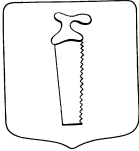


The Server

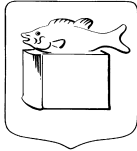
Published for the Acolytes of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Kingwood, Texas



St Luke
Evangelist



St. James
of Jerusalem
Brother of
Our Lord



St. Simon
Apostle



St. Jude
Apostle

Pentecost

October, 2017

St. Michael and All Angels

Last Sunday we celebrated The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels. It is one of the great white feasts of the Church which seems to have been lost. But not at Good Shepherd!! We have adopted this feast as the moment when our entire Acolyte Guild comes together for our annual celebration of YOUR ministry in the church. This is not some limp occasion where you are given awards which will be lost in a drawer but rather an occasion where YOU give the offering and gift of worship to God while at the same time building your memories that will always be with you. I don't believe most people truly understand what you achieve in just TWO hours! You arrive, check your data, then have barely 40 minutes to rehearse a whole myriad of different roles, have half an hour of rest and fellowship, put on your vestments, take the annual photo and then form up a procession of nearly 100 people! Most churches could only dream of doing this and yet YOU do it with ease, style and grace. You can achieve great things to the Glory of God and it is our privilege to help and guide you on the way. Our parish life is incredibly blessed to have 85 young people who give of their time and talent to serve at our Lord's Table. You enrich our lives and delight us EVERY Sunday of the year. We so enjoyed watching you all on Sunday evening as you went about your duties whatever they were. No matter what your role was you were contributing an important part of the whole. I saw young ushers and greeters who were focused and intent on their duties; oblationers, musicians, acolytes, thurifer, presenters, new members, readers,

intercessors, greeters, super vergers, streamers and every one of these roles were being carried out by YOUTH! YOU created a wonderful High Sung Eucharist offered to the glory of God! If there is one thing I have learned after 26 years, our young people can achieve anything if they are given the chance. When we needed to make adjustments quickly for some reason we all worked to accommodate the change with no fussing, no panics and no meltdowns. YOU showed what you can do with grace and dignity. **WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL YOUNG MINISTERS!**

We are especially aware this year that many of our senior acolytes are experiencing significant disruption in their lives at school and yet I heard no complaints or issues. You made the time for this annual celebration and we are SO proud of you.

And now we must pay attention to our **newest members** as they go down that aisle for their first Sundays on duty during October. Let's all encourage them, coach them and be thankful that we are renewed and strengthened by them joining us. We will have them fully confident and trained by Christmas.

We also have **FIVE new senior members!** See their names on the roster sheet. Well done new senior acolytes. You have been steady and loyal and now this is your time! Pride is dangerous, especially in the Lord's presence, but we ARE proud of you.

Onward into the presence of the Lord with acolytes leading the way!

Your service rises like incense to the Lord. There are smiles in heaven when Good Shepherd acolytes lead us into worship. For they ARE awesome! They are God's people who show all of us what it is to be faithful.

Luv ya troops, Mr.B.

Amusing Grace



"Remember son, tonight we're playing legalists. There is no mercy rule."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



"The Bible tells us to study math. It says, 'Go forth and multiply.'"



"I thought we agreed that you'd stop bringing your church problems home with you."



"Year after year they came, descending on me like great hordes of locusts, until I couldn't take it any longer and I had to escape. I can still hear their voices — 'trick or treat, trick or treat.'"

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"Please don't pray for healing. If it works, your insurance won't know who to reimburse and it messes up our accounting system."



THINGS EASED UP ON GUARDIAN ANGELS AFTER AIR BAGS WERE INVENTED



"Oh, oh! They're going to give it to us with both barrels!"



THERE! THAT OUGHT TO DISPEL THE MYTH THAT WE'RE AN ELDERLY CONGREGATION THAT DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO REACH OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE.



"How am I supposed to transform the youth group into spiritually mature believers when you cut my soda and sugary snack budget in half?"