



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

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- Sunday, Feb. 13:
-St. Catherine's Book Group, 2:00 PM;
-Parish Family Night & Movie, 5:00 PM
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
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February Calendar

*Happy February
Birthday to*

Ryan S. Clay

From the Rector

The following is excerpted from the Rector's Annual Report for 2010, presented at the Annual Meeting on Jan. 30, 2011.

Entering through the red front doors of St. Michael's a person now is greeted by a cross of light colored wood bearing an image of the risen Christ. His arms are outstretched in welcome and his eyes are opened in awareness and recognition.

Warmly illuminated by two small spot lights, the image echoes Jesus' words of invitation, "come and see."

As a Christian community in the Episcopal/Anglican expression of that faith, St. Michael's is first and foremost grounded in God's love in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In January 2009, after parish-wide forums and much discernment, the Vestry approved new Mission and Vision statements for the parish as a guide to embody this faith. A Strategic Plan was approved and implemented to further live into it. The Tercenary- the 300th Anniversary - of the parish in 2014 is the target date. If 2009 was the discernment of the parish's call for the next five years, 2010 saw the first energetic steps towards carrying it out.

The "new" cross and the alteration of the narthex is one of many strategic developments to support St. Michael's Mission and Vision. The narthex is more than just a new "look." Its renovation recognizes the building's history while promoting an

ongoing sense of St. Michael's as a "vibrant, open, and welcoming parish community" grounded in Christ. The update of the narthex represents the collaborative efforts of members of the Historic Church, Evangelism & Welcoming, Communications, and Property Committees.

As a person looks at the Strategic Plan,

he or she may see objectives and committees that seem more practical and "worldly" than spiritual. However, each objective and corresponding work is necessary for the overall effort of being the Body of Christ. It begins with worship: the liturgy and music bring the church together to receive the sacraments, to offer oneself to God in praise and thanksgiving, in supplication and intercession. The buildings, their maintenance and appearance

are important in that a place is provided to congregate, and from which to be sent. So, too, are the budget, the endowment, and administration of the record keeping and bookkeeping. All this requires careful stewardship of financial and human resources.

Christian formation and education, pastoral care, leadership development, and our mission to be mindful of the needs of others through the parish's outreach efforts are critical. How we communicate all this, and use of technology plays an important role. Worshipping in a historic

Continued on next page.



Worship & Music Events

From the Music Director

This month we are blessed to host two wonderful musical events at St. Michael's.

Festival Evensong and Benediction
Sunday, February 6, 5:00 PM
with the Combined Choirs of
St. Michael's & St. John's, Beverly Farms

On February 6 at 5 pm the Festival Evensong and Benediction will be sung with the combined choirs of St. John's Church, Beverly Farms, with their Director of Music Nicholas White conducting, and our own St. Michael's Choir with Doug Major at the organ. So you say, but this is Super Bowl Sunday, right? Yes, but you should come to Evensong at 5 pm for at least two reasons: 1) The patriots are NOT in the Super Bowl, in case anyone didn't notice, and 2) The service is at 5, reception at 6 and the game won't really start until at least 7. Great choral music by Pinkham, Stanford, Ireland and Parry make up the menu, so please join us for a special afternoon of music.

Orientation for
Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) & Lectors

Have you ever considered assisting in our worship services as a LEM and/or Lector? Your interest is timely; as we need some new volunteers! On Saturday, February 19th, we will be conducting orientation/refreshers sessions. We will begin with LEMs at 10:00 a.m., followed by Lectors at 11:00 a.m. Whether you are an existing participant, a new volunteer, or would just like to learn more, please attend. Any questions please see Father Andrew or Tom Weber.

Organ Recital
with Maxine
Thevenot
Friday, February
18, 7:00 PM

On FRIDAY, February 18 at 7 pm, we host Ms. Maxine Thevenot as our visiting concert organist. Ms. Thevenot is much in demand as a recitalist, and has performed all over the world. In her second appearance on our series, she has chosen music by Bach, Bruns and Vierne. As Maxine is a Canadian, she is including a very interesting selection of music by Canadian/en composers. This being a 7pm Friday concert, our Artist Reception will follow with Coffee and Dessert in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation is \$10, so bring a friend to this concert who has not been to St. Michael's before. Thanks to all the parish for the continuing support and enthusiasm for our musical time together.



Both events will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Please come and bring a friend.

- Douglas Major,
 Music Director

Rector's Column—continued

building gives St. Michael's the unique opportunity to understand and celebrate its history as it looks ever-forward building God's kingdom. All this points toward deeper transformation in grace God for all.

The coming year presents itself with many opportunities to move more fully the Mission and Vision of St. Michael's. A recently conducted energy and environmental audit by Mass. Interfaith Power & Light will provide better understanding of the needs of our buildings and grounds. A task force was formed in late 2010 to explore the financial ramifications, health and space concerns for a cell phone tower, including the possibility of its location in a new steeple. The Stewardship Committee is planning for

the next phase of an overall effort to reduce withdrawal of endowment principal. It is an exciting time to be part of this vital and vibrant parish. Whether one has been attending St. Michael's his or her whole life, or one is just walking in the door, the invitation to this transformation stands: come and see.

- Fr. Andrew

Note: The cross was given to me by the now Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas, Bishop of Connecticut, in honor my installation as Rector in 2005. I in turn presented it to St. Michael's. A Haitian artist in Haiti made the cross. In addition to its own inherent symbolism, it reflects St. Michael's partnership with St. Thomas Church & School, Arcahaie, Haiti.

Church School - Aileen Ryder

Church School

Godly Play classes for students pre-K through 5th grade meet Sundays at 9:30am.

The Supper Club

A gathering of Middle School Youth on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6pm

Youth may stay connected through our Facebook page.

February Highlights

Feb. 6 Souper Bowl of Caring—Youth are collecting money and food for Marblehead Food Pantry

Feb. 13 Dinner & A Movie @ 5pm—a parish-wide potluck supper followed by an intergenerational movie.

Feb. 27 Bishop's visit—one service at 9:30. Church School will meet as regular at 9:30. We will have a special activity for children and youth during coffee hour while Bishop Shaw addresses the parish.

Souper Bowl of Caring

On Sunday February 6th, 140 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper



Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Drop \$1 (or more) in the soup pot as you leave worship on February 6th. All money collected will go directly to the Marblehead Food Pantry. This is also a great weekend to bring in non-perishable food donations. Our young people are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. Please support their efforts.

Dinner & A Movie

The Church School and Education Committee are sponsoring an intergenerational evening of fellowship. Please join us for a potluck supper. You will find a sign up in the parish hall. Following dinner, all are welcome to join us for the movie *Wall-E*. This sweet animated film reminds us of the resiliency of life.



First Communion Class

With the sacrament of Baptism, we are each invited to partake of the Eucharistic Feast. We offer a special "First Communion" class for elementary school-aged children so that they may deepen their appreciation for the sacrament. This class is not a requirement for the sacrament, rather it is an invitation. It is appropriate for children who have been receiving communion as well as those who have been waiting to do so.

Fr. Andrew will meet with children on 4 consecutive Wednesday afternoons in Lent starting March 23 at 3:30pm. The celebration of First Communion will be on Palm Sunday, April 17.



Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Middle School Youth	Church School
Sunday, February 6	Souper Bowl of Caring	Collection	One-Room Church School Jesus Calls His Disciples
Tuesday, February 8		Supper Club: Seeing Christ	
Sunday, February 13	Dinner & A Movie: 5pm		One-Room Church School Scenes from the Ministry of Jesus
Sunday, February 20			No Church School February Vacation
Sunday, February 27	Bishop's Visit: Special activity during coffee hour		One-Room Church School We All Have a Place in God's Church

Thank You, Tyson Miller

Beginning Friday evening, January 28 through Sunday afternoon after the annual meeting, Tyson Miller led a group of a dozen or more Boy Scouts, leaders and members of the Miller family—Barbara, Bill, Meredith and her fiancé — as they prepared and painted the former nursery school rooms in the lower Parish Hall. Shelves and cabinets were also painted. Members of the Property Committee were available to assist and answer questions. Tyson Miller organized this and more as part of his Eagle Scout Leadership Project.

Work did not stop there. Sunday afternoon Tyson's crew returned to clear and organize the bell deck. There is now a safer view of the original 1714 roof and the bell deck has more room. Pews that had been removed from the sanctuary are placed to provide seating (once they are stabilized).

While the crew worked in the Parish Hall, David Bittermann, Ed Nilsson and Rob Howie, dug treasures out of a cage on the bell deck to be stored in the Davenport House attic. Annual meeting attendees saw some of these treasures: 5 floral stained glass windows from the apse of the 1893 Parish Hall with 3 triangle pieces that went above them. Examples of each type are currently in the Archives until we decide how they might be displayed. Also among the treasures were framed copies of photos and drawings of 19th and early 20th century rectors.

Finding the treasures expanded the project into the attic of the Davenport House. Barbara Miller and others cleared out a room so the windows and other treasures can be stored while awaiting review and accessioning for permanent placement.

Thank you, Tyson for organizing this project, and to all your assistants! The wheels are now churning as you have given us inspiration for what a hard-working team can do, and clearing the way to create new spaces at St. Michael's.



A view of St. Michael's from Summer St. with the 1893 Parish House & Chapel on the left. The recently discovered stained glass windows came from the upper floor apse.

Officer, Vestry Elections

The following parishioners were elected into office and the Vestry at the January 30, 2011, Annual Parish Meeting. Biographies are posted on the Parish Office bulletin board. Terms expire in January of year in parentheses.

Senior Warden:	David Bittermann	(2012)
Junior Warden:	Frances Nilsson	(2012)
Clerk:	Walter Haug	(2012)
Treasurer:	Sarah Bates	(2012)
Assistant Treasurer:	Larry Robbins	(2012)
Vestry:	Jenny Armini	(2014)
	Stephen Clay	(2014)
	Victor Wild	(2014)

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention:
Jan Barnett & Denise Shea (2012)

Returning Vestry Members are Sue Cool (2012), Ian Hunter (2013), Jose (Joe) Oliveira (2013), Avery Russell (2012), Thomas Weber (2013) with Deanery Delegates Jan Barnett, Frances Nilsson & Denise Shea .

Our greatest appreciation to outgoing Vestry members Louise Hunt (2011), Anna Onishi (2011), and Linda Smidt (2011). Senior Warden Barbara Miller has also stepped down after 4 years of Parish leadership.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Marblehead, Massachusetts

Our Mission is to seek transformation in God's grace by worshipping God in prayer, song, and study; loving and serving our neighbor in and outside our parish Community; and being good stewards of God's creation.

Our Vision is to be a Mission-driven Episcopal congregation that by 2014 will be widely recognized as a vibrant, open, and inviting community, known for liturgically-centered worship and music, for lifelong learning, for pastoral presence and service to communities near and far, for good stewardship of our resources, and for celebration of our legacy as an historic church.

Stewardship - 2011 Pledge Numbers

Thank you all for a most successful Stewardship Drive! The final results were reported at the annual meeting.

	2011	2010	Change
Annual Pledge:	\$200,279	\$157,515	+\$42,764
Number Pledges:	133	124	+9
Average Pledge:	\$1,505.86	\$1,267.28	+\$238.58
Endowment			
Withdrawal:	\$42,000	\$77,000	-\$35,000

And thank you to the hard-working Stewardship Committee—Avery Russell, Chair; Jeff Barnett, Karl Renney, Larry Robbins and Harriett Magee—for inspiring us all to dig deep into our pockets and for moving us toward our goal to bring down to zero the amount withdrawn from endowment principal.

Steward of the Month—Rene & Bill Conly

Bill Conly didn't join St. Michael's: he was born into it and was baptized at St. Michael's. His mother, Ruth Adams Conly, was very active at church and she made sure her son was too.

He sang in the boys' choir and remembers bringing home his choir collar to be washed, starched, and ironed. He also was an acolyte for two years with Fr. Murray, but he says, "I had to be dragged kicking and screaming to Sunday School."

His mother meanwhile was the first President of the Thrift Shop after working on the committee to form it and continued her work in the church until her death when Bill was in college.

When Bill and Rene were about to be married, the women of the rug-making group gave a shower for her. They were married in the Baptist Church in Beverly, but the minister there, Rev. Wilbur, said to them, "Go to an active church. It doesn't matter which one."

So, Rene joined Bill at St. Michael's and has been busy here for 45 years. Rene remembers Grace Swain, the church's long-time secretary, being especially welcoming and that Ann Attridge took her under her wing. Over the years Rene has served on the Vestry, taught Sunday School, worked with the Service Guild, and the FISH gift shop which was where the Thrift Shop is now. The shop sold hand-made crafts. Ann Attridge did stained glass, Valerie Wyckoff pottery, and Rene made Joe Froggers in the shape of whales—which sold very well she remembers.

Over his 75 years with St. Michael's, Bill has served on the Vestry, the Building and Grounds Committee, and the Bell Bunch. He and Rene have taken their turn running the Lobster Luncheon. He used to cook in the kitchen for

church suppers. They were in the Couples Club which fostered fellowship with wine and cheese at members' homes. And they participated in the Faith Alive Weekends with Fr. Westerberg, which were retreats with seminars.



Before they retired, Bill had his own insurance agency and Rene was a paralegal in real estate, working with Paul Lynch and Paul Lausier. Bill was also a selectman for 22 years, and served on the Water Commission for 15 years. He serves on the Historic Committee now.

They have three daughters, who all live in Maine, and four grandchildren. Rebecca, a massage therapist and doula, lives in North Yarmouth and has Annabella, 12, and Jasper who is 7. Jessica, a landscape designer, lives in North Berwick, with daughter Willa, age 4. Rachel is an architect on Peake's Island in Portland Harbor and has Cedar who is 4.

Although they have seen many special moments at St. Michael's, Rene especially loved the pageant this year. "It was thrilling to see all the cooperation of the teachers, the parents, the children, and the parishioners that brought it off."

And after all these years of attendance, they say, "It always comes down to community and the church service is satisfying."

- Marilyn Day

Important Dates

Monthly Fellowship

Winter Thrift Shop Hours

Tuesday—Saturday, 1:00—4:00 pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

St. Catherine's Guild

No meeting this wintry month.

Parish Aid Luncheon

January Make-Up Day
Tuesday, February 15
12:00 Noon

Parish Family Night
Sunday, February 13,
5:00 PM



All are invited to a potluck supper and movie.



We will be watching *Wall-E*, the Academy Award winning animated film following a robot on a waste-covered Earth far in the future.



St. Catherine's
Book Group
February 13,
2:00 PM

St. Catherine's has started a book group and all are welcome to join. The first book is *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. You can borrow a copy from the canvas book club bag in the Church Office. The discussion will be on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Marilyn Day on Dunn's Lane. Contact Leslie Tracy if you questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A few individuals are starting a prayer/knitting ministry making shawls. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, contact Ann Clark, Karin Atkinson or Kate Renney.



*Life isn't about waiting until the storm to pass.
It's about learning to dance in the rain.*

Mark Your Calendar for Wednesday Evenings in Lent

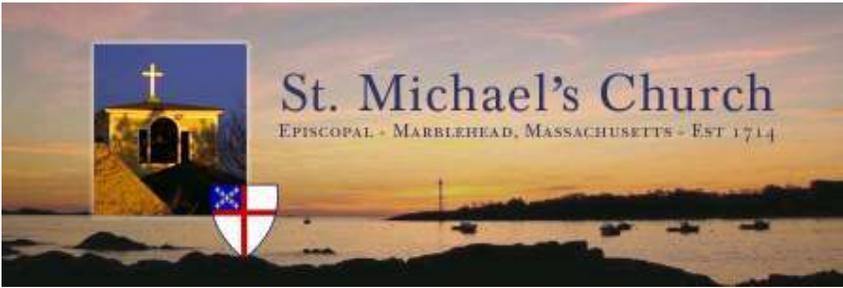
Connect: Being Part of a Eucharistic Community

Wednesday Evenings,
beginning March 16 through April 13.

Light supper, discussion, fellowship

More information to come.

Locations to be announced.



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH
26 Pleasant Street
Marblehead, MA 01945-3432

Phone: 781/631-0657
Fax: 781/639-2866
E-mail: office@stmichaels1714.org
www.stmichaels1714.org

Sunday, February 6

5:00 pm

Festival Evensong & Benediction

**With the combined choirs of St. John's,
Beverly Farms & St. Michael's**

Friday, February 18

7:00 pm

**Organ Recital with
Maxine Thevenot**

Sunday, February 27

**Episcopal Visitation
of
Bishop Thomas Shaw**

**One Service at
9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

St. Michael's Church

Officers: *David Bittermann, Sr. Warden; Frances Nilsson, Jr. Warden; Sarah Bates, Treasurer; Larry Robbins, Asst. Treasurer; Walter Haug, Clerk.*

Vestry: *Jenny Armini, Stephen Clay, Susan Cool, Ian Hunter, Harriett Magee, Avery Russell, Tom Weber, Victor Wild.*

Delegates for Convention: *Jan Barnett, Denise Shea.* **Deanery Delegates:** *Jan Barnett, Frances Nilsson, Denise Shea*

Staff: *The Rev. Andrew J. Stoessel, Rector; Dr. Douglas Major, Music Director; Aileen Ryder, Church School Director, Jane Maihos, Parish Administrator; Ron Warburton, Sexton.*

Saint Michael's Church

February 2011

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	Office Hours Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm	1) 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brother's Table, Lynn 7:30 pm Property Mgt.	2) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff 8:00 pm AA	3) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	4)	5)
6) EPIPHANY 5 Souper Bowl of Caring Children's Collection 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Evensong and Benediction with St. John's, Beverly Farms	7)	8) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 Wardens	9) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Office Staff 8:00 pm AA	10) 6:30 pm Marblehead Garden Club Meeting in Parish Hall 7:30 pm Adult Choir	11)	12) 11:00 am St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem
13) EPIPHANY 6 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 2:00 pm St. Catherine's Book Group at Marilyn Day's 5:00 pm Family Pot Luck & Movie Night	14)	15) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 7:30 pm Vestry	16) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Office Staff 8:00 pm AA	17) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	18) 7:00 pm Organ Recital with Maxine Thevenot	19) Orientation & Training 10:00 am Lay Eucharistic Ministers 11:00 am Lectors
20) EPIPHANY 7 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Historic Church Committee No Church School 10:00 am Holy Holy Eucharist, Rite II	21) President's Day Office Closed	22) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	23) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Office Staff 8:00 pm AA	24) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	25)	26)
27) EPIPHANY 8 EPISCOPAL VISIT: THE RT. REV. M. THOMAS SHAW ONE SERVICE 9:30 am Church School 9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	28)	Thrift Shop Hours Tuesday-Saturday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm				