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St. Michael's Newsletter

From the Rector – Summer Reading & Stewardship

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September Calendar

Happy September Birthdays to

Lavinia Oliveira
Sarah Comeau
Paige Thibert
Madison Howie
Emma Clark

My summer reading included two books that featured Marblehead. One was from Robert Parker's "Jesse Stone" series. Jesse Stone is the chief of police in a fictional town named "Paradise." Parker used Marblehead as the setting for the series. The irony – no coincidence in Parker's choice for the name - is that even in "Paradise" crime, broken relationships, and questionable behavior goes on. Fortunately, Jesse Stone is around, gets the bad guys and sets things right. (A confession: I read two books from this series. They are real page-turners!)

The other book was *General John Glover and his Marblehead Mariners*, by George Athan Billias. A parishioner loaned me this book last spring after I read *The Hearth and the Eagle*, by Anya Seton. "General John Glover" was not the page-turner of the Jesse Stone books. It did, however, provide some wonderful insight regarding Marblehead in the mid to late 18th century and the War for Independence.

St. Michael's Church was not mentioned in either book, but the parish was never far from my thoughts as I pieced together contemporary locales and discovered historical settings. Parishioners and friends have mentioned how the town has developed over the years. The same could be said about St. Michael's. Over the past 300 years the parish has enjoyed times of prosperity and times of great, even severe, financial concern. Not to mention the late 1770's when the Rector, the Rev. Joshua Weeks and many members of the parish were Tories and avowed loyalists: the

doors to the church were shut tight for a number of years at that time.

Each generation in the church brings its own understanding of the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ. What a gift it is to be entrusted with this ever revealing faith at this time. Through the grace of God and ministry of the church, we are brought into the stewardship of our spiritual lives and community, "that we may love and serve with gladness and singleness of heart."

Each generation also has its challenges. One serious issue we face now is financial: we are spending too much of our endowment to run the parish. We greatly value our worship and music, education, outreach and other ministry programs. Continuing to utilize the principal of our endowment to meet operating costs means our endowment will eventually vanish in the years to come and with it programs we cherish.

The Vestry and the Stewardship Committee are dedicated to improving stewardship of the parish by seeking a balanced budget and a proscribed endowment withdrawal over the next three years. This will take the resources of every person in the parish. This fall you will hear more of how you can further participate in the stewardship of St. Michael's. Rest assured, such engagement leads deeper into the spiritual well-being God desires for us. It also allows the spiritual and physical assets of our parish to be a resource for generations to come.

- Fr. Andrew

Notes for the Fall

September—October Worship & Music Events

Sunday, Sept. 5

8 am and 10 am services resume

Sunday, Sept. 12 At 10 am—Choir resumes

Sunday, Sept. 26—Michaelmas

8 am Holy Eucharist

10 am Festal Eucharist

Sunday, Oct. 3 at 5 pm—Choral Evensong resumes

Sunday, Oct. 17 at 5 pm - Organ Recital series begins
with Douglas Major performing

-Invite a friend. Grow our community.



On September 12 at the 10 am Eucharist we will welcome back our St. Michael's Adult Choir, who continue to provide beautiful choral music for our services on Sundays throughout the year.

As part of our outreach to the wider community, Choral Evensongs (first Sunday of the month beginning in October) and Organ Recitals are followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Many of you have volunteered to host these receptions in the past, and we are all grateful for your hospitality. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for the fall programs and receptions, and we ask that you once again volunteer to help. Thank you so much!!

—Doug Major, Music Director

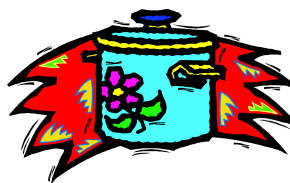
St. Michael's Thrift Shop Fall Goods Needed!



It's time to clean out your closet and donate those fall clothes you no longer wear! Clothes, linens and housewares—clean and in good condition—can be left in the designated bin in the parish hall or brought to the Thrift Shop during open hours:

September Hours

Monday—Saturday, 1- 4 pm



Michaelmas All-Parish Pot Luck Supper

**September 24, 2010
6—9 pm**

In connection with the celebration of the Feast of Saint Michael we are planning a "Welcome Back" potluck supper for Friday, September 24 from 6:30 - 9:00. Come anytime during these hours for a convivial evening of fellowship and good food. There will be sheets in the parish hall for you to sign-up to bring your favorite crowd pleasing appetizer, main course, salad, or desert. Drinks and tableware will be provided. See you there!



Fall Returns

Wed., Sep. 15 - **Bible Study** weekly at 10:30 am

Tues., Sept. 21 **Parish Aid**, 3rd Tuesday of the month at noon

Welcome Ann Perrott

St. Michael's welcomes a new face to the parish this September: Ann Perrott. Ann will be assisting in worship, preaching occasionally, and helping with Pastoral Care concerns this fall through May, 2011. Following is a short bio about her.

Ann Perrott was born and raised in Beverly, Mass., and has lived on the North Shore most of her life. She graduated from Beverly Schools, and has a Bachelor's Degree from Emerson College in Communications Disorders. Ann spent twenty years as a social worker with multiply handicapped adults. In September of this year, she will enter her second year of seminary at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass.

For the past four years, Ann has focused her vocation on prison ministry, facilitating an Emotional Healing Course at the Pre-Release Facility of Middleton House of Corrections, which is located in Lawrence. She has also facilitated this course at Suffolk House of Corrections in Boston.

Ann resides with her husband, Godfrey. Ann and Godfrey have three grown children and three grandchildren. They both enjoy music, traveling and cooking.



Church School & Youth—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 at 6pm

High School Youth

Stay connected through our Facebook page.

A Fresh Start

As an Easter people, we can trust that God will always provide us with new life, a fresh start. Our church calendar also provides for fresh starts...we begin a new church year in Advent; start the secular year January 1st; we celebrate Easter for 50 days; commemorate the Church's birthday on Pentecost; and although you won't find this on an official list of holy days, we start a new program year each fall. With this year's fresh start, students in both Godly Play I & II will hear stories new to them, as well as some old favorites. Both classes will continue to learn about prayer; as the younger students focus on memorizing the Lord's Prayer, our older kids will learn psalms and other prayers from our tradition. Godly Play II will have a greater focus on locating these great stories of our faith within the Bible. All our students, in Godly Play and the Supper Club will continue with their outreach commitment to both the Marblehead Food Pantry and St. Thomas, Arcahaie, Haiti. The Supper Club is pleased to welcome new members this fall as the group continues to grow in faith, fellowship and fun.

Get involved

Everyone is welcome to teach in the church school. There will be a special Godly Play teacher training session September 19 at 12:30. This session will be a great opportunity to experience a Godly Play class, learn Godly Play teaching skills and perhaps find your own way to be involved in the Christian education of our children.

The Supper Club is a community of faith, fellowship and fun for youth in grades 6-8. Would you like to serve as a chef or chaperone? Please contact me.

Fall Highlights

- Sept. 12 & 14** Registration and first days of classes.
 - Sept. 19** Godly Play training for teachers and parents.
 - Sept. 24** The Parish pot luck will be a great family event
 - Sept. 25** Diocesan Resource Day offers great enrichment opportunities (check the diocesan website for more info).
 - Oct. 17** We will celebrate National Children's Sabbath with an intergenerational service and education forum.
 - Nov. 19-21** The Middle School Youth are invited to the Diocesan Retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp.
 - Dec. 3** The Christmas Fair dinner is always a fun family event. Don't forget the Christmas Fair **Dec. 4.**
 - Dec. 19** Watch the children in our annual Christmas Pageant at an intergenerational service.
- Please watch the website, your email and bulletin board for further details and additional events.*

Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Middle School Youth	Godly Play I	Godly Play II
Sunday, September 12	Registration		Parable of the Good Shepherd with Sue Cool & Kaki Ianchulev	The Great Family and The Exile & Return with Kate Renney
Tuesday, September 14	Registration	Supper Club: New Beginnings		
Sunday, September 19	Teacher Training 12:30-2:00		Creation & Things Fall Apart with Sue Cool and Kristen Clay	The Books of the Bible with Kate Renney
Saturday, September 25	Diocesan Resource Day 9:00-2:30 at Bentley University			
Sunday, September 26	Michaelmas		Sharing Our Gifts with Sue Cool and Kristen Clay	Living Stewardship with Kate Renney
Tuesday, September 28		Supper Club: St. Michael's Church		

Stewardship Time and Talent

Time and Talent Opportunities—Whom to Contact

Worship

Acolytes, Lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers & Sunday Sextons	Father Andrew Stoessel
Altar Guild.....	Anne Foster
Choir, Organ Recitals.....	Doug Major
Worship & Music Committee	Tom Weber

Education

Church School & Youth.....	Aileen Ryder
Adult Education	Father Andrew Stoessel
Child Care	Father Andrew Stoessel
Parish Library.....	Fred & Martha Alling
Education Team.....	Tom Connolly, Marilyn Day

Fellowship & Evangelism

Evangelism & Welcoming Team	Jan Barnett, James Dearborn
Hostess & Oblations.....	Jane Maihos
Evensong/Recitals Receptions	Doug Major
Parish Aid Society	Harriet Diamond
St. Catherine's Guild.....	Lesley Tracy, Aileen Day
St. Michael's Thrift Shop.....	Liz Grader, Mary Williams

Pastoral & Outreach Ministries

Pastoral Care Committee, Cards, Soup & Conversation, Transportation	Sue Cool, Pat Spaberg
Eucharistic Visitation.....	Rev. Andy Stoessel
Outreach Committee-Haiti, food pantry& meals, Esperanza Academy, animal rescue, etc.	Linda Smidt, Peggy Bittermann

Stewardship

Stewardship Committee	Avery Russell
Finance Committee, Investment Subcommittee.....	Sarah Bates
Historic Church	Dana Denault, Rob Howie
Property Management	Jack Attridge
Gardens.....	Sue Cool, Frances Nilsson

Communications and Technology

Communications Team, Newsletter, Anna Onishi, Frances Nilsson Web Site.....	Chris Riegle
Office Helpers	Jane Maihos
Office Technology	Father Andrew Stoessel

Annual Events

Blessing of the Animals (October).....	Father Andrew Stoessel
Christmas Pageant (December).....	Aileen Ryder
St. Michael's Christmas Fair (December).....	Barbara Miller
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	Father Andrew Stoessel
Rogation Sunday (June)	Sue Cool, Aileen Ryder
Lobster Lunch (July)	Barbara Miller

Dear Parishioners,

There are many ways to give and good stewardship goes deeper than just dollars and cents. Time and talent make up two of the legs of the stewardship stool (treasure is the third), and are critical to the success and future prosperity of our parish.

As you work to develop your own personal stewardship plan, a good starting point is a commitment to participate. Sunday services are at the core of St. Michael's mission and should be attended as frequently as possible. Other activities are designed to provide a spiritual and communal benefit to the St Michael's community, and they should be attended as well. Evensongs, Church School activities and Bible study are just a few examples of the wonderful benefits offered to our community and should be attended when appropriate. Our annual organ recital series is well worth supporting and attending.

Volunteering is another way we can offer our time to St. Michael's. It is here that we can collectively take advantage of everyone's individual talents. St. Michael's offers an ever-increasing variety of opportunities for service. We each have something of value to give, and we each have a mission in God's world that no one else can perform. We mention here many of the volunteer opportunities available to interested parishioners; for further details, contact the person listed or call the parish office.

St. Michael's has been around for hundreds of years thanks to the efforts of those that came before us. To ensure that St. Michael's thrives in the future, we need to do everything in our power grow the membership. It is up to all of us to bring in new parishioners. As you meet new friends and old, share with them the vision and mission of St. Michael's and invite them to participate in our parish. Introduce them to others at St. Michael's and introduce them to Father Andrew.

As good stewards we ask that you give and give generously of your time and talent. Participate and get involved for the spiritual and communal benefit will bless all of us.

- *Stewardship Committee: Avery Russell, Jeff Barnett, Harriett Magee, Karl Renney, Larry Robbins.*

Narthex—New Look and a New Cross



The narthex of St. Michael's is the small hall that one enters through the red front doors on Summer Street. It has a new look! The first thing you may notice is that the large board listing the Rectors and their dates of service has been moved to the nave (inside of the church!). A cross with the risen Christ now greets visitors and parishioners upon entering the church.

There are a few details to notice on the cross. Jesus is there with arms outstretched. A crown signifying his reign as "King of kings, Lord of lords" sits on his head. It is not a crown of thorns, however. Note that there are no nails in his hand or feet, and that he is "vested" - he is adorned in robes (vestments) rather than a scant cloth around his loins. Note, too, that his eyes are opened.

All this symbolizes his resurrection. Christian faith is grounded in Christ's resurrection. By him and in him we are lifted with him to everlasting life. This invitation greets people to St. Michael's.

This cross was gift to the parish by Fr. Andrew at his installation as Rector on Sept. 29, 2005, the Feast Day of St. Michael's and All Angels. It was given to Fr. Andrew by his friend, the Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas, now Bishop of Connecticut, who had in turn received it from the clergy and laity of Haiti many years ago. Bishop Douglas had spent much time in Haiti and played a role in helping St. Michael's establish its partnership with St. Thomas, Archaie nearly thirty years ago.

A new bulletin board, a repositioned table, and fresh paint also add to the invitation to enter St. Michael's. New lighting will be added at a later date.

- Fr. Andrew

Our Steward of the Month: Tom Connolly

Tom and his wife Milena and children moved to Marblehead in 2004. Looking for a church home, Tom said of St. Michael's, "Initially the attraction was the history. The minute I stepped through the door, I said this is for me." He thinks that the church wears its heritage elegantly and eloquently: "Its history is living and ongoing and you become part of it."

However, it is St. Michael's spirituality and close community that has drawn him into many activities. At the moment, he is co-chair of the Education Commission. As a parent, he feels strongly about supporting the Church School. He is a lector, has worked the Lobster Luncheon, the Christmas Walk Fair, and the Pageant, which has been snowed out the last two years-- much to his whole family's disappointment. He says his next commitment will be to Godly Play.

His children were baptized at St. Michael's and he remembers fondly watching Father Andrew carry them around introducing them to the parishioners. And this summer, he, along with Trevor, 9, Miranda, 7, and Clive, 3, helped ring the church bell for the Fourth of July. "The guys in the Bell Bunch are terrific," he said.

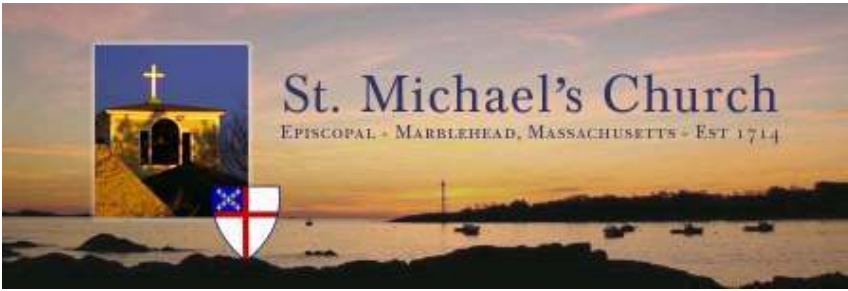
Outside of church, he loves playing with his children, reading, and collecting theater memorabilia—he has just been promoted to full professor of English at Suffolk University, specializing in drama. Earlier in his career, he was a Fulbright Senior Scholar who taught at the University of Ostrava in Czechoslovakia. He and Milena met there. He also lectured for the US Information Agency.



Tom is much interested in the interplay between popular culture and the arts. His book *Genus Envy* discusses how the arts become intertwined with historical and political aspects of a culture. He wants to write another book, but not an academic one, one for a general audience about how culture really works. (By the way, his favorite art form is opera and his favorite living playwright is Tom Stoppard.)

If you'd like to hear him talk about popular culture, the tabloids, and celebrities, tune in to The Callie Crossley Show at 89.7 FM to hear his segment, Ragtime, from 1:40 to 2:00 on Friday afternoons.

- Marilyn Day



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Weekly Service Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Michaelmas Celebration on Sept. 26

Wednesdays

9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Bible Study resumes Sept. 15 at 10:30 am

All-Parish Pot Luck Supper

Friday, September 24
6—9 pm



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

September 2010

Note: Ann Perrott (EDS Seminarian) to begin internship at St. Michael's this month.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Parish Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm			1) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Church Staff 8:00 pm AA	2)	3) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise	4)
5) 15TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 18 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	6) Labor Day Office Closed	7) 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brothers Table, Lynn 7:30 pm Property	8) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Church Staff 8:00 pm AA	9) 9:00 am St. Michael's Gardeners 7:30 pm Adult Choir	10) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise	11) 11:00 am – St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem
12) 16TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 19 <i>Choir, Church School, Nursery Care Returns</i> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School Open House and Registration 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 12:30 pm Worship & Music	13)	14) HOLY CROSS DAY 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens	15) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Church Staff 7:30 pm Evangelism & Welcoming 8:00 pm AA	16) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	17) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise October Newsletter Deadline	18)
19) 17TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 20 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	20)	21) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 7:30 pm Vestry	22) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 10:45 am Devereux House Visit 11:45 am Church Staff 8:00 pm AA	23) 9:00 am St. Michael's Gardeners 7:30 pm Adult Choir	24) 9:00 am Polarity Exercise 6 – 9 pm All-Parish Pot Luck Supper	25) 9:00 am – 2:30 pm Congregational Resource Day, Bentley College, Waltham.
26) MICHAELMAS CELEBRATION 18TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 21 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Festal Eucharist, Rite II 11:30 am Historic Church Comm.	27)	28) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club	29) FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Church Staff 8:00 pm AA	30) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	Thrift Shop Hours Tuesday – Saturday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	