



THE TRUMPET

AN INSTRUMENT OF GOOD NEWS

JANUARY 23, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

VESTRY CANDIDATES Introducing this year’s candidates for vestry! They are four very capable people who will serve St. Michael’s well. You will have an opportunity to vote for them on Sunday in our parish meeting. —Christine Havens, Director of Communications



A happily retired lawyer—is there any other kind?—**Melissa Agnese** is now a full-time mother to Jack (11) and Paige (8). Since her family joined the St. Michael’s community in 2019, she has served for the past two years on the Stewardship Committee

and is an active member of the Women’s Group. Recently, she was on the executive board of Forest Trail Elementary’s Booster Club non-profit and currently serves on her neighborhood HOA. When not busy volunteering or driving her kids to activities, Melissa loves travel, reading, writing, and golf.



Chris Pencis is an engineer by training. He and his wife, Jenny, joined St. Michael’s in 1995; they have two children, Emily (23) and Nate (18). Chris has served on vestry twice and has served as junior warden for one year. Chris is active in eucharistic ministry, leads the

baking guild (currently on hiatus), and has served on many SMEC committees. In January 2020, Jenny was diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer (ILC) and during her treatment and recovery, they have been careful about COVID exposure, and have been attending services mostly remotely.



Ben De Leon is enthusiastic about service, mentorship, and improving the community. This is evident in his many volunteer roles. A native Austinite, Ben is fluent in Spanish and has represented Spanish-speaking clients pro bono through Volunteer Legal

Services of Central Texas since 2005. Ben and his wife, Shannon, are the proud parents of Anna (14), Winnie (11), and Henry (9). They have been members of St. Michael’s since 2011.



James D. Russell has been attending St. Michael’s Episcopal Church for about 23 years. He is married to Margo Russell and has four children—Hilary (32), Will (32), Elizabeth (21), and Jackson (17). James divides his time between family, church, work (bank

consultant, CPA), cooking, and scouts. At St. Michael’s, he serves on the Finance Committee and with the Kitchen Crew, but he has never served on the Vestry. St. Michael’s is more of a family rather than a church to James and Margo.

NOTES

Decorate Valentines! Fourth Sunday 4 families on January 30 *Due to our annual parish meeting happening at 10:00 am on January 23, Fourth Sunday 4 families has been moved to January 30.* All ages are invited to the parish hall during the 10:00 am hour to decorate special Valentine's Day cards that will be sent to people in our community. Each month, the Family Ministry team hosts an intergenerational activity in the parish hall. All are welcome to join in between the 9:00 and 11:00 am services—we hope to see you there!

Rector's Bible Study: 1 & 2 Peter | Tuesdays @noon | Sundays @12:45 pm Did the Apostle Peter write the letters that bear his name? For a lively discussion of this and other questions about these lesser-known epistles, join Fr. John this spring on Tuesdays or Sundays beginning on January 25 and January 30. Zoom info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84620183719?pwd=ait6RFhzZFIRY2RxR0FqWTFvZ0JmUT09>, Meeting ID: 846 2018 3719, Passcode: bible.



Connecting to Communion Classes Start on February 6 This new class is for children entering 1st grade and up in 2022. We will meet each week at 10:00 am for 4 weeks to explore how we connect to Christ through the sacrament of Eucharist. On March 6, we will welcome participating families for a special special blessing and to receive communion together. This opportunity is designed for families observing their child's first communion and for those wishing to deepen their child's connection to the sacrament. Please register by emailing Family Minister Amanda at amanda@st-michaels.org.

Joel McAlister's Ordination to the Priesthood | Friday, January 21 @6:30 pm | Tyler, TX Joel, who served as St. Michael's seminarian in 2020, is being ordained to the priesthood at St. Francis, in Tyler, on Friday, January 21, at 6:30 pm. You can watch the service on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler> and share your congratulations with him.

Safeguarding God's Children Trainer Needed St. Michael's is in need of an additional Safeguarding God's Children (SGC) trainer. SGC encourages respectful relationships with children especially and is often required for adults who work around them. Trainers fill an important role in the diocese and in organizations because they alone are qualified to lead an in-person or virtual training for adults seeking certification in Safeguarding. For more information, click here: <https://www.epicenter.org/safeguarding/home/>. If you feel a call to this ministry at St. Michael's, please email Amanda, our family minister, at amanda@st-michaels.org.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

MEETING CHANGE FOR JANUARY 23: The Seekers will meet ONLINE ONLY at 12:30 pm The group is reading *Divine Science: Finding Reason at the Heart of Faith*, by Michael Dennin, a physicist. The book is an exploration of science and faith as complementary ideas. Interested in joining the group? Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@me.com or Phyllis Bles at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjIVU3YyZz09>, Passcode: 541706.

St. Michael's Book Club Looking for fellowship and conversation? Love reading? Join the SMEC Book Club! The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:30pm via Zoom. The next meeting is on January 26 and the group is reading *The Lincoln Highway*, by Amor Towles (*A Gentleman of Moscow*). Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com for more information and for the Zoom link. February's book is *My Remarkable Journey*, by Katherine Johnson.

St. Michael's Women's Virtual Potluck The SMEC Women's Potluck group gathers at 6:00 pm on the first Monday of each month unless it falls on a holiday. All women of the parish are invited—bring a friend! Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84019837778?pwd=SGRmQXhoYllXSUZCZEkrL0hMdFhldz09>; passcode is 242636.

Morning Prayer: Tuesdays @9:00 am You're invited to Morning Prayer each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am. Please note the Zoom link and passcode: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8134668655?pwd=MHFKdmlwWXRnZlVZM2tlb04wUFVHUT09>. **Passcode:** prayer.

Centering Prayer: Tuesdays @6:30 pm This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjIVU3YyZz09>; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Bles with questions: phyllis.blees@gmail.com. For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

Evening Prayer: Wednesdays @4:30 pm Each Wednesday at 4:30 pm. Use Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88082768969> and passcode 826364.

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study @1:00 pm This informal group discusses the Daily Office readings—drop in anytime! Led by Mary Healy, mary.r.healy@gmail.com. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87035409217?pwd=b3RVWmJwOGFRTHgVkdXMTB3UEM0Zz09>. Meeting ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

MINISTRIES

Stephen Ministry Would you like a caring person to be with you steadfastly, in and through a hard time in your life? Consider asking for a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministry is a free, confidential program that provides Christian care to hurting people with our congregation and surrounding community. Learn more at www.st-michaels.org/stephen-ministry. If you'd like a Stephen Minister, please contact Jeff Robinson (jarobinson100@gmail.com), Julie de Wette (julie@losmadrone.com), or Fr. John Newton (jnewton@st-michaels.org).

Altar Guild The Altar Guild is always looking for women and men to join this ministry. This group makes sure that the sanctuary is clean and readied for services and other liturgical events that happen at St. Michael's. If you are interested in serving or for more information, please contact Gail Reid at reid.gail@gmail.com.

FAMILY LIFE

Amanda Evans Lang, family minister, invites you to check out the [Family Ministry](#) and [Student Ministry](#) pages on the St. Michael's website for updates and activities to enrich your spiritual life. Please email with questions at amanda@st-michaels.org.

Sunday School @9:00 & 11:00 am Each week in January and February, we talk about love: loving self, loving neighbor, and loving God. Sunday School is a place where children and their families can practice being compassionate in a community that values love and compassion. 9:00 and 11:00 am in the Family Life Center. Drop off is on the playground and you will be reunited in the sanctuary in time for communion together as a family.



Sunday School Volunteers Needed! Family Minister Amanda is looking for some volunteers to help at 9:00 and/or 11:00 am. This is a great and fun opportunity to minister to the children in the St. Michael's community. Talk to Amanda on a Sunday morning to learn about getting involved or contact her at amanda@st-michaels.org.

DAY SCHOOL PHOTO OF THE WEEK

The Puppies class spent time outdoors before the winter weather arrived! They love to exercise their imaginations on the playground. Thanks to Miss Annelise for the photo.



THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Please email Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org with prayer requests or to receive the weekly Prayer Chain emails.

Parish Prayer List

For Rosita Ramirez, friend of José Carrillo; she is in recovery from double knee surgery.

For Elbert, who is refurbishing our pews, as he grieves the loss of his sister.

For Michelle D., friend of Chris Whitty, who has COVID.

For Joel McAlister, our previous seminarian, upon his ordination to the priesthood in Tyler, Texas, on January 21.

For St. Michael's as we have our annual parish meeting on Sunday, and for all other parishes doing the same.

For the members of Temple Beth Israel in Fort Worth.

For all those in the nation of Tonga in the aftermath of the volcanic explosion and tsunami.

For all those affected by the Rolling Pines wildfire in Bastrop.

For all victims of gun violence.

COVID-19

For all children and teachers during this unexpected style of attending school.

For all who struggle with loneliness and isolation.

For all those living in eldercare facilities, and for the staff, and for their families.

For all those without employment at this time.

All of our hospital and healthcare workers, including Rosa, J'aime, and Patty, who are keeping healthcare services running.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: San Francisco de Asis, Austin; SoCo, Austin; St. Alban's (Manchaca), Austin

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rector

The Rev. John Newton
jnewton@st-michaels.org

Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
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Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Benko
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Deacon

The Rev. Sherry Williams
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Senior Warden

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Junior Warden

Clark Whitty
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Family Minister

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Director of Communications

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Choir Director

Dr. James Morrow
morrowj@austin.utexas.edu

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God.

Sponsoring altar flowers is a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate an occasion. Dedications can be emailed to: chavens@st-michaels.org. Your donation can be mailed to the church office or given via the "Give" page of our website: <https://www.st-michaels.org/take-action>.

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Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

Psalm 19

FOLLOW ST. MICHAEL'S ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @St.Michaels.Austin

Instagram: stmichaels_atx

Twitter: StMichaelsEpiscopal @StMichaelsATX

THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet? Please send your ideas, stories, or photos to Christine Havens, Communications Assistant, (chavens@st-michaels.org) by 12:00 pm on Wednesdays.

*Your extravagant generosity is appreciated.
Text SMEC1500 to 73256 and follow the prompts to make an e-offering.*