



*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



Meet The Reverend Canon SuzeAnne Silla, our Interim Rector effective January 30, 2022

The Reverend Canon SuzeAnne Silla has served in three dioceses as Canon, including the Diocese of Northern Indiana, for over 25 years. She comes to us with much experience and is known to many of us in the congregation. She has formed and led Diocesan-based Congregation Development Institute programs, and has had training in interim ministry for congregations. We look forward to her guidance as she works with our vestry to maintain stability during this transition period. One of her key tasks will be to help our congregation disengage from previous leadership, and help us figure out what our strengths and needs are as we begin our search process. Canon Silla begins her ministry with us on Sunday January 30.

More details on the search for our next rector will appear in the next Messenger.



Please Join us for our
65th Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday January 16, 2022
11:45am

We will review year 2021 and elect
new Vestry Members.

This meeting will be held in person
and virtually.



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

The Reverend Canon SuzeAnne Silla,
Interim Rector

Vestry

- Julie Wilkins, *Senior Warden (2022)*
- Lynne Switalski, *Junior Warden (2022)*
- Linda Kroll, *Treasurer (2022)*
- Marcy Cortes (2022)
- Jenni Dunlap (2022)
- Sandra McCarthy (2022)
- Sharon Fiorella-Teves (2023)
- Sandra Brown Stackhouse (2023)
- Andi Zavor (2023)
- Amy Fulkerson (2024)
- Doug Kroll (2024)
- Rachel Schibley (2024)

Staff

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

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
cjdunlap@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 vs Budget
Expense vs Budget
Net Income**

**For Year to Date, January 1 – December 31, 2021
Income vs Budget
Expense - Budget
Net Income**

**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



2022 Vestry Nominee Biographies

Sr. Warden Nominee, Christopher Dunlap, For a One-Year Term



My family and I have been members of Saint Michaels since 1997, when we moved to South Bend. Both of my children, Caitlin and Ian, were baptized and confirmed at Saint Michaels and have now been sent out into the world with the firm faith foundation that our parish gives to our youth. In that time, I have served the parish in a variety of functions, including two separate stints on the vestry, the Living Our Faith Ministry, Sunday School Coordinator (including teaching, running the Christmas pageant and the Youth Stations of the Cross), youth group leader, lay Eucharistic minister, and lay reader. In my day job as chair of the Chemistry and Physics department at Saint Mary's College, I have

managed the department through several transitions of personnel and facilities, and so feel prepared to help lead Saint Michaels through this time of transition as Senior Warden. I am committed to helping Saint Michaels thrive, not just survive, through this time of transition and hope that the people of Saint Michaels feel the same way.

Jr. Warden Nominee, Andi Zavor, For a One-Year Term

Jack Mueller
Beth North
Spencer Hixon
Carol Nicols

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?*

January Birthdays



January Anniversaries:

January anniversaries of Our Beloved Departed:

For Healing, Guidance and Strength:

Rob Auer	Lorraine Bay
Lucy Vellner	Harriett Virkstis
Barb Coddens	Chuck Brugh
Tony & Beryl Cockram	Barbara Wilson
Victoria	Susan Slack
Rosetta	Anita Thomas
Grandma Ma	Mike Thomas
Nora Arnold	Ken & Susan Johnson
Anne Gruenig	
James Smedely	

BLESSED



For members who are unable to join us for

Brian Knipple

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

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 January**

Date	January 16	January 23	January 30
Readers/Proclaimers			
1 st Reading			
Psalm			
2 nd Reading			
Gospel			
Prayer Leader for Prayers of the People			

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.



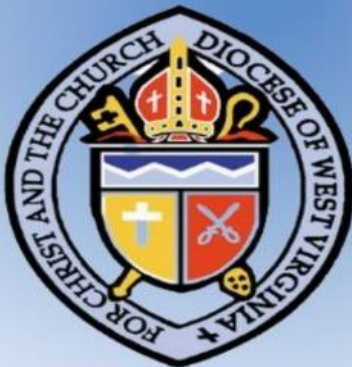
Thank you for abiding by our community's standards.

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

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!



66th Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday January 16, 2022
11:45 am
Join us
In person or Virtually

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
South Bend, IN
Permit # 217

