



Photograph by R. Williams

# St. Michael's Newsletter

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## May Calendar

*Happy May  
Birthday to*

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

## From the Rector

*"Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia."*

We profess this joyful acclamation at the beginning of our liturgy on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season. We inherit this spirit from Mary Magdalene, who was the first to meet the risen Christ and went quickly to tell the other disciples. They in turn shared the good news. Now so do we.

Before we reached Easter Sunday, we walked with Jesus and the disciples through Holy Week and Jesus' passion. Poignantly, many of the less flattering but all too real aspects of our human nature were exposed: treachery and betrayal; self-delusion and denial; political and professional expediency combined with institutional force. These seem all too real on our own world today. They are not the final answer, however. Through the resurrection of Jesus, we find forgiveness and love and new life. Its power brings forth the best of our natures – all that is good – whereby we may be transformed into his likeness from glory to glory.

All around us new life is springing forth. Trees have blossomed and have leafed out; spring flowers are showing

their bright flowers. One can catch the fragrance of lilacs and other sweet aromas. Renewal abounds.

On May 21 nine young people from St. Michael's will be confirmed at Christ Church, Wenham, 10:00 a.m. Each of these confirmands is on his or her own spiritual journey; each has their experience and grounding in the Christian faith.

What each share is the public affirmation of their faith, a foundation to stand on as they progress through the various transitions life offers them. It has been a joy to meet with them over the past months, especially through the late Lenten weeks and into Easter. Spiritual life and renewal abides in them.

The world at large brings its share of concerns and joys. Bishop Barbara Harris has often said, "We are Easter people living in a Good Friday world." I don't know if the words were hers originally, but they remind us of the transforming power of God's love and that our lives and the lives of those around us matter. May we each find renewed, restored and reconciled life in the joy of Easter.

*- Fr. Andrew*

**Alleluia!  
Christ is  
risen.  
The Lord is  
risen indeed.  
Alleluia!**

## 2011 Vestry Liaisons

*Outreach*–Frances Nilsson; *Pastoral Care*–Sue Cool;  
*Evangelism & Welcoming*–Victor Wild; *Worship & Music*–Tom Weber;  
*Education*–Joe Oliveira; *Communications*–Steve Clay;  
*Leadership Development*–Frances Nilsson & David Bittermann;  
*Property Management*–Ian Hunter; *Historic Church*–Jenny Armini;  
*Stewardship*–Avery Russell & Harriett Magee.

## From the Music Director

### Choral Evensong Sunday, May 1, 5:00 pm

We are blessed to have such a fine group of dedicated and talented singers in our St. Michael's Choir! Please join me in thanking them for their beautiful music during this Holy Week and Easter season.

Our last Choral Evensong of the season is this Sunday, May 1, at 5 pm, and we will sing music by Stanford (one of our favorites) and "My beloved spake" by Patrick Hadley, a beautiful anthem for springtime in Eastertide. A reception follows – please join us and bring a friend.

### Organ Recital: Barbara Bruns In Memory of Jack O'Brien Sunday, May 15, 5:00 pm

On Sunday May 15 at 5 pm, we conclude our Recital Series with our favorite alumna organist, Ms. Barbara Bruns. This recital will be offered in memory of Jack O'Brien, long-time choral singer and member of St. Michael's, who passed away last March. Barbara has chosen some of Jack's favorite organ works, and will include compositions by Bach, Vierne, Widor, Dupré and Duruflé. You won't want to miss this wonderful recital.

Happy Easter Season to all!

- Douglas Major, Music Director

## More Worship & Music Events

### Ann Perrott on May 1st

There will be thank yous and best wishes all around on Sunday, May 1st as Ann Perrott, seminarian at the Episcopal Divinity School, preaches on her last official Sunday with us. Ann has been serving at St. Michael's since last September as part of her training. Besides assisting at the altar and giving sermons, she has participated in Wednesday Bible Study and occasionally led. At St. Catherine's Guild she gave a talk on her ministry in prisons. A committee including Millie Loomis, Frances Nilsson, Tom Weber, and Victor Wild, coordinator, has been providing her feedback.

Join us on May 1st to wish Ann well as she completes this stage in her field education. This summer she will begin chaplaincy training at Beverly Hospital.

### Deanery Confirmation Saturday, May 21, 10:00 am Christ Church, South Hamilton

Nine teens have been meeting weekly this spring to explore their Christian faith. All are welcome to join them on Saturday, May 21 at 10 am for their confirmation:

Anna Kathryn Hunt,  
Emma Elizabeth Hunt,  
Conrad Alexander Kleykamp,  
Harry Jeffs McDonough,  
John Grover McDonough,  
Eben Chase Nelson Moulton,  
Benjamin Tucker Nelson Moulton,  
Nicola Bethune Russell,  
and Paige Thibert

Brian Carlson will also be received into the Episcopal Church. Bishop Tom Shaw will be celebrating.



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

Sunday, May 1  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:00 am Breakfast

# Church School - Aileen Ryder

### Church School

Church School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Students in pre-K-2nd grade use Godly Play. Weaving God's Promises is the class 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 Youth may stay connected through our Facebook page.



combine to support the blossoming flowers and trees, so too do the activities and love of St. Michael's Church support the blossoming faith of our young people.

Eight youth have been meeting to explore our Baptismal Covenant and how our Christian faith enriches daily life. On May 21 they will be confirmed in our faith by Bishop Tom Shaw.



The youth had the opportunity to put their faith into concrete action with a Supper Club service trip to My Brother's Table in Lynn. The youth worked alongside other members of St. Michael's Church to serve dinner.

### May Highlights

**Confirmation Class:** May 5 & 12 at 7pm.

**Intergenerational Service:** May 8 at 10am.

**Safe Church Training:** May 14, 8:30-3:30 at Church of the Holy Name, Swampscott.

**Confirmation:** May 21 at 10am at Christ Church, South Hamilton. Bishop Tom Shaw presiding.

**Rogation Sunday:** May 22, meet at 9:30am



Finally, our children and youth are will be exploring the glory of God in nature. We will celebrate Rogation Sunday by planting flowers on the church grounds. May the efforts of the children enrich the grounds for the joy of us all. And may this be yet another opportunity for our young people to grow in faith in God.

### Growing in Faith

As the spring showers, shining sun and warm days

*Families please mark your calendars: End of the year picnic on Sunday, June 12*

## Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Middle School Youth	Godly Play	Weaving God's Promises
Sunday, May 1			Circle of the Eucharist	Eucharist Feeds us Every Week
Wednesday, May 3		Service Trip: My Brother's Table 5:00		
Thursday, May 5		Confirmation 7:00		
Sunday, May 8	Mother's Day	Intergenerational Service	Participate as	worship leaders
Tuesday, May 10		Supper Club: New Life		
Thursday, May 12		Confirmation 7:00		
Saturday, May 14	Safe Church Training 8:30-3:30			
Sunday, May 15			Parable of the Leaven	Jesus Ascends into Heaven
Saturday, May 21	Confirmation at Christ Church, South Hamilton 10:00 am			
Sunday, May 22	Rogation Sunday	Youth and Church School invited to plant on Church grounds.		
Tuesday, May 24		Supper Club:		
Sunday, May 29	Memorial Day Weekend		No Church School	

## Stewards of the Month:

The Days came to St. Michael's about 1980 after their first grade daughter, Kristen, asked, "Why do we drive to Salem to church?" Kristen had attended St. Michael's one Sunday with her friend Liz Doane. Although he had grown up attending St. Peter's in Salem where his mother had been organist, David and Aileen decided that a closer church did indeed make sense.

"Much of our life revolves around the church. I love it all," says Aileen. "All of our friends are there." David particularly values the music programs shaped by Barbara Bruins and now by Doug Major. "We are lucky to have such talented people," he says.

Both have been active in many facets of St. Michael's community. Both have served on the Vestry and David served as Junior Warden as well. He is a member of the Bell Bunch, was Sexton for 12 years, and enjoys being an usher. Aileen is Vice-President of St. Catherine's Guild, co-chairs the Rich Uncle table for the Christmas Fair, is a reader, works on the Pastoral Care and the Outreach Commissions, and is an active member of the Esperanza group. She has also been on missions to Haiti several times.

A registered nurse, Aileen also has a Master's degree in Management from Lesley University. She was Director of Case Management at North Shore Medical Center, but for the last eight years, she has been the Associate Director for Oncology Service Line at Winchester Hospital. It is a high pressure job so she says the peacefulness of church allows her to center herself and focus on the service.

David says he once counted all the jobs he has held since high school, 27!

He was in the Army Combat Engineers, taught school for eight years, worked for Hansen Marine Engineering for 17 years, was the Materials Distribution Supervisor for Lynn Hospital, even drove a beer truck as a sideline years ago. Currently he is the Building and Grounds Supervisor at St. John's Church in Swampscott. "I promised Aileen I would retire when she does, but she is having so much fun that I can't retire!" he says.

They are both renewing their Real Estate licenses. At one time they worked as brokers for Connor Real Estate in Lynn.

They have two daughters. Rebecca, who married at St. Michael's, has a doctorate in English and is an associate professor at the University of Texas. She has been voted Teacher of the Year by the students several times. Kristen, who has a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts, is a Real Estate agent for Sotheby's in Boston. She has been first in rental sales for the company for two years. Her son Langdon,



named after a Revolutionary War ancestor, is just seven months old.

Aileen and David do find time for hobbies. Aileen says, "I love to garden. I can be in the garden all day." They both love to escape to Wentworth by the Sea. David is a descendent of Wentworth. Actually, their New England ancestors figure in their leisure activities. Aileen is the registrar for the Col. Timothy Pickering Chapter of the DAR and David is president of the Old Essex Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is also Commander of the Color Guard. They belong to the New England Antiquities Research Association. Aileen says she likes the Sunday field trips better than the Saturday lectures, though.

Aileen sums up their experience at St. Michael's, "I learned a lot about what it means to be a Christian."

- Marilyn Day

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

### 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.

## Ministry Minutes from Newcomers

A belated thank you to James Dearborn, Tom Weber, Jacquie Acevedo and Melissa Amberik for speaking to the congregation about their experiences as visitors and newcomers to St. Michael's. Here are some of the highlights, in case you missed the original speeches:

- Episcopalians invite a friend to church once every 27 years - if we all work real hard we could cut this number in half!
- Relationship is important - people are much more likely to visit a church where they know someone
- The smallest kindness and/or invitation by a parishioner is worth its weight in gold to someone new. So issue that invitation to coffee hour, or help someone find their place in the prayer book during the service!
- You never know which one of your friends or acquaintances may be looking to deepen their spiritual life so don't assume someone is not interested without asking
- The "right fit" is important - St. Michael's may not be right for everyone and that's okay.

Each one of us is an evangelist and a welcomer in some way, large or small, and it is important work. Not because we need to "grow" St. Michael's, but because it is what we have been called to do by Christ as we are reminded by St. Paul's writing to the Romans:

But before people can ask the Lord for help, they must believe in him; and before they can believe in him, they must hear about him; and for them to hear about the Lord, **someone must tell them**; and before someone can go and tell them, that person must be sent. It is written, "How beautiful is the person who comes to bring good news." - *Romans 10:14-17*

Peace in Christ,

- *the Evangelism & Welcoming Committee*

## Stewardship—Planned Giving Is An Act of Love

I recently sat in on one of the Episcopal Church Foundation's Planned Giving Leadership Webinars (online seminar) in order to educate myself on how to enhance our church's endowment through planned giving. I was an English major in university and admittedly am challenged every month to balance my checkbook, so you can imagine my bafflement over all the different ways that have been devised in order help you leave your money to the church! I dutifully followed along with the 70 other Stewardship Leaders from other parishes for an hour and a half. I have to admit that it was hard for me to keep up as they explained charitable gift annuities (CGA), Pooled Income Funds (PIF) and Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRUT/CRAT). There was one message that came through from this webinar loud and clear, though: anyone who goes through the complicated process of leaving St. Michael's something after they are gone truly love us and are dedicated to ensuring our future.



Thankfully the ECF also has plenty of free help for anyone interested in leaving St. Michael's a gift, and our job on the Stewardship Committee is to let you know this! If you have been thinking about making a bequest or have already, it is not necessary to share that information with us. But if you need help determining how to leave a bequest and finding out your options are, we have plenty of resources. Please contact anyone of our committee members, or Father Andrew. Or you can go directly to [www.episcopalfoundation.org](http://www.episcopalfoundation.org) and under the **How Can I...** click: **Make a planned gift to support my church?**

We are all so fortunate to have not only a beautiful and unique church to worship in, but we have the wonderful history and three hundred years of parishioners before us who worshipped at St. Michael's and sustained us. It is time to think about how to keep St. Michael's around for another three hundred years.

Thank you.

- *Avery Russell and the Stewardship Committee.*

**Important Dates—Come Join Us!**

**Spring Fling  
All-Parish Dinner**  
Friday, May 6  
6pm-8pm

Bring a dish to share.  
A sign-up sheet will be in the  
Parish Hall lobby.  
Drinks will be provided

**St. Michael's Thrift Shop  
Summer Hours;  
Meeting, Sunday, May 22, 9 am**

Our snow birds are returning and the Thrift Shop is now open Monday—Saturday, 1 pm to 4 pm. Spring and summer clothing, clean and in good condition, are welcome. Or come shop for a collectible, summer reading, or a vase for your garden flowers.

A meeting of Thrift Shop workers will be held on Sunday, May 22 at 9 am. Join us and find out how you can help. We are always looking for men or women who can work 1-4 pm, particularly on a Saturday.

**Vestry Liaisons & Team Leaders  
Meet  
Sunday, May 22, 11: 45 am**

Vestry Liaisons and Strategy Plan Chairs will be meeting Sunday, May 22, at 11:45 am to review projects that need funding over the next 5 years. These projects will be prioritized and sorted into major capital items and smaller projects so that funding sources can be determined.

**Parish Aid Luncheon**

Tuesday, May 17,  
12:00 Noon



**Lobster Lunch Planning Meeting  
Monday, May 16, 7 pm**

With the excitement of Holy Week behind us, it's time to begin planning for this year's Lobster Lunch. Linda Smidt 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. Please contact David or Linda if you are interesting in helping with planning and coordination.

*- David Bittermann & Linda Smidt, Co-Chairs*

**St. Michael's  
Gardeners**



Spring has arrived and Rogation Sunday is May 22—a time when the children will be planting flowers around the church. If you are interested in helping plan and maintain one of the garden beds around the church, please contact Sue Cool or Frances Nilsson. This year we are dividing up the areas so gardeners can work around their own schedules.

Many thanks to Tom Hamond and his wife Sheila who helped him do the spring cleanup in the James E. Gorman Memorial Garden and planted pansies in the two pots. And thank you Tyson Miller for waxing and shining the statue of St. Michael in the spring and fall so it won't get green.



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### **St. Michael's Thrift Shop**



**Summer Hours  
Monday—Saturday  
1 pm—4 pm**

### **Organ Recital: Barbara Bruns**

**Sunday, May 15  
5:00 pm**

**With works of Bach, Vierne, Widor,  
Dupré and Duruflé  
In Memory of Jack O'Brien**

#### **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

# May 2011

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>1) <b>2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I St. Catherine's Corporate Communion and Breakfast 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  5:00 pm Choral Evensong</p>	<p>2) <i>May 2-4 Fr. Andrew attending Diocese Clergy Conference</i> 10:00 am Visiting AA  7:00 pm Discernment Committee</p>	<p>3)  5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brothers' Table, Lynn  7:00 pm Visiting AA</p>	<p>4)  9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study NO Staff Meeting  8:00 pm AA</p>	<p>5)  7:00 pm Confirmation Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>6)  6:00 pm All Parish Pot Luck Supper</p>	<p>7)</p>
<p>8) <b>3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Intergenerational Service 11:30 am Worship &amp; Music Comm.</p>	<p>9)  7:00 pm Outreach 7:00 pm Discernment Committee</p>	<p>10)  6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens</p>	<p>11)  9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Church Staff  8:00 pm AA</p>	<p>12)  7:00 pm Confirmation Class 7:00 pm Property 7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>13)</p>	<p>14) 9:00 am -- 3:00 pm Safe Church Training at Church of the Holy Name, Swampscott 11:00 am St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem</p>
<p>15) <b>4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Organ Recital with Barbara Bruns</p>	<p>16)  7:00 pm Lobster Lunch Planning 7:00 pm Discernment Committee</p>	<p>17)  12:00 pm Parish Aid  7:30 pm Vestry</p>	<p>18)  9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Church Staff  8:00 pm AA</p>	<p>19)  7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>20)</p>	<p>21)  10:00 am Deanery Confirmation at Christ Church, South Hamilton 4:00 pm Wedding: Johnson/Strohacker</p>
<p>22) <b>5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Thrift Shop Meeting 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:30 am Meeting of Committee Chairs &amp; Vestry Liasons</p>	<p>23)</p>	<p>24)  6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:00 pm Marblehead Ministerial Association Covenant Service at St. Stephen's Church</p>	<p>25)  9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Church Staff  8:00 pm AA</p>	<p>26)  7:30 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>27)  10:00 am Bell School Historical Tour of St. Michael's Church led by Dana Denault</p>	<p>28)</p>
<p>29) <b>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I NO Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II,</p>	<p>30) <b>Memorial Day</b>  <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p>31)</p>	<p>Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm</p> <p>Thrift Shop Hours Monday-Saturday 1 pm – 4 pm</p>			