



# Mike's Missal



June 2024

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 720326

Norman, OK 73070

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[www.stmichaelsnorman.org](http://www.stmichaelsnorman.org)

Sunday Service is at 10:00 A.M.

Live on YOUTUBE

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## From Father Joseph

Not nearly enough people know this, but we Episcopalians were instrumental in making this nation what it is. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were Episcopalians (then known as "Anglicans"). Fifty-six percent (56%) of the men who drafted the US Constitution were Episcopalians. The United States as we know it would not exist, but for the Episcopal/Anglican Church.

But as we celebrate our freedom we should also remember, as St. Paul reminds the Galatians, we have not been set free in order to fall back into slavery to sin. Many have come to believe that "Well, I'm free; so I guess I can do whatever I want." But 'doing whatever you want' never makes anyone free. What really serves freedom -- ours and others' -- is what builds up community in love: the community of family, the community of the workplace, the community of the school, the community of the Holy Church of God.

Freedom is not found in endless sensual pleasures (not that pleasure is excluded; but it is properly a *consequence* of the right enjoyment of our freedom, not a goal in itself). Real freedom is about the gladness and wholeness of the heart, not the body. Any other understanding of freedom leads us into a slavery to pleasure and, in the end, misery of the heart.

We are called by Christ to serve a freedom that leads to human wholeness. The theologian, Mark McIntosh, writes about the real freedom that Christ gives us:

"... the early followers of Jesus ... reflect ... Jesus' strange freedom to entrust himself to the One he called Father, and (perhaps as a result of this freedom) .... It is this relationship, this entrusting of oneself to the divine Other, that seems to enable Jesus and his followers to live [*freely*] **beyond the bitter constraints of fear and need for revenge....** In other words, it sets flowing within them and their community a new experience of abundance, of giving joy, of there being somehow 'enough,' such that one could trust this overruling goodness of God as the deepest truth of every situation."<sup>1</sup>

The freedom that Christ gives us is 'enough'. It sets us free from the fear of death, from the slavery of selfishness, and leads us to the fruits of the Holy Spirit which Paul describes: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. That is a freedom truly worth living for, and truly worth dying for, in the faith that the "overruling goodness of God" is the deepest truth of every situation, whether living for it or dying for it.

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<sup>1</sup> Mark A. McIntosh, *Divine Teaching: An Introduction to Christian Theology* [Oxford: Blackwell, 2008] 116

## **From Senior Warden David Zittel**

During the last month (May), I have been less engaged in committee meetings and other church-sponsored activities than I would like. In early May, I had a concert that fell on the same weekend as the Pride Festival activities. But also, I learned that I have prostate cancer confirmed via a biopsy. Many men of a certain age have this cancer but die of other causes first. The next step is to get a PET scan scheduled for early June to determine the extent of the cancer and start treatment. During the third week of May Rosemary, our daughter, traveled from Switzerland to visit us, and help to tidy up loose ends and lend moral support. She will be visiting us again soon. Meanwhile, Fr. Joseph and I are staying in close touch to ensure the needs of the parish are being met. Finally, I am overwhelmed by the emotional support and assistance that you, the parish, have offered to Mary and me. With sincere gratitude, David Zittel, Senior Warden

## **JUNE EVENTS**

### **Outreach Committee June 1**

The Outreach Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Cursillo Team Meeting June 1 10:00 a.m.**

### **Ultreya June 8**

St. Michael's will have an Ultreya – a meeting of those who have made or are interested in making the Cursillo weekend – (See Cursillo on page 3) on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Anyone who has gone to a Cursillo weekend or is interested attending one in September is invited to attend. Contact: Amy Gardner or Fr. Joseph Farber

### **Welcome Luncheon June 9**

Adam and Betty Falato will host a Welcome Luncheon for newcomers after the 11:00 service on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Wild Men's Night Out June 14**

Saint Michael's men's group will meet for an evening of fellowship and conversation on our usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Join St. Mike's men for The Best Steak You Ever Had for only \$20.<sup>00</sup>. Donations are always appreciated. Salad, baked potatoes, garlic bread and a plentiful selection of craft beers complete the menu. Please sign up by June 12. Contact: Brandt Cassidy

### **Celebration of Rt. Rev. Wallis Ohl June 16**

On Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Ohl.

### **Vestry Meeting June 16**

The Vestry will meet following the service on Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup> in the Education Building.

### **City of Norman Election June 18**

### **Care-A-Van Meals for the Unhoused June 20**

Tom and Ann Selvidge will prepare chicken on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Sign up for meals through the end of the year. Food is prepared at home and boxed up at 5:00 p.m. on the date. We always need water and extra snacks if you don't want to cook anything. Contact: Debi Kelley

### **Saucy Sisters June 21**

The Saucy Sisters will gather at 5:30 p.m. and dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$10, but your first time is free. Tonya Dasch will prepare a Japanese dinner. Please sign up in the ingathering space.

### **Worship Committee June 23**

The Worship Committee will meet following the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Budget Meeting June 25**

The Budget Committee will meet via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

# Ice Cream Social



And



# Hymn Sing



**Sunday, June 30  
5:30 p.m.**

**St. Michael's will have an old-fashioned "Ice Cream Social and Hymn Sing" on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign up! We need ice cream freezers full of your favorite flavor, a gallon from your favorite store, or toppings. Invite your friends and neighbors! Be sure to sign up to request your favorite hymns. Contact: Evelyn Bibens.**

## Other Ministries, News & Events

### Altar Flowers & Sanctuary Candles

If you notice the altar without flowers, it is because no one signed up to provide them for that Sunday. If you would like to provide flowers or candles for a particular Sunday, a sheet is in the sign-up area. It can be in memory, thanksgiving or celebration. Cost of flowers is \$45, Candles are \$10. You can either pay ahead of the date (check payable to St. Michaels' with Altar flowers in the memo) or we will send a bill following the Sunday the flowers are on the altar. Contact: Debi Kelley

### Altar Guild

We appreciate the beautiful altar on Sunday mornings, and all the work done by our wonderful Altar Guild. If you are available once every few weeks on a Saturday morning to help set the altar and Sunday morning after church to clean the altar, please contact the church office.

### Bible Study

The study of the Old Testament continues from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Come read and discuss with us.

### Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group has the summer off and will resume in September.

### Book Sale

We continue to collect books in the choir room for our next sale. Contact: Amy Gardner

### Budget & Finance Committee

The next budget meeting will be on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The budget is in line with expectations except for some expensive maintenance. (See Financial Report, page 4) Contact: Amy Gardner

### Care Team

If you have a need for delivered meals or transportation, please let Debi or Nancy know. If you would like to join the Care Team, a sign-up sheet is available.

### Choir

St. Mike's choir Thursday evening rehearsals are suspended until mid-August. We rehearse at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you are interested in singing in the choir, contact Parish Musician, Jon Roberts.

### Churches Caring for Creation

St. Mike's Styrofoam drop-off has moved to the garden side of the Education Building. We densify weekly at University Lutheran Church, and volunteers are always needed. Contact Doug Bowden at 405-831-9951. Donations for this project should be made to University Lutheran or to St. Michael's for tax purposes. Contact: Tina Mahle, Green Team

### Crafters

Our crafters meet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Monday. Bring your project and enjoy the fellowship. Contact: Amy Gardner

### Cursillo

A Cursillo weekend is scheduled for **September 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>** at St. Crispin's in English and for Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> in Spanish. St. Michael's is active in the renewal of the Oklahoma Episcopal Cursillo. Fr. Joseph is the chaplain for the Secretariat (state-wide board) and Amy Gardner is a member. Cursillo is a movement of the Episcopal church. Its purpose is to help those in the church understand their individual callings to be Christian Leaders. Leadership, in Cursillo, does not mean power over others, but influence on others; all of us need to be aware that we can exert a positive influence on those around us.

### Directory Update

A new church directory is planned for July so please check your entry and send updates to the office.

### Discretionary Fund

The last Sunday of each month (June 30) all offering plate cash goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please consider putting cash in the plate on the last Sunday or donate any time by writing "Discretionary Fund" on a check. These funds are used to address unexpected needs.

## Facility Use

Anyone using St. Mike's buildings for a purpose outside of regular church activities, must contact the office and complete an *Application for Facilities Use*. We need to have a record of all activities in our buildings and ensure that usage is appropriate.

## Financial Report

Copy Machine Lease	\$587.04
Brooks Grease Service	\$300.00
Oklahoma Natural Gas	\$394.55
Lawn Service	\$580.00
ACS (Pledge software)	\$281.00

Although May's finances were good, June's bills will challenge the budget. A repair of the HVAC in the Education Building will cost approximately \$7,800.00 and we will need to dip into our reserves. If you'd like to make a special donation for this repair, make a note on your gift. Our thanks to Josh Yarbrough for getting a low bid and for heading the project.

## Greeters & Ushers needed!

Sign up to serve as a greeter or usher. We want to give a warm welcome to everyone on Sundays. Contact: Santa Velez.

## Internet in the Education Building

Thanks to Carol Zerboni we now have internet access in the Education Building. Contact the office for login information.

## Lawn Mowing

Our lawn and property mowing costs \$580.00 a month for seven summer months. Each mowing is \$290.00. If you would like to make a special gift for this maintenance, please indicate "lawn" on your check.

## Laundry Love

St. Michael's will sponsor Laundry Love on **August 24<sup>th</sup>** from 9-12 at Sooner Wash. We will provide about 50 of our neighbors with up to \$15 in laundry (including detergent, bleach, and dryer sheets) and a lunch. Save your quarters, as we need about \$900 to sponsor laundry and lunch. This is a back-to-school event, so we will collect school supplies in Sharon's Wagon in June and July.

Neighbors are also provided with breakfast from Dunkin' Donuts, dog and cat food from St. Francis Animal Resource Center, feminine products from Period OKC, and new socks from Sox of Love.  
Contact: Amy Gardner

## Lectio Divina

### Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. in the Library

Lectio Divina is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. Dating back to the early centuries of the Christian Church, it was established as a monastic practice by Benedict in the 6th century. It is a way of praying the

scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word. We slow down. We read a short passage more than once. We chew it over slowly and carefully. We savour it. Scripture begins to speak to us in a new way. It speaks to us personally and aids that union we have with God through Christ who is himself the Living Word.  
Contact: Rt. Rev. Wallis Ohl (ret)

## Norman Coalition for Refugee Support

Judy Phillips is our new representative on the board and attended her first quarterly meeting of the Norman Coalition for Refugee Support. She was very impressed by this organization and its successes. One Afghan student just earned a Master's at OU; two Afghan high schoolers were approved for the Oklahoma Promise Scholarship.

Volunteers are needed for regular transportation, and to act as liaisons with families. Donations of furniture are welcome. Housing for large families in the present expensive market is a problem. Volunteers stress that the most significant barrier to family independence is the level of practical English language usage, particularly for women, who are often isolated. Consequently, the NCRS has embarked on a more comprehensive education program called "English Language Skills for a Healthy Community" to bring families closer to independence. Grants have been applied for, but even if those are awarded, we need an additional \$38,185. Contact Judy Phillips

## Ordination of Deacon Ann

The Right Rev. Poulson Reed will ordain Ann Murray to the Sacred Order of Priest at 6:30 p.m. on August 15<sup>th</sup> at Saint John's Episcopal Church, Tulsa. A live stream link will be available.

## Outreach Committee

The next Outreach Meeting will be June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Outreach will sponsor a luncheon after the 11:00 a.m. service on **July 21<sup>st</sup>**. We will share about our outreach programs, the impact they have on the Norman community and information about how to get involved. Contact Amy Gardner, Deacon Laura Blazek, or Deacon Ann Murray

## **Photo Release Forms**

We need a signed form from everyone so that we have a record of your permission to be in photographs that June be used in our digital presence. Pick one up from the entrance counter and leave it in the office.

## **Prayer Chain and List**

Please direct private prayer requests for the Prayer Chain to David Sims at [davidsims82420@gmail.com](mailto:davidsims82420@gmail.com). The Prayer List printed in Sunday's bulletins will start anew at the beginning of each month. Please submit the names of those you wish to be added to the June published prayer list this week. The list will continue throughout the month, so additions for June be made at any time. Contact: Nancy Littlejohn

## **Rummage Sale**

Begin now to collect items for St. Mike's Rummage Sale! **Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (set up on Aug. 23 starting @ 1 pm.) Please consider donating gently used items to our rummage sale in August. We take most items including clothes as long as they are clean, in good condition, and working. See the bulletin board for a list of items we will not take.

## **Sharon's Wagon**

In June and July we will collect school supplies for Laundry Love in August. Sharon's Wagon is in honor and memory of Sharon Vaz who had great compassion for those in need. We fill her wagon with items for those in need in our community.

## **Sign Up Counter**

Opportunities for Participation are on the Sign-Up Counter. We have many ways for you to be involved in the life of St. Mike's – check it out!

## **Southwind Summer School**

June 3 – July 12 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

## **Tea in the Kitchen Al-Anon Family Groups**

Tea in the Kitchen Al-Anon Family Group is for the friends, family, and loved ones of someone who is struggling with addiction. All are welcome! We meet on Fridays at 8:00 p.m. in the Education Building.

## **Thanksgiving Baskets**

For the past thirty-six years St. Michael's has been distributing Thanksgiving Baskets from the church to families in need. This year Ninety (90) baskets will be distributed again to families. We are asking for donations to purchase the food items for the baskets—turkey breast, stuffing, potatoes, milk, butter, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, bread, pies, and apples. Please address checks to "St. Michael's Thanksgiving Baskets" and deposit them in the offering plate or in the church office. We are working with Homeland for the seventh year.

Tentatively we will assemble baskets on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and distribute them from the church on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Volunteers will be needed. If you can help, please call Rick Young (405-637-6376) or Patrick Moore (405-659-2126).

## **Vestry at St. Michael's**

The Vestry meets after the 11:00 service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. All members are welcome to visit vestry meetings. Minutes of the meetings are posted on the bulletin board.

## **St. Michael's Website**

Katie Blair and Tim Phillips are the webmasters for our site. Please help them out by sending them current information or new photos.

## **Yoga Class**

Join instructor Anne Roberts on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. Each class session is \$10.00.

## June Days to Remember

### Birthdays

6/1 James Schlittler  
6/4 Karen Goodchild  
6/6 Breanna Gray  
6/8 Katie Willis Blair  
6/12 Liz Wilson  
6/14 Wanda Thompson  
6/18 Syra Vaz  
6/22 Zane Gray  
6/26 Hadley Sprouse  
6/30 Karen Nix

### Anniversaries

6/17/2016 Tim & Judy Phillips

### On the anniversary of their death



6/4/1982 Guy Dellinger  
6/6/1987 Aline Asher  
6/12/1988 Lucile Jameson  
6/12/2003 Shaun Kelly, III  
6/21/2003 Mildred Zittel  
6/17/2007 Roland Brown  
6/5/2011 Dan Gibbens  
6/26/2011 Kathaleen Cassidy  
6/21/2013 Mary Kay Vasseur  
6/22/2013 Irene Jernigan  
6/7/2018 John McDowell  
6/5/2019 Roger Banks  
6/27/2019 Thomas Pearson



## Handy Information

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If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the office at 405-321-8951 during regular hours, or call Father Joseph, Deacon Laura, or Deacon Ann in case of emergency outside office hours.

Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday 9:00 A.M.– 2:00 P.M. Thursdays 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

St. Michael's Webpage: [www.stmichaelsnorman.org](http://www.stmichaelsnorman.org)

St. Michael's Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6273015521>

St. Michael's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZX8EOJFq5VykhE5K9q8eA>  
Subscribe to receive update notices when we post new videos for worship or other resources.

Father Joseph Farber <mailto:fr.jos.farber@gmail.com> 541-300-9207

Deacon Laura Blazek [laurablazek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:laurablazek@sbcglobal.net) 405-639-0300

Deacon Ann Murray [deaconann18@gmail.com](mailto:deaconann18@gmail.com) 405-919-8533

Parish Musician Jon Roberts [dachs.mirabilis@icloud.com](mailto:dachs.mirabilis@icloud.com) 405-850-5252

David Zittel, Senior Warden [David12330@gmail.com](mailto:David12330@gmail.com) 405-834-8764

Tina Mahle, Junior Warden [Tina.mahle@alumni.ou.edu](mailto:Tina.mahle@alumni.ou.edu) 405-517-5142

Ann Selvidge, Treasurer [annselster@gmail.com](mailto:annselster@gmail.com) 405-365-8985

Nancy Littlejohn, Parish Administrator [stmecnormanok@gmail.org](mailto:stmecnormanok@gmail.org) 405-321-8951 or cell 405-924-2782

Debi Kelley, Financial Secretary, [treasurer@stmichaelsnorman.org](mailto:treasurer@stmichaelsnorman.org) 405-321-8951

### OTHER CONTACTS:

Brandt Cassidy [bgcassidy@cox.net](mailto:bgcassidy@cox.net) 405-921-5772

Amy Gardner [awgardner@yahoo.com](mailto:awgardner@yahoo.com) 405-410-5523

### Your 2024 Vestry

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