

the
ePistle

February 06, 2025

**St. Simon's on the Sound Episcopal Church
Fort Walton Beach, FL**

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**Service Times
SUNDAY**

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, in the Nave

A Note from Fr. David

I am so humbled by the folks of this Parish! I've been in charge of prayer vigils for others, but for St. Simonites to pull this together and allow space and quiet for prayers on my behalf is pretty amazing. Jennifer and I appreciate every prayer, every candle, every card and we feel your love and support. And especially the prayers. So THANK YOU, y'all made me cry several times Wednesday and seeing some of your beautiful faces on the broadcast at noon and 5:30 was especially meaningful to me. And I know others showed up and prayed when the camera wasn't rolling, I am grateful for all of you and the people around the world who let me know they would join in prayer with you wonderful people of God.

I start my first dose of some high powered medicine today (Thursday). Please pray it makes a difference. Please pray for the medical team. And please pray for Jennifer, this is very hard for her and she has been so resilient and loving in her care for me, and also in her cheerleading role. We've got this because God has us and we have each other, along with ALL the prayers.

May God bless you and keep you always

Fr. David+

FAITH matters

**All are invited to the gathering of the “Faith Matters”
class, led by Michelle Anchors,
beginning again on Sunday, February 16 at 11:15
in the Parish Hall.**

We will be finished by noon!

**Please join us for this time of getting to know one
another as we get to know more about the world in
which we live and how our faith matters.**



WE WANT YOU!

It's hard to believe it's already February! We have a lot going on at St. Simon's and I'm excited about the opportunity to help lead the Ministry Committee for the Vestry this year...and we REALLY need your help!

The St. Simon's mission statement reads that we are a sacramental church, striving to know Christ and make Him known. We are doing a pretty great job with this already, but there's always opportunity for growth!

We really need you and your ideas as we look forward to lots of great opportunities to connect with each other and with others in our community.

If you are interested in getting more involved, we would love to have you join us for an organizational Ministry Committee meeting Tuesday, February 11 at 10AM in the Parish Hall.

We will be discussing what's going on in already established community support areas such as Blessing Bags, Altar/Flower Guild, Elliott Point Elementary School, and Sharing and Caring; sharing news on upcoming events like The Daniel Ballad presentation to kick off the Lenten Dinner series on March 12th; and discussing some new initiatives such as creation care.

Please come! There will be a place where you can help no matter what your spiritual gifts are! If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out!

Kelley Fuller - 850-830-8498



WOW
WEDNESDAY

Sponsored by the

**FLOWER
GUILD**

WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 12
Communion at 5:30
Dinner at 6:00

Come and enjoy a
variety of yummy
casseroles!

Your donations support
this ministry!

Special announcement from Fr. David

Blessings to all of you. I cannot thank you enough for your prayers.

Unfortunately, I don't have much to update regarding my health condition. So don't stop praying!

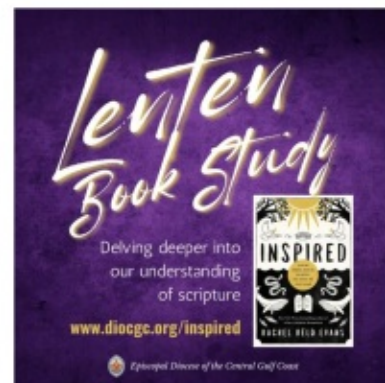
Because of this ongoing battle with my own body, I will not be able to continue the Rector's Bible Study for the rest of this program year. Many of you know how much I love leading Bible study and learning alongside of you. I do have a suggestion for any of you, whether part of the Bible study class or not, to consider for Lent.

The diocese is encouraging us all to participate in a Lenten book study and I want to ask you to join in. Below is information about the study with links to purchase a book and to register for study guides and the like. I believe it will be a very fruitful discipleship time for all, and I can assure you the late Rachel Held Evans, author of the book, will inspire and challenge you.

Lenten Book Study - Rachel Held Evans' "Inspired"

Bishop Kendrick has issued an invitation for our diocese to undertake a special book study through the season of Lent, reading Rachel Held Evans' "Inspired." The purpose of this study is three-fold:

- To enhance the bonds that make us one Body in Christ by sharing and studying together;
- To provide a poignant guide to assist us in naming and claiming our stories;
- To better discern our roles as disciples as shaped by the intersection of biblical stories and our own.



In addition to the study guide, video reflections will accompany each week's reading. It begins March 3!

[Here's a link to purchase the book.](#)

[SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE THE STUDY GUIDE AND WEEKLY VIDEOS](#)

Happy Birthday!

Lisa Allen, Hunter Avett, Susie Flood, Roz Hill,
Georgine Hillgenberg, Mary Jones,
Addie Kelly, Chris Kelly, Matthew Macella,
Tatiana McCrea, Barbara Menoche,
Dennis Miller, Ron Poole, Pam Scheel,
Alexis Whitted



Single Friends will meet for a Dutch Treat Lunch

At Noon

On Saturday, February 15th

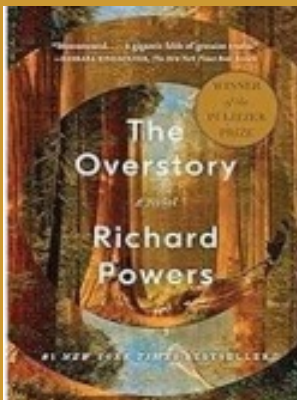
Anglers Beachside Grill

10030 Miracle Strip Parkway SE

(Next to the Gulfarium)

Fort Walton Beach

Contact Barbara Bethea (850-582-7011 or babethea7@icloud.com)
if you have questions. No RSVP is necessary,
but it will help to know how many to expect.



ST. SIMON'S BOOK GROUP

St. Simon's Book Group

will meet on February 25, 2025

at noon in the Parish Hall.

We will finish our discussion of

"The Overstory" by Richard Powers.

The discussion will cover the sections

"Trunk", "Crown", and "Seeds".

You may contact JoAnne Connell (850) 240-3051 with questions.

Read the latest blog posts from our Clergy:

Father David's Blog



[Click Here to Register](#)

Follow the on-screen instructions to create a new password. You will need to use the same email address St. Simon's has on file for you. If you have difficulty, please email

Office@stsimons-fwb.org



St. Simon's on the Sound



Episcopal Church • Fort Walton Beach, Florida

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