each of us with a new spiritual richness, and our offerings will provide new and exciting opportunities to carry out our mission and ministry.

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I ask that you prayerfully examine what your pledge to the Church represents as a percentage of your household income. We are hopeful that you will consider adjusting your pledge to be more proportional to your income and closer to your ultimate tithe, more fully representing your thankfulness to God for all that He gives you.



Interfaith Hospitality Network



Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network will hold its annual Fund Raising Dinner and Silent Auction on November 8, 2007. We are asking for your help through a donation to ensure a successful event. Generous donations from businesses have enabled GIHN to help homeless families in Guilford County move from crisis situations to independent living. A dedicated staff and hundreds of volunteers from 59 area churches help make this happen. On behalf of GIHN, we are requesting a gift certificate, tangible item, or a service to benefit our Silent Auction. Your gift is tax deductible and will make a difference in the lives of homeless families in our area.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions. You can mail your donation to GIHN, Attention: Cecelia Foy-Dorsett, P.O. Box 20227, Greensboro, NC, 27420. We would also be glad to pick up your donation. A receipt will be provided for your records. You can obtain additional information about GIHN on the following website: www.GIHN.org. The GIHN network of families, staff and volunteers appreciate your support and interest in our agency. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Cecelia Foy-Dorsett, GIHN Silent Auction Chairperson, (336) 404-4700

St. Mary's is dependent upon pledges to meet our month-to-month financial obligations. If you are not up to date on your pledge, please make every effort to become current. If you have questions about your pledge, please call Rosemary Inman at 886-4756 ext. 23

Workshop on the Labyrinth

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends of St. Mary's Church,

One area of interest which I want to offer in my tenure as interim rector of St. Mary's is in the area of contemplative prayer. To this end I have invited Ms. Vicki Longhofer Copeland to come lead us in an experiential workshop on the Labyrinth. This is a very personal opportunity for your spiritual growth. The below information gives you a good explanation of what we will be doing. I do want to point out to some places where you may have seen or experienced the Labyrinth: Both cancers centers at High Point Regional Hospital and Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro have Labyrinth's on their outdoor grounds. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winston Salem and Holy Trinity Episcopal in Greensboro have them either on their grounds or indoors. You will also find them at The Valley Crusis conference center in Valley Crucis, North Carolina and at the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Do take this time for your spiritual life – you will not regret it. We will be meeting in the parish hall of St. Mary's. This event is being co-sponsored by St. Mary's and St. Christopher's Episcopal Churches.

Saturday, November 1, 2008.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

9:00-12:00

This event will be duplicated for the youth on Sunday afternoon, November 2nd, 2:30 to 4:30 at St. Mary's. Please do call the church office 886-4756 and let us know you are coming, we will have handouts available for participants.

A Path to Peace:

Navigating the Labyrinth

The labyrinth is an archetypal pattern found in various cultural traditions worldwide. The tradition of walking meditation is a long forgotten prayer practice being reclaimed in our time. Quietly walking this circuitous path becomes a contemplative journey. For many, it also opens a door to creative expression! In my workshops, journaling and image-making are often interwoven with this experience. When walking is not possible, a small scale labyrinth pattern may be traced by hand to achieve a similar focus. Labyrinths are now being used in a wide variety of settings: churches, hospitals, parks, schools, and retreat centers. This meditative walk helps to cultivate serenity, creative inspiration, and connection to Spirit.



Vicki Longhofer has received facilitator training through Veriditas: The Worldwide Labyrinth Project in San Francisco. For further study, she participated in a pilgrimage week at Chartres, France—site of the labyrinth in the 12th century Notre Dame de Chartres. From her collective experiences with the labyrinth, Vicki sees this meditative practice as a means for fostering peace. Connecting to the creative process is a special focus of her group labyrinth work.

Vicki is an artist and educator who has created and implemented programs for a diverse range of audiences and settings! She served from 2002—2006 as an artist in residence for the Oklahoma Arts Council. As a Speaker's Bureau artist for the Respect Diversity Foundation, she specializes in collaborative group projects based on themes of tolerance and respect. Vicki currently works from her studio in Eden, North Carolina and directs the Rockingham County Arts Council.

Guided walks and retreats may be customized for the needs and interests of participant groups; further information is available upon request.

Path to Peace - Vicki Longhofer Copeland

Phone: 336.635.3345 E-mail: anewmoon@earthlink.net

Join us as we pray for...

Margaret Burbage
 Dot Forward
 Kathy McKenzie
 Henrietta McKenzie
 Beachy Allen
 Jack Marsh
 Melissa Anderson

“O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and

Sue McNeil
 Kate Thornton
 Shelby Sims
 Barry Allred
 Jan Brittain & Cecil Donahue
 The Miller Family
 Sara Williams



If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please contact the church office: 886-4756 -ext. 21 or administrator@stmarysepisc.org

Milestones

Baptisms

Sydney Elizabeth Moore was baptized September 28, 2008.

Birthdays

10/1: Kathryn Congdon, Eric Hill, Lucy Mercadante

10/2: Mary Darby, Loretta Menzel

10/3: Samantha Gaefke, Andrew Hill, Evelyn Morales

10/4: Alex Rankin IV

10/5: Gene Crowder, Rick Lewis, Will Moore

10/6: Andrew Reagan

10/8: Elsa Karcher, Thelma Sasser, John Wall, Jr.

10/9: Colin Merritt

10/12: Alice Jordan

10/14: Christiana Conrad, Judy Stalder



10/15: Craig Darby, Stephen Greig, Emory Howell, Sandy Rankin III, John Yowell

10/16: Tyler Barrier, Paul Siceloff

10/17: Fritz Falkson, Jackson Merritt

10/19: Michael Charles, Austin Finch, Mary Wolff

10/21: Emily Finch, Jane Johnson

10/23: David Congdon, Robert Whitehorne

10/26: Stewart Greig, Ryan Saunders

10/27: Jake Goeke

10/29: Jason Schaffer

10/30: Trevor Gay, Maggie McDonald

10/31: Denise Reagan

If your birthday isn't mentioned here, or is incorrect, please call the church office at 886-4756 or e-mail Shannon at administrator@stmarysepisc.org. Thank you!

Serving In October

Lay Readers

October 5
11 a.m.: Revon Johnson

October 12
9 a.m.: Nancy Robinson
11 a.m.: Suzanne Lea

October 19
11 a.m.: Ed Crissman

October 26
11 a.m.: Barry Collum



Chalice Bearers

October 5
8 a.m.: Barry Collum
11 a.m.: Christiana Conrad
Evelyn Morales

October 12
8 a.m.: Rick Manning
9 a.m.: Rick Manning
11 a.m.: Bob Bender
Evelyn Morales

October 19
8 a.m.: Alicia Archibald
11 a.m.: Diane Popalis
Evelyn Morales

October 26
8 a.m.: Bryan Noah
11 a.m.: Bryan Noah
Evelyn Morales



Acolytes

October 5
8 a.m.: Sam Stalder
11 a.m.: Christiana Conrad
Lindsey Tripp
Alex Hill
Briggs McKenzie

October 12
8 a.m.: Spencer Witcher
9 a.m.: Lizzie Smith
11 a.m.: Sam Duckett
George Lindner
Katie Cottam
Sarah Lindner



October 19
8 a.m.: Ashlyn Congdon
11 a.m.: Margaret Hanson
KK Hanson
Jessica Zander
Sam Blackman
Alex Hill
Will Moore
Trevor Gay
Braeden Moore
Christiana Conrad

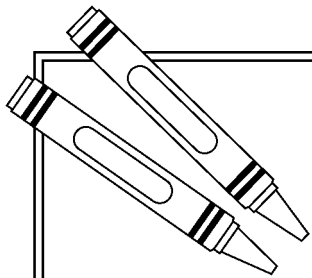
October 26
8 a.m.: John Yates
11 a.m.: Sam Stalder
Adam Howell
Emory Howell
Madeline Rhoton

Ushers

October 5 & October 12
Robert Kuhn, Bob Lett, Rick
Lewis, Mary Linthicum

October 19 & October 26
Jay Marsh, Randy May,
Jeff Miller, David Moore

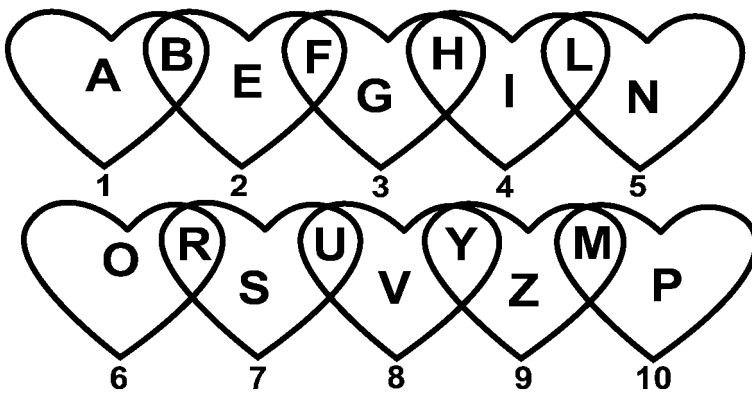
Kid's Page



Just for KIDS

THE SECOND GREAT Commandment

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV). Do you remember what the second great commandment is? Use the code below to discover it.



“ L
 4,5 6 8 2 8,9 6 7,8 6,7
 5 2 4 3 3,4 1,2 6 6,7
 1 7
 8,9 6 7,8 6,7 7 2 4,5 2,3
 ”

Matthew 22:39, NIV

Answer: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

As Jesus tells us in the Parable of the Good Samaritan, all people are our neighbors. You can make a difference for others, beginning in your own neighborhood. Make and share this craft so people know you care and are thankful for your community.

What you need:

- Clear, disposable, non-powdered, non-latex gloves
- Craft paint
- Paintbrush
- Popped popcorn (about 3 cups per glove)
- Rubber bands
- Ribbon or raffia
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Markers or crayons
- Hole punch



What you do:

1. Paint one side of the glove's fingertips to look like fingernails.
2. Fill the fingertips, then the rest of the glove, with cooled popcorn.
3. Wrap a rubber band around the wrist of the glove.
4. Tie ribbon or raffia around the rubber band.
5. Make a card. Ideas include "Welcome to the neighborhood," "Thanks for being such nice neighbors," "Here's how we'd like to serve you," etc.
6. Punch a hole in the corner of your card and tie it to the glove.
7. With an adult, pass out your "neighborly" gifts.



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We pray for the health and wellness of:

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Fax: (336) 886-6150

The deadline for submissions to the next Herald is October 20th.
Electronic entries can be emailed to: administrator@stmarysepisc.org

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bobc@stmarysepisc.org



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evermor11@aol.com



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