



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Page 2

- Music Director
- Church School
- Youth

Page 3

- Nursery School
- Parish Aid Cruise
- New Exhibit

Page 4

- Samuel Roads, Jr.
Senate Window

Page 5

- From the Rector
- Deanery Field Day
- June Calendar

Cover/back page

- Soup & Dessert

From the Vestry: LOBSTER LUNCHEON

The annual Lobster Roll Luncheon is near! Again this year the Vestry has taken on the challenge of chairing this major fund-raiser. We have three important reasons for supporting this effort. The first reason is a purely logistical one, while the remaining two reflect the importance of this event.



1. The old saying that “many hands make light work” is certainly true in this case. Organizing the Lobster Roll Luncheon is a monumental task for only one or two people to take on. Although we have relied on a few people in the past to step forward as chairpersons, it has perhaps been an unfair expectation on our part.
2. The Lobster Roll Luncheon is a significant fundraiser for mission and outreach. In recent years it has netted in the range of \$10,000—\$13,000, given directly to those in need. In short we as a parish are doing God’s work when we participate in making this a successful event.
3. This event gives us tremendous visibility in the community. It is an opportunity for us to create goodwill and let people in the town of Marblehead and beyond know a little bit about who we are—a vibrant, enthusiastic, involved community of faithful people.

Please consider how you can join with us in making this an enjoyable and successful event. You can sign up to help in the kitchen or dining area, to bring baked goods or perhaps to make a monetary contribution. Sign up sheets are located in the Parish Hall. The dates of the luncheon are Friday, July 4, Saturday, July 5 and Sunday, July 6. These dates coincide with the Marblehead Festival of Arts.

Donating a few hours of your time over the holiday weekend can make a positive statement in the lives of others! We look forward to working with you!

Your Vestry ,

Jack Attridge, Sarah Bates, Vivian Bennett, David Bittermann, Walter Haug, Louise Hunt, Barbara Miller, Anna Onishi, Laurence Pierce, Paul Pruett, Chris Riegle, Paul Roberts, Linda Smidt

Happy June

Birthday to

Kyle Robertson

Emma Hunt

Miranda Connolly

Taylor Bragg

Blake Russell

Catherine Honos

Jack Pruett

Tessa Robertson

Nicola Russell

Jacob Barnett

Music

As we come to the close of another program year at St. Michael's Church, I would like to thank all the people in the two choirs who give so generously of their time and talent to enhance the music at our church.

Thanks also to all the people who host our Organ Recital and Evensong receptions. Your hospitality and enthusiasm for these musical events is greatly appreciated.

Thank you as well to those many people who supported our Organ Recital Series through subscriptions and additional financial support over and above their subscriptions. The series has been a financial success, paying for itself along the way!

Finally, have a great summer everyone – I hope you hear some good live music in your travels and have a chance to enjoy “good weather” time with your friends and families.

Church School

It's hard to believe this church school year is already over! In many ways, it seems that the kids just started back a few weeks ago. As the school year draws to a close, many changes will begin taking place. For one, Forrest and myself will no longer be working with the children and youth at St. Michaels as we are moving to Black Mountain, North Carolina. With our departure comes the arrival of a yet to be determined replacement, who will begin his or her ministry at St. Michaels in the coming months. I have no doubt that Father Andrew and several others involved will find a competent and excellent individual to take over the direction of the children's program.

With our departure, it seems appropriate to take a few sentences to thank a plethora of individuals who have played a role in our work here. First, many thanks are due to Father Andrew and the other staff members at the church. They have made our time here very fun and have spent many hours bringing us up to speed on Episcopal tradition and liturgy. Thanks are also due to all of the excellent church school teachers who take time out of their schedules each week to prepare and teach the children using the Godly Play curriculum. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed. I'd especially like to thank Barbara Miller, who has made herself available to me on many occasions to answer questions and to keep me on the right track as far as the church school was concerned. Thanks also to all of the parishioners who have been so welcoming to us, you've really made this feel like home! Last, but not least, I'd like to thank every one of the kids who are involved in the church school. You have all brought such amazing joy to my heart as we've explored our faith together week after week! I will miss each of you very much!

I trust God will keep each of you in the palm of his hands as we go on our separate paths.

Candace Johnson

Youth—Rite 13

The church school year is coming to an end and there are many parishioners to thank. I want to begin with the youth; they are a wonderful group. They are smart, compassionate and they have many gifts that they share in class and that they will share with the rest of the parish in coming years. I want to give a special thank you to Father Andrew who is always very encouraging and generous to Candace and myself. His monthly lunches with the Rite-13 youth have been very important to showing the youth their importance to the parish. Avery Russell and Jan Barnett were very helpful in launching the Rite-13 season in September. The youth have also enjoyed several teachers: Carl Hyam, Tom Connelly, Jacob Barnett, and Nicoli Bailey and guest speakers: Diane Christian and Father Huntress. I also want to thank the parents of the youth and the parish for participating in the Hunger Simulation. We had over 30 people participate or make donations and we raised over \$1,100 for “Nets for Life.” The youth were very encouraged by your support. Finally, as many of you know already, as this church school year ends so will my time coordinating the Rite-13 youth at St. Michael's. I have been blessed by all of you, and you will always remain in my prayers.

Forrest Johnson

Nursery School

It is hard to believe that yet another school year is coming to a close and the older children in our program will be moving on to pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes in the fall. It has been gratifying to hear the very positive commendations from kindergarten teachers and admissions officers at the public and private schools our children go on to attend. Overwhelmingly, the opinion is that the students at Saint Michael's are polite, kind, respectful, independent; ready to learn and to succeed. We take pride in a program that provides our children with such a strong foundation in the areas of pre-school learning that are fundamental to future social, emotional, cognitive, and academic success.

We are looking forward to another year with our younger children and to the new families who will join us in September, and although we will miss those who are moving on, we know that they are ready for the many new and exciting experiences that await them. We also wish to thank our families for their support and extend a special "Thank You" to our Nursery School Board members who give so generously of their time.

To end the year on a joyous note we will celebrate with activities that include an "Author's Breakfast" to present our students as authors and illustrators, our annual observation of the life cycle of a butterfly culminating with the release of ten Painted Lady Butterflies, an entertaining visit from our friend "Dondo the Magician", and a party to be held at the home of one of our 3-Day Class members. Our 3-year-old children in our 2-Day Class will have a "Teddy Bears Picnic".

As always, we invite anyone who is wishing to receive information or to enroll a child in our program to call us directly at 781/631-7977 and arrange to visit our classroom.

Hoping that everyone enjoys a safe and relaxing summer.

The Nursery School Staff

A Few Reminders....

Parish Aid Cruise and Luncheon

Tuesday, June 17

The Parish Aid Society will be enjoying its annual harbor cruise thanks to Mike Mentuck's offer of his boat. At 10 AM prior to the cruise the group will participate in a Corporate Communion at St. Michael's. Following communion the group will assemble at the Boston Yacht Club to board the boat. The cruise will be followed by lunch and camaraderie at the Club. This will be the end of our season of monthly meetings until the fall of 2008.

We look forward to new members joining us in September.

Harriet Diamond, President; Doris Bartlett, Vice President; Martha Gorman, Treasurer; Mary Williams, Secretary.

New Historic Church Exhibit



Have you noticed all the different designs on the chancel kneelers and chair cushions? Eighteen members of the St. Michael's Needlepoint Guild worked on these from 1978 to 1984. Who were they and what do the symbols mean? Find out at the new display in the Historic Church case in the Parish Hall Lobby.

Senate Window of Moses Descending Mt. Sinai

On June 9, 2008, 50 days after Passover, Judaism celebrates the Giving of the Law of Moses on Mt. Sinai – their Pentecost or the Feast of Shavuot. The Senate Window also celebrates this event showing Moses holding two tablets inscribed with “The Law.” Above the image the ostrich feathers suggest the passage: “This beast of the field will honor Me, the jackals and the ostriches, because I give waters in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My people, My chosen” (Isaiah 43:20). In Western Christianity a fan of feathers was often a mark of honor as in the two fans flanking the Pope when he is carried in his chair. In this window the fans honor Moses. One could interpret the array of red jewels as our flame of Pentecost surrounding two symbols of Christ: the vine at the flame’s base and the prophetic “sun of righteousness” (Malachi 4:2).

The design of this window was chosen by the donors, members of the 1888 Massachusetts Senate. Samuel Roads, Jr. was a vigorous opponent to the replacement of the windows with stained glass. But once the Vestry agreed to Egbert’s proposal, he worked hard to obtain the finest windows possible.¹ Roads, a journalist for the Marblehead Messenger and Boston Post, Trustee of the Abbot Library, Vestryman and Clerk of St. Michael’s, was a Democrat representative to the General Court, 1883-1885 and to the Massachusetts Senate, 1886-1888. St. Michael’s would have been first brought to legislative attention when its charter was amended in 1884 to grant all communicants the same powers as proprietors of pews.² The Great Seal of Massachusetts, seen at the bottom, would have had special meaning as it was officially described by law in 1885 to specify the different elements and their colors. The Latin quote, added in 1775, means: “By the sword she seeks peace under liberty.”

The Honourable Halsey J. Boardman, Republican President of the Senate, stated at the presentation:

“In doing this we signalize the departure from the plainness and freedom from decoration that characterized our Puritan ancestors. . . . We can do little more than repeat that the times have changed and we have changed with them. The spirit of tolera-

tion has kept pace with the development of civilization and progress, and now highly intelligent men of all religious creeds recognize and admit the merits of belief other than their own. Such men do more than this. They detect and discard errors in the creeds transmitted them.

The Puritan, inspired by hatred of material symbols of religious faith, took the opposite extreme, and sought to nourish his spiritual life independent of architectural grace or artistic beauty. His descendants with broader and juster insight have revised and transformed his theories.”³

William D. T. Trefry, Junior Warden and friend of Sam Roads, Jr., accepted the gift with these words:

“The influence of a religious society extends to every interest which looks to the moral and social welfare of a community. It fosters schemes for broad and liberal education, promotes and encourages every institution for the purifying and uplifting of the spiritual nature, teaches obedience to civil authority, and inculcates the administration of a more strict and impartial justice.

The value of this occasion, then, will be measured by the increased usefulness of this ancient and time-honored Church; . . . this specimen embodying, as you have truly said, sir, the only union which should be possible between Church and State, the union of harmonious and reciprocal devotion and obedience.”⁴

When Roads died in 1904 at the early age of 50, the Vestry replaced a section at the bottom of the window with a memorial to the man who had done so much for his church and town.

Frances Stith Nilsson
Historic Church Committee

¹Parish Register 1852-1860, pages 100-101.

²1884 Acts, Chapter 144, approved April 10, 1884. Pews were no longer owned by individuals who had different rights than other communicants.

³St. Michael’s Church, Marblehead, Mass. : order of exercises commemorating its renovation Wednesday afternoon, April 18 1888. Marblehead: N. Allen Livesey, 1888, page 10.

⁴Ibid, pages 11-13. Also the source of the window image.



THE SENATE WINDOW
1888

This is the third of a series of articles on our stained glass windows.

FROM THE RECTOR— Into “Ordinary” Time

For the past six years my wife, Sue, and I said “This is the year we learn to sail.” We have been grateful to our many friends who have taken us sailing, but we have longed to know better the ropes, so to speak. Finally over Memorial Day weekend, we did just that. For three days we participated in day sailing program in Boston Harbor through the Boston Harbor Sailing Center. The final day of our program the wind was brisk and steady, with occasional twenty—thirty knot gusts. Our instructor remained calm all day as the Pearson 26 hiked over times. Its crew—yours truly included—had moments of uncertainty. Though we were soaked from the spray, our enthusiasm was not. We look forward to being under sail this summer.

The experience provided rich insight for the necessity of teamwork, the need to be flexible and roll with the swells and wind, the call to be alert and awake, and the joy found in the endeavor. These are apt symbols and metaphors for our journey in life and faith.

The Church calendar leads us into the season after Pentecost. It concludes with the first Sunday of Advent (Nov. 30, 2008). This season is often referred to as “ordinary time.” The prominent liturgical celebrations—Christmas, Easter, Pentecost have taken place. “Ordinary time,” is the opportunity to draw in the significance of those events—the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus, the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church—and allow them to take hold in our lives. This takes alertness and wakefulness, intentionality and flexibility, and the presence and support of one another. Extra-ordinary things happen in ordinary time! God’s spirit, like the wind, blows where it will. In the summer months to come, may it fill us, protect us, and propel us to renewal and joy.

Fr. Andrew

Deanery Field Day

On Saturday, May 31st Episcopalians from the North Shore Deanery joined teen members of The Food Project (www.thefoodproject.org) at their fields at Long Hill in Beverly. And did we have fun with threatening clouds adding to the excitement! We started and ended in a circle where we introduced ourselves, comparing our week to the weather and learning fun facts about the food we buy. We then divided into teams led by a teen and swivel-hoed rows, planted peppers and tomatoes, shoveled out rows (the most back-breaking work), set up rods for tenting tender plants and removed invasive garlic mustard from the woods at this Trustees of Reservations site. For each task we were paired with a D.I.R.T. crew member – a Dynamic Intelligent Responsible Teenager. We got to know teens from Rockport, Beverly, Lynn and other North Shore towns. I’m looking forward to familiar faces at the Marblehead Farmers Market this summer and a return to the fields next year!

- Frances Nilsson, North Shore Deanery Representative

*Give me that sparkle,
That joy of living,
Lord,
That comes from knowing You.
(from one who has all the symptoms)*

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*Lifelong spiritual guidance
through
service and celebration.*

***Soup and Dessert
Fellowship and nourishment!***

June 10

12:00 Noon

Parish Hall, St. Michael's Church

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month, the Pastoral Care Group hosts a Soup and Dessert lunch. The group provides the soup, dessert, tea and coffee—you provide the fellowship. There is never a charge for this, just the pleasure of each other's company. Bring a sandwich, if you wish. Please join us!

For questions, call Pat Spaberg, 781-631-3181. Also, please call Pat if you would like to help prepare or serve.

St. Michael's Church

Officers: *Sarah Bates, Sr. Warden; Barbara Miller, Jr. Warden; Laurence Pierce, Treasurer; Paul Roberts, Asst. Treasurer; Walter Haug, Clerk*

Vestry: *Jack Attridge, Jeff Barnett, Vivian Bennett, David Bittermann, Louise Hunt, Anna Onishi, Paul Pruett, Christopher Riegle, Linda Smidt*

Staff: *The Rev. Andrew J. Stoessel, Rector; Dr. Douglas Major, Music Director; Candace Johnson, Church School Director; Forrest Johnson, Youth Coordinator; Carolyn C. Winder, Parish Administrator; Ron St. Pierre, Sexton; Donna Hingston, St. Michael's Nursery School*

Saint Michael's Church

June 2008

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>1) 3RD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School Chapel 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>2)</p>	<p>3)</p>	<p>4) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>5) 4:45 pm Children's Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>6)</p>	<p>7)</p>
<p>8) 4TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School (last session) 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>9) <i>Last Day 2-Day Nursery School Class</i></p>	<p>10) 12:00 pm Soup & Desert <i>Last Day 3-Day Nursery School Class</i></p>	<p>11) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>12)</p>	<p>13)</p>	<p>14)</p>
<p>15) 5TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Father's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>16)</p>	<p>17) 12:00 am Parish Aid 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>18) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>19)</p>	<p>20) <i>July/August News Letter Deadline</i></p>	<p>21)</p>
<p>22) 6TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>23)</p>	<p>24)</p>	<p>25) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>26)</p>	<p>27)</p>	<p>28) Marblehead Arts Festival - set up in Parish Hall</p>
<p>29) 7TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>30)</p>					

