St. Gregory’s Genealogy Research Group

St. Gregory’s has a number of members of the congregation that are interested in genealogy. Some have done genealogy for years and some are just getting started. Recently, a group was formed, and we meet on the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. Field trips to the genealogy libraries, archives, historical cemeteries, and genealogy workshops are scheduled. The group has a Closed Group Facebook Page where upcoming events and research resources are posted. Thus far we have had two meetings (June and July) at the Bradburn Farm. Everyone brought their “Show and Tells” to show the group how they organize their research and how they present it for others to see. Everyone does it a little differently.

Some of the “Field Trips” we have done in June and July include:
- The Fort Worth Genealogy Society - presentation on the Fort Worth Library’s genealogy collection.
- The Fort Worth Central Library - tour and orientation by Suzanne Fritz, the Genealogy Librarian.
- The Arlington Family History Center - orientation and “How To” Session.
- The Arlington Public Library – various beginning and intermediate genealogy workshops by Mark Dellenbaugh, the Genealogy Librarian.
- Lineage Society Fair & Genealogical Workshop – representatives were present from the DAR, SAR, Mayflower Society and other Lineage Societies to discuss their organizations and what proof if needed to join.

So far, I think everyone has found the group informative, inspirational, and congenial. We would love to have you join us!!

Gayle Bradburn
“Wherever the bishop appears, there let the people be; as wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church.” This quote from St. Ignatius of Antioch in the first century attests to the importance of bishops from the earliest days of the Church. As our Anglican Catechism, To Be A Christian, explains, “The work of bishops is to represent and serve Christ and the Church as chief pastors, to lead in preaching and teaching the faith and in shepherding the faithful, to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church, and to bless, confirm and ordain, thus following in the tradition of the Apostles.” The bishop gives our Church a distinct character by the virtue of his office and what it represents. Unfortunately, there is much confusion over this character due to the co-opting of the terminology used to describe it by various denominations. Two of these terms are catholic and episcopal. Despite the fact that we are most definitely Anglicans, we are at the same time also catholic as well as episcopal, and it is because of the bishop that this is true.

First and foremost, we are catholic. The bishop makes us catholic through his role as the guardian of the faith once delivered. The word “catholic” comes from the Greek “kata,” - “according to” and “holos” - “whole.” So, we are catholic because we are a part of the universal (according to the whole) church. And this is maintained by the office of our bishop and his apostolic succession. There is a chart hanging in the parish hall which traces the lineage of our bishop, through consecration and the laying on of hands, all the way back to Jesus Christ and the apostles. It is his job to protect what we have been given and drive away any innovations contrary to Scripture. This is partly accomplished by the shepherding of his presbyters (clergy) who in turn shepherd their own flocks and lead them in right teaching.

The bishop is also what makes us episcopal. Despite the fact the Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA has deemed themselves THE Episcopal Church, they are in fact only AN episcopal church. The term episcopal is simply one of polity. The Anglican Church, the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the Roman Catholic Church are all episcopal in nature. The word again comes from the Greek, “episkopos,” meaning overseer or bishop. An episcopal church is a church governed by bishops, which we are.

The historic episcopate, the bishops, are an essential part of the Church. They continue the work of Christ as shepherd in guarding and guiding. This month, on August 5, our bishop, Jack Leo Iker will make his annual visitation. The bishop travels his diocese, visiting parishes to sort of check in on things and perform his episcopal duties to receive and confirm individuals who have been duly prepared. It is an opportunity for him to both address the congregation pastorally as well as experience the life of our parish. I hope that everyone will make the effort to attend that Sunday, bring some wonderful food, and join us in celebrating the wonderful gift we have been given in the Church that Christ has established and the faithful bishop we have been given. “Wherever the bishop appears, there let the people be.”

Fr. Alan Horton+

Sunday sermons are recorded, each Sunday, and archived at http://stgregorymansfield.org/sermons.

Jr. Warden’s Report

We had an electrician connect the water heater in the sacristy. We now have hot water there and in the restroom. It’s not scalding hot but if you don’t turn it on fully you will have hot enough water. He addressed the “flashing” light problem. They should not flash again.

We have a workday scheduled for Saturday August 4th in preparation for the Bishop’s visit. We will start at 8 A.M. and should be finished by 11 A.M. If I can I will have all of the mowing completed before Saturday. We will weed, sweep and make sure the grounds are clear of trash. We will dust the sanctuary. I will have furniture polish and microfiber cloths available.

Trice

Joined the Genealogy group. Enlightening!

August Birthdays
05 ~ Paul Jennings
06 ~ Micah Odunze
13 ~ Chinene Okafor
15 ~ Janie Smith
22 ~ Kathy Walker
30 ~ Thomas & Tate Hightower

August Anniversaries
16 ~ Trice & Barbara Edwards, 4th
19 ~ Jeff & Bernice Baldwin, 35th
20 ~ Fritz & Rita Barowsky
22 ~ Tony & Maria Casamento, 31st

August Memorials
Gayle Bradburn ~ thanksgiving
Linda Bass ~ Jana’s birthday thanksgiving
Baldwin’s ~ Anniversary thanksgiving
Colin Hiley ~ thanksgiving

Mark Your August Calendar
04 ~ Men’s Group, 8 am
Indoor church cleanup
05 ~ Bishop Iker visit & reception
08 ~ Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm
11 ~ St. Clara’s Guild, 9-12 pm
18 ~ Men’s Group, 8 am
Teacher Appreciation Dinner
19 ~ Teacher Blessing
21 ~ Vestry meeting, 6 pm
22 ~ First day of preschool
Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm
25 ~ DHC, 10 am
**Parish Life**

If you didn’t visit the parish hall during the summer months, you missed out on seeing some pretty awesome decorations! We had 8 fun filled weeks of summer camp that flew by quickly and now we gear up for the start of a new school year. This will be the preschool’s 18th year of operation. I will begin my 8th year here with the preschool and this marks the beginning of my 4th year as director! There’s never a dull moment and I have prayerfully held tight through some of the highs and lows of this roller coaster ride. Going into this school year I can’t help but be excited about what feels to be an incredible “high point” for the preschool. There is a renewed sense of comradery between the church and the preschool and a shared goal and vision of growth going forward.

We will be making improvements to the facilities and sprucing things up for the coming school year. Classrooms will be getting some touch ups to the paint on the walls. We will be moving some classroom furniture around to best utilize our space and have some additional storage options for our teachers. Our biggest project is the face lift of the Fish Classroom (better known as your church nursery!). The room was in major need of an update and we are pleased to be able to create a more calming atmosphere for our littlest friends. With the church growing and new families visiting, what a blessing to have the first room they see when they walk in be a safe, inviting space for their children! As always, many thanks to Trice Edwards for taking my vision and turning it into a practical reality! Also, a big thank you to Robert Bloomfield and Walt Bradburn for volunteering their time to collaborate with Trice on this project. Thank you to all involved for being the hands and feet of Jesus and for the labor of love you have shown to both the preschool and the church body.

Teacher In-Service week is August 13th-16th. Meet the Teacher Night is Thursday August 16th, come and go from 6:00-7:30pm. It is always nice for the incoming families to be able to meet some of the parishioners and feel a sense of community. Volunteer opportunities include making copies, accepting supplies and sorting into bins, directing families to the appropriate check ins and classrooms. If you are available to volunteer at Meet the Teacher Night, please let me know.

The Fall Festival is just two months away. Notices have been sent to former vendors and we are hoping for more new vendors. If you know any crafty people that might like to join us, the registration form is on the church website. As for members in the church, we will need many volunteers to help make the Fall Festival a success. Thank you for supporting our church family and church. If you have questions about anything, please call Kathy Walker at 325-214-0680.

Kathy Walker

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**Preschool Happenings**

If you didn’t visit the parish hall during the summer months, you missed out on seeing some pretty awesome decorations! We had 8 fun filled weeks of summer camp that flew by quickly and now we gear up for the start of a new school year. This will be the preschool’s 18th year of operation. I will begin my 8th year here with the preschool and this marks the beginning of my 4th year as director! There’s never a dull moment and I have prayerfully held tight through some of the highs and lows of this roller coaster ride. Going into this school year I can’t help but be excited about what feels to be an incredible “high point” for the preschool. There is a renewed sense of comradery between the church and the preschool and a shared goal and vision of growth going forward.

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Pic #1 Fr. Horton testing out the steamer. Pic #2 Robert Bloomfield, Walt Bradburn, Fr. Horton, Trice Edwards prepping the nursery for renovation. (photo cred: Elizabeth Rivera) Elizabeth Rivera

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Bishop Iker is making his annual visit to St. Gregory’s Sunday August 5th. Please try to be here to help with his welcome. A reception will follow the Service.
Pet Partners is a National Animal Therapy Program.

Paws with Partners is the local group in Mansfield with fourteen registered teams. They visit hospitals, nursing homes, memory care, airport, schools and universities. Several of our teams have been visiting St. Gregory's Preschool.

Saturday, July 21st our group held the Pet Partners Evaluation for new teams at St Gregory's. Six out of nine teams passed and three needed some more training. St. Gregory's Parish Hall was ideal place to conduct the event and appreciate the opportunity to be able to use the room.

Those in the group picture that are members of our group left to right: Marsha, Vickie, Abby & Duke, Lana, Pat, Ginny, Claire, Gary, and Susan.

Abby Wilson

Pool Party at the Sabourin’s

A hot day with a fun pool and a cool gathering place for good company and good food. Food graded Supremo +++ following two heaping plates and a bit of desert by our tester.
Fascinating! Jesus is walking on the water. It's the middle of the night. A gale is blowing, disciples are rowing.

They cry out: “It's a ghost!” Is this a spoof they are looking at?

But Jesus says: “Fear not, it’s me!” But even Peter is still wondering. Is it a ghost or is this apparition the real person in the flesh? Are they seeing him out of focus? O-O-F, out of focus? He puts the question to the test -

“If this is really you, then tell me to come to you on the water.”

If it’s really you? Despite Jesus’ clarification Peter is still not quite sure. Is this OOF or a spoof? Funnily enough he has one way to prove it. If this really is the Lord then the likelihood is that he will get me to do the same things that he does. That’s Jesus!

Peter knows, and wouldn’t it so bless us to know it too, that Jesus does extraordinary and miraculous things and then gets us to do them as well; feeding the five thousand, healing the sick, Peter knows this is only too true. And here he is again, doing something quite extraordinary. Doubtless, thinks Peter, he will then ask me to do it as well. That’s the way he works. So let’s see.....

Peter gets to really know it’s Jesus because he gets him to do the same extraordinary things that he is already doing. We know it’s really Jesus because he gets us to do the most extraordinary things - like healing the sick with him.

If we truly know the kingdom we know that miraculous things happen when it moves. Miracles are the bow wave of the kingdom. If we are working with Jesus in seeing the kingdom move forwards then we can see the miraculous changes in peoples lives. Let’s seek the kingdom first, together with and in his righteousness and we shall be witness to these bow wave things more and more.

Grace and Peace - Mike Endicott

Picture taken at the Lineage Society Program at the Arlington DAR. I think the men were from Sons of the Republic.

The Chant is archived on St. Gregory’s website: http://www.stgregorymansfield.org/this-week/the-chant-2
You can make the pictures and type as large as you desire.
Our Clergy and Staff

“Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him”
John 13:16

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