



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

From the Rector

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- Fair Schedule, tickets, baked goods, antiques & collectables. Volunteer!

November Calendar

Happy November Birthdays to

**Julia Christian
Oliver Riegle
Conrad Kleykamp
Elizabeth Ayer**

"Save the church! (kill the organs)"
This was the headline of an article in the Boston Globe on Thursday, Oct. 25, 2012, by Jennifer Graham. Serving a parish with an exceptional organ, organist and long standing commitment to sacred music, this article naturally caught my eye. Graham began the article by reporting on an upcoming meeting the Roman Catholic church is having (or now has had) regarding the decline of faith and shrinking membership that particular Christian denomination. The author proposed part of the decline may be attributed to the organ and organ music played during the church's liturgies.



Subsequent letters to the editor at the Globe (at least the ones the paper published) chastised the article for claiming the organ as a primary or even secondary culprit for the challenges facing the church. At St. Michael's, Doug Major mentioned the international organ community was up in arms over the article.

St. Michael's is blessed with a quality instrument in its 1974 C. B. Fisk organ, Opus 69. This was made possible by the diligent efforts of the Rev. George Westerberg and many generous and thoughtful parishioners in the early 1970's. The organ was built specifically for St. Michael's. It attracts many exceptional organists from around the world, as attested by the successful organ recital series organized by Dr. Major. Many

comments made during last month's "cottage meetings" in support St. Michael's quality music program.

The organ aside, each Christian denomination in the U.S. is facing declining membership. This is true of the Episcopal Church. Traditionalist's, especially those who have broken away from the Episcopal Church in recent years, point to the progressive, "liberal" decisions of the church as a reason for its decline. Progressives meanwhile point to the maintaining of antiquated practices or theologies in the spirit of "tradition" that have lost relevance. My comments here are in general; the issues are more complex, ambiguous

than stated above. Still, decline is felt. Unfortunately this is true at St. Michael's as well, albeit gradual. Organ music is not the problem. To paraphrase Bishop Tom Shaw, if we continue to follow and live into the teachings of Christ, we will be okay.

With this in mind, from the "cottage meetings" last month at St. Michael's came the questions "what do we do well that we should continue to do?" and "what do we do that has reached its time, and what new things should we be doing differently?" These meetings now completed, Frances Nilsson and David Bittermann are assessing the comments made from those meetings, both in terms of programs and capital needs. These will be

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Worship and Music

Sunday, November 4 at 5 pm Choral Evensong and Benediction

Please join us for Choral Evensong on Sunday, Nov. 4th, when the Choir will be singing a very beautiful setting of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis by Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). He was one of the most important composers and musicians in England at the beginning of the 17th century, composing church music, keyboard music, madrigals, ballets and more. He is also significant in music history because he was the first significant composer in England who did not compose any choral music in Latin, signifying the almost complete change-over from Latin to English in the Church. The service will be followed by a light reception – please come and bring a friend!

Rector's Column continued

reviewed with Leslie Pendleton, the consultant from the Episcopal Church Foundation. The next step will be to initiate a feasibility study to determine which projects will be viable for a capital campaign.

Thinking of the future, I hear the call to “save the church.” St. Michael's organ and sacred music are part of the rich heritage of this church. We are indebted to the foresight and generosity of the rector and parishioners who did much to establish a lasting music program forty years ago. What do we see for the future at St. Michael's? As we prepare for St. Michael's 300th Anniversary, we are presented with a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the church's ministry for the years to come. There is more to come.
–Fr. Andrew

Stewardship Mid-Campaign Report

The 2013 Annual Stewardship Campaign is underway. Your stewardship pledge helps St. Michael's to fulfill our mission to transform lives through prayer, song and study, through helping our neighbor, and being good stewards of God's creation.

Our 2013 goal is to raise \$250,000 in pledges. This goal keeps the pace of our Strategic Plan to eliminate dependence on endowment principal to balance the operating budget. We are getting close.

We can do stop using endowment principal to balance the budget and maintain our programs if each of us raises our pledge 10%. For the majority, this would be \$15 per month or \$180 per year. But for some, 10% may be beyond reach, while for others it is a starting point that could go higher.

Please pledge what you can. Help us fill the chalice!

During a few Sundays in November and December, I will be doing some travelling again with Elizabeth Von Trapp and the Empire Brass Quintet, performing 20 concerts in 20 different cities; my good friend and colleague John Skelton will be playing the organ and leading the Choir, and I know you will welcome him as you did so warmly last December.

– Doug Major, Music Director

**Marblehead Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday,
November 22
at 7:00 pm**



**At
Temple Emanu-El
363 Atlantic Ave., Marblehead**

**All Thanksgiving
offerings for the
Marblehead
Food Pantry**



**Thank you to those
who have turned in
their 2012 pledges!**

**If you haven't yet, please
pledge before November 16
for budget planning.
Help us fill the chalice!**

– Stewardship Committee:
Karin McCarthy, Chick Chickering, Tom Weber

Church School & Youth—Aileen Ryder

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

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

High School Youth

meet for lunch on the last Sunday
 of the month

November Highlights

Children's Chapel Sunday November 4 at 9:30am. Meet Fr. Andrew at the Altar in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to join in this worship service. Students will begin Church School following Chapel.

No Church School on Thanksgiving Weekend, Sunday November 25. We will return to regular Church School on December 2.

Children's Christmas Party Friday, November 30. The children are invited to their own celebration during the Preview Party for the Christmas Fair. The evening will include crafts, food, and Christmas music. Youth are invited to participate in this event and help with crafts.

God in the Desert

We New Englanders may not know the harshness of the desert, but we are familiar with the fierceness of nature. This month, Godly Play is learning stories of God's love displayed with God's people in the desert. In each story, the children learn that even when nature itself is ready to harm, God is present. God reaches out in love to care for all God's children.

Living Gratitude

Thanksgiving is a special holiday. This time of year, before the darkness of winter, we are invited to take stock of our many blessings. Typically, we respond to these with a big family meal. The Supper Club is responding in their own way. Their parents have been providing well cooked meals for this group twice a month. The youth have asked to return the favor. The Tuesday following Thanksgiving (November 27), they will cook dinner for their parents and Fr. Andrew.

Calling all Chefs

The Supper Club will be cooking dinner. If you would like to help them in their effort, please contact Aileen Ryder.

Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Supper Club	Godly Play	Weaving God's Promises
Sunday, November 4	Children's Chapel		The Ten Best Ways	David and His Friends
Sunday, November 11			The Ark and the Tent	Elijah is Fed
Tuesday, November 18		The Nature of God & Practicing Gratitude		
Sunday, November 18			The Ark and the Temple	Elijah and Elisha
Sunday, November 25	Thanksgiving Weekend		No Church School	No Church School
Tuesday, November 27		Gratitude Dinner hosted by the Supper Club		
Friday November 30	Children's Christmas Party	Volunteer at Christmas Party		

Stewards of the Month: Octavia Moniz & Chick (Xavier) Chickering



Octavia Moniz, Chick and Olivia Chickering

Octavia and Chick came to St. Michael's to be married by Father George Westerberg on September 14, 1996. Octavia says, "I liked the way it felt, sacredness about the place." Chick, who grew up Episcopalian in Easton, MA, adds, "I liked the sense of history, that people have worshipped in this building for 300 years." And so, they later became members.

Now Octavia is active in the Sunday school and she has just begun to volunteer in the Thrift Shop. Chick enjoys working both the Lobster Luncheon and the Christmas Fair. He also serves on the Stewardship Commission this year.

Professionally, Octavia is Director of Clinical Services for Partners Health Care at Home. She has a BS from Northeastern University in physical therapy as well as an MBA from Northeastern. While at NU, she worked part-time at Symphony Hall and at the Handel and Hayden Society. Chick, who was a history major at Boston University, is a partner in Power 3 Communications, which sells telecommunications.

Their daughter Olivia, now fourth-grader at the Village School, was baptized at St. Michael's by Father Stoessel in his first few months as rector. Olivia likes swimming and gymnastics. She and her father are taking lessons together on Saturdays in Beverly to learn to play the acoustic guitar. Octavia and Chick also have a grown daughter Ani who is 28 years old.

Octavia, who grew up on the island of St. Michael's and then in Bermuda, loves to travel and they try to take a trip each year. "I have to plan a year ahead," she says, to accommodate their busy life. They both like reading and classical music. Octavia adds, "Chick loves race cars, politics, and music, especially rock and roll and baroque."

"We really feel committed to coming to church, to get to know people, bit by bit, like a jigsaw puzzle. It really is only six degrees of separation. You have a lot in common with other people," said Octavia. "And it's nice that St. Michael's is also the name of the island where I spent my earliest years."

- Marilyn Day

Parishioners in the News

Robert Howie, Jr. was recognized for his long time service to his alma mater Berwick Academy in Maine.

Director of Music **Doug Major** will be accompanying Elisabeth von Trapp on her November/December tour as well as performing with the Empire Brass Quintet.

From the Parish Register

All Saints Day is a time to remember those saints among us who have passed on. Those of St. Michael's who have died in the last year include:

Alma Martin Howie 1922 - 2011

Cynthia M. (Bartlett) Edwards 1934 - 2011

Margaret (Wade) Strath 1909 - 2011

Col. David A. West 1931 - 2011

Celine C.J. Tarantino 2012 - 2012

Rufus B. "Bud" Porter 1934 - 2012

Jean A. (Eustis) Cleary 1927 - 2012

Virginia P. (Thompson) Boggis 1926 - 2012

Helen (Blaney). Callahan 1920 - 2012

Elaine M. Hastings 1922 - 2012

Stanley R. Hastings 1918 - 2012

Louise E. (Johnson) Spiess 1918 - 2012

Elizabeth Ward Humphrey 1916 - 2012

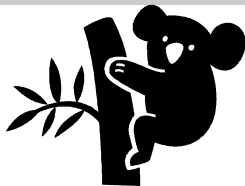
Beverly Seamans 1928—2012

Parish Groups

St. Catherine's Guild

Linda Smidt presented wonderful slides of her trip to Australia and New Zealand along with tastings of Australia wines at the Guild meeting on Thursday, Nov. 1st.

At the meeting the Guild voted to skip the December meeting and will meet next on Thursday, January 3rd.



**Parish Aid Society
will not meet in November
because of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

Nominating Committee Seeks Suggestions

The Nominating Committee is considering candidates for leadership positions in the church. Each year at the Annual Meeting of the parish, St. Michael's elects two wardens, clerk, treasurer, assistant treasurer, 3 Vestry members and 2 delegates to the Diocesan convention. We also have a one-year Vestry position to fill.

If you know of a good candidate, or if you are interested yourself, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee: David Bittermann, Frances Nilsson, Joe Oliveira, Tom Weber and the Rev. Andrew Stoessel.

**The Annual Meeting is scheduled for
Sunday, January 27, 2012.**

St. Michael's Heart of Christmas Fair—Get Ready for a Fun Weekend! Donate—Bake—Volunteer! Shop and Eat on Friday, November 30th & Saturday, December 1st!

Plans are underway to make this year's Heart of Christmas Fair a most exciting event! This is our primary fundraiser to benefit the programs of St. Michael's—worship, music, Church School and more. Come join the fun! Donate antiques and collectables, jewelry, crafts, baked goods, and your time at events!

Leading the charge this year are Peggy Bittermann, Lynn Bragdon, Carole Davidson, Connie Denault, Karen McMahon, Gail Michaud, Pam Oppelt, Linda Smidt with co-chairs Frances Nilsson and Tom Weber and you and many other volunteers.

Heart of Christmas Preview Party

Tom Weber and Karen McMahon are planning a wonderful preview party on Friday, November 30th with a delicious wassail bowl, punch, hors d'oeuvres (Greg Bates' ham sliders and more!) and desserts. Sign-up to bring your favorite gourmet hors d'oeuvres or finger desserts. Buy tickets early and save! Tickets go on sale in mid-November.

Aileen Ryder will be coordinating food and entertainment downstairs for St. Michael's children so parents can join the fun!

So hold the date and plan for a fun evening!



Jewelry Table

Remember when you bought that perfect piece of custom jewelry to go with that special outfit? Well, where is that outfit now? Still hanging in the closet?

Ladies, it's time to re-visit your jewelry boxes and pull out those pieces you have not worn in a few years. We can use bracelets, necklaces, rings, earrings for pierced and non-pierced ears and pins. Please shine up any silver pieces as they sell much better if they are not tarnished. Also if you know the value of any of your jewelry, include it with the piece so we can price it appropriately.

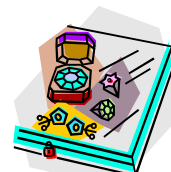
The Jewelry Table is one of the most popular tables in the Christmas Fair so let us keep up that tradition!!

Crafts at the Christmas Fair

We welcome handmade items: Christmas ornaments and decorations, wreaths, jewelry, scarves, hats, flower pins (Are there other items you would like to see? Contact Frances Nilsson if you have ideas or need helpers.)

Artisan and Authors

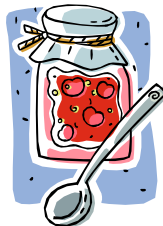
Do you know an artisan or author who would like to place to sell items during the Christmas Walk? Table space is available for \$40 which includes one ticket to the Friday preview event. Artisans should contact Frances Nilsson or Jane Maihos for details and sign-up.



The Heart of Christmas Fair

Apple Pies and Chutney for Thanksgiving!

Apple pies and chutney will be available for sale before Thanksgiving! All profits go towards the Christmas Fair. Pies are \$12 and come complete with instructions. You just pop it in the oven! Jars of chutney will be \$7 for small and \$10 for large. Look for Pam Oppelt at coffee hour.



Saturday, Nov. 3 – Chutney Choppers are needed from 8:30 am to approximately 2 pm. Stay the whole or part of the time. Bring your favorite chopping knife. Pam will provide lunch for all volunteers! We need at least one strong person to help with the heavy lifting. No cooking skills required, but be prepared to have fun! Please contact Pam at if you can help.

Home Baking for the Fair The Bake Table is always popular and we will be looking for breads of all sizes and kinds, biscotti, cookies in packages of 6 or 12, cupcakes instead of cakes, jams, preserves, home canned goods, casseroles and more!

Bake Ahead—breads, casseroles, desserts, snack foods! If you are making something for your family, think about doubling or tripling the recipe and freezing a few batches for the Christmas Fair. This can be a loaf of bread, a casserole, or dessert that freezes well. Bring it to church ahead of time as we have lots of freezer space downstairs. Just be sure that you mark what it is and key ingredients, particularly nuts for those with allergies.

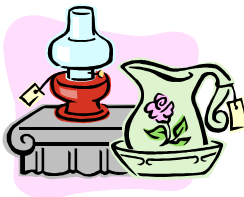
Package your baked goods in a festive way as “eye appeal” is important. A Christmas bow or a sprig of green can make something ordinary look very special. Label what you are bringing including key ingredients or flavors, and particularly indicate “nuts” or “no nuts.”

Delivery: Bring Bake Table items to the Church Friday during the day for preview party, or early Saturday morning. Cupcakes sell better than large cakes (unless the cakes can be sold in halves or quarters). The exception would be coffee cakes which could be frozen for the holidays. Breads of all sizes and varieties are always welcome.

Rich Uncle Antiques and Collectables:

“Only the best, better than all the rest!” and with your help stocking the A & C room, we can provide that experience. Hidden away in plain sight, or tucked into the back of your closets, cupboards or under the bed are wonderful items that you loved but are no longer used or needed. With your generosity we can recycle these treasures to delighted new owners.

Paintings or prints of local interest, distinctive pottery, small antique anything, fine china or crystal, please no cracks or chips, shiny silver or gold delights, garden statuary and bird baths, and unique items of charm and distinction provide our best selling inventory.



Fair Preparation

Saturday, November 3

Chutney Choppers beginning 8:30 am
Available for sale beginning Nov. 11

Monday, November 5 at 6:30 pm

Fair planning meeting
Bring a sandwich and help us plan for success.

Thursday, November 29

5:30 Set Up until done



St. Michael's Heart of Christmas Fair

Friday, November 30

6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Wassail! Hors d'oeuvres & Preview Sale
Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.
Children ages 2-12 are \$5.

Saturday, December 1

9:00 am—3:00 pm

Hot beverage & more beginning 9am
Hot chili, chowder, hot dogs, grilled cheese
beginning 11 am
Silent Auction ends at 1:30 pm
Historic Church Open House

Sign Up in the Parish Lobby
for shifts & activities.

If your contribution is beautiful, unique or functional in perfect working order, we would be delighted to recycle your donation to a good home and directly benefit the programs of St. Michaels. Thank you for your generosity. We really need your help.

Please leave “Rich Uncle” items in the Parish Library. Sincerely, Peggy Bittermann, Carol Davidson, Aileen Day and Pat Spaberg.

Volunteer!

We need your help Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please sign-up for a shift and enjoy the fun!

- Frances Nilsson & Tom Weber, Co-Chairs



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**Sunday, November 4
at 5 pm**

**Choral Evensong
& Benediction**

**Hear the beautiful words from the
Book of Common Prayer
sung to music by Orlando Gibbons**

**Marblehead Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service**

**Tuesday, November 22
7:00 pm**

**Temple Emanu-El
363 Atlantic Ave.**

**Give thanks with a
Marblehead Food Pantry donation.**

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*, *Thomas 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; *Jennifer Hill*, Sexton.

Saint Michael's Church

November 2012

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY


FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Thrift Shop Hours
Tuesday - Saturday
1 pm – 4 pm

1) ALL SAINTS' DAY 6:30 pm St. Catherine's Guild 7:30 pm Adult Choir	2) Diocesan Convention, Boston	3) Diocesan Convention Boston 9:00 am Property 9:30 am Chutney Making
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4) ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Children's Chapel 10:00 am Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Choral Evensong & Benediction	5) 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 pm Christmas Fair Planning 6:30 pm Treasurers	6) 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brother's Table, Lynn 7:30 Wardens' Meeting	7) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 8:00 pm AA Meeting	8) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	9) 	10) 10:30 am 1:00 pm St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem Connie & Dana Denault
11) 24TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 27 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am St. Michael's 300 th Planning 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	12) Veterans' Day Observed <i>Office Open</i> 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	13) 11:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Vestry	14) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 8:00 pm AA Meeting	15) Pledge Cards Due! 7:30 pm Adult Choir	16) 	17)
18) 25TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 28 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	19) 6:30 pm Finance Committee	20) 11:00 am Staff Meeting Parish Aid not meeting 7:00 pm Marblehead Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Temple Emanu-El	21) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm AA Meeting	22) Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 	23) Office Closed	24)
25) LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST CHRIST THE KING 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	26) 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	27) 11:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	28) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 8:00 pm AA Meeting	29) 5:00 pm Heart of Christmas Fair Set-Up No choir	30) 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Christmas Fair Preview Party	1) December 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Heart of Christmas Fair 9 -4 Thrift Shop
2) December 1 ST ADVENT 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Children's Chapel 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Noon - 4 pm Thrift Shop 5:00 pm Lessons & Carols with Peter Krasinski conducting						