

St. Michael's Shield

September 2009
Vol. 49 No. 9



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

Constance, Nun, and her Companions Commonly called "The Martyrs of Memphis," 1878 September 9



In August, 1878, Yellow Fever invaded the city of Memphis for the third time in ten years. By the month's end the disease had become epidemic and a quarantine was ordered. While 30,000 citizens had fled in terror, 20,000 more remained to face the pestilence. As cases multiplied, death tolls averaged 200 daily. When the worst was over ninety percent of the population had contracted the Fever; more than 5,000 people had died.

In that time of panic and flight, many brave men and women, both lay and cleric, remained at their posts of duty or came as volunteers to assist despite the terrible risk. Notable among these heroes were Constance, Superior of the work of the Sisters of St. Mary in Memphis, and her Companions. The Sisters had come to Memphis in 1873, at Bishop Quintard's request, to found a Girls School adjacent to St. Mary's Cathedral. When the 1878 epidemic began, George C. Harris, the Cathedral Dean, and Sister Constance immediately organized relief work among the stricken. Helping were six of Constance's fellow Sisters of St. Mary; Sister Clare from St. Margaret's House, Boston; the Reverend Charles C. Parsons, Rector of Grace and St. Lazarus Church, Memphis; and the Reverend Louis S. Schuyler, assistant at Holy Innocents, Hoboken. The Cathedral group also included three physicians, two of whom were ordained Episcopal priests, the Sisters' two matrons, and several volunteer nurses from New York. They have ever since been known as "The Martyrs of Memphis," as have those of other Communions who ministered in Christ's name during this time of desolation.

The Cathedral buildings were located in the most infected region of Memphis. Here, amid sweltering heat and scenes of indescribable horror, these men and women of God gave relief to the sick, comfort to the dying, and homes to the many orphaned children. Only two of the workers escaped the Fever. Among those who died were Constance, Thecla, Ruth and Frances, the Reverend Charles Parsons and the Reverend Louis Schuyler. The six martyred Sisters and priests are buried at Elmwood Cemetery. The monument marking the joint grave of Fathers Parsons and Schuyler bears the inscription: "Greater Love Hath No Man." The beautiful High Altar in St. Mary's Cathedral, Memphis, is a memorial to the four Sisters.

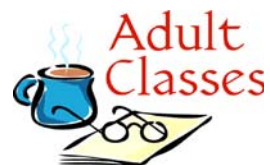
Collect: We give you thanks and praise, O God of compassion, for the heroic witness of Constance and her companions, who, in a time of plague and pestilence, were steadfast in their care for the sick and dying, and loved not their own lives, even unto death: Inspire in us a like love and commitment to those in need, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

From *Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2006*. (General Convention adopted for trial use for 3 years a replacement for *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* known as *Holy Women, Holy Men*. It includes all of those in the 2006 edition of *LFF* as well as over 100 new commemorations including Lydia, Dorcas and Phoebe, Frances Perkins, John XXIII, Fanny Crosby, Elizabeth Seton, Frederick Douglass, John Cassian, Mary Brant (Konwatsijayenni), John Muir, John Calvin, Bertha and Ethelbert, Joan of Arc, Johann Sebastian Bach, George Frederick Handel, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Søren Kierkegaard, Margery Kempe, Isaac Watts, and Thomas Merton—a wonderfully diverse lot!!!)

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

September Birthdays

2	Kassie Garrett
8	Bill Rissman
9	Emily Cobbs
10	Stephen Ryckman
17	Richard Bailhe, Izaak Uptegraft, Aileen Hecht
18	Peg Maricle, Claire Beckett
24	Nickolas Hoisington
25	Hope Hernandez, Mary Tuckey
26	Zack Woodall, Karl Weathers
27	Chuck Case
28	Rick Merritt
29	Mitchel Bailhe

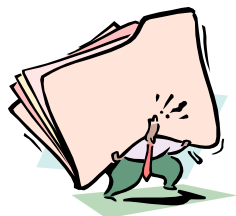


Our Gifts and Our Resources: Do we control and direct them, or are we being led?!

Join the adult ed class starting Sunday, September 13 at 9:15, for a four-week video series facilitated by Barb Burns-Briggs. Bishop Burrill from New York will offer us food for thought and discussion. And, yes, there will be cake and coffee! See you September 13 at 9:15.

September Anniversaries

4	Art & Rosina Roat
24	Jim & Sharon Swisk



Don't Forget

The deadline for the October 2009 Shield will be Sunday, September 20th by 12:00 noon. Please submit your articles in a timely fashion. If you are doing your articles on the computer, *PLEASE* use Garamond or New Times Roman font size 12.

You may e-mail your articles to: archangel48911@juno.com by Wednesday, September 16th or submit them on paper as in the past.

Volunteers Needed for Diocesan Convention

This year's Diocesan Convention will be in Lansing on October 23-24, 2009, and Fr. Hamlin has been asked to co-ordinate the volunteers. Plan to attend the Eucharist and to view the exhibits.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks, including:

Tellers: to work directly on the floor of the Convention on Saturday, October 24 to assist the Secretary of Convention in counting "show of hands" votes and distributing information. (Minimum of 10)

Hospitality/Greeters: needed Friday 1:00-7:00 p.m. and all day Saturday to greet delegates and serve as guides within the convention center.

Vendor Set-up/Break-down: needed Friday at noon and Saturday at 3:00 p.m. Volunteers help set-up and take-down vendor displays and help with vendor registration where needed.

There may also be a need for ushers and others to help in the Liturgy.

A sign-up form should be coming from the Diocese in the next month, but if you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, please contact Fr. Dick at wrhamlin@juno.com. Thank you.

Listening for *the Wingbeats*

Looking Ahead

For many of us, September marks the return to a “regular” or “normal” schedule. I put those words in quotation marks because the reality of our lives is that even the regular, the normal, the routine, is subject to change. Sometimes that is the evolutionary change that comes with the passage of time; sometimes it is the sudden change of unexpected events, opportunities, or challenges. Those things may be only a temporary interruption of our routine or they may permanently alter the way we live.

For us as a parish, the coming of September means a return to Sunday School, not only for our children, but for adults as well. It means the return of our choir to lead our singing; the return of monthly newsletters; the beginning of our annual working of a concession booth at MSU home football games; . . . It also means the celebration of St. Michael’s Day. Many of these will look, and sound, and feel familiar—the same people doing the same things; but there will also be changes because of the changes in our individual lives over the course of the last year. We need to acknowledge both the on-going ministries and those who are entering into new ministries, so we will commission all of those involved in parish-based ministries at both services on September 13: Sunday School teachers and students, Choir members, EMs, lectors, intercessors, ushers, acolytes, greeters, Altar Guild members, counters, those who do security or sell SCRIP, those who work on the Food Bank, those who work on The Shield, those who serve on committees, members of the prayer chain, those who care for our buildings and grounds, EfM participants, . . . the truth is that all of us are a part of the life and ministry of our parish.

September will also mark the beginning of our pledge campaign for 2010. We have been richly blessed by the generosity and faithfulness of our members, despite the difficult economic times for our nation, and especially for our state. But we can not take that for granted. All of us are called to review prayerfully our commitments to our parish; to consider if we are being called to new ministries or new forms of service; to consider if we are being called to deeper financial commitment to our parish and to its many ministries.

September is a time for returning to the familiar. September is also a time to reassess what we have always taken as routine. Are there things we need to change? Things to drop? Things to add? Things to move to a higher or lower priority? May this change of season be a prompt for you to examine the changes in your life and to make conscious choices base on your listening to God’s call in your life.

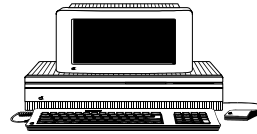
Blessings and Peace,

Frv. Dick+

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

The Fall Rummage Sale is Saturday, September 26th. Look in your closets and cupboards for things that you haven't used for a year or so. Maybe the rummage sale is a better place for them. As always, clean clothes for adults and children, kitchen items, books, toys, tools, furniture etc. are needed. **Please** also consider working for a few hours the week before the sale or the day of the sale. A sign up board will be in the Narthex by September 13th. This is a major fund raiser for the General Fund and Outreach.

Let's make it a BIG ONE!



Good News!

Pat Zandstra had to leave Camp Chick earlier than she expected, but got to the hospital in Royal Oak in time for her first grandson to be born. He arrived at 11:06 p.m and was eight pounds and 21 inches. They named him Wyatt Erwin Batson. Mother, baby, and father are all doing fine. And Grandma too we hope!



Note!

Kathy Brown is taking over Coffee Hour effective immediately. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Emrich Room. Please help by signing up for one of the dates. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at any time. My phone number is 203-6927.

Kathy Brown

Cottage Meetings Coming Soon!

This fall, all families at St. Michael's will be invited to small house parties called cottage meetings. Twenty parishioners will host small gatherings of 10-12 people from St. Michael's for refreshments and a short program, "How to get more from our money and the ministries of St. Michael's". These cottage meetings will be sometime between October 18th and 30th. Watch for your invitations!

For more information, see Carol Baker, Steve Smith, Barb Burns-Briggs or Father Dick.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6500 Amwood Drive + Lansing, MI 48911

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

website: www.saintmichaellansing.org

SEPTEMBER 2009 (Corrected)

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3	4	5 Food Bank # 4
			6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Worship Committee	5:30 Stewardship Comm.		
6 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Wardens' Meeting 10:30 Holy Eucharist 6:00 EfM begins!	7 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	8 7:00 Vestry	9 6:00 Holy Eucharist	10	11	12 Food Bank # 5
13 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist 6:00 EfM	14 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	15	16 11:30 Women's Bible Study at Great Lakes w/ Holy Eucharist @ noon. 6:00 Holy Eucharist	17	18	19 Food Bank # 1
20 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist 11:45 Parish Potluck Shield Articles due. 6:00 EfM	21 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i> 7:00 Women's Circle @ Florence Burchfield's house	22	23 11:30 Women's Bible Study at Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist	24	25 Canterbury Fall Feast 6:00	26 Food Bank # 2 8:00 Breakfast @ Flapjack's Rummage Sale 8-3
27 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist Noisy Offering: UTO 6:00 EfM	28 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	29	30 11:30 Women's Bible Study at Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist	31		

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

St. Michael's Shield
6500 Amwood Drive

Email: archangel48911@juno.com

Website: www.saintmichaellansing.org

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 9:00a.m. - 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

and by appointment

Associate Priest: Susan Carter

Minister of Music: Julia Walton

Senior Warden: Barry Baker

Junior Warden: Magnus Campbell

Secretary: Nancy Case

Office hours: Tuesday -Thursday 9:00a.m. -1:00p.m.

Director of Christian Education: Jackie Womble

Shield Editor: Diana D. Keenan

Telephone: 517/882-9733

FAX: 517/882-1733

Bus Route: CATA Route #8

Holy Eucharist: Sundays - 8:00a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Education for all: Sundays- 9:15 a.m. -10:15 a.m.

Choir Warm-up: 10:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Wednesdays - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School Resumes

It's "Back to Sunday School" Time! I hope you had a restful and relaxing summer.

Classes will begin on September 13th at 9:15 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m.

We are looking forward to a new year filled with fun, games and learning to live a Christ-filled life.

In God's Peace!

Jackie Womble

