



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 Letter from the Senior Warden: Listening for God's Call to Saint Michaels and All Angels



Several years ago, when Fr. Cowden was preparing to go on sabbatical, one of the vestry stated that we needed to make Saint Michael's "Matthew-proof". This phrase, while said with some humor (Tim McLaughlin humor, for those that know him), was an important point. Saint Michael's is more than the rector, more than the senior warden, more than any one person in the parish. Saint Michael and All Angels is the whole congregation, but more importantly, it is a place where God is experienced by all that come looking. It is a place where we all can work to become disciples of Jesus. It is where we can all work to bringing the Kingdom of God to Earth. While Fr. Cowden has been called to be Bishop of West Virginia, we are also being called to move Saint Michael's to somewhere new as well. So what do we need to do to heed God's call to this congregation?

A couple of things:

- Continue to participate in the life of the parish. Continue to participate in worship (in-person or on-line). Continue to participate in fellowship in whatever form we can manage.
- Continue to support the parish with our time, talent and treasure. While it appears that there is less going on, we need to continue to support the church as we move forward.
- Participate when asked in the process of calling a new rector. Not everyone will have the same roles, but there will be a role for everyone. Make your thoughts known when asked. Pray about where Saint Michael's is being called to grow next. The vestry and search committee will strive to update the congregation as much as possible on the progress of the call.
- Continue to be who we are: a welcoming, loving community. Fr. Matthew often spoke of his first visit to Saint Michael's and how he felt the Holy Spirit when he walked in. May our next Rector be able to tell the same story.

Saint Michaels has been in existence for 66 years, a short time compared to most parishes. But we have grown and thrived in those 66 years and we will continue to grow and thrive into the future if we hear and heed God's call. Let us all pledge to listen for that call and continue to work to make Saint Michael's a place where we strive to know, live and share the love of Christ.

Blessings to all,

Chris Dunlap
Senior Warden



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

Vestry

- Christopher Dunlap, *Senior Warden (2023)*
- Andi Zavor *Junior Warden (2023)*
- Linda Kroll, *Treasurer (2023)*
- Sharon Fiorella-Teves (2023)
- Sandra Brown Stackhouse (2023)
- Amy Fulkerson (2024)
- Doug Kroll (2024)
- Beth North (2025)
- Jack Mueller (2025)
- Spencer Hixon (2025)
- Carol Nickel (2025)

Staff

- Dr. Marvin Curtis, *Music Director*
- Michele Layher, *Finance Secretary*
- Andi Zavor, *Secretary, Custodian*

Articles and Ministry Schedules
for *The Messenger* are due on the
Second Monday of each month and may be
emailed directly to Jenni Dunlap at
cjcdunlap@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:

By appointment: please leave a message on
church voicemail



Worship, Prayer & Formation

Worship with the Angels!

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

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

to pray along with us online on Sundays. In-Person worship is limited to 50% capacity at this time but, so far, no reservations are necessary. Pandemic precautions are still in place, including the wearing of masks and maintaining distance for in-person gatherings. There is currently no coffee hour after the service.

Noonday Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom
Wednesdays, 12 p.m.

followed by lectionary Bible Study
Please email the church office for the Code to join us.
Info@SaintMichaelSB.org

Reader/Proclaimer and
Worship Minister
Schedules

are on pages 10 and 11



**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 Four**





From a Contemplative Corner
- Hank Blunk, Saint Michael's Resident Philosopher

When last I wrote, it was about a surprising Christmas message from Paul. Not just that Jesus was born, that Jesus was God incarnate, but Paul saying that the great news of Christmas is about Christ incarnate in us!

And the secret is simply this: Christ in you! Yes, Christ in you bringing with him the hope of all glorious things to come.

- Colossians 1.27, J.B. Phillips Translation

With that in mind, I want to go back and reflect a bit on Mary, Jesus' mother, and what we can learn from her about being bearers of Christ.

You see, Mary is not only "Our Lady" atop the Golden Dome or a statue in a Roman Catholic neighbor's yard. In Luke's Gospel, and later in Acts, Mary is an exemplar of incarnation faithfulness: she is present, participating, watching, learning. She is not just Jesus' mother but a follower of Jesus as well. (Matthew, Mark and John tell the Christ story from other points of view.)

In Mary's Song of Praise, The Magnificat (Luke 1.46-55), we hear her essentials of Incarnation faithfulness: (a) the greatness of the Lord; (b) rejoicing in God as the one who saves; (c) knowing The Almighty has done great things for her, personally; (d) being aware of mercy for those who fear God; (e) proclaiming that God shows the strength of his arm, scatters the proud in their conceit, casts down the mighty from their high positions, lifts up the lowly, fills the hungry with good things, and sends the rich away empty!

Mary's song is more than personal privilege. Her song is based in promises through centuries of what we call Judeo-Christian tradition: "He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever."

The Magnificat is a statement of faith that may be used during Evening Prayer in the Book of Common Prayer. (It is the preferred option in number of other prayer books.) And I have found it worth praying every evening and learning "by heart."

Put Mary's Song next to Luke's picture of her taking in the experiences of giving birth in a stable and all the drama with which Luke tells the story of shepherds and angels and cosmic celebration. He writes,

"Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart." (Luke 1.19)

Pondering is inner spiritual work that goes beyond intellectual knowing or thinking facts! To "ponder" is "to think carefully, to wonder about, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion." It is the assimilating, meaning-making, which enriches our life.

In Luke's Gospel and Acts, Mary is not just the mother of Jesus. She also models what it is for us to be Christ bearers. She is a contemplative, sometimes confused or perplexed, a believer who has been with Jesus from conception, to his birth, infancy, childhood and youth, through the days of his ministry, teachings, and conflicts. She continues to be a believer after Jesus' death and resurrection. Mary is present when Jesus' promise of The Spirit is given at Pentecost.



No one other than Mary ever had that relationship with Jesus. She is the prototype of Christ bearer, with all the ups and downs, ins and outs, good times and stressful times.



**During this pandemic
Service on Saturday is serving
bags of food and prayers on the third Saturdays to drive through guests. 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. We look forward to returning to this ministry as the pandemic numbers lessen.

We are a church that feeds people, body, mind and soul.

No doubt COVID 19 has led to changes in our daily lives and activities and SOS is no exception. Beginning last March we were forced to suspend our popular “SOS Luncheon & Food Bag Distribution” to a mobile “Food Bag Distribution” which allows us to maintain “Social Distancing” and the safety of our volunteers and Guests while providing a robust bag of basic foodstuffs, fresh meats and fruit to a minimum 50 families per month.

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 4703 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 2021

Income 26,084	vs Budget 21,667	4,417 Favorable
Expense 14,740	vs Budget 21,667	7,197 Favorable
Net Income 11,344		

For Year to Date:

Income 248,432	vs Budget 260,000	11,568 Unfavorable
Expense 250,458	vs Budget 260,000	9,542 Favorable
Net Income 2,026		

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

We are currently in a deficit and every gift will help us finish the year! Thank you again.

Please Remember Saint Michael’s in Your Will

Saint Michael’s has ministered to people in and around South Bend & Mishawaka for 64 years. We have been able to care for others due to the generosity of our beloved parishioners, including those who have remembered the work and ministry of our beautiful parish in their wills. Your contributions help support the many ministries we provide to our parish and to the wider community. Please remember the church in your will.

Remembering Saint Michael’s in your will is easy.

You may do so by using the following wording in your will:

“I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, a not-for-profit corporation with the present address at 53720 Ironwood Road, South Bend, Indiana 46635 and its successor the greater of \$ _____, or _____ percentage of my gross estate to be used in such a manner as determined by its Vestry.”

Thank you for helping to preserve one of our community's most valuable resources for generations to come.



Contemplative Corner, from page 3 (continued).

We also are Christ-bearers. And, like you and me, Mary was surprised to be designated bearer of Christ.
(See Luke 1.26-38)

When we willingly and attentively carry the Christ within, there is something different. Elizabeth, Mary's cousin recognized this. (See Luke 1.39.45) and so did Mary when she said, "my soul magnifies the Lord."

So what about you and me as bearers of Christ in these days? How does your soul magnify the Lord? What great things is the Lord doing for you? Where do you see the proud being scattered in their conceit, the mighty being cast down from high positions, the lowly being lifted up, the hungry being filled with good things, and the rich sent away empty!

It's about Christmas, Christ within and in our midst. Do you see what I see?

AND...it's a wrap!!

Saint Michael & All Angels adopted 2 families for Christmas this year through the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas program. There were 8 children ranging in ages from 14 to 3 years old – there were 7 girls and 1 boy (the 3 year old). We were provided with lists for suggested "needs and wants" for each child which included details such as: clothing sizes, favorite color, favorite toy/character, bedding size, etc. There were no requests for electronic gadgets; however, two children requested skateboards. Let's just say...they'll be happy.



The Saint Michael's Angels who adopted a child (in some cases, more than one) were very generous in their gift buying! Early in December, Father Matthew asked me if we could help one more small family. Thanks to the generous monetary donations we could help the extra family and give a bit more to the two we had adopted.

Many thanks to SOS for the wonderful (and full and heavy!) food baskets they provided for the 2 adopted families. Each family received a variety of food items and staples, plus a big frozen turkey and a ham! Let's eat!!

The families were very grateful when gifts were delivered on Sunday 12/19. Thanks to Jack and Korina Mueller and to Shery Roussarie for delivering to the three families. Gratitude and appreciation were expressed in tears and wide-eyed speechlessness at the amount of gifts carried into their homes.

Giving was truly a gift and a blessing to the "givers" that day. I received texts from the moms thanking Saint Michael's for blessing their families this Christmas.

A special thank you to Dr Marvin Curtis for the Teddy Bears that were donated at the Teddy Bear concert.

Thank you all so much for stepping up and stepping in to make this Christmas special for these 3 families. We gave so much more than toys and clothes and food. We gave hope and joy and relief. We shared the love of Christ. Well done, Angels. Well done.

Sandy McCarthy



**ST MARGARET'S
HOUSE**

**WALK A MILE IN
HER SHOES**

JOIN US FOR THE ST. MARGARET'S HOUSE WINTER WALK

When: Sunday February 20 at 2:30pm

**Walk with the Saint Mike's team IN PERSON: Sunday, February 20
the one-mile walk begins at 2:30 pm**

St. Michaels and All Angels is a long-time supporter of St. Margaret's House, a day-time shelter for women and children providing many needed services from laundry to lunch and much more! St. Margaret's House will have a Winter Walk in person again this year. A virtual event is also available. Participants may do a one-mile walk, wherever they are, in the week leading up to the event (Sun., Feb 13-20) and post it anywhere social media using the #SMHWinterWalk.

The in-person portion is Sunday, Feb. 20th @ 2:30 pm. The walk will start off in the County City Building with a short rally. The walkers will take the usual regular route, and end back at St. Margaret's House for hot chocolate, cookies, popcorn, and fun photos!

There is a link at the top of the St. Margaret's House website, or sign up here:
<https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/SouthBend/StMargaretsHouseWinterWalk>

If you are interested in walking with us, or would like to make a donation, please see Beth North.

Mark your calendars now!

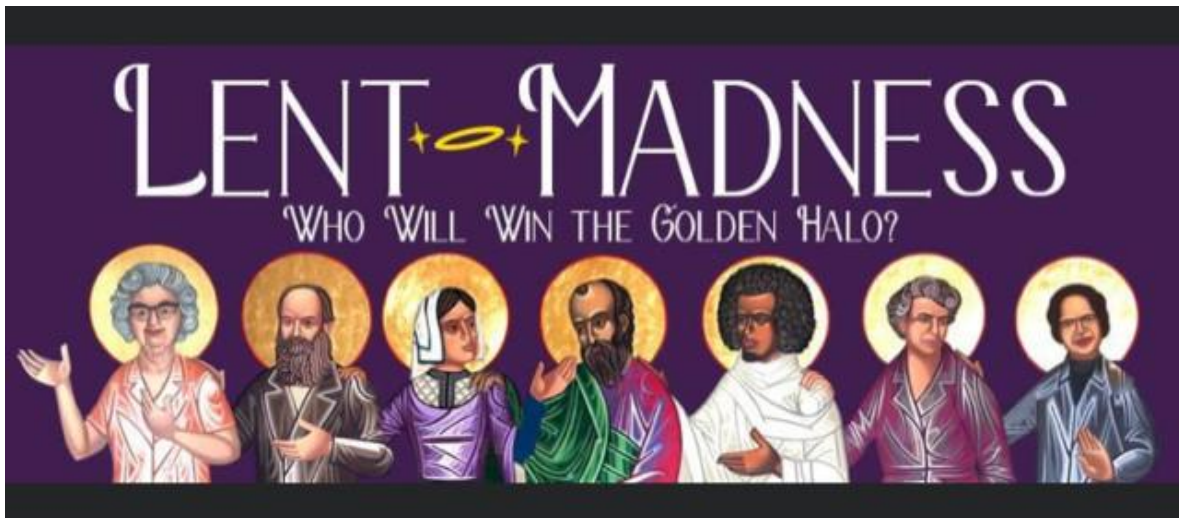
Congratulations Dr. Marvin Curtis!

St Michael's applauds Dr. Marvin Curtis for receiving the **Drum Major Award** at the Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast on January 17th for his Community service! The award was presented by James Mueller, the Mayor of South Bend. Marvin continues to use his gifts to enrich our Community and beyond.

Thank you for all you do for Saint Michaels and beyond, Marvin!

Provided by Gina Barrett Putt





What is Lent Madness?

Lent Madness was created in 2010 by Rev. Tim Schenck, an Episcopal priest in Massachusetts. He thought it would be a “crazy, absurd” way to inspire Christians to more deeply participate in the Lenten season.

The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Sainly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as they offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

If you are interested in participating in Lent Madness, please go to their website www.lentmadness.org to download your bracket, or pick one up at outside the Narthex. Follow them on Facebook too to learn all about the 32 saintly souls!

See Beth North if you have any other questions about this unique Lenten devotion.



Some words of wisdom as we begin 2022, from the late Anglican Archbishop **Desmond Tutu** who died December 26, 2021 at the age of 90.

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good but together that overwhelm the world.”

“God’s dream is that you and I and all of us will realize we are family, that we are made for togetherness, for goodness, and for compassion.”

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.”



Desmond Tutu, 1931-2021

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.**





Prayers of the People at Saint Michael's

Those prayed for here will remain listed for thirty days and may be renewed upon request.
Don't see your birthday or anniversary here? Want to add a section for prayers?

February & March Birthdays

- 2/21 Caleb Crittendon
Lucas Papai
Andi Zavor
Elaine Roughton
- 2/24 Julian Kamanda
- 2/25 Mabel Blunk
Charlene Bollman
Charlotte Warland
- 2/26 Carol Nickel
- 2/27 Valerie Roughton
- 3/01 Aidan Yoder
- 3/02 Daniel Fulkerson
- 3/18 Julie Long
- 3/21 Mary Arnett
James Forbes
- 3/22 Amy Hixon
- 3/24 Richard Lauer
- 3/26 Ian Dunlap
- 3/27 Adelaide Hixon
Michael Zavor
- 3/28 Gina Putt
- 3/29 Christopher Anderson
- 3/30 Karen Gray
- 3/31 Sharon Piechorowski

For Healing, Guidance and Strength:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Rob Auer | Ken & Susan Johnson |
| Lucy Vellner | Carol Nickel |
| Barb Coddens | David Hixon |
| Grandma Ma | Victoria |
| James Smedely | Nanette Kreiger |
| Barb Wilson | Jenni Dunlap |
| Susan Slack | |
| Anita Thomas | |
| Mike Thomas | |



For Protection for our Armed Forces and those in Foreign Service:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Trevor Miller | Ashlee Zendt |
| Erin Ford | Morgan Severeid |
| D.W. North | Alexander Sasha Petkova |
| Casey North | Cecily & Adam Teach |
| Nathan Ratliff | Peter Kristl |
| John Zendt | Matthew Monrie |



February & March Anniversaries:

- 2/19 Frank & Karen Gray
- 3/24 Richard & Sydia Lauer

February & March Anniversaries of Our Beloved Departed:

- | <u>February</u> | <u>March</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Ann Cock | Fred Barrell Jr. |
| IJ "Dusty" Rhodes | Clara Rebecca Brennan |
| Walter Mizen | Jim Schenk |
| Catherine Tyler | William Hans |
| Glenn Miller | John Marvin |
| Albert Howard | Timothy Gerald Welsh |
| Robert Dolliver | Charles "Ed" Lattimer |
| Angelique Rogers | Marie Hirsch |
| Merrill G. Olden | Raymond Nutty |
| Harold Hamilton | Dr. George Green |
| Judy Simcox | Ruth Wolford |
| Robert A. Ehlers | Steve Burns |
| Maisie Johnson | Mitch Wayne Roussarie |
| Christina Leonard | Opal Sparks |
| Lois Kress | Clark Jon Curtis, Sr. |
| Earl Shuttleworth | Elizabeth Gadd |
| Ronnie Pelligran | Lynn Minichillo |
| Francis Ratcliff | Benedicta |
| James Horning | Philip Lockhart |
| Bruce Reamer | Raymond H. Barclay |
| Lewis Chapman | Lucy Walter |
| Robert Mast | The Rev. Jack Bliven |
| Dick Schelling | Cortney Larsen |
| David Gilpin | Shannon North |
| Sherrie Brennen | Susan Ryan Welsh |
| William Adreas | Merle Philipson |
| Jeanne Bertles | Kenneth Coddens |
| Walter Mizen | Jane Dorgan |
| Ginny Owens | Barbara Courtright |
| | Rosemary Hickey |

For our elected leaders:

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

**Readers-Proclaimers, Prayer Leaders
Prerecorded Readings and Prayers for February**

Date	Feb 20	Feb 27	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27
1st Reading	Mel Chapman	Charlene Bollman	Shery Roussarie	Grayling Hawkins	Adrian Stackhouse	Marcy Cortes
Psalm	Jack Mueller	Sandy Stackhouse	Shery Roussarie	Grayling Hawkins	Adrian Stackhouse	Marcy Cortes
2nd Reading	Lauren Chapman	Adrian Stackhouse	Jack Mueller	Julie Wilkins	Sandy McCarthy	Sandy Stackhouse
Gospel	Luke 6: 27-38	Luke 9: 28-36, 37-43a	Luke 4:1-13	Luke 13: 31-35	Luke 13:1-9	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Prayer Leader for Prayers of the People	Doug Kroll	Sandy McCarthy	Jack Mueller	Julie Wilkins	Sandy McCarthy	Sandy Stackhouse

From the office of the Right Rev. Dr. Douglas E Sparks
Regarding Updated COVID-19 Guidelines

In a Pastoral letter from December 29, 2021, Bishop Sparks wrote:

.... Effective January 1, I am **requiring that proper masks be worn inside** the buildings of our faith communities if the county in which your building is located and/or the county(s) where a significant number of parishioners live are in the red advisory level as shown by advisory level graphic on the [Indiana COVID-19 Dashboard and Map](#).

Clergy, readers, and choirs, can continue to remove their mask while speaking or singing if they are fully vaccinated, including having received a booster shot, and are speaking or singing in a location significantly distanced from the congregation as we know being able to read lips helps those with hearing difficulties.

Thank you for abiding by our community's standards.



**Crucifer / Altar Assistant(s)/Worship Leader, etc.
February & March 2022**

	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)	Presider
Feb 20	Larry Willoughby	Sandy Stackhouse	Bishop Doug Sparks
Feb 27	Nathan Hawkins	Paul McLeod	Rev. Dr. Kirsten Guidero
March 6	Chris Dunlap	Charlene Bollman	Rt. Rev. Francis C. Gray
March 13	Paul McLeod	Beth North	Rt. Rev. Francis C. Gray
March 20	Larry Willoughby	Lynn Switalski	Rev. Dr. Kirsten Guidero
March 27	Nathan Hawkins	Dinah Hawkins	Rev. Dr. Kirsten Guidero

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 12, 2022 BISHOP COADJUTOR CONSECRATION



God willing, the Rev. Matthew Cowden will be ordained Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of West Virginia on March 12, 2022, at Wesley Chapel on the campus of the West Virginia Wesleyan College.

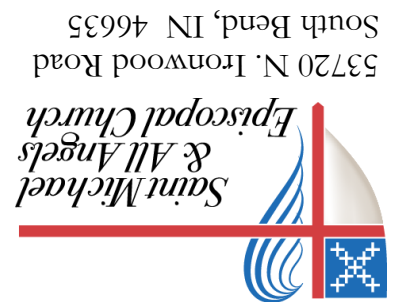
We anticipate this will be a grand, joy-filled Diocesan celebration with opportunities for the people of the Diocese to share their gifts.

If you would like to participate as an acolyte, usher, banner bearer, choir member or lay minister, please be sure to look for a volunteer registration form, which will be available in Advent. You will receive the registration form in the near future in the form of a Diocesan E-blast.

Information on general attendance will be shared in early January. We look forward to seeing you there!



Ash Wednesday Service
March 2nd
7:30 a.m. with
The Rt. Rev. Francis C. Gray



53720 N. Ironwood Road
South Bend, IN 46635

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