

CALVARY ST. AUGUSTINE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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NINETEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

THE FEAST OF SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

The Holy Eucharist

29, September 2024 - 09:00 am

Celebrant Reverend Renee McKenzie

Preacher: Reverend Jordan Casson

Interim Organist: H. L. Smith, II



PRAISE & WORSHIP:

Praise Him: LEVAS-pg-98

God Is So Good: LEVAS-pg-214

PRELUDE – PSALM CIII – Dail

PROCESSIONAL: LEV II – 220 WE ARE CLIMBING JACOB’S LADDER

Celebrant: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People: **The Holy One’s love is new every morning. Amen.**

The Celebrant and People say together,

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Song of the Spirit Revelation 22:12-17

Celebrant: “Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord, “and bringing my reward with me,

People: **to give to everyone according to their deeds.**

Celebrant: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,

People: **the beginning and the end.”**

Celebrant: Blessed are those who do God's commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life,

People: **and may enter the city through the gates. "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you,**

Celebrant: with this testimony for all the churches. "I am the root and the offspring of David,

People: **I am the bright morning star." "Come!" say the Spirit and the Bride;**

Celebrant: "Come!" let each hearer reply! Come forward, you who are thirsty,

People: **let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.**

Celebrant: The Creator be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

GENESIS 28: 10-17

Lector: Starr Berry

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 103

Lector: Lillian A. Randolph

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
2. *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.*
3. Who forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities.
4. *Who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;*
5. Who satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6. *The Lord executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.*
7. He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.
8. *The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.*
9. He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger for ever.
10. *He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.*
11. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
12. *As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.*
13. As a father cares for his children, so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
14. *For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.*
15. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field;
16. *When the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more.*
17. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, and his righteousness on children's children;
18. *On those who keep his covenant and remember his commandments and do them.*
19. The Lord has set his throne in heaven, and his kingship has dominion over all.
20. *Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, and hearken to the voice of his word.*
21. Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will.
22. *Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion; bless the Lord, O my soul.*

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen

SECOND LESSON

REVELATIONS 12: 7-12

Lector: Kathleen Williams

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea,

for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able, for the Holy Gospel.

GRADUAL: ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:47-51

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to JOHN

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON HYMN: LEV II – 177 STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER

SERMON: Reverend Jordan Casson

Affirmation of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

All stand, as able; and say together,

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

For in him all things in heaven and on earth were created: things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers; all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Fill us with the Holy Spirit, rather than new wine, so that we may speak truth and act as your servants.

Bless your church and all who worship you so they may be your servants on this earth spreading your truth. We give thanks for all Bishops including Sean, Michael and Daniel and all ministers, especially our Priests Renee and Edwin.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Bless these United States and all our leaders. May they put pettiness aside, make wise decisions on our behalf and lead all of us safely into a sustainable future.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Bless this fragile earth, our island home and all inhabitants. May they be spared from war, natural disaster and disease so they may care for one another as well as the land, sea and air for future generations.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Bless all our neighbors in Philadelphia and surrounding cities. We give you thanks for living in this place rich with history and culture, sharing your abundant resources with all its creatures. May we care for it well and be gracious hosts to all who visit, including those without homes.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. We give thanks, Holy Spirit, for the comfort you provide to all those suffering from sickness, loss of life, financial stress, underemployment or any kind of trouble or injustices. When we or they do not know how to pray as we ought, may the Holy Spirit intercede with sighs too deep for words.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Bless us as we mourn our departed loved ones, taking comfort in knowing you welcome their souls.

People: Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Celebrant: We give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit filling our hearts, may we speak and act your truth bringing eternal life to this world through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(Prayers written by Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Orcas Island)
Silence.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All:
God of compassion, have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the creatures who share the earth with us. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to harm them, and for what we have not done to help them. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

ABSOLUTION

The Litany for Deceased Members of The St. Michael's Guild

Narrator *Benedette Greene*

Lighting of Candles: *Starr Berry & Mary Jackson*

Ringling of the Bell: *Donald Ringgold*

Leader: We remember *Ethel Nix, Edith Rider, Ethel Friend, Adelaide Patterson, and Hilda Rider*

RESPONSE: *We Thank You, Lord.*

L. We remember *Renetta Christmas, Annie Mintess, Evelina Pulido, and J. Eleanor (Jimmy) Rogers*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Charlotte Calloway, Edna A. Person, Marie Barber, Adelaide Durrant and Roseanna Portillo*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Henrietta Granger, Myrtle Roy, Ethel Brown, Catherine Moyse and Helen Ogburn*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Nanny Todd, Emily Ragland, Ada B. Harris, Theresa Thomas, and Marian Austin*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Virginia Holmes, Josephine Wells, and Rita Tucker.*
Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Karey B. Smith, Ruth Harris Jackson and Effie Johnson*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Muriel Lewis, Ruby Rooney, and Jeanette Floyd,*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember *Hermione Logan, Charlotte Parris, and Gertrude Crawley*
We Thank You, Lord.

L. We remember our gregarious member *Dorothy Matthews, Winifred Armstrong, Elizabeth “Betsy” White and Barbara Brown*
We Thank You, Lord.

We remember these women for their devotion, dedication and their many years of service and leaving a legacy for us to follow of service to our community and our church.

(St. Michael’s members say together)

May we as a Guild, be empowered to seek justice and peace. To minister to those in need, giving love generously, projecting love honestly, and receiving love graciously. Let us Bless the Lord!

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also, with you.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Psalm 96:8

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

OFFERTORY HYMN: AAHH – 175 Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer with Creation III

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says,

Celebrant: God is with us.

People: **God is present here.**

Celebrant: Rejoice! Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift our hearts to the Most High.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

People: **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

We do praise you, our intimate God, the one who is with us, and with all of creation, the source of this magical, mystical, sensual, beautiful, earth. From microbes to whales you have created all of us. We are privileged to be a strand in all of your creation, including this strange and wonderful home, our earth, the open sky above, the dazzling array of stars and planets, and the unfathomable galaxies beyond us. You have blessed us with a world of infinite variety and beauty, a land of mountains and meadows, canyons and valleys, deserts and jungles. Over and through this land you have provided oceans teeming with life, streams and rivers, crystal clear lakes, and cascading waterfalls. We share this land with all of your creatures, from mosquito to mountain lion, from seal to scorpion. You have formed all of this, this land of such intense wildness and beauty. Therefore, we praise you, O Sacred One, joining our voices with the cry of your animals, the rocks, the stars, the Moon, the Sun, and all the universe as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS

**Holy, 🛎 holy, 🛎 holy 🛎 Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues,

We bless you and thank you Gracious God for all of these gifts, and for weaving us, the web of humanity, into this world. But instead of caring deeply for this most perfect of creations, the universe beyond our comprehension and this earth in which we live, we have rebelled against it, against ourselves, against You. We disregarded the interconnected web of life in which we live. Instead of loving it as a mother loves her child, we put ourselves above it, as if it was something we could own. It became something to control rather than a part of us and a part of you. Each time you have called us back, called us to understand that we are not masters of the earth, but

instead a part of the earth. You continually remind us that caring for you means caring for your earth and for each other. 🛎

The Celebrant continues

On the night before he died, Jesus came to table with those he loved. Recalling his own actions of feeding the poor and eating with the outcast, he took bread, gave thanks to You, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” 🛎🛎🛎

When supper was ended, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to You, and passed the cup among his friends and said: “Take this all of you and drink from it, this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, do this in memory of me.” 🛎🛎🛎

Celebrant: Therefore, let us pray:

The People and Celebrant say together

Gracious God among us, help us to feel your presence, and give us the strength to serve your creation and your people this day and every day.

The Celebrant continues

Now gathered at your table, God of Creation, and remembering what Jesus Christ taught us, we offer to you this bread and this wine, a gift of your creation and work of human hands. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts, O Sacred One. May they become for us the Body and Blood of Christ, just as we, your people, are that same Body. Breathe your Spirit upon us also and upon the entire earth. Make us one with your earth, so that all of Creation may become one with your Body.

The People and Celebrant say together

Bring all of us, from every clan, tribe, and nation together, to feast upon your abundant banquet, prepared from the fruits of your earth and made possible by the redemption of your Christ.

The Celebrant continues

Through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the entire Universe, all glory and honor to God and Creator, for ever and ever. AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER: LEV II – 264

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

The Celebrant says:

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Alleluia! This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

People All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body. Alleluia!

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. 🛎️🛎️🛎️

COMMUNION HYMN: AAHH – 256 THE BLOOD THAT JESUS SHED FOR ME

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, The Celebrant and People say together,

Holy One,

you feed us with bread from heaven and the gifts of mother earth.

In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace, and you call us to friendship with one another. You have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that gift from you, offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another.

And may you always walk among us as friend. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God light in us a holy fire: Light a fire that is worthy of our ancestors. Light a fire that is worthy of our children. Light a fire that is worthy of our mothers. Light a fire that is worthy of our fathers. Light a fire that is worthy of God. Now let us go in peace, lighting a holy fire wherever we go.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL: HYMNAL – 625 YE HOLY ANGELS BRIGHT

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – TOCCATA HARMONIQUE - Dail

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Vestryperson)

The St. Michael's Guild is the longest serving service organization of Calvary St. Augustine's.

ST. MICHAELS GUILD OFFICERS

President: Bennedette Greene
Vice President: Kathleen Williams
Treasurer: Mary Jackson
Recording Secretary: Millicent Bryant
Chaplain: Alice Briscoe-Brown

Members: Starr Berry, Lillian Anne Randolph, Patricia Pate' , Regina Grier, Louis Moss, Darice Mason.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Vestryperson)

MENS DAY on October 6th, 2024, @ Calvary St. Augustine Episcopal Church. Our guest clergy is Reverend Canon, E. Wynn and the guest speaker is Dr. J. Otis Smith. Please come out celebrate the Men's ministry.

The After School Program begins October 7, 2024, and the hours are 2:45 - 5:00 Monday thru Friday. We need at least one volunteer per day to assist and make this program successful. All volunteers must have a Child Abuse Form on file. Please contact Alice Briscoe-Brown to see if you need the form.

Children's Sunday school will begin October 6th, @ 10:00 AM. Sunday School plays a vital role in the spiritual formation of children and youth. It offers a structured educational program that aims to teach young individuals about their faith traditions, values, and beliefs.

Join SMG, as we travel to Resorts in Atlantic City, on Tuesday October 8th, 2024. The bus leaves 41st & Parrish @ 9:00 am sharp and the return trip leaves Resorts Atlantic City @ 4:00 pm. The donation is \$30.00, and the return is \$15.00. Space is limited so make your reservations early with any member of SMG.

UTO SUNDAY It's that time again! Please get your UTO box(es) or envelope(es) today. Begin to count your blessings. God Is Good All the Time. Boxes and or envelopes will be collected Sunday, **October 13, 2024**. Thank you! **CHING!!! CHING!!!**

ARTCINIA: Come on out to the Calvary Jazz Festival Saturday **October 19, 2024 @ 3:00 pm**. Featuring vocalist V. Shayne Frederick as he performs timeless jazz standards and original music. Known for his captivating blend of classic and contemporary sounds, V. Shayne Frederick is a dynamic vocalist and pianist whose talent has graced stages across the nation. Join V. Shayne Frederick as he fuses sophistication and soul.

The Food Pantry is open on Mondays only (no holidays) from 12:00 pm-6:00 pm, and the doors close at 5:45 pm. To receive any food, you must present a state issued identification card. In addition, please make sure that you sign the logbook when you receive any food.

THANK YOU all, who purchase the Sunday Tribune Newspaper, for the price of \$1.00. This single dollar goes a long way to help improve our youth programs. Please see Burhedita Gonzalez or Judith Brewer to get your copy. Thank you.

THANK YOU to everyone for continuing with your tithes and other gifts that you share with the church. May God continue to bless each one of us.

ONLINE GIVING is available through the web app, called Givelify. You can download the Givelify-app, @ the Apple store or Google Play store (see the last page for the QR-code link).

To add or remove names from the PRAYER LIST please contact Sharon Congleton @ 215-843-5538 or via email @ sharonjoy@aol.com

If you wish to offer your talent as a singer, and or are need a ride to church, please contact Frances Upshaw by Wednesday @ 215-806-1020 or via email @ franupshaw72@gmail.com.

CHORISTERS REHEARSAL: MONDAYS 10: 30 AM-12:30 PM

Happy Birthday
Pauline Hilton

PRAYER REQUESTS

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve thy ailing servants and give thy power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Leah Alexander, Dereck P. Baxter II, Lewis Berry, Sr., Alice Briscoe-Brown, Edwina Watson-Brown, Delores Cartwright, J. Claus, Eugene Cobb, Robert Dabney, Jr., Donna Davis, Elsie Darby, Deandre DuPois, Cindy Fisher, Kathleen Freeman, Brendan Gilchrist, Burhedita Gonzalez, Regina Grier, Pauline Hilton, Kenneth Hudson, Kira Ingram, Doris Jackson, Eric Jackson, Willie Jewett, Melba Jordan, Bobby King, Emma Latimore, Charles Lyons, Majorie Mallory, Dara Mason, Darice Mason-Scott Family, Halise McKinney, Louise Moss, Curtis Owens, Dorothy Payne, Charles Pressley, Shirley Ragin, Aidan Seawell, Tony Slaughter, Yvonne Sledge, Thomas Stewart, Robert Stewart, Edwina Watson-Brown, Kathleen Williams

Ministers serving next Sunday on October 06, 2024, 20th Sunday after Pentecost (MEN'S DAY)

<i>William Berry</i>	<i>1st Lesson: EXODUS 17: 1-7</i>
<i>Elwood Collins</i>	<i>PSALM 78: 1-4, 12-16</i>
<i>Dereck P. Baxter, Sr.</i>	<i>2nd Lesson: Philippians 2: 1-13</i>

PRIEST IN CHARGE:

Pastor Renee McKenzie 856-986-5302 reneemh177@gmail.com

VESTRY:

Benedette Greene-*Rector's Warden*, Frances Upshaw-*Accounting Warden*, Judith Brewer-*Clerk of the Vestry*, Kathleen Williams, Dereck P. Baxter, Sr, Mary Hill Jackson, Charlene Crafter, Angela Holland, Brenda Belton, Juanita Chambers, Elwood Collins and William Berry (Auxiliary: Brenda Gilchrist-Allen, Willie Jewett)

VISION STATEMENT:

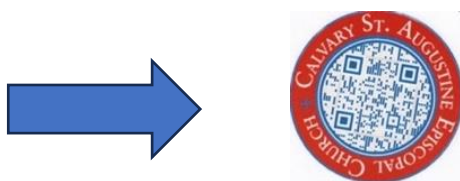
We are a welcoming inclusive church offering without distinction to age, class, race, gender, sexual orientation or able-bodied-ness, a spiritual, social and educational hub for the Belmont Community. We share lively, spiritual, and relevant worship and offer a place of safety, encouragement, and education for young people.

MISSION STATEMENT:

God is calling our congregation to grow spiritually, share our life with God's children and make known His love through word and deed.

Agape! -Unconditional Love

Givelify -use your cell-phone camera to capture the QR-code.





The Reverend Canon Jordan Francis Casson

The Rev. Canon Jordan F. Casson was born a Roman Catholic on Good Friday in New York City. Casson's formation and understanding of Catholic social teaching led him to become an advocate for civil and human rights, a vocation that led him to Morehouse College in 2005.

During his time at Morehouse, he taught tournament-level chess to elementary, middle, and high school boys and sang in the Morehouse College Glee Club at Morehouse. Father Jordan also led several campaigns to free a Chatham County, Georgia inmate, Troy Davis. In addition to his civic activities at Morehouse, he joined the Martin Luther King Jr. Chapel Assistant Program — an organization designed to expose Morehouse students to theological principles for parish ministry and seminary education after college. Consequently, he felt called to religious life and attended the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta in 2010. While a student at Candler, he studied under a civil rights legend, the Rev. Dr. Barnard Lafayette Jr., and the Howard Thurman Scholar, Dr. Luther Smith. At Candler, his path led toward the Episcopal Church.

In May of 2013, Jordan+ received his Master of Divinity degree while interning at St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Atlanta. In August of 2013, he received the call to serve as the youth minister to St. Paul's Ivy Episcopal Church of Charlottesville as Director of Youth Ministries. In August of 2015, Casson left Charlottesville to pursue an Anglican studies program at Virginia Theological Seminary. Father Casson completed this program in 2016. In July of 2016, Casson became the sixth rector of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. In November of 2020, Casson was commissioned Canon for Peace and Reconciliation for the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania by the Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez. In addition to serving as Rector of St. Michael's and a Diocesan Canon, he chairs the Diocese of PA Absalom Jones Committee and co-chairs its Loving Presence group. He is a former member of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia Commission on Reconciliation with Truro Anglican Church, a Church that left the Episcopal Church over human sexuality disagreements. In 2014, Casson received induction into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers and Scholars. He is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Incorporated and has served as an NAACP president for both New York and Georgia Youth Divisions. In his spare time, Father Jordan plays the violin and cello and is extremely devoted to his family, friends, and mentors.

HISTORY OF ST. MICHAEL'S GUILD

St. Michael's Guild was organized February 29, 1934, by three members of the 1934 Confirmation Class along with four members of the Chapel of St. Michael's and All Angels which was located at 43rd & Wallace Streets in West Philadelphia.

Confirmation Class Members

Renetta Christmas
S. Catherine Moyses
Adelaide Patterson

Members

Annie Mintess
Ethel Nix
Rosanna Portillo
Ethel Rider

The organization of the guild was approved by Reverend John A. Howell, the priest of St. Michael's and All Angels Chapel. The guild was supervised by the sisters of the Order of St. Margaret who was in charge of the House of the Holy Child which included Sisters Emily and Barbara who served the church.

These dedicated sisters supported the activities of the guild was to provide financial aid to the church and Community outreach. These sisters instructed the guild members in church ritual and encouraged them to keep Maundy Thursday vigil at the Lady Altar, devoting fifteen minutes of their time in prayer and meditation throughout the day from six a.m. until 7 p.m.

The guild sponsored two fundraising projects every year. An Oyster Supper followed the three-hour devotion on Good Friday and a Strawberry Festival held in June.

This small informal guild met regularly for fellowship and prayer, they had no by-laws, and the officers remained the same until 1945, when, St. Michael and All Angels Chapel merged with Calvary Episcopal Church, Northern Liberties at 41st and Parrish Street.

The membership gradually increased from seven chartered members in 1934 to twenty active members in 1984. While the activities have become more varied, our commitment to the church and community continues.

St. Michael's Guild has functioned continuously and successfully for eighty-nine years. Steadfast in its mission, it serves as a viable organization in the church.

Our guild now devotes their time to mostly community outreach. We sponsor a clothing give away twice a year. We make a financial contribution to the church on Michaelmas Sunday. We assist the Men of Calvary St. Augustine with items during the Christmas Basket Give-away.

Today, it is the oldest organized Guild in Calvary St. Augustine Episcopal Church.

As the guild strives to work for peace, justice and to continue its ministry to those in need, we celebrate the anniversary on Michaelmas Sunday.