

## The Communicator March 19, 2024



We continue to have full pews every Sunday! Saint Michael's is a happening place to be on Sunday mornings with a beautiful worship service, lovely music, and a famous Hospitality Hour that brings in not only parishioners but assorted members of our larger community. The good news is that after a few months of **Debbie's** goodies and those of others, they eventually seem to wend their way into the church itself!

**Father Doug** was very sick with Covid for the last two Sundays and

we were indeed blessed by the presence of **Rev. Tamara Newell**, our beloved retired priest.

Sunday, March 24, is Palm Sunday. It is the beginning of Holy Week at Saint Michael's with the blessing of the palms, the joyous singing of the traditional "All Glory Laud and Honor" as we process into the church waving our palms in reenactment of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem only days before he would be arrested, tried and crucified. We will leave the church after singing the haunting "Were You There When

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They Crucified My Lord.” It is a powerful service from light to dark. Please join us if you can.

Friday, 12 noon, March 29, is the somber Good Friday - a quietly meditative, beautiful, haunting service.

And then, Easter Sunday arrives!!!! **Susie and Debbie Jeffress** will put-on their annual Children’s Easter before church



with the reading of an Easter Story and the Easter Egg Hunt. Children! Bring your baskets! Our Easter Service will include the baptism of **Santiago Adrian**

**Hernandez Diaz**, our young acolyte. Following the service, Santi’s parents and Godparents invite you to an Easter brunch in the garden! Thank you **Onagh** for the additional “Shade Sail.”



Easter Flowers will be given in the names of deceased family members. There will be a special program insert naming those in whose name flowers have been given. The Eucharist will be offered in their memories and all names will be read aloud at that time. Please see **Carol Hopkins** with names you would like remembered and to give whatever pesos or dollars you would like to donate. Any excess will gratefully be added to the church operating fund.



Last years' Easter Egg hunt. Even Amigo and the adults looked for eggs.

Last Sunday some of my announcements were made from the middle of the church. I was told that the front of the church couldn’t hear me. Well, that won’t happen again. This week **Cesar Hernandez** helped me fix our

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sound system and to buy a working wireless microphone. By Thursday I'm hoping to also have a pin on microphone we can use for Yoga and future lectures... one of which will be on hearing loss... a serious problem in our demographic.

But, I do want to repeat what I said last week in church. Our **Friday Senior Club has started a daily 8AM prayer group**. On our WhatsApp we keep the names of all those for whom we are praying. We stop whatever we are doing at 8AM and say those names, pray for those people. It is community building for the Senior Club and we believe in the power of communal prayer. If you would like to join us, please let me or **Lorena** know. You will be added to the WhatsApp group.

### To Be Of Use

The people I love the best  
jump into work head first  
without dallying in the shallows  
and swim off with sure strokes almost out of sight.  
They seem to become natives of that element,  
the black sleek heads of seals  
bouncing like half-submerged balls.

I love people who harness themselves, an ox to a heavy cart,  
who pull like water buffalo, with massive patience,  
who strain in the mud and the muck to move things forward,  
who do what has to be done, again and again.

I want to be with people who submerge  
in the task, who go into the fields to harvest  
and work in a row and pass the bags along,  
who are not parlor generals and field deserters  
but move in a common rhythm  
when the food must come in or the fire be put out.

The work of the world is common as mud.  
Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust.  
But the thing worth doing well done  
has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident.  
Greek amphoras for wine or oil,  
Hopi vases that held corn, are put in museums  
but you know they were made to be used.  
The pitcher cries for water to carry  
and a person for work that is real.

*Marge Piercy*

This past Sunday we were grateful to welcome back to Saint Michael's our treasured "friends," Howard and Betsy Friend. Over many years, Howard often filled in for our rector during the month of February. Erik, Betsy and Howard played and continue to play a huge role in the life of various Cuernavaca NGOs. Howard has been ill for some time and as a church and as individuals we have held him in our hearts and prayers for these past years. Seeing the Friend Family walk into church seemed an answer to that prayer. The Friend Family certainly are examples of the people "I Love the best" as described in this beautiful poem by Marge Piercy.

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But, they aren't the only ones. This community is filled with wonderful people who say, "Yes, how can I be of use?" And then just go to work. We are indeed blessed.

### Did you see our new visitor forms last Sunday?



Welcome to Saint Michael and All Angels

We invite you to join us after church services in the parish hall or garden for fellowship.

Please fill out this card to help us help you.

#### Visitor Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first visit? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you live in Morelos? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be in the Directory? \_\_\_\_\_

Receive The Communicator? \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to receive a pastoral call? \_\_\_\_\_

By providing your information we can help you to be aware of ongoing classes, lectures, social events, library hours, etc.

Do you have suggestions for making this form more useful? Please talk to us - **Pat Manners, Father Doug, Carol Hopkins**. Welcome to **Patty Hogan's** guest visiting from Georgia, **Lynne Anderson**. And WELCOME to

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**Amalia Diego** who attended this past Sunday. Amalia is now receiving The Communicator and is in the Directory!

Spanish Class did a selfie this week for The Communicator. It is never too late to start attending. Every Monday, 3:30-5:30. Grammar & conversation with **Roman Roman**. We appreciate your long arms **Charlie Detweiler!**



**Suzie Brown** has been approved for cochlear surgery. It will delay her trip down here this Spring but we hope to have Suzie and Jeff (her hearing dog) back with us very soon. Suzie is looking forward to visiting Caminando Unidos and seeing the good work we have done there. We can do more.



Thursday's (11-12;30) Chair **Gentle Yoga with Ann (and Lupita)** continues to grow. Ann works with us on breathing, posture, balance. We will have class this Thursday, March 21 but there will be no yoga on Thursday, March 28, Maundy Thursday of Holy Week.

**Friday's Senior Club** will meet on Good Friday, March 29, 10-12. They will break a bit early for participants to attend Good Friday Services.



**Youth Summer Camp** is just around the corner. The last day of official classes in Morelos is July 16. We are hoping to have a good turn out of young people for this important outreach we have planned. Susie Jeffress and two or her English-language friends from the faculty of Mary Mount are planning for this first time event. We have great hopes that it will spin off bring in families with children.. even lead to a youth choir. Stay tuned as plans develop.

Palm Sunday, 9AM, is the funeral for **Jim Papp** at San Pablo's Anglican Church in Alpuyecá. **Bishop Enrique Treviño** will be officiating and **Suzie Kirago** will represent Saint Michael's and the Choir. Many of us wish we could be there. A reception follows the funeral at **Jim and Roberto's** home in Xochitepec. Please write if you need directions. Roberto Carbajal's email address is [jabal28jo@hotmail.com](mailto:jabal28jo@hotmail.com) **Roberto's WhatsApp is 747-122-9496.**

**The Saint Michael's Library** had a very successful garage sale last Saturday. Eugene Hoekendorf loaded a Library Benefit table with Irish

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Coffee and pulled pork sandwiches. It was a huge hit. Other tables also seemed to do a rousing business. Saint Michael's still has lots of artificial grass for sale. The price is right 100p/square meter. You can't beat it. Perfect for patios, yards, etc. Even cut a strip and use it for an Easter table runner (Thank you **Patty Hogan**). We really want to color it GONE by Easter!

**Ministerios de Amor** is a non-profit charity that runs a system of houses that care for children in a family-type environment. Most of the children are placed in these homes as a result of DIF intervention. The homes are located in the Vista Hermosa area and Ministerios de Amor is well known to church members **Lety and Gabriel Novaro** who report they do great work and are very supportive. One of the good things about Ministerios is that siblings are kept together. Last Sunday **Tamara Newell** made an announcement about help needed with basic foodstuffs. She donated a basket which is by the door of the church. It will be a joint project with San Pablo to collect dry and canned goods. **Ninive's niece, Gaby**, is now working with Ministerios and will make sure the donations get delivered to them each week. A bag of rice or beans, a can of tuna fish - stop by your pantry on your way to church and grab something!

Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to share with you one of my favorite moments (click "moments" for the imbed) from this past pandemic. **Adrienne, Eduardo, Mike Drell** and I worshipped at La Mancha each Sunday morning watching the **National Cathedral's** live Youtube channel. This frequently watched video is from one of those Sundays. Sometimes I think it's important to remember why we do what we do; this beautiful rendition by **Imani-Grace** reminds me as I hope it will remind you.