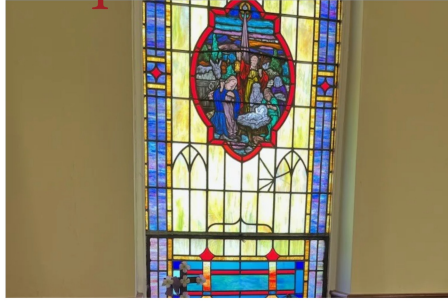


I am the good Shepherd

I am the Good Shepherd
In the Gospel Reading, Jesus says that his sheep follow him. Those who belong to him know his voice and so they are willing to follow him and let him lead the way.

The most comforting of the Psalms 23 begins with the line: "The Lord is my shepherd." It ends with this line: "Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." Goodness and mercy, in the person of the good Shepherd, have to follow because the shepherd is heading out to seek the lost sheep. The reason that the sheep is lost and astray is that it is leading the way, when, clearly, it is the shepherd who knows the way and needs to lead. Here is the good news, then: Whether a person is faithful or lost he will be surrounded by the love of the Good Shepherd.



Either the Shepherd will lead him or the Shepherd will follow after him to find him when he is astray. In our sickness we need a savior, in our wanderings a guide, in our blindness someone to show us the light, in our thirst the fountain of living water which quenches for ever the thirst of those who drink from it. We dead people need life, we sheep need a shepherd, we children need a teacher, the whole world needs Jesus! And so St. Patrick's prayer is right: Christ before me, Christ behind me. And, either way, Christ with me

Readings & Hymns

Hymns for This day

Processional :85(Jesus Christ is risen)

Alleluia: 99(O sons and daughters)

Offertory: 91(The Strife is over)

Communion : 197(let all mortal flesh)

Recessional : 86(Hail thee festival day)

Readings

Old Testament: Is 40,1-11

The Epistle. 1Pet2,19-25

The Gospel : Jn 10,11-14

CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sundays : Mass at 11:30 am

Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm

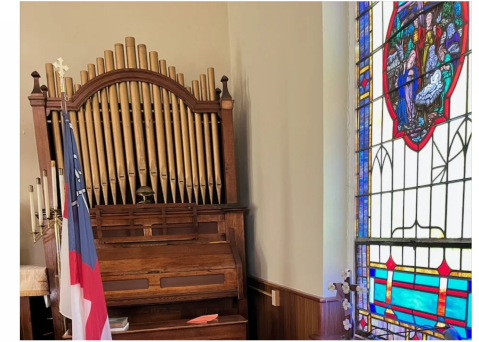
We encourage everyone to continue to support the operation of the church by sending your offerings (collection) to the treasurer. This can be done via our website (www.stmichaelacc.org), mailing a check to our post office box (P.O. Box 315, Buckeystown, MD 21717), by mailing your check directly to Lynne Brisbane at 3500 Basford Rd., Frederick, MD 21703, or of course, by placing your donation in the alms plate during the Offertory at Mass on Sundays.



The Eastertide

Easter Sunday begins the Easter season. The 50-day Eastertide, running to Pentecost, is the longest season on the Church calendar. Everything starts with the joyous celebrations of Easter Sunday. The first eight days, beginning with Easter Sunday, is the octave of Easter. Each octave day is a solemnity, the highest ranking feast in the church, and we hear those vivid accounts of that first Easter. During the 50 days, the church helps us to unlock the mysteries and miracles of Easter.

Earlier in church history, the first week after Easter was known as "white week" because those baptized on Easter would attend daily Mass wearing their white baptismal garments. In our time, for those who received the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil, these days are commonly used to continue their understanding of the sacraments and the paschal mysteries. The last Sunday of the octave was, for centuries, called Low Sunday to differentiate it from the glories of Easter Sunday.



The sacrament of Communion and Confirmation are also often connected to Eastertide. From Holy Saturday through the Saturday after Pentecost, the church honors the Blessed Mother with the "Regina Coeli" (Queen of Heaven) instead of the Angelus. We recite the Regina Coeli while standing during prayers at 6 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. Forty days into the season, the church commemorates the feast of the Ascension. Jesus returns to the Father and thus offers a foretaste of what is in store for us. St. Leo said, "Christ's ascension is our own ascension; our body has the hope of one day being where its glorious head has preceded it."

After the Ascension is another period of preparation, praying, readying our hearts for the great feast of Pentecost. This day commemorates Jesus sending the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, just as he said he would. With the celebration of Pentecost, a ceremony ranked by the church only behind Easter and Christmas, we will return to Ordinary Time. What we call the Easter season is over but Easter never ends.

We often hear that without belief in the Resurrection, the Christian faith has no basis, **but** no foundation. Indeed, St. Paul tells us in his First Letter to the Corinthians that “if Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, your faith” (15:14). The crux of the matter is that Christ died for us; Christ rose from the dead; Christ is alive. Hundreds saw the resurrected Lord; the four Gospel writers separately confirm this miracle through their beautiful and detailed recounting of the Resurrection story. The Mass readings on Easter Sunday transform us back to that first Easter. We experience the roller-coaster emotions of the women who arrive at the empty tomb and hear the angelic message, “He is not here, but he has been raised” (Lk 24:6).



For 40 days, standing near the elevated pulpit, the paschal candle illuminates the Gospel. On the day of the Ascension, it is extinguished but remains perpetually visible near the baptismal font in every Catholic church. The candle is lit at baptisms and funerals, reflecting back on the Resurrection.

Jn10,11

“ I am the good shepherd ”

Study Topic
Spiritual Awareness

Study Topic
Understand our church's history

Study Topic
Emotional support in time of Crisis

Ministries Update

VESTRY MEMBERS:

Amanda Miller, Sr. Warden
Immaculee Ayetan, Jr. Warden
Rick Frye, Secretary
Lynne Brisbane, Treasurer

Upcoming Church Events

- Adoration service: 1st & 3rd Sunday of month at 11:00 am
- Micha's baptism was on Sunday April 12.
- Holy
- May's potluck will be on Sunday 10

Highlights

Our Church is our Families' family

