



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JUNE NEWSLETTER

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**“HEARTS FOR GOD
HANDS FOR SERVICE
LOVE FOR ALL”**

<i>Bishop</i> Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D., D.D. <i>Rector</i> The Rev. George Gennuso <i>Deacon</i> The Rev. Deacon Belle Rollins			<i>Sunday Schedule</i> 9 am – Holy Eucharist 10:45 – Angel Food Breakfast <i>Weekday Eucharist</i> 10 am – Tuesday 10 am Thursday		
<i>Senior Warden</i> Steve Rogge (2017)	<i>Junior Warden</i> Johnny Childress (2015)	<i>Vestry Clerk</i> Jason Ezell (2017)	<i>Vestry Chaplain</i> Londa Price (2016)	<i>2015</i> Steve Branch Debbie Fontenot Clara Kirk	<i>2016</i> Martha Herren Sandi McCoy
<i>Account Manager</i> Patti Noel Office Hours Mon. 11 – 3 pm Tues. 9 – 2 pm	<i>Altar Guild</i> <i>Director</i> Ann Wells	<i>Organist</i> Mary Crump <i>Choir Director</i> Roger McCoy		<i>Flower Guild</i> Brenda Milam Rebecca Williams Jennifer Owens	
<i>Treasurer</i> Grace Gennuso	<i>Sexton</i> Kitty & Gary Wynn				

JUNE MINISTRY SCHEDULE

JUNE 2015	June 7 2nd Sunday after Pentecost	June 14 3rd Sunday after Pentecost	June 21 4th Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day	June 28 5th Sunday after Pentecost
ALTAR COLORS	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN
SUNDAY READINGS	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 138 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35	Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17 Mark 4:26-34	Job 38:1-11 Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43
ALTAR GUILD	Diane Lawton Rebecca Williams Kay Ferguson Miriam Clay	Dorothy Adrion Christy Adrion Nancy Gingras Gail Wilking Lynne Distefano	Barbara Dupre C. Fernandez M. Hampshire Carol Hampshire Dana Homer	Ann Wells Jeanie Basco Lillian Cutshall
VESTRY HOST	Steve Rogge Steve Branch	Londa Price Martha Herren	Sandi McCoy Jason Ezell	Debbie Fontenot Johnny Childress
ALTAR FLOWERS	Debbie Fontenot	Martha Wooley	Mary Connell	Sam Kincade
HOME COMMUNION	Lynne Distefano	Gail Wilking	Paula Lieberman	Lynne Distefano
NURSERY	Shane Schultz Michelle Price	Ashley Kelch Jamie Smith	Holli Rachal Johnny Childress	Mark Price Londa Price
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Paula Lieberman Brian Warner	Scott Kincade Lynne Distefano	Johnny Childress Brian Warner Josh Brown	Lynne Distefano Jason Ezell
ACOLYTES	Dustin Poisso Chris Poisso Joseph Oliver	Austyn Kelch Joseph Oliver	Chris Poisso KayLea Ward Spencer Brown	Luke Ward Joseph Oliver
LECTORS	OT Clara Kirk PS Joseph Oliver NT Shane Schultz POP Brian Warner	OT Sandi McCoy PS Paydon Godwin NT Lillian Cutshall POP Johnny Childress	OT Steve Rogge PS Finley Ezell NT L.V. Shipp POP Jason Ezell	OT Scott McCoy PS Nathaniel Rachal NT Martha Herren POP Jamey O'Neal
USHERS & GREETERS	Steve Branch Stuart Spurlin	Gail & Chuck Wilking	Stacy & Obie Ward	David & Patti Noel
ANGEL FOOD BRUNCH	"Creole kings" Steve Clarius Dax Clarius Kay Ferguson	"The Cookin' Saints" Londa & Mark Price Ken and Miriam Clay Tony and Tori Price	Father's day Luncheon	"Grumpy ole' Men and a Lady" Chuck & Cyndi Menton Davis Williams Fred Normand Chuck Wilking L.V. Shipp Ray & Tonya Bass

May Anniversaries

<i>June 2</i>	<i>Laura & Kelly Distefano</i> <i>Debbie & Darrel Fontenot</i> <i>Martha & Bill Herren</i>
<i>June 4</i>	<i>John & Sara Monette</i>
<i>June 5</i>	<i>Alan & Margie Hampshire</i>
<i>June 11</i>	<i>Tandy & Danielle Thompson</i>
<i>June 17</i>	<i>Scott & Sam Kincade</i>
<i>June 21</i>	<i>Fred and Jean Normand</i>
<i>June 27</i>	<i>Sandra and John Leonard</i>
<i>June 28</i>	<i>David and Mary Young</i>



JUNE CAR WASHES!!!

Saturday, June 13

Saturday, June 27



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 2	Laura Basco Molly Ward
June 6	Kaylea Ward
June 5	Jimmy Clarius
June 6	Alva Ladner
June 7	Dakota Smith
June 10	Monica Austin
June 12	Chuck Wilking
June 15	Kent Arceneaux
June 16	Brittany Carter
June 18	Susan Wyatt
June 19	Bryan Paulk Billy Wells
June 20	Patti Noel Allison Warner
June 27	Bob Reed

PRAY?

I dreamed that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, 'This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received. I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world. Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section. The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth. Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section, my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed. "How is it that there is no work going on here? I asked." "So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments." "How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked. "Simple," the angel answered. Just say, "Thank you, Lord." "What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked. "If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy, and if you get this on your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who has that opportunity." "If you woke up this morning with more health than illness.. You are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day." "If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation... You are ahead of 700 million people in the world." "If you can attend a church without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world." "If your parents are still alive and still married.... you are very rare." "If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm, you're unique to all those in doubt and despair....." "Ok," I said. "What now? How can I start?" The Angel said, "If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you as very special and you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all." Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you care to, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.....

ATTN: Acknowledge Dept.

"Thank you Lord, for giving me the ability to share this message, and for giving me so many wonderful people with whom to share it." If you have read this far, and are thankful for all that you have been blessed with, how can you not send it on? I thank God for everything, especially all my family and friends

Father George & Your Vestry's suggested approach to Bishop's Pastoral Letter

- You will find below a Pastoral Letter from our Bishop concerning the Blessing of Same-Gender relationships. Our Bishop has done an outstanding job of explaining his expectations of each parish within this diocese. Let me be clear ... this is about the Blessing of Long-term Same-Gender Relationships ... not the marriage of the same.
- He has left the decision of whether or not we will recognize Same-Gender Blessings of long relationships to a parish to parish decision.
- Our vestry voted unanimously to begin parish wide conversation of this subject.
- Our vestry has also agreed to be the “ears of St. Michael’s”. Until August 15, we are asking members of our congregation to share their thoughts concerning this issue. At our August Vestry meeting, the vestry, considering your input, will make a decision on this issue.
- You can do this in variety of ways:
 - 1) A one-on-conversation with a vestry person
 - 2) A phone conversation
 - 3) A note or letter to the vestry
 - 4) Email – if you choose this method please direct your emails to our Senior Warden, Steve Rogge.
- As the bishop has made clear ... regardless of what your position on this issue may be ... I can guarantee you --- it will heard and you and your position will be honored.
- I must be honest with you As you well know ... this is not an issue about the “others” out there. This involves and will affect us in here. Therefore, as we begin these conversations, I strongly suggest that you each read with care the Bishop’s letter and once read, I want you to prayerfully study your hearts and souls as you begin conversation with your vestry members.

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Jake

Sunday, April 26, 2015

Dear Friends,

Last year the Standing Committee sent to each congregation a summary of all actions by the 77th General Convention (2012) involving congregational or diocesan action.

Among those resolutions was A049. This resolution authorized the trial use of Same-Sex Blessings, commended to each congregation a study of these rites and the theological reflections involved in them, and directed each diocese to provide a generous pastoral response to gay and lesbian persons.

As I have said previously, our diocese has for some time embodied informally a generous response to gay and lesbian persons. This fact has been verified by the following. Clergy in charge of congregations submitted written reports to me outlining their view of same gender blessings, their vestry's point of view, and the view held by the broad center of the congregation. Additionally, at a clergy day last February each clergy person shared openly and honestly his or her thoughts on the matter.

Most of our congregations embody a traditional expression of our common faith. They seek to express love for gay and lesbian persons, their families, and their friends, while being very clear about their view that the Church's blessing is reserved for couples comprised of one man and one woman. They have my respect and support.

A few of our congregations offer a safe and welcoming spiritual home to gay and lesbian individuals and couples. For this I am grateful. These congregations find in Scripture, Tradition, and Reason grounds for seeing holiness in lifelong commitments between gay and lesbian persons, and I respect and support them.

In other words, the diocese provides a generous pastoral response through the varied practices of each of our congregations. This variety is good, and I am grateful for it.

Upon returning from the last General Convention, I refrained from giving permission to use the liturgies for same gender blessings. The canons clearly allow any clergy person to refrain from solemnizing any marriage, and those same canons mean that no clergy person will ever be required to bless a same gender relationship. No clergy person or congregation can or will ever be required or in any way pressured to bless same gender relationships.

Two congregations have engaged the study materials commended by A049: Holy Cross in Shreveport and St. Barnabas in Lafayette. As a result of the study, the clergy, the vestry, and the people of these congregations have requested permission to bless long-standing relationships between persons of the same gender. I have granted permission to those two congregations to use the trial liturgies designed for this purpose with the understanding that

this is not marriage. The laws in this state are clear. Marriage in Louisiana is reserved for opposite sex couples.

We are a majority conservative diocese. However, we are able to make a very gracious space for a theological minority in our midst. While it is sometimes the case that conservative congregations in largely progressive contexts have felt excluded or pressured to change, we in this more conservative context are intentionally showing respect and appreciation for those with a minority point of view.

Let me be clear. No congregation is required to undergo this study. No priest or congregation will be required to use these rites. These differences among our congregations have in the past been the source of conflict and division. I urge all of you now to let such differences be the occasion for deepening our mutual affection. What we hold in common is Christ. Let our shared devotion to him be the source of our unity in difference.

My love for each of you is deep and abiding. The changes in the Episcopal Church have been for some of us a source of joy and relief. For others these same changes have brought confusion, anxiety, and even hurt. I understand. And I am here for all of you. You are all a gift to me just as you are. And I thank God every day for the privilege of sharing your lives and serving with you as Bishop.

In Christ's Love,

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, PhD, DD
IV Bishop of The Diocese of Western Louisiana

PRAYER FOR UNITY AND PEACE

Neighbor, friend, Lord,

May we see you in our streets

And not walk by on the other side.

Help us to take responsibility

For our attitude toward others.

Give us the skills and the will

To take our roles seriously,

To take our role

But ourselves lightly,

Always seeking to play our part

In reconciling, representing, recognizing,
rewarding,

So that good is acknowledged

And bad is resisted.,

For the benefit of all,

But mostly for your sake. Amen.

Thanks from
Mary Callaway...

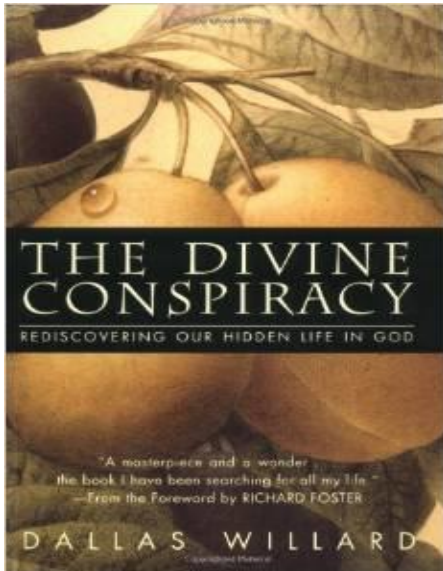
I would like to thank everyone who helped to make Jim's memorial service a wonderful occasion. Special thanks to the members of the choir, the people who contributed food for the reception and to Fr. George for all his help in putting the service and reception together

Love,
Mary



On Sunday, June 21, St. Michael's will honor all the dads and men of the church. We will begin our celebration with Holy Eucharist at 9 am. There will be a luncheon prepared by the ladies of the church in thanksgiving for all the dads present and those who are no longer with us. Please be a part of this celebration ... bring that wonderful dad to St. Michael's in order that he might be honored.

June Adult Christian Formation



The Divine Conspiracy By Dallas Willard

The Divine Conspiracy has revolutionized how we think about the true meaning of discipleship. In this classic, one of the most brilliant Christian thinkers of our times and author of the acclaimed *The Spirit of Disciplines*, Dallas Willard, skillfully weaves together biblical teaching, popular culture, science, scholarship, and spiritual practice, revealing what it means to "apprentice" ourselves to Jesus. Using Jesus's Sermon of the Mount as his foundation, Willard masterfully explores life-changing ways to experience and be guided by God on a daily basis, resulting in a more authentic and dynamic faith.

They may be a “small” church but.....



**The
Cheneyville, St. Michael's, Pineville's Food Pantry has
once again been stocked. Trinity has adopted St.
Michael's Food Pantry and every year they donate over
\$1500 towards this ministry. Who says it can't be
done!!!!**