



The Messenger

February 2024

*Saint Michael
& All Angels
Episcopal Church*

53720 Ironwood Road ✕ South Bend, Indiana 46635
574.243.0632 ✕ www.SaintMichaelSB.org

To Know, Live and Share the Love of Christ

A Brief Reflection on Cycles, Change, and our Upcoming Lenten Season

By the time you read this, the season of Lent will be a mere 10 or less days away . You might already have realized that this particular year Lent begins on Valentine's Day. I'll leave you to draw your own conclusion . But if you join us for worship that day , you will hear the following:

*"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a **holy Lent...**"*

But what does a "holy Lent" look or feel like? Lately I have been asking myself that question. Perhaps you have or will do the same. If not, here's a chance to do so.

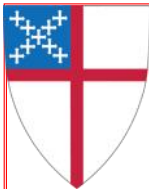
You might remember - although truthfully I had forgotten and had to look it up - that the English word "Lent" derives from earlier European words for "spring" and/or "long" because of the lengthening days of spring time. While in all probability it won't feel or look much like spring time this February 14th, we remain confident that spring will return. And the idea that spring and new life always return is indeed a key part of the annual Lenten drama.

For not only do our earthly seasons exist in an annual cyclical pattern where one season changes - sometimes imperceptibly and sometimes with a vengeance - into another, but they do so with our past knowledge and even deeper hope that a new, different, and perhaps even better season follows. And it seems to me that a very similar pattern is currently occurring here at St. Michael & All Angels! I wonder if you're feeling the same?

Moreover, every Christian liturgical season contains similar rhythms. Advent became Christmas became Epiphany is soon becoming Lent. Easter will inevitably follow. And Pentecost will follow that. Days lengthen even as snow falls. Yet deep in our very bones we carry wisdom formed through experience - each new season and year brings the return of that which is old and familiar as well as that which is unknown and new. Like THIS Lent. And like THIS Parish. And I sincerely hope like YOU!

And so with great love and gratitude as my own season with you nears its end, I can do no better than wish you a **holy Lent** and a **blessed future**.

Mark+



The Messenger is
the monthly publication of
Saint Michael and All Angels,
South Bend,
an Episcopal Church of the
Diocese of Northern Indiana
and a church of the
Anglican Communion

Our Bishop is

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks
VIII Bishop of Northern Indiana

Saint Michael's Clergy

Fr. Mark Van Wassenhove,
Transitional Rector

Treasurer:

Linda Kroll

Vestry

Lynne Switalski, *Senior Warden (2025)*

Colm Cregan, *Junior Warden (2025)*

Beth North (2025)

Jack Mueller (2025)

Spencer Hixon (2025)

Carol Nickel (2025)

Mel Chapman (2026)

Laura Knoppers (2026)

Andi Zavor (2026)

Michael Griffith (2027)

Nnamdi Chikere (2027)

Staff

Dr. Marvin Curtis, *Music Director*

Michele Layher, *Finance Secretary*

Andi Zavor, *Event Coordinator & Custodian*

Articles and Ministry Schedules
for *The Messenger* are due on the
Second Monday of each month

Office Hours:

Call for an appointment



Messenger February 2024

Worship, Prayer & Formation

Worship with the Angels!

10:15 a.m. on Sunday Mornings
In Person & Online Eucharist Continues

Please log in on **Facebook, YouTube** or our website
SaintMichaelSB.org.

Noonday Prayer and Bible Study
Wednesdays starting at 11:15am

Reader/Proclaimer and
Worship Minister
Schedules

are on page 10.

Thank you for your donations and keeping up your
pledge and offerings to Saint Michael's!

Visit our home page SaintMichaelSB.org

To make your secure, confidential
online donation today!

For information about our finances to date,
please see **page 4.**



Children's Chapel!

Each Sunday when children are present

A brief reflection on day's Scripture lesson followed by a
fun activity. Chapel begins at 10:15am and occurs during
the first portion of morning worship service.

Hope to see you there!



There are different kinds of gifts but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kind of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Ministries

Below is a list of the active ministries of the church. Please take a peek and if you feel called to share your time and talent with any of these, please reach out to either the current leader of this ministry, our Senior Warden, Chris Dunlap, or Father Mark:

Ministry	Ministry Leader	Description of Ministry
Card Ministry	Sharon Fiorella-Teves	Sends Birthday and Anniversary Cards
Living Our Faith Ministry	Lynne Switalski	Our obligation is to live and share our treasures with others. “All things come of Thee, oh Lord, and of Thine own have I’ve given thee”
Altar Guild	Korina Mueller	They care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish. Altar Guild members prepare the sanctuary for Holy Eucharist
Children’s Chapel	Father Mark	A brief reflection on day’s Scripture lesson followed by a fun activity for children. Chapel begins at the first portion of morning worship service
Saint Michael’s Family Garden	Beth North	Growing vegetables and flowers to share with all
Service on Saturday “SOS”	Sandy Stackhouse	Packing and serving food bags and a meal to those in need
Adult Formation	Carol Nickel	Classes and resources offered to adults to deepen their biblical knowledge, learn a new spiritual discipline, or find some comfort and inspiration
Proclaimers	Shery Roussarie	Readers of the Word of the Lord during Holy Eucharist
Supper Club	Laura Knoppers & Andi Zavor	To give opportunity to become acquainted with the members of our Parish, on a social level during a meal
Church Sign Ministry	Sharon Piechorowski	Changing the words on the outside sign to invite the community into the church
Mary & Martha Guild	Nanette Krieger	Serving coffee and snacks after an event
Music Ministry	Grayling Hawkins & Marvin Curtis	Serves the music during the Holy Eucharist
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Sharon Fiorella-Teves	Lay person licensed by the bishop to administer the consecrated elements of the eucharist
Flower Ministry	Charlene Bollman	To brighten the sanctuary with flowers in celebration and in honor of loved ones



Service on Saturday is so excited to be back in person again, and currently is serving the community on the third Saturday of each month.

Coming up: February 17

If you are able to help during the week or on that day, please email Dr. Sandy Brown to offer your arms and love.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this vital ministry of service and relationship to our community.

Our Success is driven by our base of parishioner and guest volunteer's who pack bags, store inventories and distribute food to those in need. If you are a current volunteer "Thank you for your Service", If you would like to join our volunteer staff, contact Dr. Sandy Stackhouse at 574 532 4706 or srbrownmd1951@gmail.com.

Saint Michael's Financial Report

"Where your treasure is there the desires of your heart will also be." *Matthew 6:21*

For December 2023

Revenue: \$38,772 vs Budget: \$21,667 Favorable: \$16,605

Expense: \$21,549 vs Budget: \$21,667 Favorable: \$118

Net Income: Favorable \$16,723

For Year End 2023

Revenue: \$209,976 vs Budget: \$260,000 Unfavorable: -\$50,024

Expense: \$246,064 vs Budget: \$260,000 Favorable: \$13,936

Net Income: Unfavorable -\$36,088

Thank you so much for you ongoing support of our parish.

Thank you again.



CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

GARDEN TEAM RECRUITING FOR SPRING



Now that Mabel Blunk and Hank Blunk have sadly moved away, Beth North is RECRUITING for a co-leader of the SAINT MICHAEL'S FAMILY GARDEN efforts.

Responsibilities include:

- Working on/in the garden for 2-4 hours at least one day during the week beginning in late April/early May through early November.
- An orientation to UNITY GARDENS is strongly recommended

I would be happy to arrange for ALL VOLUNTEERS interested in helping, even if not as my co-leader.

CALL or TEXT Beth North – OR – take her aside during coffee hour some Sunday .
MOBILE # - 574.298.4987

Thank you!
Beth North

AUDIO VISUAL TEAM



Be one of Saint Michael's newest teams! We are looking for some more members to help stream the weekly service - no previous experience necessary, you just need to be somewhat comfortable with technology. Training will be provided, and step by step instructions are by your side to make it even easier.

Young members are encouraged to pursue this as well as we all know they are more tech savvy than most of us adults.....

See **Chris Dunlap** if you want to learn more about this ministry or would like to at least sit with a Sunday technician to see them in action.



****You are Amazing****

Yes, St. Michael and All Angels..... you are amazing!

The two Christmas projects were a great success thanks to you. St. Margaret's House Giving Tree was loaded with hats, gloves and scarves and the base was surrounded with boxes of diapers. They were so happy when they received our delivery of needed supplies for their clients.

The second project this year were the Blessing Bag for Hope Ministries for the homeless.

Every week the box in the Narthex was loaded with donated items.. it was so heartwarming to see a full box every week... our goal was to fill 50 bags of needed items for men and 50 bags of needed items for women.. and thanks to all of you **WE ACCOMPLISHED THAT GOAL!!!!** The Blessing Bags were distributed after the participants finished their Christmas dinner at Hope Ministries.

Yes, you are amazing!!! We have such a wonderful, giving and compassionate family here at St. Michael's.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

A Letter from the Senior Warden

Dear Friends,

We have been going through a transition for 2 ½ years. Father Matthew's leaving was traumatic for our parish but we have continued to endure. I believe we can all say that Father Mark has had some big shoes to fill.

Fr. Mark is a transitional priest. They are not deemed to be the one to tell a parish what to do and how to take charge of their future. They will help guide them through the process, letting the church decide what they will do. They will continue assisting with liturgy, holy days, seeing the sick, those going through surgery, become a Vestry transition priest, meet with parish leaders and encourage ministries. They will walk along with the parish continuing to strengthen their faith and love for God. They will guide the parish to find their path for the next journey. Fr. Mark has done an exceptional job guiding us through our transition.

What is a rector? They have many jobs and leader roles in a parish. Think of them like an Australian Shepard. He is advised by his owner to follow the rules and secure his flock. He knows his job is to gather them, keep them safe, guide them and protect them at all costs. We are his flock. We are his livelihood.

Do you think the rector is the top dog? Think again, WE ARE, the parish families! We are the living substance that our parish needs. We are the ones who are the essential center and heart of our parish. It is the fire, determination and desire in each of us that energizes our parish.

I will let you in on a little secret. I consider Saint Michael's my second family. When I enter the church building, I feel the warmth and glow resonating from the walls. I am grateful for the beautiful piano music and choir and during Stations of the Cross. I feel the heartbreak and spiritual expectation of hope. The pews seats hold you, our being, and heart of our parish. Thank you for continuing to be our light!

Another secret is that I am a list maker. I have a to-do-list for everything. This is my way of keeping the messiness in my life to a minimum. So be prepared for lists beginning with this one.

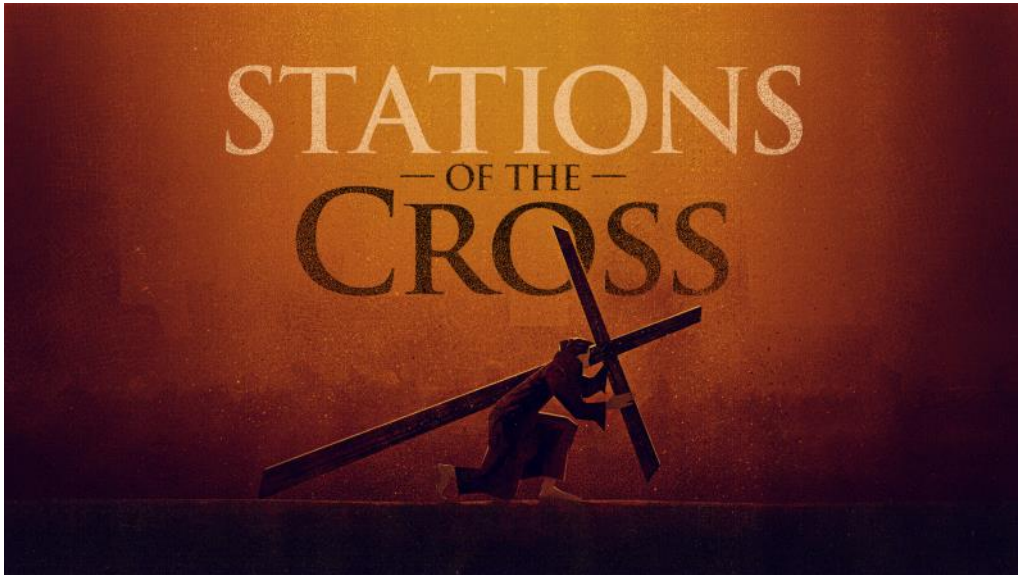
TO-DO-LIST

- Continue building and room reorganization
- Assist and support ministry leaders and needs with regular meetings
- Expand transparency
- Openly discuss maintenance necessities
- Provide answers to your concerns and questions
- Attempt small changes to help reduce expenditures
- Reinvent old fundraising and discover new ones

This list does not in any way say we aren't doing it now but we will wholeheartedly strive to keep it on our minds daily, weekly and monthly.

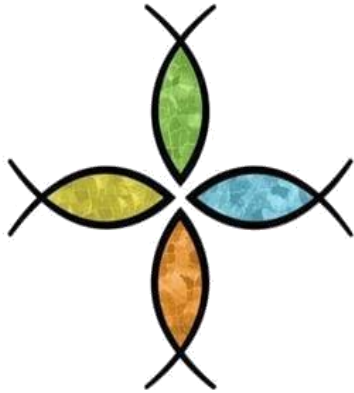
As you can see, we have a considerable amount of work ahead of us and I know we will approach it with LOVE and HOPE.

Blessings,
Lynne Switalski



New schedule for Stations of the Cross during Lent

In the past we have had Stations of the Cross at 1800 hours or 6pm. on Wednesday evenings. Since many members of our parish do not like to drive at night, we are going to schedule Stations of the Cross at 12 noon on Wednesdays. All are welcome to attend. It is not a long service and you may want to bring a lunch and join us afterwards. Hope to see you then.



HOLY CHOW

**Adult Forum:
Lenten Series**

Sunday February 18th at 9:00am
and meet each Sunday until Easter

Lenten Series: "The Saints"

This series will be about taking a look into the prayer practices of each of the Saints.

Holy Chow Breakfast will be served at 8:30 am



**Ash Wednesday Services
February 14th
7:00 am
Noon &
7:00 pm**

Prayers of the People at Saint Michael's

February Birthdays

1 Beth North
12 Marvin Curtis
Pam Yocum
16 June Bays
19 Phil Bays
21 Andi Zavor
24 Julian Kamanda
25 Mabel Blunk
Charlene Bollman
26 Carol Nickel
27 Valerie Roughton

Anniversaries of our beloved Departed

Ann Cocks
Lucy Vellner
IJ "Dusty" Rhodes
Walter Mizen SR.
Catherine Tyler
Glen Miller
Albert Howard
Robert Dolliver
Angelique Rogers
Merrill G. Olden
Harold Hamilton
Judy Simcox
Robert Ehlers
Maise Johnson
Christina Leonard
Lois Kress
Earl Shuttleworth
Ronnie Pelligran
Francis Ratcliff
James Horning
Bruce Reamer
Lewis Chapman
Robert Mast
Dick Schelling
David Gilpin
Sherrie Brennan
William Adreas
Jeanne Bertles
Walter Mizen JR
Ginny Owens



February Anniversaries

19 Frank & Karen Gray

For Protection for our Armed Forces and those in Foreign Service

Trevor Miller	Morgan Severeid
Erin Ford	Alexander Sasha Petkova
D.W. North	Cecily & Adam Teach
Casey North	Peter Kristl
Nathan Ratliff	Matthew Monroe
John Zendt	Jacob Monroe
Ashlee Zendt	Brian Knipple

For our elected leaders

President Joe Biden
Vice President Kamala Harris
Governor Eric Holcomb
Mayor James Mueller (South Bend)
Mayor Dave Wood (Mishawaka)

For Healing, Guidance and Strength

Ren Singleton	Kristen Holt
Barb Wilson	Lorraine Anderson
Susan Slack	Red Kurz
Anita Thomas	Larry Putt
Michael Thomas	Claire Van Wassenhove
Victoria	Charlie & Ann Gruenig
Chuck & Devon	Phil & June Bays
John Seehafer	Mike & Cindy
Joyce Frost	Michael & Andi Zavor
Marvin Curtis	Larry Howe
Grandma Ma	Tony & Beryl Cockram
Charlene Bollman	Michael Griffith & family
Joel Blunk	Jim Piechorowski
Larry Willoughby	Jack Mueller
Darlene Hammon	Dr. Bill Kamanda
	Brielle Sia Kamanda

Readers-Proclaimers, Prayer Leaders

Date	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
1st Reading	Isaiah 40:21-31	2 Kings 2:1-12	Genesis 9:8-17	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16
Reader	Nanette Krieger	Grayling Hawkins	Nnamdi Chikere	Michael Zavor
Psalm	Psalm 147:1-12,21c	Psalm 50:1-6	Psalm 25:1-9	Psalm 22:22-30
2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	1 Peter 3:18-22	Romans 4:13-25
Gospel	Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-9	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38
Prayer Leader for Prayers of the People	Jack Mueller	Grace Bawing	Marcy Cortes	Charlene Bollman



Crucifer / Altar Assistant(s)/Worship Leader, etc.

	Crucifer: Carry Cross In/Out/Gospel time, Welcome & Altar Asst: Credence table (assist setting Altar)	Gospel Book: Carry in/out/Gospel time, Welcome & Altar Asst Tabernacle side (assist clearing Altar)
Feb 4	Larry Willoughby	Beth North
Feb 11	Paul McLeod	Linda Kroll
Feb 14		7:00 am Sharon F-T Noon Lynne Switalski 7:00 pm Chris Dunlap
Feb 18	Nathan Hawkins	Dinah Hawkins Sharon F-T
Feb 25	Sandy Stackhouse	Beth North



**From: Girl Scout Troup 54118–
Granger/South Bend**

We meet at Saint Michael and All Angels on the 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons of each month. We are a troop of 6th-9th grade girls, with a particular focus on STEM and the Outdoors, and scouting in a Christ centered environment.

For more information: Please contact Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana– Michiana, and request Troop 54118. The council will put interested girls and their families in contact with us.

Girl Scouts Northern Indiana– Michiana
Phone#: **1-800-283-4812**

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings ~ Small, Distancing Group Resuming

We are proud to host this critical ministry at Saint Michael's. Meetings are held on Monday mornings at **10 a.m.** All meetings are for those with a willingness to stop drinking.

Al-Anon Meetings ~ Small, Distancing Group Resuming

These meetings are for the family members of those with addictions. Living with a spouse or family member or having been raised by a parent who battled addictions has unique challenges.

Al-Anon is a safe place to share similar experiences and do the work of healing, learning to manage oneself. Meetings are Tuesday mornings at **9:30 a.m.**



Supper Club

This club is to give opportunity to become acquainted with the members of our Parish, on a social level. We will be meeting at the church on the 2nd Friday of each month. Dinner will be potluck style each time. All are welcome to participate.

The sign up sheets will be on one of the Narthex tables.

Dinner on February 9th @ 7 pm



Ash Wednesday Services
February 14th
7:00 am
Noon &
7:00 pm



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