



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Page 2

- Last Evensong until Fall
- Recital: Ross Wood
- Special Services in May
- Youth Film Premiere

Page 3

- From the Church School

Page 4

- Stewards: Deirdre & Larry Robbins
- Stewards on MHTV

Page 5

- Second Saturdays at Lifebridge

Page 5

- Parishioner News
- Lobster Lunch Planning
- Parish Aid Meets

May Calendar

*Happy May
Birthday to*

**Griffin Atkinson
Kaelyn Elizabeth
Attridge
Trevor Connolly
Malcolm Renney
Miles Renney
Elizabeth Russell**

From the Rector

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.
— Acts 1:8

God's Spirit is constantly at work. It fills us when we are quiet, alone, breathing gently. It inspires us in the midst of a crowd such as a sporting event or a great cathedral liturgy! It motivates us through stirring speakers and story tellers, works of art, literature and music. It calms us through compassionate hands and service. It helps us in the work of forgiveness and justice. This list is not inclusive. God's Spirit is present always. Sometimes we need an additional infusion or breath; sometimes we need to trim our sails to use it fully.



On Sunday, May 27, The Day of Pentecost, we will hear two accounts of the disciples receiving the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. I believe the Holy Spirit was already at work in the disciples, manifesting itself in their response to seek and follow Jesus. The fulfillment of the promised gift empowers them further in their ministry.

The first account comes from the Book of Acts. It imparts a grand visual scene that I imagine directors of action films would welcome recreating with computer generated imaging:

Suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a

tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with Holy Spirit." — Acts 2:2-4

The second comes from the Gospel of John. It is quieter, but no less powerful. The risen Christ appears to the disciples huddled in a locked room three days after his crucifixion:

Jesus said to them, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sends me, so I send you.'

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' —John 20:21-23

These are but two different settings showing the imparting of the Holy Spirit to the community. Three hundred years ago God's Spirit was present in the men and women in the new settlement of Marblehead who wished to create a sacred space to worship God in the Anglican tradition. That Spirit has been at work in each generation since, and it continues to be so today. Preparations to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the building of the church and formation of the community are beginning to take shape. Ideas are being offered and researched on how best to maintain and develop further the buildings and programs to enhance the ministries of St. Michael's. It is exciting. And when it seems it is all overwhelming, that very Spirit "intercedes with sighs too deep for words," infusing and empowering us to move forward yet again. Easter.

- Fr. Andrew

From the Music Director

**Choral Evensong
Sunday, May 6, 5:00 pm**

As we wrap up our program year, I hope you will join us for Choral Evensong on Sunday, May 6, at 5 pm. We'll be singing canticles by Harold Friedell, organist for many years at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. His music is energetic but very lyrical; his setting of the Nunc Dimittis is one of my most favorites.

**Organ Recital: Ross Wood,
Assistant Organist, Trinity, Boston
Sunday, May 20, 5:00 pm**

On Sunday May 20, we conclude our 2011-2012 Organ Recital Series with a wonderful program played by Ross Wood, Associate Organist at Church of the Advent, Boston. This is Ross's first appearance on our series, and I am sure you will enjoy his program with works of Marchand, Böhm, Tunder, Widor, Bruhns, Bach and Mathias.

Receptions follow both events – please join us and, as I always suggest, bring a friend!

- Douglas Major, Music Director

More Worship & Music Events



**St. Catherine's Guild
Annual Corporate
Communion & Breakfast
All are welcome!**

Sunday, May 6
8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Breakfast

**Intergenerational Youth Service
& Film Premiere
Sunday, May 13, 10 AM**



Mother's Day is always refreshing with St. Michael's youth taking leadership roles during the service—as ushers, lectors and leading the prayers of the people. Aileen Ryder will be preaching.

This year will be particularly special. At coffee hour will be the premiere of St. Michael's youth's submission to the Diocesan Film Festival, their video on 'answering God's urgent call together.' Our most grateful thanks to Steve Clay and Aileen Ryder for all their work to make this possible.

**The Rev. Kathryn Nesbit Elledge,
Celebrant, Sunday, May 20**

The Rev. Kate Elledge will be celebrating at the 8 and 10 am services on Sunday, May 20th while Father Andrew is away for the weekend. A graduate of Seabury Western Theological Seminary in Chicago, she has a joint Master in Divinity and Social Work degree. The Rev. Kate recently moved to Marblehead with her husband, Clyde, who is rector of St. Andrew's, and their two children, and has been supplying at various churches in the Diocese of Massachusetts since their arrival last fall.



Church School - Aileen Ryder

Church School

Church School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Students in pre-K-1st grade use Godly Play. Weaving God's Promises is for students in grades 2-5.

The Supper Club

A gathering of Middle School Youth on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6pm. Meetings follow the Reform curriculum.

May Highlights

Children's Chapel: Everyone is welcome to join with the Church School for this short Lenten worship service on Sunday May 6 at 9:30am. This month we will meet downstairs in the old nursery room.

Intergenerational Service: Our children and youth will take special roles during the service on Mother's Day May 13. The youth hope to premiere their entry in the Diocesan Film Festival following the youth service.

DioMass Film Festival: The Diocese has invited parishes to create short films telling how they "Answer God's Urgent Call Together." Our youth, with the help of Steve Clay, have embarked on a project about acolytes at St. Michael's. The Film Festival is Saturday May 19 at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul beginning at 4pm.

Rogation Sunday: The Church School will be planting flowers on Campus. Youth are invited to assist. Meet at 9:30 am.



Pentecost: This year Pentecost falls during Memorial Day weekend. For all those who are in town, we will have a special One-Room Church School

The Hard Questions

Questions of faith can be enlightening, sometimes comforting, and other times challenging. Often the same question asked at different points in life will promote different responses the same comforting question asked again in one's adulthood may become a challenge. I call the questions the youth are asking now "hard" not because they are more challenging than the questions about the nature of God and the Church that we have been asking all year, but because at this stage in their development questions about how to conduct oneself in the social sphere are particularly poignant. Please pray for our youth as they explore these challenges together in faith.



Rogation Sunday

Recently, I asked our Church School children what activities they do here in addition to Church School. I was happy to hear them mention "planting flowers." Our youth will once again celebrate creation by planting flowers on Rogation Sunday. All are invited to join in the blessing of their labor in a procession following the 10am service.



Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Youth	Godly Play	Weaving God's Promises
Sunday, May 6	Children's Chapel		Parable of the Good Samaritan	Samson
Tuesday, May 8		Supper Club: "How do I stop doing things I know I shouldn't do?"		
Sunday, May 13	Mother's Day	Intergenerational Service	Children and Youth have special roles in Liturgy	Children meet in Church School at 9:30
Saturday, May 19	DioMass Film Festival at Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4pm.			
Sunday, May 20	Rogation Sunday	Youth are invited to help Children garden		
Tuesday, May 22		Supper Club: "Why does God let bad things happen?"		
Sunday, May 27	Pentecost Memorial Day		One Room Church School	The Day of Pentecost

Stewards of the Month: Deirdre and Larry Robbins

Deirdre and Larry joined St. Michael's in 1991 when they moved to town. In Wenham Larry had attended Christ Church and he remembered St. Michael's from 1975 when the Christ Church choir sang here for the organ dedication. "I remembered meeting Alma Howie and getting a positive impression of the church then," he said. Deirdre was raised Roman Catholic and had been searching for a church home for a while. So when Larry suggested that they might like St. Michael's, they started attending. Deirdre recalls Mona Whipple being especially welcoming at the coffee hours. "It feels comfortable here and we find a commonality with others here," they both say.

Deirdre sang in the choir for 17 years and has been Junior and Senior Warden as well as chairman of the Stewardship Committee for several years. She also served on the Mission and Vision Committee and as Deanery and Convention delegate. Now she is on the Pastoral Care Commission.

Larry has been an usher and sexton for a number of years and he has been the assistant treasurer until this year. He also serves on the Stewardship Committee.

A poignant memory of St. Michael's that they share is the special music for Jack O'Brien's funeral. Doug Major gathered a choir from all over the country. "Everyone knew Jack," said Deirdre. The choir sang Jack's favorite the Durufle Requiem.

Larry is retired from being an information technology manager and consultant. He was a principal with Computer Science Corporation. Deirdre is an attorney who says, "I'm trying to retire!" She worked for the Attorney General for a while, and now is with a small private company.



Between them they have three children, and there are 10 grandchildren, spread around the country. "They are all adorable," they both agree. Deirdre's has a son and daughter-in-law who live in Seattle with their two girls while Larry has two daughters, one has four children and lives in Newton, and one lives in Gothenburg, Sweden, with her husband and four children. Last year when he and Deirdre visited them in Sweden, they brought back a Volvo. "The Nilssons told us how to do it," Larry says.

Besides spending time with their grandchildren, the Robbins enjoy their powerboat, travelling, and taking courses at Explorers in Salem.

And finally of St. Michael's, Deirdre says, "I find God here, so I come and listen."

- Marilyn Day

Part of an ongoing series of profiles honoring good stewards of our Parish.

Stewards of the Month Update

Martha Gorman, who was our Steward of the Month last month*, will be featured in 20th Century Marbleheaders on MHTV in early May. This Marblehead Harbor Rotary and MHTV series presents in-depth interviews recorded for their DVD. The series can be seen on Verizon Channel 28 and Comcast Channel 10. Martha's interview will be shown at the following times:

Friday, May 4 at 8:00 pm
 Sunday, May 6 at 7:00 pm
 Friday, May 11 at 8:00 pm
 Sunday, May 13 at 7:00 pm

Bill Conly, our January 2011 steward of the month, was featured earlier this year and a video clip of Doris Bartlett, our steward in January 2012, can be seen online at <http://marbleheadtv.org>.

*Martha reminded us that she was not on the Altar Guild as noted in her April profile.

Second Saturdays at Lifebridge

Last month we briefly described Lifebridge, a non-profit organization whose mission is to eradicate homelessness while serving those who are currently homeless or at a severe economic disadvantage. St. Michael's has 3 teams that rotate serving lunch on the second Saturday of each month. Many have been doing this since the 1980s and welcome additional helpers!

What is it like to serve at Lifebridge?

Team captains call Jessica Williams, Lifebridge's Kitchen Manager, on Wednesday or Thursday before the second Saturday to find out what food is available. If frozen, they need to ask that it be moved to the refrigerator to thaw. Depending upon what is available the team may need to bring other items, particularly spices, to accompany what's available. Some teams bring in homemade desserts. Receipts can be saved for tax deductions or for possible reimbursement if funds are available.

On Saturday, the team leaders arrive a little early to verify the available food. Often there is a last minute run to the grocery store to pick up a needed item. Lunch may be as simple as preparing soup and sandwiches, or more involved, such as making spaghetti sauce or cooking chicken. Hot meals are particularly appreciated. By 11:00 a.m. lunch preparations have begun and will be served from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Most of the clean-up is done by Lifebridge residents. Afterwards, a form is filled out at the front desk indicating what was served, how many, number of takeouts, etc., with team name and contact information.

Would you Like to Help?

If you would like to help out with a team on a second Saturday of the month, contact one of the team leaders for that month. The team welcomes new members, and if we get enough we can create a 4th team! Substitutes are often needed as well. Children with parents are also welcome to help. Note that OSHA laws restrict some tasks to adults. And health laws—gloves, washing hands, etc.—always apply.

Donations

If you have food you would like to donate, please contact Lifebridge directly at 978-744-0500. If you have furniture too large to donate to St. Michael's Thrift Shop, consider the Lifebridge Thrift Shop, 47 Canal St. in Salem. Always call first before bringing items.

St. Michael's Second Saturday Team Leaders	
Ed & Michele Baillie.....	January, April, July, October
Connie & Dana Denault.....	February, May, August, November
Pam Oppelt & Valerie Wyckoff .	March, June, September, December

Can't Help on Second Saturdays...

...but would still like to volunteer? There are other volunteer opportunities at Lifebridge.

Please feel free to give Lifebridge a call at the:

Shelter: Jill Brown 978-744-0500

Kitchen: Jessica Williams 978-744-0500

Thrift Shop: Ann Richardson 978-745-2459

Or visit the Lifebridge website at the following link:
<http://www.lifebridgesalem.org/volunteer.html>

- the Outreach Committee



Lissa Simard & Marilyn Day
making sandwiches at Lifebridge

Parishioner News



Congratulations to Ed Mace who was received into the Episcopal Church on Saturday, April 28 at St. Paul's Cathedral. The service was part of confirmation service with Bishop Tom Shaw for parishes of the Alewife, Concord River and Neponset River Deaneries.

If you haven't met Ed, you will often see him on Thursday or Friday mornings folding service bulletins for Sunday.

St. Michael's parishioner Beverly Seamans will be exhibiting her sculptures May 6-31 in the Celebration Hall Gallery at St. John's Episcopal Church, Beverly Farms. Beverly's sculptures can be seen at many places—Abbot Library, the Swampscott beach—but this is opportunity to see a number of her works collected in one place. The paintings of Benneville Strohecker will also be shown.

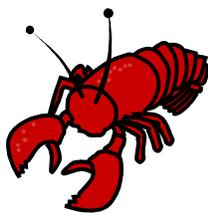
St. John's Gallery is open weekdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2 to 4 pm..



Coming In (Ducks)
at The Granary Gallery

Lobster Lunch Planning

**Mark Your Calendars
to Volunteer for
St. Michael's Lobster Lunch
Saturday, June 30
Sunday, July 1st
Wednesday, July 4th**



It's May and it's time to begin planning for this year's Lobster Lunch. Barbara Miller and David Bittermann will be serving as co-chairs, and we'd like to begin by thanking all of you for your hard work in the past, and hope that you will be able to help out this year as well. Many hands will indeed make this light work.

We anticipate completing the planning with just three meetings, scheduled at roughly 3-week intervals. During the first meeting, we will provide an overview of everything that needs to be done, discuss any refinements to our approach based on feedback from last year, and will match committee members with assignments. Watch for an announcement of our first meeting coming soon.

Please contact Barbara or David if you are interested in helping with planning and coordination.

- David Bittermann & Barbara Miller, Co-Chairs

Parish Aid Luncheon
Tuesday, May 17,
12:00 Noon

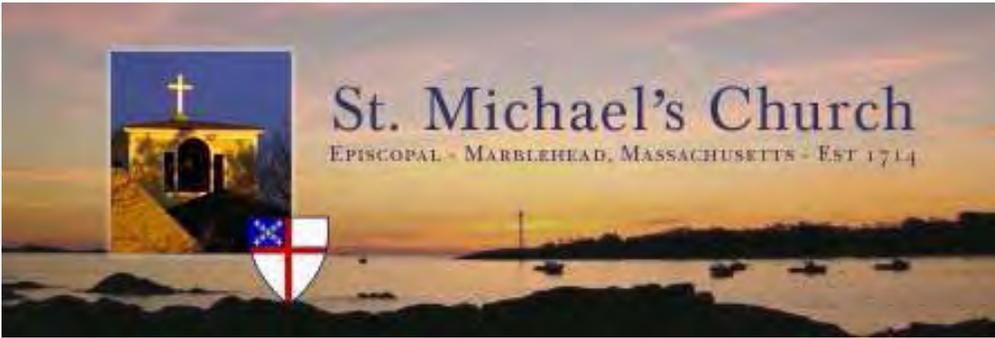
Parish Directories

Do you need to contact a fellow parishioner? Copies of the 2012 Parish Directory are available in the Parish Office.

**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.



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

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

Evensong & Benediction

**Sunday, May 6
5:00 pm**

Our last evensong until fall.

Organ Recital: Ross Wood

**Sunday, May 20
5:00 pm**

**With works of Marchand, Böhm,
Tunder, Widor, Bruhns, Bach and
Mathias**

Our last recital of the season.

St. Michael's Church

Officers: *David Bittermann*, Senior Warden; *Frances Nilsson*, Junior Warden; *Sarah Bates*, Treasurer; *James Dearborn*, Assistant Treasurer; *Walter Haug*, Clerk.

Vestry: *Melissa Amberik*, *Jenny Armini*, *Lynn Bragdon*, *Stephen Clay*, *Ian Hunter*, *Karin McCarthy*, *Joe Oliveira*, *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 & Youth Director, *Jane Maihos*, Parish Administrator; *Jennifer Hill*, Sexton.

Saint Michael's Church

May 2012

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1) 5:00 pm St. Michael's Team My Brothers' Table, Lynn	2) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting	3) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	4)	5)
6) 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I & St. Catherine's Corporate Communion 9:30 am Children's Chapel 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Choral Evensong	7) 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	8) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens et al.	9) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting	10) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	11)	12) 11:00 am St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem Connie & Dana Denault, Leaders
13) 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Mother's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Intergenerational Youth Service	14)	15) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 6:00 pm North Shore Deanery at St. Stephen's, Lynn 7:30 pm Vestry	16) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting	17) ASCENSION DAY 7:30 pm Adult Choir	18)	19)
20) 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER ROGATION STUDAY The Rev. Kate Elledge, Celebrant 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Historic Church Comm. 9:30 am Church School - Planting 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Organ Recital: Ross Wood,	21) 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	22) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	23) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting	24) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	25)	26)
27) THE DAY OF PENTECOST (WHITSUNDAY) 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am One-Room Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	28) Memorial Day <i>Office Closed</i>	29)	30) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting	31) 7:30 pm Adult Choir		