



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Page 2

- **From the Music Director - Lessons & Carols**
- **Important Dates: Annual Reports Due, Communicators Needed, St. Catherine's Guild, Thrift Shop Winter Hours, Parish Aid.**

Page 3

- **Church School, Youth, Schedule & Weaving God's Promises**

Page 4

- **Evangelism & Welcoming Month**
- **Stewards of the Month: The Oliveiras**

Back Cover

- **Epiphany Evening Prayer**
- **Annual Meeting Schedule**

January Calendar

Happy January

Birthdays to

Benjamin G. Clark

Theo G. Bachelder

Tucker D. Atkinson

Clive Connolly

From the Rector

At our Sunday morning services on Jan. 2, Jeff Barnett spoke briefly about the 2011 pledge drive. The thrust of his message was to say "thank you." I echo that here.

Beginning with 2011, one of the goals of the parish is to reduce to zero the withdrawal of principal from our endowment by 2014. As a step toward that goal, the Stewardship Committee, chaired by Avery Russell and ably assisted by committee members Jeff Barnett, Harriett Magee, Karl Renney and Larry Robbins, diligently worked through the fall to increase and encourage parishioner awareness and support of the parish's financial status. The Committee did a terrific job. As Jeff said, the true thanks go to all parishioners who support St. Michael's.

As of Jan. 3, \$196,880 has been pledged to St. Michael's for 2011. This is an increase of \$39,365 over 2010. One hundred thirty one pledges (131) were received, compared to 124 in 2010, an increase of 7 pledges. We are on the right track. This is a wonderful first step. It means we will be able to reduce withdrawal our endowment principal by approximately \$25,000.

These numbers are important and are positive benchmarks to report. One of the enjoyable aspects of the fall campaign

was hearing a "Ministry Minute" during the 8:00 & 10:00 Sunday services. During the "Ministry Minute" a pre-assigned parishioner spoke briefly about how they came to St. Michael's and how they are involved. They also spoke about our financial situation. The last-ing connection, I believe, was hearing their stories. They were courageous to share about a bit about themselves!

In the month of January we will continue to hear a "Ministry Minute." The emphasis of these speakers is Evangelism and Welcoming: how we share the good news of God in our lives with others. It is often in their stories that we hear resonances of our own story, and our own journey in life and faith. Evangelism, Welcoming and Stewardship are closely related.

We enter a new year, and we enter a new season on the church calendar: the season of Epiphany. Epiphany invites the church into a growing awareness of the light of Christ spread throughout the world, throughout our communities, and throughout each of us. Even as the winter snow arrives, the daylight hours are surely lengthening. May the light of God in Christ lengthen in each of us, bearers of welcome and good news.

Happy New Year! Peace and blessings,
- Fr. Andrew

**Epiphany
invites the
church into a
growing
awareness of
the light of
Christ**

Annual Meeting Jan. 30, 2011 after the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
There will be only one service on January 30 at 9:30 a.m.

From the Music Director

A Happy and Healthy New Year to you all!

Happy New Year to all! Please join us for our annual Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday, January 2 at 5 pm. The music will include the Polish Carol *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, arranged by David Willcocks, who was the director of the King's College Choir from 1956 - 1974; and *Adam Lay ybounden* in a setting by Boris Ord, also director at King's College from 1929 – 1956.

One of the reasons we at St. Michael's Church present our Lessons and Carols Service after Christmas is so that we can tell the whole Nativity story, up through the Three Kings and the story of Simeon. Our service will include a wonderful setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* by Charles V. Stanford, better known as the Song of Mary and the Song of Simeon. Our scripture readings recount Mary's serene yet strong testament to her faith in God as she utters "My soul proclaims the greatness of God, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Old Simeon, a devout Jew who waited patiently for the coming of the Messiah, finally witnesses the presentation of the child in the Temple, whereupon he states to all present that now



Join us for
**Lessons & Carols
 for Christmas**
**Sunday, January 2, 2011
 at 5:00 pm.**

he can pass away in peace, having seen the Saviour. These two canticles from the New Testament form the "bookends" of the story, and are, of course, the principle canticles sung at choral Evensong. We will also have some well-known carols for the congregation to sing, as well as some festive organ music from the French Baroque composer Daquin, and the early 20th c. German composer Sigfried Karg-Elert.

Please join us for this beautiful service of readings and music – bring a friend, too! All best wishes for the New Year.
 - Douglas Major, Music Director

Dates, Deadlines & Communication



**St. Catherine's Guild
 Annual Yankee Swap**
Thursday, January 6th at 6:30 pm
after the Epiphany evening prayer

The Guild will meet at 6:30 pm on Thursday, January 6th for our annual Yankee swap. Bring a wrapped gift—a re-gifted item, a fun item, but definitely inexpensive—and see which gift is swapped the most!

Annual Reports Due January 11th

Committee/Commission Chairs—Please turn in your 2010 annual report to Jane Maihos by Tuesday, January 11, 2011. The early date facilitates copying and collation.

Communicators Needed

The Communications Committee needs volunteers! Contact Frances Nilsson if you can assist with any of the following:

- Taking digital photos of St. Michael's events
- Writing & submitting news releases
- Posting events on Diocesan & other web sites
- Helping with layout & editing of the newsletter (use to MS Publisher required, training can be provided)
- Preparing newsletter for mailing (1 hour per month)
- Helping coordinate all of the above on the Communications team

Jane Maihos is also looking for people who can collate and staple service bulletins at about 11 am on Friday mornings. - Frances Nilsson, Co-Chair, Communications

Thrift Shop Winter Hours

Tuesday—Friday
 1—4 PM

We welcome high end clothing clean and in good condition.

Parish Aid Luncheon

Tuesday,
 January 18
 12:00 Noon

*Look backward with gratitude
 and forward with confidence.*

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 6-7:30pm

High School Youth Group

Stay connected through our Facebook page.

Epiphany Events

After the hustle and bustle of the Advent and Christmas seasons, we have the chance to slow down as we contemplate Christ's power in our lives. The Supper Club will be preparing for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 6. The whole parish family is invited to Dinner & a Movie on February 13. Please mark your calendars.

One-Room Church School

These winter months are always an odd time in the Church School; between vacations, snow storms and ski trips the numbers of our students fluctuate greatly. This year we will have a one-room schoolhouse throughout Epiphany. We will be using *Weaving God's Promises* a curriculum which is easily adapted to a multi-age classroom. We will return to our two classroom structure on the first Sunday of Lent, March 13. At that point the younger children will resume Godly Play and the older children will continue with *Weaving God's Promises*.

I'm excited about our winter curriculum. I would be happy to discuss it with you and answer any questions you may have.

Introducing Weaving God's Promises

This is a new Christian Education curriculum for children within the Episcopal Church. It teaches children how to weave their daily lives with the life of Christ and of the Church. As author Joanna Leiserson writes, "we hope to foster the spiritual formation and growth of our children in Christ's love and mercy, to teach the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation and to send our children out into the world as Christ's ambassadors."

The curriculum is guided by the following Scriptures:

...be encouraged and woven together in love.

—Colossians 2:2 (NRSV)

Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

—John 14:23

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

—1 Peter 2:9-10

Godly Play gives provides a strong foundation in the stories of our faith. This program is the next step in Christian formation for our children. It places an equal emphasis on Scripture, Church practice and Christian living—these 3 foci become the three-legged stool for a solid adult faith.

The focus of our Epiphany lessons will be on "Meeting Jesus." We will hear Matthew's stories of the Kingdom of God and explore our places within the salvation story.

Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Middle School Youth	
Sunday, January 9			One-Room Church School Jesus' Baptism and Early Years
Tuesday, January 11		Supper Club: Outreach	
Sunday, January 16			One-Room Church School Jesus Heals the Sick
Sunday, January 23			One-Room Church School Jesus' Teachings (The Sermon on the Mount)
Tuesday, January 25		Supper Club: Outreach	
Sunday, January 30	Annual Meeting		One-Room Church School Jesus' Teachings (The Sermon on the Mount)

Welcoming and Evangelism in January

The Evangelism and Welcoming committee is looking forward to the month of January. The season of Epiphany is a good time to focus on ways that we can make our friends, neighbors, relatives and guests aware of all that St. Michael's has to offer in terms of worship, ministry, mission, fellowship, spiritual support, and community. We are a vibrant and devout community that is indeed a wonderful place to worship and find spiritual comfort; however, perhaps too frequently we miss opportunities to tell others about St. Michael's.

"Ministry minutes" return in January, this time with members taking a few minutes following the sermon to talk about why they joined the church or how and why they encouraged someone to join St. Michael's. We hope this will aid all of us with concrete ways to reach out to the souls around us and let them know of all the wonderful blessings available within the spiritual community that is St. Michael's.

Any questions?

- Contact James Dearborn or Jan Barnett, co-chairs

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.

Stewards of the Month—The Oliveira Family

Joe and Jenny Oliveira attended the Huron Memorial Chapel at Harvard before they bought a house in Swampscott about six years ago and needed to find a new church home. St. Michael's appealed to them on several counts: it was an old church, friendly, about the right size, and they liked the "down-to-earth sermons" by Fr. Andrew. And then Jenny's parents, Ann and Sam Davis, were long-time members. So, they joined. Joe says, "We both grew up in church and religion is an important part of our lives." Joe particularly remembers coming for a Christmas service when he and Jenny were first married and feeling happy to be going to church together.

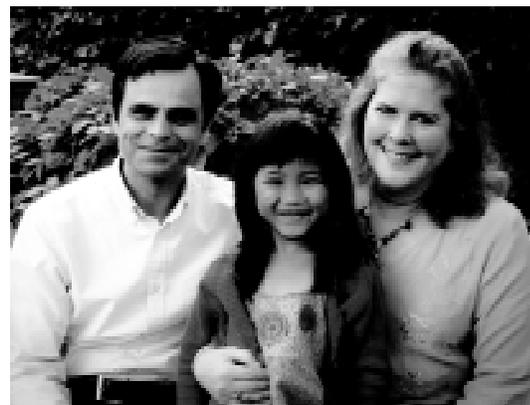
The whole family is active at St. Michael's. Kindergartner Lavinia, called Livvy, was baptized at St. Michael's, attends Sunday school, and loves the Christmas Pageant. Jenny does hostessing and oblations as well as the Food Pantry. Joe serves on the Vestry, is a Sunday school teacher, and serves on the Education Committee. They always help with the Lobster Luncheon and the Christmas Fair too.

In their professional lives, Jenny and Joe both work at State Street Corporation—which was how they met. Jenny is in product development. She comes up with new ways of doing business and does the research for new business ventures. Joe is in information technology. He creates software applications and manages software engineers.

In their family life, they like doing things together, visiting family and friends or going to dinner or shows with friends. Joe likes to fly-fishing. "It's all about technique," Joe says of it. They both like Italy where they have friends in Tuscany and Perugia. Jenny lived there for a while as a student and speaks Italian.

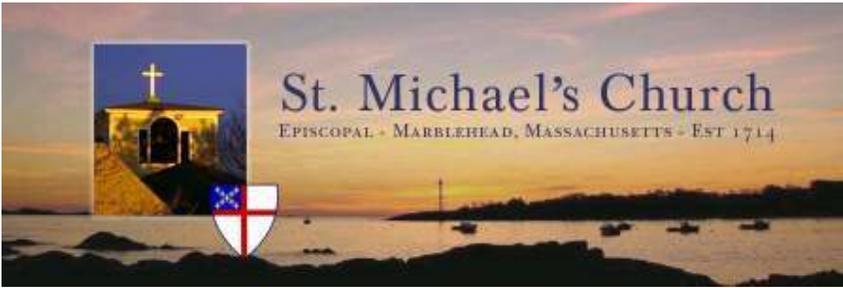
Six year old Livvy attends school here in Marblehead. She also goes to Chinese School in Newton where she takes lessons in Chinese dance and language and where she was just in a recital. But she takes other dance lessons too: tap, ballet, hip-hop, acro, and Irish step dancing! And then there is swimming and soccer for her as well.

The Oliveiras like the sense of community at church and they enjoy the intergenerational services especially. Joe says, "Church revives and refreshes you. It puts everything in perspective. We need food and water, but we need faith too to give us life."



Joe, Lavinia and Jenny Oliveira

- Marilyn Day



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***Feast of
Epiphany
Evening
Prayer***



Thursday, January 6, 2011

6:30 p.m.

All are welcome!

**Parish-Wide Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 30, 2011
Parish Hall**

Following the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

**There will be only one service
on January 30 at 9:30 a.m.**

Sunday School begins at 9:00 a.m.

St. Michael's Church

Officers: *Barbara Miller, Sr. Warden; David Bittermann, Jr. Warden; Sarah Bates, Treasurer; Laurence Robbins, Asst. Treasurer; Walter Haug, Clerk.*

Vestry: *Susan Cool, Ian Hunter, Louise Hunt, Harriett Magee, Joe Oliveira, Anna Onishi, Avery Russell, Linda Smidt, Thomas Weber.*

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

January 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1) New Year's Day
2) CHRISTMAS 2 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I NO Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Lessons & Carols	3)	4) 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team, My Brothers' Table in Lynn 7:30 pm Wardens	5) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff 8:00 pm AA Meeting	6) THE EPIPHANY 6:00 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 St. Catherine's Guild 7:30 pm Adult Choir	7) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise Class	8) 11:00 am St. Michael's Team, Lifebridge, Salem
9) EPIPHANY 1 THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	10)	11) ANNUAL REPORTS DUE (ALL MINISTRIES) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	12) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff 7:30 pm Education Committee 8:00 pm AA	13) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	14) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise Class	15)
16) EPIPHANY 2 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am One Room Schoolhouse 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	17) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day <i>Office closed</i>	18) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 7:30 pm Vestry	19) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff 8:00 pm AA	20) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	21) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise Class	22)
23) EPIPHANY 3 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Historic Church Committee 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	24)	25) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	26) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff 8:00 pm AA	27) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	28) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise Class	29)
30) EPIPHANY 4 9:30 am One Service Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 9:30 am Church School 11:00 am Annual Parish Meeting	Parish Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm		Thrift Shop Winter Hours Tuesday - Saturday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm			