

## The Communicator January 16, 2024

Saint Michael and All Angels continues to grow in such lovely and lively ways. Each week we have several guests and the following week **most** of them return. It is a tribute to the welcoming spirit of our members and the hospitality of our Hospitality Ministry under Debbie. This Sunday I heard rave reviews of Father Doug's sermon!!! Go Doug!

This past Sunday our guests were **Amanda's** dear friends, **Tommy and Stacey Anderson** visiting from Nashville and **Victor Manuel Morales**, guest of **Wendy Blake**. **Pat Mellencamp**, who visited with us a few months ago, returned and brought husband **Jonathan**. **Pat and Jonathan** are brand new residents of Cuernavaca. Welcome and welcome as well to your darling **Ginger**. Amigo now has a look-alike and we are up to 6 well-behaved pups in church!!! As Father Doug often reminds us, "*Every Sunday is Saint Francis Sunday at Saint Michael's.*" Other visitors included **Anita Cohen** and David **Stringer**, from Arizona and currently students at the **Cemanahuac Educational Community**. David is hoping to return to Cuernavaca long term. We'll be here.

We also welcomed home **Tamara**. Daughter of **Frances and Gonzalo**, Tamara now lives and works in LA and we were delighted and honored she chose to spend a precious Sunday morning of her vacation with her parents and us at SMAAA. Also visiting was **Victor Manuel Morales**, guest of **Wendy Blake**.

Regular parishioners **Mario, Lorena and Mother Naty** were back in their pews after either long illnesses and/or forced work commitments.



**Father Doug's** Honeymoon taught him an important lesson. "Never again to go to Northern Europe in the middle of winter." Apparently Father Doug has never been so cold and his bride, poor **Veronica** - from Mexico - even more so. Oh well, shed no tears - we trust they "had their love to keep them warm."

**Mother Naty** joined **Father Doug** at the altar. It was wonderful seeing

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that team back together.

The beautiful flowers on the altar were left from Saturday's funeral for **Mungo Lockhart's** mother-in-law, **Donatella's** mother, **Ann**. At Sunday's service, Prayers were offered in Ann's memory and for the healing of sorrow in her mourning family. We especially ask your prayers for

**Donatella**. We are grateful the choir sang at the funeral and that **Debbie** was able to step up on only hours notice to provide a lovely reception afterwards. Well done Choir and Debbie! Sunday morning parishioners were treated to delicious left-overs. As you can see our coffee hour was very well attended!!! Once again we had 60+ people attending. It was wonderful "exchanging the peace" in such a crowded aisle!



Weekday activities are also well attended. Spanish Class (for which I sadly have no photos) is reportedly a huge success with all levels of abilities. Some are doing advanced conversation, some studying grammar, some at beginner levels. We are deeply in the debt of **Charlie Detweiler** for getting this program off the ground!! Mondays, 3:30-5:30.

The library teas are a great place to socialize on Tuesday mornings, 11AM. Have you been? If not, why not? Tea and Treats, good conversation, and of course good friends. It's the Place to be. The Library continues to celebrate the return of **Kathy Ritter** after a long illness. Committed

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volunteers kept the library running smoothly through her absence and now it is reenergized. Are you a member? Is your membership up to date? Do you have books to donate?

Thursday Yoga (with **Ann Moxey** and now with **Lupita Vines** too- truly an embarrassment of riches), 11-1:30 is an opportunity to work on balance, breathing, posture and so much more. Just show up. We even have some extra mats; all levels of attendees from Beginners like me to a few very well-trained “yogis.” Even though we work hard there is plenty of laughter and camaraderie.



Friday’s Senior Club, 10-12, continues under **Lorena Molina** with her trusty team of volunteers to provide fun challenges to our seniors.

Junior Warden **John Stelly** is working on the second stage of installing the artificial turf - now in front of Father Doug’s casita. Sunday Coffee Hour on the front turf is working so well and I, for one, am very grateful to Judy Frothingham generous donation. As I see the *pipas* beginning all over town I know we are doing our bit to conserve resources - both of water and our own church finances. Thank you Judy.

Our **Annual Meeting** is February 18, in the church, immediately following the Sunday Service. As is the custom at Saint Michael’s we will share a potluck following the Annual Meeting. Please let Debbie know what you can bring - Salads, Main Dish, Dessert. We will provide soft drinks, waters, coffee, tea, wine. Please plan to stay and have a good time!

Our 2024 Lecture series - “Your Neighbor’s Got Talent” starts in February with **Terry Elizondo** speaking on her long history with **Nuestra Cabaña**, the International Girl Guides Site in Cuernavaca. One of only four in the world, Nuestra Cabana has an illustrious history in this city.

**Wednesday, February 28, 4PM, Parish Hall.** More information to follow.

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Other important dates: **Tuesday, January 23, 10AM, Vestry**  
**Thursday, February 22, 10AM, Vestry**