

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

January 14, 2021
Issue 237



Craig's Corner

Nesting No No's

A couple of weeks ago Jennifer told me her car would barely run. This was quite a surprise; it's a Camry and it always runs! I got in myself, turned the key and got the same result as the instrument panel lit up like a Christmas tree. Not good. So I popped the hood and then quickly realized what had happened: A mouse!

A little critter had made himself a cozy nest right on top of the engine block. He had pulled out some insulation lining the hood and created a giant cotton ball to nest on. There were cracked acorns all over the top of the engine, and mouse droppings galore. I looked closely and saw he had chewed through a single wire, one of several in a wiring harness plugged into one of the spark plugs. Thankfully, it was an easy fix, although even the guy at the auto parts store was stunned the replacement part was \$100 bucks. But I wasn't complaining---it could have been a whole lot worse!

It's amazing to think that such a tiny animal could completely disable a car by chewing through a single wire. Then again, I heard a preacher once say anybody who thinks he's too small to make a difference must never have spent the night in a tent with a mosquito! Another parable I take from this experience is that it's best not to let your vehicle lay up too long if you can help it. The car hadn't been driven in several days, which is why the mouse had time to set up shop and wreak havoc. The old saying comes to mind: "either use it or lose it"! This can be said about so many things whether our vehicles, our bodies, our brains, and our devotions---it's best to give them all a little exertion on a routine basis.

I don't know what became of the mouse. I can only imagine his surprise when the engine cranked up and his cozy little nest roared to life right under him. I'm guessing it scared the daylights out of him and that he quickly abandoned ship. I'm sure when he first moved in, it must have seemed like mouse heaven. A nice warm spot on a chilly night, built in cotton balls, and a nice level area for cracking acorns. A wiser mouse might have warned him, "all the glitters is not gold," or maybe, "you should never judge a book by its cover."

So anyway, hopefully this has left us all a little wiser. I hope he's found him a nice new home someplace, hopefully someplace God intends that mice should live.

See you in church,

Fr. Craig

Announcements:

Dear People of St. Matthew's:

Thank you so much for your kind and generous gift for Christmas! Jennifer and I continue to feel so blessed to have been called to serve at St. Matthew's. Thank you for your generosity and for your many kindnesses to my family and me, not just at Christmas time, but all throughout the year. Grace and blessings to you all in this coming year!

Fr. Craig & Jennifer Dalferes

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2021.

Erica Polk

Thank you to everyone for the generous Christmas gift. I greatly appreciate it, and thank you for your support of our youth ministry even during this difficult year. I pray you all have a blessed 2021.

Courtney Cangelosi, Youth Christian Formation

What a grand surprise to receive a gift from our church family this past year in spite of its viral perplexity. I thank you and pray that all will stay healthy as we look forward to safer days ahead- David West

Parish Prayer List

Margaret, Andr e, Jay, Norma, Sybil, Betty, Lydicia, Donna, Clifford, James, Carol, Karen, Ursula, Jane, David, Carol & Bennett, Brenda, Jack, Beth, Seth, Angela, Pat, Gilbert, Jessica, Mary, Annette, Helen, John, Charles, and Legion Park School. We give thanks and pray for St. Matthew's Episcopal School,

Don't Miss Out!

If you can't come to worship in person, then please join us on Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewshouma>

We broadcast every Sunday at 10 AM

Blessings and Peace to You and Yours!

January

Happy Birthday

- 1-Linda Greenburg
- 1-Bonnie Moore
- 1-Karlene Dunagin,
- 3-Sandy Ostheimer
- 6-Michele Boudreaux
- 7-Rob Alexander
- 9- Emmalee Hampton
- 11-Keith Hampton
- 12-Randolph Bazet
- 13-Emilie Daye
- 14-Verna Hebert
- 14-Rene Schnexnaildre
- 20-Randy Bazet
- 21-Beulah Rodrigue
- 22-Sybil Webb
- 26-Beth Drury
- 27- Avery Leonard
- 28- Rina Medina
- 28-Harvey Chauvin

Happy Anniversary

- 1-Dickie and Charlene Barker
- 3-Chuck and Julia Bourque
- 5-Randy and Donna Knight
- 30-Lynn and Keri Kelley

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for the 2021-2022 school year

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www.StMattsSchool.com

St. Matthew's Episcopal School does not discriminate in regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin.

Saint Matthew's Episcopal School offers a school readiness program for students who turn 3 years on or before September 30. We are currently enrolling students for our Pre-K3 program. Students in the program learn together in whole-class and small-group instruction along with themed center time to enhance social, fine motor, and academic skills. Call today to schedule a virtual tour of the classroom and to meet the teacher.

www.stmattsschool.com

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