



St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

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THE RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Half an hour's meditation each day is essential, except when you are busy. Then a full hour is needed. - St. Francis de Sales

For many of us, it's probably difficult to imagine taking an hour in the morning, or at any point in the day, to be still, pray, and not tend to any of the many things that can busy our minds- to put all things on pause. I'll admit, taking a full hour for this is something I do not typically do. You too likely have enough things each day that easily fill that day. The demands of life are great. But I wonder what a difference it would make to each of us to take that hour, or just a half hour, at some point in the day- even if it meant putting some things on hold that we otherwise would think we couldn't.

I truly believe giving ourselves permission to do this would greatly benefit us as we enter this time of year. This is the time when everyone and everything around is gearing up for holidays, traveling, events to attend (or to host), and the list goes on. It is an exciting time of year, but it is easy to lose ourselves in the midst of that. It can also be a challenging time of year, especially for those of us in which the holidays bring back the memories of those we have lost.

Spending time with God and with ourselves and knowing that it is okay just to *be with* God and yourself for a moment without tending to anything else, can ground us in knowing that God is with you and will go with you for whatever the day brings. Gift yourself this time to be still and know that God is God; that He is your refuge and fortress (Psalm 46:10-11). Let him fill you with his peace, strength, and forbearance. And know that you are all in my prayers as we approach these last months of the year. Know that I give many thanks for each of you and for your love for your church, and know that you can reach out to me and your faith community whenever you need.

I pray that this Herald newsletter finds you well. I especially recommend you read the articles from Junior Warden Jeff Schweitzer (pg. 6) and Vestry member Charlie Adkins (pg. 5) in this month's issue.

continued

The Herald

November 2023

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

ALL SAINTS

One Service Only

November 5

at 10:30 a.m.

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

Lisa Sober, Soloist

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

Alicia Williams

Betsy Stoupy

Matt George

2024

Heather Guidry

Stasha Bell

Charlie Adkins

Randy Venable

2025

Harriet Green

Jeff Schweitzer

Kathy Tell

Kay Vanchiere

They each give details about a lot of the recent developments happening in our parish life. I thank them both for the dedication they have put into making our church a home for meaningful ministries. We have some exciting upcoming events here at St. Michael's in the next two months: a Christian Ed class on the history behind some of our favorite hymns we sing in Advent and Christmas (Nov. 26th, Dec. 3rd, 10th, & 17th), Lessons and Carols (Dec. 10th), and Danny O'Flaherty's Celtic Christmas Concert (Dec. 16th).

Blessings,

Fr. Drew

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

October 21

Dedicated hard working folks from St Michael's joined others in the community to package 25,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger.



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



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

ECW October Meeting Highlights

A sign up sheet for BAPTISM & FUNERAL committees is posted in the Narthex. Each committee will serve a three-month period. If you find you are unable to complete your duties during your time, please find a replacement. **Faye Cook and Kathy Tell** will be contacts for November, December, and January.

BLESSING BACKPACKS FOR THE HOMELESS

During the upcoming winter months, backpacks will assist the homeless with items such as socks, pants, shirts, a stocking cap, sweatshirt or jacket, or small blanket. They will also include some food and toiletry items. This will NOT be advertised and will be given out only as needed. Fr. Drew will bless them as they are filled. Please consider donating new or gently used items!

The **ECW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** will be held at the Pioneer Club on Tuesday, December 12 at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$25 per person paid in advance. No walk-ins or late registrations will be allowed. *See page 9 for more details.*

Next ECW Meeting

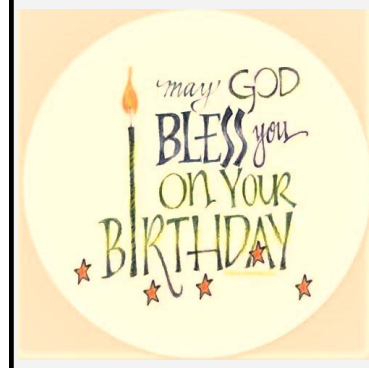
November 14, 2023, at 12 p.m.

Bring your own lunch. Desserts and drinks provided.

Speaker will be **Colleen Fontenot** on the history of Thanksgiving traditions in America. Hostesses will be **Royia Bell** and **Marianne Kiser**.

November Birthdays

- 1 Benjamin George
- 5 Charlie Adkins
- 10 Paul Burgess
- 11 Chelsea Williams
- 16 Dr. Martha Briley
Jackie Adkins
- 18 John Bass
Tom Chamberlain
- 21 Paula McLean
Ree Musso
- 22 George Mowbray
- 26 Harriet Green
Matthew Lovejoy
- 27 Harris N. Rowzie



NURSING HOME BLESSING BAGS

A Simple Way to Give This Holiday

Blessing Bags will be gifted to Grand Cove and Resthaven residents.

Top items needed are gripper socks and Gold Bond Foot Cream. They can be purchased locally or on Amazon.

Our goal is 100 gift bags. Look for info on the upcoming blessing bag stuffing party.

Click Here for the [Amazon Nursing Home Christmas List](#)

or go to <https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3KWK4L2XN632W> or contact Colleen Fontenot for more info.

TRUNK OR TREAT and CHILI SUPPER

Find photos on our webpage at

<https://www.stmichaelslc.com/photo-gallery.html>

PRAYER GARDEN & BENCHES

Have you taken a walk in St. Michael's Prayer Garden?

The weather is perfect for walking, and we have recently installed 6 benches.

If you would like to sponsor a bench, they are \$500 each and include an engraved nameplate for up to 3 lines.

Please let Christy know if you are interested in sponsoring one.

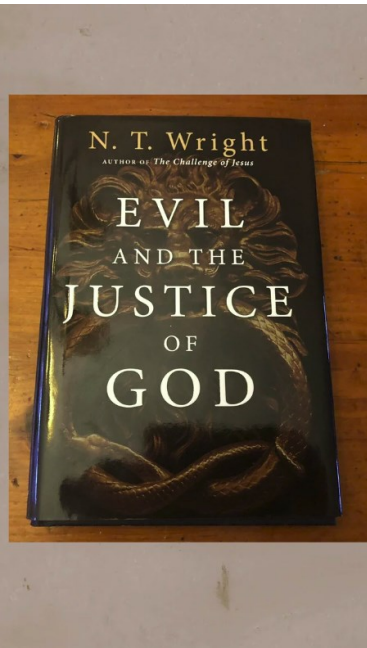


CANTERBURY MINISTRY — FRIDAY LUNCH

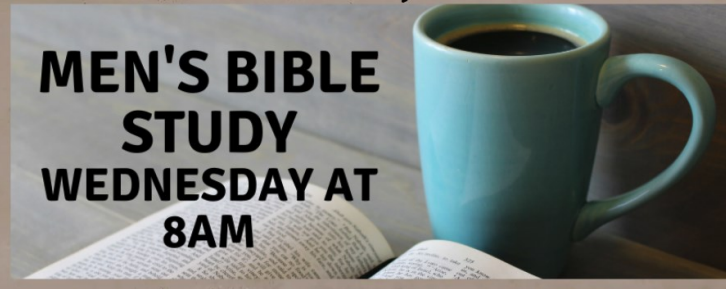
Photo taken October 19



Canterbury will hold a Thanksgiving lunch for McNeese students on Tuesday, November 21, from noon until 1:30. Contact Paul Burgess, if you would like to donate any traditional Thanksgiving trimmings.



Not too late to join us for Men's Bible Study. We are currently reading N.T. Wright's book *Evil and the Justice of God*—a helpful guide in having conversation about evil in the world. Copies of the book available for those who want to join.



CHOIR RELOCATION PROJECT

Greetings to all!

On behalf of the Choir Relocation Project Committee, I would like to let you know how the project is moving forward. So that you will know, the only decision that has been made at this point is that the Choir will move from the loft in the back of the Sanctuary to an area in the front of the Sanctuary. However, as you can see, we have removed a few pews in the Sanctuary and placed the Choir chairs in that area. Does that mean that is where the choir is going to be now? Well, we aren't 100% sure as we are still studying our options.

The Committee has asked for a local architect to study our sanctuary and give us some doable options as to how to best locate the Choir and the Organ console. While it would seem logical that the Organ console would be placed opposite to the Choir, the sheer size of the console itself does not lend itself to that location on the Sanctuary floor. The console is much bigger than it looks, and it would interfere with the view of the Altar! Well, why not place the Choir in the back of the Sanctuary under the loft canopy? That was considered also but it is not a wise choice due to the acoustics of singing under a canopy. So, we expect a report from our Architect in a couple of weeks that will allow us to present a recommendation to the Vestry. In the meantime, the Committee hopes that you are enjoying having the Choir on the Sanctuary floor. Having the Choir on the main floor opens up so many wonderful opportunities for growing the Choir and having options for supporting performers.



Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions. I can be reached at 337-513-3356 or by email at charlie.adkins@suddenlink.net. We ask that you keep us in your prayers so that God may lead us to right actions and right decisions.

Charlie Adkins



Reflections and News from the Junior Warden

As we begin our annual pledge campaign, consider the wonderful church facility that we have been blessed with. Although a church is its people (and we must never forget that), but as in the movie, “Field of Dreams”, having a welcoming facility is very important. To sustain such a large facility at a high level of operation, much time, effort, and treasure must be expended.

Upfront, one cannot thank Larry Bell enough for his past service as Junior Warden. He spent many years keeping the church facility and grounds in excellent condition. And he continues to assist in so many ways. Also, many thanks go out to Avery Cook, Sexton Michele Parsons and her team as well as her son Nick Parsons who handles the yard work.

During this transition year of being your Junior Warden, below are a some of key accomplishments:

1. Startup of our Outreach Center which required movement of the South Lake Charles AA Group from the Canterbury House and establishing all the required arrangements to be put in place. Do you know that over 100 people attended those 20 weekly meetings?
2. Work continued on the Prayer Garden / Walk. Existing trees were trimmed of dead branches – remnants of Miss Laura. Landscape trees were planted in the spring and were nurtured (watered) every few days to keep them alive. Fill dirt was brought in to improve drainage. Benches were bought, assembled, and installed on concrete pads. Arrangements were made to keep the Garden grounds in good condition.
3. Arrangements for the Pavilion continued with some needed modifications. The contract was signed in September for an open 1500 square foot shelter to be located at the entrance of the Prayer Garden, just west of our asphalt parking lot.
4. Expansion of our parking lot was initiated and that will result in over 20 new parking slots. The base aggregate has been laid down and the asphalt paving will soon follow.
5. Several roof leaks and associated damage was repaired. The roof lines with the church are problematic due to the many renovations throughout its life and require constant attentions. A little amount of water can do a large amount of damage in a short time.
6. Concrete work was done to tie our east sidewalk to the adjacent bank parking to facilitate safe walking and the Outreach Center parking was modified to improve and increase parking.
7. Renovation of the Canterbury House (after the temporary use by the AA Group) has begun and should be completed in several months.

I urge everyone to walk around our church facility and grounds to see what we are blessed with. However, keep in mind that what we have is equivalent to 5 to 6 houses to maintain. For example, we have 13 air conditioning units, over 20 toilets, multiple roof lines, 16 exterior doors, and dozens of windows. But what a wonderful facility we have to meet and worship in and to welcome others to join us. It is truly our “Church of Dreams”. I urge everyone to keep this thought as you consider your continued support going forward.

In Jesus Christ name, we thank you for all that you have blessed us with!

Jeff Schweitzer, Junior Warden



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

November is the month that our Operation Christmas Child becomes our reality! It is the final month of collecting donations and packing our Gospel Opportunity (GO) boxes!

We are pleased to let you know that by the time this newsletter is published we will have met all our donated goals and requirements for INSIDE the GO boxes, and this would not have been possible without YOUR help. Thanks be to God for the many blessings bestowed upon our project and ministry here at St Michael's and All Angels. What an awesome God we serve! Thank you, Thank you!

PACKING PARTY -- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 | 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | SMAA PARISH HALL

Our Operation Christmas Child goal for 2023 is STILL to send off 905 GO boxes! And this we shall endeavor to complete on Saturday, November 4 in the Parish Hall.

We would love for as many of you as possible to join us throughout the day and assist in packing these boxes. ALL AGES and MORE are welcome! We will be packing boxes for 5 – 14 year-olds. We will also try to include a special Gospel Opportunity (GO) message in each box before they leave! DO join us for Fellowship, Evangelism and FUN!

FUNDRAISERS FOR SHIPMENT OF BOXES

Each Operation Christmas Child box has a requirement of \$10 to ship. We use two fundraisers to assist in covering these costs; our chili dinner fundraiser that took place on October 29 and our upcoming Pre-Thanksgiving bake sale on November 19. The Bake Sale will take place after both Sunday services. As always, we appreciate any and all support you can give this project, even a prayer!

PACK YOUR OWN OCC BOX

We appreciate all family and individual box donations too! We have placed lots of empty boxes in the Narthex for you to take home and fill for return. We appreciate the personal support we received last year and if you provided one from your family last year, we challenge you to two this year! Please return these by Sunday, November 12 for a special Gospel Opportunity box dedication before beginning their journey to a child in a faraway land!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ONLINE SHOEBOX CHALLENGE

Soon we will make available details on how to pack a box online - these boxes are destined for 'hard to reach' countries!

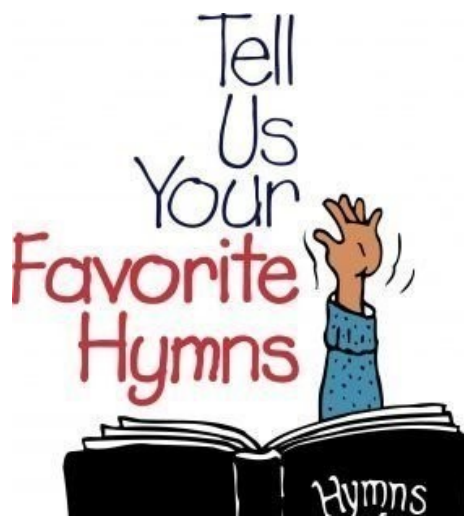
Continue to check the SMAA weekly email update and the Sunday bulletins for more information on our project and ministry. God always sees our need and provides, continue to pray for our OCC project!



“We are an Order of women who serve Christ the King for life with our heart, mind and spirit "For His Sake". We dedicate our lives to the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism.”

St. Michael's Daughters of the King will open in November and December to all women who are interested in learning more about who we are and what we do.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact any Daughter. You can easily recognize them by the Greek Fleury Cross they wear.



DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE HYMN?

St. Michael's Choir Director, Susan Arrington, welcomes your hymn suggestions. You can select your favorites from the 2 hymnals that we have in the Sanctuary.

Please email Susan at musiksu@yahoo.com or text 337-309-2865 with your suggestions.



Danny O'Flaherty's Celtic Christmas

*St Michael and All
Angels Episcopal
Church*

*Dec 16, 2023 2 pm
\$20.00 under 12 free*

Celtic Christmas is a journey steeped in rich Celtic heritage and celebration that combines the rich cultural traditions of the Celts with the festive spirit of Christmas. The Celtic regions of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, The Isle of Man and Cornwall all have their own customs and folklore that add a distinct flavor to the holiday season.

Danny O'Flaherty's Celtic Christmas blends these ancient traditions with the joyous spirit of Christmas. Join him as he weaves a musical tapestry that captures the true essence of the Celtic Christmas spirit - a celebration of heritage, folklore and the joyous magic that unites us all in the spirit of the season.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR
STARTING IN NOVEMBER**

The St. Michael's Children's Choir will begin meeting on **Sunday, Nov 26** during the 10:30 service to rehearse. **Mrs. Camryn** will be practicing with any children during the sermon to get them ready to sing for the upcoming Christmas Eve service.

The children will return to the sanctuary during announcements.

We would love if your child could be a part of it! All are welcome!



CONVOCATIONAL ECW ADVENT/CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, December 12, 11:30 a.m.

The Pioneer Club, 127 W. Broad St., 9th Floor

Join your fellow Episcopal women and guests as we celebrate the Advent Season. The Pioneer Club Chefs will provide a three-course meal with the option to purchase wine at your own expense. A Christmas-themed sing-along will be led by Roxanne Myers of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, and a spiritual thought will be offered by Father Drew Christiansen of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church.

In the spirit of giving, collections will be accepted for those interested and able to offer a monetary donation to Waters Edge church to support their outreach ministry to the homeless and downtrodden.

Reservations may be secured with a \$25 check made payable to St. Michael's ECW (mail to: 123 W. Sale Rd., Lake Charles, LA 70605). For cash payments please include a note specifying the name of the person attending. For further information, contact Marianne White at 337-302-3227 or Marianne Leigh Kiser at 337-302-0371.

Last date for reservations is Dec. 5. Carpooling is encouraged as parking may be limited. If you need transportation, let one of the Marianne's know in advance.

Name: _____
Phone: _____
Church: _____
Guest (s): _____



Bake Sale

OCC PRE THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 after both services

In the Narthex | All by Donation

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Winter is coming on!! Remember our homeless! If you have sweaters, sweat-shirts, sweatpants, stocking caps, jackets, new socks... please consider donating to the Little Free Pantry!



FOOD NEEDS: Beanie Weenies, six pack/case of water, Mac and Cheese, Chef Boyardee, Vienna Sausages.

LECTIONARY READINGS

Find the Liturgical Calendar online at www.lectionarypage.net

	November 5 All Saints Day	November 12 24 Sunday after Pentecost	November 19 25 Sunday after Pentecost	November 26 Last Sunday after Pentecost
Year A Track 1	Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13	Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

8:00 Lector LEM	One Service Only at 10:30	Stephanie Mann Harris Rowzie	Morning Prayer Theresa George Harris Rowzie	Stephanie Mann Sara Bass
10:30 Lector LEM LEM	Matthew Lovejoy Sara Bass Monet Brashear	Charles Richardson Colleen Fontenot Jeff Schweitzer	Morning Prayer Martha Briley Paul Burgess	Sarah Brummett Kandy Moreno Colleen Fontenot
Altar Guild	Tommie Schweitzer Kay Vanchiere Kandy Moreno	Kathy Tell Faye Cook Megan Rowzie	Leda Lofaso Monet Brashear Kim Palermo	Stephanie Mann Wanda Alexander Kathy Venable
Wednes- day Altar Guild	November 1 Harriet Green	November 8 Colleen Fontenot	November 15 Cindy Crowe	November 22 Harriet Green
Altar Flower Donors	Kelly Chatman	Wilma Moore	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Harriet Green and Larry & Royia Bell
Breakfast Teams	No Breakfast	Scramblers	Roosters	Biscuit Boys

November 2023

ASun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. <u>Christian Ed</u> 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. <u>Choir Practice</u>	2	3 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah Noon—1:30pm Canterbury	4 10:30 a.m. OCC packing party
5 ALL SAINTS <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">ONE SERVICE</div> at 10:30 a.m.	6	7	8 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. <u>Christian Ed</u> 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. <u>Choir Practice</u>	9	10 Noon—1:30pm Canterbury\ <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">OFFICE CLOSED</div>	11 
12 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m.	13	14 Noon ECW 5:30 p.m. Vestry	15 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. <u>Christian Ed</u> 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. <u>Choir Practice</u>	16	17 11 a.m. Graywood Verandah Noon—1:30pm Canterbury	18
19 Morning Prayer at 8 & 10:30 a.m. OCC Bake Sale	20	21 Noon—1:30pm Canterbury Thanksgiving Day Lunch	22	23 	24	25
CLOSED ALL WEEK FOR THANKSGIVING						
26 SERVICES 8 & 10:30 a.m.	27	28	29 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. <u>Christian Ed</u> 10:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST 6:30 p.m. <u>Choir Practice</u>	30		


St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

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.



**HYMNS OF ADVENT
AND CHRISTMAS**

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN ED SERIES
9:30-10:15 AM
IN LIBRARY
NOV.26, DEC. 3, 10, & 17

