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THE ARCHANGEL

The Archangel is the Official Magazine for Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

"SAILING THE SEA OF GALILEE"
Photo Credit: Mason Custard

England & Scotland

SEPTEMBER 25 -
OCTOBER 10, 2019

Join Rev. Greg Pickens and Noralyn Pickens as we explore the most important Anglican Heritage sites in England and Scotland. With fall in the United Kingdom as our backdrop, we hope you will consider this immersive trip into our spiritual history.

ITINERARY

We will begin our 15-day tour leaving DFW for Canterbury Cathedral. Once situated we will begin our journeys to sites such as: Canterbury Cathedral, Deal Castle, Whitstable Castle, St. Edmundsbury Cathedral, Ely Cathedral, Oxford, Cambridge, Blenheim Palace, Gloucester Cathedral, Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles Cathedral, and a special two-day side trip to Glasgow via the Blair Athol Distillery and Blair Castle. Spending no fewer than two nights in any one place, we will have time to relax in our four and five star accommodations as we tour through the spiritual homeland of our Episcopal Church.

Our time will be filled with prayers, fun, and fellowship as our guides provide opportunities to learn about our shared spiritual history in these two great countries.

TO LEARN MORE

Contact Katherine Bowen at
kbowen@saintmichael.org



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2019 VESTRY

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Bonner Allen	<i>Junior Warden</i>
Jay Lipscomb	<i>Warden-at-Large</i>
Kathy Kelley	<i>Treasurer</i>
Jim Skochdopole	<i>Chancellor</i>
Ginger Brown	<i>Clerk</i>

Marla Jacks Briggie, John Ellerman, Jane Greene,
Ben Leal, Kyle Moore, Anna Paccone, Christine Paddock,
George Baldwin, Hallie Lawrence, Stacey Malcolmson,
Steve McKenney, Blair Oden

2019 DIOCESAN DELEGATES

John McFarland, Tricia Stewart, Kay Whelan,
Terry Demler, J.C. Snead, Scott Wilson, David Greenblatt,
Jerry Pogltisch, Susie Ryan

alternates:

Ed Blessing, Katherine Blachly, Ross Vick,
Heather Lorch, Jack Rubarth, Blair Oden, Tom Bowen (1),
Jessica Clements (2), Mary Abrams (3)



A Message from the Editor

In his current message on page 4, Rector Chris Girata makes a rather astounding statistical note, "...there are as many atheists as Catholics and Evangelicals in the US." Now when I first read that, it seemed a bit "out there" for me, especially as one who was reared as an Evangelical. But the more I pondered it, the more it didn't seem far-fetched at all.

Physicist and eminent braniac Stephen Hawkings concluded, in the September 2, 2010 issue of the *London Times*, "modern physics leaves no place for God in the creation of the universe...because there are laws such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the Universe going." In his observance of the physical laws of the universe, Hawkings eliminated God. As a Christian, I *totally* feel sorry for him and those eternal ramifications—because we would never do something like that.

Crap. Yes we do. Frequently.

And by "we" I of course mean those of us—*okay, me*—who have the ability to fall short of God's will for "us" at any time. What I mean is this: are we any better than Hawkings, or the newly-crowded atheist space, when we, too, can so easily lose sight of God in our day-to-day slog? I mean at least he was intentional about it. *Oy.*

Aside: By now many of you may have picked up on the fact that frequently I'm actually writing to myself and all of you are just along for the ride...

So. If we struggle with that, then the season of Easter is the perfect time to re-center on Christ. To invite him to continually be a part of our daily lives. My problem is that I *am* unintentional, and allow life's busyness to push God out of my day. I'm not sure exactly what the Apostle Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was, exactly (2 Cor. 12:7), but when in Romans 7 he speaks at length of his feelings of perpetual failure to do what's right—I get it. *Perhaps you're like me...also bathed in God's grace.*

It is that very grace, that fatherly love (and only now as a father of a toddler, do I really get it...), that sees past our failure—my failure—and instead sees the sacrificial work of Christ. As Easter Day shrinks in the distance behind us, we must still hold tight to its message: Christ lives. He rose from the grave—and if we believe He did that, then believing He loves us through our shortcomings should be no problem—and *that*, is exactly a great place to be as we move towards Pentecost and a new year pursuing our risen Lord.

Perhaps things here at Saint Michael slow down a skosh during the summer, but all the responsibilities of life don't! So, if you're here this summer, I want to draw your attention to the first details of *Faith: Literature, Music and Film*, on page 22. Amidst all the other summertime fun, this series, beginning June 2, will both educate and help to keep hearts renewed while pressing on in the pursuit of keeping God in our day. And I'm pretty sure He would like that. Just sayin'.

www.saintmichael.org

 @smaadallas



A Message from the Rector "GOD HELP US"

We are a couple of weeks into the Great Fifty Days of Easter and I'm still high on the joy of such a wonderful season. Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday were rich with meaning and I hope you left engaged and inspired each time you worshipped here.

Easter is an opportunity to celebrate the faith we have, as well as the chance to invite seekers into our community. This year, I hope the invitation to join our faith family is more explicit and intentional, because I think the need is greater than it has been in living memory.

I made an apologetic plea to those outside our faith community in my Easter sermon and have already received some encouraging feedback. Christian apologetics is a branch of theology that seeks to provide a thoughtful defense for the Gospel. Although much of what we do as Christians can be thought of as a form of apologetics, I hoped to tackle some of the easiest criticisms of Christianity, and intend to continue that thread through the Easter Season.

One of the threads of thought I introduced was based on a recent survey of US adults. For the first time ever, surveys show that there are as many atheists as Catholics and Evangelicals in the US. The number of "nones," those adults who do not identify with any faith group (atheist, agnostic, etc), has surged since the early 1970s, so now, they are statistically dead even with the other two largest faith groups.¹

I'm guessing this report doesn't surprise you. It's no secret that church attendance in the US, and thus religious affiliation, has been declining for decades. The decline is across the board in every major US religious group (the exception would be the very statistically small, yet growing, Muslim population). Although this might sound more dire to those of us in a faith community like Saint Michael, I believe that every person, even those who identify as atheists or agnostics, should be very concerned.

As religious affiliation declines, the rates of illness has climbed. In almost every health category, studies show that those who are connected to a faith community are healthier, happier, and live longer. A recent Pew Research Center report shows that actively religious people are more

likely than their non-religious neighbors to describe themselves as "very happy," to join charitable and civic organizations, and to live longer.²

The research doesn't stop there. Countless other studies and surveys have shown similar results. Psychologist Sonja Lyubomirsky, a self-proclaimed atheist, reports that, "If you are having serious cardiac surgery and receive strength and comfort from your religious faith, you'll be almost 3 times more likely to be alive 6 months later."³ Scientists don't know exactly why this is true, but they have their suspicions.

People who are connected to religious communities are simply less lonely. I don't mean the feeling of loneliness—everyone feels that way every now and then—I mean that people who belong to religious communities are literally less alone. By their very nature, churches and other faith groups gather together regularly. People who attend those gatherings, whether they be for worship, study, or service, get to know other people and get to be known by other people in a much deeper way than those who are unaffiliated.

Personal connection is desperately important for all of us. There are countless social

platforms and specialized technologies that allow for people to “connect” with others, but the dark side of those connections is that they are rarely life-giving. When we post and like and share, we get a shallow sense of connection. But when we hug a friend, sing together, share a laugh, or say a prayer, we connect in a very deep way. And that’s what I hope for all of you.

This connection becomes critical when we face the worst that this world can throw at us. Consider the devastating tragedy of the Easter Sunday bombings in Sri Lanka. At the time of this writing, nearly 350 people died in the blasts that hit churches and hotels, while countless others are wounded and in critical condition.

These despicable acts, targeting innocent people as they gathered to worship on Easter, is almost

There are groups of good people all around you, good people who want to love you and need your love. Not because of anything you’ve done, but because God loved you first. There is a place for us here at Saint Michael, and we can make sure that everyone else feels like they belong here, too. This Easter, make sure that you extend the love of Christ to everyone you meet, and in doing so, I believe we can change the course of our world for the good.

¹ <https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/13/us/no-religion-largest-group-first-time-usa-trnd/index.html>

² <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/01/31/are-religious-people-happier-healthier-our-new-global-study-explores-this-question/>

“...countless other studies and surveys have shown similar results...that, “If you are having serious cardiac surgery and receive strength and comfort *from your religious faith*, you’ll be almost 3 times more likely to be alive 6 months later.”

more than we can fathom. But then we remember that Jesus said, “You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy (John 16:20).” We grieve when we see people hurt and when evil rears its ugly head. Pain and loss are a part of this earthly life, but I hope is the name of the Lord who will wipe away every tear and make all things new. Our Easter hope, and indeed the hope of the world, rests with the promise of God’s redemptive love.

This brings me to the real point of this article: We need one another. We need one another to share our lives. We need one another to laugh and to cry, to lift us up when we fall, and celebrate when we achieve. In addition, we need to know that we are not alone. The world can be a scary place when we feel disconnected, but when we find hope in one another and in God who loves us as we are, we can make the world a better place.

³ <https://www.psychologytoday.com/au/blog/how-happiness/200806/happiness-and-religion-happiness-religion>



The Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Girata
Rector

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CLERGY

FULL-TIME CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Girata, *Rector*

The Rev. Dr. Eric Liles, *Associate for Formation*

The Rev. Lisa Flores Musser, *Associate for Worship and Liturgy*

The Rev. Greg Pickens, *Associate for Pastoral Care*

PART-TIME CLERGY

The Rev. Canon Michael Harmuth, *Priest Associate for Worship*

The Rev. Amy Heller, *Priest Associate for Worship*

The Rev. Bob Johnston, *Associate for Contemporary Worship*

The Rev. Mary Lessmann, *Associate for Spiritual Growth*

The Rev. Dr. Hiltrude Nusser-Telfer, *Priest Assoc. for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Canon René Somodevilla, *Priest Assoc. for Worship*

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Rite I (SMC)

9 a.m. Traditional Worship Rite II (Church)

9 a.m. Joy: A Children's Service (SMC)

10 a.m. God's Story

11 a.m. Traditional Worship Rite I (Church)

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Parish Hall)

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Eucharist (SMC)

8 p.m. Choral Compline (Church)

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Lomo Alto FAX (214) 262-8062

ESD Lower Campus (214) 353-5818

Jubilee Park & Community Center (214) 887-1364

907 Bank Street

Dallas, TX 75223

St. Michael's Woman's Exchange (214) 521-3862

SMWE FAX (214) 522-1933

5 Highland Park Village

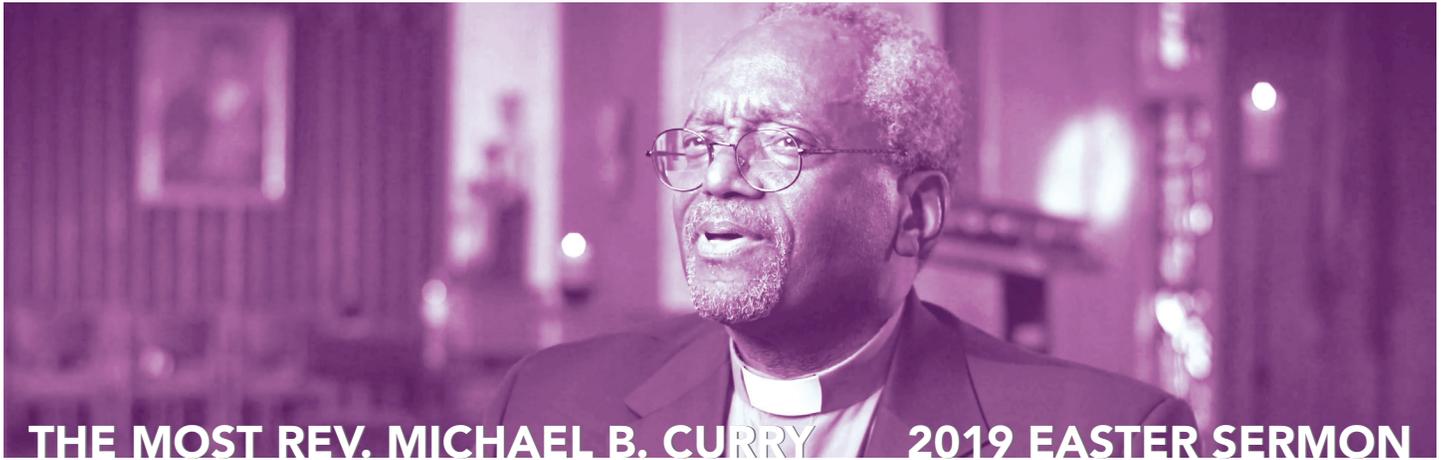
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Episcopal Diocese FAX (214) 826-5968

1630 N. Garrett Avenue

Dallas, TX 75206



THE MOST REV. MICHAEL B. CURRY 2019 EASTER SERMON

The Rt. Reverend Barbara Harris was the first woman ordained and consecrated a bishop in The Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion. In her memoir, entitled *Hallelujah, Anyhow!*, [she] quotes an old Gospel hymn that says it this way:

*"Hallelujah anyhow
Never let your troubles get you down
When your troubles come your way
Hold your hands up high and say
Hallelujah anyhow!"*

When I get to Heaven, I want to meet one person, and her name is Mary Magdalene. Because if ever there was another *Hallelujah, Anyhow* sister, it was Mary Magdalene. And her life, and her example, tells us what it means to follow in the way of Jesus, in the Way of Love.

Mary Magdalene showed up when others would not. Mary Magdalene spoke up when others remained silent. Mary Magdalene stood up when others sat down.

John's Gospel tells us that when many of the disciples fled and abandoned Jesus, Mary Magdalene stood by him at the cross. *Hallelujah, Anyhow.*

Against the odds, swimming against the current, Mary Magdalene was there.

John's Gospel says in the 20th chapter, early in the morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene and some of the other women went to the tomb. *Hallelujah, Anyhow.*

They went to the tomb when it didn't make any sense. They went to the tomb when the evidence was against them. Jesus was dead. They knew that. The power of the Empire had crushed the hope of love. They knew that. And they got up in the morning and went to the tomb anyhow. *Hallelujah, Anyhow.*

But more than that, John's Gospel says it was dark. It was dark. That's not just the time of day in John's Gospel. The darkness in John is the domain of evil. In John's Gospel when Judas leaves the Last Supper to betray Jesus, John inserts a parenthetical remark. When Judas leaves to betray him, John says, "And it was night." The darkness is the domain of wrong, of hatred, of bigotry, of violence, the domain of sin and death and horror.

And early in the morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, *Hallelujah, Anyhow.*

The truth is, she didn't know that Jesus was alive. She was just doing what love does. Caring for her beloved, her Savior, her friend, in his time of death, to give him the last rites of burial. And when she got to the tomb, and the other women with them, they eventually discovered that Jesus was alive, and in the silence of the night, in the moments of despair, in the moments of the worst darkness, God had done something incredible. God had raised Jesus from the dead.

The truth is, nobody saw Jesus rise from the dead, because God had done it

secretly and quietly, when nobody was looking.

When I was in high school, I learned a poem composed by James Russell Lowell. He wrote it in the 19th century, in one of the darkest periods in American history, when this country was torn asunder by the existence of chattel slavery in our midst. In this great land of freedom, there were slaves being held in bondage. And this nation literally went to war, tearing itself apart, trying to find the way to do what was right. And James Russell Lowell wrote, in the midst of this darkness, in this dark hour:

Though the cause of evil prosper, yet 'tis truth alone and strong . . .

Though her portion be a scaffold, and upon the throne be wrong
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and behind the dim unknown

Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own

Hallelujah, Anyhow.

Christ is risen
The Lord is risen, indeed.

God love you, God bless you, and may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

+ Michael Blum

Watch his sermon video online:
saintmichael.org/BCEaster19



CALL FOR VESTRY & DELEGATE NOMINATIONS

by CHRISTINE PADDOCK, Nominations Chair

Do you know a fellow parishioner who would be a good candidate to serve on the Vestry or as a Delegate to the annual Diocesan Convention? If so, please nominate him or her to serve.

The Parish will elect five new Vestry members, three new Convention Delegates, and three new Convention Alternates at the Fall Parish Meeting on October 27, 2019. New Vestry members will serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2020. Newly-elected Delegates/Alternates to the Diocesan Convention will attend the Convention in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Alternates will serve in the place of Delegates who cannot attend a Convention.

WHAT IS THE VESTRY?

If the idea of a Vestry is new to you, it is similar to the governing body of a nonprofit company. According to the website of the national Episcopal Church, the vestry is the “legal representative of the parish with regard to all matters pertaining to its corporate property.” It helps define the mission of the congregation, supports the church’s mission “by word and deed”, selects the rector of the Church, ensures effective organization, and manages the Church’s resources and finances. In recent years, the Vestry helped develop the current Initiatives, in conjunction with a five-year Vision for the Church. Next year’s Vestry will play an integral role in developing future Initiatives and strategic plans. There is a significant time commitment.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A VESTRY MEMBER

The responsibilities of the Vestry fall into three categories: Financial over-

sight, Facilities oversight, and Development. A Vestry member serves a three-year term, attends monthly meetings and at least one weekend retreat, serves as a liaison to at least one other Church committee or ministry group, attends Church and Church events on a regular basis, and supports the annual stewardship campaign through giving and raising funds. Candidates must be able to fulfill all of the requirements of the office.

In addition, according to our bylaws, a vestry candidate must be over 18 years of age, must be baptized and confirmed into the Episcopal Church, must have received communion at least three times during the preceding year, be faithful at worship, and must have made a financial contribution to the Church in the preceding year.

WHAT IS A DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATE?

The annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas takes place on the first Saturday of November each year, and Saint Michael elects Delegates to attend and represent our church. At the Diocesan Convention, delegates elect Diocesan officials, hear reports to the Convention, approve the budget of the Diocese and establish Diocesan policy and procedure by considering and voting on resolutions and approving changes to the Diocesan constitution and canons.

The Parish elects three Delegates. In addition, the Parish will elect three alternates who will serve if a Delegate is unable to attend the Convention. The alternates are ranked from first to third alternate, according to the number of votes they receive and serve in that order.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD CANDIDATE?

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention must be willing to attend the Diocesan Convention for three consecutive years, prepare for the Convention, and attend meetings before and after the Convention with other delegates and Church leaders.

THE NOMINATION PROCESS

Service on the Vestry and as a Delegate requires sound judgment, familiarity with Saint Michael and its parishioners, and a willingness to spend time in service to the Church. As the Nominating Committee considers candidates for its slate of nominees, it will take into account the qualifications, skills, and past experience of the nominees; skills and other expertise needed on the Vestry or at the Convention; the current mix of expertise and experience on the Vestry or among the Convention delegates, and other needs of the Vestry, the Church and/or the Diocese.

The Nominating Committee will make its recommendations to the Vestry in September. The slate of nominees approved by the Vestry will be announced to the Parish on Sunday, September 22, at which time Nominations by Petition will open and procedures will be explained. **All Nominations by Petition are due October 9. The Parish will vote on the nominees at the Fall Parish Meeting on October 27, 2019.**

The Nominating Committee needs your help to select our new leaders! If you know a great candidate for Vestry or for Delegate/Alternate, please get a nomination form on the Church’s website, or from our Church receptionist. **All nominations open June 3 and must be received by Friday, August 16, 2019.**



Women of Saint Michael Spring Luncheon

Wednesday, May 15 | 7000 Park Lane | 11 a.m.

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!



New York Times Best Selling Author

Melanie Shankle

"Embracing a Meaningful Life Through
God's Small Acts of Faithfulness"

Melanie Shankle is the New York Times bestselling author of three books: *Sparkly Green Earrings*, *The Antelope in the Living Room*, and *Nobody's Cuter Than You*. Melanie speaks at events nationwide and writes on her blog, *Big Mama*. She is a class of 1993 graduate of Texas A&M and lives in San Antonio, Texas with her husband, Perry, and daughter, Caroline. In her spare time, she enjoys online shopping, laughing at things that are often inappropriate, and spending time with her family and friends. Her newest book, *Church of The Small Things*, was released in October 2017. She also has a new devotional book for women entitled *Everyday Holy* available now and a devotional for teen girls called *Fearless Faith* that released in August 2018.

Book Signing to follow at
St. Michael's Woman's Exchange
5 Highland Park Village



Honoring
Anne Coke

SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/SPRINGLUNCHEON

WORKING IN THE HONDURAN HOOD

by THE REV. TOM BLACKMON

Jesus says, "You are to bear fruit and plenty and so be my disciples so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be full" -John 15:8, 11

TELA, HONDURAS INFO SESSION & DINNER

Sunday, May 19

6 p.m.

Sissy and Mike Massad's home
4200 McFarlin Blvd.

RSVP to:

Sissy at smassad@prodigy.net

TRIP: FEBRUARY 8-15, 2020

We need 12 more people to join the 12 already committed!

WHY WE SHOULD CARE:

For 14 years, SMAA missionaries have journeyed to Tela, Honduras. Working in tandem with parishioners and students from Espiritu Santo Episcopal Church, we offer fun, engaging Christian Ed to over 500 students in 5 barrios. We provide scholarships to several students each year so they can stay in school. These are simple gifts that have a profound effect on them and on us. We receive tenfold from our Tela brothers and sisters in Christ; deep joy, grateful hearts, a sense of family and great mutual affection for each other and our shared Episcopal community. Interested in being part of this remarkable work? One trip can impact both your life and the lives of many in Honduras; find out more at the info dinner!

Complete Joy would not be too strong a description of how the Saint Michael mission team felt as we boarded the plane in February to return from Honduras to Dallas after a week with our partners at Espiritu Santo parish and school.

We were thankful, renewed and filled with a sense of oneness with the families of Tela, a town on the Caribbean coast. For many of us who make the trip year after year, this mission/out-reach effort is our most vivid reminder of how in giving, we ourselves receive so much!

We work pray sing, eat and play together and—and all of it—experience the richness of "being with" people who may look and speak differently from us, yet share a common faith in humanity.

Mission teams from SMAA have been traveling to Espiritu Santo for 14 years, and have built strong trust with leaders and Tela and the surrounding barrios.

Settled by freed African slaves, Tela is a town of about 35,000 and was once the "banana capital" of Honduras. The Episcopal Church is strong there and its bilingual school is the best in the region. While some of us paint or plumb, others pour cement floors for families whose homes have dirt floors. Others do preventive dental work, provide hundreds of reading glasses,



and offer a "Bible School" experience each day, for several hundred children, both at the school and in the more impoverished villages nearby. And as a Saint Michael and All Angels team, we worship morning and evening, discuss what we are learning, share a glass or two of wine, and fall exhausted in the bed every evening. It's a wonderful way to connect deeply with other members of SMAA, to practice personal discipleship, and to experience the power of the common Christian identity that overcomes barriers of nation, language, age, and wealth.

Saint Michael is already committed to our 15th visit to Tela next February. We can promise, up to 24 people, a clean friendly hotel, useful and rewarding work, and appreciative partners to work alongside us. If you go once, you'll go back—because gospel joy is cumulative and builds toward fullness.

For more information, please reach out to: George at gbinvest@swbell.net, Sissy at smassad@prodigy.net or Tom at andrewt1947@gmail.com.





EARLY CHURCH

MAY 5

Be Doers

Philippians 2, Hebrews 11-13,
James 1-3, 1 Peter, 1 John 1-5

MAY 12

Jesus' Return / Alpha & Omega

Revelation 1-5, 7, 19-22

GOD'S STORY: CONTINUED

LISTEN NOW to God's Story: Continued.

This is a companion Bible study to our *God's Story* Sunday class. In each week's podcast, a member of the Saint Michael clergy leads us through non-narrative portions of the Bible, not covered during *God's Story* Sunday classes.

For schedules and recordings visit:
SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/GODSSTORY

JOIN US FOR OUR
GOD'S STORY

End of the Year Celebration!

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream! Join us for an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social to Celebrate a Successful Year of God's Story. Here's the Scoop:

SUNDAY, MAY 19
9:30 - 11:30 A.M.
GARDEN CLOISTER





PARISH VIEWS

Top: Congratulations to the newest choristers who have been "whited", receiving their white surplices, indicating they have progressed through their official musical training and are now "full-fledged" members of Saint Michael Choristers

Right: Phil Ritter introducing Councilmember Jennifer Staubach Gates, City Council District 13, at a neighborhood meeting at the home of Marla and Tony Briggie.

Bottom Right: Director of Music Jonathan Ryan directs the combined parish choirs of Saint Michael and All Angels with Church of the Incarnation, at a special Epiphany Evensong at COTI

Bottom Left: The Women of Saint Michael after their fund-raiser tennis event

Left: Team Holy Smokes' winning dish from the ANGEL CHEF competition, "a shrimp ceviche topped with mozzarella bits that have been incorporated with salt, cumin, a little bit of panko crumbs, and served with Zapp's potato chips. Hmmm!



SAINT MICHAEL CONTEMPORARY SERMON SERIES



MAY 5
MIND THE GAP:
FAILURES

MAY 12
MIND THE GAP:
COMPASSION

ADDRESSING SPIRITUAL GAPS IN OUR LIVES AND IN THE WORLD

THE BOOK OF
REVELATION

A SERMON SERIES
APRIL 28 - JUNE 2

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS IN THE CHURCH
AT SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

COMMUNITY SERVICE & YOUTH: THE BIG BENEFITS FOR KIDS WHO VOLUNTEER

by CHRISTI HOUSER, Youth Task Force Volunteer



Parents all agree that in today's competitive world the value of service for our children can be tremendous. It is understood, also, that volunteering is a requirement for gaining access to the universities where our graduates want to attend. College admissions teams state that when looking at thousands of applicants it is easy for them to discern when service is an authentic endeavor or whether it is something a graduate did to fulfill a requirement. The applicants that have a true connection to their service fared better in the application process than those who didn't.

Community service may seem like one more thing to check of the list, but it actually carries with it far more benefits than previously thought. However, today it is harder and harder for us to carve out time for ourselves and our children to volunteer. The frenetic pace of weekly activities comes with a constant level of low-grade exhaustion and heightened stress. Is it any wonder that we have an emotional tank reserve of zero left over for giving back? It might be prudent to rethink our commitments and to include a little more time spent in meaningful service to others and filling our reserves back up.

In an article from the New York Times, studies show that community service, done for whatever the

reason, is a good thing. However, how it is done and if it also involves "service learning" will affect whether kids feel positive about the work they do. Joseph E. Kahne, a professor at Mills College, along with his research team, completed a survey of 500 teens in 11th & 12th grade from all backgrounds throughout California and followed up with them three years after graduation. The researchers found that teens who were involved in any kind of community service, whether it was required or not, were

"Researchers found that teens who were involved in any kind of community service, whether it was required or not, were more likely to be involved later in life."

more likely to be involved later in life. A key finding was that if volunteers were put into service situations that they didn't understand or were mainly menial jobs, it was shown to actually be detrimental to serving in the future. Parents must help kids pick the right programs to volunteer with to avoid this common pitfall.

Joseph Youniss, a research professor in psychology at the Catholic University of America, who studied students in New York, recalls an example in his research. "I remember one kid who

was a fullback, who had waited until his senior year to volunteer," he said. "Then he filled the 40-hour service requirement by every Saturday taking a blind man to a gym and walking him through his physical activity." He shared "This work changed the young man's outlook on his role in the community and helping others." The key to this switch is being assigned service in a teen's own community and also having it aligned with the child's abilities and interests.

The Saint Michael Youth Ministry team is deliberate about including volunteering as part of the event offerings to youth for community building and service. Youth serve at many organizations, including Dallas Animal Services, Interfaith Housing Coalition, Austin Street Shelter, North Dallas Shared Ministries, The Gathering, and Promise House to name a few.

I had a chance to speak with SMAA Youth group member Florence Ukeni, a 10th grader, who was volunteering with our youth at The Gathering in downtown Dallas on a recent Sunday. She shared with me that although she volunteers to gain hours required for graduation, what she really loves is working with and serving people. Creating real connections with others is what makes the experience special for her. The link between what she enjoys and something she needs to accomplish encourages her to keep showing up to serve others.



Studies show key benefits to volunteering include:

- **Making Connections** - Volunteering connects us to others by allowing us to meet new people or improve existing relationships. It also helps to increase social skills.
- **Strengthens Families** - Volunteering as a family shows your children, who watch everything you do, that you believe in giving back to the community.
- **Mind & Body** - Volunteering is good for your overall health. It counteracts the effects of stress, anger and anxiety. These effects can have a profound impact on psychological well-being. Nothing relieves stress better than a meaningful connection to another person, or even to an animal. It also creates a solid support system that combats depression, builds self-confidence and makes us happy. Those who volunteer regularly have a lower mortality rate than those who do not.
- **Academic & Career Advancement** - Volunteering can advance academic and career prospects. It helps us gain experience in an area of interest, or even to practice important skills like teamwork, communication, problem solving, project planning, task management and organization.

Community service brings fulfillment to life. Take a look at all the volunteer opportunities that SMAA has to offer and reap the benefits for yourself, your children, and your church community.

Sources:

Help Guide - "Volunteering and its surprising benefits" Authors: Jeanne Segal, Ph.D. and Lawrence Robinson. Last updated: December 2018.

New York Times - "The Benefits of Volunteering, if the service is real" Author: Alina Tugend: July 30, 2010

HOW TO SUPPORT A GROWING FAITH

by CAROLINE MARAK, Stewardship Manager



If you think about it, what would be your answer to the question "Why do I come to church?" There actually could be a number of answers that would include the reasons of habit, what you grew up doing, you enjoy Sunday school, you come to experience the fullness of the liturgy, and the answers could go on. The real question though is "what do I get out of this church experience? Why do I keep coming back?" Simply, you come because you want to grow in your faith.

Building our faith is something that we don't do alone. We do it with others – our friends, neighbors, and teachers. We do it through the eyes of our children, our siblings and our parents. We do it through the work of ministries in our church and community. We do it with the investment of our time, talent and treasure.

Saint Michael is the church that we build it to be. Because of the generous pledges from many of our parishioner, ministries serving all ages have been enabled to increase their offerings so that we can grow in our faith together as a community.

Your pledge and participation in the investment of our ministries is exactly how our priests and lay leader make faith life happen. Because of YOU, we are able to send cards to the sick, listen to the beautiful choral sounds of our choirs, host extraordinary fellowship

events throughout the year, and educate our children and adults through Sunday school.

Join us and be an active part of the Saint Michael and All Angels life. It is never too late to make a pledge in support of the impact that can be made in 2019. Visit saintmichael.org/give or fill out a pledge card the next time you are at church.

STEWARDSHIP PRO-TIP:

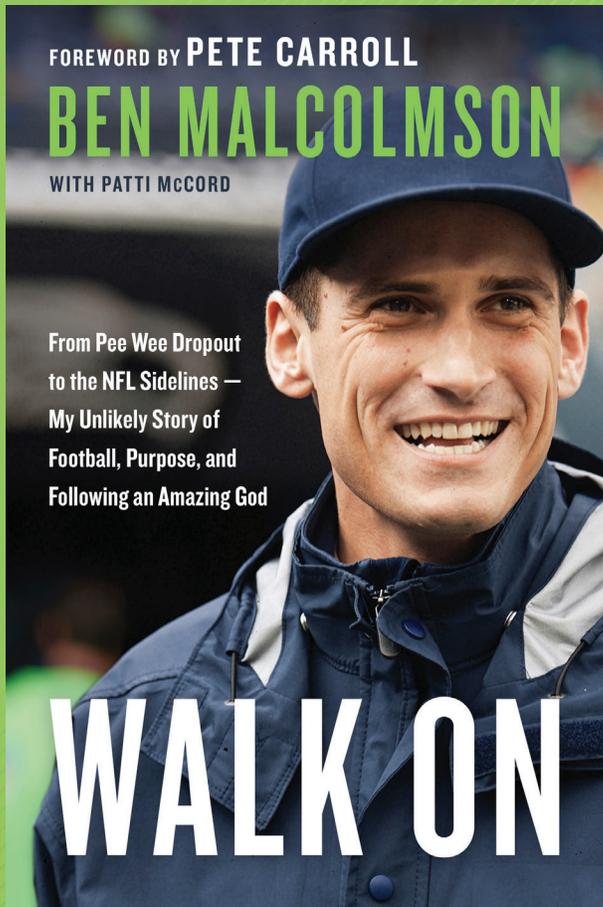
Planning summer travel plans?

Don't want to get behind on your pledge payments?

Be sure to set up your pledge payments on an automatic credit or debit card draft!

Contact Cheryl Kaschak at ckaschak@saintmichael.org or 214-365-3558 or Caroline at cmarak@saintmichael.org or 214-692-3015.

JOIN US FOR OUR SAINT MICHAEL
DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES



— with —
**BEN
MALCOLMSON**

— from the —
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

**MONDAY
MAY 20**

6:30 – 8 P.M. IN THE CHURCH

Make plans to join us as Seattle Seahawks' Ben Malcolmson tells of his incredible journey from undergrad journalism student, to unintentional walk-on wide receiver on the #1-ranked college football team in the country, to Special Assistant to Head Coach Pete Carroll! The journey battered his body, tested his perseverance, and broke his heart. Ben's inspiring story of hope will encourage you to new heights, stir up your sense of purpose, and leave you standing in awe of an utterly amazing God. Book signing and reception to follow.

SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/DLS

IT'S SUMMERTIME & THE LIVING IS REMARKABLE

by NELL ANNE HUNT



Most of the time in high poverty neighborhoods the summers are the worst times of the year.

After all, the children are not in school. They are unattended, unfed and usually scared. They are miserable in hot apartments. Crimes skyrocket. What is a joyous time of family vacations, summer camps, and enrichment activities in more affluent areas, is just the opposite in the poorer parts of the city.

Except, of course, in the Jubilee Park neighborhood. Saint Michael and other volunteers make sure the summer is a blessing of fun and learning and nurturing. Kids can be kids. Seniors are not lonely. Students can catch up on subjects in which they are struggling. Families get to have fun.

The Jubilee Park neighborhood is 62 blocks in South Dallas near Fair Park. Once it was full of crack houses and everyone was afraid to go outside. The schools were frightening.

When Saint Michael and All Angels decided to celebrate their 75th anniversary, they decided not to buy another stained glass window or build more gardens for the church. They decided to celebrate by building a park in a very high poverty neighborhood.

However, as we know, God works in mysterious ways. When the beautiful park was finished, the volunteers could not leave because they had noticed that the surrounding homes needed repairs. And then there were the school's physical and academic conditions to tackle. And then there were health and nutrition issues to address.

In short, God just kept showing how to continue this transformational work.

And so it continues into this summer for eight wondrous weeks.

There are 25 Senior Home Visits planned to ascertain the needs of food, transportation, medical and home repairs for the Jubilee seniors.

A project called Brighter Bites will provide 30 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables weekly from the North Texas Food Bank for each of 165 families. This is very significant because the neighborhood is in a food desert with no access

including basketball, soccer, parachute games and team building. Zumba classes and Aerobics for adults will be available in the mornings and the evenings. For the children who are at least two grades behind, special reading intervention will be given.

The children who have special learning needs, such as autism and dyslexia, will also have the opportunity to bloom over the summer.

In the evenings, there will be monthly



JUBILEE SUMMER CAMPERS CELEBRATING ANOTHER GREAT SUMMER OF FUN AND LEARNING ON THE COURTS AT JUBILEE PARK BEFORE DEPARTING FOR A FIELD TRIP TO THE PEROT MUSEUM!

to healthy meals. Josephina, a Jubilee child, now asks her mom for apples instead of cookies. Her mom is so grateful that her family is having an opportunity to eat healthy meals.

Summer camps for 165 children will feature field trips to the Perot Museum and the Arboretum, and soccer and basketball camps and art camps. There is a waiting list of 100 children hoping to get into the camps.

There are all sorts of sports for kids

Community Events such as Movie Nights, Craft Nights and Ice Cream Socials.

Last summer students from the Episcopal School of Dallas organized a mini-golf clinic for campers. Saint Michael's Sewing Guild taught sewing. Students from Parish Episcopal School of Dallas taught math with music and donated musical instruments to Jubilee. The READ Foundation provided robotics classes for 5th graders. The Ash Studios and many creative and generous volunteers from

continued page 40

ADDRESSING TAXING PROBLEMS

by *LOWELL DUNCAN, Director of Legacy Planning*



Do you have money saved in an employee retirement plan, IRA, or tax-sheltered annuity? If you do, you know that these plans contain income that is subject to taxes? When a distribution is made from your retirement plan account, you or your beneficiaries will owe federal income tax unless you plan wisely.

Consider leaving your loved ones and the Saint Michael and All Angels Foundation your less heavily taxed retirement plan assets. The Foundation is tax-exempt and will receive the full amount of what you designate from your plan.

There are several ways to take advantage of these tax-saving opportunities:

NAME THE SMAA FOUNDATION A BENEFICIARY OF YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN

All you need to do is contact your plan administrator and update your beneficiary designation form. You can designate the Foundation as the primary beneficiary for a percentage of the plan or for a specific amount. You can also make the Foundation the contingent beneficiary so that it receives the plan balance only if your primary beneficiary does not survive you.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

If you are 70 ½ years old or older, you can support the legacy of Saint Michael and All Angels and receive tax benefits in return. You can give up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to the Foundation without having to pay income taxes on the money.

FUND A CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

When you fund a charitable remainder trust with your retirement plan assets, the trust receives the proceeds of your plan upon your death, not the government. The trust typically pays income to one or more named beneficiaries for life or for a set term of up to 20 years, after which the remaining assets would come to the Foundation. This provides excellent tax and income benefits for you while supporting your family and ultimately the mission and ministries of Saint Michael and All Angels.

A DONOR ADVISED FUND

When retirement plan assets pass to your heirs, distributions are taxed as ordinary income, reducing the amount available to them. However, you can designate your Donor Advised Fund as the beneficiary of all or a portion of your retirement plan assets, which receives the full amount of your gift and bypasses any federal taxes.

Whatever your plan, there are many options available to you. Consult with your financial advisor or attorney on what is best for you and your family. And, remember to include the Saint Michael and All Angels Foundation in your estate plan, perpetuating the legacy of love, compassion, and service for which Saint Michael is known.

To discuss including Saint Michael in your will or other planned giving options contact Lowell Duncan, *Director of Legacy Planning*: lduncan@saintmichael.org.

REV. KENNETH H. BRANNON CALLED AS NEXT VICE RECTOR

by THE REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER D. GIRATA

FROM CHRIS

After a nationwide search, I am thrilled to announce that the Rev. Kenneth H. Brannon has been called to be the next Vice Rector of Saint Michael and All Angels. Ken is a man of deep personal faith, an accomplished priest, and a recognized leader on the national stage. He is currently serving as rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley, ID, a position he has held since 2007. In response to the call to Saint Michael, Ken said, "Three things struck me when I visited Saint Michael and All Angels: the beauty of the altar, the friendliness of the people, and the energy coursing through the building. Saint Michael is alive with the Holy Spirit and I am humbled and honored to share my spiritual gifts with your community."

I am very grateful for the wonderful group of parishioners who have led this search. The committee was chaired by Kathy Jenevein, who served alongside Bonner Allen, John McFarland Sr., Carlos Pena, and Nancy Skochdopole. Their commitment to this process helped us attract great candidates, and helped us discern that Ken was a most excellent fit. The Spirit has definitely been at work!

Ken will be joining us in July, so stay tuned for opportunities to welcome him and his wife, Rachel, to our community. Until then, I have included his biography below so you can begin to get to know him. Please keep Ken and Rachel, as well as their young adult children, Lucy and Isaac, in your prayers as they transition to a new chapter in their ministry.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Dr. Christopher D. Girata
Rector



ABOUT KEN

Rev. Ken Brannon
The Rev. Kenneth H.

Brannon has served as Rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley, Idaho, since the summer of 2007. This has been a fruitful and joyous tenure and only a true sense of call could lead him away from such wonderful people and such a beautiful place.

Ken was born in Fort Collins, Colorado, but moved to Mandeville, Louisiana at the age of one. He spent the first thirteen years of his life enjoying small town southern life,

picking up pecans from the big tree outside his house, biking with his friends, and being nourished by a loving non-denominational Christian church about eight blocks away. However, life changed radically when his father took a job at a teaching hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and he found himself attending an international boarding school in Kodaikanal, South India. He enjoyed living and learning with children from over fifty different countries and developed an abiding respect for views and practices different from his own.

Following in the footsteps of one of his older brothers, he attended Wheaton College in Illinois, where he discovered the Episcopal Church. And, although his major was psychology, he spent many hours pursuing theater. Upon graduating, he then spent two years working with the homeless in Washington, DC., coordinating administrative activities at Christ House, a mission of Church of the Savior, and being active in medical and social outreach to those living on the margins of society.

Rev. Brannon also studied drama therapy at NYU, and worked with children and adults at sites throughout New York City, ranging from therapeutic schools, psychiatric hospitals, homeless shelters, and prisons.

While coordinating the children's program with his wife at The Church of the Holy Trinity in New York City, Ken answered the call to Holy Orders, followed by Virginia Theological Seminary where he graduated cum laude in 2003. He served as Associate Rector at The Church of St. Barnabas in Irvington, New York, before moving to Sun Valley. In the Diocese of Idaho, Ken served as Chair of the Commission on Ministry, President of the Standing Committee, and Chair of the Deputation to General Convention.

He is married to Rachel Miller Brannon, a clinical social worker, and is father to two outstanding young adults, Lucy (21) and Isaac (17).

Ken is excited to serve as Vice Rector at Saint Michael and All Angels and looks forward to assisting Chris with all aspects of parish life.

**STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS ON HIS
ARRIVAL TIME & WELCOME PARTY!**

MAY-JUNE PARISH CALENDAR

for a full listing of all events & classes, please visit saintmichael.org

FOR EVERYONE!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 WOSM SPRING LUNCHEON

Honoring Anne Coke

Featuring Keynote Speaker and
New York Times Best Selling Author
Melanie Shankle

7000 Park Lane

11 a.m. Program

doors open at 10:30 a.m.

Noon Lunch

2 p.m. Shankle book-signing at the St.
Michael Woman's Exchange

See ad page 9

THURSDAY, MAY 16 SMAA ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL

*Co-Sponsored by WOSM and
SMAA Prayer Ministry*

7 p.m. in the Garden Cloister

\$50 per person. *See ad on back cover!*



SUNDAY, MAY 19

GOD'S STORY END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Garden Cloister

Join us between worship services for an
ice cream social, fellowship and fun as
we celebrate the completion of God's
Story and our year-long study of the
Bible. Everyone is invited! *See ad pg 11*

Questions: contact Tish Visinsky

tvisinsky@saintmichael.org

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

PIE FOR THE 4TH OF JULY!

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Garden Cloister

Join us for patriotic music and the
crowd favorite, Saint Michael's Annu-
al Pie for the 4th of July celebration!

We'll be serving over 60 pies baked by

our parishioners along with vanilla ice
cream and popcorn. Invite your friends
and neighbors and join us for fellow-
ship & patriotic fun! *See ad page 27*

Questions: contact Tish Visinsky

tvisinsky@saintmichael.org

WORSHIP & MUSIC

SUNDAY, MAY 5

VISITATION BY BISHOP SUMNER

The Rt. Rev. George Sumner will be
with us on Sunday, May 5, 2019 for a
visitation. He will preach and celebrate
both the 9 & 11am services. Adult con-
firmation held at 11 a.m. service.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

EASTER SEASONAL CHORAL EVENSONG

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong in Church

5:30 p.m. Chapel service in SMC

Hot Topics & Cold Beer

CROWD FAVE
EVENT!

MONDAY NIGHTS IN JUNE 7 TO 9 P.M.



June 3 **CHURCH HURT**
with The Rev. Dr. Steve Danzey

June 10 **PERSONAL EVIL**
with Dr. Billy Abraham.

June 17 **FAITH & SCIENCE**
with Dr. Michael Henry

June 24 **CHRISTIANS & VIOLENCE**
with The Rev. Dr. George Mason

full event and speaker details:

saintmichael.org/pub19

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS
SUPERHERO VBS
REGISTER NOW! SPACE IS LIMITED!

JUNE
3-7

REGISTER NOW!

COKESBURY'S VBS

HERO CENTRAL

Discover Your Strength in God!

PLEASE BE A HERO AND CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

SAINTMICHAEL.ORG/VBS

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

**THE DAY OF PENTECOST:
WHITSUNDAY**

There will be baptisms, special music by Dove, Parry, and MacMillan. *Please note there will be incense at the 11 a.m. service*

SPECIAL NOTE RE: JULY SUNDAY WORSHIP

All 11 a.m. worship services will be combined into one contemporary service in the Church. *This will happen all four Sundays of July.*

CFM

JUNE 3-7

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION & VOLUNTEERS

Join us for VBS 2019 Hero Central! Registration will open March 31 and will close May 19. Space will be limited so sign up early! Registration will be available at saintmichael.org/cfm. We are currently looking for VBS committee members and lots of volunteers. To volunteer, contact Regan Wallace at rwallace@saintmichael.org

YOUTH

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH

GROUP DYNAMIX YOUTH TRIP:

4:30-7:30 p.m.
1100 Venture Ct #120,
Carrollton, TX 75006
\$30 per person

Join Youth Ministry for an evening at Group Dynamix, engaging in a bunch of awesome team-building activities like a high ropes course, gaga ball, and more! If you've never been, you'll love it!

RSVP by Noon, May 5 via saintmichael.org/youth

WED, MAY 8

MOVIE TRIP: AVENGERS ENDGAME

with Chase Monson



Cost: \$20
Time: TBA
Studio Movie Grill
11170 N Central Expy
Dallas, TX 75243

ENDGAME IS FINALLY HERE!!!

Are you a superhero fan? If so, you know Avengers Endgame is going to be something you don't want to miss! Grab all your friends and join us!!

RSVP by 5pm, May 12 via saintmichael.org/youth

SUNDAY, MAY 12

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

11 a.m. Traditional Service in the Church

We're so excited to celebrate your senior! We will recognize your high school graduate at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 12. *A light reception in the Parlor will follow the church service.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH

EYC GOES TO ZUMBA WITH GABBY

6-7 p.m.

Klyde Warren Park *Muse Family Pavilion* Free!

Looking for a fun new way to work out? Try one of our weekly Zumba classes presented by Gabby! It's a fun, upbeat way to get up and moving. Practice all your best dance moves with Latin beats and other great music from around the world. Everyone is invited.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH

EYC BRUNCH DAY

With Holli & Chase!

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location TBD

Cost: Bring money for lunch!

Brunch is a mix of Breakfast and Lunch, making it the most important meal of your weekend so, spend it with us!

RSVP via email to Chase:

cmonson@saintmichael.org

M&O

AUSTIN STREET SHELTER

MAY 7 | COOKING

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall kitchen

MAY 8 | SERVING

6 - 8 p.m. at the shelter (*see below*)

JUNE 5 | COOKING

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall kitchen

JUNE 6 | SERVING

6 - 8 p.m. at the shelter (*see below*)

Cooking info:

Randy Rekerdres, randy@rek-ins.com,

George Baldwin gbinvest@swbell.net

Serving Info at the shelter

2929 Hickory Street, Dallas

Rita & Dick Davis, rrdavis14@aol.com

THE GATHERING AT THANKSGIVING SQUARE

JUNE 22 | COOKING

9 - 11 a.m., Parish Hall kitchen

JUNE 23 | SERVING

1 p.m. at the Square (*see below*) with
worship led by Fr. Bob Johnston

For more information:

Lane and Corey Clark

lanekclark@gmail.com

PROJECT MOSES

MAY 14 | COOKING

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall kitchen

MAY 15 | SERVING

5 - 7 p.m. at New Friends New Life

JUNE 25 | COOKING

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall kitchen

JUNE 26 | SERVING

5 - 7 p.m. at New Friends New Life

Address & Info:

New Friends New Life

6060 N. Central Expressway, Suite 250

Sheryl Wylie:

sherylwylie@sbcglobal.net

Volunteer Signup

saintmichael.org/ProjectMoses

SUNDAY, MAY 19

TELA, HONDURAS INFO SESSION & DINNER

6 p.m.

See pg 10 ad for full details!

PRIME TIMERS

THURSDAY, MAY 16

10:30 a.m.

Coke Room

Our rector, Chris Girata, be sharing the future plans for our church's growth and development. *This will be followed by the Holy Eucharist, led by our chaplain, Lisa Flores Musser. Lunch, \$10, with reservations to Bonita, 214-728-6440.*

FORMATION

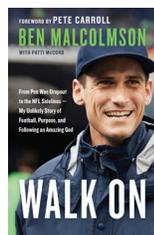
MONDAY, MAY 20

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES:

BEN MALCOLMSON

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Church



Make plans to join us as Ben Malcolmson speaks about his incredible testimony as an undergrad student journalist who tried out for the USC football team to write a humorous feature article about walk-ons. Miraculously, he landed a roster spot as a wide receiver on the No. 1-ranked Trojans. The journey that followed would batter his body, test his perseverance, and break his heart. Ben's inspiring story of hope will encourage you to new heights, stir up your sense of purpose, and leave you standing in

awe of an utterly amazing God. *Book signing and reception to follow.*

SUNDAYS, JUNE 2 - AUGUST 11

(Excluding June 30 for Pie for the 4th)

FAITH: LITERATURE, MUSIC & FILM

10 a.m.

Saint Michael Chapel

SUMMER
FORMATION!

Please join us in the Saint Mich Chapel during the 10 o'clock hour every Sunday for our summer series featuring presentations by Saint Michael clergy and others over topics such as, "Faith in Literature, Music and Film". This series will begin after the conclusion of "God's Story" and is appropriate for all ages.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

LAST DAY OF AGE-SPECIFIC CHRISTIAN FORMATION UNTIL AUGUST 25TH

YOUNG ADULTS

YA will be meeting regularly throughout the summer! Check out the website for details on brunch, happy hour and parish-wide service opportunities!

saintmichael.org/ya

FEATURED ITEMS FROM THE
SAINT MICHAEL BOOK SHOP
 GET YOURS TODAY!

HOURS
 Monday-Friday: 10 AM - 3 PM
 Saturday: CLOSED
 Sunday: 8:30 - 12:30

saintmichael.org

Handmade God Wire Wall Cross

WITH ASSORTED PEARL ACCENTS

BOTH \$7.50



Thistle Farms "Love Heals"

THISTLE FARMS HANDCRAFTED PRODUCTS DIRECTLY BENEFITS THE SURVIVORS THAT MAKE THEM

- LAVENDAR SOY CANDLES \$3.2
- LAVENDAR BODY SCRUB \$2.2
- LAVENDAR BODY BUTTER \$1.0
- ASSORTED HEALING OILS \$1.5



White Cross Bib with Ruffle

\$15



Pink and Blue Assorted Rattle Sock

FOR 0-12 MONTHS

\$11.50

Saint Michael's

Farmers Market



NOW OPEN FOR AWESOMENESS!

Volunteering, Information, Questions: Contact SMFM Director Tricia Stewart
farmersmarket@saintmichael.org, or 214-675-0586.

SATURDAYS 8 A.M. - Noon
NOW - SEPTEMBER 28
-NORTH PARKING LOT-

www.saintmichaelsmarket.com

 @saintmichaelsmarket

WINNER



The Best of Big D

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD FARMERS MARKET

2017

We Need You—Please Join Us As A Volunteer!

+ 8-10 a.m. or 10 a.m. - Noon.

+ Sign up at saintmichaelsmarket.com/volunteer!

Don't Forget ...

+ We've got the best seasonal produce!

+ ALL are welcome—even our four legged friends!

+ You can ride your bike or stroll with strollers!

+ You can relax while listening to the SMFM Band!

THE HEALING NATURE OF MUSIC

by ELEANOR WROATH, Saint Michael Choir Member



Back in January, the adult choir (where I sing soprano every week) sang Edward Elgar's glorious anthem "The Spirit of the Lord" at the 11 o'clock service for the Third Sunday after The Epiphany. This is one of my very favorite pieces and Jonathan and Meg suggested I explain why. My compatriot, Elgar has long been a composer dear to my heart—I am from England and the longer I live away from my homeland the more nostalgic and fond I be-

and Luke. I first came across this piece at Grace Episcopal Church in Madison, NJ where I also sang in the choir before our move to Dallas. It spoke to me on so many levels – musically, spiritually and most importantly, lyrically as within this scripture I found the kernel of what it means to heal, to reconnect with my faith and to find the comfort in joy and beauty after painful personal loss - represented here, as by so often in the Bible, a garden.

Before we moved to America in 2011, my husband, son and I suffered a tragic loss when our 15 month old daughter

powerful rhythms could bring beauty, joy and healing back to my life. For example, I remember that first spring without Miranda, I was very resentful of the sun – how dare it be so jolly, yellow, bright, so wretchedly life affirming? I wanted to shrink from it, cover it up with black, grey clouds. Then I saw how my seedlings needed that sun, how they would stretch towards it for sustenance, for warmth, for energy. I let the sun begin to soothe me. Around this time I started regularly going to church again and found comfort and healing in the rituals of communion and of course, in singing

"It spoke to me on so many levels – musically, spiritually and most importantly, lyrically as within this scripture I found the kernel of what it means to heal, to reconnect with my faith and to find the comfort in joy and beauty after painful personal loss—represented here, as by so often in the Bible, a garden."

come as the sweeping and romantic themes found in "Nimrod" from his Enigma Variations, for example, take me on a virtual journey to green and pleasant lands.

Elgar composed "The Spirit of the Lord" in 1903 as part of his oratorio "The Apostles" Op. 49 for soloists, chorus and orchestra. We are more familiar with this piece as it is often used as a choral anthem. He assembled his own libretto for the work from verses of both the Old and New Testament and in this particular anthem from the books of Isaiah

and sister, Miranda died suddenly and unexpectedly in 2008. Our world was entirely shattered and as I raged and wept my way through that unfathomably painful first year without her, the only place I felt peaceful and safe was in my garden. I could putter around silently - nurturing, tending, watching things grow. I could be physically active, participate in repetitive, mindful tasks but most of all I reconnected and absorbed my loss at my own pace as I watched my garden bloom and die. Mother Nature's random cruelty had robbed me of my beautiful daughter but I could be angry with her in a safe, controlled way, whilst recognizing her

the beautiful music and hymns from my Anglican childhood.

Since that time I have become increasingly interested in the role nature can play in a person's healing process. Significant scientific studies show that connecting with nature through horticulture in a physical and cognitive way can be beneficial to our mental health. This ancient practice is now a relatively new treatment model known as horticultural therapy where clients work towards specific goals using horticultural activities. It is currently

continued page 40

FROM THE LOFT

with Music Director and Organist JONATHAN RYAN



What perhaps sets our music program apart from many others, including nearly all in the DFW area, is what we call our ribbon training program for our boy and girl choristers. Some of you have seen the beginning of this program's fruits when you've witnessed the Admission of Choristers in the Whiting Ceremony at our Sunday 9:00 services in the church on February 3 and March 31. Another one will occur on May 19, and we expect them to continue once or twice a program year. What you may not realize is what these boys and girls accomplish within their first year of choir in order to receive Admission and Choristers. It's far more than simply being here for a few months!

It's also much more than simply vocal or musical training, too. But let's start with that. Our in-house, custom made curriculum for Admission includes training in posture, breathing, control of breath, and placing the voice in the correct part of the head. So, for example, a chorister must demonstrate that he/she can provide good breath for singing without stopping for up to 16 beats (i.e. about 13 seconds), can sing a scale of 12 different notes and hold the final one for 4 beats, and must sing one verse of a hymn of their choice perfectly, i.e. in tune, with clear diction, correct breaths, a beautiful sound on each note, and with comprehension of the text's meaning. It normally takes several sessions to pass these off.

Beyond these vocal components, our Admission curriculum includes choristers knowing the hymnal, that is, how to find both hymns and service music, and famil-

ilarity with our printed orders of service.

It also includes in-house, custom made workbooks. Averaging 30 pages, these workbooks are self-explanatory, of graduated levels, and cover a large span of material. For Admission, the workbook begins with knowing how to read the treble staff, the names of the pitches, the rhythmic value of the most common notes, and how to count the beats in the music. We grade the workbooks during our ribbon training time as each page is completed so choristers can make corrections as needed. This ensures that they all know the material solidly.

Music and singing are only part of what we teach, test, and realize in ribbon training. The Christian formation portion of our Admission curriculum entails knowing the three postures used in our services and their meaning, as well as memorizing the Chorister's Prayer which we pray together at the end of every rehearsal. The human formation portion for Admission is sitting well through 8 different services with excellent behavior and focus – sometimes, the most challenging part!

Typically, boys and girls in 3rd grade work towards Admission because they will have just joined choristers. Since our program has just started, we naturally have a number of boys and girls older than that working on Admission, and we often will have some because a boy or girl can certainly join after 3rd grade. I suspect that by now you can see that all the above is quite a full plate for an 8 or 9 year old child! And that is another important lesson they learn: in a culture that increasingly craves instant gratification and an easy way out, our children are learning the value of staying the course, not giving up, working hard on things that are challenging, and then enjoying

the fruits of their time and work.

This is an insight into what our young people are accomplishing over a number of months before they receive Admission and their white surplice in the Whiting Ceremony. I hope you are as proud as I am of these boys and girls, and find their leading of our liturgy even more inspiring now that you realize how hard they work for what they do (this is not even considering our actual choir rehearsals!).

Once a chorister is whited and admitted to the choir, he or she continues his/her ribbon training by working towards earning the next level: the light blue medal. The color refers to the ribbon worn around the neck over the cassock and surplice in services. This ribbon holds the medal of the RSCM. These ribbons, along with the white surplice, indicate the status and achievement of the chorister in the choir (hence the title "ribbon training"). The light blue ribbon is followed by the dark blue, and then the red. Each ribbon entails the same elements as Admission, but at a more advanced level. For example, starting with light blue, a chorister must be able to sight read music, that is, sing a passage of previously unseen music exactly right the first time without any help. In the red ribbon workbooks, choristers ultimately are taken to a freshmen college level of music theory. The Christian formation part includes memorizing the Lord's Prayer, the Nicene Creed, knowing the three parts of the church, knowing the liturgical church year and its corresponding colors, and knowing parts of the Bible. The list can go on!

While our ribbon training program, which is based on the Royal School of

continued pg 40

SAINT MICHAEL STAFF NEWS



JULIA DIETZ BECKEL
Music Administrator

The music staff at Saint Michael are thrilled to welcome Julia Dietz Beckel as our new Music Administrator. In this newly created role, Julia will assist the traditional music staff in implementing its multifaceted program. Central to her work will be helping to administer Saint Michael's new Chorister program, which is just finishing its first year. Julia will help to organize national and international tours, Chorister camp, and day-to-day activities for our Choristers. Julia comes to us with a wealth of experience in arts administration.

Julia studied Art History at SMU, and has varied experience in the performing arts scene across Dallas. Julia most recently served as a teacher at Saint Michael Episcopal School. She has been a member of Saint Michael for 25 years, and has served in many capacities, including singing in the adult choir, and participating in the mothers' book group, bible studies, meditation group, and Enneagram classes. Julia is married to Floyd and has a grown son, Arthur, and a daughter in college, Julia. She counts being a stay-at-home mom as the most important job of her life.



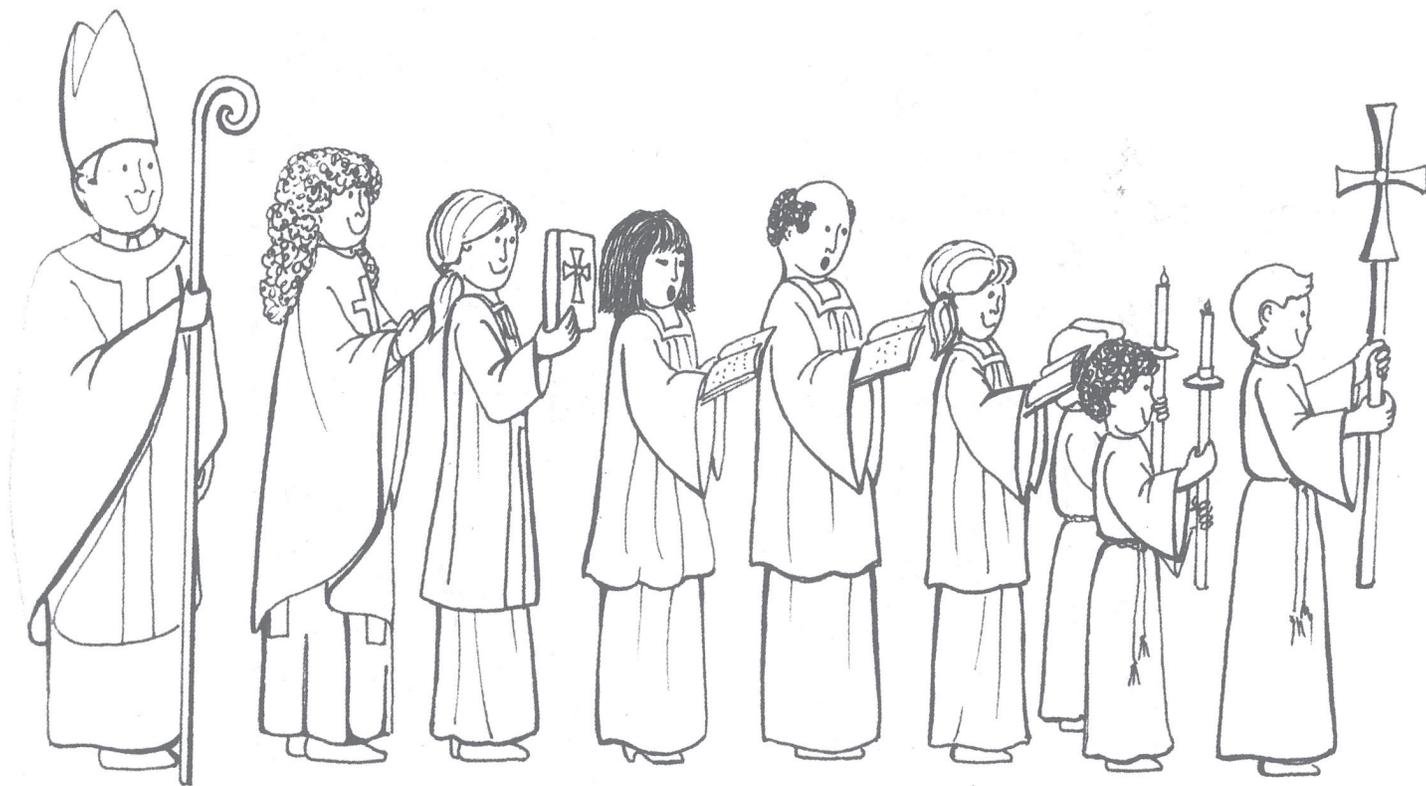
UNCLE SAM WANTS **YOU**
TO BAKE A PIE

FOR **PIE FOR THE 4TH OF JULY**
CELEBRATION ON SUNDAY JUNE 30!

CONTACT TVISINSKY@SAINTMICHAEL.ORG

SEE DETAILS PG 20

The Procession



acolytes

deacon

priest

crucifer

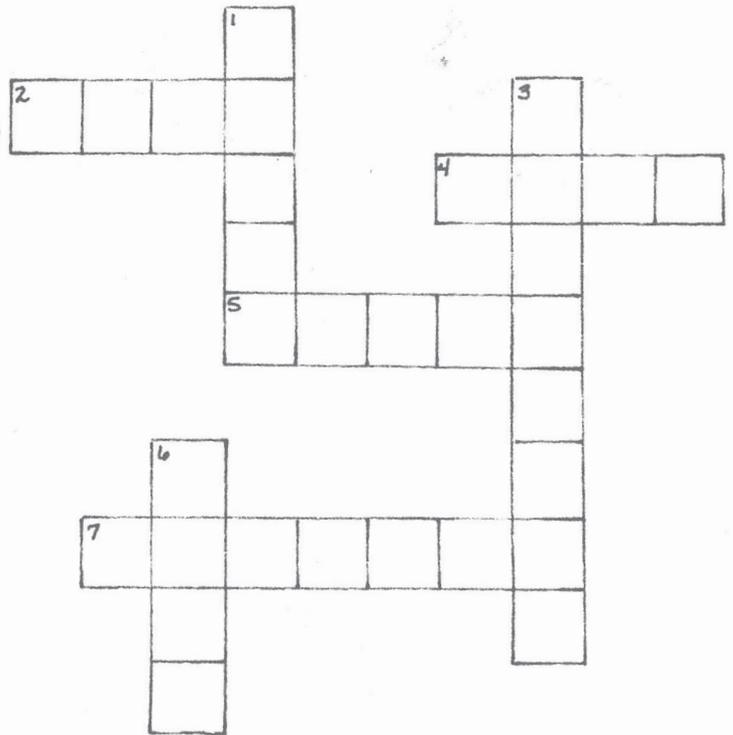
choir

bishop

Matching: Draw a line from each word to the person it names in the procession.

The Gospel

We **stand** to listen to the Gospel, which means **Good News**. There are four different Gospels in the Bible called **Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John**. They tell us stories about **Jesus**.



Across:

2. The Gospel of L_ _ _ tells us about angels visiting baby Jesus.
4. One of the Gospels is called J_ _ _.
5. In church we _ _ _ _ _ to listen to the Gospel.
7. The Gospel of _ _ _ _ _ tells us about the Sermon on the Mount.

Down:

1. The Gospels tell us stories about _ _ _ _ _.
3. The word Gospel means _ _ _ _ _.
6. The shortest Gospel is called _ _ _ _ _.

AROUND THE PARISH



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

ANGEL CHEF winning team, *Holy Smokes*, with Cici Weinmann, Margaret Spellings, Matt Schooler, Lydia Addy and Nancy Skochdopole (read about their winning creation on pg 12); Consecration of the 26th Bishop in Charge of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe with The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church; Tony Briggie, Vice Chairman of the American Friends of The Anglican Centre Rome; Marla Jacks Briggie, Chairman of the Board of Saint James Episcopal Church Florence; The Very Reverend John Shepherd, Interim Director of The Anglican Centre Rome; The Right Reverend Mark Edington, 26th Bishop of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe; Kaysie Montgomery and Monique Black of the *Half Baked: Jesus, Take the Whisk* team, busy at work; Mike Casey, Jeff and Darrel Rice and Becky Casey at Angel Chef, friends gathering to support the chefs at the Angel Chef competition, Chef Sharon Van Meter announcing the winners at Angel Chef, and smiles all around with two young girls at the WOSM Mother Daughter Tea!





JOIN THE CONVERSATION! See you at @smaadallas



SAINT MICHAEL PILGRIMAGES

HOLY LAND 2019





ABOUT THIS PILGRIMAGE

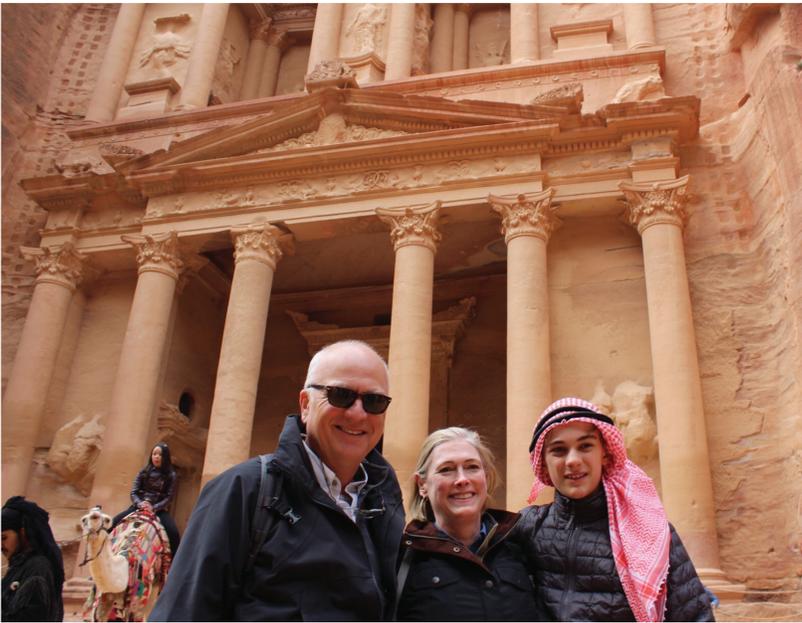
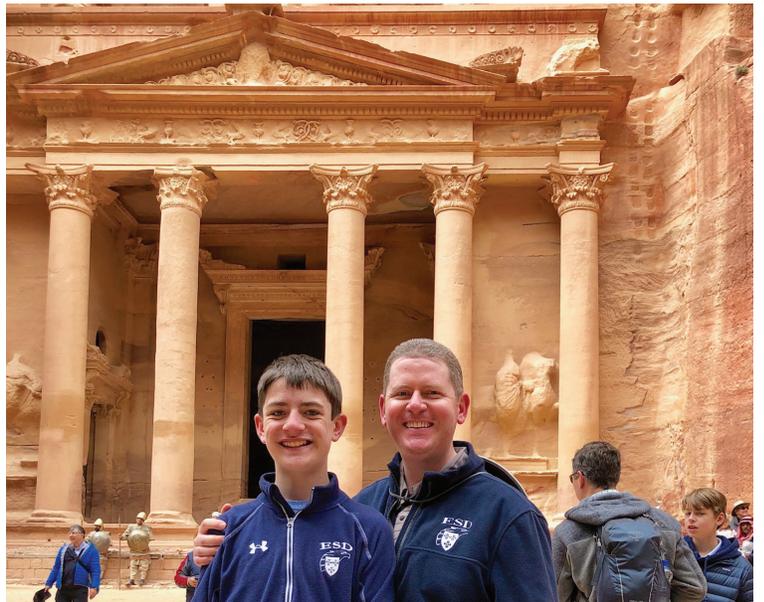
Holy Land 2019 is one of the pilgrimage opportunities recently offered to Saint Michael parishioners. Our hope is that these pilgrimage trips will help to refresh and renew one's spirit and faith, as well as grow and deepen holy friendship with other Saint Michaelites!

The families involved in this Holy Land pilgrimage, visiting Biblically historical sites such as Bethlehem, Nazareth and the Mount of Beatitudes, were the Chipman Family, Custard Family, Francis Family, Grogan Family, Newton Family, Schoellkopf Family, Searcy Family, Singhal Family, Wooldridge Family, along with Rector Chris Girata and son Brayden, Associate for Formation Eric Liles, and Dr. Saleem Ateek. Be sure to ask any of them about their experience!

Opportunities for future Holy Land trips for adults and families will be announced very soon, and look for information on the next pilgrimage, to England and Scotland, this September 25 - October 10.

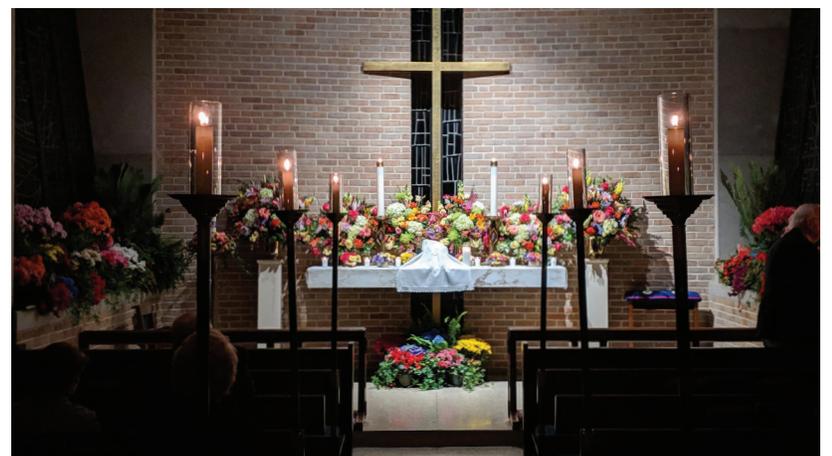
Information on page 2.

Many thanks to those who prayed for their journey and safe return.



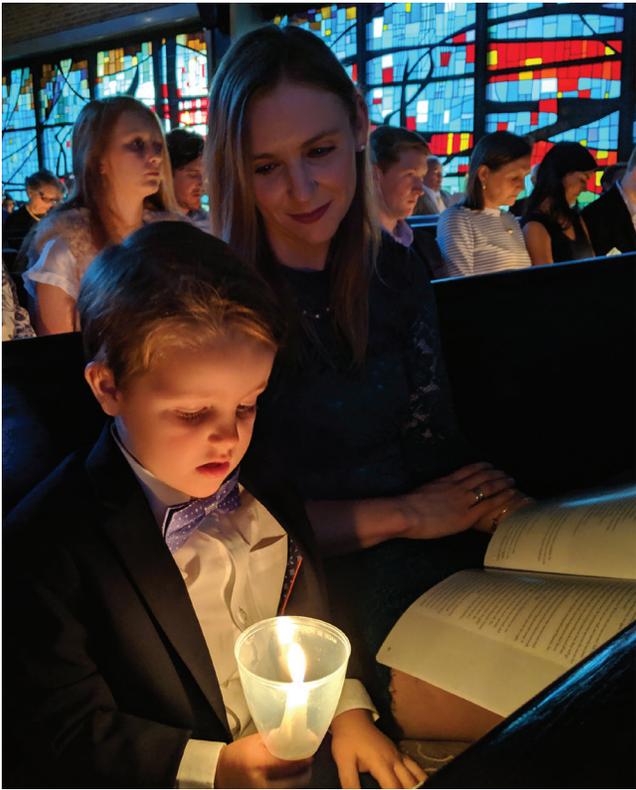


ALLELUIA, THE LORD IS RISEN! PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK & EASTER DAY



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

The Palm Sunday procession, Maundy Thursday foot washing, Karen Wiley leading a guided tour of the Via Crucis, the opening procession from Holy Saturday's Great Vigil, Easter Day traditional services, Chorister Taylor Brooks singing during the Easter Day service, Easter Day contemporary services, one of our young parishioners attending the Great Vigil, The Maundy Thursday Procession Of The Reserved Sacrament to Saint Michael Chapel (*last three photos*)





WOSM DAY OF SERVICE AT JUBILEE PARK

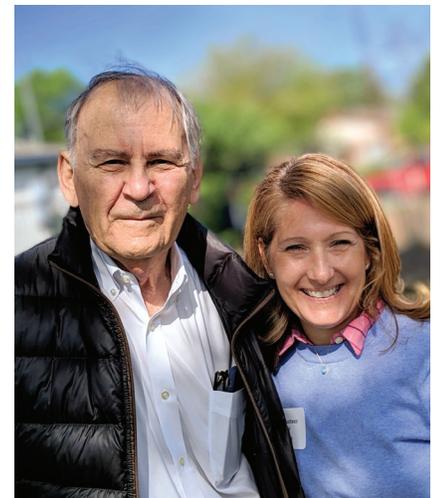
APRIL 12, 2019



ABOUT THE WOSM DAY OF SERVICE

On Friday morning, April 12th, over 70 member of the Women of Saint Michael joined together to volunteer their time at Jubilee Park and Community Center and OM Roberts Elementary School.

Our morning was spent touching the lives of some many within the community. Several ladies fed, rocked and played with infants and toddlers at Jeanie's Place while others spent the morning at David's Place, their Headstart program working on several STEM related projects including reading about butterflies, decorating butterfly masks, planting seeds in the discovery garden and rooting avocado seeds.



Over in the Jubilee Community Garden, our team spent the morning tilling the soil and planting, herbs, peppers, tomatoes and a variety of beans, corn, squash and okra for the residents to enjoy later this Spring. We also planted several fruit trees with the help of Jubilee neighborhood volunteers.

The seniors are always our focus and our volunteers shared their morning with the residents playing Senior Bingo followed by lunch. Prizes were abundant and the seniors always enjoy their time with the WOSM volunteers. Our volunteers also spent time that morning at OM Roberts Elementary with several Kindergarten classes reading about butterflies, coloring masks and constructing a butterfly tent for the caterpillars that will arrive in a week. It was a glorious morning that combined the opportunity to give with fellowship with others.



-SQUEAKY CONNOLLY



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

Heather Lorch carrying a tree to its new location, the children of Jubilee Park at the pep rally, the Women of Saint Michael Day of Service volunteers, incoming 2019-20 WOSM President Allison Bovard and Adele Broughton smiling for the camera, current president Christine Paddock hard at work in the gardens with others, Dawn Grove holding one of the Jubilee Park babies in the nursery, the garden volunteers, Karen Pardoe and Kay Whelan help lead seniors bingo, Day of Service leaders Bill Pardoe and Squeaky Connelly, Tiffany Davis reading to one of the children.

SMAA offered amazing art classes to the campers. Volunteers from the Jewish Family Service, AmeriCorps, and the Dallas Mayor's intern program also added their special touches to the camping experience.

Marjorie Murat, the amazing Chief Program Officer, remembers one special child named Diego who was a 6th grader who had autism. "He came to Jubilee in the summer with his mother who told me that no other summer camps would take him," remembered Ms. Murat. "I told her he could stay on a trial basis for two weeks but she had to stay the first week. They both came on the first day of summer, and he would not speak or look at anyone in the eyes for the first two weeks. Around the third week he started to open up a little more and talked to his teachers and then to the students."

"By the end of camp he was pretty much acting like the regular kids. His mom came to me with tears in her eyes because she said he had opened up so much and talks more. She said he was so much happier and his self-esteem had improved." Because Diego did so well in the summer, he now comes every day to the regular after school program. Ms. Murat says, "Diego has truly bloomed since becoming a part of Jubilee."

There are well-laid out plans for another transformative Jubilee summer. Would you be willing to volunteer to make it happen? Contact Marjorie Murat at MMurat@jubileecenter.org or 214-887-1364 Ext. 249. If you have much or little time or much or little money, everything will be blessed within the Jubilee Park neighborhood.

Come on, Summer time. We are all being called to become the hands and feet of Jesus in Jubilee Park.

Church Music (RSCM), is a secret to how well our choristers sing already, it is also a big demand on our staffing bandwidth. We are grateful for the increased stewardship that led to the expansion of our music staff in 2019 to help us recruit, engage, and train these young people as leaders in our worship and central to our parish's life.

I hope you will keep your eyes peeled for the new things we have coming up for our young people this fall! We will have auditions this month for choristers to start in the fall. We are excited to have our first annual chorister camp the weekend of August 23-25. This camp will be at Camp All Saints on Lake Texoma, is open to anyone in grades 4-8, and has no obligation to join choristers though there will be opportunities to audition. Contact Meg Harper, *Associate Director of Music* for more info. We also plan to begin a preparatory choir for those in Kindergarten to 2nd grade this fall, and further expand our chorister program to include a place specifically designed for high schoolers. Beyond that, we are planning both domestic and England choir tours for our choristers in the coming years!

Lastly, our chorister program is a huge outreach for our young people and young families. Please encourage any family with K-12 children to contact myself or Meg Harper. We'd love to hear from you and talk about how a child's life can be transformed through being a chorister!

used in a wide variation of settings - for example, vocational and rehabilitative programs in federal institutions, therapeutic programs in hospital settings for patients recovering from a brain injury or a stroke and wellness/life enhancement programs in senior living facilities or homeless shelters. I am currently training to be a registered horticultural therapist and it is my dream to run my own bereavement support sessions in a garden setting, to professionalize my personal experience by helping others in deep grief.

In Elgar's "Spirit of the lord" I see this entire journey represented. Stunning music and text combine to describe horticultural therapy in a nutshell and speak directly to me of being surrounded, comforted and held in the loving presence of God during dark and difficult times whilst providing powerful message of hope for the future symbolized by renewal, regeneration and rebirth as the garden 'springs forth' anew.

To give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called the trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.

-Isaiah 61:3

For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden that causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

-Isaiah 61:11

Anglophilia

Raise your knowledge!



creed: Father

MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



creed: Father

MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

PART OF SERVICE

The Nicene Creed

†

PURPOSE

Affirm the Church's faith in, and experience of, the first person of the Trinity

†

EXCERPT

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

(Rite I & II: pp. 326, 358)

DEACON

Deacons are members of one of three distinct orders of ordained ministry (with bishops and presbyters). In the Episcopal Church a deacon exercises "a special ministry of servanthood" directly under the deacon's bishop, serving all people and especially those in need (BCP, p. 543).



creed: Son

FOR US AND FOR OUR SALVATION



creed: Son

FOR US AND FOR OUR SALVATION

PART OF SERVICE

The Nicene Creed

†

PURPOSE

Affirm the Church's faith in, and experience of, the second person of the Trinity

†

EXCERPT

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

(Rite I & II: pp. 326, 358)

GRANT THEM ETERNAL REST

May the souls of these faithful departed rest in peace.

Carolyn Davis Summerford

January 16, Marla Briggie (sister-in-law) and Tony (brother-in-law)

John Doty "Jack" Williamson Jr.

March 1, Roberta Williamson (wife) and Van, Mark and John (sons)

Bobby Eugene "Bob" Buddendorf

March 4, Carol Vig (daughter) and Ben Vig (son-in-law) and Ben, Eleanor and Hank (grandchildren)

Martine Collins Ferguson

March 13, Liz Oliphant (sister)

Evelyn Johnson

March 25, Kathy Davis (daughter)

Robert Berry Chestnut

April 9, Bobby Chestnut (son) and Gwendolyn (daughter-in-law) and Croft and Will (grandsons)

Dr. Craig Lawrence Schwimmer

April 9, Dr. Shanon Schwimmer (wife) and Bianca and Sasha (daughters)

BIRTHS

We warmly welcome our newest members recently born into our parish family:

Christopher Harry Clements

Monday, March 25, Jessica and Jason Clements

Robert Pierce Murphy IV

Wednesday, March 6, Brittany and Robert (Bobby) P. Murphy; Grandparent: Debra Warburton

Katherine Leigh Callarman

Wednesday, March 27, Bess and Paul Callarman; Grandparents: Harriet and John Stoneham, II

EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!



RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Led by Chris Girata

Wednesdays

10:30 am-11:30 a.m.

Saint Michael Chapel

Join Chris for an exciting Bible study exploring Acts of the Apostles, Part 2, covering St. Paul's missionary journeys and the beginnings of church planting!

This study is open to all, and study guides (optional) are available in Saint Michael Bookstore. Bring your Bible and your questions.

Note: *We will dismiss early on WOSM luncheon days.*

saintmichael.org/rectorsbiblestudy
full details • recordings

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS IS OUR LEGACY

Including the Saint Michael and All Angels Foundation in your estate plan is a simple way for your love of Saint Michael to live on.

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS:

Bequests and Wills

Retirement plans/IRAs

Life insurance policies

Charitable trusts

Bank accounts, Securities
Certificates of Deposit

Contact: Lowell Duncan, Director of Legacy Planning
lduncan@saintmichael.org
214-363-5471



*Renewing Vows – Saint Michael Holy Land
Pilgrimage – 2010*

Jo and I married, served together on the Vestry, baptized and confirmed our children, served as acolytes/chalice bearers and on the Stewardship Team at Saint Michael...all made possible by the generosity of those who preceded us. We feel a responsibility to make sure that legacy continues for future generations.

Jo and David Loomis

THE ARCHANGEL

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SMAA ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL **MAY 16 | 7PM | Garden Cloister | \$50**

Co-Sponsored by WOSM and Prayer Ministry

SMAA ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL

Co-Sponsored by WOSM and SMAA Prayer Ministry

Thursday, May 16 at 7 p.m.

Garden Cloister

\$50 per person

Laissez les Bon Temps Roulez! and join us for a fun-filled evening of crawfish, jambalaya, beer, and fellowship—whether you are a seasoned cajun or new to eating crawfish! We'll show you the true way to pick the tail and suck the head, so don't miss this chance for fantastic cajun joie de vivre and food!

GET TICKETS NOW!

saintmichael.org/crawfish