



Mike's Missal



August 2024

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 720326

Norman, OK 73070

administrator@stmichaelsnorman.org

www.stmichaelsnorman.org

Sunday Services are 9:00 a.m. (Rite I) and 11:00 a.m. (Rite II)

Live on YOUTUBE

From Father Joseph

Christ in You, the Hope of Glory

“For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named:

- that he may grant you in accord with the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self;
- and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;
- that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth;
- and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge;
- so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

- Ephesians 3:14-21

Genesis tells us that all human beings were created in the image and likeness of God. (Gen 1:27) Over the centuries there has been a lot of theological wrangling over what this means. Do we physically look like God? (No, God is spirit. Jn 4:24). Do we contain a spark of the Divine or merely a reflection of the Divine? Did God breathe a part of his own self into us when he enlivened the clay with spirit? (Gen 2:7) Perhaps a clue can be found in St. Paul's casual recollection of his own conversion experience in the first chapter of his Letter to the Galatians. There he speaks of the moment when God “... was pleased to reveal his Son *in* me.” How could God have “revealed” the Christ in Paul if it wasn't already there? What God revealed to Paul was that the “image and likeness of God” -- His Son -- that was already living in Paul, even at a time when he openly thought of himself as an enemy of Christ.

We acknowledge this reality in our Baptismal Covenant when we pledge to “seek and serve Christ in all persons.” This promise rests on the assumption that Christ exists to be served in every human being, whether they know it or not. The hope is that the inner Child of God will be revealed in each of us, and that we become grounded in the love which flows from this inner self.

The reason God hears our silent prayers is that God lives in us ... and above us and through us (Eph 4:6). That being said, it must also be clear that not everyone knows that God can be found within. Some know it but are too distracted with the outer world to give the inner self much time or attention. Some simply reject it. But those whose hearts know and embrace Christ in the inner self and align their lives to it also come to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. This love is the power that created and is creating the world.

The writings of Paul are shot through with the idea that God lives in us. Jesus, in Paul's view, was the first human to be “filled with all the fullness of God.” What Jesus was by nature, we become by adoption, by God revealing his Son in us. God hidden within is ...

“... the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, *which is Christ in you*, the hope of glory.” - Colossians 1:26-27

From Senor Warden David Zittel

First, some good news. At our vestry meeting on July 21st, we voted unanimously to formally request that the diocesan office change Fr. Joseph's title from priest-in-charge to rector of St. Michael's. I will be forwarding a copy of the minutes of the meeting to the Canon to the Ordinary, Rev. Canon Betsy Randall.

On a personal note, my daughter and grandchildren arrived on Sunday July 21st for a two-week visit. Both grandkids are taking swimming lessons at Westwood and Sebastian is in an acting class at Studio of the Sooner Theatre. I am one busy grandfather!

I encourage all who can to support Deacon Ann's Ordination to the priesthood on Thursday, August 15th at 6:30 pm at. John's Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They have asked us to help with various activities for the ordination ceremony such as ushering. If you cannot attend, a donation for gifts would be appreciated.

The season of Stewardship, every member canvass, or pledge drive is approaching. This year's theme is "Walk in Love." Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about sharing our time, talent, and treasure. Our talented congregation loves to eat and, therefore, loves to cook both for in-house activities and for the community. And some are very creative in the arts. I am grateful for the members of St. Michael's who have shared of their time to help me get to my various medical appointments over the past few months. It is the sharing of our treasure that allows St. Michael's to function as a parish for caring for our members and assisting in outreach to support the friendless and needy within the larger community. This is how we walk in love.

AUGUST EVENTS

Meals for the Unhoused August 8

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

Wild Men's Night Out August 9

Saint Michael's men's group will meet for an evening of fellowship and conversation on our usual 2nd Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, August 9th. Join St. Mike's men for The Best Steak You Ever Had for only \$20.⁰⁰. Donations are always appreciated. Salad, baked potatoes, garlic bread and a plentiful selection of craft beers complete the menu. Please sign up by August 7. Contact: Brandt Cassidy

Jim and Amy Gardner's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration August 10

Everyone is invited to celebrate with the Gardner's from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Michael's. More info coming soon!

Back to School Blessings August 11

Bring your backpacks for a special Back to School Blessing at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Deacon Ann's Ordination August 15 6:30 p.m. August 15 at St. John's in Tulsa

Join us as we celebrate Ann's ordination to the priesthood. If you are unable to attend in Tulsa, be sure

to be at church on Sunday, August 18th for our home celebration after the 11:00 a.m. service.

Saucy Sisters August 16

Saucy Sisters will gather at 5:30 p.m. and dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. on August 16th. The cost is \$10, but your first time is free. Amy will make dinner (lasagna) for us. Please sign up in the ingathering space.

Choir Workday August 17 10:00 a.m.- ?

Vestry Meeting August 18

The Vestry will meet following the service on Sunday August 18th in the Education Building.

Laundry Love and Rummage & Bake Sale **August 24 (see page 3)**

(Many volunteers are needed for this day's events!)

Budget and Finance Committee August 27

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 27th. Contact: Amy Gardner

Outreach Committee August 31

The Outreach Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 31st. Contact: Amy Gardner



Saturday, August 24th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (set up on Aug. 23 starting at 1:00 p.m.) If you are doing summer cleaning or are just ready to de-clutter, 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. We **WON'T TAKE**: electronics/equipment missing cords or essential items for function, computer monitors or TV's that **AREN'T** flat screen, computers made before 2018, VHS tapes, computer programs older than 2015, remote controls unless they belong to an item being donated, random cables that don't belong to an item being donated, games and puzzles that are missing pieces, guns, or ammunition.

Prior to the week of the sale, boxes and small items can be placed in the Youth Room (provided there is still space). On the week of the sale, all donations (including large items) are to be put in the gathering hall at the west end. If you have large items that you need picked up, please contact Deacon Laura Blazek by email or text and she will try to arrange pick up if able. Volunteers needed to help with set up, to work the day of the sale, and to box up leftovers (on Sunday). Shifts will be one hour long, and you can sign up for as many as you would like.

Proceeds will go to help fund our presence at Pride Weekend and other outreach ministries.

Laundry Love August 24

St. Michael's will sponsor Laundry Love on **August 24th** from 9:00 a.m. -noon at Sooner Wash. We will provide about 50 of our neighbors with up to \$15 in laundry supplies and lunch. Bring your quarters, as we need about \$900 to sponsor laundry and lunch. This is a back-to-school event, so we are still collecting school supplies in Sharon's Wagon to give at this event. We need volunteers to assist guests, serve lunch and distribute school supplies.



During our rummage sale on **August 24th**, we will also be holding a bake sale. We know there are wonderful bakers in our midst so start those ovens. Debi and Don will be baking fresh chocolate chip cookies during the sale, so please no chocolate chip cookies, but we need everything else. Cakes, pies, tarts, cookies, bars. Some items can be kept in the refrigerator if need be.

Please package cookies with at least 2 in each package, label if it contains nuts or is gluten free. You are free to price your own cookies, or it can be done at the sale. We won't have time to package items.

Please have all items at church by Friday August 23rd or **BEFORE 8:00 a.m.** on the 24th. What doesn't sell at the rummage sale will be offered at a reduced price on Sunday. Contact: Debi Kelley.

"Harvesting the Bounty of Faith and Hope" August 24 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

An OKC Regional Oklahoma Women's Gathering with speakers The Rev Ann Murray and Pat Current. A light lunch will be served, and a project will be for the Infant Crisis Nursery in Oklahoma City. Donations appreciated. RSVP to Nancy by August 14.

Other Ministries, News & Events

Altar Flowers & Sanctuary Candles

Sign up to provide flowers or candles for a particular Sunday. It can be in memory, thanksgiving or celebration. Flowers is \$45, and Candles are \$10. You can either pay ahead of the date 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.

BC Clark - Giving to a Community of Faith

The BC Clark family has long held faith and family as a top priority, choosing to be closed on Sundays and continuing the tradition of their church coupon program to give back to the community. When you make a purchase at any BC Clark location, ask the salesperson to give you a "Church Coupon" and 3% of your purchase price will go to the church of your choice. (St. Michael's of course) The donations are designated to support the women's ministry of the church.

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. Bible Study will be cancelled August 28, September 4 and September 11.

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will resume in September.

Book Sale

Our book sale will be October 26. Please continue to bring books and other media items and place them under the table in the choir room. Contact: Amy Gardner

Budget & Finance Committee

The next budget meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on August 27th. The budget is in line with expectations except for some

expensive maintenance. (See Financial Report) Contact: Amy Gardner

Care Team/Special Events Team

If you would like to volunteer to help with either of these groups, talk to Nancy or Debi in the office or use the sign-up sheets. The Care Team is here to help when you are down. They provide meals if you need them due to illness or hospitalization. If someone is available, they can provide rides to doctor's appointments. So far this year they have only been needed once, but we never know when a request will come in.

The Special Events team helps with weddings and funerals. Right now, there are only three people signed up to help with this. Since this isn't something that occurs often, the group could use more volunteers as not all are available when needed.

For both teams an email is sent out and those who can help do. Please consider one or both ministries. Contact Debi Kelley

Choir

We will have a choir workday on Saturday, August 17. Evening rehearsals will resume on September 5th. Until then, 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 in the garden area is working well! Densifying is 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

Crafters

Our crafters meet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Monday. We make prayer shawls which are given to people who need extra prayers and comfort. Our prayer shawl ministry was started in about 2007 and dozens of shawls have been made and given to others.

We also make items for the Christmas at Sea program, which has been a ministry of the Episcopal Church since 1898! Hats, scarves, and cowls, as well as other items,

can be knitted or crocheted to be sent to mariners through the Seamen's Church Institute.

Our needle arts group makes purple baby caps for the Period of PURPLE Crying. The *PURPLE* program is designed to help parents of new babies understand a developmental stage that is not widely known. It provides education on the normal [crying curve](#) and the [dangers of shaking](#) a baby. The caps are provided to new mothers at area hospitals.

For the past several years, we have provided scarves and hats for our unhoused neighbors, made baby blankets to be given at hospitals, decorated paper sacks for Laundry Love, and made other items which support ministries at St. Michael's. We have a closetful of yarn, so choose your project! Contact: Amy Gardner

Cursillo Retreat Weekend September 5-8

Three short sentences describe the core purpose of the Cursillo Movement: Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring a friend to Christ. Cursillo is a means of living out our Baptismal Covenant to learn and grow in Christ's love. Dedication to Christ – using the tools of piety, study, and action – allows our faith to become what we need it to be: deeply felt, lived in daily life, and spread by love in word and deed. You are invited to attend a Cursillo weekend.

The next weekend is scheduled for **September 5-8, 2024**. Other weekends will be scheduled in 2025. An application is available with brief sections for you, Fr. Joseph, and your sponsor (see Fr. Joseph for sponsor information). Please complete and submit it by **August 15, 2024** for this weekend.

If you have questions, contact Fr. Joseph, Amy Gardner, Kris Taylor, or Deacon Ann Murray.

Check out Facebook at **Oklahoma Episcopal Cursillo!**

Discretionary Fund

The last Sunday of each month (August 25) 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

At the end of June, we had the cost of new AC for the school, \$8688, then in early July the well pump was replaced for \$4895.19. We are still doing well financially. Thank you for keeping your pledges up to date and for those who have donated to help defer the cost of the AC.

Other items in July:

Lawn mowing \$580

Quarterly property insurance \$5542.00

MMS (Our monthly percent to the diocese) \$4238.12

Electricity \$808

Postage Stamps \$272

Greeters & Ushers needed!

We want to give a warm welcome to everyone on Sundays. The spiritual gift of hospitality is a special ability given by the Holy Spirit to individuals within the church. Those with this gift have a natural inclination to warmly welcome and care for others, creating a welcoming environment. Do you have this gift? Sign up to serve in one of these important jobs. Specific tasks for these positions are available on the sign-up counter. Contact: Santa Velez.

Homecoming at St. Micheal's

St. Michael's is having a "Michaelmas Memories" Homecoming weekend beginning on Saturday, **September 28th** with dinner and ending with very special worship on Sunday, **September 29th**. You are invited to come home for a fun time with fond memories of the past and a celebration of our present and future. Some of our past clergy will be with us and we are inviting all past members too. Contact: Evelyn Bibens

Fr. Joseph's Vacation

Fr. Joseph will be on vacation, August 25 through September 13.

Lawn Mowing

Summer brings additional expenses with bimonthly lawn and property mowing. Each mowing is \$290.00. If you would like to make a special gift for this maintenance, please indicate "lawn" on your check.

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 and 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 representative on the board of the Norman Coalition for Refugee Support. Volunteers are always needed for regular transportation, and to act as liaisons with families. Contact Judy Phillips

Outreach Committee

Contact Amy Gardner, Deacon Laura Blazek, or Deacon Ann Murray

Prayer Chain and List

Please direct private prayer requests for the Prayer Chain to David Sims at 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 August published prayer list this week. The list will continue throughout the month, so additions for August be made at any time. Contact: Nancy Littlejohn

Sharon's Wagon

We will continue to collect school supplies for Laundry Love until August 18th. Then we will collect supplies for Fostering Futures through September. Items needed are: baby sleeping gowns, premie clothing, socks, underwear, elastic waist pants (for toddlers). You can also look at their registries: [Walmart.com](https://www.walmart.com/registry) – search Luggage with Love in the last name under baby registry. Or [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/registry) registry.

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 School

School begins on August 26th.

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 we plan to distribute 90 baskets to local 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. 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), Patrick Moore (405-659-2126) or Josh Yarbrough.

Vestry at St. Michael's

The Vestry meets after the 11:00 service on the 3rd 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.

August Days to Remember

Birthdays

8/3 Kay Sandridge
8/4 David Henry
8/8 Brandt Cassidy
8/9 Tina Mahle
8/10 William McGovern-Fagg
8/12 William Petrie
8/16 Jim Gardner
8/17 Mary Meacham
8/19 Jeanne Giles
8/21 Elias Hudson
8/24 James Smith
8/24 Mason Dent
8/24 Kristin Taylor
8/24 James W. Smith
8/30 Eric Blazek
8/30 Andrew Sprouse

Anniversaries

8/10/1974 Jim & Amy Gardner
8/10/1995 Peter & Karen Goodchild

On the anniversary of their death



8/28/1979 William Hartman
8/30/1979 John Culp
8/31/1979 Chester Waylay
8/20/1980 Harriett Thompson
8/18/1981 Charles Jackson
8/23/1997 Daniel Morton
8/9/2002 Linda Johnson
8/1/2012 Clarence Huslig
8/6/2012 Stephen Benso
8/20/2021 Keith Stejskal
8/30/2021 Laura Ann Bennett

Handy Information

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

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

St. Michael's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZX8EOJFq5VykhED5K9q8eA>
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 405-639-0300

Deacon Ann Murray deaconann18@gmail.com 405-919-8533

Parish Musician Jon Roberts dachs.mirabilis@icloud.com 405-850-5252

David Zittel, Senior Warden David12330@gmail.com 405-834-8764

Tina Mahle, Junior Warden Tina.mahle@alumni.ou.edu 405-517-5142

Ann Selvidge, Treasurer annselster@gmail.com 405-365-8985

Nancy Littlejohn, Parish Administrator stmecnormanok@gmail.org 405-321-8951 or cell 405-924-2782

Debi Kelley, Financial Secretary, treasurer@stmichaelsnorman.org 405-321-8951

OTHER CONTACTS:

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St. Michael's 2024 Vestry

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