

Deadline to submit articles for "The Epistle" is the 15th of each month.

July 4 • Parish Office closed in observance of Independence Day

July 19 • 5:15 p.m. • Vestry Meeting

August 7 • Youth/Camp Bratton-Greene Sunday

September 7 • Inquirers Class, Confirmation, Reaffirmation sessions begin

October 9 • Bishop Seage will conduct services

Summer office hours

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - noon • Friday

EYC Gears Up for Fall

Calling all upcoming 3rd - 5th graders — Pre-EYC is beginning in August! This offering will consist of fellowship, prayers and activities an hour prior to the regular EYC monthly gatherings.

Our "Journey into EYC" event will be held on August 5 for all of our incoming EYCers. (Rising 6th graders) It will be an intimate dinner celebration for these kids with their immediate families. ALL EYCers are invited to join them afterward at 7 p.m. More information to come!

Dear St. Paul's Friends,

I can't thank you enough for the love and support that you showed Sam and me during the time I served as your Deacon. It was an amazing experience that I will not forget. I learned so much and felt so supported. I love the beautiful prayer shawl that I received and wear it in the mornings when I'm saying my prayers.

Thank you so much! I look forward to seeing you soon!

Peace and love to all, Elizabeth

**GEYSER
FALLS**

EYC OUTING!

July 17th
Please RSVP to Mallory by Monday, July 11th
Depart after the 10:30 service
Bring money for lunch and snacks
Chaperones needed!

An Offering Before God

I hope you are enjoying a good use of leisure and travel in these hot Mississippi summer months. I am so thankful for your grace as we worship in All Saints' Hall while the work is done this month in the nave of removing the carpet and repairing the kneelers.

I often find myself looking for days where we celebrate a particular saint and sharing their story. This July, I am drawn to St. Macrina the Younger, named after her grandmother, who was a monastic and teacher in the late 300s. She is one of those who could have easily been overlooked by the fame of her family and in this case her sainted family. She is sister to St. Basil the Great, St. Peter of Sebaste, and St. Gregory of Nyssa and dear friend of St. Gregory of Nazianzus, which three make up the better known "Cappadocian Fathers." The story of those is for another day but what is important is that none of these would be where they are without the guiding Spirit and humility of blessed Macrina.

Macrina, at a young age, was set to marry, but her would be husband died. She then convinced her mom to start a monastery on their family's estate in the Cappadocian city of Pontus. The emphasis of this community was care of the poor, the sick, and the starving.

She made her life there and friends and family sought out her advice throughout her life. She was the older sibling who challenged her brothers and was not afraid



to speak the truth in love when they needed it. She told Gregory his fame was not due to his own merit, but to the prayers of his parents. She took Basil in hand when returned from Athens "monstrously conceited about his skill in rhetoric." Even when her brothers became bishops and leaders in the orthodox and Nicene faith, she was their council in need who would because of her gender probably have been forgotten if not for her brothers giving her credit.

Gregory came to Macrina in her last days and found her lying on some wooden planks on the floor. He recorded her last words and prayers in his Life of St. Macrina. From *The Life of St. Macrina*, by St. Gregory of Nyssa:

"Her couch had been turned towards the East; and, ceasing to converse with us, she spoke henceforward to God in prayer, making supplication with her hands and whispering with a low voice, so that we could just hear what was said. Such was the prayer; we need not doubt that it reached God and that she, too, was hearing God's voice.

'You, O Lord, has freed us from the fear of death. You have made the end of this life the beginning to us of true life. You for a season rest our bodies in sleep and awake them again at the last trump. You give our earth, which you have fashioned with your hands, to the earth to keep in safety. One day you wilt take again what you have given, transfiguring with immortality

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St. Macrina

Continued from front page

and grace our mortal and unsightly remains. You have saved us from the curse and from sin, having become both for our sakes...

Your mercies, remember me, too, in your kingdom; because I, too, was crucified with you, having nailed my flesh to the cross for fear of you, and of Thy judgments have I been afraid. Let not the terrible chasm separate me from your elect. Nor let the Slanderer stand against me in the way; nor let my sin be found before your eyes, if in anything I have sinned in word or deed or thought, led astray by the weakness of our nature. O you who have power on earth to forgive sins, forgive me, that I may be refreshed and may be found before you when I put off my body, without defilement on my soul. But may my soul be received into your hands spotless and undefiled, as an offering before you.'

As she said these words she sealed her eyes and mouth and heart with the cross. And gradually her tongue dried up with the fever, she could articulate her words no longer, and her voice died away, and only by the trembling of her lips and the motion of her hands did we recognize that she was praying."

We give thanks for those like Macrina in our midst. We give thanks for those who are faithful to the last breath. We give thanks for those who use their resources for the way of Love. Finally, we give thanks for those who have the courage to give us tough love when we need it.

Merciful God, who called your servant Macrina to reveal in her life and her teaching the riches of your grace and truth: May we, following her example, seek after your wisdom and life according to her way; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Austin

Fun at Vacation Bible School

Our very successful Vacation Bible School with The Church of the Mediator would not have been possible without volunteers and our leaders, all who were so helpful and fun. A few are pictured here (directly below) — from left, Carlye Breaux, Ann Revere Davis, Britton Dunn, Lucy VanVeckhoven, Maurice LaBiche, Payton Hanschke and AJ Walker.



Earth Nerds Assemble



Alban McGehee enjoys the petting zoo; not so sure about the chicken.



Pete the Parrot (not pictured!) was a big hit.

We Remember in our Prayers

For our Parish family: Don Pringle, DJ Wells, Ducky McCormick, Edgar Morrison, Elaine Sanders, Holly Morgan, Jerry Greene, Jim Cady, Jo Van Devender, Margaret Van Dyke, Mary Dunn, Peggy Carrico, Tadley, Virginia Brimble, Wanda Blount and Woodie Abraham.

In our senior living communities: Joyce Welsh, Lora Jone and Nita Neville.

Extended family and friends: Amanda Rainey, Andi Kushner, Bill Selman, Bill Wright, Billy Murphy, Brooke, Brooks Moore, Chuck Fishburn, Clancy, Cory Gaylord, Davey Simmons, David, David & Gina Brown, Diane Dunn, Donna Polizzi, Edesser "Dess" Reid Ward, Rob & Aislinn Ward, Francois DuPlessis, Frances, Frank Baker, Frank Barrett, Freddie Bea Watson, George Farr, Jada Dooley, James, Jan, Jane Wacaster, Jeana Bennett, Jo Nell Brown, Jim Thompson, John, Josh, Katie, Ken Fisher, Kylie Temple, Leland Tew, Lisa Primeaux, Lou Dubose, Mac Thigpen, Martha Hudson, Martha Mazingo, Michael, Michelle Nelson, Mike Covert, Mike Thomas, Norman, Pat Carver, Patsy Harris, Randy Moore, Rick, Roger, Sandy Carrier, Steve Waddle, The Rev. David Elliott, The Rev. Greg Proctor, Taylor & Trey, Tom Schram, Tony Sansone, Wanda Farr, Wanda Scott, Willie Spencer, Wilma Kanagy, Wyatt Morre and Parents and Zack Martin.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces, for all who serve overseas and their families, especially Andrew Behm, Shum Benson, Connor Covert, Graham Ford, Nick Mullen and Zack Thomas.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

July 1Brandon Dunn, Avery Harwell Ethridge, Lauretta Hamilton	July 18Larry & Lisa Love, Isabell Martin
July 2Lloyd Gray, Joy Greer, Chuck Rea, Susan Nowak	July 19Patrick & Michelle Lewis
July 5Alexa Hogan	July 22Eugene & Melinda Perry, Beth Wuestefeld
July 10Joanne Entrekin	July 24David & Jo Benson, Franklin Davis, Kim Gianakos
July 13Michael Crowe, Will & Edie Simmons	July 25Sabina Ivy
July 14Payton Hanschke, Michael Kerekes, Kay Reich	July 27Ducky McCormick
July 15Christopher Collis, Stacey Harwell	July 28Alyce Cunningham, John Michael & Juliet McDonald
July 16Steve & Shelby Slade, Reese Stump	July 29Perrin Burchfield
July 17Eugene Perry	July 30Sue Farr

Services

	JULY 10	JULY 17	JULY 24	JULY 31
VESTRY COUNTERS	Lynn Waddle & Stacey Harwell; Lock: Chris Stump			
8 A.M.				
CHALICE	Bob Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	Bob Covert
READER	Polly Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	Polly Covert
USHER	Bob Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	Bob Covert
10:30 A.M.				
READER 1	Gary Jones	Mallory Davis	Jerome Kittrell	Rob Calcote
READER 2	Melissa Calcote	Wayne Wuestefeld	Bev Pringle	Sally Gray
PRAYERS	Helen Abraham	Stacey Harwell	Bobbie Rea	Joan Moore
USHERS	Melissa Love	Clay Holladay	Lisa Howell	Susan Nowak
	Sara Mason	Laura Holladay	Stephen Wilson	Larry Nowak
ACOLYTES	Wyatt Bond	Hayes Lancaster	Sellers Breaux	William Davis
ALTAR GUILD	Gloria Chancellor	Lee Loeb	Lee Loeb	Bobbie Rea
	Leslie Hiatt	Bev Pringle	Bev Pringle	Gayle Hamilton
CHALICE	Lynne Taleff	Rick Entrekin	Barbara Boone	Gloria Chancellor