

Dear St. Mary's Family:

As announced at the Parish Meeting in January, I will be away on sabbatical from July 16 through September 3, 2017. I will worship with you on the last two Sundays of July but will not be in the office during those weeks. When I return on September 3rd it will be just a month shy of the 8th anniversary of my arrival in this parish on October 1, 2009.

I am writing to assure you that St. Mary's is in very good hands in my absence. The Rev. Ron Fellows will be present as the worship leader in my absence. He will be leading worship on the four Sundays in August while I am gone. Sandra Sartain, our parish administrator, will field all calls for pastoral care and will have the appropriate person respond to any needs that may arise.

Additionally, our Vestry which is ably led by our Senior Warden, Al Teschner, and our Junior Warden, Davis Henley are well prepared to assist Sandra Sartain in handling the day to day operations of the church. Ed and Sharon Brant will be in charge of our Vacation Bible School and will do their usual great job caring for and teaching our young people about God.

I have included a contact list below, with job descriptions, if you need to be in touch about anything in our shared life while I am gone. Although I will be away from Dade City some of the time, the staff and wardens have been told to contact me if something is needed and no one else is available to respond in a timely fashion.

The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida is strongly committed to clergy sabbaticals for refreshment, renewal, and enhancement of the quality of ministry among the clergy in our diocese. I consider the opportunity to go on sabbatical a tremendous gift, and I believe it comes at just the right time as I wrap up my eighth year of ministry serving the vibrant and loving congregation of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Further, I believe that my sabbatical will be a meaningful time to inspire and empower me for my future years of service alongside and among all who call St. Mary's home

As we approach July 16, feel free to reach out to me with any questions about my sabbatical or otherwise. It is among the greatest blessings in my life to share St. Mary's with each of you. I hope you will continue to share the love we have all found here with others in your life.

All God's Blessings,

Dewey+

Rector, St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Frdewey@stmdc.com

Contact Information for Rector's Sabbatical:

Parish Administrator: Sandra Sartain (for questions about the day to day operations of the church, pastoral care requests, or general information) 352-567-3888 Sandra@stmhc.com

Senior Warden: Al Teschner (for questions about the day to day operations of the church, or general information) 813-783-4200 bigalparis1@yahoo.com

Junior Warden: Davis Henley (for questions concerning buildings and grounds, day to day operations of the church, or general information) 352-523-4205 ahenley259@tampabay.rr.com

Music Minister: Sharon Brant (for questions concerning worship music and the various music groups and programs) 813-760-7249 SBLutzBell@aol.com

Christian Education: Ed Brant (for questions on Children's and Youth Ministry) 813/949-4184

Lay Pastoral Visitation: Steve See (Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available for home communion and pastoral support if you or a loved one are homebound or in the hospital) 352/999-3777 ssd340@netzero.net