



St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

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THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

If you had to guess how many weeks that the average person's lifespan consists of, what number would you guess? That is what author Oliver Burkeman asked a random sample of individuals, and their guesses were all over the place. One person even gave a number in six figures. But the average lifespan, if you do the math, is about 4,000 weeks. That may seem like a lot, or it may not. For me, it didn't seem like a

lot, nor did it to St. Michael's member Harriet Green who told me about this book.

Time is precious. There have likely been many days that we've experienced where we felt there wasn't enough time in the day to focus on the people or things we have been meaning to give attention to. Something that Burkeman points out is that a lot of the amenities and inventions of the last 100 years that were meant, at least in part, to save us time actually cumulatively *fill up our time*. More and more in the last 15 years (let alone 100), the pace of our world and the options of things to do to fill our time with, have rapidly increased.

It may be helpful for all of us at some point to take a moment to reflect and ask ourselves "How did I spend my time?", whether we are in the later years of our lives or whether we are in the start or middle of our careers, raising families, etc. If you are the latter, picture your future self reflecting on this.

This isn't necessarily to make ourselves feel guilty. Rather, it's to cherish who and what we have now. Many of the things that dictate our time, we have no realistic control over. But time is still a gift from God. This January, Harriet will be teaching two classes on Sunday mornings for Adult Christian Ed (ages 16 and up) on how time is a gift. January 14 & 21 at 9:30 am.

We may be amazed at some of the things that we do find ourselves spending time with. Our life situations all differ, and I'm certainly no time management guru. But I am greatly looking forward to this class that Harriet plans to teach. I think it will benefit people at different stages of life, but especially for those with families at home.

What we can learn about time as God's gift, isn't so much about trying to squeeze in healthy or productive practices- there's plenty of things out there that tell us to do that. Rather, it's more about orientation and intentionality. God made and designed us for one another. Just as God is relational, his primary purpose is for us to be as well. Families are gifts, friends are gifts, our neighbors (which according to Jesus means anyone) are gifts, and we don't have an infinite number of moments with any one of them on this earth, not even the full 4,000 weeks. This class will be a good opportunity for our church family to come together in prayer and reflection, to discuss and share our own stories if we feel called to, to learn some interesting factoids about how society's relationship with time has changed over the years, and, importantly, to appreciate more fully the gift of time with God and how to share that gift with others.

Fr. Drew

The Herald

January 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

**Time is God's Gift
to Us**



January 14 & 21

9:30 am

St. Michael's Church Library

Taught by Harriet Green

**EPIPHANY
PAGEANT**



Our Epiphany Pageant with the children will be on January 7 during the 10:30 service. The children are to meet at 9:15 that morning to get into their costumes and run through the songs. This will be in place of normal Godly Play.

Contact Betsy Stoupy for more details at 337.540.3767



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

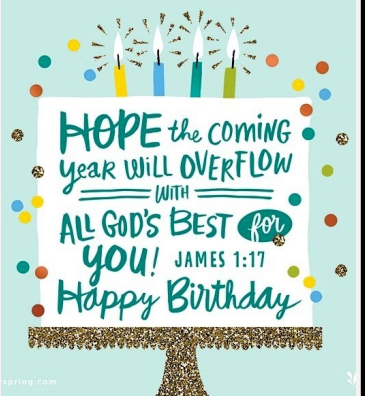


St. Michael's **Godly Play** children made Advent wreaths together to remember that the four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday.



January Birthdays

- 2 Jane Lumpkin
- 3 Nealie Hale
- 4 Alicia Williams
- 7 Campbell Carter
- 9 Eleanor George
- 10 Nicholas Parsons
- 11 Alexander Richards
- Brenda Donald
- 21 Cindy Crowe
- 24 Lee Schreve
- 25 Royia Bell
- 27 Kelly Strouse
- Narah Cano
- 29 Scott Potter
- 31 Catherine Cox



Calcasieu Parish Sheriffs' Office Announces Volunteer Orientation

Is God calling you for prison ministry?

Mandatory Annual CPSO orientation will be at **6:30 p.m. on January 22 & 23 at First Methodist Church** on the corner of Kirkman and Broad in Lake Charles. Registration will begin promptly at **6:30**. You will need a letter of reference from Fr. Drew and a current ID with your correct name and address. Your application will not be processed without correct information.

This ministry is truly a blessing and there are many ways in which you can serve. Please contact **Lisa Sober** at 337.302.7476 for more information. Thank you and have a Happy New Year.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Christmas Luncheon Report

St. Michael's hosted an ECW Convocational Luncheon on December 12 at the Pioneer Club in Lake Charles with 55 women attending. ECW members from Holy Trinity in Sulphur, St. Andrew's in Moss Bluff, and St. Michael's and Good Shepherd in Lake Charles enjoyed a spiritual message from **Fr. Drew Christiansen**, a delicious meal, and a Christmas sing-a-long led by **Roxanne Myers**. *Thank you* to the organizing committee; **Marianne Kiser**, **Marianne White**, **Royia Bell**, **Patti Smith**, and **Nancy Shaw** and to **Colleen Fontenot** for her crafting of the beautiful angel ornaments.

An offering of \$520 was collected for Waters Edge Church for their homeless ministry.

Photos can be viewed at www.stmichaelslc.com/photo-gallery.html



JANUARY MEETING

Tuesday, January 9 at noon

Bring your lunch - Dessert is provided.

St. Michael's Annual ALTAR GUILD Christmas Decorating Party was held the evening of Dec. 17 followed by dinner with Rachael and Fr. Drew.



It is not too late to make a pledge for 2024! Pledging is essential to the vestry's good stewardship of church funds and allows for planning and growth.

Please make your pledge today.

DANNY O'FLAHERTY CONCERT



Danny O'Flaherty presented a Celtic Christmas Concert for St. Michael's parishioners and guests on December 16.

He captured the true essence of the Celtic Christmas spirit with songs, stories, dance, and a few surprises.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The unofficial total of shoeboxes processed at the Texas – Louisiana Regional Office in Coppell, TX (Dallas/Ft. Worth) is 1,226,700!!

The OCC team thanks everyone that participates in Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, which has delivered millions of gift-filled shoeboxes to boys and girls around the world.

LECTIONARY READINGS

Find the Liturgical Calendar online at www.lectionarypage.net

| | January 7 Epiphany 1 | January 14 Epiphany 2 | January 21 Epiphany 3 | January 28 Epiphany 4 |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Year B Tract 2 | Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11 Psalm 29 | 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20) 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51 Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17 | Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20 Psalm 62:6-14 | Deuteronomy 18:15-20 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28 Psalm 111 |

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| 8:00 | | | | |
| Lector LEM | Stephanie Mann Harris Rowzie | Sara Bass Theresa George | Charles Harper Monet Brashear | Stephan Mann Sara Bass |
| 10:30 | | | | |
| Lector LEM LEM | Clara Heard Paul Burgess Colleen Fontenot | Sarah Brummett Jeff Schweitzer Kandy Moreno | Missy Shaddock Matthew Lovejoy Colleen Fontenot | Charles Richardson Paul Burgess Colleen Fontenot |
| Altar Guild | Kandy Moreno - chair Kathy Tell Sara Bass | Patti Smith - chair Monet Brashear Stephanie Mann | Kim Palermo - chair Tommie Schweitzer Kathy Venable | Kay Vanchiere - chair Faye Cook Megan Rowzie |
| Wednesday Altar Guild | January 3 Harriet Green | January 10 Colleen Fontenot | January 17 Cindy Crowe | January 24 Harriet Green |
| Altar Flower Donors | Poinsettias | King Alexander | <i>Volunteer Needed</i> | <i>Volunteer Needed</i> |
| Breakfast Teams | Biscuit Boys | Pancakers | Bacon Makers | Scramblers |

Donations for Altar Flowers

Each week the flowers on the altar may be given in honor of or in memory of someone you love. The cost for the two vases is \$100. You may donate one or both floral arrangements by signing up on the calendar in the Narthex.

January 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|-----|--|-----|
| | 1 OFFICE CLOSED New Years | 2 | 3 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice | 4 | 5 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah | 6 |
| 7 SERVICES 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Epiphany Pageant | 8 | 9 Noon ECW 5:30 p.m. Vestry | 10 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice | 11 | 12 Noon— Canterbury | 13 |
| 14 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed | 15 OFFICE CLOSED <i>MLK</i> | 16 | 17 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice | 18 | 19 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah Noon— Canterbury | 20 |
| 21 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed | 22 The Herald Deadline | 23 | 24 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice | 25 | 26 Noon— Canterbury | 27 |
| 28 SERVICES 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | 29 | 30 | 31 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice | | | |

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123 W SALE RD
LAKE CHARLES LA 70605



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.