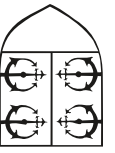


SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE MESSENGER

Mailed May 17, 2007

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are coming to the Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit's Day, the day of empowerment of the followers of Jesus! Their lives were transformed, and they went out to every part of the world to tell the Good News of God, and to be the Good news of God by their manner of life.

We don't know what they were expecting when Jesus instructed them to go and wait in the city for the promised gift of the Spirit. We do know that they did this — no doubt with a whole mix of expectations — and that God's Spirit came to them in the ways they needed. They were filled with enthusiasm; life was never the same again.

We, too, may look back, but we cannot go back to what was. I like that phrase, "Life is lived forward, but understood backward." All that we have done prepares us for tomorrow. We just don't know it at the time. That is why photo albums are so important — to help us to remember who we are. That is why telling the story of our journey is so important — it gives value to all the pieces which have shaped our lives. We cannot do this enough — celebrating both the laughter and the tears, the joys and the sorrows — and finding God with us, whether we realized it or not at the time.

Springtime especially seems a season for transitions and times of empowerment. The graduations, moves, job changes all have that potential to thrust us into the new, and to help us learn the meaning of our journey up until now. This is true in the life of St. Michael and All Angels, and true for me as we move towards the time of my retirement as Rector of our parish. You and I will then be moving into separated journeys.

This is where empowerment comes in. The power of the Spirit is the promised gift of God, to lead us into all truth, to bring us to green pastures, to restore our soul. It is as if all that we have learned suddenly takes on deeper meaning, and we exclaim, "Oh, that's what that means! This is where we are going!" Of course this is not just the easiest thing to be doing — this letting go of the past in order to claim the future. It can be for us like experiencing Elisabeth Kubler-Ross' "five steps in death and dying," which include things like anger, denial, and bargaining — sometimes all on the same day — before we can begin to embrace the new reality. This may seem messy, and it is. I believe God is with us throughout, because God is interested in our life, and God is interested in our making that journey into the abundance promised by Jesus. We will make it through, and we will not be left alone.

I wish you all well in these days.

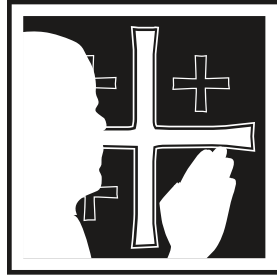
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John S. Scannell".

John S Scannell, Rector



YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR...

- + those who came before the Bishop (May 13th) for the Laying-On-Of-Hands:
ERIC HEVENOR, BEVERLY HOEFFER,
DEVON BALWIT, TEMPLE MARTIN,
CHRISTIE MADDOCKS,
MARY LOU HENNRICH, and
MARGARET THIELE.
- + those who have been ill:
DICK HUNEKE, DAN BAGWELL,
IRENE BRITTON and GARY LAWRENCE.
- + for CHRISTINE LENTZ and
her family on the death of her
mother, PATRICIA JEAN
ROBERTSON JONES.



GUADALUPE LEARNING RETREAT PLANNED

The Benedictine Sisters in Mexico offer 10 day learning retreats at their center in Cuernavaca. This experience includes learning (in English) the realities of Mexico, meeting the poor whom the sisters serve, and sharing in their life of worship.

John and Alice Scannell will be going in 2008 (Dec. 4-13) for Alice's 10th anniversary celebration of her ordination to the priesthood, and for the huge celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We have reserved a few additional places. Please contact John at <JohnS@easystreet.com> if you are interested or would like more information.

There is a brochure at our Information Center about the ongoing Guadalupe program which offers opportunities every month to experience Mexico's realities within a community of faith. Cost is around \$750 which covers all meals and local transportation, plus air fare. The sisters meet guests at the airport and return them there.

NEW DIRECTORY INFORMATION SOUGHT

St. Michael's will be issuing a 2007 Parish Directory in a few weeks. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes – additions or corrections or updates. We are always changing. Phone: 503/284-7141 or E-Mail: Office@stmaa.org.



EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE, I LEARNED FROM NOAH'S ARK



- One:** Don't miss the boat.
- Two:** Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- Three:** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Four:** Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- Five:** Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- Six:** Build your future on high ground.
- Seven:** For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Eight:** Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- Nine:** When you're stressed, float a while.
- Ten:** Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- Eleven:** No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

TAIZÉ WORSHIP CONTINUES IN JUNE

A prayer service of meditation, reflection, silence, readings and music in the style of the ecumenical French monastic community called Taizé will be held in a church filled with candlelight on Friday, June 15 at 7:30 pm. The simple, chant-like music style creates an atmosphere of peace and calm that is meant to quiet the soul. Come and be renewed at the end of the work week.

A number of people assist with the service which help make it a wonderful experience. Additional singers and instrumentalists interested in providing musical support and those willing to help with setup before and after should contact Bob Spiers in the parish office at 503/284-7141 or bobs@stmaa.org.

YOUTH NEWS

We are in the home stretch for this year. It has been a good one beginning with the Camp Collins Retreat in September and ending on June 10 with a U2charist and BBQ!

UPCOMING EVENTS

PENTECOST provides fun opportunities for our young friends to help with balloons and cake. MANY HANDS are needed to help get the balloons attached to the pews in the church before the 9 o'clock service. Report to the gallery @ 8 AM Sunday May 27. Many Architects are needed @ 9 and 11 am that morning to build the large confection known as the Pentecost Cake. Many of my 6th - 12th grade friends have already volunteered but we can always use more help!

FIRST FRIDAY JUNE 1, EARLY TIME - 6:00 pm - Beavers Baseball Game 7:05 pm: Comcast Family Night - Beavers Caps (1st 1,000 fans) and a variety of discounted concession items including \$1 hot dogs, water and ice cream desserts! Bring your glove. We will leave from St. Michael's House and ride TriMet to PGE Park. Bring the usual \$5 for the event and a couple of cans of food for our Oregon Food Bank collection! Families and friends are welcome.



2 + 4 + 6 JUNE 10, 4 - 6 pm. At this last one for this school year, we will celebrate with a U2charist in the Nativity Hall first and then move over to the Parish Hall for a BBQ! The U2charist is a liturgy (church service) designed to use the music and lyrics of the band U2 to rally around the call of the Millennium Development Goals. This is definitely a family event! Please come pray, praise and party with us!

U2charist

peace,
Ann Hargraves
Associate for Ministry with Youth

NEEDLEPOINT CLASS TO FORM

St. Michael's has benefited for many years from the beautiful needlepoint pew kneelers designed by lifetime parishioner Ann Brown. Ann's daughter, Sheri O'Brien, wishes to fulfill Ann's vision of having all the kneelers in the church upholstered in original needlepoint. Sheri is forming a class with the goal of completing this project well before St. Michael's 100th anniversary celebration in 2010. If you are interested in learning, re-learning or just learning more about needlepoint contact her for more information at 503/761-6185 evenings or email at Sheri@craftedforyou.net.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE

Parishioner volunteer Sheri O'Brien makes the attractive St. Michael's name badges you see people wearing. Sheri was at the Ministry Fair demonstrating the machine making buttons and spinning tops for the kids. Sheri relates she very much enjoys doing this and seeing new members proudly wear their name badges on Sundays.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Gallery outside the Parish Office for you to request a name badge. If you need to replace an old one just throw it away and sign up in the Gallery for a new one. If you have ordered a name badge and can't find it on the wall, look on the information table where you signed up. New ones appear there when they become available.

The format for signing up has changed recently in order to clarify exactly how each name should appear on the badge. The new form has a square for each letter, up to the maximum number of letters that will fit on a round badge. A continuing feature of the badge is that the first name on the top is larger than the last name. This may help you more quickly get on a "first name basis" with new acquaintances at St. Michael's.

PENTECOST OFFERINGS FOR 2007

The Diocesan Pentecost Offering will take place on Sunday, May 27 this year. As you may know, the Pentecost offering is granted for brick and mortar community ministries, for new ministries, or for seed money to new initiatives. At its March meeting, the Diocesan Council approved the following projects as recipients of the 2007 Pentecost Offering. The first awardee is the William Temple House's children's clothing program at St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukie (\$2,000). If offerings remain, the second program to be funded will be training for volunteers in the parish nursing program at St. John, Bandon (\$1,600). After that, if funds remain, there will be a grant to fund aspects of the Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers program at Good Samaritan, Corvallis (\$500). Any remaining funds after that will be used for other costs associated with the St. John's parish nursing program.

For more information contact:
<deirdres@diocese-oregon.org> 971/204-4108
Deirdre Steinberg, Director of Communications

EVERYBODY LOVES A PARADE!

Come be part of the St. Michael's group at the Gay Pride Parade on Sunday, June 17 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park. Step-off is around noon, and the parade moves at a leisurely pace, lasting about an hour. We'd love to see lots of folks accompanying our new banner and showing support for the gay and lesbian community. Donations to help defray the banner's cost will be gladly accepted. Questions? Call the Parish Office, 503/284-7141, or email office@stmaa.org.

Lynn Baker and Jan Jenkins
Parishioners

