



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ON SANIBEL ISLAND

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The Red Door

March 1, 2008

News of the people and ministries of Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Sanibel, Florida

WELCOME TO...

...our Interim Rector The Reverend John R. Corbiere. As was announced at our February 24th Annual Meeting of the Congregation, we are very pleased to welcome Fr. John to Saint Michael and All Angels. He will begin his interim work with us on April 1st.

The past twenty years of his ministry career have been spent as an Interim Rector in Episcopal churches of all sizes from the Midwest to the northeast, in Kentucky, Maryland and North Carolina. He has been serving as Interim Rector at St. John's Church, Naples, Florida for the past year and one-half.

Fr. John received his Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in 1974, and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Elon University in North Carolina in 1970. An active man in his early 60's, he enjoys the outdoors; sailing, fishing, bike riding and kayaking.

His extensive interim experience is apparent in the confidence he displays when discussing the work that he knows an interim needs to do. The Vestry was particularly impressed with his superb verbal skills, and we found him to be an excellent listener.

In answer to one of the questions we sent him prior to our interview, he wrote saying: *"My pastoral specialty is that I counsel and coach people in the development of their spiritual life, the practice of Centering and Contemplative Prayer, and as a preacher, I relate the gospel to our everyday life"*.

In answer to the question: "What have you learned from your interim experience?" Fr. John wrote: *"My experience doing this work has taught me to appreciate the commitment that people live from, and the gifts they provide each other in a parish setting. It has also taught me to continually give up my judgments of where I might think people and parishes should be, and pay attention to the possibility of what they can be. This has enabled me to quickly adapt to the congregation that I'm serving and enjoy their particular expression of church life"*.

Thank you for the warm welcome I know you will extend to our Interim Rector, The Reverend John R. Corbiere.

John Pryor,
Senior Warden

Worship is at the heart of all we do

We invite you to worship with us:

- **Saturday at 5** – A “Come as you are Eucharist” and a Reception following.
- **Sunday at 8** – A traditional Eucharist with hymns, followed by Coffee Hour.
- **Sunday at 10:30** – Choral Eucharist, followed by Coffee Hour.*

(*With Sunday Overseas Shuttle pickup at Woodlands and then at SPV Island)

Wednesdays 9 a.m. Eucharist with prayers for healing
Wednesdays 6 p.m. Evening Worship

Announcements

Wednesday Evening Lenten Series

begins at 6 o'clock in the Chapel of the Angels. Join us each week as we hear a different speaker on these Wednesday's during Lent.

March 5th – The Rev. Randall Niehoff

March 12th – The Rev. Canon Bruce Duncan

March 19th – The Rev. Bruce McLeod

Soup and Salad Suppers

Please join in the fellowship of soup and salad suppers that will follow the Wednesday evening services during Lent. Each week, hosts will provide three soups, salads, bread, and a simple dessert. Sign up in the Parish Hall to help host an evening by providing a soup or salad for one or more suppers. Call one of us if you need further information. Thanks!

- Marilee Wood, Betty Carr, Libby Hawley

Hospitality Volunteers Needed!

Every Wednesday during Lent, we are hosting Soup and Salad Suppers. Volunteers are needed, so when signing up for Coffee Hour, please also consider what you can do for the Soup and Salad events. Any and all help that you can offer will be greatly appreciated. Questions? Call Parish Life Co-Chairs Marilee Wood (395-3013) or Betty Carr (395-3410).

Wednesday Night Worship

The Lay Led Wednesday Night Worship will resume on March 26th at 6:00 p.m. The Theme for the first seven weeks will be "Listening to Jesus". Please join us for the half hour services followed by fellowship and refreshments.

Congratulations to:

- Our new Vestry members elected at the February 14th Annual Meeting:

*Betty Carr
Charlie Emerson
Christine Steege*

- Our Senior Warden, John Pryor, who was “appointed by Bishop Smith according to Canon VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Southwest Florida to the position of Senior Warden of the Congregation of Saint Michael and All Angels”.

- Our new Parish Officers elected at the February 24th Annual Meeting of the Vestry:

*Betty Carr, Junior Warden
Christine Steege, Secretary
Ellen Trevor, Treasurer
Judy Workman, Chancellor
Bill Carr, Assistant Treasurer*

Thanks to:

- ✓ Alex Flesh, retiring after serving three years on the Vestry including the last eleven months as Junior Warden
- ✓ Bill Carr, retiring after serving four years as Treasurer
- ✓ Gail Meier, retiring after serving three years on the Memorial Garden Committee

Quiet evening for Lent

Monday, March 10th from 7 – 9 p.m.

As a special event during Lent, and as a preparation for Holy Week, we have asked Sister Carol, from the Mother of God House of Prayer, to lead a quiet evening. She will be instructing us on the use of the Labyrinth.

The Labyrinth is a spiritual tool meant to awaken us to our journey with God and others. It is a kind of "walking meditation" and a metaphor for our spiritual journey. In surrendering to the winding path we are lead to the center where we are given what we need for the journey ahead. The program will consist of an explanation of the Labyrinth as a tool for spiritual growth, an opportunity to walk the Labyrinth and time to process our reflections. We shall close with coffee and dessert.

Sister Carol has a portable labyrinth, but it is too big to be placed in any large area of Saint Michael's. We have therefore booked the fellowship room at the Sanibel Congregational Church for the evening.

All are very welcome to join us. Please phone Susan in the Church Office, so we have an idea of how many to expect. Come and experience the gifts and graces of the Labyrinth.

Stewards on Stewardship

Our Love for Saint Michael's

We have been attending Saint Michael's for nearly ten years and it has become increasingly important to us for many reasons.

1. The church space is intimate, which enables us to build warm friendships. Our name tags increase our familiarity with each other, especially when we pass the peace. There is a feeling of love and caring in our church that is contagious.
2. Our congregation is so loving, lively, joyous, and intelligent.
3. Our many church programs are wonderful:
 - a. The voices of our choir are magnificent. Each Sunday, as they pass by, we feel emotionally touched.
 - b. The Ark, which is our special outreach ministry, provides a special caring community and raises massive money for outside organizations.
 - c. The Sunday Forums, created by Betsy and Walter Schuman and the Adult Education Commission are intellectually stimulating.
 - d. The Men's Retreat, led by Doug Lind, was spiritually uplifting and brought to light various important personal issues.
 - e. The Celtic Weekend offered great warmth of spirit, a most meaningful sermon, gifted musicians and very lively dances.

In the past we always increased our pledges by small amounts, leaving room for subsequent increases. This year we were inspired and gave more freely. Never have we given so much and felt so good about it. Our giving included:

1. A gift to the memorial trust for permanent purposes such as endowment and property
2. A smaller gift for more immediate needs.
3. An increased annual pledge, on top of our commitment to our Connecticut church. They are hurting as well and can't be cut back there.
4. And finally, a bequest in our will to benefit Saint Michael's. When we told our children that we were going to do this, their response was, "We know how much Saint Michael's means to you and we are pleased that you are doing this."

This year is a particularly good one to give meaningfully. As we prepare for our interim, and then for a new rector, a healthy financial base will not only indicate the spirit/commitment of this congregation, but will also ensure a healthy future for our parish. If many of us were to increase our pledge by something, perhaps some by 5 to 10%, it would be wonderful, tangible proof of our love for our church.

May God bless our Saint Michael's and all of you,
Anne and Dick Kimball

History of Saint Michael's

Dory Rooker and Alex Flesh have very nearly finished the Saint Michael's history, and it will soon be printed and distributed,

We realize there are more stories to be told and hope we can, in the future, publish personal and family stories from the past years. Below is a sample of what's to come.

Our plan is to organize a method for collecting your memories and you will hear more about this later.

Fifty Years Ago – Church History *Winter Season 1958*

Since *there* were no Episcopal services on Sanibel or Captiva, a small group, including Cecil and Emmy Lu Read contacted the Rector of Saint Luke's Church in Fort Myers asking for help in starting a mission for winter visitors.

On January 17, 1958, Fr. Smith of Saint Luke's arranged to meet with interested parties at The Gables, home of Mr. and Mrs. Read, with twenty-six people in attendance. Fr. Thomas Madden, on leave from the Diocese of Milwaukee, and associated with Saint Luke's, accompanied Fr. Smith, and soon became Priest-in-Charge for what was thought to be temporary services for the winter season.

The Community Church agreed to allow the Episcopal group to meet in their building, so the first service was held on Wednesday, February 6, at 9:00 a.m. Fr. Madden celebrated Holy Communion with thirty-seven worshippers present. The offertory totaled \$41.25,

In late March, the small congregation moved into the Casa Marina, an abandoned building near the ferry landing. The building was owned by the Kinzie brothers who operated the ferries and they did not charge a fee for its use. Services continued in that building until Hurricane Donna damaged it in 1960.

Not until later did the church become incorporated and given the name of Saint Michael and All Angels.

By Dory Rooker

This is the first, in a series of articles we will be bringing to you as Saint Michael's continues to recognize the milestones in its fiftieth anniversary year.

An Overview of the Search Process ...

- A Survey Committee will be formed soon. There will probably be 8 – 10 people on this committee. The Vestry will be appointing this vitally important committee from the names that are submitted to them, so if you want to be considered, let someone on the Vestry know ASAP.
- The Survey Committee will write the Self Study document. Taking questions from the Search Manual and other church's questionnaires they will then personalize the questions so that they reflect Saint Michael's. This questionnaire will be sent to all parishioners. It is every parishioner's chance to say whatever you think needs to be said about the future of Saint Michael's and the qualities of a Rector who can take us there.
- In addition, seeking input from people representing all segments of our church, we will do some personal interviews.
- Using information which you provide, we'll discover who we are and who we want to be. From information provided from the Self Study, we will then compile a Parish Profile. The Search Committee will use this document to determine what kind of a Rector can help us attain our goals. Each candidate will be given this Parish Profile.
- Then, using the Parish Profile, the Vestry files a Church Deployment Office Form, or CDO Form with the Episcopal Church Center in NYC. This states clearly our goals, the abilities we seek in a new Rector, the date we expect the Search to be completed, the scope of the search, and the search budget.
- Being on the Search Committee can mean a major time commitment, but if we are to do this as well as we think you expect us to, we will need parishioners willing to dedicate themselves to the accomplishment of this important task. We hope to have representation from all areas of the Parish. Serving on this committee could involve travel visits to other churches, and interviews. If you are willing to be considered, please give your name to any member of the Vestry. The Vestry together, will select the Search Committee.
- Finally, the Search Committee will interview candidates for the new Rector position. Initially, a list of candidates is provided by the Bishop's office. Names from you are also very important. Please know that you must have the candidate's consent to submit his/her name. Once the Search Committee has narrowed its choices of up to 3 candidates, those candidates are approved by the Bishop, and the Search Committee will present them to the Vestry. The Vestry will then interview the finalists and select our new Rector.
- So, we'll have 8 – 10 people on the Survey Committee Team, maybe another 6-8 helping to compile the Parish Profile using parts of the history Dory Rooker and Alex Flesh have written, probably 10-12 parishioners on the Search Committee, and our 10 Vestry members. That's 36 – 40 people directly involved in the selection process plus all of you who fill out the self study questionnaire. We definitely want to involve as many of our parishioners in the entire process as we can.

I believe we have a rare opportunity to make the future of Saint Michael's all that we want it to be, so I ask you to search your hearts and make the finest contribution of your time and talent that you can as a committee member or by thoughtfully filling out the questionnaire which you will receive in the near future.

With thanks, John Pryor

From Roberta Heller, R.N., Parish Nurse

Exercising and Aging with Dr. Susan Pataky Tuesday, March 11th 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Join us for an experiential discussion on:

- the importance of maintaining flexibility,
- how to improve balance and muscle strength at any age,
- the importance of good posture,
- maintaining/improving bone and joint health, and
- how effective breathing can improve quality of life.

We will learn specific gentle movements anyone can do sitting in chairs, Wear loose fitting clothing.

Dr. Pataky has requested that we “lunch” **after** we “learn”.

Please RSVP Susan Gonzalez, Parish Secretary or Roberta Heller, Parish Nurse at 472-2173.

Lunch and Learn – looking ahead

Mark your calendars for:

- ✓ Thursday, April 24th when Marion Harris-Barter, RN talks about Heart Health.
- ✓ Tuesday, May 20th when Elise Eifert, Health Educator talks about Dementia and Alzheimers.

Check the Parish Nurse Ministry bulletin board in the Parish Hall, future *Red Doors* and our website for more information on these topics. Or call Roberta at 472-2173 ext. 3

New Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group On Sanibel

Beginning March 26, 2008
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Congregational United Church of Christ
2050 Periwinkle Way

The group will meet the 4th Wednesday of each month, all year round. It will be facilitated by a social worker from the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center. All caregivers dealing with any kind of dementia are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Roll, RN, Parish Nurse of the Congregational church at 472-0497.

Holy Week Worship

Monday in Holy Week

The Eucharist at Noon

Tuesday in Holy Week

The Eucharist at Noon

Wednesday in Holy Week:

The Eucharist at 9 a.m. and
Hymns and Prayers in the Church at 6 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

The Liturgy of the Last Supper at 7 p.m.

Good Friday

one hour liturgy at Noon

Easter Weekend

Easter Eve, Saturday at 5 p.m.

Easter Vigil

Easter Day at 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
Identical Festal Eucharists

Parish Retreat, Feb. 13-15th



Saint Michael's Website

Have you checked out www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org yet? It is still growing, but our website is full of information that you would or would not find in the weekend bulletins or the *Red Door*.

The *Red Door* is posted on the web, current and past. Service times for special services such as Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter and more are posted. During the Summer Storm Season we keep you updated with the National Hurricane Center's hurricane tracking map.

Red Door Publication Change

Beginning April 1st we will begin publishing the *Red Door* once a month, on the 1st of the month, instead of on the 1st and the 15th as we have been doing. The primary reason for this is we would like to cut back some of our publication costs, but we would also like to reduce the volume of mail we send to you on a regular basis whenever that is possible. As you know, we only publish the *Red Door* once a month in the summer months so this experiment will give us a little head start on that this year.

The deadline for the submission of items to Susan for the *Red Door* will be the 20th of the preceding month. Therefore, the deadline for the April *Red Door* will be March 20th.

March Birthdays

4 th	Cara Kirven
7 th	Bob Crossman, Linda Seifert
8 th	Wes Rooker, Bob Berendt
9 th	Carol Allen, Gail Pilibosian
10 th	Bill Vollmer
11 th	Gene Pierce
13 th	Marnie Kent
14 th	Scott Chrysler, Anna Bodine
15 th	Janet Bendall, Robert Hawley
16 th	Peg Jensen
17 th	Charles Sappenfield
19 th	Glenayr Crossman, Brad Rahn
20 th	Charlie Hohns, Norman Beecher
21 st	Virginia Smith
24 th	Jan Burdick, Sam Lessinger
25 th	Dorothy Bunc
26 th	Gene Bacon
27 th	Anne Napier, Charles York
28 th	Fran Allison, Merrell Rushworth
30 th	Carolyn Clark, Fran Nuelle
31 st	Ginny Leigh, Harvey Stewart

March Anniversaries

15 th	Wes and Fran Allison
19 th	Thomas and Pam Blanton
25 th	Wes and Dory Rooker

The next *Red Door* will be printed March 14th. Deadline for news is March 7th.

Easter Day comes very early this year...

— Notes from the Director of Music about our March liturgies —

In 2008 the Feast of the Resurrection is almost as early as it can possibly be, only two days after this year's vernal equinox on Good Friday. Few among us will remember the last time Easter Day fell on March 23rd (in 1913). None of us will see the next one (in 2228) — at least from Sanibel Island.

What does all this mean for us at Saint Michael's?

- Our solemn observances in this most important time of the Christian year — **Palm Sunday** with reading of the Passion, and the **Triduum** beginning Maundy Thursday evening and extending through Easter Day — will come at the height of "season" on Sanibel. So we will have more visitors in worship, and more opportunities to welcome them to this hospitable parish.
- New this year is the **Great Vigil of Easter** on Holy Saturday at 5:00 o'clock. The Paschal Candle will be lighted and carried to the altar, *Exultet* will be sung, lessons will recount God's saving deeds in history, baptismal vows will be renewed, and we will receive Easter Communion.
- A special presentation on *The Music of Holy Week and Easter Day* at Forum time on Sunday, March 16th, with the Parish Choir joining us, will begin at 9:15 o'clock in the Parish Hall.
- Our focus on the distinctive *Book of Common Prayer* liturgies will include the **Liturgy of the Palms** with festive procession, and reading of the Passion Gospel according to Matthew, the **Maundy Thursday** Eucharist beginning at 7:00 o'clock, and a solemn **Good Friday** service with reading of the Passion Gospel according to John, beginning at 12:00 noon.
- In services on Easter Day at **8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 o'clock**, we will once again sing the *Gloria in excelsis Deo*, join together to say and sing "Alleluia, Alleluia!" and begin the Great Fifty Days leading toward Pentecost with the exuberant refrains of "Hail thee, festival day!"

Willis



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www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org

Weekend Worship:
Saturdays at 5, Sundays at 8 & 10:30

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