

A. M. D. G. - "For the greater glory of God"



St. Michael Messenger

Poplar Springs, MD. June 5, 2016

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Archbishop Lori visits St. Michael

Archbishop Lori arrived with his priest secretary, **Fr. Blu Bianco** to preside at the 10:30 Pentecost Liturgy May 15. Concelebrating with him were our **Pastor Fr. Michael Ruane** and **Fr. Kurt Klismet O.S.S.T.** Special thanks go to **Deacon Cliff Britton** for his overall coordination of the liturgy and to all the various coordinators of the liturgical ministries, including the Fr. Michael J. McGivney 4th Degree Assembly of the Knights of Columbus and Troop 428. The joyous music directed by **Allan Laino** was supplied by various choirs.



Archbishop Lori expressed deep gladness for his visit to St. Michael, Poplar Springs. It was a wonderful liturgy, well prepared and celebrated with great festivity for such an auspicious occasion presided over by our chief shepherd on the Solemnity of Pentecost! Afterwards, Archbishop Lori greeted people and posed for pictures.

A special center piece prepared by **Marie Welsh** in the narthex consisted of flowers and a sign which read: "Welcome Archbishop Lori. The entire parish extends our gratitude for your visit."



Audio-visual equipment was set-up by **Tony DeMattia** in Fellowship Hall for any overflow crowd there might be. As Deacon Cliff commented: "Everything was good and holy and uplifting . . . The fantastic music, the joyful ushering (Boy Scout Troop 428), the proclaimers of the Word, the reverent Eucharistic Ministers, and the super-attentive altar servers!"



Gift of Hours: Ushering in Summer With Many Achievements Made Possible by Many Volunteers



OUR SMALL CHURCH dating from 1879 has received much needed work to the building and a new look outside in bushes and plantings. At night with the windows lit up, it looks like a country church.

BULL ROAST: the past - Our 12th annual Spring Party with a Purpose (a pavilion) grossed over \$113K with a net profit in excess of \$91,000. Our thanks to co-chairs **Cathy & Jay Stephens** and the myriad of volunteers and our generous guests.

PAVILION: the future Our civil engineering firm is updating the site plan to construct the pavilion and to consider the feasibility of ball fields. The cost to update the site plan is \$41.5K. The site plan awaits the approval of the Archbishop and comments from the Archdiocesan building commission.

OPPORTUNITY CALLS: After 2 years of chairing our spring party and raising \$200K **Cathy and Jay Stephens** will be devoting time to the arrival of a granddaughter. So Fr. Mike is now in search of new chair persons for next year's party. They will inherit very experienced leaders for the 4 big in-place committees.

FRONT ENTRANCE PROJECT: Designs have been studied and funding of \$140K has been secured through our *Capital Campaign*. The front entrance project will include side-walk pavers expanded front steps, and a new glass front. More light will come into a larger vestibule area. Completion date? End of summer.

*The Gift of Hours:
grow. pray. serve. give. share.*



"Choose this day whom you will serve;
as for me and my house we will serve The Lord." Joshua 24:15

"Brian was in a traffic accident and is being flown to Shock Trauma!" Words no one wants to hear about their grandchild. As we prepared to travel to Baltimore, the first thing we did was to alert family, friends, our Bible study and our prayer group to our immediate need for prayer. After God our family is the most important relationship in our lives, so we immediately cried out to God for help!

Brian, 33, has a wife Amy, and daughters Taylor, 11, and Natalie, 9. He suffered a spinal cord compression injury requiring immediate neurosurgery. His neurological recovery was uncertain. While not paralyzed, he had minimal movement of his body; some areas being frozen in place from the accident. At the same time he was in excruciating pain and said he was scared because he felt trapped inside his body. We were blessed to have Brian anointed and to pray for his healing.

After 10 days in Shock Trauma at the University of Maryland Hospital, Brian was transferred to Kernan Hospital for spinal cord injury rehabilitation. During his initial evaluation at Kernan there was mention of his not being able to work again. By the next week on day four of intense rehab Brian was walking with his physical therapist behind holding him by a belt for support. A miracle, we were witnessing! Brian and our family being blessed with a miracle! We told the doctor at Kernan that many, many prayers were being offered for Brian's healing. He commented, keep the prayers coming; they are definitely working. We give all the Glory to Jesus!



As I said, our relationship with God is and has been an important part of our lives. When we truly needed Him, He was there to comfort, encourage, and support us. Ken and I have been married for 51 years and blessed with two daughters and two sons. In addition, we are grandparents of ten from the ages of 33-4; two of those are great-grandchildren. Ken and I met in a New Jersey high school and later discovered when we were preparing for marriage that we had received our First Holy Communion at the same Mass; he went to public school and I went to parochial school.

When we moved to Catonsville, MD, leaving all of our extended family behind, we gave our lives to Jesus while attending Charismatic Healing Services in the Episcopal Church. We came home again to the Catholic Church at St. Michael's in 2000. We kept God with us in the 5 years we owned a Christian Pizza and Sub shop (Freebies) in the Chatham area of Ellicott City. This shop had scriptures and encouraging messages on each of the walls. All of our children and our first two grandsons worked with us at this endeavor.

At St. Michael's we have been blessed to be part of the monthly Lunches For The Poor, and the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter food collection and delivery. Additionally, through Alpha and Life in The Spirit courses we are now part of The Holy Spirit Fellowship Group which meets each Tuesday evening to study the next Sunday's Mass readings.

It seems that if you walk with God in your journey, He will be with you in times of need. "I will be with you always." Matt. 28:29
"I will not leave you orphaned." John 14:18

The Power of Prayer

"The day was long, the burden I had borne seemed heavier than I could longer bear. And then it lifted - but I did not know someone had knelt in prayer; had taken me to God that very hour, and asked the easing of the load, and God in His infinite compassion, had stooped down and taken it from me. We cannot tell how often as we pray for some bewildered one, hurt and distressed, the answer comes. But many times those hearts find sudden peace and rest. Someone had prayed, and faith, a reaching hand, took hold of God, and brought Him down that day!

So many, many hearts have need of prayer. O, let us pray!"

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Franciscan missionary, who had deep filial devotion to Mary, imprisoned in Auschwitz where he offered up his own life in place of another prisoner who had a family.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) classes will begin in September.

Contact **Stacey Ford**
(240) 437-3671 or

Sford@stmichaelpoplarsprings.org



Religion Classes start the 1st week of October!

Sun. -- Oct. 2
Mon.-- Oct. 3
Tues.--Oct. 4

Register early. Classes are filled on a first come basis. Registration information was mailed April 10 to registered families. Tuition discount for grade school students registered before Aug. 15 and for high school students until Aug. 31. Forms are available at religious education offices.

Gift of Hours

grow. pray. serve. give. share.



Do you ever realize how blessed you are?

If Mary is the **most** blessed of all God's creatures, doesn't that imply that all His creatures are blessed by God? We acknowledge that when we pray

"Give us this day, our daily bread." And He does give us the spiritual bread from the Mass (the readings and the Eucharist), the graces for the coming day, placing our trust in Him safe from all anxiety, knowing that He provides for the needs of all His creatures.

Do you find yourself blessed? If no, maybe it is because you are simply not aware of God's gifts to you all day: Remember "the Lord delights in His people." Ps. 149:4 "I am with you always." Matthew 29:20

To make you more aware of God at work in your daily life, try this. At bedtime think about maybe 5 blessings you have received that day. They are wide and varied, simple and complex, something good and unexpected, in nature or from others. Isn't it amazing? You just have to look. As Jesus said, "Blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear." Matthew 13:16

Ironically, the more you count your blessings, the more blessings you will have to count. Has a difficult or sad situation ever turned out to be a blessing for you in the end? When was the last time you actually counted your blessings?

At the start of your day, pray that you will use that day ahead as a loving gift to God, filled with **awareness** and **appreciation** for all His gifts to you. Then sit back and be amazed!

*Prepare ye the Way of the Lord!
for He comes upon the altar in every Mass.*

WORSHIPPING God
is the central purpose
of the liturgy
we call the Mass.



PREPARE before by reading the 3 Mass readings prayerfully.

PONDER them: Which one speaks more to you? What does it say to you? How can it help make a difference in your life?

PARTICIPATE attentively in the prayers, hymns, and actions.

An additional help is the **DOCTRINAL HOMILY** web site for Year C. Choose the upcoming Sunday and there you will find the readings and a brief meditation on them.



PARENTS and GRANDPARENTS:
Help children to pray and follow Sunday Mass. Send them **MAGNIFIKID** for ages 6 to 12, a monthly packet for the Masses including prayers, games, activities, and a parent page.

JESUS OFTEN PRAYED.

Here are a few of the many times recorded in the Bible.



- *Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.* Mk1:35
 - *At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.* Matt.11:25-26
 - *After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone.* Matt.14:23
 - *One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.* Luke 6:12
 - *But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.* Luke 22:32
 - To the apostles he said: *This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.* Matt. 6:9-13
 - Read His beautiful prayer to His Father for strength and for us before He left to go to the Garden and His arrest. John 12:27-28
- Praying is simply lifting your mind and heart to God. This can be done anywhere at any time. It is that simple. It always is and always was.

A WAY to TRULY PRAY

We call God **OUR FATHER** and as a father, He would like to hear from us not only prayers in a book, but prayers from

our heart. Try just talking to Him using

A C T S:

1st, **ADORATION**, praise, awe, love
Then **CONTRITION** for your failings
Next **THANKSGIVING** for specific gifts you have received from Him
Finally, **SUPPLICATION**- with this you are familiar, but remember He knows what you need, when you need it and always He understands.
Into your Hands we commit our lives.

Gift of Hours grow.pray.serve. give. share.

Beverly A. Shaffer To Retire From Church Staff



I first met Bev and husband Dennis (U.S. Navy Retired) during a pastoral visit when their daughter Angela was killed in a car accident on July 13, 1990. It was to be the beginning of a wonderful relationship with one who would give so much of herself to the Lord's work and to her parish family. Bev and I have worked together for sixteen years! She has been an active parishioner for 36 years. She and Dennis have one daughter living and one son, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild.



She started as an office clerk maintaining the STAND training files for our staff and lay volunteers. She served faithfully in the following duties - Pastoral Council :three years as secretary, one year as vice-president, and two years as president on the Pastoral Council; Pastoral Visitor who also sent greeting cards to residents at local nursing and rehabilitation homes; Service/Justice Committee as the long-time chair; Special Minister of Holy Communion for twenty-three years; Cornerstone Breakfasts as initiator and supervisor (30,056 meals served; \$90,080 profit to date!) which began in 2002 for the purpose of paying off the mortgage; Coordinator of the food deliveries to Beacon House in Frederick County; Monday night bingo as a cashier and coordinator of special food menu for twenty-two years; Funeral Luncheon as server for ten years; Money Counter for the Sunday Offertory collections ; Co--chair of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal; CROP walk as parish liaison for the ecumenically sponsored local walk for the hungry; Food Cellar helper; Christmas Caring and Sharing Tree, Mt. Airy Co-op, Lunches for the Mission of Mercy staff on their visits to Mount Airy.

For her extraordinary service to the Church Bishop P. Francis Murphy presented her with the *Archdiocesan Medal of Honor* in 2005. For her dedication to service/justice work in the parish she received "The Most Rev. Bishop P. Francis Murphy Recognition Direct Service Award" at the 37th Annual Archdiocesan Social Ministry Convocation March 5, 2016.

Bev commented: "God doesn't give you more than you can handle. Sometimes, you wonder how much you can handle but God knows for sure and you will grow from your experiences. Growing up poor and not having a lot of material things, I have always helped those around me who were worse off than I was or am. I know how some of the needy feel and knowing I might make a difference in their lives is satisfying to me. I always look for the good in people no matter who they are because even with those who are not so good or kind deep down there is a spark of kindness/compassion somewhere. You just have to find it and bring it out in them. Everyone wants to be loved no matter who they are or what they are.

I see St. Michael Church, Poplar Springs, as a parish of friendly, caring individuals who are growing in their faith journey to strengthen each other and evangelize those who are searching for a purpose to renew themselves and bring love and joy to others. Spreading the word of God will bring this community closer to understanding the needs and trials of those who are in doubt or non-believers of our faith; and how having God in their lives will enrich them more than they can ever imagine."

Beverly Shaffer has shared with us her *Gift of Hours* in stewardship and discipleship. She will retire at the end of June after fourteen years as church bookkeeper. The staff will miss her even disposition, sweet smile, and readiness to lend a helping hand. She truly exemplifies the Lord's instruction: "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Mi 6:8).
-- Fr. Mike

Just Starting A New Life Journey

Bev will still be active at St. Michael as Eucharistic Minister at Masses and helping with the Beacon House meals and various activities. However, now she will have more time with her husband Denny, her children, grandchildren and her great-grandchild. A reception to honor will be in the **FELLOWSHIP HALL** on **JUNE 26** from **1:15 to 3 p.m.** not to say good-bye, but thank you and to offer many blessings on her new journey.

Gift of Hours

grow. pray. serve. give. share.



POLITE PERSECUTION! Beware!

Pope Francis described "this persecution is cloaked in a disguise of "culture, modernity, and progress." Those who suffer this kind of persecution are not persecuted "for confessing Christ's name, but for wanting to have and manifesting the values of the Son of God.

We see every day that the powerful make laws that force them to go on this path, and a nation that does not follow these modern, cultured laws, or at least does not have them in their legislation, are accused (and) are politely persecuted."

He spoke of this on the feast of St. Stephen who was stoned to death after firmly rebuking the scribes and elders. The pope explained that persecution is "the church's daily bread" and that today, there are "everyday men and women" who are martyred for the faith. Even in the holy season of Easter, Christians celebrating Easter in Pakistan were martyred precisely because they were celebrating the risen Christ. And like so, the history of the church goes forward with its martyrs."

However, he added, there is also a "polite" persecution that "takes away from man and woman their freedom, as well as their right to conscientious objection."

"Jesus has named the head of this 'polite' persecution: the prince of this world. And when the powerful want to impose behaviors, laws against the dignity of the Son of God, they persecute them and go against God the Creator. It is the great apostasy." Pope Francis said that although Christians are besieged by persecution, Jesus will always remain close. "The Lord has promised that he will not be far from us: 'Beware, beware! Do not fall for the spirit of the world. Beware! But go forward, I will be with you.'" Jesus said.

A THOUGHT --First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out —

because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—

because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—

because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

Martin Niemöller, a Protestant pastor who opposed the Nazi regime, and spent 7 years in concentration

"DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT YOU ARE ALL MEMBERS OF CHRIST?" I Cor. 5:15

As a child in Catholic schools, I was told about persecution of Catholics through the ages, but I never thought this would happen



in my world. I was wrong from what I see in the news today and have heard from those who escaped. A systematic, barbaric, and diabolical war against Christians is being waged now all over the world.



Fr. Kurt, a Trinitarian who assists Fr. Mike at St. Michael, spoke to a gathering one night in May about the devastation now occurring in the world where people profess a belief in Jesus. As Christians it is our responsibility, our obligation to pray for these, our brothers and sisters: "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." Rom. 12:5

You can help them by your prayers and sacrifices: going to frequent Masses (our highest form of prayer) meditating on the rosary, and adding them to your daily prayers.

PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Almighty, everlasting God, look with compassion on all those who suffer persecution for justice' sake. Grant them grace to carry their cross with patience in the name of Your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let the chalice pass from them as by Your holy Will: yet, in all things, may Your Will be done. Grant to those who persecute, light to see the truth, and the grace of mercy and forgiveness, for they know not what they do. Mary, Mother of Jesus, Comfort of the Afflicted, help your children in their time of bitter trial. O Lord our God, by the sign of Thy holy cross deliver us from our enemies.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

TRINITARIAN THIRD ORDER - While we at St. Michael know Fr. Kurt, we probably do not know



that the Trinitarians have a Third Order for laity. We met one of them, **Margaret French**, a parishioner, who spoke to us at St. Michael at each weekend Mass about the situation of persecuted Christians and invited us to attend Fr. Kurt's Hour of Prayer for them May 20th.

The Third Order members live out their lay vocation in fellowship and communion with all the members of the Trinitarian Family, seeking with all their strength the glory of the Trinity and the redemption of their captive brothers and sisters. See <http://www.trinitarians.org/about/laity.html>

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it. Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little."
Edmund Burke

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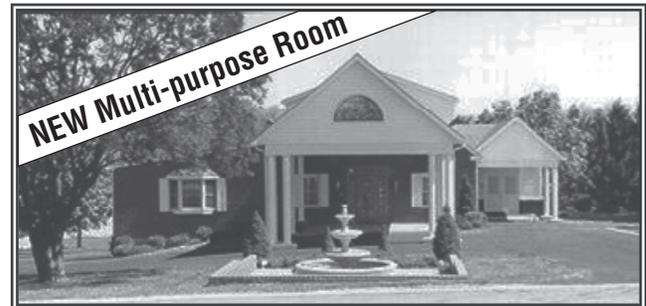


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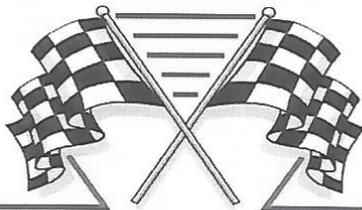
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Gift of Hours

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Keeping Your Kids Catholic -- Many of us know

families in which the children have grown up to reject the Catholic faith in which they were raised. When they become teens, they begin to resist attending Mass, and when they become adults, they casually switch to the religion of their spouse, join a nondenominational megachurch, or proudly announce that they are atheists or agnostics. How can we instill in our children a love for the Catholic faith so that it becomes a faith they treasure, the church they consider home?

Unfortunately, there is no fail-safe formula. Each of us, including our offspring, was created with free will, the ability to make their own choices, and sometimes we choose poorly. Even saints struggled with offspring who rejected the faith of their parents. The most famous of these is St. Monica and her son St. Augustine. St. Monica was married to a violent alcoholic husband, who she converted after years of prayer. Their son Augustine was a heretic who lived a dissolute life while dabbling in a variety of religions. Monica's years of prayers for him finally resulted in his conversion at age 34. He eventually became a bishop and a saint later known for deep theological works and beautiful prayers.

Even St. Thomas More, martyr for the faith in England, struggled with his son-in-law William who became enamored of the Lutheran religion. Despite numerous debates and entreaties, the saint was unable to persuade William to return to Catholicism. To maintain the peace, Thomas gave up arguing and resorted to prayer alone. After More's death, William did reconcile with the Church, giving credit to the prayers of his father-in-law.

Visit our parish library to learn of more saints, parents like us today, who face the sorrow and frustration of being unable to share their faith with their family members. (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Rita of Cascia, Servant of God Elizabeth Leseur) Like them, we need to love our straying children, persevere in prayer for them, and trust that God will answer our prayers **in His way and His time.** **April Danchik**

FOR A CHILD'S RETURN TO THE FAITH - O God, You became human, suffered, and died to win salvation for all. Look graciously on our children, who have turned their backs to Your sacrifice, drifted away from the faith and apparently, from You as well. Grant ____ Your grace to see the error of their ways and return to the fold and the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Teach me to stay close to each one of them during this trying time. Help me to try to influence each by kindness and prayers more than by words that many antagonize. Mother Mary, pray for our children. Amen

MOTHERS

GIVING BIRTH AGAIN!

This time we welcomed a new ministry, one for mothers. At our first meeting May 5th more than 20 mothers from our parish gathered to meet other mothers and enjoy desserts, wine, and fellowship. Father Mike was there to bless our group and provide a prayerful start to what will be a regular monthly meeting of mothers of all ages. **We will meet the first Thursday of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 115.** This is a group for all mothers, no matter the age of their children, even those with babes in arms. Here is an opportunity to share ideas and what has worked for you.

Kit Hart brought the "Faces of Mercy" experience to St. Michael in February, and that is where she met **Megan Smith**. These two ladies decided to launch Mothers of St. Michael, to provide fellowship and strengthen the parish. Motherhood in today's increasing secular world, can benefit from the support of other mothers to grow in faith, providing guest speakers, retreats, and literature while being guided by the Holy Spirit. You do not need to be Catholic to attend, but the group will maintain a strong Catholic identity. After our June meeting, Fr. Mike was on hand to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. megangriffin.smith@yahoo.com

**Steadfast in FAITH
Unwavering in HOPE
Enduring in LOVE**



WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOU!

On a May evening, parents who have lost a child through death or for any reason, gathered together for the annual Mass Fr. Mike offers for them. As the parents entered the small church, they wrote the name of their child on colorful paper butterflies which were pinned to the white cloth (symbolic of Jesus' burial shroud) draped over the large cross, which **Doug Gasch** carried in the entrance procession. Butterflies, a symbol of new life, were posted in various locations in the chapel. **Frances Onaitis** read the first reading and the Prayer of the Faithful in which the children's names were read aloud. Fr. Mike gave a special homily after which he invited whomever wanted to share about the child they were remembering and how they were dealing with this loss. During the Eucharistic Prayer and Communion all stood around the altar. **Guy** and **Rachel Cappuccino**, provided the music for the evening organized by **Linda Gasch** who suffered the loss of a teen-aged daughter. All departed with spirits lifted in hope and knowing they were not alone. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful!

The Gift of Hours



grow. pray.
serve. give. share.

HOPE and ENCOURAGEMENT:



Bereavement Support Group

meets at St. Michael on the 4th Saturday of each month at 3:30 p.m.. This group is for family and friends of parishioners who have lost a loved one due to death. In this welcoming and

prayerful setting, participants will be supported and have the opportunity to encourage others by sharing experiences and emotions that are part of the grief process. Attendance every month is not needed. While this is a drop-in group, it is appreciated if you can RSVP to help our leaders prepare for the meeting. For more information, contact **Amy Kulesa** at askulesa@gmail.com or (301) 606-3126.

Last May St. Michael hosted a program, "*Understanding Grief: How to Help Ourselves and Others Who Are Grieving.*" This program was presented by Robin Stocksdales, Bereavement Coordinator for Gilchrist Hospice. The feedback on this program was the catalyst for the development of our bereavement support group.

HEALING HEARTS AFTER DIVORCE -- TRUE HEALING IN THE FULLNESS OF OUR FAITH, THROUGH TRUST IN GOD.

Our Divorce Ministry is active, and ever-growing at St. Michael, offering hope, healing and help. Monthly meetings, open to all separated and divorced, are held monthly, the 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room A-109.

Meetings this summer will be June 15, July 20, and August 10 (instead of Aug. 17). Each month's focus topic will be published prior to our meeting which always includes small group discussion.

The Divorce Recovery Ministry has sponsored six, 12-week "Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide" twice a year, spring and fall, since 2012. We are planning a Single Again Fellowship Event, S.A.F.E. a quarter (Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring), they will vary and be planned at least 6 weeks prior.

Irene Cochran has been the leading force in this ministry for several years now. She is now a member of the Single Again Council for the Catholic Single Again Community of Baltimore which is an official ministry affiliated with the Archdiocese. The Council is planning its Annual Single Again Conference for April 2017. Irene is building a website page for Divorce Recovery Ministry. She is the administrator of the Catholic Healing Divorce Recovery Ministry Facebook page, and she answers ongoing inquiries to the e-mail address StMHealingHearts@gmail.com

"I have received many e-mails looking for help, either for oneself or one's family member: parents, uncles, siblings, neighbors, friends, and even in-laws wanting to help a struggling loved one. There are so many hurting and lost, who have found themselves in the midst of divorce. Divorce has become an epidemic with great impact on the family, as the Domestic Church.

Sources of information:

- <https://www.facebook.com/Divorce-Recovery-Catholic-Healing-Ministry-1505709396315516/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Baltimore-Catholic-Single-Again-Council-615357308564908/>



CORNERSTONE BREAKFAST CHANGES

As result of a survey, we made some changes to our breakfasts.

- Serve some "gluten-free" items (bread, oatmeal, cereal, etc.)
- Extend serving hours to 12:30 to accommodate the 10:30 a.m. Mass goers.
- Serve a larger variety of pastries.

Host **Al Cerrone** and our volunteer **Knights of Columbus** and dedicated **parishioner cooks and servers** invite everyone to bring their relatives and neighbors to this monthly breakfast, the 4th Sunday of each month starting at 8:30 a.m. Many have made this a traditional Sunday gathering, strengthening friendships and making new ones.

See page 7 for the full menu offered at our monthly Cornerstone Breakfasts.

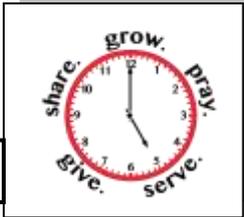


"That in all things God may be glorified." 1 Peter 4:11

Gift of Hours

grow. pray. serve. give. share.

Two lasting bequests for our children: one is ROOTS; the other is WINGS!



Want to explore a cave?



CAVE QUEST - VBS

AUG. 1 to Aug. 5, 9 a.m. to noon

Following *Jesus, the Light of the World* while rotating daily through a series of stations: songs, Bible stories, spelunker games, KidVid cinema, snacks in the Cavern Cafe-- hands-on, interactive imaginations



keeping everyone engaged along with 5 cave buddies teaching about Hope, Courage, Jesus' love for each and His power always there to give us direction in life.



\$40 to participate, (includes t shirt & CD), must be 3 yrs old and potty trained up to 5th grade - Registration forms at Rel Ed Office or on-line. **Registration deadline is JULY 6.** Contact **Joann Wozniak** (240) 437--3673



Register: groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stmichaelvbs
groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stmichaelvbs/gpgs/volunteer.aspx

OUR CATHOLIC BEE WINNERS!

Pictured with **Fr. Mike, Joann Wozniak, and Chuck Young, GK**, representing the Knights of Columbus who sponsored the event.



Congratulations to each of you! That was a lot of studying about your Catholic faith. Each was awarded a certificate and a special rosary.

Sun. classes: 2a Rachael Hepner, 2b Collin Doyle, 3rd Michael Valerio, 4th Thomas Peterson, 5th Brynne Eagan, 7th Scott Dustin

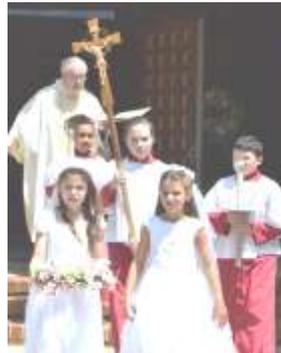
Mon. classes: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd grade classes is Sean Walsh, 4th & 5th Roman Farace, 6th Nicole Farace

Tues. classes: 2nd Joseph Garofalo, 3rd Laura McCoyd, 4t & 5th Alex Pratilas

CROWNING OF MARY'S STATUE



by **Madison Duignan** after one of our First Holy Communion Masses. **Mary Keefer** carried the crown made by parishioner **Carol Kelly**. Mary's statue in the small church is also wearing a crown of flowers in this, the month of Mary.



MEET OUR ALTAR SERVERS

Each issue we will introduce the young people who volunteer to serve Masses at St. Michael. We appreciate their dedication to the parish and would like to thank their parents who encourage them in their active part in our parish. In this issue meet **Emma Zepp**.

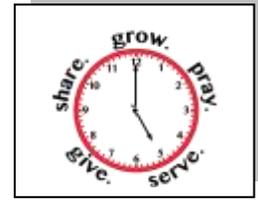
Emma is in 4th grade and server at the 8 a.m. Sunday morning Mass. Emma has been an altar server for two years. She wanted to become an altar server because she wanted to be involved in the church and serve God. She



is the daughter of **Sean and Amber Zepp**. She likes meeting new servers and doing a job that is helpful serving God during Mass. She has many interests: playing basketball, lacrosse, swimming, drawing, and practicing her violin. She loves reading, especially anything about history. She looks forward to many more years serving at Mass at St. Michael Church.

"What is nobler than to mold the character of the young? I consider that he who knows how to form the youthful mind is truly greater than all painters, sculptors and all others of that sort." St. John Chrysostom

Gift of Hours
grow. pray. serve. give. share.



Summertime Salmagundi

HOW ABOUT A PILGRIMAGE? There are several nearby places to visit, learn, and grow in your faith.

- ✦ **OUR LADY'S CENTER** - Catholic chapel, book store and gift shop on Rogers Ave. in Ellicott City, classified as a shrine, weekday noon Masses, Masses at 7:30 on Fridays and First Saturdays, hosts speakers and events. Visits to the Blessed Sacrament are a great way to spend a summertime hour with Jesus. (410) 461-5066. See our website.
- ✦ **SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY**- Summer is a perfect time to visit this Franciscan community for a few hours of reflection, walking the grounds, praying the rosary in the Lourdes Grotto, celebrating Mass, going to Confession, and walking through the Holy Doors of Mercy. Noon Mass daily. Confession every Mon. through Sat. Gift shop. Go to their website for a full schedule of their many and varied year round events:
 - St. Anthony Pilgrimage Day with Immaculee Ilibaqiza, (Rwanda genocide survivor, author, motivational speaker) Sat. June 11, noon to 6 p.m.
 - Feast of St. Anthony, June 11, outdoor Mass, lunch, music, children's activities
 - Mass for the St. Maximilian Kolbe relic, Aug. 14 12290 Folly Quarter Rd., Ellicott City (410)531-2800

IN THOSE LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER, CONSIDER. EXPANDING THE HORIZONS IN YOUR LIFE:

- ✦ **TEEN GIRLS' BIBLE STUDY**- in May they combined scripture with canvas painting. See what they are doing in the future. **Kelsey Freeman** kelseymckonkey@gmail.com
- ✦ **GIRL TALK** will resume this fall so get some friends together to join then. This is a group of young teenagers that play games, watch movies, and do a lot of talking and snacking. They meet monthly on the 1st and 3rd Wed. to build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and recognize the value of community service. High school peer mentors help them to better understand and address the issues they face. All in all it is just a lot of fun, learning, and laughter.
- ✦ **MAKING MUSIC** this summer? You will be playing your instruments this summer and doing a lot of singing, so why not use some of those gifts and talents to praise the Lord and enhance our liturgies. Contact **Alan Laino** Music_Director@stmichaelpoplarsprings.org
- ✦ **LIKE TO GARDEN?** St. Michael Vegi Garden will share with those in need fresh healthy vegetables grown in back of the church but they need supplies, helpers to plant and care for it through the summer months; fun helping others! Contact **Lisa Vilar**

BOOKS ARE THE ONLY THINGS YOU BUY THAT MAKE YOU RICHER.

- **Your [Imperfect] Holy Family: See the Good, Make It Better** by Robert J. Hater-- Families come in all configurations. We all have a family to celebrate; offers practical tips for enhancing your family's Catholic identity.
- **Tobit's Dog** by Michael Nicholas Richard --modern tale bringing to mind the Biblical book of Tobit
- **Live Like Francis** by Leonard Foley O.F.M --Franciscan's goal has always been to put the Gospel into action. This book gives you tools to do so.
- **The Lamb's Supper, The Mass as Heaven on Earth** by Scott Hahn
- **The Mass: A Biblical Walk Through, Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy** by Edward Sri
- **The Rosary Handbook: A Guide for Newcomers, Old-timers and Those in Between** by Mitch Finley
- **The Grace of the Rosary: Scripture, Contemplation, and the Claim of the Kingdom of God** by David P. Reid
- **Scriptural Rosary** by Christianica
- **The Rosary: The Prayer That Saved My Life** by Immaculee Ilibaqiza -See her other books about rising from the ashes of Rwandan genocide (See above the Shrine of St. Anthony to see Immaculee Ilibaqize.)
- **Missal for Little Ones** by Joelle d'Abbadie from Magnificat. Ignatius
- **The Mass Book for Children** by Rosemarie Cortler & Donna Piscitelli with a very prayerful mouse
- **Our Father** and also **Hail Mary** both by Savrina Bus --highly recommended
- **Psalms for Young Children** by Marie-Helene Delval
- **Praying in Color** (Kids' Edition) by Sybil MacBeth --to lead restless children to find God

"A house without books is like a room without windows." Horace Mann

Gift of Hours

grow. pray. serve. give. share.

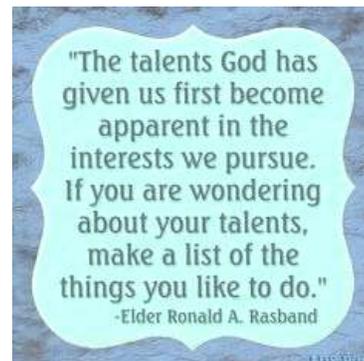


An Election Prayer to Mary

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. O Mary, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, you are the patroness of our country. We implore you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son and bless our land with justice and peace. Amen

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal,
pray for us.

O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us.



"If He asks much of you, it is because He knows you can give much." St. John Paul II



As part of the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis is holding a Jubilee for deacons with a gathering of them and their wives and children in Rome. While our two deacons, **Deacon Harbey Santiago** and **Deacon Cliff Britton**, will not be traveling for Rome, for this event, Fr. Mike and the parish will be celebrating prayers of thanksgiving for our Deacons and offering a special blessing and recognition at Masses on June 11th & 12th. If you are in attendance, please thank them for their service and congratulate them on this recognition!

Don't let the noise of the world keep you from hearing the voice of the Lord.

WHAT'S GOING ON? For your calendars or refrigerator door. * Details inside.

| | |
|---------|--|
| June 3 | First Friday - Eucharistic Adoration in chapel until 7:30 p..m. |
| June 4 | First Saturday 9:00 Mass, blessing of couples married in June |
| June 4 | Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed and sung, 4:30 p.m. main church |
| June 5 | 1 st Sunday Fellowship, after 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses |
| June 15 | *Divorce Recovery Ministry: 7 to 9 p.m. |
| June 18 | Lunches made & delivered for needy in Baltimore & Beacon House |
| June 25 | *Bereavement Support Group - 3:30 p.m. at church |
| June 26 | *Cornerstone Breakfast: 8:30 to 12:30: extended hours & menu |
| June 26 | *Reception for Bev Shaffer- 1:15 to 3 p.m. |
| June 28 | O.W.L.S. Lunch - Mt. Airy Tavern, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. |
| July 1 | First Friday - Eucharistic Adoration in chapel until 7:30 p..m. |
| July 2 | First Saturday 9:00 Mass, blessing of couples married in July |
| July 2 | Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed and sung, 4:30 p.m. main church |
| July 3 | 1 st Sunday Fellowship, after 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses |
| July 10 | <i>Hairspray</i> brunch and matinee, Toby's Dinner Theatre, O.W.L.S. |
| July 24 | *Cornerstone Breakfast: 8:30 to 12:30 - extended hours & menu |
| Aug. 1 | VBS - 9 a.m. to noon |
| Aug. 5 | First Friday - Eucharistic Adoration in chapel until 7:30 p..m, |
| Aug. 6 | First Saturday 9:00 Mass, blessing of couples married in August |
| Aug. 6 | Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed and sung, 4:30 p.m. main church |
| Aug. 7 | 1 st Sunday Fellowship, after 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses |
| Aug. 20 | Lunches made & delivered for needy in Baltimore & Beacon House |
| Aug. 23 | O.W.L.S. Lunch - Mt. Airy Tavern, 11:30 -1:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 28 | *Cornerstone Breakfast: 8:30 to 12:30: extended hours & menu |

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Morning Prayer

Jesus, flood my soul with Your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that my life may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus.

Mother Teresa's Missionaries' Prayer



Evening Prayer

Lord, I commit my failures as well as my successes into Your hands, and I bring for Your healing the people and the situations, the wrongs and the hurts of the past. Give me courage, strength and generosity to let go and move on, leaving the past behind me, and living the present to the full. Lead me always to be positive as I entrust the past to Your mercy, the present to Your love, and the future to Your providence. St. Augustine



Summer and Vacation Prayer

Lord, open my eyes, ears, and all my senses filling me with awareness and appreciation for all Your loving gifts to me surrounding me each day.