



The Gulf Atlantic Diocese *of the Anglican Church in North America*

OFFICE OF THE CANON FOR NEXT
GENERATION MINISTRY

4042 Hartley Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32257
www.gulfatlanticdiocese.org

July 12, 2025

Dear Araminta Families,

Like so many across the country, we have been heartbroken to learn of the devastating loss experienced at Camp Mystic in Texas. The tragedy that has unfolded there has stirred deep grief and concern in communities of faith everywhere, especially among those of us preparing to send our children to camp this summer. We grieve with those families who have lost loved ones, and we lift up the entire Camp Mystic community in our prayers — praying not only for comfort, but also for healing and hope in the days ahead.

Almighty God, by your Word you laid the foundations of the earth, set the bounds of the sea, and still the wind and waves. Surround us with your grace and peace, and preserve those affected by these flash floods. By your Spirit, lift up those who have fallen, strengthen those who work to rescue or rebuild, and fill us with the hope of your new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We have heard directly from parents who are wondering what this means for their own children — and we want you to know that you are not alone in those concerns. In moments like these, it is natural for parents to pause and wonder, “Is my child safe?” We want to take a moment to speak to those concerns with clarity and compassion.

In just a little over a week, we will gather for Camp Araminta. We want to assure you that the safety of your child is our highest priority. We are deeply committed to fostering not only a Christ-centered and joyful camp experience, but also one that is safe.

We have implemented comprehensive safety protocols, which include:

- On-site medical professionals, who understand and are equipped to respond to emergencies, and are available 24 hours a day.
- A Supervisory Plan, that includes processes for emergencies, including weather and medical.
- Training our staff and leaders-in-training on all safety protocols and supervisory procedures.
- A culture of attentiveness, accountability, and prayerful watchfulness.

While no system can remove all risk, we are diligent and prayerful in our responsibility to care for every child entrusted to us. As Psalm 121 reminds us, *“The Lord will watch over your going out and your*

coming in from this time forth and forevermore." We trust in God's protection, even as we take thoughtful, concrete steps to steward that trust.

If, however, your family has decided that in the wake of this tragedy, some may prefer not to attend, we understand and will work with you to prepare for summer 2026.

If you have any questions or would like to speak further about our camp policies or procedures, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

In Christ's grace and mercy,

Camp Araminta Vision Team

Mr. John Harris, Facilities and Grounds

The Rev'd Canon Christopher Jones, Dean of Camp

The Venerable Dr. Jessica Jones, Archdeacon

Mrs. Elizabeth Kirby, Administrator

Mrs. Jennifer Lancaster, Registrar & Parent Liaison