



Spring 2026 Edition
Volume 29

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Silver Cross

Diocese of Southeast Florida

Message from our President

HUMILITY: THE ANTIDOTE TO PRIDE

“Be Humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves”

Philippians 2:3

Dear Sisters in Christ,

I pray that as we go through this Season of Lent, we set aside quiet time for more prayer and meditation; in this way, it will be revealed to us how God is calling us to “stretch and to reach out”.

Our pride causes us to destroy our relationships, but having humility serves as its antidote and lasting relationships are built instead. To eliminate pride, we must choose humility. 1 Peter 3:8 asks us to “have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart and a humble mind”.

Pride destroys relationships and shows up in different forms like criticism, competition and jealousy. We tend not to see ourselves as prideful, but make no mistake, everyone else does.

How do we grow in humility? First, we must spend more time with Jesus, it makes us humble. We tend to become like the people with whom we spend time. If we surround ourselves with grumpy people, we become grumpier. If we spend time with happy people, we will be happier.

Therefore, if we choose humility over pride, we need to spend more time with Jesus Christ, because he is humble. By building a relationship with Jesus through prayer and study of his word we will know Jesus and become more and more like him.

Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of humility. He came from heaven to earth in human form, to make atonement for our sins. He lived a life of humility, gave his life for us, and was resurrected for us. When we spend time with Jesus, we emulate his humility; as Saint Paul says “Jesus humbled himself becoming obedient unto death, even death on a cross.” (Philippians 2:8). It is that humility which will build loving relationships.

May God be with us all as we journey toward Easter Morning.

Blessings,

Avonelle B. Forbes
President
Diocesan Assembly of Southeast Florida

From our Chaplain's Desk...



Chaplain
The Rev. D.J. Griffin

Dear Daughters,

Every Sunday, we say, “Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7-8).

Two momentous holidays concur this time of year: Holy Week and Passover. Passover commemorates the liberation of the Hebrews by God from slavery. Holy Week commemorates the liberation of the world by Jesus from sin. We are invited to see both of these events not as mere data points from the distant past, but as peals of thunder whose roars reverberate through the realm of all future time, down to our day and beyond.

Sacrifice is the centerpiece of Passover. A lamb is slain, and its blood is smeared.

Sacrifice was a commonplace in the ancient world. There was no religion without sacrifice. Even today, there is no life without sacrifice. No pain, no gain. “There’s no such thing as a free lunch.” Everything has a price. Why would religion be any different? You scratch a god or goddess’s back, and they scratch yours. People sacrificed all kinds of things...including people.

Everything has a price. It’s remarkable what we’re willing to pay. There’s always a problem and a power and an offer and a question. What are we willing to give to have what we most desire, what we most *need*?

What about God? What does God most desire? What God most desires is us. Me, and you.

What’s the problem? The problem is, that we are born into slavery. Not to Pharaoh, but slaves nonetheless. To free a slave, the slave must be bought from their owner. A price must be paid.

What is God willing to give? What price is God willing to pay? What God is willing to give is himself. His own life, his own pain, his own body and blood, his own death. 2,000 years ago, he came from heaven to be born as Jesus Christ, and then he gave just that. That was the price he paid to buy out our contract.

That’s what Jesus shows his disciples, and us, in the Blessed Sacrament that he instituted on that Passover Night before he suffered 2,000 years ago. “This is my Body

which is given for you.” Given for, as in purchased for. As in, a day’s pay for a quart of wheat (Rev. 6:6). As in \$2 for a dozen eggs. Everything has a price.

God was willing to pay the price necessary to free us from our slavery to a harsh master.

And who is that master? To what great latter-day Pharaoh did Christ say, “Let my people go?” To what power did God pay such an ultimate price?

There are several answers, but I want to focus on just one: I think that, in a very real sense, God paid us. Like our first parents in Genesis 3, we are slaves to ourselves, our own passions, appetites, and ambitions.

How much do we sacrifice for the things we want, or think we want? Not just in money, but in our limited time and health, in our families, friends, and loved ones? In our very soul? “What does it profit a man...?” We are self-centered creatures, and the self is a harsh master. What prices do we coerce ourselves to pay to satisfy the hungry deity within?

It’s as if God says, “What will it take? Name your price.” And we did. Our sinful selves did. We said, “Crucify him!” And so, God paid in full.

The story of Holy Week is that God bought us out, with his own body and blood, so that he might have what he truly wants, once and for all: Our true selves, our souls and bodies. As St. Paul puts it in 1 Corinthians 6: “You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.” What’s more, he has bought us to free us.

Now, we are free. We don’t have to serve the harsh master of sinful, selfish ego any longer. We no longer belong to such a tyrannical despot. Jesus’ yoke is easy, his burden light. He is gentle and lowly in spirit. He is a better master by far. In no longer being our own, we are more free than ever.

We live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died for us. For us.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed. For us.

This is my Body, which is given. For you.

Peace,
Rev. D. J. Griffin+
Chaplain

Invitation To Attend The Leaders' Workshop

Once again, our President and Executive Board have planned a Leaders' Workshop for all Daughters who, with the help of the Holy Spirit, would like to take every opportunity 'to help build a stronger, more vibrant Order that will spread Christ's Kingdom as never before!" (The Strategic Plan Companion - Reignite the Flame).

The workshop will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Sacrament, located at 2801 N University Drive, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024. We plan to end the workshop at 12:30 p.m. Our hosts will be the Daughters of the newly reignited chapter there.

Breakfast will be an informal affair, so that after you have registered and entered the Parish Hall, you will be able to help yourself to breakfast, sit at your table and enjoy breakfast until the other members of your table arrive. Don't worry, the food will be blessed before you are ready to help yourself to breakfast.

We request your prayers for this workshop and invite you to attend. As you know, the success of this kind of workshop depends on the participation of all members of the sisterhood of the Order, in the Assembly of the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

Those of you who have come to the past Leadership workshops will know that we try to ensure that you leave with new and updated information about subjects important to every Chapter and therefore important to the Order. As well, the day is relaxed and funny in places!

We are all looking forward to seeing you there. Fay Kelly is managing the Registration details; the registration will be online, and she will be sending you the link on April 1. ***Registration will close on April 18. Please watch for the link; please register within the deadline. It is important for every chapter to be represented at the workshop.***

With earnest prayers that God will bless all of our efforts to spread His kingdom,

Your sister-in-Christ

Joy James Williams

Advisor to the Board & Coordinator, Leadership Workshop
DOK Assembly of Southeast Florida

Southeast Florida Diocesan Quiet Day - Hosted by the St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

The St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter of the Daughters of the King at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church hosted the Southeast Florida Diocesan Quiet Day on Saturday, February 28, 2026. Approximately 80 Daughters from Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties gathered for a day of worship, reflection, and fellowship.

The morning began with breakfast in Harris Hall, catered by St. Gregory's Meals with Meaning ministry. Gena and Rose Valle, who lead the ministry, prepared a generous spread of quiches, fresh fruit, bagels with cream cheese, jams and jellies, boiled eggs, muffins, coffee cakes, cookies, coffee, tea, and lemonade. The warm hospitality set a welcoming tone for the day.

Following breakfast, the Daughters entered the sanctuary at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church for the celebration of Holy Eucharist. The service was led by The Reverend D.J. Griffin of Holy Trinity Church and The Reverend Dr. Robyn Neville of St. Gregory's.

After the service, participants reconvened for a Lenten session centered on the theme "**Stretching**"—stretching oneself toward and for God. The Reverend D.J. Griffin reflected on scripture that calls believers to stretch themselves in faith and service and what that commitment means in daily life.

The Reverend Dr. Robyn Neville continued with reflections on the life and work of Hildegard of Bingen, describing how she continually stretched herself in response to God's call.

Themes included expanding the soul and mind, embracing

Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179) was a German Benedictine abbess, mystic, composer, theologian, and healer whose influence continues to shape Christian spirituality today. A visionary and writer, she spoke boldly about the living presence of God in both the soul and the natural world.

One of her most beautiful spiritual themes is, *viriditas*, a Latin word meaning "greening power" or "fresh vitality." Hildegard used *viriditas* to describe the life-giving energy of God—the divine life that makes the earth flourish and allows the human soul to grow in faith. For her, spiritual health was like a well-watered garden: when rooted in God, the soul becomes vibrant, fruitful, and alive with grace. For Hildegard, even in seasons that feel dry or dormant, God is quietly at work bringing renewal beneath the surface. In moments of silence and reflection—like those shared during our Quiet Day—we make space for that divine life to rise within us, restoring hope, strength, and holy joy.

viriditas—the divine life-giving energy described by Hildegard—integrating body and soul, and delighting in God’s creation.

Participants received small journals, pens, and Slinkys as reminders to continue stretching themselves spiritually. Time was also provided for reflection and sharing, as several Daughters spoke about how they strive to grow in faith and service each day.

The Quiet Day concluded with refreshments, fellowship, and group photographs, marking a meaningful day of prayer, renewal, and connection in Christ.

“When we stretch ourselves toward God with openness and willingness, God meets us with renewal, healing, and grace.”



Members of the Order of the Daughters of the King from across the Diocese of Southeast Florida gather at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church for the Southeast Florida Diocesan Quiet Day hosted by the St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter on February 28, 2026.

Maria Provost, President

St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter

Community in Unity

Daughters Attend Diocese of Southeast Florida Lenten Quiet Day



Daughters Gather for the Celebration of Life Service of Barbara Mitchell – Broward Deanery Coordinator



Out and About in Palm Beach Deanery – Laurette Bagley, Palm Beach Deanery Coordinator

2026 brought in a new calendar year for the Palm Beach Deanery filled with anticipation, continued chapter growth and fresh ideas. After all, we had already completed half of the 2025-2026 term and were feeling spiritually rewarded. Our Palm Beach Delegate, Deacon April Alford Harkey, safely made the trip to the Province IV Assembly in Alabama and enjoyed the full experience of an extended DOK Community. Palm Beach Deanery had a great turnout for our 56th Annual Assembly in Coconut Grove, arriving in the “Palm Beach Express Motorcoach” and two of our chapters, St. Andrew’s and St. Gregory’s were already fully engaged in Discernment training with renewed commitment to the Order and a positive outlook for the rest of the year.

Here are some of Palm Beach Deanery’s Activities in January - March 2026:

† **1/3/2026**

Funeral for DOK Audrey Cox – Mother of DOK Reverend Dr. Patsy McGregor and sister, Betsy Cox Wenzel, St Mary’s Chapter, St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, Stuart

† **1/9/2026**

Funeral for DOK Violet Henry – Chapter Member, St. David’s Daughters, St David’s in-the-Pines Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach

† **1/18/2026**

Admission Service St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter, St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church, Boca Raton

† **1/24/2026**

Meet & Greet – St. David’s Daughters, St David’s in-the-Pines Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach

† **1/25/2026**

Admission Service St. Mary & Martha Chapter, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Lake Worth Beach

† **2/21/2026**

Funeral for DOK Barbara Avis-Mitchell – Broward Deanery Coordinator, Church of the Atonement, Lauderdale Lakes

† **2/21/2026**

Cursillo Prayer Breakfast - St. Benedict’s Episcopal Church, Plantation

† **2/28/2026**

SEFL Diocese Lenten Quiet Day - St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, Boca Raton

† **2/28/2026**

Funeral for DOK **Joyce Smith** – Chapter Member, St. David's Daughters, **St David's in-the-Pines Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach**

† **3/1/2026**

Admission Service St Brigid of Kildare Chapter, **Bethesda by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Palm Beach**

† **3/11/2026**

Stations of the Cross – St. Catherine of Siena Chapter, **St Paul's Episcopal Church, Delray Beach**

† **3/21/2026**

Stations of the Cross - St Mary's Chapter, **St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Stuart**

† **3/7/2026**

DOK Prayer Breakfast – All Saint's Chapter, **All Saint's Episcopal Church, Jensen Beach**



Daughters from St. David's in the Pines in Wellington; Joyce Parker, Joanna Morlu, Georgette Russell, Claudette Wray, Laurette Bagley & Elizabeth Philistin (not pictured), traveled to Stuart on Saturday, March 21, 2026, where they enjoyed quiet fellowship with their sisters from St. Mary's and other chapters in the deanery. This

version of "Stations of the Cross through Mary's Eyes," was a unique experience, narrated by the host chapter from Mary's perspective and provided meaningful reflections for us as mothers.

In attendance at the service was also Chapter President, Debbie Dwyer from St. Luke's in Stuart, Edith Newbold, 1st VP SEFL Diocese travelling all the way from Miami, & Province IV 2nd VP Margaret Dunstan & Treasurer, Idalia Adams.

St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter, Bethesda by-the-Sea adds three new DOK members

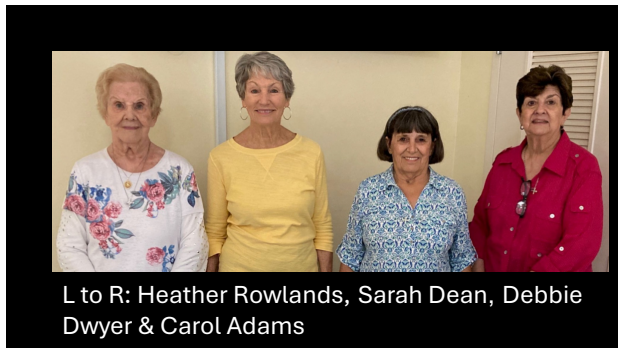


On March 1, 2026, the St. Brigid chapter of the Daughters of the King at the Church of Bethesda By-The-Sea in Palm Beach, Florida held a Service of Admission to welcome Susanne Dansby, Brenda Nestor and Jan Fulford as new members of the Order. Margaret Dunstan, Vice President of DOK Province IV, Avonelle Forbes, DOK President of the Diocese of Southeast Florida and Laurette Bagley, Palm Beach Deanery Chair were in attendance. The service was followed by a reception in the parish hall.



Daughters at St. Luke's in Port Salerno Make Anglican Prayer Beads: A Lenten Path of Reflection and Renewal

On March 14th the Daughters at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Port Salerno got together to make Anglican Prayer Beads.



Note from the Editors:

On **April 6, Conversations with Daughters will focus on Fidget Praying – Prayer Beads and Rosaries** [Click to Register](#)

Anglican prayer beads, also known as the Anglican Rosary, are a contemplative prayer tool developed in the 1980s within the Anglican tradition. Inspired by ancient Christian prayer practices — including the Roman Catholic rosary and the Eastern Orthodox prayer rope — Anglican beads were created as a flexible and distinctly Anglican way to enter into meditative prayer.

The design is simple yet rich in symbolism. A traditional set contains 33 beads, representing the years of Christ's earthly life. The circle is made up of four sets of seven beads called "weeks," separated by four larger beads known as "cruciform" beads. The number seven reflects spiritual completeness in Scripture, while the

cruciform beads form the shape of the cross as the prayer moves around the circle. Many sets also include an invitational bead and a cross.

Unlike the rosary, Anglican prayer beads do not have a single required set of prayers. They are meant to be adaptable. Prayers may include Scripture, the Jesus Prayer, the Trisagion, the Lord's Prayer, or short phrases such as "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me." This flexibility reflects the breadth of Anglican spirituality and allows the prayer cycle to be shaped by the season of the Church year and the changing seasons of our own lives.

- ◆ In Advent, the beads can guide prayers of watchfulness and hope.
- ◆ At Christmas, they can hold prayers of gratitude and wonder.
- ◆ In Lent, they support repentance and self-examination.
- ◆ During Easter, they can echo resurrection joy and thanksgiving.
- ◆ In Ordinary Time, they nurture steady, faithful discipleship.

Beyond the liturgical calendar, Anglican prayer beads are a steady companion in times of uncertainty, grief, celebration, or discernment. The gentle rhythm of moving from bead to bead helps quiet anxious thoughts and center the heart on Christ. Prayer becomes embodied — something we hold, feel, and move through — reminding us that faith engages both body and soul.

Whether used daily or occasionally, Anglican prayer beads offer a simple invitation: to slow down, to listen, and to rest in God's presence. In every season, they guide us bead by bead into deeper trust, deeper peace, and deeper communion with the One who is with us always.

All Saints Episcopal Church Jensen Beach – Quiet Morning with the Rev. Tony Holder



The All Saints Chapter of the Daughters of the King hosted a Quiet Morning on March 7, 2026—a sacred time set apart for reflection, renewal, and prayer. The Reverend Father Tony Holder gently guided us on a spiritual journey that refreshed our souls and deepened our faith.

Throughout the morning, Father Holder reflected on the importance of spiritual disciplines that help us draw closer to God and allow the Holy Spirit to shine His light within us. Through meditation and prayer, we were reminded that fostering stillness, deep reflection, and intentional spiritual renewal opens our hearts to receive God’s Word more fully.

Scripture calls us into this holy stillness:

“The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” — Exodus 14:14

And again:

“It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.” — Lamentations 3:26

Stillness is an act of faith—trusting God to work on our behalf. As Psalm 46:10 reminds us:

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

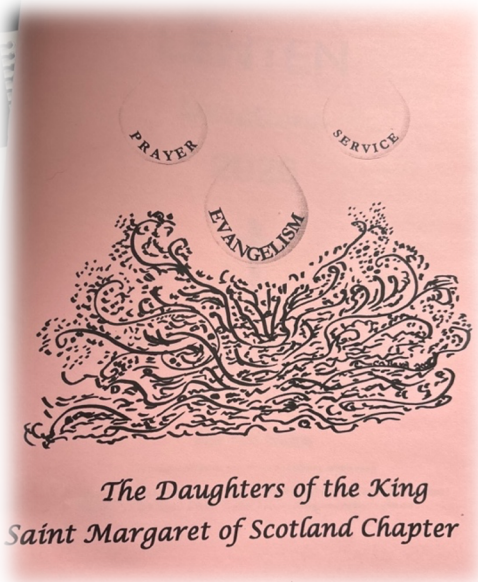
Following three meaningful hours of meditation and reflection, the Daughters shared fellowship over a luncheon. We were especially blessed to welcome sisters from other chapters of the Daughters of the King who joined us for this special and spirit-filled day.

FHS

Dorothy Bree,
All Saints Episcopal Church,
Jenson Beach



“..I am but one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something...”



When I first began attending St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach as a seasonal parishioner, one of the things I looked forward to each year was the DOK Lenten Devotional booklet which contains meditations for the 40 days of Lent. The booklet is a labor of love both by the Clergy and the Daughters of the St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter at Joseph's. Together with the Clergy, each daughter chooses a date and reading and offers their reflection on their choice; these reflections comprise the Lent booklet. What I did not realize was the hard work and dedication that went into preparing this Booklet.

Last year I was asked to help with this. I thought, "How can I do this when I am not there most of the time?" I did not know many of the Daughters intimately enough to want to ask them for a revision of their meditation or for further information. I was very hesitant. A small team was formed. Working together as a team made it easier for me to contribute in a meaningful way. The team consisted of Barbara Wegner & Carrie Guthrie Daughters who attend St. Joseph’s year-round and Joan Raynor and I who attend mainly in the Winter. As they say, “many hands make light work.”

When I began editing and formatting the devotionals, I felt as though I got to know my sister Daughters better and I formed a closeness with them. I also felt a kinship with the others on the team, as we communicated regularly. Cynthia Callard, our Daughter with artistic talents, worked on the cover. We all felt exhilarated as the Devotional came together.

Working as a group over the last two years, has helped me forge friendships and strengthened connections with the Daughters at St. Margaret’s Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King at Saint Joseph's.

Susan Gottlieb
St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church, Boynton Beach

Two New Daughters are Joyfully Welcomed to St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter at Gregory's Episcopal Church, Boca Raton



With great joy and thanksgiving, the St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of The King celebrated a Service of Admission on Sunday, January 18, 2026, at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton, Florida. The service marked the blessed admission of **Pauline Goosby** and **Christel Bruno** into the Order, surrounded by prayer, worship, and the loving support of sisters from across the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

The Service of Admission was celebrated by the **Rev. Dr. Robyn Neville**, whose pastoral leadership set a spirit-filled tone of reverence and rejoicing. During the service, Ms. Goosby and Ms. Bruno publicly affirmed the vows of the Order—prayer, service, and evangelism—and were joyfully received as Daughters of The King, answering God's call to deeper discipleship and faithful service.

The celebration was made even more glorious through vibrant worship and sacred music. The triumphant hymn "*Lift High the Cross*" filled the church, calling all present to renewed commitment and praise. The service also honored "**Blessed Martin, Pastor and Prophet,**" in a joyful celebration of the life, faith, and enduring legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose witness to justice, love, and reconciliation continues to inspire the Church and the world.

The occasion was further enriched by the presence of diocesan leadership from the Order of the Daughters of The King, Diocese of Southeast Florida. Those in

attendance included **Avonelle Forbes**, Diocesan President; **Margaret Dunstan**, Vice President Province IV; **Laurette Bagley**, Palm Beach Deanery Coordinator; **Idalia Adams**, Communications Chair; and the Rev. Dr. Patricia McGregor (Patsy) and her husband Bishop Todd McGregor. Many Daughters from churches throughout the diocese also gathered, offering prayerful support and joyful fellowship, reflecting the strong bonds of sisterhood that unite the Order.

This Service of Admission was a joyful and memorable celebration for the St. Brigid of Kildare Chapter, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, and the wider diocesan family. As Pauling Goosby and Christel Bruno begin their journey as Daughters of The King, they do so uplifted by worship, inspired by faithful witness, and surrounded by the prayers, encouragement, and love of sisters throughout the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

The celebration concluded in the spirit of Scripture and blessing:

“Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will” (Hebrews 13:20–21).

May God richly bless Pauling Goosby and Christel Bruno as they walk faithfully in prayer, service, and love, bearing witness to Christ in all they do.



St. David's-in-the-Pines Welcomes their New Rector – Fr. Matthew Tees



The congregation of St. David's-in-the-Pines Episcopal Church joyfully welcomed our new rector, Matthew Tees, on January 13, 2026. When we learned that he had accepted the call to serve our parish, we were deeply grateful, trusting that the selection had been guided by prayer and by our faith that God would provide the leadership our church needs.

The Daughters of St. David's felt especially called to support Fr. Tees and his family during their transition through prayer. To do this,

we held a weekly prayer vigil every Sunday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. via our WhatsApp chat group. During these gatherings, Daughters shared and posted prayers together throughout the evening. The prayer vigil continued for six weeks as a way to surround Fr. Tees and his family with encouragement and spiritual support.

Fr. Tees and his family made their move from Long Island during the unusually cold and snowy weather of last December. We are grateful for their safe arrival and believe that God's angels guided them safely to their new home with us. Our faith reminds us that God never fails when we call upon Him.

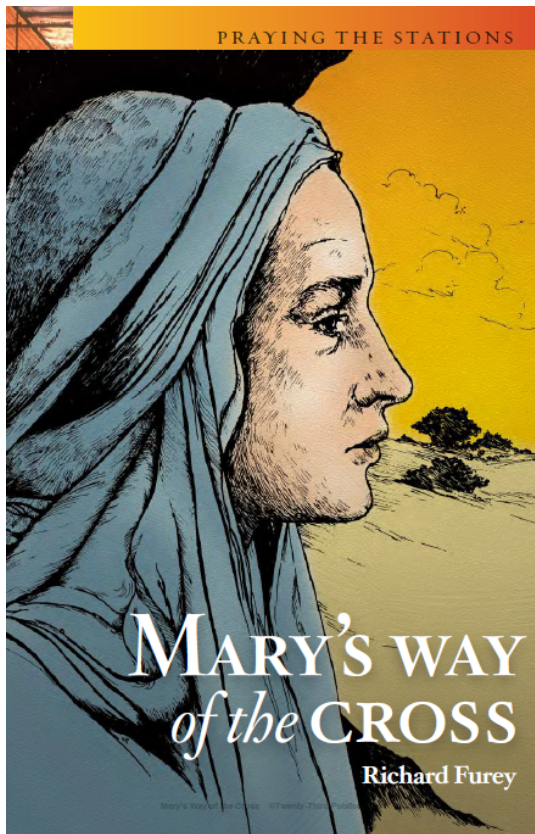
We now look forward with great anticipation to Fr. Tees' installation as our Chapter Chaplain on June 28, when we will also celebrate the admission of five new Daughters into the chapter.



Joyce Parker and Claudette Wray

St. David's-in-the-Pines

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Delray Beach Stations of the Cross Through Mary's Eyes



Imagine the journey to the cross through the eyes of Mary. While we often focus on Jesus' suffering along the road to Calvary, seeing the stations from Mary's perspective invites us to reflect on the quiet, deep suffering of a mother who walks beside her son. Sometimes in our prayers and reflections, we can forget the very human side of Jesus' walk.

This was a unique perspective, that I experienced at St. Paul's in Delray Beach. The evening began with a gathering in the Parish Hall with a great variety of soup and salad. The Stations was hosted by the St. Paul's DOK Chapter on Wednesday, March 11. There were a variety of members in attendance along with Daughters from other Chapters within the Palm Beach Deanery.

This meditation gave us an opportunity to remember that Jesus is truly divine, but He is also fully human. He felt pain, exhaustion, fear, and loneliness. Mary, too, was not only the Mother of God, but she was also a mother watching her child suffer. Praying the Stations of the Cross from Mary's point of view should remind us that faith is not only about moments of joy and hope. It is also about remaining present in suffering, trusting that God is still at work even when the path is painful. Like Mary, we are invited to walk with others in their struggles and to trust that love is stronger than suffering.

*"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."*

Idalia Adams
Communications Chair
Daughters of the King, Diocese of Southeast Florida

St. Joseph's Boynton Beach – Lenten Service Project



The St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter of the Daughters of the King at St. Joseph's in Boynton Beach gathered at Holy Redeemer Church, Lakeworth on Saturday, March 14, to prepare and serve a meal for those in need. This meaningful outreach served as our Lenten service project for the community.

Ten Daughters came together to cook lasagnas and assemble complete meals including salad, bread, beverages, and cookies for individuals and families who rely on the regular meal ministry at Holy Redeemer.

While the food was baking, we enjoyed fellowship and reflection, spending time learning more about St. Joseph—our patron saint—as we anticipated celebrating him at the following day's services. The afternoon also included a lively and encouraging discussion about events in our parish as we prepare to welcome a new rector.

It was a day filled with service, fellowship, and faith in action.

Barbara Wegner
Vice President
St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter
St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The Oak Prayer Bowl – Good Shepherd Tequesta



While visiting one of Good Shepherd's homebound parishioners in December last year, I was gifted with this beautiful Prayer Bowl. The bowl was hand crafted by my friend's nephew in South Carolina after the oak tree was chopped down by him on his property.

What a lovely surprise to receive. Understandably, I was quite humbled by her gift of something so special.

As our chapter's incoming president, I knew in a moment that I would incorporate it into my first meeting in this role. Little did I know just how meaningfully this simple bowl would affect each one of us.

I did a bit of research into oak prayer bowls and shared its meaning with our Daughters. It's really a beautiful and spiritual symbol representing not only strength, wisdom, discernment and protection, but also symbolizes the connection between the physical and spiritual worlds. Oaks are so strong with deep roots, linking us ever closer to the earth and its Creator.

Small pieces of paper were passed among us and we wrote our prayer request, burden, or word needed. These were then placed in the bowl, nestled together, resting together as we prayed over them. It was a powerful reminder to let things go and know that never are we alone and that as this bowl holds our prayers, it is God that holds the women who placed them there.

With this amazing bowl in our midst, we remember that we are not performing a ritual; we're practicing trust. We're choosing to loosen our grip, "Casting our cares on the Lord". *Psalm 55.22* I've always loved the imagery – cast. Like actually releasing it. And that is a very holy thing.

I think this former oak tree from South Carolina that began as a very small acorn has found its most profound home with us Daughters at Good Shepherd for a long time to come.

Peggy Greene

Wendy A. Williams Chapter

Church of the Good Shepherd, Tequesta



Wendy A. Williams new slate of Officers - From left to right, Peggy Greene, president, Tamara Martin, vice president, Maggie Riddle, secretary, and Tracy Smith, treasurer.

Diaper Drive at St. Mark's Episcopal Church & School *St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter*

The Daughters of the St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter at St. Mark's Episcopal Church & School recently held their second Diaper Drive to support families served by BRIDGES at St. Mark's Nativity Campus. The drive took place from March 7–16, 2026, and members of the congregation were invited to donate diapers of all sizes and baby wipes.

The response was once again a wonderful example of our church community's generosity. Our first drive collected an incredible 2,000 diapers, and we are hopeful that this second effort will surpass that total as we await the final count.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed and helped make this outreach a blessing to families in need.



In Broward Deanery....

Tribute to Barbara Avis Mitchell



In the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven, on the nineteenth day of the second month, the tribe of Avis received a priceless gift, a beautiful baby girl whom they named Barbara Marcia. This child was born in the garden parish of Saint Ann on the island of Jamaica, but she migrated to New York, U.S.A. at the tender age of fourteen. She became a faithful attendee and an acolyte at Saint Augustine Episcopal Church where she was a member.

The Lord blessed her with knowledge, strength and wisdom and, after completing High School, she earned an associate degree in Accounting from Manhattan Community College. She married

Samuel Mitchell and she is the mother of two sons.

In the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine, the Lord directed her path to Florida, where she became a member of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Lauderdale Lakes. This Daughter of the King was a devoted servant to her church and her community. Her service to the church and various groups has inspired countless hearts, and her tireless efforts have left an indelible mark.

The King continued to direct the path of this Daughter and, in the year two thousand and sixteen she was elected as President, of the Ruth Ann Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King. For nine remarkable years, she led with kindness, wisdom and unwavering dedication.

During her presidency, twenty-three new Daughters were admitted to the Order.

In the year of our Lord, twenty thousand and twenty-four she was named as the Broward Deanery Coordinator.

On the twenty-first day of the first month of the year two thousand and twenty-six, she was called home to be with the King. We hold in our hearts precious memories of her love, laughter and legacy. We miss her dearly. May her soul continue to rest in peace. *Selah.*

Daphne Perrin

Celebration of Life Barbara Marcia Avis-Mitchell Broward Deanery Coordinator

The overwhelming turnout of family and friends at Barbara Mitchell's service on Saturday, February 21, 2026, served as a beautiful testament to the profound impact she had on so many lives.

The Nave and Parish Hall at the Church of Atonement together were both filled to capacity with approximately 500 attendees, all gathered to honor a life that truly touched an extended community: home, church, work and community organizations.

Barbara held many roles. With her family she was a daughter, big sister, wife, mother, and grandmother. At the Episcopal Church of The Atonement, she was the very capable Church Administrator, dutiful Eucharistic Minister and devoted DOK Chapter President. Most recently, the caring DOK Broward Deanery Coordinator, committed to getting to know every Chapter President in the Broward Deanery. It was just a few weeks ago that Barbara made the effort to host not just one, but two holiday gatherings for her Deanery in an effort to build a closer bond and sisterhood. To say that Barbara was active in her church would truly be an understatement. Barbara participated in every part of the living church and delighted in serving the Lord.

The service was beautiful with the full complement of Episcopal liturgy and tradition. There were four clergy participants: The Rev. Earl Henry, Retired Rector, Church of the Atonement served as the Officiant. The Rev. Canon Kwasi Thornell, Former Priest in Charge, Church of the Atonement, delivered the Homily and shared how he was inspired by Barbara. Canon Kwasi spoke of how he saw both Mary and Martha, sisters of Lazarus' in her. The Rev. D.J. Griffin, Associate Rector, Holy Trinity, WPB, and SEFL Diocesan DOK Chaplain, led the Prayers of the People for the Departed and the Litany for the Order of the Daughters of the King. The Rev. Lorna Goodison, Deacon, St. Mary Magdalene and Martin read the Gospel. As speakers gave their reflections of Barbara, I could not help thinking how much Barbara would have loved her service – the Order of Service, the entrance procession down the center aisle, preceded by thurifer and censor leading the procession and the gathering of Eucharistic Ministers for the reading of the Gospel. At that moment I realized that this gathering was not for us to mourn, it was indeed a "Celebration of Life," to honor and pay tribute to a child of God, and a Daughter of the King.

The first four pews were filled with Daughters from the SEFL Diocese, dressed in white with royal blue ribbons to honor one of our own. Avonelle Forbes, SEFL Diocesan Assembly President delivered a moving reflection about the Barbara she knew and admired, which brought us all to tears. We bid our beloved sister farewell until we meet again. "Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord."

Laurette J. Bagley
Palm Beach DOK Deanery Coordinator

Discernment Class Candlelight Service - Episcopal Church of the Atonement's Ruth Ann and St Teresa of Avila chapters



On Sunday, March 8, 2026, the Ruth Ann and St. Teresa of Avila Chapters of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Lauderdale Lakes held a beautiful candlelight service honoring 10 Junior Daughters, 4 Senior Daughters, and 1 Junior Daughter transitioning to Senior status.

During the service, each Daughter was presented with a lit candle, symbolizing faith, dedication, and the light of Christ shining in the world. The ceremony was both reverent and joyful, marking an important milestone in each member's spiritual journey.

This meaningful occasion signals the beginning of our upcoming discernment class, expected to begin in April. We are especially excited to revive the Junior Daughters in our chapter as we continue the mission of the Daughters of the King—encouraging members to live out their faith through prayer, service, and devotion.

Michelle Ruddock
Chapter President

**God's Love Has No National Boundaries – A Meditation By Rosy
Glenrose Alleyne – St. Mary Magdalene & St. Martin Episcopal Church,
Coral Springs**

In these trying times, we can often feel unsettled and uncertain about what lies ahead. The foundations we have worked so hard to keep firm may begin to feel as though they are shaking. Yet we are reminded of Jesus' teaching in Luke 6:46–49, the parable of the wise and foolish builders. Only when we listen to His words and build our lives upon them can we stand firm when the storms come. When our foundation is grounded in Christ, our faith will not be shaken. Therefore, let us hide God's Word in our hearts, for He desires that we know Him personally.

In Isaiah 56 and John 10:16, we are reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Scripture tells us that God's blessings are for all people — even foreigners and those once excluded from worship or considered outsiders. No matter one's race, social position, occupation, or financial situation, God's grace is offered equally. No one should be excluded when God Himself has chosen to include them.

In Mark 11, when Jesus drove the money changers from the Temple, He spoke against leaders who had become blind to danger and more concerned with personal gain than with the well-being of the people. Leadership is a sacred trust: one either sacrifices for the good of the people or sacrifices the people for personal greed.

In Ephesians 2:13, Paul reminds us that Christ has broken down the dividing wall between Jew and Gentile, bringing peace. And in Isaiah 56:7, echoed again by Jesus when He cleansed the Temple, we hear that God's house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.

God desires that we understand His purpose and plan for our lives. So read His Word. Hide it in your heart. Trust Him. Seek Him. He will meet you and care for you.

Praise His wonderful Name. Amen.

Candlelight Supper from Ruth Ann Chapter, Church of the Atonement, Lauderdale Lakes. FL

On Saturday January 10, 2026, The Episcopal Church of the Atonement, Ruth Ann Chapter held its annual Candlelight Supper. This event is usually organized to celebrate love and fellowship among members, to strengthen unity within the congregation and to encourage spiritual growth.

The evening started with an opening prayer by Barbara Harris from St. Mary Magdalene & St. Martin's followed by a welcome address by Chapter President, Michelle Ruddock.

Guests enjoyed a well-prepared dinner served in a candlelight atmosphere, creating a warm and memorable experience, which helped to strengthen the bond among members.

There were 80 attendees, including Daughters from neighboring Churches. A special guest in attendance was Diocesan President, Avonelle Forbes and her husband Berkley, (Mr. DOK).



It was a successful and uplifting event, which promoted love, unity and fellowship among members and other guests.

We thank everyone who contributed to making it a success.

FHS

Michelle Ruddock

Chapter President

Great News From The Holy Sacrament Chapter!



Rejoice in the Lord, Always . . .

Thanks be to God, the Holy Sacrament Chapter which had been dormant for many years, was reignited on Sunday, January 4, 2026, before a large group of Daughters from churches in the DOK Assembly, Diocese of Southeast Florida. Many daughters came to support, with their prayers and presence, this exciting and deeply "prayed for" event, and it was so uplifting to see them. During the twelve weeks of discernment two former Daughters, Norma Forbes and Fay Goring, reactivated their membership, but one had to leave to live with relatives abroad before the admission service was held.

Before the Discernment period began, many women expressed interest in the Order, but their schedules did not allow their participation at this time, however, they gave enthusiastic promises that they would be attending the next time a Discernment class was offered! The first Sunday of this new year, 2026, brought eight Daughters - Phylis Chin-Fatt, Claudette Moody, Beverley Summerbell, Rhema James, Sonia Blake, Veronica Francis, Norma Forbes and LaVerne Comerie-Hubbard before the congregation for a Service of Admission (4), Rededication (4) and Installation of Officers of the now vibrant Holy Sacrament Chapter. Father Earl Henry presided at the three services. A lovely reception was held after the service. A blessed time was had by all.

Following up on the Admission Service, the Chapter held a very spiritual and successful Quiet Day on March 14 attended by 35 participants. We have received lots of positive feedback, and many women have expressed interest in future Quiet Days and in becoming Daughters.

Finally, we will be the host site for the Southeast Florida DOK Assembly Leadership Workshop on April 25, 2026. God is so good. We are back!!

Again, I say Rejoice!

Lovingly FHS,

LaVerne Comerie-Hubbard
Chapter President



Around the Dade Deanery

Submitted by Evangelist Malvern Mathis, Dade Deanery Coordinator

The Dade Deanery continues to strive toward the objective set forth in being passionate Disciples of Jesus with servant hearts. We are committed to helping others foster an intimate relationship with God. As well, we are following the call to strengthen “spiritual sisterhood” with each other as we adhere to our Rule of Life through Prayer, Service and Evangelism.

As the New Calendar Year began, the Dade Deanery was represented at Holy Sacrament Episcopal Church (January 4, 2026) as the Daughters of the King Chapter was revived and new Daughters were admitted and welcomed into the Sisterhood and many Daughters from the Deanery attended the Assembly’s Annual Lenten Quiet Day. Other news from Chapters within the Deanery will be shared by the respective Chapters.

We are reminded that Lent is a time for personal and spiritual growth. It is a time for making space for God and experiencing the transforming power of faith. For the first time, the Dade Deanery is hosting a series of Meditations and Reflections on Wednesday evenings during the five weeks of this year’s Lenten Season. Daughters, congregations, family and friends are encouraged to join us at 6:30 pm each Wednesday evening via Zoom for these sessions. Below is a listing of the sessions that have been presented thus far:

Date	Topic
02/25/2026	Introduction to Spiritual Disciplines , presented by The Reverend Roberta “Bobbie” Knowles, Rector Church of the Incarnation. Rev. Bobbie emphasized that we are made in the image of God. If that image is debased, we must practice the disciplines of meditation, prayer, study and fasting. These disciplines help liberate us from the things that weigh us down. God wants to be our friend; He wants an intimate relationship. Exercising this discipline frees us to be closer to God. We are seeds!! God plants us for a certain reason.
03/04/2026	Discipline of Meditation , presented by Evangelist Malvern Mathis, Dade Deanery Coordinator. Evangelist Mathis started the session by sharing that the devil majors in three things: noise, hurry, and crowds. If he can keep us engaged in those distractions, he will rest satisfied. Distractions and busyness hinders the effectiveness of meditation. The primary focus of this discipline is to draw us closer to God and align our hearts and minds with His will. Setting aside specific meditation time/place is important. Methods of meditation, benefits and outcomes of meditation was also shared.
03/11/2026	Discipline of Prayer , presented by Mrs. Rosamon “Rosie” Gomez, member of St. Helena’s Chapter, Church of the Ascension. Mrs. Gomez Rosie shared that we find the proper way to pray in Philippians 4:6-7. Prayer is a relationship and not a ritual. When we pray, we should express our love and gratitude to God; it should be our daily conversation with God. Prayer steadies our hearts and

	strengthens our faith. Prayer opens doors no human can open and is our lifeline, our anchor and our power source.
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Remaining sessions will be presented as follows:

03/18/2026	Discipline of Fasting , presented by Evangelist Velma Arnold, member of St. Cecelia's Chapter, The Historic St. Agnes
03/18/2026	Discipline of Study , presented by Dr. Linda J. Johnson, member of Church of the Incarnation
03/25/2026	Wrap Up/Comments/Final Thoughts

Below is Zoom information to attend these sessions:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88001334550?pwd=aVdyUUdDV0xQbndzVUZlbWU0d2xFUOT09>

Meeting ID: 880 0133 4550 Passcode: 839069
Calling in: 646-558-8656 or 301-715-8592
Meeting ID number: 880 0133 4550
Passcode: 839069

On a final note, as we reach the mid-point in this Lenten Season and as you continue to exercise your Lenten Discipline, you are encouraged to "Walk as Children of Light" letting our Christian living match our Christian identity.

- **Be intentional in your walk:** Walking as a child of light means conscious effort, pursuing truth, rejecting sin, living holy, and choosing righteousness daily.
- **Reflect Christ:** Since He is the Light and we are in Him, our lives should mirror His character, which is truth, grace, purity, and love.
- **Stand out, don't blend in:** In a world growing increasingly dark, you must resist the pull to conform and instead shine with integrity and hope.

*Dear Heavenly Father,
 During this Holy Season of Lent help us to be more reflective of your love and compassion.
 Help us to use this time to strengthen our spiritual lives. Motivate us to be more attentive to
 the needs of others and guide us to reach new levels of experiencing your amazing grace.
 Amen*

Holy Family Episcopal Church Junior Daughters attend Winterlight



Junior Daughters Ariana and Saniyah Hylton of Holy Family Episcopal Church were blessed to attend Winterlight at Kanuga this past December. Both girls expressed heartfelt appreciation to the Senior Daughters whose generosity helped make it possible for them to participate in this holy gathering. Upon returning home, they could hardly stop talking about their experience.

Ariana shared:

“I loved going to the outdoor chapel during my free time. Roaming on such holy ground helped me to realize the many blessings I have received in my life, bringing a sense of gratitude and peaceful prayer time for everyone around me in my life. It made me feel at peace and brought a calmness over me as I stepped into this thin place between heaven and earth. I am very thankful to all who helped me to make the trip.”

Saniyah reflected:

“I especially liked waking up to the candle being lit every morning as we gathered together. That was the ‘Winterlight’ with which we would start our day. It told me I

was starting my day with Christ every day, even going from one year to the next since we were there for the New Year. Lighting the candle reminded us of Jesus' statement "I am the Light of the World." Most of all I really loved our hikes to Eagle Rock. Being in nature showed me how good God is. I love to be in nature. It was so nice to be up there. I had a lot of fun making new friends too. Thanks to everyone. It was a good trip."

In addition, Junior Daughter Ariana Hylton was honored to be invited to join Peter Eaton and Fr. Sanford Groff on the podcast *The Nudge of God*. Ariana's thoughtful reflections are sure to inspire and guide other young people in their spiritual journeys. Part 1 is now streaming on YouTube—be sure to watch!



<https://youtu.be/0YJVEiRCVnw?si=AeEV-avX7192oGGB>

Michelle Hylton
St. Marie Chapter at Holy Family, North Dade Deanery

Junior Daughters Service Project – Susan B. Williams Junior Daughters Chapter - Church of the Incarnation



Cynthis Burroughs and Terrinicka Higgs
with the Junior Daughters



L: R Junior Daughters Dionny Accius
and Egypt Pierre at the Caring Place



L: R Danielle Inman and Egypt Pierre
at the Dade County Women's Shelter

The Susan B. Williams Junior Daughters Chapter at Church of the Incarnation began 2026 with its first service project of the year, “Undie Sundays.”

In Phase One, the young ladies organized a parish-wide collection of new underwear for men, women, and children. In addition to purchasing items themselves, they invited contributions from parishioners and family members. The collection was held from January 11 through February 8 and received a generous response.

Phase Two took place on February 16, when the Junior Daughters delivered the underwear for women and children to Dade County Shelter for Women and Children. During their visit, they were invited to continue building a relationship with the shelter and to participate in a special event planned for March.

The third and final phase of the project was completed on Sunday, March 1, with the delivery of men’s underwear to Miami Rescue Mission. As a Faith Partner of the Mission, the Church of the Incarnation looks forward to encouraging the Junior Daughters to remain involved in the prayers and outreach ministries that are central to this important work.

Through “Undie Sundays,” the Junior Daughters demonstrated compassion, leadership, and a deep commitment to serving Christ in others.

FHS,
Cynthia Burroughs and Terrinicka Higgs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE REST OF 2026

April 18 - St. Christopher's Prayer Breakfast, West Palm Beach

April 25 – Diocesan Leadership Workshop, Holy Sacrament, Pembroke Pines

May 16 – Dade Deanery Meeting

May 23 – Palm Beach Deanery Meeting

May 30 – Broward Deanery Meeting

June 14 - Holy Trinity Admission Service, West Palm Beach

June 15 - Silver Cross deadline for submissions

August 15 – Marian Service, TBD

September 5 – Executive Committee Meeting

September 12 – Palm Beach Deanery Meeting

September 15 – Silver Cross deadline for submissions

September 19 – Diocesan Assembly Board Meeting

September 26 – Dade Deanery Meeting

September 26 – Broward Deanery Meeting

September 28 – October 2 – Province IV Assembly Meeting and Retreat
Camp McDowell, Alabama

November 7 – Southeast Florida 57th Diocesan Assembly,
St. Mark the Evangelist, Ft. Lauderdale

November 14 – Broward Deanery Meeting

November 21 - Dade Deanery Meeting

December 5 – Palm Beach Deanery Advent Prayer Breakfast,
Holy Trinity, West Palm Beach

December 12 – Palm Beach Deanery Meeting

December 13 – St. Mary Magdalene & St. Martin Admission Service,
Coral Springs

December 15 – Silver Cross deadline for submissions

Please send all calendar events and correspondence to
dokseflorida@gmail.com

Chapter Presidents - It is important that you coordinate your events with the Daughters of the King Diocesan calendar so that the President, or her representative, can attend the events that they should, such as institution of chapters, installation of officers and admission of daughters. Thank you for your help in this matter.