

St. Cyprian's

Episcopal Church

The Voice

News for God's People at St. Cyprian's

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Supporting Radical Hospitality

One of St. Cyprian's outreach ministries is the St. Johns Ecumenical Ministries, known as the Food Pantry. The church is one of 13 religious groups that provide monetary support and food donations and staff the facility at least once a month. In August, the Mission Board voted to donate \$3,000 to the Food Pantry as part of the "Beyond the Commons" campaign.

According to Mary Lou Woods, St. Cyprian's Pantry Coordinator, combating food insecurity in St. Johns County is an ongoing struggle.

This is due to (1) significant population increases, (2) minimum-wage, part-time service jobs, (3) 50% cut in food stamps, (4) decreased amount of food available from Farm Share and Feeding Northeast Florida, (5) cut-backs by USDA and (6) a decrease in private monetary donations.

Mary Lou says, "There's a delicate balance between monetary and food donations. When money is donated, your



Melanie helps a client



\$1 can purchase five pounds of food. This allows the Pantry to buy what is most needed at the time. However, in July, if we hadn't had so much food donated from St. Cyprian's, client bags would have been sorely lacking."

Food distribution works this way: Every 60 days, a family of 1 or 2 is eligible for one "full bag," and a 3- to 4-person family receives two "full bags."

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UPCOMING Events

**Tuesday,
September 3**
Dining with Dignity

Wednesdays at 4:30
Centering Prayer

**Tuesday,
September 10**
Ecumenical Food
Pantry

**Saturday,
September 14 at 10:30**
Cyprian Women

**Sunday, September 22
at 6:30**

Peace Day
Concert on the
Commons
with

*Lonesome Bert and
Peacenix*

**Sunday, October 6
at 10**
Blessing of the Animals



Operation New Hope Unique and Valuable

St. Augustine community organizer Sandra Parks recently had an editorial printed in the *St. Augustine Record* touting the remarkable success of Compassionate St. Augustine and its partners in their efforts to get Operation New Hope's Ready4Work



office off the ground. She wrote, "Few projects have earned the goodwill, community involvement and national recognition this valuable outreach program will bring to our county." The

sooner the startup funds are raised, the sooner ONH can begin reducing recidivism in St. Johns County. Learn more and donate at operationnewhope.org

Church Painting by Famed Artist

Joe Taylor, who lived in Elkton until his death in 2015, enjoyed capturing scenes from St. Augustine, and especially Lincolnville. He was known for his painstakingly accurate historic paintings, which can be found in collections around the



world. This one is on display in St. Cyprian's Mission House.

Supporting Radical Hospitality, continued from p.1

Each bag contains: 5 cans of vegetables, 3 cans of fruit, 2 cans of soup, a box of pasta and a jar of sauce, a bag of rice, 1 box of cereal, and a snack. In addition, 2 meats are included; the meats are frozen if supplies are on hand, but they are often canned. On any day, the pantry may be out of an item or two.

Once a month, paperwork on each client or family is sent to the federal government to check financial eligibility. ID is required of each client and family member at each visit to the Food Pantry, and everyone who receives food must live in St. Johns County.

The Ecumenical Food Pantry is one important way that St. Cyprian's carries out its mission to "extend radical transforming hospitality to those on the margins of society."



From the Vicar, by Fr. Ted Voorhees Hurricane Dorian

Hurricane Dorian caused unbelievable destruction in the Bahamas and, at this writing, is headed for the coasts of South Carolina and North Carolina. We were fortunate in St. Augustine to only have received some high winds and relatively minor flooding ... it was a reprieve after Hurricanes Matthew and Irma. However, my prayers go out to all those who are recovering in the Bahamas and all those that are still in harm's way.

Bishop Howard called me on Tuesday to offer his concerns and prayers as the storm was approaching, and he asked that I pass on his love to all in the congregation. The St. Cyprian's campus weathered Dorian quite well, with only a few palm branches strewn along our walkways and ramps. But it is how the members of the congregation took care of each other that really showed our strength. Phone calls, Facebook posts, emails, text messages ... all shared the prayers that each had for the other during this trying time.

It was a long wait for the storm to arrive, yet the concern for each other was timeless. We can now offer our thanks to God for our safety, even as we pray for those who may still be in danger and those who are trying to recover from devastation.

Many thanks to all for your concern, your thoughts, and your prayers.



"Jesus Calms the Storm,"
Bernard Allen,
detail



The second Tuesday of the month is the day St. Cyprian's staffs the Food Pantry. In August, five volunteers served 13 families with 17 orders of food including frozen meat and fresh cabbage plus the usual items. The team also delivered 28 bags of food donations from the church.

Contributions of cereal, soup, snacks, and toiletries were very welcome. This month they were low on peanut butter, and they used up the supply of snacks, soup, and travel-sized toiletries.

Thank you to all who support the food pantry with canned goods from your home. Monetary donations can be leveraged to purchase food in bulk. You can write a check to St. Cyprian's with "Food Pantry" in the memo line or go to stjohnsfoodpantry.org/

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New Ramp Decks Installed



Recently new wheelchair ramp decking was installed at the Mission House and the church office building. This is one of the early projects to be started in association with St. Cyprian's "Beyond the Commons" initiative. Future projects on the drawing board include remodeling the Mission House and replacing the

flooring and pews in the church sanctuary.

Spirits Undampened at Dining With Dignity

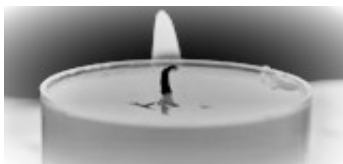
The August outing for Dining with Dignity fell on a night when it poured. Fr. Ted's accurate reading of the radar forecast got the food under cover across the street just before the skies opened up. Thanks to the dedicated volunteers, there was plenty of food for all 73 damp, hungry, and grateful people.



Kathleen Vande Berg Leads Chamber Concert



A free concert featuring music by English composers Will Todd and John Rutter will be offered by the St. Augustine Chamber Singers at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 4 at the Cathedral Basilica. It spotlights operatic soprano Lisa Lockhart, with Barbara Mattingly accompanying on piano. The concert is underwritten in part by Romanza St. Augustine.



Contemplative Moment

Offered by the
Centering Prayer Group

To listen is to lean in, softly, with a willingness to be changed by what we hear. —Mark Nepo

St. Cyprian's has centering prayer weekly, a labyrinth and prayer wall on the Commons, and occasional Taize services.

Mission Board

Joe Finnegan - Senior Warden
Tommy Cash - Junior Warden
John Wooldridge - Treasurer
Jim Vande Berg
Tom Lutton
Missy Colee
Melinda Lang Hilsenbeck

St. Cyprian's Staff

Holly Horahan
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Organist & Music Director

Jerry Gilmer
Organist

Pastor Deena Galantowicz
Pastoral Associate

Fr. Ted Voorhees
Vicar

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