



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news



DECEMBER 25, 2022-JANUARY 1, 2023

CELEBRATING
CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS DAY

9AM
EUCHARIST*

*NOT LIVESTREAMED

JANUARY 1
TACO SUNDAY

8AM RITE I EUCHARIST

10AM RITE II EUCHARIST*

*LIVESTREAMED

11AM
BREAKFAST TACOS

ST. MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

*No Sunday School for the Holidays
Wiggle Baskets Available*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Grace and peace to you and your family from the SMEC staff. 2022 has been wonderful year, filled with extravagant generosity. Our church community continues to make a love-spreading difference in the Austin area and beyond thanks to you. We are so grateful for all of you and look forward to 2023. —Christine Havens, Director of Communication

**The Christmas Day service will not be livestreamed, to give our media staff a break. The January 1 10am service will be livestreamed.*

End-of-Year Giving See below about how to make a year-end gift to St. Michael's. If you have questions about your pledge balance for 2022, please email Lisa Killough, chair of our finance commission, at lkillough@austin.rr.com and she will gladly provide that information. All

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OFFICE HOURS DECEMBER 26-30

MONDAY & TUESDAY: 9:00AM-4:00PM

WEDNESDAY: 9:00AM-NOON

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY: CLOSED

YEAR-END GIVING

Make a Special Year-End Gift

- Please consider making a one-time gift to St. Michael's; it would make a big difference as we head into 2023.
- Give to honor a loved one or in thanksgiving for a ministry that has made a difference in your life.
- Scan the QR code or visit donorbox.org/online-giving-129



Giving Details

To declare a contribution on your 2022 tax return, gifts must be:

- POSTMARKED by Dec. 31, 2022; or,
- Donated online by midnight Dec. 31; or,
- Delivered to the church office (1500 N. Capital of Texas Hwy) by midnight Dec. 31 (we have a locked mailbox in which you can place a check in an envelope).

The church office will be open Monday & Tuesday, Dec 26-27, from 9 AM to 4 PM and on Wednesday, December 28, 9am-noon.

IRA Required Minimum Distribution?

Consider giving stock!

It's easy to give stock and realize a tax contribution benefit. You will be credited with the full value of the stock at the time of the gift for the tax deduction; however, neither you nor the church will pay capital gains or other tax on the proceeds.

For stock gifts and all giving inquiries, please contact:

Fr. John Newton, Rector jnewton@st-michaels.org
Lisa Killough, Finance Chair lkillough@austin.rr.com

St. Michael's Episcopal Church
1500 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Austin, TX 78746
Church office: 512-504-4504

NOTES

Are you called to be a Stephen Minister? Are you a trustworthy listener? Would you like to belong to a group of people who walk with others through life's storms? Becoming a Stephen Minister is a life-transforming experience—an opportunity to serve God, help others, and grow in faith. To learn about training to become a Stephen Minister, please email St. Michael's Stephen Ministry or call Julie de Wette (512) 925-7029 or Jeff Robinson (512) 963-6687.

Save the Date! Ordination of Rev. Josh Kulak | Saturday, January 21, 2023 | 10:30 am All are invited to the ordination of our curate and deacon into the Sacred Order of Priests. This will be a grand event in the life of the St. Michael's community. A reception will follow. Stay tuned for more details to come.

Bible Study Resumes in January | Sundays @12:45 & Tuesdays @noon *Bible Study is on hiatus for the holidays.* Rev. Josh Kulak will teach a 3-week Bible study on Jan. 15, 22, and 29 (and the following Tuesdays, Jan 17, 24 and 31)—theme to be announced. The Zoom info will likely stay the same. **ZOOM INFO:** <https://bit.ly/BibleStudyZoomLink> Meeting ID: 832 6049 2080; passcode: bible.

FAMILY LIFE

Sunday School on Hiatus Until January 8 Sunday School is a place where children and their families can practice being compassionate in a community that values love and compassion.

Ms. Amanda, our Family Minister, welcomes children and their parents at the front of the church and guides them to the Family Life Center in the Education Wing. Parents are reunited with their children in the sanctuary at the announcements—in time for communion together as a family.

Be a Sunday School Helper! Do you have a heart for God and for working with children? Family Minister Amanda is looking for adults to serve as Sunday School helpers one or two Sundays a month. If you are interested or for more information, please email her at amanda@st-michaels.org.

Acolyte Program Invitation The acolyte program is a way for our children and youth to act as liturgical leaders during our worship services—carrying the cross, lighting the candles, and more. As they offer their time and talent, they will learn more about what it means to serve God and one another, will become better acquainted with the Episcopal tradition, and will discover that they, too, are ministers of God's love.

Please email Rev. Josh (jkulak@st-michaels.org) if you have children interested in participating.

PLUG INTO OUTREACH

It Takes Many Hands to Share God's Bounty with Those in Need The SMEC Community Garden, which is on the far side of the day school, is in need of more friends to help with this ministry. The gardeners have planted broccoli, lettuce, kale, spinach, chard, garlic, onions, radishes, peas, beets, carrots, cilantro, arugula, and sorrel. All the produce goes to folks who don't have much access to fresh food. Our partner is Hope Food Pantry, a non-profit assisting Austin neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. They love the fresh veggies! Gardeners of all ages are invited to volunteer: plant seeds, water, weed, or harvest. Great for families and individuals! Interested? Contact Beth Michaels at ebethmichaels@att.net.

Outreach Partners St. Michael's Outreach partners for 2022 are the following organizations: Seminary of the Southwest, Trinity Center, Refugee Services of Texas, Casa Marianella, Pauli Murray Scholarship, Episcopal Relief and Development, St. Michael's Day School, El Buen Samaritano, One Good Turn, Nicole's Place, St. Francis Ministries, Honduras Mission Project, Del Valle Book Project, and the SMEC garden. Throughout the year, we work closely with several of these organizations and offer ways for the parish to "plug in" and participate. Contact Harriett Choffel, Outreach Commission chair, for more information: harriettchoffel@icloud.com.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

The Seekers on Hiatus for the Holidays | Sundays @10:00am | Rm 4 (Education Wing) and via Zoom

The Seekers meet weekly at 10:00am. They're finishing up discussion of *Job and the Mystery of Suffering: Spiritual Reflections* by Richard Rohr; look for a new book to be announced in the new year. **There are no gatherings on December 25 or January 1**, due to the holidays. The group will resume meeting on Jan. 8. Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@me.com or Phyllis Blee at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Here's the Zoom link: bit.ly/SeekersZoomLink, Passcode: 541706.

St. Michael's Book Club | Fourth Wednesdays @2:30pm 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. The group is working on an in-person meeting location. *The next meeting is in January as the group takes a break in December.* Here are the first titles for the new year: January—*These Precious Days* by Ann Patchett; February—*Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com or Sue Allen at tom@northcoastbrewing.com for more information.

St. Michael's Women's Potluck | January Date TBA | 6pm | Parish Hall The Women of St. Michael's are invited to gather for food and fellowship. Stay tuned for January's date. Bring a dish or adult beverage to share. If you don't have time to cook, just join us. There is always plenty of food to share. Email Becky Brindley at rmbrindley@yahoo.com or Gail Reid at reid.gail@gmail.com for more information.

Men's Pub Theology | Second Wednesdays @5:00pm | Locations TBA Join the men of St. Michael's for fellowship and theological conversation. The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month; locations TBD. Contact Andy Hines at ahines@hinespool.com for more information.

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: bit.ly/SMECTuesMorningPrayer. Passcode: prayer.

Centering Prayer | Tuesdays @6:30 pm This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: bit.ly/SMECCenteringPrayer; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Blees 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 All are welcome to join each Wednesday at 4:30 pm for prayer and conversation. 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: bit.ly/SMECThursBibleStudy ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

MINISTRIES

Stephen Ministry Occasionally, worry, pain, anxiety or loneliness feel relentless. Jobs, unemployment, family, or eldercare may bring unique highs and weighty lows. A caring Stephen Minister, a trained and confidential listener, not a therapist or friend, may be best equipped to hold your concerns with you for an hour each week, offering understanding, support and prayers.

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.

Photography Ministry Our photographers take on the role of capturing the special moments in the parish, may they be during worship, parish gatherings, or special events. If you're interested in helping with St. Michael's photography ministry, please email our director of communications, Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org. If you have any photos of community life or at-home worship that you'd like to share, Christine welcomes those, too. Please send via email at the highest resolution possible.

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 Klaus Bichteler, who passed away this week; for his wife, Mary Parse, and for his extended family as they grieve.

For Mike McConnell, who is living with a difficult diagnosis.

For Steve Pearman, brother of Sondra Crowley; he was just diagnosed with stage 4 lymphoma.

For Gene Ver Meer, that he might recover from illness and that his doctors receive wisdom.

For Karen Blair, who lost her beloved dog, Penelope.

For all those in the US affected by the extreme cold weather and blizzard.

For all those traveling during the holiday season.

For all those who are alone and lonely during this holiday season.

For the Trinity Center as they continue to provide services to Austin's homeless population, especially during this cold weather.

For all victims of gun violence.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Katy; St. Philip the Evangelist, Houston; St. Stephen's, Houston; St. Thomas', Houston

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Melanesia

DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

The week before the holiday break, the Puppies We enjoyed “snow” ❄️ play outdoors. ! *Thanks to Ms. Lorenza for the photos!*



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rector

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

Curate

The Rev. Dr. Josh Kulak
jkulak@st-michaels.org

Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
eturner@st-michaels.org

Assisting Priest

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

Senior Warden

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Junior Warden

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Family Minister

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Media Tech & Sexton

Jeremy Aschenbach
jaschenbach@st-michaels.org

Director of Music

Dr. James Morrow
morrowj@utexas.edu

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Sponsoring altar flowers is a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate an occasion. They are printed here and in the worship bulletins. Your dedication can be emailed to:

chavens@st-michaels.org.

Donate using the "Give Now" button on our homepage, www.st-michaels.org, or send a check to the church office at 1500 N. Capital of Texas Highway, 78746; put "altar flowers" as the memo.

GIVE TO SMEC



THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet?

Please send your ideas, stories, or photos to Christine Havens, Director of Communications (chavens@st-michaels.org) by 12:00 pm on Wednesdays. We recommend running stories beginning two weeks prior to your event.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1500 N. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

512-327-1474

OFFICE HOURS: M-TH 9:00AM-4:00PM