

You Gotta Be Curious . . .

Shorter Newsletter Today, But More Variety in Stories

Yesterday at 4:00 PM **Hazel Hudson** and **Bobby Allen** were married here at St. Augustine's in a lovely ceremony officiated by **Fr. Whitlock**. Deacon **Lu Watkins** assisted, and his daughter, **Deborah**, served as acolyte.

Adrian Hudson, a nephew of the bride, and Senior Warden **Mary Clowers** read scripture. **Fr. George Pierce**, an interim pastor here for some time, was a guest.

Since the couple are both parish members, this was a courtship savored by everyone.

A reception at Saffron's Carribean Restaurant followed the ceremony. The newly-weds plan to honeymoon on Hilton Head, S.C.

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Jubilee Weekend -- coming Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 2, 3 and 4 -- will be the **busiest three days** in many a year for St. Augustine's. Here's the schedule:

* *Friday, June 2:* Traditional **Friday Night Fish Fry** here at the church

* *Saturday, June 3:* **Gospel Sing** by the delightful "Young Motivational Singers of Tampa Bay." They will be returning to this church, this time joined by adult family and friends.

* *Sunday, June 4:* "**Mass and Picnic on the Beach**" returns after last year's cancellation due to hurricanes. Sure, it is Pentecost Sunday, but Fr. Robin insists that's not inappropriate at all. "I think the first Pentecost took place in a very casual setting - and on that day the spirit descended, the church was born!"

We have reserved a north-side pavillion at Ft. DeSoto Park, a new location closer to Gulf breezes. Our **mass will be at 10:00** instead of 9:00. Preferred dress code is a new red St. A's t-shirt (see sidebar). A grand church picnic follows the service, free to all, a gift from the Men's Brotherhood.

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To create a more cohesive experience in Religious Formation for our children, this church will soon hire a **Sunday School instructor**. After a good discussion with church vestry members, **Joyce Corn** put the decision this way. "We believe that this is so important a

part of our church life that, like we do with music, we are quite willing to pay to make our program consistent for every Sunday."

A very qualified teacher has made a proposal to the church. "I expect we'll begin soon; it's looking good." added **Judy Krug**, Education chair.

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For two brand-new cousins, born just days apart, today is their infant baptism. **Faith Cassandra Allen** born recently to **Koren** and **Rodney Allen** and **Raheem Tevin Ralph** born to Koren's sister, **Rewah Ralph** are being welcomed into our parish family and the larger community of Christian believers.

During the baptismal rite, their parents, god-parents and all our parish members pledge themselves to nurture these children in the love of Christ. Especially responsible are Faith's sponsors **Louise Stroude**, **Barbara Watkins** and **Tom Krug** plus Raheem's godparents **Ericka Knox** and **Claude Reynolds**.

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As agreed in his original contract with this church, **Fr. Robin** will be away for two months this summer traveling with his family. Fittingly, perhaps, his vacation begins June 4th following our annual picnic. In the eight weeks that follow, St. A's will see a return of some familiar faces to lead us in worship: **Fr. Jack Hyde** and **Fr. Lee Jaster**. Summer substitution runs June 11th through July 2nd for Fr. Hyde and July 9th to the 30th for Fr. Jaster.

Fr. Whitlock returns August 1st and will worship with us on August 6th.

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"There are mutual responsibilities for both our parish and our diocese in St. Augustine's plan for revitalization," stressed Fr. Robin.

Those responsibilities are the only agenda items for a called **parish meeting Sunday, May 28th at 11 am**, after worship and breakfast.

To be discussed are two grant applications recently submitted to our diocese requesting \$50,000 for partial financing of parish plans over the next five years and \$15,000 to establish St. A's as the deanery center for adult Christian formation. "This is getting excited again about being the church," added Fr. Robin.

*Don't put it off. Next Sunday is your last day to order a bright, new St. Augustine's **Pentecost-red t-shirt**. We'll all wear them to the beach so that our presence makes a splash. Nice quality, 4-color design, being offered at cost: just \$7 each. Place your order now with **Tom Krug***

