

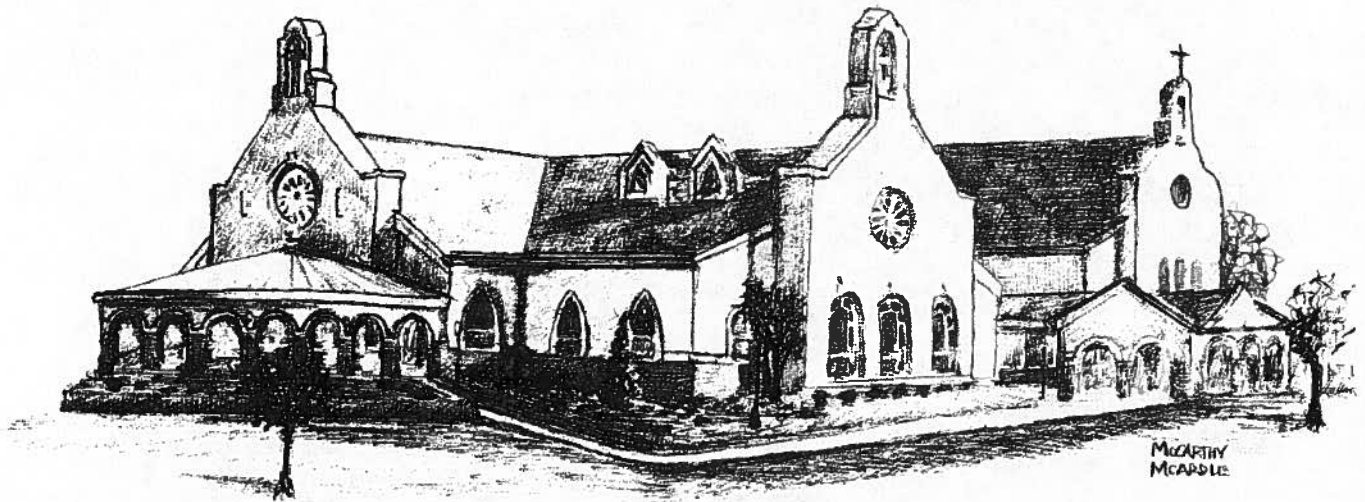


ST. MICHAEL PARISH

2008 - 2009

ANNUAL REPORT

*Celebrating 140 years of
Worship, Service and Community*



ST. MICHAEL PARISH MISSION IS CHRIST'S MISSION

*Bring the Good News to the Poor; proclaim liberty to captives;
offer new sight to the blind; set the downtrodden free, and proclaim
the Lord's year of favor because the Spirit of the Lord has been given to
us. God has anointed us with Love. (Luke 4:18-19)*

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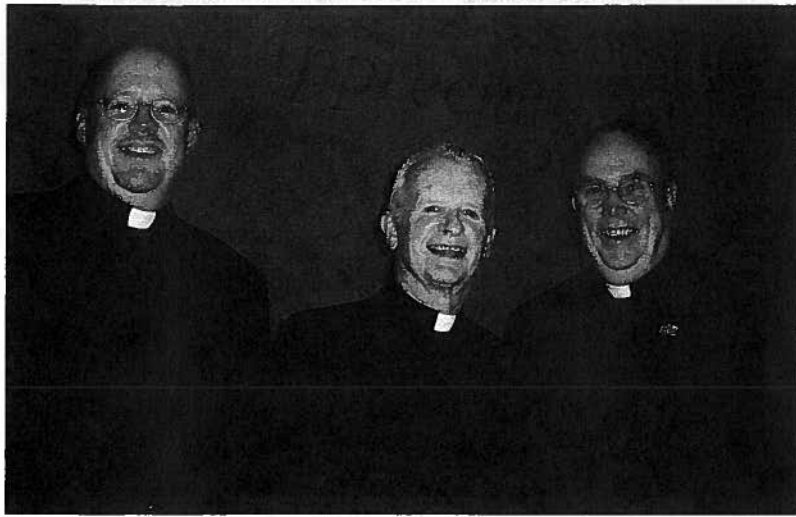
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St. Michael Parish...

Valuing Our Past



This year, St. Michael Parish is celebrating 140 years of being a parish! The "old church" was dedicated on Sunday, November 19, 1869 when it was located on Water Street. Since those early days of a visible Catholic presence in North Andover, St. Michael Parish has grown and evolved in many different ways – spiritually, physically, geographically, demographically, educationally, and more! Throughout all of this transformation, there has been one constant: the centrality of the Eucharist, the living presence of Jesus Christ, in the lives of St. Michael parishioners. For us, your priests, Christ's presence is so evident in the way you pray and in the way you respect and serve each other and those who are hurting. You are truly the hands and heart and voice of Jesus Christ who dwells inside you.

It is impossible, in this brief letter, to name all the ways in which you minister, but we would like to mention some of the highlights of this last fiscal year. It began, last September, with our annual Mass and picnic, this time celebrating the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese of Boston with 10 of our neighboring parishes. It was a reminder to us that we do not stand alone, that we are a part of the universal Church, the living Body of Christ in the world.

One of the most inspiring events of last year was our Giving Tree Program at Christmas. Given the downturn in the economy, we had anticipated a decrease in the giving of Christmas presents for those in need. Instead, the parish hall was filled with almost twice as many gifts as in the year before! We heard parishioners say, "I have a good job and we're doing fine, I'll give extra for those who can't", and "There are so many people who are really struggling this year, I'm going to give less to our kids – Lord knows they have plenty – and give more to the people who could use a boost". Your generosity is outstanding!

The generosity of the adults has been passed onto our children, too. Our middle and high school students are constantly collecting items for St. Ann's Home in Methuen, Hancock Projects and the Pregnancy Care Center in Lawrence, military personnel in Iraq, and more! During Lent, they, along with the younger children and some of our adult ministries offered Friday night "Soup 'n Stations". They shared a simple meal, uniting themselves with those who go without; they donated the money that they would usually spend on a meal to the sponsored group, and led all participants in a special Stations of the Cross. One of the most moving Fridays was when we met some refugees from Iraq and heard their stories of oppression and escape.

Growing spiritually, or "*becoming more fully alive in Christ*", the vision we've had over the years, is the most important aspect of parish life. To assist us in that vision, the Archdiocese introduced to all the parishes the program for spiritual renewal called, "*ARISE: Together in Christ*". Over 150 parishioners participated in the two six-week small group sessions that began last fall. They found that they developed a closer relationship with God and their peers in the small groups. This led to their living out their faith in a deeper way - being kinder, more generous, more patient, reaching out more to those in need and so many other ways. If you haven't already, we hope that you will make the time to participate in this wonderful renewal process that will continue through Fall, 2010.

In the Spring, Fr. Arthur Coyle, Episcopal Vicar of the Merrimack Valley, came to review St. Michael Parish. He was amazed at the sheer numbers of active parishioners here: This past year, 260 children were baptized, 280 received their First Holy Communion; 200 celebrated confirmation and each week over 3000 people celebrate Mass. Our school has a full enrollment of 538 students, we have witnessed 60 marriages and have sent to God 140 people. Father Coyle was astounded at our having 60 ministries, lovingly served by over 800 people. He recognized that the numbers are attributed only to the openness of our parishioners to the Holy Spirit working in their lives. We, as your priests, and the wider community are so blessed by your living out your faith among us. We thank you for your friendship and support throughout the year. Let's continue to work together, sharing our faith and God's love.

Wishing you God's abundant blessings in this season of Thanksgiving,

Fr. John Delaney

Fr. Jay Zeman

Fr. Paul Keyes



Fiscal Year 2008-2009

INCOME

Offertory \$1,451,000

- ◆ Annual Giving
- ◆ Monthly Giving
- ◆ Quarterly Giving
- ◆ Semi-Annual Giving
- ◆ Weekly Collection

Services \$194,000

- ◆ Adult Education
- ◆ Faith Formation (Grades 1-10)
- ◆ Parish Activities
- ◆ Pre-Cana
- ◆ Youth Ministry

Special Giving \$194,000

- ◆ Disaster Relief
- ◆ Holy Days
- ◆ Outreach
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul
- ◆ School Mortgage
- ◆ Special Gifts

SUMMARY

Total Income \$2,142,000

Total Expenses \$1,647,000

Net Operating Cash..... \$495,000

Church Capital Expenditures..... \$34,000

Construction Debt Pay Down \$237,000

Total..... \$271,000

Net Cash \$224,000

Sacramentals \$126,000

- ◆ Baptisms
- ◆ Flowers
- ◆ Funerals
- ◆ Memorial Fund
- ◆ Memorial Masses
- ◆ Spiritual Bouquets
- ◆ Vigil Lights
- ◆ Weddings

Seton Center

Donations \$177,000

- ◆ Gifts
- ◆ Wills

This report has been approved by the Parish Finance Council.

EXPENSES

Pastoral \$201,000

- ◆ Adult Education
- ◆ Community Life
- ◆ Counseling/Health Care
- ◆ Faith Formation (Grades 1-10)
- ◆ Liturgical Supplies
- ◆ RCIA/Christ-Seekers
- ◆ Spiritual Formation
- ◆ Youth Ministry
- ◆ Worship

Outreach..... \$124,000

- ◆ Asian Center
- ◆ Circle of Friends
- ◆ Communities Together
- ◆ Disaster Relief
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity
- ◆ Hospital Chaplaincy
- ◆ Lazarus House
- ◆ Missionary Support
- ◆ Pregnancy Care Center
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul
- ◆ Scholarship Aid
- ◆ Other Charitable Organizations

Ministerial Support

(Compensation) \$904,000

- ◆ Clergy
- ◆ Maintenance Staff
- ◆ Professional Staff
- ◆ Support Staff
- ◆ Disability Benefits
- ◆ Health Benefits
- ◆ Retirement Benefits
- ◆ Social Security

Facilities \$156,000

- ◆ Equipment
- ◆ Improvements
- ◆ Maintenance
- ◆ Property Insurance
- ◆ Utilities

Other \$111,000

- ◆ Construction Loan Interest
- ◆ School Subsidy

Administration \$151,000

- ◆ Dues/Subscriptions
- ◆ Household Expenses
- ◆ Office Supplies
- ◆ Postage
- ◆ Printing
- ◆ Telephone

We are happy to report that our outstanding capital debt to the Archdiocese of Boston was paid off in June, 2009.



St. Michael Parish...

Committed to Thanksgiving to God



First Communion, 2009

- ◆ Altar Servers
- ◆ Decorating Committee
- ◆ Eucharistic Adoration
- ◆ Eucharistic Ministers
- ◆ Family Mass Team
- ◆ Greeters
- ◆ Lazarus Funeral Ministry
- ◆ Lectors
- ◆ Liturgy Team
- ◆ Music Ministry
- ◆ Nimble Thimbles
- ◆ Sanctuary Society
- ◆ St. Martha's Cleaning Ministry
- ◆ Ushers
- ◆ Virgin Mary Sodality

Committed to Growing in Faith

- ◆ ARISE: Together in Christ
- ◆ Baptism Ministry
- ◆ Bible Studies
- ◆ Centering Prayer
- ◆ Confirmation Teachers & Aides
- ◆ Ecumenical Outreach
- ◆ Prayer Line Ministry
- ◆ Pre-Cana Ministry
- ◆ RCIA/Christ-Seekers Team
- ◆ Religious Ed. Teachers & Aides, Gr. 1-8
- ◆ Men's Prayer Group
- ◆ Mother's Morning of Prayer
- ◆ Our Lady Cenacle Group
- ◆ Rosary Ministry
- ◆ Saint Michael School
- ◆ Ultreya/Cursillo
- ◆ Wedding Coordinators
- ◆ Women in God's Spirit
- ◆ Youth Ministry



Sr. Barbara Monahan, a Sister of Charity, volunteering at St. Michael School

Committed to Service



Our high school students volunteering for Habitat for Humanity

If you would like to become involved in any of the ministries listed here, please call the pastoral center at 978-686-4050.

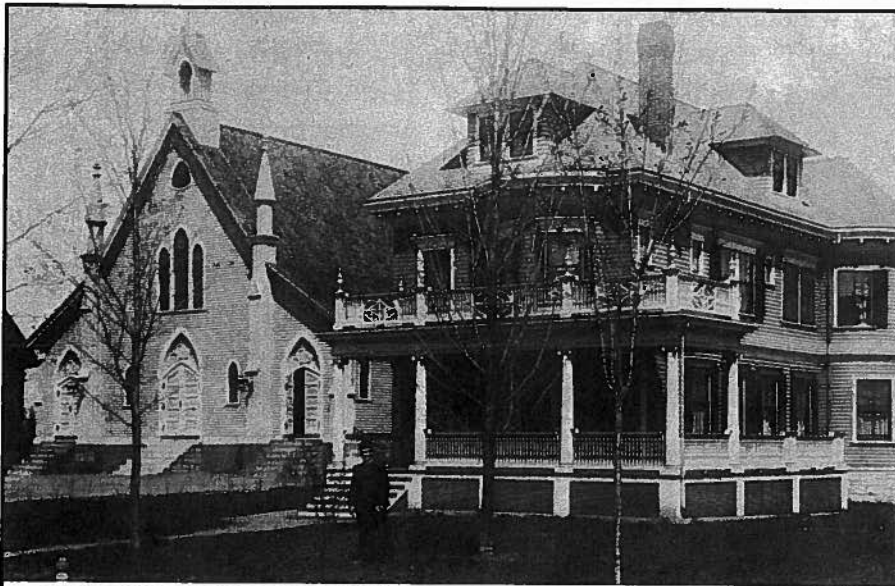
- ◆ Bread & Roses
- ◆ Circle of Friends
- ◆ Cor Unum
- ◆ Ecumenical Outreach
- ◆ Finance Council
- ◆ Good Neighbors
- ◆ Guardian Newsletter
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity
- ◆ Hancock Project Ministry
- ◆ Health Ministry
- ◆ Holy Name Society
- ◆ Hospital/Nursing Home/ Home Bound Visitors
- ◆ Job Seekers
- ◆ Knights of Columbus
- ◆ Lazarus House
- ◆ Office Helpers
- ◆ Parish Pastoral Council
- ◆ Pastoral Outreach
- ◆ Picnic Team
- ◆ Prayer Shawl Ministry
- ◆ Protecting God's Children
- ◆ St. Elizabeth Hospitality Ministry
- ◆ St. Joseph the Worker
- ◆ St. Michael Travelers
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul Society
- ◆ Scouting
- ◆ Seton Center Building Committee
- ◆ Teresians Flower Ministry
- ◆ Video Ministry
- ◆ Welcome Sunday Team

If you have been away from active participation in Church or in St. Michael Parish, we would be honored to welcome you back. Please never hesitate to contact any of our priests or parish staff at 978-686-4050. We are here to serve you!



St. Michael Parish...

140 Years of Worship, Service and Community



Rev. James M. Gallagher in front of St. Michael Church and Rectory in 1915

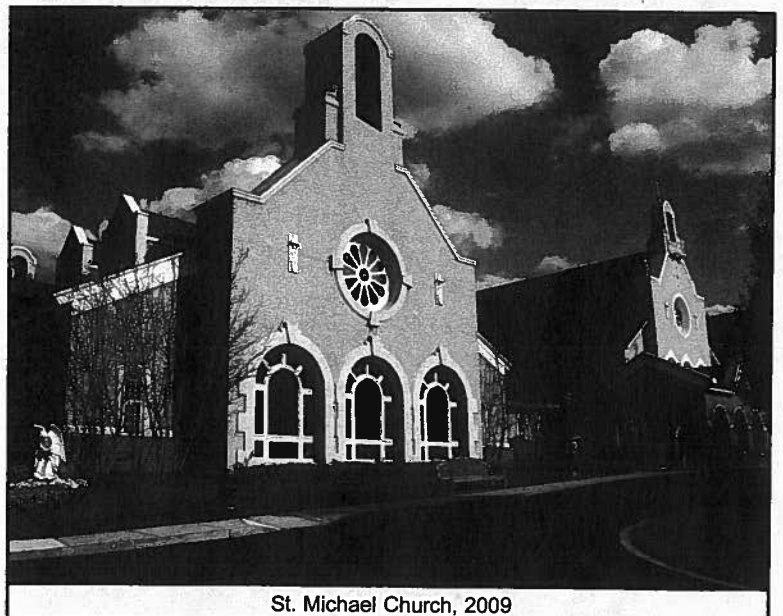
Over 140 years ago, the early Catholics of North Andover sacrificed to build their own church on Water Street. St. Michael Church was dedicated in 1869 as a mission church, served by the priests of the city of Lawrence. Since then, the church has gone through many changes – moving to Main Street in 1886, becoming a parish in 1900 with Rev. James Gilday as its first pastor, building the rectory in 1901, enlarging and restyling the church into its mission appearance in the late 40's, buying the town's Merrimack School to establish a parochial school in 1950, building a

convent for its teachers, the Sisters of Charity, and building a "new school" in 1956.

More recently, 17 new classrooms were added to the "new school" in 1998 where, today, nearly 540 students enjoy up-to-date classrooms at St. Michael School. Over 1800 public school students gather at the school and at the former convent, now the Youth Ministry Center, for religious education. On October 24, 1999, parishioners gathered to dedicate the "new church", a place of new life, hope and love - the fruit of God's faith-filled and generous people. The "old church" has been transformed into the parish hall, parish offices and meeting rooms where over 60 groups come together to learn, to pray, to serve those in need, and to build up our parish community.

At the core of the history of St. Michael Parish is its people's recognition that life is a precious gift to each and every one of us by God who loves us with an incredible love. God offers us this gracious gift, inviting us to reverence God as the Source of all life, which is the call to religious worship and praise. St. Michael Church has been the prayerful center for people of praise and thanksgiving for 140 years. It has been and continues to be the spiritual home where the faithful, young and old, celebrate the Sacraments of the Church. It has been a place of healing presence to one another in times of great crises. It has been a center of educating our children in the faith and a resource for reaching out in service to those who have been in need. Christ's Mission of love and service has been alive and continues to be alive through St. Michael Parish family:

Bring the Good News to the Poor; proclaim liberty to captives; offer new sight to the blind; set the downtrodden free, and proclaim the Lord's year of favor because the Spirit of the Lord has been given to us. God has anointed us with Love.



St. Michael Church, 2009



St. Michael Parish...

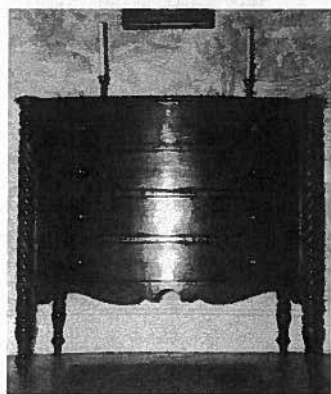
140 Years of Worship, Service and Community



Reverend James J. Gilday, First Pastor
1900-1903



Smiling faces at
May Procession
in 1949 with
Archbishop
Cushing and
Monsignor
Francis L. Shea,
Pastor, in center

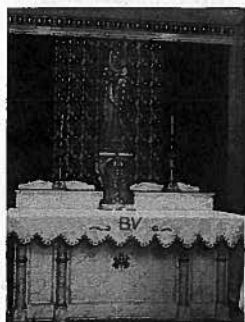


Bureau on which Mass was offered in
Whinery home in 1831

St. Vincent de
Paul Society
members with
Monsignor
William A. Long,
Pastor, early
1970's



St. Michael School, 1968



Blessed Virgin Mother Shrine, 1969



The "old school" makes
way for the present
Church, 1998