



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

From the Rector –

*Once chosen, always loved,
never abandoned*

The Rectory has a new resident, Pumpkin Magee. Pumpkin is a young, orange tabby cat, slim and energetic. He is enjoying an active and healthy life chasing balls, strings, and occasionally his tail, rubbing against nearly everything, and offering himself for therapeutic petting and brushing. Pumpkin arrived to our household in early September from the Marblehead Animal Shelter (officially the Friends of Marblehead's Abandoned Animals). "Magee" was his given name at the shelter, and "Pumpkin" our addition. We were told that Pumpkin was found crying and abandoned on Beacon Street and brought to the shelter. We met him not long after. An immediate bond was formed.



The Rev. Dr. Fred Alling has shared with the St. Michael's Bible Study group and Parish Aid Society a saying he and Marty say daily to their beloved canine member of their house: *"Once chosen, always loved, never abandoned."* We have adopted this saying and prayer for Pumpkin. More than just for our new cat, or Fred's dog, or any of the abandoned and recovered animals, this saying is a metaphor for us, too. We can look to the roots of our faith and the Israelites as

God's people chosen to manifest the steadfast mercy and love of God. We can also look to our own baptism in the Christian faith, "marked as Christ's own forever." It is also a calling. We are chosen, held and beloved, and in this bear a responsibility to foster further and show forth with our lives the love of Christ given us.

We do this in countless ways in our care for each other, our pets, our communities, and in and through our church.

Stewardship is an important aspect of our faith and calling; it is an important part of St. Michael's mission and vision. Good stewardship forms and strengthens corporately and individually. During the month of October the Stewardship Committee will call attention to our thoughtful care for the ongoing support of St. Michael's. Pledge forms for our annual appeal will be handed out and mailed with the goal of further reducing the draw of principal from our endowment. On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I ask for your participation.

Returning to Pumpkin Magee, during a recent thunder storm he curled in my wife's lap – mutually chosen, loved and cared for. We feel blessed to provide him shelter from such storms and feel the blessing of his presence.

- Fr. Andrew

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October Calendar

Happy October Birthdays to

**Matthew Thibert
Annabelle Ayer
Hanson Hundahl
Hannah Bragdon
Patricia Cool**

From the Music Director—Eucharist & Evensong, Receiving & Giving

October already!!! That means we begin our Evensong services again, on Sunday October 2, with organ and choral music by Herbert Howells, one of the great Anglican composers. We will sing his setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis known as *Collegium Regale*, the music he composed for King's College Chapel Choir in Cambridge, England. Howells composed over 30 settings of these canticles, and most of them have nick-names after the places that commissioned them (Canterbury Service, Westminster Abbey Service, York Service, etc...). He seemed to be able to draw upon a deep well of inspiration when composing for these canticles. Please join us for our first Evensong of the season on October 2 at 5 pm.

On October 16 at 5 pm, we resume our Organ Recital Series, and once again I will kick off the series, playing some Bach, some Widor and some original compositions as well. I hope you can join us for these two musical afternoons in October.

—Doug Major, Music Director

St. Michael's Organ Recital Series Featuring Massachusetts Organists

Sunday, October 16, 5 pm
Douglas Major
Works of Bach, King, Wood & Major

Sunday, November 20, 2011
Christian Lane

Sunday, February 19, 2012
Rosamond Mohnson, Malden

Sunday, March 18, 2012
John Russell, Salem

Sunday, May 20, 2012
Ross Wood, Boston

October Events

Threshold Singers
Thursday, October 7 at 6:30 PM
at St. Catherine's Guild



Our first meeting of the year features our traditional pork chop dinner. Afterwards enjoy lovely singing from the Threshold singers who were introduced to us last spring. They sing at the bedside of people who are struggling with living or are actively dying.

St. Catherine's welcomes new members! We hold monthly dinners on the first Thursday of every month (except in February and the summer months) followed by a program. St. Catherine's is a great way to meet and get to know church members over a great meal and to help out St. Michael in many ways. Contact Lesley Tracy for info.

Christmas Fair Organization

Hold the dates
Friday evening, December 2
Saturday, December 3

St. Michael's Heart of Christmas Fair is only 2 months away! Hold the dates and start thinking about what you can contribute. We are looking for collectibles, china and glassware, small appliances, household goods, jewelry and other fine items you no longer use.

Do you like to make things—crafts, jewelry, ornaments, fancy knit hats and scarves, wooden toys or other items? Or perhaps you have homemade preserves, pickles, sauces or chutney? Set some aside for the fair. November is a time when teams get together to make pies, bread and chutney. We are also considering taking early orders for Thanksgiving pies? What would young families like to see? Do you have a new idea of something we should add to our offerings? Please let us know.

The planning committee will meet next on Wednesday, October 12 at 7:30 pm in the lower Parish Hall. Come join us or contact Frances Nilsson, Tom Weber, Jan Barnett, Peggy Bittermann, Carole Davidson, Linda Smidt, Pam Oppelt, Pat Spaberg, or Liz Winstanley.

Church School & Youth—Aileen Ryder

Church School

Church School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Students in pre-K-1st grades 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.

High School Youth

Lunch on the last Sunday of the month.

Faith & Fellowship Night at the Circus, October 12

Families are invited to this special night hosted by the National Circus Chaplin. Please meet at St. Michael's at 4 pm.

National Children's Sabbath, Oct. 16

Each year, our children and youth participate in a special service to remind us of the importance of children's health & safety throughout the world. This year's theme is "Justice, Justice shall you pursue" with a particular emphasis on the rewards of a quality education. **Please join us for an intergenerational service on Sunday Oct. 16 at 10 am.**

October Highlights

Children's Chapel, October 2

Children (and adults too!) will join Fr. Andrew for a special prayer service at 9:30 am in parish hall.

Blessing of the Animals, October 2

Bring your pets (stuffed animals also welcome) for a special blessing as we commemorate St. Francis.

The Family of God

There is a tendency when hearing stories of saints to think, "well that person was so extraordinary, I can never be like him/her; therefore I won't even try." However, the reason we celebrate saints is because of their very ordinariness. The same as you or me, the ones we identify as saints exemplify how to live as a member of the Family of God. As the children of the Church School learn stories of the saints this fall, may they come to recognize their own place within the Communion of Saints.

Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Youth	Godly Play	Weaving God's Promises
Sunday, October 2	Children's Chapel, Blessing of the Animals		Story of Mother Teresa	William Tyndale, Translator of the Bible into English
Sunday, October 9	Columbus Day weekend		One-Room Church School	Eucharist Feeds Us Every Week
Tuesday, October 11		Supper Club "Is the Holy Spirit a person or wind or fire or what?"		
Wednesday, October 12	Faith & Fellowship @ Circus			
Sunday, October 16	National Children's Sabbath	Intergenerational Service	Meet in Church School @ 9:30	
Sunday, October 23			Introduction to the Communion of Saints	Women Who Struggled for Freedom
Tuesday, October 25		Supper Club "How can God be 'three-in-one'?"		
Sunday, October 30		High School Lunch @ noon	Create a Saint's Banner	Create a Saint's Banner

Weddings at St. Michael's

Father Andrew officiated at a number of weddings at St. Michael's this summer and fall. Here are photos of three couples.

Right: Meredith Miller and Kevin Thompson were married August 6, 2011. Kevin works for a small medical software company and Meredith is beginning studies in occupational therapy. Meredith was raised at St. Michael's and served as an acolyte and in many other capacities. She is the daughter of Barbara and Bill Miller, and granddaughter of Louise and the late Howard Spiess. Meredith and Kevin live in Arlington.



Left: Brian Carlson and Kristin Simonson were married on September 17. Kristin works for Wells Fargo Bank and Brian is an attorney on the North Shore. Brian has been attending St. Michael's for a number of years even while living in Lynnfield. He and Kristin are currently living in Cambridge but planning to move to Marblehead soon.

Right: Alexandra Leung Howie & Dean Randolph Maxon Stark were married on Sept. 10, 2011. The bride is a daughter of Marian & Rob Howie, and granddaughter of Alma and the late Bob Howie. Alex, who was baptized at St. Michael's and attended Sunday School here, is the senior brand creative director at Nickelodeon in Manhattan. Randolph, an 11th generation Anglican, is founder and president of Neutron Media, a computer systems company based in New York.



Steward of the Month: Kate and Karl Renney

Kate and Karl came to know St. Michael's when their children attended the nursery school with Miss Donna that used to be housed in the downstairs. They began to meet people, they liked Father Andy, and soon the children were attending Sunday School. Little did they know that when the time came for a move to a larger house, they would find it on Summer Street and the church would be their neighbor.

Kate has taught Sunday School and Karl is on the Stewardship Committee. He says of the committee's efforts, "Avery and Jeff did a lot of work last year to build awareness and we hope it will continue to move us along for quite some time." They both enjoy the fellowship and fun of working the Lobster Luncheon and the Pot Luck suppers. Their fondest memories of church center on the Christmas Pageant and the family service on Christmas Eve.

Their daughter Isabella is a seventh grader and an acolyte participating in The Supper Club on Tuesday nights. Their twins, Malcolm and Miles, are in the fourth grade.

Kate, who is originally from New Jersey, is an at-home mom who volunteers at the children's schools. Karl, who is originally from southern California, has been with Eastern Bank in Salem for 17 years. "They don't make movies about what I do," he says with a laugh about his back office work. When he first started with Eastern, he and Kate lived in Boston so he commuted from Boston to Salem. Eventually they decided they wanted a town where they would not have to drive a car everywhere and where there was sailing. And so they left their apartment that was being turned into a condo and headed for their first Marblehead home on the corner of Hooper and Tucker Streets.

One thing Karl would love to see return to St. Michael's is the nursery school. "I have such wonderful memories of my kids there, it was a great introduction to the church, and it was beneficial to the community," he says.

Last summer the Renney family took a motor home across 20 states and through 10 national parks. With the Vestry's approval, the journey started and ended with the giant vehicle parked in St. Michael's circular drive so that they could load and unload it conveniently. Kate and the children were gone five weeks and covered 7,000 miles, but Karl had to fly home after three weeks. About driving the motor home by herself, Kate says, "It wasn't that hard." She kept a blog with pictures and text so family and friends could follow their adventures. Says Karl, "We live in a beautiful area, but there are other beautiful and spectacular places to see, too."

This is a series of profiles of parishioners who actively contribute to community vitality and viability at St. Michael's.



The Renneys outside the motor home they drove 7000 miles across the U.S. last summer.

- Marilyn Day

Stewardship Month—

October is Stewardship Month and a time when you will be hearing “Ministry Minutes” from fellow parishioners about why they give their time, talent and treasure to St. Michael’s. Members of the Stewardship Committee will also be handing out personalized stewardship letters and pledge forms. Help us reach our goal for a balanced budget without drawing on endowment principle!

Our successful 2011 pledge drive allowed us to lower our withdrawal from the endowment from \$77,000 in 2010 to approximately \$42,000 in 2011. This is a tremendous achievement! For 2012, our goal is to cut our endowment principal withdrawal to no more than

\$20,000. To do that, we will need to raise approximately \$22,000 more this year. If we divide that among the 133 pledging units from last year, it averages out to approximately \$165 per pledge per year. That's equal to about \$14 per month, or 3 Starbucks lattes! While we are aware that not all parishioners will be able to increase their pledge in the current year, we are hopeful that many are able to do so.

Please return your pledge form by November 6th.

Haven't received your pledge form? - Contact the Parish Office.

New pledger? - Blank forms are at the web site on our Stewardship web pages.

- Stewardship Committee:

Avery Russell, Jeff Barnett, Harriett Magee, Karl Renney, Larry Robbins.

A New Parish Directory Soon Please check the draft.

A new directory with parishioners' names and contact information is coming soon! A draft copy will be on the table outside the Parish Hall.

Please check to make sure your name and information are correct and edit as needed!

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.

La Roca Teen Center at St. Peter's, Salem

The Rock – La Roca Teen Center

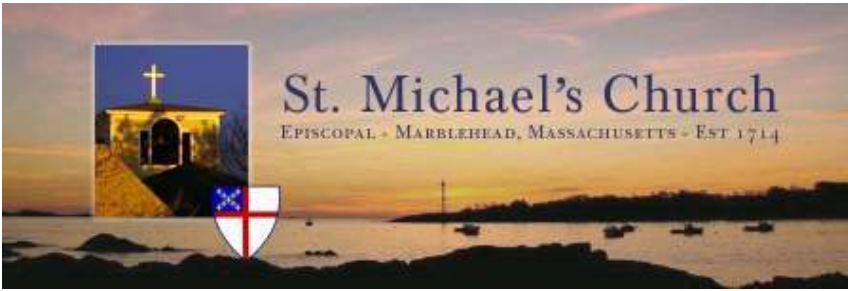
St. Peter's/San Pedro Church in Salem is opening an after school center for Latino teens. The center is looking for volunteer tutors, healthy snack providers, school supplies and books, in English or Spanish, such as:

- Albom, Mitch *The Five People You Meet in Heaven, Tuesdays with Morrie*
- Allende, Isabel *Daughter of Fortune, Portrait in Sepia*
- Chbosky, Stephen *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*
- Dessen, Sarah all titles (girls love her books)



- Diaz, Junot *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*
- Garcia Marquez, Gabriel *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
- Hosseini, Khaled *The Kite Runner*
- Kidd, Sue Monk *The Secret Life of Bees*
- Lowry, Lois *The Giver*
- Meyer, Stephanie Twilight series
- Picoult, Jodi *My Sister's Keeper, Nineteen Minutes*
- Santiago, Esmerelda *When I was Puerto Rican*
- Sebold, Alice *The Lovely Bones*
- Stockett, Kathryn *The Help*
- Vargas Llosa, Mario *The Bad Girl, The Feast of the Goat* and other

Contact Susan Butterworth, Education Coordinator, for more information and check the flyer posted in the Parish Hall for the full list of books and contacts.



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Sunday, October 2

**Blessing of the Animals
2 pm**

**Choral Evensong
& Benediction
5 pm**

Sunday, October 16

**Organ Recital
with
Dr. Douglas Major
5 pm**

St. Michael's Church

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

Vestry: *Jenny Armini*, *Stephen Clay*, *Susan Cool*, *Ian Hunter*, *Harriett Magee*, *Joe Oliveira*, *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

October 2011

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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

Thrift Shop Hours
Monday – Saturday
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

1) Diocese
Congregational
Resource Day
at Bentley College

<p>2) 16TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 22 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Children's Chapel 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 2:00 pm Blessing of the Animals 5:00 pm Choral Evensong & Benediction</p>	<p>3)</p>	<p>4) 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brother's Table, Lynn 7:30 Property Mgt.</p>	<p>5) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>6) 6:30 pm St. Catherine's Guild Dinner 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>7)</p>	<p>8) 11:00 am St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem</p>
<p>9) 17TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 23 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am One Room Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>10) Columbus Day <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>11) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens' Mtg.</p>	<p>12) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 7:30 pm Christmas Fair Planning 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>13) 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>14) 6:00 pm Newcomers' Event</p>	<p>15)</p>
<p>16) 18TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 24 National Children's Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Historic Church Meeting 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Intergenerational Service 5:00 pm Organ Recital, Dr. Douglas Major Performing</p>	<p>17)</p>	<p>18) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>19) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>20) 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>21)</p>	<p>22)</p>
<p>23) 19TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 25 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:30 am Outreach Committee</p>	<p>24)</p>	<p>25) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club</p>	<p>26) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>27) 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>28)</p>	<p>29)</p>
<p>30) 20TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 26 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II</p>	<p>31) All Hallow's Eve</p>					