

## THE TRUMPET

Your gateway to all things St. Michael's

April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

#### Dear St. Michael's Family,

Michael Reeves, our parish administrator for the past three years, retired from St. Michael's effective March 31 due to health concerns. The staff will miss him immensely—his grace, his storytelling, and his theological gifts not only in relation to stewardship but also to discipleship helped lift up this church community in unlooked for ways.

"Born to bring order to ecclesiastical chaos, Michael Reeves taught in Asia, Africa, Central and South America, Europe, and at St Michael's. Extraordinarily ecumenical and inclusive, grandfather of 4, still with his first love after 50 years." This was Michael's bio on the St. Michael's website. As with each of us, a few words can give an impression, but rarely do they encapsulate the day-to-day encounters that happen in a



lifetime, let alone during three years of time at a job. Each day in the office, Michael's pastoral presence made an impact on staff as well as vendors and parishioners. His devotion to Mary, his wife, showed in the special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party he planned. The poems he'd written for her over the years took pride of place.

Speaking for myself, Michael helped me to feel at home as a new member of the SMEC staff last year. His generosity and wisdom filled the office, and I loved hearing stories about his life, past and present.

While sorry to be leaving his current position, Michael looks forward to staying connected with St. Michael's. We invite you to shower him and Mary with your good wishes in the form of cards and letters sent to his home address: 1804 Sarong Way, Austin, TX 78748.

Have a prayerful and playful week,

Christine Havens, Assistant for Administration & Communication

## Glimpses of Grace by The Rev. Elizabeth Turner

Grace need not be prayed for; grace needs only to be recognized. Sometimes at best we get glimpses of grace. On Ash Wednesday, while I was still considering my Lenten discipline, I read an article by Margaret Renkl in which she wrote, "For Lent, I'm planning to make a heartfelt offering. . .to seek out daily causes for praise rather than daily reminders of lack." Renkl resolved to daily notice "tiny beautiful things." Or perhaps to rephrase it, where are we daily given glimpses of grace even as we are mandated to shelter in place. One friend of mine is posting a daily photo of a "bit of beauty" that she sees on her daily dog walk. There are glimpses of grace in the recognition that we continue to be the church even though we cannot gather in person as the church. We see glimpses of grace in the not-to-be-taken-for-granted waking up in the morning. We see glimpses of grace in the tears of the overwhelmed. This is what some call the practice of gratitude.

As we approach Easter, we will be reminded again of the power and reality of grace in the gift of our resurrected Lord. Pope Francis recently said, "In the midst of isolation . . . we experience the loss of so many things but let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: He is risen and is living by our side." This is the grace of God.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

April 5	Palm/Passion Sunday	10:30 am	Livestream
April 9	Maundy Thursday	5:00 pm	Sung compline with sermon
April 10	Good Friday	Noon	Livestream
April 12	Easter Sunday	10:30 am	Livestream

All services, whether livestream or prerecorded, will be available to watch on the St. Michael's homepage, <u>www.st-michaels.org</u>, or on Facebook.

## **NEWS**

**SHARING YOUR STORIES** In the upcoming weeks, we would like to share your stories in a number of waysin future issues of the Trumpet and on Facebook–while we have to maintain social distance. If you post something on your Facebook page or on Instagram, please consider tagging St. Michael's, so that we can see it more easily. Just type @St.Michaels.Austin anywhere in your post (it should become a blue link) and viola!

#### Ideas

- Photos or videos of you participating in our Sunday Morning Prayer livestream
- Drawings or other artwork
- Brief (150 words or less) blurb about what you're doing, what you miss most, where you see God right now, a favorite piece of scripture

Please send these to Christine Havens, Admin and Communication Assistant, at <u>chavens@st-michaels.org</u>. Photos should be sent at the highest resolution possible. Please keep videos to about 5 min.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES SUNDAY, APRIL 19** On the Sunday after Easter, join Fr. John at 12:00 pm to discuss the Gospel According to John. Even if you are new to the class, it is never too late to join; we pick back up with John 19. Use this link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/417206348</u>; Meeting ID is 417-206-348.

**FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER VIA ZOOM** Led by Fr. John **each Friday at 10:00 am, beginning on Good Friday, April 10**. Use your computer and the link or download the Zoom app on your phone or smart device and use meeting ID 167-842-186. The link is <u>https://zoom.us/j/167842186</u>.

**TUESDAY VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY AT NOON** Mother Minerva will lead the weekly Tuesday Bible Study, at noon, via Zoom, beginning on April 7. This is recurring meeting, which means that you will use the same link and meeting ID every time. click here: <u>https://zoom.us/j/210182059</u>; Meeting ID: 210 182 059.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE** One of our parishioners, Sally Lombardo, is offering free spiritual direction to St. Michael's parishioners during this time. Sally has an MDiv from Truett Seminary at Baylor and a Certificate in Spiritual Direction. Sally lives in Barton Creek and is happy to meet via FaceTime. If you are interested, please email Sally at <a href="https://www.shlor.com">shlombardo@gmail.com</a>.

**CENTERING PRAYER IS NOW MEETING ONLINE** This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Please email Phyllis Blees with questions: <u>phyllis.blees@gmail.com</u>. Use this link for joining in <u>https://zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=RHcwcmY0aHIKZHdUbkxNWXVPY3FsQT09</u> Meeting ID: 158 321 072; Password: 474723.

## **FAMILY MINISTRY**

**STORYTIME WITH FAMILY MINISTER LIZZIE ON FACEBOOK LIVE | THURSDAYS AT 1:00 PM** Join us for the reading of two books that are fun for the whole family. While this event, like worship, is "live," the recording stays up on the St. Michael's Facebook page, so you can tune in whenever you're ready for some comedic relief and sweet tales. *Lasts about 20 minutes*.

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL IS POSTED TO FACEBOOK | SUNDAYS AT 11:30AM** Rev. Hope and Family Minister Lizzie take turns leading a special message for kids, a story from the Bible, our favorite songs, and our five-finger prayer–just like we would do in Children's Chapel in person! *Lasts about 20 minutes*.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL VIA ZOOM | SUNDAY 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM** All kids (with a parent in the room) 5th grade and below are invited to join us for this time together where we make a craft (supply list sent out the week before), check in with each other, sing our favorite songs, and say prayers for each other. Parents must email Lizzie (lizzie@st-michaels.org) for the link to join. All welcome!

## **STUDENT MINISTRY**

**EYC (EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY) MEETING FOR APRIL 5** EYC will be taking place virtually from 3:00 - 4:30 pm. Join in via Zoom by following this link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/223261360?</u> pwd=c1ZlcGJndnY4YjR4SThHOzR5dmlnOT09;Meeting ID: 223 261 360; Password: 071332.

**AUSTIN AREA EYC ON INSTAGRAM!** Follow <u>@austin\_eyc</u> on Instagram to stay connected to future opportunities for virtual worship and fun with other Episcopal youth from around the city The next virtual event will be Thursday morning: Join in for Morning Prayer via Instagram Live at 10:30 am followed by a group activity in Zoom at 11 am. Direct Message on Instagram for the Zoom link.

**ST. MICHAEL'S IS ON TWITCH TV** Follow <u>stmichaels\_atx on Twitch.TV</u> for livestreams including Bible Study, virtual videogame sessions and more to come!

# All events scheduled later than May 3 will occur as planned unless they are in conflict with government or diocesan guidelines. Stay tuned for updated information every week.

#### THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

#### **New Prayers**

Prayers of gratitude from Bunny Cowan for being safely home.

For Margaret Conner's mother, Kate, who is currently battling non-COVID-19 infections

For Priscilla Wicker's son, Nick. He has the flu and is weak.

For Billy who is beginning chemo. He lives in East Texas and has to drive to Dallas.

#### **COVID-19 Related**

For Kory Killough, son of Lisa and Kirk, who is unemployed

For Jerilynn Sparks, who lost her job, and the Sparks family

For Greg Stiles, in Philadelphia, who is in the vulnerable, high-risk population. For Greg and Kelly's daughter, Amanda, who is pregnant.

Hannah M.

All of our hospital workers, including J'aime, and Patty who works in Yale's ICU, and all who are keeping services for us.

Sondra & Duane Crowley

Prayers for Taylor, pilot for major airline and is flying in/out of affected cities.

Theda Maxwell, Rebecca Brindley's mother, who is quarantined in a nursing care facility, and Bill, her brother-in-law, who is being tested for the virus, and for her sister, who cannot be with him.

Miriam Carillo, and Alfred Carrillo, sister and brother of José, whose livelihoods have been affected by the public emergency

Ed Erdman

## RESOURCES

This is by no means an exhaustive list of available resources. Please feel free to email Christine Havens (<u>chavens@st-michaels.org</u>) with suggestions.

#### **EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Episcopal Diocese of Texas: <u>www.epicenter.org</u> The Episcopal Church<u>: https://episcopalchurch.org/</u> Article from the Office of Government Relations: <u>https://episcopalchurch.org/posts/ogr/misinformation-disinformation-fake-news-why-do-we-care</u>

#### PRAYER

Society of Saint John the Evangelist: <u>https://www.ssje.org/</u> Mission of St. Clare–Daily Office: <u>https://missionstclare.com/english/index.html</u>

#### **GROCERIES, PHARMACY, AND OTHER DELIVERY SERVICES**

HEB Senior Grocery Delivery (via Favor): <u>https://favordelivery.com/seniors</u> Special Shopping Times for Vulnerable Populations–USA Today Article: <u>https://www.usatoday.com/story/</u>

money/2020/03/17/coronavirus-shopping-stores-introduce-time-for-vulnerable-elderlypregnant/5074064002/

#### MEDICAL

One Good Turn: https://www.onegoodturn.org/covid-19-resources

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE-INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

United Way Emergency Food and Other Assistance: connectatx.org/

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE-BUSINESSES

Small Business Association Disaster Relief: https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1500 N. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HIGHWAY, AUSTIN, TX 78746 st-michaels.org

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

**Curate** The Rev. Minerva Camarena Skeith <u>mskeith@st-michaels.org</u>

**Deacon** The Rev. Sherry Williams <u>sherry.v.williams@mac.com</u>

Senior Warden Hilary Bellm <u>hilarybellm@gmail.com</u>

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Assisting Priest The Rev. Hope Benko hope.benko@ssw.edu

Seminarian Joel McAlister joel.mcalister@ssw.edu