

# St. Michael's Shield



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ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
*Lansing, Michigan*

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## Richard

*Bishop of Chichester, 1253*  
*Feast Day, April 3*

Richard, born in 1197, and his older brother Robert were quite young when their parents died, leaving a rich estate with a guardian to manage it. The guardian allowed the estate to dwindle, and Richard worked long hours to restore it.

Pressure was put on Richard to marry, but he, who from earliest years had preferred books to almost anything else, turned the estate over to his brother and went to Oxford. Often hungry, cold, and not always sure of his next day's keep, Richard managed to succeed in his studies under such teachers as Robert Grosseteste.

He continued to study law at Paris and Bologna, earned a doctorate, and returned to Oxford to become University Chancellor. Shortly afterward, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Edmund Rich, appointed him to be his own chancellor. The friendship between the primate and his young assistant was close: Richard also became his biographer. Conflict with King

Henry the Third eventually forced Archbishop Rich into exile in France, where Richard nursed him in his final illness. After the Archbishop's death, Richard moved to the Dominican house at Orleans for further study and teaching. He was ordained priest in 1243.

He then returned to England, and was elected Bishop of Chichester in 1244. King Henry opposed the election, confiscated all the revenues of the diocese, and even locked Richard out of the episcopal dwelling. Richard was given lodging by a priest, Simon of Tarring. During these years he functioned as a missionary bishop, traveling about the diocese on foot, visiting fishermen and farmers, holding synods with great difficulty, and endeavoring to establish order. Threatened by the Pope, Henry finally acknowledged Richard as Bishop in 1246.

For eight years, he served his diocese as preacher, confessor, teacher, and counselor. While campaigning in 1253, for a new crusade against the Saracens, he contracted a fatal fever. Nine years after his death, he was canonized. His best remembered words are:

Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
To see thee more clearly,  
Love thee more dearly,  
Follow thee more nearly.

**Collect:** We thank you, Lord God, for all the benefits you have given us in your Son Jesus Christ, our most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, and for all the pains and insults he has borne for us; and we pray that, following the example of your saintly bishop Richard of Chichester, we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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The biography and propers are from *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, 2006.

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*Our mission is to nourish God's people, that Christ may be known.*

## April Birthdays

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6	Lyn Counsellor
9	John Baker
15	Kitty Lucas
21	Jennifer Isiogu
30	Ruth Garrett

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## April Anniversaries

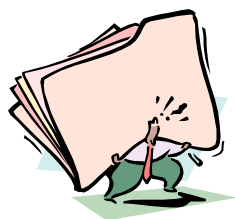
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24	Tim & Laura Carr
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## Don't Forget

The deadline for the May 2009 Shield will be Sunday, April 19th by 12:00 noon. Please submit your articles in a timely fashion. If you are doing your articles on the computer-  
*PLEASE* use Garamond font size 12 or New Times Roman. You may e-mail your articles to [archangel48911@juno.com](mailto:archangel48911@juno.com) by Wednesday, April 15th or submit them as in the past.

## Vestry Synopsis March 2009

The meeting began as usual with the roll call and the acknowledgement that a quorum was present. Father Dick called the meeting to order and an opening prayer was said by all.

Report from Jackie Womble, Director of Christian Education: Jackie reported that the Church School year was winding down. She found and is using some previous curricula for Advent, Lent and Eastertide, and thus has spent little of her budget thus far this year. Adult Ed is going well, though she is seeking ideas for Eastertide. The soft space is well-used and has been a success.

Correspondence was read and responded to: our participation in Lansing's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary was referred to the Worship Committee; Dick will attend a 3/17 meeting for Kids Hope USA; Dick Boulter (Diocesan Safety & Property Consultant) will come for a Safety Audit in the near future.

New Business: new Vestry calling lists were distributed in members' mailboxes; Pam will price a new white board for outside the office; Pastoral Care Committee will provide the letter for the April mailing of offering envelopes; Spring Clean-Up was set for 3/28 with the understanding that a second clean-up will be scheduled closer to the date of Susan Carter's ordination; Census Bureau's use of the building was denied due to our overhead costs and their unwillingness to pay for the use.

Property Maintenance: Magnus Campbell submitted a detailed report; he wants to get suggestions re: what needs to be done each month for building maintenance; an estimate was received for the replacement of the current furnace.

March calling list details: Vestry to call phone list for the 3/28 Spring Clean Up and to assess the interest for a Photo Directory (and to find someone willing to coordinate the project). The regular directory should be out by the beginning of April.

Reports were received from the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Clerk and Treasurer.

Randy Woodall led the Vestry in Compline and the meeting ended.

Submitted by Kris Beckett

## On Entering fully into Holy Week

Good liturgy is good drama and this is never clearer than in the liturgies of Holy Week. The combination and sequence of Scripture, liturgical action, and music are designed to speak to both our mind and our heart of the mystery and the power of Jesus' redeeming death and liberating Resurrection. The idea is for us to enter fully into worship; to use both our mind and our senses to praise God and to hear and sense, feel and know, God's steadfast love and God's gracious presence. Such worship engages all our faculties and all our energy so that our undistracted focus is on the unfolding drama of salvation history and on our place in that one great story.

The Liturgy for Palm Sunday begins with the exuberant, and sometime chaotic, re-enactment of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. But, by the middle of the Gospel, those who have cried "Hosanna" at the blessing of the palms now are crying "Crucify!" That wrenching change of mood is reflected in the shift from the joyful, triumphant hymns at the beginning of the liturgy to the somber hymns of Holy Week as the service draws to a close.

The Eucharists on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Holy Week lead us through some of the events of Jesus' final week in and around Jerusalem and show us the gathering opposition to his message.

Maundy Thursday repeats the shift in tone that we experienced on Palm Sunday, though with a less lively beginning and an even more somber conclusion. The Liturgy begins with the bittersweet re-enactment of both the footwashing and the institution of the Eucharist: joyful because of what they reveal of Jesus' love for us and God's abiding presence with us; sobering because we know what is to follow. We know that the true meaning of these dramatic events can only be understood in the blinding light of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. After Communion, the organ and bells are stilled for the remainder of the service (and for Good Friday) and the singing is a cappella. To show the desolation of a world without Jesus, the church is stripped of all ornamentation, the lights are dimmed, and the congregation leaves in solemn and reflective silence.

Near the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the Reserved Sacrament is removed to another place to be used on Good Friday, or if there is a pastoral need. Good Friday and Holy Saturday are the only two days of the year on which Communion is not celebrated.

The Liturgy for Good Friday is an extended meditation on the meaning of Jesus' death for us and for the whole world. The whole tone of the liturgy is subdued, a sense reenforced by the barrenness of the church, the gentle solemnity of the quiet, a cappella hymns, and the silent entry and exit. While Communion is offered, it is from the reserve Sacrament and it is delivered in silence.

The Liturgy for Holy Saturday is a very simple, short service, with no music nor Communion. It reminds us of Jesus' time in the tomb and of our waiting anxiously for God to act.

The Great Vigil of Easter reverses the pattern of Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday: it begins in darkness and silence, then, after hearing the promises of salvation history, and celebrating baptism (or at least the renewing of the Baptismal vows) the announcement of the Resurrection is welcomed with an outpouring of ringing bells, brilliant light and joyful song. The sensual experience underlines and intensifies our understanding of the wondrous mystery of Christ's victory over sin and death. [Once again, the Worship Committee has decided not to try to offer our own Easter Vigil. It is a service which needs a significant number of participants and extensive preparation. We encourage members of the parish to attend the Vigil in a neighboring parish, expecting that you will find it so inspiring that there will be enthusiasm for St. Michael's to celebrate the Easter Vigil some year soon.]

When we make the commitment to enter fully into the observance of Holy Week, to worship

Cont. pg. 4

our way through the Proper Liturgies for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday; then the festive sights and sounds and smells of Easter—whether at the Vigil or on Easter morning—are all the more powerful, moving, and dramatic. The celebration of the Good News of the Resurrection is proclaimed in word and sacrament and dramatized in ebullient music, in lavish displays of flowers, in festive vestments and hangings, and in the multitude of candles including the prominent Paschal candle representing Christ's presence with us. Easter is about celebrating life made new! Life renewed for us and for all people.

(There is an interesting liturgical piece which emphasizes the unity of the Proper Liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter. Once the Maundy Thursday service begins, there is no dismissal until the end of the first Eucharist of Easter—it is as though these are not four separate services, but rather, only four acts in the one great drama of Salvation.)

I invite and encourage you to enter into the full drama of this Holy Week; to experience the desolation of Jesus' betrayal and death in order to more fully celebrate the overwhelming joy of the Resurrection. And then to remember that the joyful exuberance of Easter is not just for a day. It lasts for the Great Fifty Days of Easter, right up to the Feast of Pentecost—a full seven weeks of Easter celebration!

Blessings and Peace.  
Fr. Dick+

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## Extra Readers needed for Palm Sunday and Good Friday

On both Palm Sunday and Good Friday we read an extended portion of the Gospel as part of the service. Since this is Year B, we will read St. Mark's account of the Passion on Palm Sunday; St. John's version of the Passion is always read on Good Friday. Both times we will use a version which calls for multiple readers. A few of the parts are quite extensive; many of the parts are only 1 or 2 lines long. There is a sign-up sheet in the parish office for those willing to help with our readings on those days. Even if you do not regularly read, please consider volunteering for these special days.

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## Foot-Washing on Maundy Thursday

Foot-washing will be offered at the Maundy Thursday service this year. It is optional and there will be people at the service who will not be having their feet washed. After the sermon, those who wish to have their feet washed will leave their shoes and socks at their seat and come forward while the congregation sings one of the traditional anthems for foot-washing. Those who do choose to participate will have their feet washed and dried by the Rector and then return to their seat to join in the singing.

## Good Friday Offering

Since 1922, the Episcopal Church has supported the ministry and mission of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East through the Good Friday Offering. This offering is a symbol of our unity in Christ with our Christian sisters and brothers in that deeply troubled area of the world in which the news of the Resurrection was first heard. It helps support congregations, schools, colleges, orphanages, hospitals, clinics, and self-help programs. Both our Bishop and the Presiding Bishop have emphasized that this offering is especially important this year.

Please be generous in your support of these ministries. The envelope will be available on Palm Sunday

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## Liturgy of Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday and Good Friday are the only two days during the year on which Communion is not celebrated. There is a brief special Liturgy of the Word for Holy Saturday. Following that liturgy, we will prepare the church for Easter. Please join us at noon.

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## Easter Communion for Shut-ins

The Rector will be happy to take Communion to any shut-ins who would like to receive during Eastertide. If you, or someone you care for, would like a visit during the Easter season, please let the office know by calling 882-9733.

If at all possible, the Rector will bring Communion during Easter Week, April 14–April 17. When you call, please indicate which days and times would be most convenient for you and the office will call back to confirm a time. Thank you.

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## Altar Guild Meeting

Saturday, April 4

10:00 a.m.

The Altar Guild will hold its Spring meeting in the Emrich Room on the day before Palm Sunday. Following the meeting, the palms will be prepared for the next day. New members are always welcome!

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New Website for Canterbury MSU  
<http://www.emmsu.org>

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## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE for 2009

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♦ **PALM SUNDAY** **April 5**

**Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist**

**8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.**

**Both services will begin in the Emrich Room**

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♦ **MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK**  
**April 6, 7, and 8**

**6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist**

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♦ **MAUNDY THURSDAY** **April 9**

**7:00 p.m. Foot-Washing, Holy Eucharist, stripping of the Altar**

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♦ **GOOD FRIDAY** **April 10**

**Noon  
7:00 p.m.**

**Liturgy for Good Friday  
Stations of the Cross**

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♦ **HOLY SATURDAY** **April 11**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Liturgy for Holy Saturday**

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♦ ***EASTER DAY*** **April 12**

***8:00 a.m. CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST  
10:30 a.m. CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST***

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## *Directory Updates*

Mary Kapp  
2385 Cedar Park Dr., #226  
Holt, MI 48842  
Phone 517-694-4291

Don MacMillan      517-515-2491  
Jodi MacMillan     517-515-2489

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### *Thank You, Thank You!*

I truly appreciate all the meals, prayers and flowers during these past several weeks. It has been a real help in my recovery from back surgery on March 5th. Your kindness and caring mean a great deal during this time.

Claudia Hamlin

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### **Capital Region Community Foundation**

#### **Excerpts from a letter:**

The Capital Region Community Foundation accepts gifts of unused cemetery plots from individuals who, for various reasons, are no longer in need of them. In turn, the Community Foundation grants them to deceased residents of our tri-county area who have financial need for such a lot as identified by their funeral director. The Community Foundation has been providing this service since 2002.

If you or someone you know is in possession of a cemetery plot that is no longer needed due to a change in final arrangements, the Capitol Region Community Foundation asks that you please consider donating the plot to their organization. The Foundation works with local funeral directors to grant the plots to less fortunate individuals in the tri-county area who otherwise do not have the means. By donating your plot, you will be providing a valuable resource to the needy in your community while being eligible for a charitable deduction under Federal Law. If interested, please contact Traci Goulding at 517-272-2870. The Capitol Region Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has been serving the area since 1987.

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### *A Big Thank You*

**To: Barry Baker for filling in for Nancy Case while she was recuperating.**

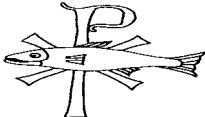

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# St. Michael's Episcopal Church

6500 Amwood Drive + Lansing, MI 48911

Telephone 517-882-9733 Email: Archangel48911@juno.com

## April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lake's <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist &amp; Lent Program</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Food Bank Team 1  10:00 Altar Guild Meet.
<b>5 8:00 Holy Eucharist</b> 9:15 Education <b>10:30 Holy Eucharist</b> 11:30 Warden's meet 6:00 EfM  	<b>6</b> <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b> 7:00 Educ. Meeting	<b>8</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study  <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b> 	<b>9</b>  <b>FOOT WASHING</b> <b>7:00 Maundy Thursday</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>10</b>  <b>12:00 Good Friday Service</b>  <b>7:00 Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>11</b> Food Bank Team 2&3  10:30 Holy Saturday service
<b>12</b> <b>8:00 Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:30 Holy Eucharist</b>  	<b>13</b> <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	<b>14</b>  7:00 Vestry	<b>15</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lake's w/ Holy Euchar. <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> NO Food Bank Mulch Delivery  Special Convention @ Cathedral
<b>19</b> <b>8:00 Holy Eucharist</b> 9:15 Education <b>10:30 Holy Eucharist</b> 11:30 Potluck 6:00 EfM- potluck and Communion	<b>20</b> <i>Rector's Sabbath</i> 7:00 Women's Circle	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lake's  <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>23</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Food Bank Team 4  9:00 Breakfast at Flapjack's
<b>26</b> <b>8:00 Holy Eucharist</b> 9:15 Education <b>10:30 Holy Eucharist</b> Noisy Offering: Buildings & Grounds NO EfM	<b>27</b> <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	<b>28</b> 3:00 Inquirers Class	<b>29</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lake's  <b>6:00 Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00 Choir Practice		Food Bank Team 5

## *Nun's Prayer – 17th Century*

Lord,

Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody: helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free of the recital of endless details: give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others pains, but to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet: I do not want to be a Saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me.. O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

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## **Nursery Volunteers!**

Once in a while, a family attends a Sunday service with small children. We have talked about making the nursery available to them with an authorized person to watch and play with the children. Are you willing to be one of those people we can approach to volunteer once in a while on a Sunday morning? Watch for volunteer slips in your mailboxes so you can let us know that you are interested in helping. Please direct questions to Barb Burns-Briggs.

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## *Condolances*

Our condolences to the family and friends of Lorene Roberts . She passed away on March 26th.

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## St. Michael's Episcopal Church

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

St. Michael's Shield  
6500 Amwood Drive  
Lansing, MI 48911

*St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
Our Mission is to nourish God's people,  
that Christ may be known.*

*Rector: The Rev. W. Richard Hamlin, Ph.D.  
Office Hours Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
And by appointment.*

*Transitional Deacon: The Rev. Susan Carter*

Minister of Music: Julia Walton

Senior Warden: Barry Baker  
Junior Warden: Magnus Campbell  
Secretary: Nancy Case  
Office Hours Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Director of Christian Education: Jackie Womble

Shield Editor: Diana D. Keenan

Telephone: 517/882-9733 Parish  
FAX: 517/882-1733

Bus Route : CATA Route #8

Holy Eucharist: Sundays - 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Education for all: Sundays - 9:15-10:15 a.m.  
Choir warm-up - 10:15  
Holy Eucharist: Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

*Faith  
is spelled  
R-I-S-K!*

