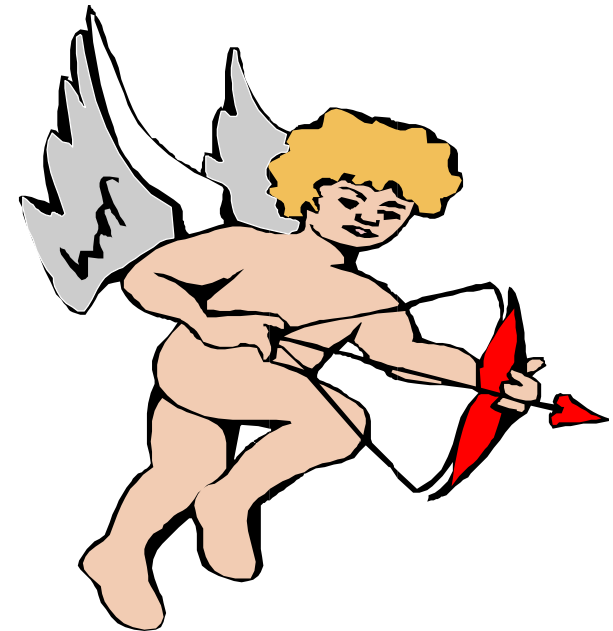


St . michael 's

Messenger

February, 2008



Our Purpose

*To bring the light, love and joy of
Jesus Christ into this world – by living the written
word, sharing the living word, and loving without
exception.*

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

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Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 am – Noon

Vestry:

Carol Weekley, Sr. Warden; and Mike Ham, Jr. Warden

Sharon Schlossin; John Neubert; Dave Noonan; Jack Bidell; Bob
Weekley and Bruce Von Hasseln
Sarah DiLiberto, Clerk

A Pretzel Prayer for Lent

Many years ago, an Italian monk made a simple bread to remind his brother monks that Lent was a time of prayer. He rolled bread dough in strips and shaped them in the form of arms crossed over the heart in a prayerful gesture. These little breads were called *bracellae*, the Latin word for “little arms.” From this word came the German word *bratzel*, and our word *pretzel*.

Lord, may these pretzel snacks remind us to always turn to you in prayer.

A Recipe for Lenten Pretzels

½ tsp salt	4-1/2 to 5 cups flour
1 beaten egg	coarse (kosher) salt
1-1/2 cups warm water	1 pkg active dry yeast
½ tsp sugar	

Four water in bowl. Gently stir in yeast, salt and sugar to dissolve. Mix in flour and form a ball. Knead dough, then let it rest one hour. Roll pieces of dough into strips about ½” thick and 6” long. Fold strips into pretzel shapes and place on a lightly greased cookie sheet. Brush lightly with egg and sprinkle with salt. Bake at 425 degrees for 12-15 min. Makes 2-1/2 dozen pretzels.

THE VALENTINE VISITOR

St. Valentine’s Day Eve dawned bright and sunny last year, with orders pouring in to my new shop, Perfect Petals Florist. Working in the floral business for the last 25 years, I knew how to be prepared, especially for a day like Valentine’s Day. *Everything’s going just as I planned*, I thought. New customers were calling constantly and computers were spitting out orders left and right. My delivery guys were set to handle the dozen of roses, teddy bears, balloons and arrangements with baby’s breath and wildflowers.

But as the day ore on and the phone continued to ring off the wall, I knew I wouldn’t have enough deliverymen to handle all the orders. I walked into the back room of my shop, passing by the flowers waiting to be sent out, and sank down at my desk. What if I couldn’t deliver everything on time? Valentine bouquets that arrived on February 15 would be pretty useless, could even cause a lot of lovers’ quarrels. *Lord, I prayed, I know how to run a shop. But this time it seems I underestimated the orders. I’m desperate! What do I do?* I sat there quietly, taking in the scent of the flowers.

The phone rang. *Great, probably another order.* But no. It was a pleasant-sounding man who said, “I’m looking for a temporary delivery job. Do you need help?”

“Yes! Come in tomorrow.” I hung up. Could this stranger possibly be right for the job?

The man showed up the next morning, nicely dressed, driving an SUV. He explained that he was a military chaplain recently discharged for the service. “Do you know the area?” I asked.

“Yep, grew up here,” he said. “And my truck has a GPS tracking system.”

“Perfect,” I said, incredibly relieved.

I didn’t miss a delivery that day. And I got a Valentine’s gift of my very own – a deliveryman who called right when I needed his help most.

Sandy Simpson
Mason, OH

This article appeared in the February, 2008 issue of Guidepost under the heading: POWER IN OUR DAY – TO – DAY LIVES.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 5nd: Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Supper from 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Meal includes: Sausages, Pancakes & Beverage
\$5.00 adults; \$2.00 college students with valid ID;
children 4 & under, free.

Wednesday, February 3rd: Ash Wednesday

Services at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm

Lenten Services:

Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

At 9:00 am beginning February 11th

More dates and times as they become available



WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will meet on **Wednesday, February 13th** (due to Ash Wednesday being the first Wednesday) Members are asked to bring their wedding pictures. It will be fun for us to guess who the bride or bride and groom might be, because, of course, there might be a few changes. There will be a prize for the most right guesses. Come and join in the fun. Lunch will be provided (choice of tuna noodle casserole or mac & cheese).



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st Bea Haley
2nd Father Dedde
9th Remi Navy
11th Mary Noonan
16th Dennis DiLiberto
28th Bob Weekley