



St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

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THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

In the life of the Church, Lent sneaks up very quickly after Christmas. It seems like one minute we were having a season of joy and getting together- a time of celebrating that the ultimate joy, Christ the Lord, has entered into our world and into our human midst. Right after, the Season of Lent fast approaches. Why? Cannot the joy continue?

But in Lent, there is also joy. This is because Lent is an opportunity for us, as the Lord invites us into a time of repentance, renewal, and growth. The ultimate point of those three things is so that we experience the transformative power of God's love. Lent is a journey to the Cross, but it is only that journey because of the love of a God who goes to the Cross.

Since God created the first people, people have experienced the transformative power of God's love in countless ways. In the history of the Church, many men and women have experienced the love of the Cross in countless ways. These people are called *saints*. Contrary to some understandings, the Anglican understanding of a saint is one who has been on the receiving end of that love. They are people whose growth in the ways of God came through a renewal that could not come from their own strength, but from God's. This renewal was born out of repentance: an honest reflection of themselves and admittance of their need for God. These were men and women who when faced with life's trials, ran to the loving arms of God in order to draw their strength.

You may be familiar with the Episcopal publisher Forward Movement. This is the group that puts out Forward Day-by-Day, a booklet of daily devotions and meditations that we carry here at St. Michael's. Forward Movement also does something during Lent that is both fun and educational called 'Lent Madness'. It combines the elements of a March Madness type of sports bracket with an exploration of the lives of saints. All during Lent, one saint is pitted against another in a "battle for the saints", and you can go on the Lent Madness website (or follow them on Facebook) to vote for which one you prefer. You read a brief bio of each one and pick one. I don't like to look at it as which one is "better" (after all, the life of a saint is seeking glory for him or herself). I typically vote for the one who I resonate most with. Every year Lent Madness has a different set of saints from various periods of history (for instance, this year the contestants range from Andrew the fisherman to composer William Byrd), and the finalist gets a 'Golden Halo'.

continued

The Herald

February 2024

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

Holy Eucharist

8:00 am & 10:30 am

FOR THE KIDS

Sunday Nursery

(newborn to kindergarten)

7:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Godly Play

K - 5th grade

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m.

Chapel of the Risen Christ

BISHOP

The Rt. Rev. Jacob Owensby
Episcopal Diocese of Western
Louisiana

RECTOR

The Rev. Andrew Christiansen

David Ritchie, Sr. Warden

Jeff Schweitzer, Jr. Warden

Avery Cook, Jr., Treasurer

Paul Burgess, Canterbury House
Chaplain

Christy Scroggins, Admin Assistant

Susan Arrington, Choir Director

Camryn Clements, Assistant Choir
Director

Stasha Bell, Outreach Ministry
Coordinator

David Ritchie, Videographer

Betsy Stoupy, Children's Ministry

Kathy Tell, The Herald & Website

Faye Cook & Wanda Alexander, Altar
Guild

VESTRY

2023

King Alexander

Betsy Stoupy

Matt George

2024

Heather Guidry

Stasha Bell

Charlie Adkins

Randy Venable

2025

Harriet Green

Jeff Schweitzer

Kathy Tell

Kay Vanchiere

THE HERALD is a monthly publication of
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

Submit articles to [kathytell7\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kathytell7(at)gmail.com)

All materials are subject to editing.

Submission Deadline: Monthly on the 22nd

While I encourage everyone to go check out the official Lent Madness, I thought it would be fun to do our own Lent Madness. Each Sunday after church, people can vote in the Narthex from several of the saints featured from the past week in the real contest. On the following Wednesday, we will discuss the top two saints that people picked. This will be a fun and engaging way, not only of learning about Christians who came before us but how our lives can be illuminated by their stories. This Wednesday series, February 21st through March 20th at 5:30 pm, will also include our traditional custom here at St. Michael's of dinner and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

The changing of the seasons in the life of the Church also is a reminder about the changing of the seasons in our lives. As many of us know, **Christy Scroggins**, Administrative Assistant at St. Michael's, will be embarking on a new journey beyond St. Michael's. In this new season for both St. Michael's and for Christy, we want Christy to know our deepest gratitude for the remarkable six years she dedicated to serving alongside us. Her commitment to our faith community has left an indelible mark on all of us. Her work has enriched our church and was crucial to the operations of St. Michael's especially during some very challenging times of pandemics and hurricanes. May God's blessings be with her and her family, as she goes to serve the Lord in a new capacity. May her path be one of always encountering and being uplifted by God's grace and unceasing care.

I am grateful for the staff and volunteers of our church family, and I look forward to a time of growing deeper in faith and stronger together this Lent and beyond. I wish you God's blessings.

In Christ,
Fr. Drew



Lent with the Saints
Dinner and Discussion Series
Feb. 21st-March 20th
St. Michael & All Angels Parish Hall

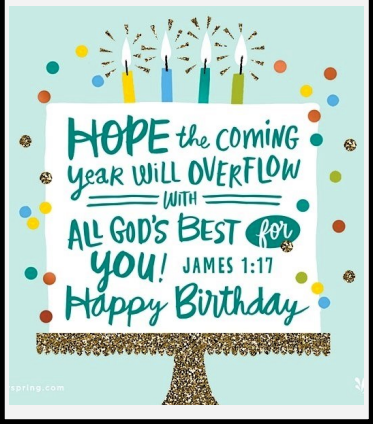
In conjunction with:

**LENT
MADNESS**
lentmadness.org



February Birthdays

- 1 Mason Clements
- 2 Sarah Brummett
- 4 Marianne White
- 7 Jackie DiGiglia
- 9 Leda Lofaso
- 17 Bill Shearman
- 21 Linda Smith
- 22 Jim Vanchiere
- 24 Hannah Williams
- 27 Paul White
- 28 Thomas Ford



HELP US DECORATE OUR ALTAR WITH BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

As a reminder, the 2024 altar flower sign up calendar can be found in the Narthex. People like to give Altar Flowers in celebration of a special event, in memory of someone special or just because! Whatever the reason, your gift adds a beautiful layer to the Sunday morning worship experience.

Thank you to everyone who donated flowers last year and to everyone who will give flowers throughout 2024!

The cost for the two vases is \$100. You may donate one (\$50) or both floral arrangements. Donations can be mailed in or put in the Sunday offertory plate.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

1 John 4:7-8 7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

BAPTISM & FUNERAL COMMITTEE — **Wanda Alexander and Colleen Fontenot** will be contacts for February, March and April. We are seeking 2 volunteers for May, June, and July. Each committee serves a three-month period. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex. If you find you are unable to complete your duties during your time, please find a replacement.

Tuesday, February 13 MAKE A KING CAKE — Lead by Colleen Fontenot at 10:00 am. All cakes will be donated to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. All supplies will be provided and everyone is welcomed to help.

Nancy Cook and Colleen Fontenot are finalizing plans for a **WOMENS RETREAT**. All women of the Episcopal Churches in our Diocese will be invited to attend. Details will follow.

BLESSING BAGS — **82 Bags** were delivered to Resthaven and **50** to Grand Cove.

Four Bags have been given to the homeless. Items needed for the winter months are gently used backpacks/or similar sturdy bags, socks, knitted caps, gloves, jackets/coats, sweat shirts/pants. **Waters' Edge Church** is requesting inflatable beds for the homeless. **McNeese University's Cowboy Closet**, located in the *Burton Business Building in room 211B*, is accepting clothing items for students in need. Please prayerfully consider donating to all of these worthy organizations.



PARISH HALL TABLECLOTHS — St. Michael's has numerous functions every year in our parish hall. It is nice to decorate and present a nice esthetic for whatever we are hosting. Our tablecloths have gotten quite a bit of wear and tear. **Wanda Alexander** has researched replacements and the ECW selected sage green tablecloths that are durable and will be easy to care for.

If you would like to "adopt" a table cloth it will be great! The round tablecloths run around \$20 and the rectangular cloth runs around \$55. If interested in donating, any amount will be appreciated. Checks can be made out to St. Michael's ECW and sent to the office or placed in the collection plate.



REMINDER

FEBRUARY ECW GATHERING

Tuesday, February 13 at noon to set up for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.
No Business Meeting.
Bring your lunch - Dessert is provided.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY



Requesting volunteers to help take care of the Little Free Pantry.

Volunteers will take a one- or two-month period during which that person(s) would be responsible for purchasing supplies (using our Outreach Ministry funds) and helping to organize volunteers to stock the pantry outside. Please contact Fr. Drew if you are interested.

Photo: Thank you, Junior League of Lake Charles, for filling the pantry!

Canterbury Friday Lunch

Homecooked, Tasty & Free

The Canterbury Ministry to McNeese students is held according to the McNeese academic calendar. Lunch is provided to students on Fridays from noon – 1:30 p.m. and served in St Michael's Parish Hall, 123 W. Sale Rd.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2ND

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9TH

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16TH

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23RD

Parishioners can sign up in the Narthex if they'd like to help furnish part of a meal.

shortly to pray and plan for our 2024 goals. Please pray that we'll have the Mind of Christ and be diligent and wise in all we do. You are welcome to join us; see info in Friday email updates and Sunday bulletins. Like many of us, we're ready to begin finding items to FILL SHOEBOXES! Like: coloring books, clothes, soaps, washcloths, toothbrushes, combs, toys, etc.!!

A good thing to introduce your children to is The Greatest Journey Bible Game app found at samari-tanspurse.org/tgj-app. Children learn more about Jesus through this app, inspired by the greatest journey international discipleship program, used after children receive a shoebox gift all around the world. In a time-traveling, space-themed adventure, kids play through the lessons and engage scripture in a fresh, new way! Available for free, with no in-app purchases or advertisements. So, let's GO! Download and play!!!

Love In Christ, Clara, Nancy, Karen, Kandy



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

One more BIG THANK YOU!!! and PRAISE THE LORD!!! for the support and 921 Full and excellent GO (Gospel Opportunity) boxes going to Beloved Children around the world. We know for sure that some of our Shoeboxes will go to Madagascar, Mexico, and a "Hard to Reach" unknown location. Please continue to pray for the safe delivery of each box into the hands of the child, and for each child's safety and that God will soften each heart so that they will welcome Jesus in as Savior and Friend. Pray that each will be discipled and continue to grow in Christ all the days of their lives.

Happy and Blessed 2024! Our St. Michael's OCC Project Leader Team will be meeting

CONGRATULATIONS CORNIE MOON

ON 50 YEARS WITH THE CHOIR.



As best as I can remember, Cornie Moon and I have been friends since our days in the MSC Cowboy Band around 1960. When Clara and I moved back home to Lake Charles and started attending St Michaels, Cornie asked me to attend a morning men's Bible study; we still attend to this day. I look forward to Wednesdays for we are still striving for a better understanding of the Bible and how to apply that in our lives.

Cornie was persistent in inviting me to sing with the Choir and at some point I got tired of him bugging me to join, so I did. He didn't care if I could sing or not. Still can't sing, but really enjoy the choir.

Cornie's last official day to sing as a member of our St. Michael and All Angels' Choir was Sunday, Jan. 7. His lovely Tenor Voice blended and improved our sound faithfully for 50 years, even singing lovely solos on numerous occasions. On Wednesday, Jan. 10, at our invitation/insistence, Cornie joined us for rehearsal. Afterwards we moved to our "Party Room" to celebrate, thank, and honor this Dear Friend and Chorister with happy words, cake, and sparkling . . . OOPS! and a few tears!!!

If this looks fun and interesting to you, please consider singing with us soon! It's not sacrilegious for me to say, "What a friend I have in Cornie!"

Your Friend in Christ, George Heard

LECTIONARY READINGS

Find the Liturgical Calendar online at www.lectionarypage.net

	February 4 Epiphany 5	February 11 Last Epiphany	February 14 Ash Wednesday	February 18 Lent 1	February 25 Lent 2
Year B Tract 2	Isaiah 40:21-31 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39 Psalm 147:1-12, 21c	2 Kings 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9 Psalm 50:1-6	Joel 2:1-2,12-17 <i>or</i> Isaiah 58:1-12 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21 Psalm 103 or 103:8-14	Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15 Psalm 25:1-9	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38 Psalm 22:22-30

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

8:00			NOON		
Lector LEM	Stephanie Mann Monet Brashear	Harriet Green Harris Rowzie	Ben Owens Colleen Fontenot	Charles Harper Monet Brashear	Stephan Mann Theresa George
10:30			5:30 P.M.		
Lector LEM LEM	Missy Shaddock Paul Burgess Colleen Fontenot	Sarah Brummett Matthew Lovejoy Martha Briley	Missy Shaddock Jeff Schweitzer	Charles Richardson Bill Shearman Kandy Moreno	Clara Heard Paul Burgess Jeff Schweitzer
Altar Guild	Leda Lofaso - chair Kandy Moreno Wanda Alexander	Kathy Tell - chair Sara Bass Monet Brashear Stephanie Mann		Tommie Schweitzer- chair Kim Palermo Patti Smith	Kathy Venable- chair Kay Vanchiere Faye Cook
Wednesday Altar Guild	February 7 Cindy Crowe	-----	February 14 No Service in the Chapel	February 21 Harriet Green	February 28 Colleen Fontenot
Altar Flower Donors	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Patti Smith	-----	NO FLOWERS <i>Lent</i>	NO FLOWERS <i>Lent</i>
Breakfast Teams	Roosters	Biscuit Boys	-----	Pancakers	Bacon Makers

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah Noon—1:30 Canterbury	3
4 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed	5	6	7 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 <i>Christian Ed</i> <i>Recap</i> 10:30 a.m. ASH WED SERVICES 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	8	9 Noon—1:30 Canterbury	10
11 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed	12	13  10 a.m. Make King Cakes Noon ECW— Setup Hall 5 p.m. Pancake Supper	14  8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 <i>Christian Ed</i> <i>Recap</i> 12 & 5:30 ASH WED SERVICES 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	15	16 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah Noon—1:30 Canterbury	17
18 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed	19 OFFICE CLOSED <i>President's Day</i>	20 5:30 p.m. Vestry	21 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 <i>Christian Ed</i> <i>Recap</i> 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCARIST 5:30 Lent Series 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	22 The Herald Deadline	23 Noon—1:30 Canterbury	24
25 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. NO Christian Ed	26	27	28 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCARIST 5:30 Lent Series 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	29		

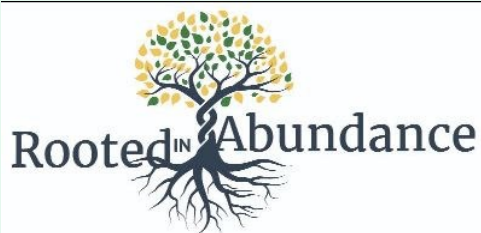
St. Michael's Epiphany Pageant was held on January 7th.



See photos on our website at www.stmichaelslc.com/photo-gallery.html

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Pledge Cards received to date: 48



Thank you for your generosity, as pledging assists the finance committee to create a yearly budget.

If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so today.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

WORSHIP, GROW, & GO

To **worship** God in the Anglican tradition.

To **grow** Christian disciples in community.

To **go** into the world in peace to love and serve.

