

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve at
5:00 with Carols,
Holy Eucharist, Sermon
and Blessing of the Creche.
11:00 pm – Traditional Christ Mass
with Choir and Sermon.

THE GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last call for those who wish to attend!
Wednesday, December 8th at the Italian
Village Restaurant.

The menu and cost: Stuffed
Shells - \$12.00, Chicken Cordon Bleu -
\$13.00, Prime Rib - \$15.25, including
gratuity.

Lois Conliffe has tickets
available and be sure to sign up on the
bulletin boards with your choice of
lunch. Join us for a fun time.

Don't forget to bring a wrapped
\$5.00 gift suitable for the women of
Canaan House to share some of our own
bounty.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you for your support of
"Operation Christmas Child". The gift-
filled shoe boxes will be distributed by
Samaritan's Purse to needy children
around the world. We here at St.
Michael's contributed 33 gift-filled shoe
boxes that will bring happiness to boys
and girls who otherwise wouldn't
receive any presents. Each shoe box also
includes Gospel literature to introduce
children and their families to God's
greatest gift, His Son, Jesus Christ. We
are happy to be part of this project to
bring joy and the message of Jesus
Christ to His children around the world.

WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST WITH HEALING

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. please join us
in worship, followed by Bible Study of
the Gospel of John with Father Wheeler.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

resumes between the services in the
Undercroft with a study of the Book of
Acts.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

Wednesday, December 1st from
9:00 to noon Father Wheeler will be the
leader and celebrant at the Holy
Eucharist for our annual Quiet Day. The
theme this year is "Stop – Look –
Listen". Plan to attend to prepare for the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE FOOD PANTRY wishes to say
"Thank you" to everyone who
contributed to the Thanksgiving Baskets
either by a cash donation or food
items. They are greatly appreciated by
all who are on the receiving end of them.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Please do not forget our Christmas
Baskets. Checks may be made out to St.
Michael's and labeled Food Pantry. All
canned goods and dry goods may be left
on the back counter of the kitchen. If all
donations could be in no later than
Saturday, December 19, 2004, it would
be appreciated. Thank you one and all
for helping to continue this important
ministry. *Shirley & Chuck Gardinier*
(*St. Michael's Food Pantry*)

HANGING OF THE GREENS

In an effort to accommodate the
needs and concerns of our parishioners,
St. Michael's will be holding its Annual
Hanging of the Greens on **SATURDAY,
December 18, 2004** starting between
9:30 and 10:00 am. We hope to have
everything in place by 2:00 pm and a
hearty chili lunch will be served
immediately following our work. Please
make every effort to attend this event for
the old saying "many hands make light
work" is never more true than with the
"Hanging of the Greens." Hope to see
you there, *Jack Bidell, Jr. Warden*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS are due no later than DECEMBER 19TH to be included in the Christmas Bulletin.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Wednesday, January 5th immediately following the 9:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing Service and Bible Study. Please remember your Brown Bag Lunch. As usual, dessert and beverage will be provided. We will NOT meet if the Buffalo schools are having a "Snow Day". *Virginia Bradley*

VICAR'S VIEWS

The Bible has much to say about the subject of joy. We are encouraged to rejoice in good times and bad. We are encouraged to rejoice in God...always. I can say without hesitation that I have found great joy in being called by your vestry as Vicar here at St. Michael's. Chris and I have experienced a warm welcome for which we are very grateful.

We look forward to deepening old friendships and beginning new ones: to working together for the common good, to talk, laugh, and cry together, to minister to each other and to those outside the walls of our church and in all things, to glorify God and exalt our Lord Jesus Christ.

I will be at the church on Sundays and Wednesdays. I will be available the rest of the week by phone at (326- 3536) or you may E-Mail me (ccwheeler@madbbs.com). I am currently scheduling parish visits to shut-ins and other members. If you would like to have me visit you and your family, please let me know.

Chris and I wish you a blessed Advent Season.

Faithfully,
Fr. Wheeler+

A Prayer for St. Michael & All Angels

Almighty God, by whose gracious providence your church, St. Michael and All Angels, was established to be a bright light of hope, we give you thanks for sustaining and prospering its ministry. Look upon us and this church with mercy and grace. Forgive us our sins. Unite us anew in your love. Inspire us afresh to joyfully do your will that your kingdom may be advanced and your Holy Name be glorified among all people. All this we ask in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

A CALL TO PRAYER

One of my first acts as your vicar has been to call this church to a season of prayer: intentional, special prayer for St. Michael's people and ministry. It is SO important that we first seek God and His guidance in the days ahead. Please join with us in spending special time interceding for the needs of our church. Don't forget to also spend time giving thanks, especially during their Thanksgiving season. For indeed, God has done wonderful things in our midst. Finally, take time to listen to God's voice. He speaks in many ways, especially through His word. Take time daily to read a portion of Holy Scripture. Join in Bible Study as together we read and discuss what God is saying to us. May He bless you as you give yourself to this most blessed work.

+Fr. Wheeler

GOT A NOSE FOR NEWS?

Anyone who wishes to receive Postings, the weekly diocesan news & updates publication may do so by subscribing to Postings through our diocesan home page at www.episcopalwny.org.

ERD – EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT
“GIFT FOR LIFE” – GIVE A GIFT AND SAVE A LIFE

The ERD helps people around the world. They provide emergency assistance after a disaster such as the hurricanes that struck Florida, they were there. They rebuild communities and help make life safer and healthier for people living in poverty world wide.

We, at St. Michael’s would like to provide a family with a better life. With as little as \$35.00 we can provide a family with a goat, which will give them milk, off springs to sell and meat to eat. An \$8,000.00 donation will provide a community with clean water and sanitation.

Review the catalogs which are located in the parish hall. Place your donations in the Jar provided along with the item that you hope we can provide for a family.

You could also make this a project for your personal family. Have your children pick out an item that would help someone less fortunate themselves, and try to achieve that goal.

You may also want to purchase BISHOPS BLEND COFFEE, your purchase helps:

- ✓ **Disadvantage women find jobs and support their children.**
- ✓ **Communities rebuild after an earthquake.**
- ✓ **Orphans receive an education, care and counseling and much more.**

Bishops Blend is certified Fair Trade organic and shade grown.

Please help us to help the less fortunate!

We can make a difference!

IMAGINE

By John Lennon

Imagine there’s no heaven,
It’s easy if you try,
No hell below us,
Above us only sky,
Imagine all the people
Living for today.....

Imagine there’s no countries
It isn’t hard to do,
Nothing to kill or die for,
And no religion too,
Imagine all the people
Living life in peace....

Refrain:

You may say I’m a dreamer,
But I’m not the only one,
I hope some day you’ll join us,
And the world will live as one...

Imagine no possessions,
I wonder if you can,
No need for greed or hunger,
A brotherhood of man,
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world....Refrain

You may say I’m a dreamer,
But I’m not the only one,
I hope some day you’ll join us,
And the world will live as one.

All we are saying is give peace a chance
All we are saying is give peace a chance.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6-Bruce VonHasseln 20-Bob DuVall
7-Bob Gardinier 25 – Lord Jesus
14-Cliff Fox 25- M.Donhauser
14-George Baer 26-Mary Bubar
16-Molly Allen 27-Don Szen
18-Evelyn Heigl 30-M.Moghabghab
18-M. Schwedt 31-Charles Wheeler

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/2/47 – Norma & Cliff Fox
12/30/72 – Shirley & Chuck Gardinier
12/31/56 – Addie & Jerry Broome