

Bishop Reed Visits

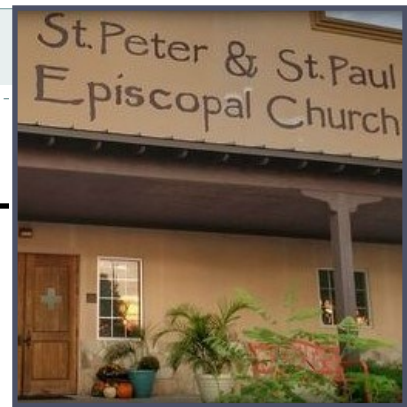


COVID RESTRICTIONS REVISED

Bishop David Reed visited St. Peter and St. Paul on Sunday, May 23. He is always a welcome visitor and we are pleased that he was able to spend the day with us. During the Bishop's Committee meeting with Bishop Reed, the following guidelines were revised.

- **Masks are optional for most church events.** Fully vaccinated people are no longer *required* to wear masks or socially distance during church activities or events. People who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing. No one will be checking, asking, or otherwise investigating anyone's vaccination status.
- **Masks are still required for some activities.** Clergy and lay ministers will continue to wear masks to distribute communion. Youth and Children's ministry leaders are still required to wear masks if working with those under the age of 12 due to the vaccine being unavailable at this time for younger age groups.
- **Church is open!** Formal and informal gatherings will return in line with our county and city requirements. As before, please schedule events with the church office.
- **Communion in both kinds is back.** We will offer communion in both kinds beginning this Sunday, 30 May with one restriction. The common cup will not be offered. Instead, we will practice intinction. Initially this means for those who wish to receive the cup, Fr. Mike will dip (intinct) the host into the cup and place it on the tongue. This is to prevent many fingers dipping into the cup during communion. More instructions will be given on Sunday morning.
- **Congregational singing is back.** If and when we begin processing in and out with the choir, the choir will not sing while in procession. We still want to maintain some social distance while singing.
- **Altar servers will return.**

Continued on Page 6



St. Peter & St. Paul
Episcopal Church
2310 N. Stewart Rd.
Mission, TX 78574
(956) 585-5005

Vicar.....Fr. Mike Scolare

Office
Administrator.....Blanca
Adame
Music Director.....Jeff
Figueroa
Audio-Visual.....Helen Spal-
ding
Colonia Liaison.....Subie
Redd

Bishop's Committee
Jose Trevino, Senior Warden
Henry Oertel, Junior Warden
Leonor Fletcher, Secretary
Martha Oxford, Treasurer
Jake Mejia
Mike Schroeder
Margie Segovia

FOOD PANTRY OPEN

Gigi Mejia has opened the Food Pantry to the members of St. Peter & St. Paul Episcopal. The pantry is located in the kitchen pantry. Someone will staff the kitchen every Sunday immediately following the service. Or, if you have a need during the week, contact Blanca Adame and she will be able to help you.

Right now the pantry is stocked by donations from the membership. If you can bring items for the pantry, you may leave them in the office (during the week) or drop them in the kitchen on Sundays.



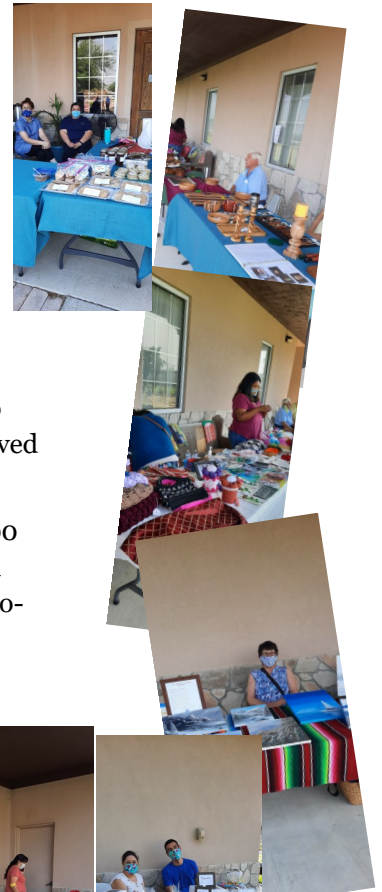
This is Gigi's project for the Girl Scout Gold award. One of her requirements is that it must be sustainable. In other words, once she receives her award the project doesn't stop. It must continue. And, even while she is working on the project, we will need volunteers to staff the Pantry on Sundays when Gigi is unavailable. If this is something you could do, please contact Gigi Mejia or Blanca Adame. Gigi will put together a schedule and will provide training.

CRAFT SHOW/BAKE SALE SAGA CONTINUED ...

On March 13, St. Peter & St. Paul hosted a community Craft Show and Bake Sale. We thought it would be a one-time event. However, God has a way of stepping in and changing our plans. This one-time event has turned into a 2nd Saturday or possibly 2nd Weekend event at our church. These events are fund raising for the church but even more important, they bring awareness to the church located at the intersection of Stewart & Griffin in Mission, Texas.

We had a second event on April 10. Not only did we have more vendors we also hosted a Blood Drive Event for the Scout troops at St. Peter & St. Paul. And, we served lunch-to-go.

Our third sale on May 8 was not as well attended but we still made almost \$300 with baked goods sales and lunches. It was a fun day. This will be the last one for a while. Summer is just too hot to continue. But ... as restrictions are lifted by the Diocese, we will look for other ways to get together at church during the summer.



LABYRINTH REVISITED

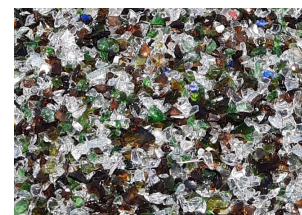
The February freeze had a devastating effect on the plants surrounding the Labyrinth pergola. We did an initial cut-down in early March. On May 15, during our church work-day, we completed the cutting down process. In some areas the plants are coming back. In other areas, we will have to purchase new ones.



Also, in an effort to revitalize our outdoor space and create a beautiful stop for prayer walks, outdoor concerts, and other events, we elected to installed crushed and tumbled glass purchased from the Recycling Center in the Labyrinth walkways. We will need another load to complete the project and then we plan to run permanent power to the area so our lights can be installed again.



The glass reminds me of the brokenness of our lives. And, how—even though we have been broken and discarded—with a little sunshine, God can make us sparkle again. We are made into some thing that God can use.



So ... where can you shine today?

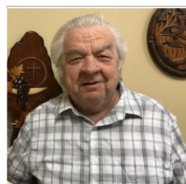


HEAVEN GAINS TWO ANGELS

May has been a hard month. Two of our members have transferred their membership from St. Peter and St. Paul on this earth to their heavenly home. We celebrated the life on Mike Martin on Saturday, May 15. We will celebrate the life of Patrick Pricer later this coming Fall.

PAT PRICER

Patrick David Pricer born June 2, 1946 in Tucson, AZ passed May 6, 2021 in Mission, TX. Preceded in death by his parents Dean and Ruth Pricer he is survived by his wife Maura; daughters Sally Pricer Portillo (son-in-law Luis) and Megan Lee (son-in-law Mike); sister Dee Pemberton; grandchildren Jalen Pricer, Jake, Tess and Joy Lee; niece: Dani Langford. He will be missed by those who loved him. Pat's memorial is yet to be determined.



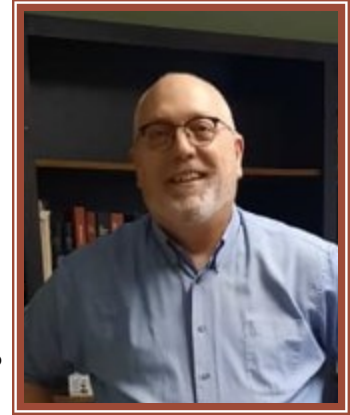
MIKE MARTIN

Michael Edward Martin was born on November 27, 1940 in Oklahoma City and passed on May 7, 2021 in Mission, TX. He was raised in San Antonio and graduated from North Texas University of Denton, TX. He married to Eola Martin, raised 3 children, Dana Martin, Michelle Cola and Lee Martin and 6 grandchildren, James, Isaac, Anthony, Magan, Marcus, Maurice.

Mike was an avid golfer and worked as a traveling salesman. They moved to Estes Park, CO. in 1976 raised the children and served as President of the Horseshow and Rodeo committee for many years. After the children were grown Mike & Eola opened and operated Mama Rose's Espresso & Tea Shop in Tacoma, WA. Mike was proud of his Native American heritage having been descended from the Cherokee nation. Thirteen years ago, Mike & Eola moved to Mission, TX to retire. Mike passed away at home surrounded by family on May 7, 2021. Mike's ashes will be put in the earth behind St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church in Estes Park, CO.

FATHER MIKE'S MUSINGS

Remember a year ago in March? I remember watching the news and it was either downplaying the new disease sweeping everywhere, or it was all about how deadly the disease was going to be for all of us. I remember walking out of church in the middle of one day during Holy Week right after we stopped offering mass, looking around downtown Green Bay, and realizing it was dead silent. Even the Fire Department next door was quiet. I was spooked and when I saw pictures from big cities that were empty; I got goosebumps. Was this our future? Empty streets and unending silence?



It was a frightening and scary time. The adjustments required of all of us because of the pandemic strained our ability to respond on a national level, as well as locally and individually. For some of us relationships were frayed or torn over the best way to move forward and get on with our lives. For some of us, we lost friends and family to the disease and a hole was made in our lives which we wonder if it can be repaired.

Now we are approaching the end of the pandemic in our area (let it be so, Lord Jesus) and I have heard several church leaders say this could be a more dangerous, scary, and harder time than the spring of 2020. The urge to rush back to life as before or to remain isolated and distanced will be more powerful than ever. As a result, we could see more relationships damaged or destroyed and the pain of the pandemic will roll on.

Paul wrote to the Corinthians (a place with lots of broken relationships) that the grace and mercy of God has reconciled us through Jesus to himself, and now we are the ministers of reconciliation to the world around us. This is a hard task. It is difficult to be ministers of reconciliation as it requires the continuous offering of mercy and grace (along with love and forgiveness) to people who may be comfortable in their part of the frayed edges of relationships.

“It is difficult to be ministers of reconciliation as it requires the continuous offering of mercy and grace (along with love and forgiveness) to people who may be comfortable in their part of the frayed edges of relationships.”

To navigate this next part of the pandemic, we all are going to need to be merciful, gracious, loving and forgiving in heaping portions with each other and the world around us. These are the salve that will heal the burns and wounds, as well as the fear, created by all the changes of this pandemic. Perfect love casts out fear; grace, mercy, and forgiveness are the ties that heal the breaks or strengthen the bonds in our life together as children of God. Let us be the ministers of reconciliation the world needs in order to be healed after this time of isolation.

May the Grace, Peace and Mercy of God be with you always,

Fr. Mike

PRAYER REQUESTS

These names are from the church prayer lists. Please lift these people up with your daily prayers.

- Roy Becho
- Terri Burluson
- San Juana
- Vidal, Sarah & Family
- Norma
- Eola Martin
- Easton Michael
- Maura Pricer
- John & Gayle Wudarczyk

Names are kept on this prayer list for 30 days. If someone needs to be kept on after 30 days, we ask that you please contact Blanca Adame in the church office.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- Kathy Kaczmarek 6/1
- Michele Whalen 6/6
- Cynthia Leon 6/10
- Rick Redd 6/13
- Donna Lunn 6/17
- Mary Lou Jesness 6/21
- Delia Perez 6/21
- Carlisa Ponce 6/24
- Nina Nelson 6/30

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- Royce Countryman 7/1
- Patricia Oertel 7/3
- Jeff Figueroa 7/6
- Kenneth Kaczmarek 7/7
- Randa Hansen 7/9
- Carlos Ponce 7/11
- Jose Trevino 7/13
- Norm Fowler 7/20
- Fern Fisher 7/24
- Violet Wiersig 7/28
- Eola Martin 7/30



JUNE & JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- Royce & Karen Countryman 6/3
- JR & Susan DeLeon 6/7
- Jim & Marilyn Naida 6/30
- Henry & Patricia Oertel 7/14



St. Peter & St. Paul Episcopal Church is located at 2310 N. Stewart Road Mission, TX 78574 (956) 585-5005 www.peterpaul.org secretary@peterpaul.org

We are a part of the Diocese of West Texas under the direction of Bishop David Reed and Fr. Mike Scolare, Vicar



Continued from Page 1

- **COVID Symptoms.** Any individuals in ministry leadership who have COVID symptoms are expected to be tested and must quarantine for at least ten days if the test returns positive. This applies especially to music ministry members, lay eucharistic ministers, altar servers, and clergy.

We are almost there. Here are excerpts from Bishop Reed’s newsletter:

These changes do not quite bring the “full return” to normal church life that we have long envisioned and worked toward, but we are close.

How we respond, how we choose to treat one another, during this phase will have a lasting impact on the recovery and renewal of congregational life.