



St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Phone 318-640-0020

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*“Remember, not only what Jesus did,
but what He would have us do for others.”*

2012 Stewardship Prayer

Creator God,

Life is your gift to me. Through Baptism, you invite me to share the gift of my life in service to others.

Be with me as I choose each day to show your Presence in our world.

Give me the courage and generosity to respond to your love, to your call.

I pray especially for those who serve you in ministry throughout our church family

May we bring the Good News to those in need.

Keep us close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many others -- men, women, and young people -- that they may accept your challenge to build the Kingdom in our church family.

Let us remember that all that we have -- was given to us and that as we are blessed we are called to bless.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



From Father George's Desk

Dear St. Michael's:

Our annual Stewardship Drive is a difficult time for all involved: our individual families as well as our church family.

Our St. Michael's family continues to do God's work throughout our community. Unfortunately, in doing God's work, the reality is that because we are "in the world", we must "give to Caesar what is Caesar's". We are still required to pay our utilities bills, just like you at home. We still are responsible for upkeep of our church home, just like you at own home.

I am asking all of us to consider increasing our 2011 pledge by either 10 or 20% which will help buffer the increases in expenses in all areas. With this increase in pledging, we will be able to continue our ministry to God's children and to ourselves at the same level of effectiveness as we have been called.

I have included a table (see next page) which will give you an idea of how a 10 or 20% increase in pledge would affect you.

How proud I am to be your pastor. You are all a blessing to me and the church universal. I thank you ahead of time for your ongoing support of St. Michael's and I look forward to walking our journeys together in 2012.

In peace,

Father George+

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Bruce MacPherson

Rector

The Rev. George Gennuso, Jr.

Deacon

The Rev. Belle Rollins

Vestry

Sr. Warden

Tracy Alletag

Jr. Warden

John Ray

Clerk

Scott McCoy

Chaplain

Lillian Wooley

Sandi McCoy Michael Rachal

Londa Price Clara Kirk

David Mobley Brenda Milam

Frank Stevens Kitty Wynn

Treasurer

Holli Rachal

Accounting Manager

Martha Herren

Sunday Schedule

Holy Eucharist 8 am & 10:30 am

Angel Food Breakfast - 9 - 10 am

Christian Education for all

9:30 - 10:15 am

Weekday Eucharist

Tuesday 10 am

Thursday 5:30 pm

Organist, Mary Crump

Choir Director, Roger McCoy

Altar Guild Directoress

Ann Wells

Flower Coordinator

Brenda Milam

Renee' Alewine

Cyndi Salmon

“Come as you are Luncheon”

Sunday, November 13

Our awesome chefs will be Brian and Suzanne

MENU:

**Baked taters with chili and
trimmings**



Suzanne’s special soup

Brian’s tasty Cornbread

And, of course, Dessert and tea



\$5 a plate

\$20 for four or more

Proceeds will go toward

Suzanne’s Honduras Mission Trip and Our EYC

DON’T FORGET!!!

**DEADLINE FOR TURNING
IN PLEDGE CARDS IS
NOVEMBER 20TH**

Man takes possessions with him...

A man is lying on his death bed. He wants to take all his possessions with him. So he tells his wife and relatives to place all his possessions on the roof, telling them he would grab them on the way to heaven. The man dies. A few days later his wife and relatives see that his possessions are still on the roof. “I knew we should have put his stuff in the basement,” says his wife.

St. Michael's Episcopal Young Adults

De Colores! Four couples of our EYA (Josh & Lacey Brown, Waylon & Philmeka Williams, Josh & Kisses Thomson & Johnny & Pam Childress) who participated in Cursillo #142 a couple of weekends ago. It was literally a life-changing experience. Thank you to all of our sponsors for supporting us in becoming a part of this wonderful community. We have a renewed energy to serve our Lord with all of our hearts, mind and soul. Please join us in celebrating our glorious weekend.

Upcoming events

November 5th – LSU vs. Alabama Game Party



- Fellowship Hall – Direct TV feed
- Start at approximately 6:00 pm
- Game time: 7:05 pm
- Raffle tickets for the LSU/Kentucky game will be on sale during this game

LSU vs. Western Kentucky game – 2 seats

Winner of raffle will be enjoying this game in the Upper Deck on the Home Side of Tiger Stadium, better known as Death Valley.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. Be sure to get your raffle tickets now! Drawing will be at noon on Monday, November 7th.

December 3rd – EYA-sponsored Garage Sale

Please let us know if you have anything we can take off of your hands. Furniture, clothing, home décor, baby items, etc. Don't forget about those Christmas decorations that you no longer need or want. We would love to have them!

Recent events:

Thanks so much for your support of the Fall Community Dinner and Children's Festival. We love and appreciate all that you do...

SO LITTLE AND YET SO MUCH

10 to 20% INCREASE IN PLEDGE....

2012 PLEDGE	20% INCREASE	INCREASE PER MONTH	2012 PLEDGE
\$500	\$100	\$8.33	\$600
\$1000	\$200	\$16.66	\$1200
\$1500	\$300	\$25	\$1800
\$2000	\$400	\$33.33	\$2400
\$2500	\$500	\$41.67	\$3000
\$3000	\$600	\$50	\$3600
2011 PLEDGE	10% INCREASE	INCREASE PER MONTH	2012 PLEDGE
\$500	\$50	\$4.67	\$550
\$1000	\$100	\$8.33	\$1100
\$1500	\$150	\$12.50	\$1650
\$2000	\$200	\$16.67	\$2200
\$2500	\$250	\$20.83	\$2750
\$3000	\$300	\$25.00	\$3300

poem written by Waylan Williams written during Cursillo #142



LEADER FOR CHRIST

If you think you're saved because you are in the pews.

Well brothers and sisters, let me talk to you.

God sees all...especially you!

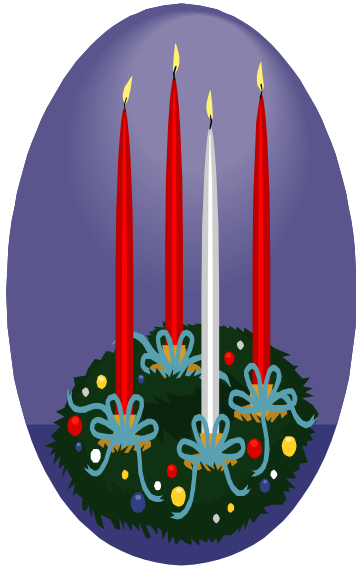
So be a leader for Christ and He will bless you.

Your rewards are not trinkets of silver and gold;

But pureness of heart and to be clean as snow.

So be in your place and know your role.

To be a leader for Christ is an outstanding goal!



ADVENT 2011 STUDY SERIES



Wednesday, November 30th

Wednesday, December 7th

Wednesday, December 14th

5:30 pm – 7 pm

Dinner served...

Nursery available on request!

“ADVENT ATTITUDES”

*TOO OVERWHELMED TO CARE, TOO LAZY TO LISTEN
and TOO BLIND TO SEE.*

ADVENT: The Season of Wonder....

Have you ever wondered what Anna the prophetess would say to a busy mother, looking for time in her day to be alone with God, or perhaps what would have happened if one of the shepherds was really clueless and just did not get what the star meant? Well, your time of wondering may be over! Join us for our Advent Study series as we prepare our hearts for the coming Messiah. In our three humorous sketches we will be transported back to the days just before Christ's birth, where characters of the New Testament era face similar weaknesses as we do today. We will find them, and ourselves: *TOO OVERWHELMED TO CARE, TOO LAZY TO LISTEN and TOO BLIND TO SEE.* Amid the laughs, I hope that truths emerge about our attitudes and actions in this season of anticipation.



Senior Saints to Visit Historic Natchez, Mississippi Saturday, November 5

Founded in 1716, Natchez is the oldest city on the Mississippi River.

The first route into Natchez was the Natchez Trace, originally a buffalo trail and later used by Native Americans and early settlers. Flatboat men plied their craft downriver to Natchez or New Orleans, sold their goods and boats, and walked or rode wagons north toward home on the Trace. With the advent of steamboat travel in the early nineteenth century, the Trace fell into disuse. Now administered by the National Park Service, it runs 450 miles between Nashville and Natchez, a green and peaceful route dotted with interpretive exhibits, 18th century inns, and picnic sites. For interstate routes into Natchez, see Natchez Map.

Occupied by the mound-building and sun-worshipping Natchez Indians for centuries before the French built a fort and established a settlement here in 1716, Natchez was under British rule from 1763, controlled by the Spanish from 1779 to 1798, and was the site of the state's first assembly in 1817.

Tobacco and indigo were initial crops, but the introduction of the Whitney gin in 1795, combined with the already established institution of slavery, revolutionized cotton production and brought great wealth to Natchez planters and merchants. Much of that wealth produced grand city and country estates ranking among the most beautiful in America. Today Natchez boasts more antebellum structures than any other city of its size in the United States with 13 National Landmarks and over 1000 buildings on the National Register. Some of those properties have been owned and occupied by the same families for over 150 years.

Natchez is also home to dozens of African-American heritage sites, including historic churches, neighborhoods established by freedmen after the Civil War, the boyhood home of internationally acclaimed author Richard Wright, and the Forks of the Road, site of the second largest slave market in the South. In the nineteenth century, Natchez was home to John Roy Lynch, the first African-American to hold office in Mississippi and the first to chair a major political party convention; Hiram Revels, first African-American elected to either house of Congress; and Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, a classically trained African-American singer who performed for Queen Victoria.

Downtown Natchez offers great shopping - antiques, unique gifts, and bookstores - plus an exceptional number of casual and fine dining restaurants and a cooking school. In Natchez, where Native American, African-American and European cultures have blended to make Natchez a unique place, we're proud that progress is a neighbor of the past. We're easy to find - at the lower end of the Trace on the bluffs of the Mississippi River

**If you don't qualify as a Senior Saint...you're still
welcome to join us ... let us know!!!**



St. Michael's Thanksgiving Feast November 24



Once again, St. Michael's will celebrate Thanksgiving as a family. We will begin our festivities with a Thanksgiving Eucharist at 11 am followed by our Thanksgiving Feast.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for you and your guests and also a sign-up sheet for what food dishes you will provide for lunch.

All and all, it will be a great time. Make sure you invite friends and relatives to join us.

MONEY

“Oh no! We're NOT going to have to hear about money this morning, are we? Oh, please, not in church. Not on Sunday! It's just not part of being spiritual. I came to re-affirm my beliefs, to pray, to learn to love others, not to be begged for more money!” You will hear no begging for you to give more money. Jesus Christ begged no person or group to give him money for his ministry. Yet he had all He needed. Why did that happen? It happened because He knows human beings have a personal need to give of their resources or we die inside.

The entire Bible is full of talk of money and possessions. In fact, how we individually handle our resources is of great concern to God. In the Bible, belief, believers/ing appears 272 times, prayer 371 times, love or loving 714 times and possessions and giving appears **2, 172** times

Each of Jesus' attempts to teach another about good giving was individually applied. Recall His conversation with the rich young man, and His visit to Zachaeus' home and the results of both meetings. Jesus focused 1/3 of His teaching on the individual and his/her possessions. Seventeen (45%) of His 38 parables are about possessions. Far from being “unspiritual”, Jesus taught us that how we handle our personal possessions in relationship to God, will dictate our personal, spiritual health.

He invited individual person to respond favorably to our own inner need to be givers. How did He know that? Well, Jesus knew that we are created in the image of God; and that God's very nature is Giver and, to be as God has created us will mean that we will, as God does, give without thought of return, to bless the lives of all of His created. It is our inherent need as human beings. Generosity of self is the only pathway to eternal life as Jesus so perfectly demonstrated on Golgotha.

“So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.” Genesis:1:27

“Me too”

God gives the world life through the breaking of Christ’s body and the pouring out of Christ’s blood. And God continues to give the world life through the body of Christ --- who Paul tells his friends at Corinth is them. **They** are His Body. The body of Christ.

The church is a living Eucharist, because followers of Christ are living Eucharists. A Christian is a living Eucharist, allowing her body to be broken and her blood to be poured out for the healing of the world.

Writer Anne Lamott says that the most powerful sermon in the world is two words: “Me too.”

Me too.

When you’re struggling

When you are hurting.

Wounded, limping, doubting,

Questioning, barely hanging on,

Moments away from another relapse,

And somebody can identify with you –

Someone knows the temptations that are at your door,

Somebody has felt the pain that you are feeling,

When someone can look you in the eyes and say, “Me too,”

And they actually mean it –

It can save you.

When you aren’t judged,

Or lectured,

Or looked down upon,

But somebody demonstrates that they get it,

That they know what it’s like,

That you aren’t alone,

That’s “me too.”

To begin to understand the Eucharist, to begin to grasp the Father’s giving of His first born son, is to feel what others feel, to suffer when they suffer, to rejoice when they rejoice. The church says to the world, “Me too.”

(excerpt from Rob Bell’s book, “Jesus wants to Save Christians”)

St. Michael's Vestry Nominating Committee consisting of the following members: John Ray , Kitty Wynn, Sandi McCoy, Johnny Childress and Bud Gingras selected the following candidates to fill the four vacancies on the 2012 Vestry:

Scott McCoy
Johnny Childress
Chuck Menton
Gail Wilking
John Morrow

You will have an opportunity to place names into nomination beginning on Sunday, November 6th.

We will elect the four new vestry persons at our Annual Parish Meeting in January.

God's House.... Our responsibility!!!!

Our St. Michael's family has been blessed with a church campus that is not only beautiful but also functional.

We have an awesome Parish Hall, an incredible house of worship, a brand new Christian education building, an activity building and church grounds which are spectacular.

All of the above is God's gift to us and how we take care of it is our "Thank you" to Him.

This incredible church cannot be maintained by a few. It must be a responsibility of our entire family.

If something needs cleaning ... clean it. If dishes need washing ... wash them. If you see clutter ... clear it.

Yes, we have sextons who take care of the "general up-keep" of our church plant; however, the day to day upkeep is OUR RESPONSIBILITY. So please, treat God's home in the same way you would want your home treated ... with respect and pride. If we all commit to doing just a little ... a lot can happen. Thanks for your help in this matter.

Father George+