

NEWSLETTER

The Crucifer

Back To Better!

By Ryan Etheredge

Can you feel it around you? That Joy, Energy, and the Happiness that is finally starting to come back into people's lives? It is beginning to trickle out and spread from one person to the next like a slow burning fire as we begin to see life start to return to "normal" here in our church, our communities and throughout our nation. Music is returning to the streets, laughter and voices can be heard in the pews, and maybe most importantly of all: smiles can be seen. People seem more thankful for the everyday things and filled with more gratitude than perhaps they were before we were all forced into our own bubbles and it is truly a beautiful thing to see. I suppose it is similar to how we often emerge stronger as a community after a tragic event like a severe hurricane, such as: Sally, Ivan, or Opal (here's a friendly reminder to prepare and check your hurricane supplies and procedures list, the 2021 seasons as officially started and we all have season tickets! Pick one or two people/families nearby you who you can check up on before, during and after a storm, it could be a lifesaver).

We are moving forward, pressing ahead. We are getting back to "normal". I want to propose a question though: What if we shouldn't go back to normal for some things?

Spiritually, this year has been very hard to traverse through, for many different reasons, some unique to the individual and some we all share across the board. For me, trying to be a role model, leader and teacher for the Youth has been terribly difficult, especially with how much time we had to endure completely virtually. It's hard to be an example for someone when everyone is in the comfort of their own home and we weren't sharing real moments together in the same physical location. Something I have vowed to do is to not go back to a "normal" view of my role in this church and in the lives of these youth, but instead to aim for something even better than what we had before. The same is true with my personal

relationship with Christ (maybe you can relate to this as well)- I think I have maintained my relationship at best, but if I'm being honest it's not as strong as it once was. With so much isolated time and energy you might expect someone in a position of leadership at the church such as a youth minister, priest or lay leader to come out of the pandemic with a stronger and better spiritual one-on-one relationship with God, but it's not the case for me and I know I'm not alone in this boat. We are so glad to start to be able to interact with the Church again without fear or uncertainty. Our ministries are so rooted in real contact with people, being people persons and connecting on an eye contact level! We get our energy from and feed of connecting with large groups of people as well as individuals in a real way; being with and around people feeds our souls.

My hope is that as life around us starts to slowly return back to what we once knew as normal that we would find those areas in our life that we don't want to return back to normal, but instead go back to <u>better!</u> Perhaps that means being real with yourself about a bad habit or personality trait that you know you need to work on. Maybe it looks like just spending 15-20 minutes of your day truly alone and trying to be present with God? Dive into His Word daily and you will not regret it. It could even be giving grace and forgiveness to that person who has hurt you in the past, reconciling a relationship by providing a second chance. Or as I have had to painfully do in the past many times, maybe it's reaching out and seeking forgiveness and reconciliation to someone that you have hurt?

In everything in life, let's not try to go back to normal, but let's go back to *better*.

--- With Love,
Ryan Etheredge
Youth Minister

Sunday Schedule

Worship

10:30am - In Person Worship & Live Stream 10:30am - Children's Chapel during worship 5:00pm - Outdoor Worship (Worship Band) 8:00am - In Person Worship & Live Stream

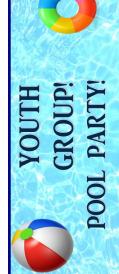
Classes
9:30 am - Youth Sunday School @ the Volleyball Court
9:35am - Rev. Roger's Class - - IN-PERSON & ONLINE 9:35am - Chris Dake's Class - IN-PERSON & ONLINE 9:35am - Melodie Rowland's Class - IN-PERSON ONLY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 **Youth Pool Party**	3	4	2
		6:15pm -AA 6:30pm - Compassionate Friends	9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 4:30 - 7:30pm - Youth Pool Party 6:15pm - Class with Fr. Rob (<i>Via</i> <i>Zoom</i>)	6:30pm - THE POINT		7:30am - Running Club 9:00am - Holy Grounds Coffee 6:00pm - AA
6 **Holy Cross Goes Coastal!**	7	8	6	10	11	12
Sunday Worship & Classes **Schedule is Above** 10:30am - Children's Chapel during worship 6:00pm - Holy Cross Goes Coastal (See	5:30pm - Girl Scouts 4:00pm Pensacola Philatelic Society (Stamp Club)	6:15pm -AA	9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 5:30 – 7:00pm - Youth Group 6:15pm - Class with Fr. Rob (<i>Via</i> <i>Zoom)</i>	6:15pm -AA 6:30pm - <i>THE POINT</i>		7:30am - Running Club 9:00am - Holy Grounds Coffee 8:30am - Brotherhood of St. Andrew 9:00am - DOK 10:00am - We Care 6:00pm - AA
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sunday Worship & Classes **Schedule is Above** 10:30am - Children's Chapel during worship	5:30pm - Girl Scouts	6:15pm -AA	9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 5:30 - 7:00pm - Youth Group 6:15pm - Class with Fr. Rob (<i>Via</i> Zoom)	6:15pm -AA 6:30pm - THE POINT		7.30am - Running Club 9.00am - Holy Grounds Coffee 6.00pm - AA
20 **Father's Day**	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30am - Worship on the Riverl (worship, water skiing, picnic, playground, volleyball	5:30pm - Girl Scouts 4:00pm Pensacola Philatelic Society (Stamp Club)	6:00pm - Vestry Meeting 6:15pm -AA	9:00am – Food Pantry 10:00am - Worship 5:30 - 7:00pm - Youth Group 6:15pm - Class with Fr. Rob (Via Zoom)	6:15pm -AA 6:30pm - <i>THE POINT</i>		7:30am - Running Club 9:00am - Holy Grounds Coffee 10:00am - We Care 6:00pm - AA
27	28	29	30			
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OUR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES & BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES





WHERE: At Steve & Renee Roberts!

WHEN: Wednesday, June 2 from 4:30 -7:30pm

summer process of kicking back and taking it a little easier You have made it to the end of by far the craziest, and strangest school year of your life! Now, let's start the by having a really fun event with swimming, games, grilled food and friends!

COMING FUN EVENTS

For Family Enrichment after a long year!

Bírthdays!

JONE

AUGUST

JULY

August 8th

13 - Lynette Bason

14 - David Boyer

07 - Shae Burlesor 12 - Sally Collado

19 - Melodie Rowland 14 - Dallas Thomas

Backpacks, Students,

Set this Saturday morning as a

one of your Summer Beach

Days with your church family Lots of activities and groups.

More info to come!

Beach Invasion

Holy Cross Goes Coastal! Dinner Together at Coastal Brewery

June 6th

on Olive, following our 5:00pm

Worship Service!

July 10th

& Teachers

Blessing of the

24 - Kathy Meloche 23 - Al Bressler

25 - Christopher Iversen In the world we live in, we take

25 - Marly Pearson

this blessing seriously. Be sure to

join us for worship on this day!

26 - Sherry Jo Spencer

August 14th

Fall Festival!

Parents Night Out

Worship on the River!

Father's Day

June 20th

Worship, water skiing, picnic, playground, volleyball...

More info to come!

July 30th

opportunities to get involved festival! Tons of food, games, Kick-off Fall with a fantastic dunking booth, and

with different ministries of

Holy Cross.

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Anníversaríes! June

- 01 Richard & Kathy Bleeker -
-52 Years! 12- Sean & Gordon Haight -
- 11 Years!
 - 12 Shayne & Michele
- Hendrixson 11 Years! 12 - Steve & Renee Roberts -
-40 Years! 14 - Walt & Gail Zimmer -
-2 Years!
 - 15 Rev. Roger &

Liz Hungerford -30 -Years!

-57 Years! 20 - Britt & Nell Landrum -
 - 23 Pamela James & Tony
- Brown (RIP) -19 Years! 26 - Bob & Deanne Amacker -
- 28 Ernie & Sarah Tarkus -

45 Years!

....28 Years!

HOLY CROSS GOES COASTAL

fun time together (3041 E. Olive come! We will likely overwhelm on Olive Road for dinner and a their kitchen, but it isn't about the food. Join us for a relaxing worship (so around 6:00pm), we will meet behind Coastal After our 5:00pm outside Rd). Eat a snack before you time with good people.

Join us for dinner at



3041 East Olive Road

June 6th after the 5:00pm Worship Service



Sunday, June 20th - 11:00am at

Russell Harber Landing Park - 6016 Old River Road, Milton

JOIN US for a special outdoor Father's Day Service on the river with full-immersion baptisms. Followed by a picnic, water skiing, volleyball, and many other activities. Holy Cross Episcopal Church 7979 N. 9th Avenue Pensacola, FL 32514 (850) 477-8596 NONPROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID NO. 400 PENSACOLA, FL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.holycrosspensacola.org

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