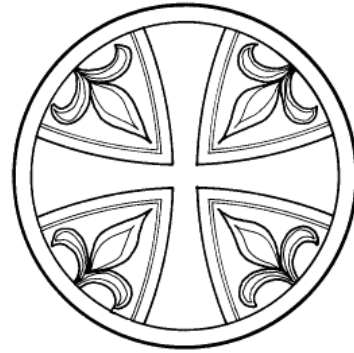


St. John's Newsletter



FOR THE PARISH FAMILY OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Vol. 1, No. 6

April 2011

Esprit de Corps

by The Rev. David C. Killeen

Over the past two years, the Episcopal Diocese of Florida has partnered with the Wounded Warrior Project to provide spiritual retreats for wounded veterans returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. I've had the privilege of founding and participating in this ministry, which has taught me many lessons.

One of those lessons is the vital importance of collaboration and teamwork. In church, business, or sports we often talk about working together as a team, but in a military context, teamwork is a life and death matter. For members of the military, esprit de corps is not just a catch phrase — it is a way of life that can literally save your life.

Early in each of the retreats, we break into small groups for a team-building game. I'm consistently impressed by how quickly the teams come together and how well the warriors cooperate with each other. Their training and experience has taught them how to focus on a mission and collaborate with each other in order to accomplish something bigger than any one person could do on their own.

On Sunday, March 13, over 200 members of St. John's accomplished something much bigger than we could have accomplished as individuals. Our first Mission Possible Sunday was such a success because we had a clear sense of mission, which was to put our faith to work in our community. Fraser Smith, our fearless leader, made sure the community service projects were well defined and planned, and it was a joy for me to witness how our teams came together in Alfriend Hall in order to go out and serve.

As I discussed in my sermon that day, God made us for partnership and collaboration. Out of sheer love, God said "yes" to creation and our beautiful world and "no" to chaos and darkness. You and I are part of God's "yes," and we were made in order to serve and protect God's creation. Painting classrooms, cleaning-up a cemetery, and organizing a food pantry, to name just a few of the service projects that we accomplished together, may not seem like a big deal in a city and world with so many needs, but I believe that God rejoices when

we work together side-by-side to make our community a better place to live.

Since Mission Possible Sunday, we've witnessed another exciting moment of esprit de corps. The Holy Spirit has drawn over 150 children, youth, and adults from St. John's and First Presbyterian Church into a team that meets on Wednesday evenings during the season of Lent for fellowship and learning. Co-teaching the class with the Rev. Brant Copeland has been one of the most exciting and enjoyable moments of my ministry as a priest. I am inspired by Brant's wisdom, faithfulness and humility.

On May 22, I will officially become your rector. My prayer, as senior warden Kathy Bye wrote so eloquently in her letter to the parish, is that my pastoral relationship with you will be enduring. Endurance is the hard-won prize of collaboration with God and each other. It's the result of good esprit de corps. I am ready and willing to work hard to forge these life-giving and creative partnerships and look forward to leading you and ministering by your side for many years to come.

FSU Cantores Musicae Antiquae, Sunday, April 10th at 8 p.m.

This all sacred concert will feature the music of the great Italian composer Claudio Monteverdi Missa in Illo Tempore, a six-part motet entitled Domine ne in furore tuo, and the eight-part, two-choir Gloria in excelsis Deo. The concert is free and open to the public.

First Presbyterian and St. John's Choristers and Adults combine for May 15 Organ Recital & Choral Evensong

At 3:30 p.m. Michael Corzine, organist, will play works that feature the new stops and cymbelstern recently installed and voiced on the Taylor & Boody organ. At 4 p.m. choral evensong with combined choirs will sing music of Stanford, Britten, Rutter, Moore, and others. First Presbyterian Church is located downtown at the corner of Park and Adams. Childcare is provided.

Church Calendar*

April 2011

Fri, April 1 - Morning Prayer weekdays during Lent
Sun, April 3 - Blood Drive
Wed, April 6 - Lenten Class with Fr. Killeen and Pastor Copeland
Sun, April 10 - Cantores Musicae
Wed, April 13 - Lenten Class with Fr. Killeen and Pastor Copeland
Fri, April 15 - Senior Luncheon
Sun, April 17 - Palm Sunday
Mon-Wed, April 18, 19, 20 - Evening Prayer at First Presbyterian Church
Thur, April 21 - Maundy Thursday service / Overnight Vigil begins after service until noon on Good Friday
Fri, April 22 - Good Friday services / Stations of the Cross
Sat, April 23 - Easter Egg Hunt / Easter Vigil
Sun, April 24 - Easter
Mon-Tue, April 25-26 - Offices, Cafe, Bookstore Closed
Wed, April 27 - Wed Dinner and Classes resume
Sat, April 30 - Regional 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

May 2011

Sun, May 8 - Festal Eucharist and Reception
Sat, May 14 - Midnight in the Garden of Good and Eve - Fundraiser
Sun, May 15 - Youth Sunday / Baccalaureate / Organ Recital and Choral Evensong at First Presbyterian
Wed, May 18 - Last Wed Night Dinner and Classes
Sun, May 22 - Fr. Killeen's Institution
Sun, May 29 - Summer Service Hours Begin - 8,10, 5:30 p.m.
Mon, May 30 - Memorial Day / Offices, Cafe, Bookstore Closed
Tues, May 31 - Summer Office, Cafe and Bookstore Hours Begin

** Please see The Chimes and the website, www.saint-john.org, for a detailed calendar of activities and meetings.*

Fr. David Killeen Becomes St. John's Rector

On Tuesday, March 15, the St. John's Vestry voted unanimously to call Fr. David Killeen as Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church.

In a letter to the congregation, Senior Warden, Kathy Bye wrote, "Since August 2010, we at St. John's have experienced the depth and richness of Fr. Dave's ministry. We are confident that Fr. Dave will continue to lead and guide St. John's in our pastoral and spiritual life, worship, continuing



Father David and Carol Killeen with their boys: Daniel (age 10), Thomas (age 8), Michael (age 6), and Paul (age 4).

education, and stewardship. We are extremely fortunate to have such a talented and devoted rector that will lead us into the future and will continue to expand St. John's role in this community

and in the Diocese of Florida.

"Since their arrival in Tallahassee, the Killeen family has endeared themselves into our parish family. Carol, Daniel, Thomas, Michael, and Paul have participated

in all aspects of our church:

choir, children's chapel, Sunday school, Wednesday classes, and dinners, outreach, and Mission Possible. We welcome them as enduring members of our parish family."

The Institution and Celebration of New Ministry will be held on Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 4 p.m., with Bishop Samuel J. Howard presiding. A reception will follow the service. The entire parish family is invited to this wonderful celebration.

Vestry Notes

At its meeting on March 15 the vestry:

- Approved the May 14 fundraiser.
- Approved the March 20 plate offering for Episcopal Relief & Development.
- Agreed to a year-long focus on stewardship with the help of The Rev. C.

K. Robertson, Canon to the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

- Agreed to do a quarterly financial report to the Parish, beginning in April 2011.

- Voted to call Father David C. Killeen as Rector, St. John's Episcopal Church.

To: St. John's Mission Possible Team From: Agent 86 and Special Agent 99 Subject: Mission Accomplished!

Surveillance devices in all sectors of Mission Possible operations on March 13 confirm that Team St. John's thoroughly routed forces of evil. Despite efforts by chaos to desynchronize clocks with the old Daylight Saving Time ploy, a column of 215 red-clad St. John's agents swelled into Alfriend Hall on time and ready for rations and marching orders.

Following a briefing by Commander Dave Killeen (AKA "the Priest"), parish operatives swept into action, taking on chaos wherever it lurked.

Grace Mission saw paint chips fly (chaos took a shellacking); ration stores at ECHO and Second Harvest Food Bank were rescued from disarray; the Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend and Hardison Home witnessed bushwhacking (let in the light) exercises; spirits at

Georgia Belle Dickenson Apartments were freed by sonic energy assemblages (AKA "choral music"); First Presbyterian Church experienced a dust-off operation in the preschool; Tree House children were liberated by arts and crafts operations; and collaborative K-9 ops were a howling success at the Leon County Animal Shelter.

In addition, internal St. John's mission teams worked below the radar to provide operational rations, conduct sweep and clear actions throughout the grounds, inventory assets, send support messages to foreign and embedded agents, detox a safe room, and engage in hand to hand combat with smilax in "the cemetery."

All operatives, be advised: Accept well earned thanks, continue operation Lent, and be on the lookout for further instructions from Higher Authority.





St. John's Baptisms, *March 6*



Isabella Jane Weldon
William & Rebekah Weldon, parents



Colin Andrew Licklider
James & Camille Licklider, parents,
and brother, Jonas.



James Grant Hoelsing
Peter & Jennifer Hoelsing, parents



Abigail Marie Rogers
Stephen & Jessica Rogers, parents



Families with godparents and Ftr. Dave.

Bookstore Intern Tracey Stubits

Please stop by the St. John's Bookstore to welcome, Tracey Stubits, our new student intern. A senior at FSU, Tracey will graduate this May with a Bachelor of Science in merchandising. In the short time she has been with us, she has already updated the Bookstore's Face Book page and provided us with fresh ideas in window arrangement. She will also be helping with promotions and the general operation of the store.

Growing up in the Jacksonville area, Tracey was active in her youth group at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach, and participated in Happening at Camp Weed.

Happy to be with us, Tracey is enjoying meeting St. John's members and helping them with just the right gift or book. She finds our store a friendly place to shop and full of interesting merchandise. We are very happy to have her.



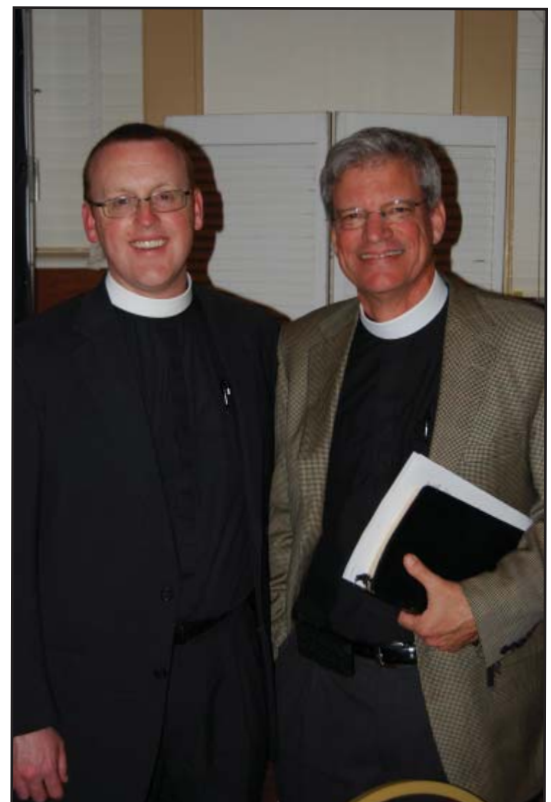
Betty Kummer, bookstore manager, and Tracey Stubits share a favorite selection from the shelves.

Photo and article by Virginia Perkins

Running into Jesus

Adults, youth, and children are participating in the Wednesday evening Lenten dinner and class series *Running into Jesus: Dialogues on the Road to Jerusalem*, led by Fr. David Killeen and

the Rev. Brant Copeland of First Presbyterian Church. Dinner and classes take place in Alfriend Hall on Wednesdays throughout Lent at 5 p.m.



On Retreat with Fr. William Meninger: *A Postscript*

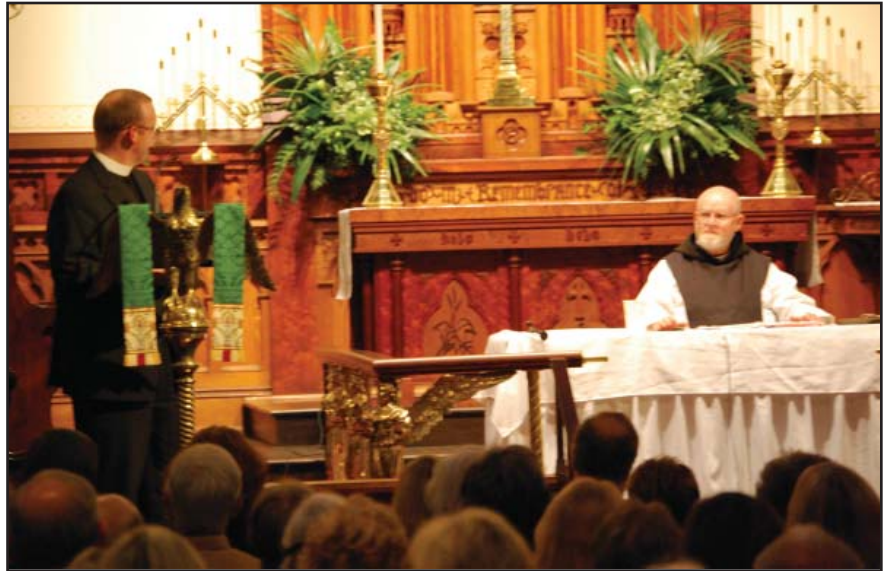
by Dan Dobbins

"The Spirit blows where it will, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes." — John 3:8

A little over a year ago, I met Fr. William Meninger, a Trappist monk from St. Benedict's Monastery, Snowmass, Colorado, on retreat in Destin. Although I had been to the monastery at Snowmass on several occasions, our paths had never crossed. Over supper one evening, I asked Fr. William if he would be willing to come to Tallahassee. He was agreeable, and upon my return home, I began sharing the news with several churches to see if they would be willing to co-sponsor bringing Fr. Meninger to Tallahassee.

Ultimately, Faith Presbyterian, St. John's Episcopal, Good Shepherd Catholic, and Trinity United Methodist churches stepped forward in the most difficult of financial times to secure the physical, financial, and religious backing necessary to back the idea of a retreat. In addition, several anonymous backers guaranteed his coming in the event donations failed to cover our commitment to the monastery.

Over the ensuing year, representatives from the various churches communicated by telephone and email. No one possessed any certainty of its success, we just moved forward in faith. We guessed that maybe 50 people might attend the three-day long events being discussed: An Enneagram Workshop; A Centering Prayer Workshop; and a Forgiveness Workshop. Over time, the ideas began growing like mush-



The interfaith workshops presented by Father Meninger, visiting Trappist monk, attracted over 400 registrants.

rooms. Little 'shrooms kept popping up here and there until there was added a Julian of Norwich Lecture; The Mystic in the Market Place Lecture as well as Fr. Meninger's invitation to be the guest preacher at Faith Presbyterian Church on February 27. Then another one pops up: an ecumenical clergy luncheon with Fr. William at Trinity UMC. Were we overloading our 78-year-old visiting monk? "No," he said. "I'm energized by it all." We were as well.

During the retreat itself, we came to know it as "Holy Spirit energy" as emails flew between the planning committees members at all hours of the night: 1:11 a.m.; 2:32 a.m.; 4:14 a.m. Who needed sleep with the Holy Spirit hovering near by? In early December, the planning committee tweaked registration forms and announcements. In late January, Jim Crosby wrote a very favorable

article in the Faith Section of the *Tallahassee Democrat*. One could feel the ground began to swell as deadlines and interest grew. Registrations were up to 100, then 145, 191, then 227, 295. It continued, like a rapid moving, high rising, incoming tide until, finally, it broke 400 registrations. We stopped counting.

Where and how did all this happen? And how would we feed so many, not spiritually, but physically? It didn't matter. Jesus told his disciples before the feeding of the 5,000, "You give them something to eat." We would and we did.

On Sunday morning, the last day of the retreat, I asked Fr. Meninger, "Can you believe it?" He responded by saying these words which have rung true throughout the history of the church, "I didn't do anything. It was here waiting for me."

In Gloria Excelsis Deo.

Obelisk Memorials

by Virginia Perkins

Two marble sentinels stand watch on either side of the Monroe Street entrance to St. John's. These obelisks were placed in our church yard to commemorate two disasters which took the lives of several St. John's parishioners and their families. No one seems to know how or when these two monuments appeared in front of St. John's, but they have stood there for generations. According to *God Willing*, about 60-70 years ago, a reward was offered to anyone who could shed some light on the origin of the markers, but no one responded. To this day, their placement remains a mystery.

The first disaster happened when Hardy Croom, North Florida plantation owner, and his family perished when the *S.S. Home* went down in a hurricane called "Racer's Storm" in the Atlantic near Cape Hatteras on October 9, 1837.

Only 20 passengers survived. The obelisk to the right of the church entrance is in Croom's memory and contains a portion of his eulogy. He was described as a man who was "amiable without weakness, learned without arrogance, wealthy without ostentation and benevolent without parade." As a result of this accident, one of the most interesting cases in Florida legal history was filed in Leon County Circuit Court in January 1839 concerning presumptions to order of death in a common calamity.

The second sad event occurred in 1838 just eight months after the *SS Home* accident

when the Reverend Loring Woart, who was rector when the first church building was erected, took passage on the *Pulaski*. Accompanied by his wife and four St. John's parishioners, they boarded the steamship at Charleston, South Carolina, for New York. The following night, June 14, the ship's boiler exploded and the *Pulaski* broke apart. The Woarts, the J. Edwin Stewart family, and Mrs. Jane Taylor, along with 37 crew members and about 150 passengers, lost their lives. The marker on the left of the entrance honors Reverend Woart and his wife, Elizabeth.

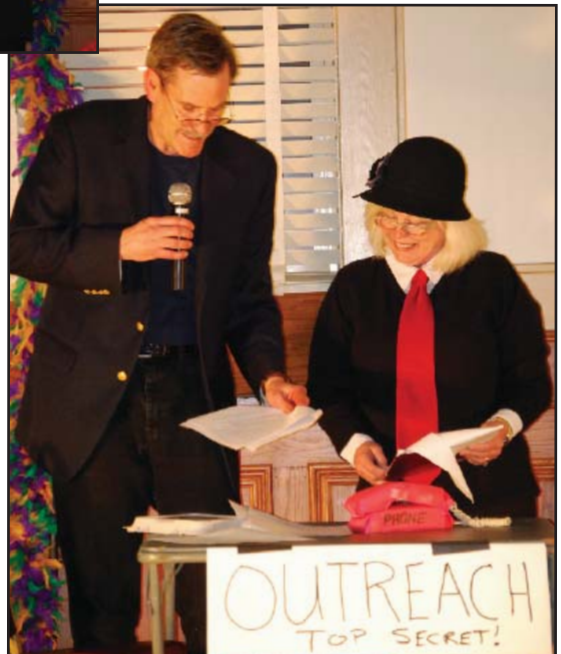
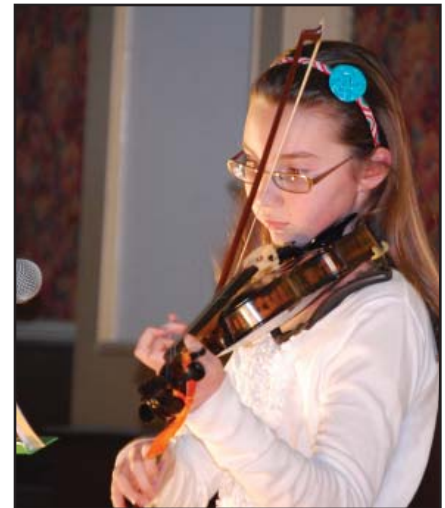
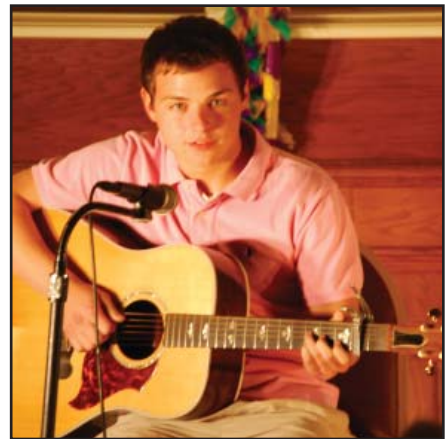
Both the *S.S. Home* and the *Pulaski* were steam powered side wheelers that plied the waters off the East Coast in the days before the Civil War in an area referred to as the "graveyard of the Atlantic." Though most ships were originally outfitted for trade, traveling in this manner became very popular and these two boats were outfitted for passengers. The long lasting effect of these disasters was that the boats were stocked with an adequate number of life preservers for their passengers. The following year, Congress passed The Steamboat Act, which required all passenger ships to carry one life preserver for each person on board.

Additional reading can be found in *God Willing* by Carl Stauffer, *A Goodly Heritage* by Joseph D. Cushman, Jr., and www.johncroom.com.



The History and Lore of St. John's tours of the church are offered after the 9 a.m. service and the 11:15 a.m. service on the first Sunday of each month. Call Roger Ponder for more information, 656-6585.

Flapjack Follies, *March 8*





Please Join Us for our Spring Fundraiser
“Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil”

And the announcement of the winner of a new
Honda CRV from Proctor Honda

Saturday, May 14 @ 6:30 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church
211 N Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL
Tickets: \$15 for one, \$30 for two
Casual Attire. Childcare available

Tickets for the CRV are available for a minimum donation of \$100.
Only 500 Tickets will be sold. Need not be present to win. Proceeds go to
St. John's ministries. Drawing will be held at 8 p.m., May 14.
Tickets for both will be available for purchase at St. John's or contact Nan
O'Kelley @ 850.524.4888; nokelley@redwireus.com.

In the event enough tickets are not sold, money will be returned to purchaser and
a winner will not be chosen. Winner is responsible for sales tax and vehicle registration.

Fran's Best Loved Recipes

Parish favorites from Fran Doxsee, Culinary Director of The Lively Café at St. John's

Fran's Almond Cream Shortbread Bars

Crust:

- 1 cup butter
- 2 cups flour
- ½ cup powdered sugar

Mix well and pat into a 9x13" greased pan.
Bake at 350° for 20 to 25 minutes or until light brown.

Filling:

While baking, mix together:

- 8 oz. softened cream cheese
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon almond extract

Beat thoroughly and pour over crust while still hot.
Bake 15 to 20 minutes. Cool.

Frosting:

- ½ cup powdered sugar
- ¼ cup softened butter
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 Tablespoon half & half

Beat until smooth. Spread over cooled bars.

Topping:

Sprinkle with ¼ cup toasted sliced almonds.

**The Lively Café at St. John's is
open from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,
Monday - Friday.**

Book Review: *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen

by Dan Dobbins

I was 50 when I made the turn to the spiritual journey. As a life long Christian, I had felt its tug at different times during my life yet failed to heed its call. Vanity Fair loomed large. Then a crisis hit, Henri Nouwen was there, though not in person for he had died years earlier, but present in the spiritus of his writings and in the lives others whom he had touched and had written about him. It was *The Inner Voice of Love, A Journey Through Anguish to Freedom* that helped me then as Henri recounted his own journey through crisis. Henri wore many hats during his life. He was an ordained Catholic priest who was born in Holland, studied psychology, taught at Notre Dame, Yale and Harvard Divinity Schools, wrote 40 books and responded to his last vocation of living in community with the intellectually disabled at Trosly-Breuil, France and L'Arche Daybreak Community outside Toronto.

A book that I was drawn to early on was: *Life of the Beloved, Spiritual Living in a Secular World*. The following story has stayed with me to this day. In fact, my own introduction to *Life of the Beloved* stemmed from an audio tape account with Henri telling about Janet, a disabled woman at L'Arche, who asked for a blessing from him one night before prayer services.

He obliges by placing the customary sign of the cross on her forehead with his thumb. She protested, saying, "No, I want a real blessing!" so he cradles her in his arms and tells her what a special child of God she is in some detail. Soon, other residents want a similar blessing and Henri obliges until finally one of the caretakers asks, "What about me?" Henri beckons him forward. I found myself saying, "I want one too." In between the pages of this book is the teaching of our becoming pieces of Eucharist to the world by claiming our inheritance as the Beloved (all that we are and do) and being taken (chosen by God from time immemorial); blessed (our goodness); broken (our uniqueness); and given ("becoming bread for the world"). This action is our "yes" to the great spiritual journey of being LOVE in response to God having first loved us and desiring to be loved in return.

Christopher de Vinck, writing in the conclusion to *Nouwen and Then, Personal Reflections on Henri*, says, "Henri Nouwen was a great man, not because of his writing or because of his personality, or because of his charismatic appeal. He was a great man because he reminded us in a profound way what it is to be children of God." *Life of the Beloved* is a piece of that greatness.

St. John's Newsletter

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Sermons

Visit the Sermons page at www.saint-john.org
to read the texts or download audio of recent sermons.