

# THE PARISH POST

Dear Friends,

Happy Valentine's Day! Now according to *The Penguin Dictionary of Saints*, there is no indication as to how this day got connected to flowers, hearts, candy, or stuffed animals. There was a Christian martyr in the early centuries of the church's history named St. Valentine, but not much is known about him and how he connects to the holiday we now observe. Yet, despite not having a clear Christian connection, I believe it is good idea to spend Valentine's Day letting those you love know how important they are to your life. This might include flowers, candy, or just a simple phone call. Although, I must confess that your Rector is partial to Cadbury milk chocolate.

Apart from flowers and chocolate, there are three things that I would like to share with you this month. First, I invite you to begin your Lenten observance with our **Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m.** in Gable Hall. Also, be sure to attend one of our Ash Wednesday services at 7:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., or 7:00 p.m. **Ash Wednesday** is a holy day of obligation, so I encourage all of our parishioners to *make time to begin Lent in the proper way by attending one of these services.*

Secondly, Fr. Graham and I will be offering a special Lenten program this year (you can read more about it inside this issue of the Post). While we have had excellent programs in the past, we have struggled to offer Lenten programs that are truly intergenerational. This year, our program will embrace all age groups and families in our parish. I hope you will join us for our **Lenten Family Evenings** at St. Martin's – **February 29, March 14, and March 28.**

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to highlight an important ministry in our church: **Stephen Ministry.** If you know someone who is struggling with grief, depression or another personal crisis, our church has a group of specially trained lay men and women called *Stephen Ministers* who are willing and able to offer prayers, support, and comfort to those in need. If you have someone you would like to refer, please contact one of our clergy in the church office and we will be able to coordinate a Stephen Minister for that individual. You do not have to walk this path alone. Let us share it with you.



So during a month of commercial love, I urge you to dive a bit deeper into its *true* meaning; love one another by telling loved ones how much they mean to you, love your neighbor by referring those in need to Stephen Ministry, and show your love for our community by attending our Lenten Family Evenings.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. John

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 **Saint  
in the Martin  
Fields** 

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*To Follow Christ and  
Lead Others to Him.*

*Continued inside*

**The Parish Post**  
February 2012



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The Reverend Dr. John F. McCard, Rector

The Reverend Wells Newell Graham,  
Senior Assistant to the Rector

The Reverend Noel C. Burtenshaw,  
Assistant Priest for Pastoral Care

The Reverend Charles B. Fulghum,  
Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr. James E. Hamner,  
Headmaster of St. Martin's School

The Reverend Edith W. Woodling,  
Deacon and Chaplain to St. Martin's  
School

**Staff**

Ingrid Siegert,  
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Melinda Mischik,  
Director of Children's Education

Kimberly Sheridan,  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jacki Kirsch  
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Susan Breunig,  
Business Manager

Tara Fardellone,  
Administrator of Communications

**The Vestry**

Senior Warden: Karen Boor

Junior Warden: Rex Simms

Jake Duffy, Chad Duncan,

Suzanne Ford, Mitchell Haas, Bruce Hall,

Randy Hughes, Leigh Fry, Gay Jolley,

Tim Peek, Sally Perez, Nancy Runion,

Ian Street, and Ann Martin Vitti.

**Deadlines for  
Upcoming Editions of  
The Parish Post**

Do you have announcements, editorials, or photographs to submit for *The Parish Post*? Please send them to Tara at tfardellone@stmartins.org

**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

March Issue ..... Feb. 8  
April Issue ..... Mar. 7

**LENT 2012**

**WHO IS LADY GAGA? WHO IS JESUS?**

All 6th - 12th graders are invited to join Kimberly Sheridan for a Lenten Series that will be offered on Wednesday nights following the Stations of the Cross and a Dinner. Please make plans to meet in the Rite 13 room after 6:00 p.m. Wednesday on February 29, March 14, and March 28 during the "It Takes a Village" program. We will be comparing and contrasting Jesus with Lady GaGa and other famous people.



**SPECIAL LENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

This year, we will have three very special evenings for families at St. Martin's. People of all ages will want to plan to attend these Lenten Family Evenings. We will have Stations of the Cross and dinner, followed by a shared experience by young children and the rest of us as we better understand the Holy Eucharist. (Do not think for one moment that these lessons are designed exclusively for children). Read the article to the right for Father Graham's own thoughts. All children are invited, whether they have never taken communion, have taken it for only a short period of time, or have taken it for years. This is a preparation class for even the most seasoned ten-year old! And singles, couples without children, and those with children are encouraged to attend. All, in fact, are absolutely necessary for this "It Takes a Village" program.

The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Stations and will be completed before 7:45 p.m. There will be a nursery available by reservation. The dates are February 29, March 14, and March 28. Each evening will include soup, salad, and pizza. There will be a small charge for dinner. **There will be reservation cards for both dinner and the nursery in church soon or contact the church office to make reservations with Jacki Kirsch at 404-228-0752.**

For more information contact Father Graham at 404-228-0790 or

Melinda Mischik 404-228-0754 or mmischik@stmartins.org.

**Key Lenten dates to mark on your calendar are:**

February 21 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 22 Ash Wednesday services throughout the day

February 29 1st Lenten Family Evening

March 14 2nd Lenten Family Evening

March 28 3rd Lenten Family Evening

**Next Blood Drive  
February 12  
Gable Hall 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**LENT 2012**

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE - LENTEN FAMILY EVENINGS**

Every time I move along behind the altar rail administering Holy Communion, I find myself wishing that each of you who are in the congregation could see what I see. I believe you know me well enough by now to be certain that our weekly Holy Meal, the Eucharist, is central to my understanding of living in community as Christians. Therefore, it's only natural that the sharing of the Holy Meal itself is dear to me. I love seeing all of you and knowing that whatever our week may have held, we are here being given Holy Food for the journey ahead, a fresh new start.

I particularly wish you could see the looks on the faces of our young brothers and sisters- in- Christ as they receive the Blessed Sacrament. Anybody who protests that "they are too young to understand" hasn't seen what I've seen! They know this is special and, equally importantly, they know they are part of the family, the Family of God.

This year, on three Wednesday Evenings during Lent, we will all participate in the preparation of young children and their families to appreciate even more the joy of receiving Holy Communion. This will not be a priest alone doing this teaching preparation. Instead, this will be a fully intergenerational experience in which all of us contribute to the preparation of our "Communion Families," as we will call them. These "Communion Families" will be especially recognized on Palm Sunday and all the children who participated in the three sessions will be given a memento of their experience. We want this to be the beginning of a lifetime of faithful reception of the Holy Communion.

We'll begin with a good meal together. Gable Hall will be set up like a theater- in- the- round. In the center of the hall will be a "living room." I will join the kids on the floor of the "living room" and spend time with them, much like the Children's Sermons you've seen me do. But, it won't be just me. I'll draw in folks sitting around the living room. The objective will be to help our younger members to understand that they are part of a community comprised of persons younger, older, and in between. We are all there helping to more fully incorporate them into meaningful participation in the Holy Eucharist. This whole approach can be understood by using the phrase, "It takes a village."

I've done this in several parishes over the years and the response on the part of everyone has been amazing. No, it's not the usual "Lenten Speaker" format; it's something far more inspirational and inclusive. On Easter Day, we'll all know that we were a part in this special experience of our "Communion Families". More details will be forthcoming. I wanted to tell you about this now because I'm so excited about it!

In Christ,

*Father Graham*

Fr. Graham

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Shrove Tuesday is Tuesday, Feb. 21st

The Knights of Saint Martin men's group is sponsoring the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 21 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Saint Martin's Boy Scout Troop. Scouts, please note the leaders of Troop 379 have issued a call to action and want all available hands on duty to help serve the pancake supper at that day and hour.



**Ticket Prices:**  
Adults \$6.00  
Kids (12 and under) \$4.00  
Family \$19.00 (max)  
All Donations accepted!

RSVP via email to Jacki Kirsch at Jkirsch@stmartins.org or by phone at 404 228-0752. There will also be reservation slips in the bulletins in Church that you may drop into your offering plate or drop off with Jacki in the church office.



## NINE QUESTIONS EVERY PARISHIONER SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER ABOUT STEPHEN MINISTRY

### The Last of the 9 Questions—What Next?

Over the last few months, we have discussed the valuable contribution that Stephen Ministers and the Stephen Ministry program make to our congregation and to the community. And we have covered six (6) of the “9 Questions Every Parishioner Should Be Able to Answer about Stephen Ministry.” *Do you feel that you have a better understanding than you did before?*

This meaningful ministry makes a profound difference in the lives of hurting individuals and in the entire congregation. *Would you like to be a part of helping someone right here in our own church or community?*

We would like to personally invite EVERY parishioner to PRAYFULLY consider Stephen Ministry. God has called each Christian to some form of service—**Could Stephen Ministry Be YOUR Calling?**

In the coming months, we will talk more about serving as a Stephen Minister. And, we will begin actively recruiting for our fall training class. **So this month, we conclude our series with the following questions:**

### 7. What qualifications would I need to be a Stephen Minister?

Are you the kind of person that people often seek out when they need to talk? Are you caring, compassionate, mature, patient, and willing to listen? Do you derive satisfaction from offering one-on-one care? Are you looking for a way to serve God in a more deeply personal way?

Do you have good boundaries? Can you remain compassionate, yet not become too burdened with someone’s problems? Do you regularly pray for other people? Do you want to make a personal impact on others beyond just writing a check or donating a few hours of work?

Do you have a couple of extra hours a week to complete the initial training, attend Supervision twice a month to support and care for your fellow Stephen Ministers, and meet with a Care Receiver?

*If you answered “yes” to the majority of the above questions, you already possess many of the characteristics and attributes of a good Stephen Minister.*

### 8. If I want to be a Stephen Minister or find out more, with whom should I speak?

That’s an EASY one—talk to any Stephen Leader, Stephen Minister, or Clergy. They can speak with you further and help you begin the process.

### 9. What’s involved in becoming a Stephen Minister?

#### A. Determine Interest

Simply fill out an application and you will then meet with the Stephen Leaders to discuss what is involved and explore your interest in further detail. They will answer your questions and help you to determine if this ministry is right for you.

#### B. Initial Training

Once you and the Stephen Leader team determine that Stephen Ministry is a good choice for your talents, skills, and gifts, you will complete the required 50 hours of initial training. Our training class will begin in the fall and will meet weekly (usually on Tuesday evening from 7-9). Training consists of reading, discussion, role-playing, and prayer. When your training is complete in the spring, you and your group will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers.

#### C. Serving as a Stephen Minister

After you are commissioned, we ask that you agree to serve as an active Stephen Minister for at least 2 years. Remember--once you are a Stephen Minister, you are ALWAYS a Stephen Minister. You can take a sabbatical or even serve at another church if you were to move.

*An active Stephen Minister agrees to do the following:*

1. Be available to minister to a Care Receiver by meeting with them in person once a week, ministering to them by phone as needed, and being available to them in the event of a crisis.

2. Attend and participate in twice-monthly confidential Supervision meetings. These are generally held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. *Supervision a requirement to serve as an active Stephen Minister and should take precedence over any other scheduling conflict. They are an important and valuable part of supporting one another, delivering the level of care required by Stephen Ministry, and also include our Continuing Education.*

3. Complete the required CONFIDENTIAL reporting. **Remember NO NAMES ARE EVER USED!** Participate with group community building by sharing devotions, and opening or closing prayers as assigned.

4. Promote Stephen Ministry with positive encouragement within the congregation and community through discus-

#### Active Stephen Leaders

Kathy Evenson  
Susan Hamilton (also active SM)  
Nancy Runion (also active SM)  
Deborah Thompson (also active SM)  
Bill Monk

#### Active Stephen Ministers

Pam Beaubian  
Phyz Lemmon  
Cheryl Ponder  
Mary Floyd  
Gay Jolley  
Andy Moore  
Herb Thompson  
Jane Jenkins

## PAIRS AND SPARES

The Pairs and Spares social group will meet on Saturday, February 4, 2012 for our potluck supper and entertainment. It will be held in Gable Hall beginning at 6:30 P.M. The format of social hour, supper, and entertainment will be the same as we’ve had in the past. However, this year we will only have two teams--the blue team led by Rex and Joy Simms, and the gold team led by Louise Kiley and Joe and Fran Pearson. By now, you have been contacted and informed of which team you are on.

Arrangements for our entertainment are still being formalized and your phone caller will phone you and give you the information. The members of the Blue Team will be the host group for February and the gold team will have those duties for the March 3 get-together.

Pairs and Spares is a social group opened to all adults at St. Martin’s and their friends and neighbors. In 2012, we will meet in February, March, April, May, September, October, and in December for our annual banquet. We welcome new members and would love for you to come and join us for an evening of fellowship and good food and drink. Please contact Joy Simms at 770-457-4986 or Louise Kiley at 770-234-9176 if you would like further information about our group.

## TO ALL WOMEN OF ST. MARTIN’S CHURCH

**YOU** are invited to join with many other women of St. Martin’s for a day of fellowship and fun. The ECW is sponsoring “Back to Basics”, a women’s retreat with leader Muriel Cash, on Saturday, February 18, from 9 am – 3:30 pm. Your fee of \$15.00 will provide continental breakfast, lunch, and a well-known, highly regarded speaker. Also, the nursery will be available.

**Reservations may be made on Sunday mornings by leaving your name and a check in the ECW box in the church office, or by contacting**

**Marcie Schwefler (marcia.schwefler@gmail.com/678.591.8627) or  
Susan Hamilton (shamilton.atl@gmail.com/404.255.8400).**

**Reservations are a must!** Two parishioners who have attended Muriel Cash’s retreats tell us we will feel a sense of peace and calm while at the retreat and go away remembering forever much of what she has to say. Look forward to seeing many, many of the ladies of St. Martin’s on February 18!

## ROY WISE VISIT

Mark your calendar for February 4 at 6:30 PM to meet and greet with one another, with supper at 6:50 p.m., and program at 7:30 p.m. Roy Wise with the Pitts Theology Library of Emory University will give a presentation on the Kessler collection of rare books, including the Book of Common Prayer (1633). Bring a covered dish and \$2 per person (which covers appetizers and beverages). Call 770.457.4986 or 770.234.9176 for further information.

## FOOD, FUN, AND MORE!

What? The St. Mary Magdalene games luncheon will take place this year on Friday, February 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For \$15.00, you will receive a delicious lunch, have a chance at a large assortment of door prizes, and play the games of your choice. We'll provide the cards and tallies for bridge and games that use a bridge deck; if your pleasure is scrabble, yahtze or something else, please feel free to bring the equipment you'll need. Tickets are available in the Church Office or contact Gay Jolley (770.457.1063) or Joy Simms (770.457.4986). Tickets will also be sold between Sunday services, but there will be **NO** tickets sold at the door, so get yours early because attendance is strictly limited. See you there!

Please drop in for a

Bridal Tea

for

Jacki Kirsch



Sunday, February 12

2:00 p.m -4:00 p.m.

The Parlor

Jacki is registered at Crate & Barrel; Bed, Bath & Beyond and Cook's Warehouse.

Contact: Susan sbreunig@stmartins.org or Melinda mmischik@stmartins.org

## COMFORT FOOD COOK - OFF - FEBRUARY 19, 2012

3:00pm – 6:00pm in Gable Hall

Soups and Stews and Chili, Oh My! What is your favorite Winter-time comfort food? Bring on your Stew Pots, your Dutch Ovens, and your Crock Pots to “Stir it Up” for our first annual Comfort Food Cook-Off. This year will be a little different than the Chili Cook off that we have had in the past. We have had some awesome Chili recipes to share with our church community and now we want to see what else you've got!

Sign-ups will begin on February 5 for you to “bring it on” in one of three categories: Soups, Stews, and Chili. You will be



competing with the best of the best at St. Martin's and prizes will be awarded in each category along with awards for Best Dressed, Best Themes, and other competitions (to be named later or sprung on you the day of the event, just to keep it interesting...).

Bring your smack talk and your tasty recipes to Gable Hall on Sunday, February 19, from 3pm – 6pm. Even if you aren't competing, plan on stopping by and tasting these awesome culinary delights! To sign up, see Tim Peek between services, fill out a sign up card in the bulletin and drop it into the offering plate

during Church, or give it to Jacki Kirsch in the Church Office.

## HEARD IN THE PARISH

By Rev. Noel C. Burtenshaw

On the Sunday before the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, I was most impressed that the youth leaders in our Sunday school class invited our young people to come to the Suthers Center the following week and do volunteer work. That would be Dr. King's wish – the perfect way to honor his holiday feast.

It cast my mind back to the actual evening he was killed in Memphis; April 20, 1968. It was a Sunday and I felt so horrified at his murder. I called a friend, Rabbi Jacob Rothschild, the spiritual leader of the Temple in Atlanta. The Rabbi was a personal friend of the civil rights leader.

He immediately said he was shocked at the news. We talked a bit and then he said “come on over and we'll go and see Coretta (Mrs. King)” I went right away to his home and picked him up.

I drove while he showed me the way. It was raining heavily. When we reached the King home, the police had the house surrounded. They gave us entrance to the large, well lit home. Young children (the King Children) were happily playing supervised by an adult. She directed us to Mrs.

King's bedroom. The young widow was speaking on the phone. Dr. King's staff was all in Memphis.

After a few moments, Mrs. King turned to us. The Rabbi embraced her and then introduced her to me. Together, we offered a prayer with the sorrowing woman. She thanked us for coming. The phone continued to ring so we left.

It was an awful night but one I will never forget. The rain seemed to pour down without any let up. I recall the Rabbi saying “this rain will keep people off the streets” and it did. There were no disturbances of any kind that night in Atlanta.

It has been many years ago now. We remember Dr. King's life and legacy. We follow his legacy in the way our young people in our Sunday school class now do. We seek to help each other as his sacrifice is recalled.

Our efforts give new life to his memory. The Suthers Center of St. Martin's carries on his vision and all of us, young and old, who participate, keep his dream alive.

## THE USHER MINISTRY NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

If you are already a regular at the 11:15 a.m. service and would like to help the Usher teams for this service, please contact Jim McKechnie (404-272-5000 or mckechnie@comcast.net). The months most in need are in the following order: January, September, October, and February. In addition, if you would like to help at the earlier service, that would be appreciated as well. Thank you!

## WINTER AND GOD

By: Mary Sheridan Floyd

We are deep in the throes of “winter.” Even though winter here has been more than mild, still it is evident that it is winter.

Our trees, once verdant with clusters of leaves, have now shed all that finery. Their beautiful branches, once clothed in leaves, are now empty and stark...but no less beautiful.

During the summer and fall months, our trees are just beautiful, leafy vegetation. We admire them for their symmetry and lush appearance. They provide us shade from the stifling heat of summer and clean the air we breathe. They offer a place from which to hang hammocks and swings while sheltering us from the summer elements. Their long arms protect the birds from heavy rains and squirrels from being chased by dogs. Our children swing on them with abandon. We lie underneath their canopy and dine al fresco with family and friends. What a wonderful thing! Greens of every hue against the blues and whites of our skies. A palette of the masters.

And then comes autumn – when those same, green, lush clusters of leaves turn russet, gold, and red and inevitably, they fall from the limbs of the once-verdant trees onto the cold ground beneath them.

It is then, during the winter, that the true form of our trees is seen. Those long arms, twisting and turning and aiming at the sun, are revealed. Some are uniformly erect like soldiers in a column – all seeking the same source of light, all at the same growth rate. Some are startling in their appearance because they look so bizarre. Twigs, branches and limbs twist over each other, entwine with each other, shoot away from each other, but all in a dance toward the sun.

We are privileged to see the underpinnings of these friends. We see their stark beauty against a moon-lit night sky and wonder at their singular beauty. We are given a peek into what only God could create. The trees stand before us, and before their maker, without benefit of disguise or foppery. Nothing to hide their true form and their true purpose – that of seeking the light so they may continue to grow and thrive. Each of us is like one of those startling, beautiful trees. We, too, are reaching and dancing toward something we instinctively understand to be our creator...our God.

We stand before our maker with all sorts of disguises and foppery; we wear different disguises to fit different occasions. We are rarely seen without these props – sometimes even before God. Perhaps, at the beginning of this new year, we should throw these disguises away, allowing God to see us fully and allow ourselves to stand before Him with all our singular quirks, twists and behaviors and know that we are all dancing toward something in common... Our Father, Our Creator.

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## CHILDREN AND THE 2ND HALF OF THE YEAR

We have a lot going on during the next six months around here and I do not want your children to miss any of the fun (& learning) opportunities. In Sunday school, we will be studying classic Lenten lessons. We will focus on learning all we can about Jesus' earthly ministry. We will learn how Jesus reveals the true nature of God as well as how our sacred traditions help us to grow as Christians. Following Easter, we will have a few key lessons before we break for the summer. They will include; the Ascension, Pentecost, and lessons on the Book of Common Prayer.

Key events not taking place in the classroom or chapel in-

clude: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Three Lenten Family Evenings focused on the church as a family, the Parade on Palm Sunday, and the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch.



Then, the Children's choir Concert and Teacher party will occur on May 20 and of course, Vacation Bible School on June 11 – 15.

Please contact Father McCard or myself with any questions concerning our children's programming at any time. We welcome your involvement.

Melinda Mischik, Dir. Of Christian Formation for Children  
mmischik@stmartins.org 404-228-0754

## TURKEY TRAGEDY - NO BIRDS SURVIVED

But, Boy Are They Tasty!

Blessings come in many forms and we are always surprised by them. On an annual basis, one of my treasured blessings comes in the form of a dead bird. A bird that was once promoted by Benjamin Franklin to be the symbol of our nation: the Turkey. Based on historical precedence, it would be very odd to serve a Bald Eagle as the centerpiece of our traditional Thanksgiving dinner. However, as Americans and certainly by Southern standards, we would have found a way to fry them too.

The idea of frying turkeys as a fundraising event came about during a conversation I had with Kirk Hegwood in 2006 over a plate of (yes, you guessed it...) fried fish at the Masons' Lodge in Chamblee. Could we have a fundraising event to fry turkeys at the church, sell them to our fellow parishioners, have them picked up all in time for Thanksgiving? It was a naïve, preposterous, bold venture that had disaster written all over it. So, why not? Go for it!

Since that first Deep Fried Turkey event, our parish has fried over 450 turkeys (465, to be exact) and rose over \$10,000 for St Martin's Outreach and the Emmaus House Thanksgiving Basket programs. This year alone, we rose over \$1,000 for Outreach and \$670 for Emmaus House. But, you see, the donations are hardly the beginning of the blessings I can count when we plan for this event each year.

Every year, we have been blessed by non-rainy weather. It has certainly been cold at oh-dark-thirty when the preparations began but we have soldiered on. Rick Cobb and I have fashioned several contingency plans “just in case” but thankfully, we haven't had to put any into action. Water and hot oil don't play well together! It seems that God has recognized that a group of men and Boy Scouts should be given the opportunity to share the cloak that is our mission at St. Martin in the Fields and to keep safe in the pursuit.

There have been many times (in fact every year...) where I have turkeys unsold only to have someone from our church community buy that last bird (or more) for us to meet our goal. There have been countless times that someone will step in at the last minute to prevent us taking a loss by opening up their heart and checkbook. I am eternally grateful!

I have many stories (as you can imagine) that all end with thankful, gracious recipients who walk away with the fruits of our labors. The smiles and their excitement show as they come into the incredible aroma surrounding Gable hall to pick up their turkey treasure knowing that it

is a truly special Thanksgiving treat.

It would not have been possible without the most incredible blessing of all; the community of amazing volunteers who share their equipment, talents, and time to create the synergy that shapes this event. I have made long-lasting friendships with these folks who sacrifice a precious commodity in this day and age, their personal time. They all do it willingly and with no complaint. There is magic in the air when we douse these hapless birds in oil heated to 350 degrees.

I am amazed at what we accomplish each year. From the time we say our prayer on Thanksgiving eve morning until that last turkey is picked up, this team of individuals work efficiently and smoothly together. It is an amazing human machine and I am proud to be a part of the Turkey Fry Gang!

It is truly rewarding to hear from those of you who bought a Deep Fried Turkey on how great it tastes and what a wonderful addition it was to your Thanksgiving Dinner. This is an extension of sharing the cloak with your friends and families and sharing the blessing with others. We also have many return customers!

This year, our Fry Corps included: our veteran team of Rick (Fry turkey master) Cobb, Will (Volunteering is in my blood!) Cobb, Bob (Prep master) Hamilton, Sean (Tote Board) Murphy, Charles (The Rock) Nama, Steve (Mr. Dependable) Short and Allan (Pizza Man) Tyler. Along with our veteran crew we had a second generation of volunteers with Joe Hamilton (son of Allen (Awesome Turkey Rub) Hamilton) and Spencer Short (son of Steve (Mr. Dependable) Short).

We also had an amazing group of Boy Scouts: Will Jones, Tyler Spitzer, Patrick Corbett, Conor Croft and Ryan Kelly along with Scout Dads Clarkson Jones and Steve Spitzer. In fact, some of these scouts have been with us since we began this event in 2006!

A special thanks goes to those parishioners who donated equipment, Rick Brumley, John Burton, Cory Crotty, Bill McGinnis and Anne Marie Madden.

**OK! Let's do it again in 2012 and make it a banner year with 100 turkeys sold and devoured!**

Thank you for your support!

Head Turkey,

Tim Peek

## **WHAT PRESENT WOULD YOU GIVE JESUS?**

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By: Toni Cobb

We are enjoying the church season of Epiphany, the commemoration of the coming of the Magi (among other things, but this is my favorite).

This part of the story, the beginning of Christ's journey, is much enjoyed by the children. Their imaginations are captured. The Magi have a grand adventure; visits from Angels, the riding of camels, danger from Herod, and a bright star leading them. They have neat names, the aforementioned Magi, Wise Men, Kings Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior. And.....PRESENTS! Oh yes, we cannot forget the presents. Every year in Children's Worship, we talk about the valuable gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. What are these presents, and why were they given to Jesus?

On Sunday, January 8, I asked the children, "What present would YOU give Jesus?" I enjoyed the responses so much I wanted to share them with you.

A book. (Why a book?) So Jesus has something to read (I should have known the answer to that, yes?)

A race car track...the cars go fast and it is fun.

A camping truck...it is better than a tent.

There were quite a few practical gift ideas like a blanket for warmth, clothes, and pajamas because the hay in the manger is scratchy.

Some of the suggestions were more Magi-centric, pretty gems, a crown (Jesus is a king), and more myrrh (one can never have enough myrrh)

My personal favorite is....A bicycle....so he doesn't have to ride a camel

...in closing, one of the sweetest answers was....A pillow pet. (Why a pillow pet?) They are soft and you hug them.

The kids really liked the idea of giving Jesus a gift. Needless to say, I was utterly charmed. We have something more precious than gold, frankincense, and myrrh ...we have the children of St. Martin's. Thanks for sharing them with me.

## **YES TO YOUTH!**

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Dear Parents of Youth,

Please take a moment to read the below article on Teenage Love written by by Nancy Kalish, Ph.D:

<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/sticky-bonds/200906/teenagers-in-love>

Happy Valentine's Day!

Kimberly Sheridan

Youth Coordinator



Please see PDF version of the February 2012  
Calendar linked below the Parish Post on the  
St. Martin's website. Thank you!

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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1 Pat Gooding Tony Perez David Tucker Sally Tucker	Jarrett Jost Catherine Martin Leslie Marwitz Merritt Melker, IV Lynda Mitchell	13 Maxine Delaney Sean Kennedy Gail McMillan	18 Susan Brown Miles Connor, III Bill Easterlin, Jr.	23 Karen Boor
2 Steve Lamastra Andrew Owens	8 Christopher Duncan Charlie Fortin Graham Welsh	14 Andrew Henning Charlie Henning Sarah Rook	19 Drew Beck Julia Beck Anna Bush Neil Conrad	24 Samuel Alkire Grant Gaffney Annie Guest Chase Ingraham Tyler Nicholson Nancy Easterlin Smith
3 Jodie Guest, MD Chris Nama Tom Spetalnick	9 Lile Ha Kirk Harpole Susan Porter	15 Quinn Francis Ian Gaffney Robert Jochim Stacy Parker	Kathryn Little Kelli Marshburn	25 Valerie Croft Emily Wells Paul Wells
4 Pat Cantrell Jeffrey Inman Emma Mack Holt Mack Mrs. John Mills Shannon Murphy Taryn Murphy	Caroline Roy Michael Slater	Megan Ramsey Gordon Smith Lee Ann Trzcienski	20 Bill Blashke Penn Davenport, V Caroline Duffy Gracie Hudgins Ed Johnson, Jr.	26 Obie Clayton, Jr Addie Duke Suzanne Ford
5 Reed Farris Benjamin Park	10 Addie Tyler	16 Allison Affleck Mary Alice Bancroft Sissy Fitzgerald Andrew Morris Heidi Mulling Charles Robinson	21 Jack Croft, V Jonathan Mills Mark Niepoky	27 Katie Hall Mitchell Maloney, Jr Pat Marshburn Tom Reilly Wesley Rowe
6 Samuel Thrower	11 Bill Barney, III Iris Holden Erin Holloway Deborah Lee Betty Nolting Rebecca Price	17 Elizabeth Bell Todd Deweese Grant Ford Jane Fry Katherine Green Lewis Johnson Mitch Rue, Jr. Robert Tucker, IV Connie Wright	22 Josie Barton Sarah Belisle Michael Brown Betty Boone Etheridge Allison Henderson Eric Hughes Jip Inglis, II Sid Oakley	28 David Crew Elizabeth Smith
7 Dave Allen Emma Haynes Michael Holloway Howard Jack Charlotte Jones	12 Judith Fuller Tom Johnson Amelia Kegel Kate McDonald Barbara Skrobko Laine Smith			29 Catherine Preston

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*Special thanks to Milt Fletcher, Helen Ingebritsen, Gay Jolley, Irma Martin, Cheryl and Warren Josephson, and Joe Pearson. They do a tremendous job of assembling The Parish Post and other special communications projects.*

*If you are interested in joining this tenacious volunteer crew, please call me at 404.228.0777.*

*-Tara Fardellone, Administrator of Communications*