



# St. Michael

CATHOLIC CHURCH

310 S. Wheaton Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60187

December 10, 2023

**Most Rev. Ronald Hicks, Bishop**

**Rev. Daniel E. Hoehn, Pastor**

**Rev. Jacob Kolawole, Parochial Vicar**

**Deacon Dan Aderholdt**

**Deacon Dan Simmet**

**PARISH OFFICE**

(630) 665-2250 (630) 510-8891 (Fax)

Website [www.stmichaelcommunity.org](http://www.stmichaelcommunity.org)

Email: [churchoffice@stmichaelcommunity.org](mailto:churchoffice@stmichaelcommunity.org)

**Hours**

Monday - Thursday .....8:30 am ~ 4:30 pm

Friday.....8:30 am ~ 1:00 pm

**SCHOOL OFFICE**

(630) 665-1454.....(630) 690-1491 (Fax)

314 W. Willow Ave, Wheaton

**FAITH CENTER**

**Religious Education Office**

(630) 682-3650.....(630) 690-3324 (Fax)

317 W. Willow Ave, Wheaton

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil for Sunday .....5:00pm

Sunday.....7:15am, 9:00am, 10:45am

Monday-Friday.....6:30am, 8:00am

Saturday.....8:00am

Rosary prayed after all daily Masses

**Holy Days of Obligation**

Vigil for Holy Day.....5:30pm

Holy Day.....6:30am, 8:00am

12:15pm, 7:00pm

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Please see page 6

**ADORATION CHAPEL**

**Perpetual Adoration**

Open 24-hours daily.

Access only with a key fob.

Call Parish Office at 630-665-2250

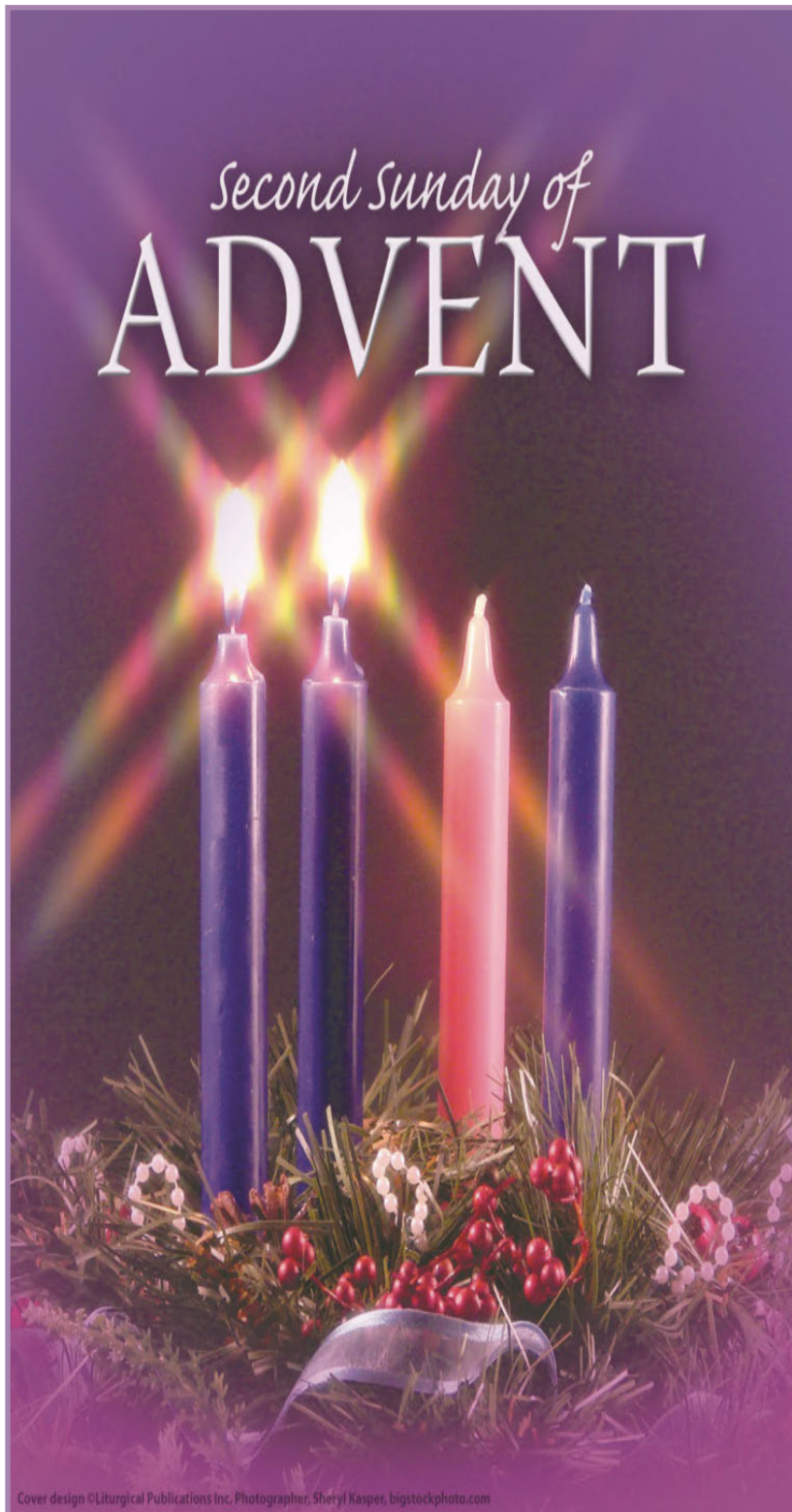
to obtain a key fob.

**CONFESSIONS**

Tuesday.....4:00pm ~ 5:45pm

Saturday.....8:30am ~ 9:30am

Or by appointment



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The following is a reflection by Pope Francis regarding the time honored tradition of displaying a Nativity scene:

The enchanting image of the Christmas crèche, so dear to the Christian people, never ceases to arouse amazement and wonder. The depiction of Jesus' birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God. The Nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture. As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman. We come to realize that so great is his love for us that he became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with him. I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the Nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons, and town squares. Great imagination and creativity is always shown in employing the most diverse materials to create small masterpieces of beauty. As children, we learn from our parents and grandparents to carry on this joyful tradition, which encapsulates a wealth of popular piety. It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived.

The origin of the Christmas crèche is found above all in certain details of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, as related in the Gospels. The evangelist Luke says simply that Mary "gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (2:7).

But let us go back to the origins of the Christmas crèche so familiar to us. We need to imagine ourselves in the little Italian town of Greccio, near Rieti. Saint Francis stopped there, most likely on his way back from Rome. Francis had earlier visited the Holy Land, and the caves in Greccio reminded him of the countryside of Bethlehem.

Fifteen days before Christmas, Francis asked a local man named John to help him realize his desire "to bring to life the memory of that babe born in Bethlehem, to see as much as possible with my own bodily eyes the discomfort of his infant needs, how he lay in a manger, and how, with an ox and an ass standing by, he was laid upon a bed of hay." At this,

his faithful friend went immediately to prepare all that the Saint had asked. On 25 December, friars came to Greccio from various parts, together with people from the farmsteads in the area, who brought flowers and torches to light up that holy night. When Francis arrived, he found a manger full of hay, an ox and a donkey. All those present experienced a new and indescribable joy in the presence of the Christmas scene. The priest then solemnly celebrated the Eucharist over the manger, showing the bond between the Incarnation of the Son of God and the Eucharist. At Greccio there were no statues; the Nativity scene was enacted and experienced by all who were present. This is how our tradition began: with everyone gathered in joy around the cave, with no distance between the original event and those sharing in its mystery. Thomas of Celano, the first biographer of Saint Francis, notes that this simple and moving scene was accompanied by the gift of a marvelous vision: one of those present saw the Baby Jesus himself lying in the manger. From the Nativity scene of that Christmas in 1223, "everyone went home with joy." With the simplicity of that sign, Saint Francis carried out a great work of evangelization. His teaching touched the hearts of Christians and continues today to offer a simple yet authentic means of portraying the beauty of our faith.

Setting up the Christmas crèche in our homes helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. Naturally, the Gospels remain our source for understanding and reflecting on that event. At the same time, its portrayal in the crèche helps us to imagine the scene. It touches our hearts and makes us enter into salvation history as contemporaries of an event that is living and real in a broad gamut of historical and cultural contexts. In a particular way, from the time of its Franciscan origins, the Nativity scene has invited us to "feel" and "touch" the poverty that God's Son took upon himself in the Incarnation. Implicitly, it summons us to follow him along the path of humility, poverty and self-denial that leads from the manger of Bethlehem to the cross. It asks us to meet him and serve him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in greatest need (cf. Mt 25:31-46)

Wherever it is, and whatever form it takes, the Christmas crèche speaks to us of the love of God, the God who became a child in order to make us know how close he is to every man, woman, and child, regardless of their condition.



## Weekly Prayer

### Sunday's Readings

#### First Reading:

A voice cries out:  
In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!  
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!  
(Is 40:3)

#### Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your  
salvation. (Ps 85)

#### Second Reading:

We await new heavens and a new earth  
in which righteousness dwells. (1 Pt 1:13)

#### Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared in the desert  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the  
forgiveness of sins. (Mk 16:4)

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Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on  
English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

### Observances for the week of December 10, 2023

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent  
**Monday:** St. Damasus I, Pope  
**Tuesday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe  
**Wednesday:** St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr  
**Thursday:** St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor  
of the Church  
**Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent



### Adoration Chapel Perpetual Adoration

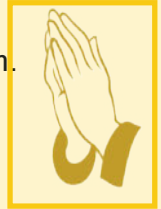
All parishioners are invited to visit the Adoration Chapel anytime day or night. Entrance fobs are available at the Parish Office during regular business hours. If you would like to sign up for an hour of perpetual adoration, please visit <https://forms.gle/kLaN1KLioZYG42F1A> or scan the QR code.

May God continue to bless you.



### VOCATIONS PRAYER CALENDAR December 10 — December 17

- 12/10 Fr. Steven Borello  
12/11 Sr. Margaret Rose Szczesniak OSF  
Sr. Mary Frances Seeley OSF  
Sr. Louise Marie Skoch OSF  
12/12 Fr. Zygmunt Ostrowski S.Ch.  
12/13 Fr. Tomasz Sielicki S.Ch.  
12/14 Fr. Miroslaw Stepien S.Ch.  
12/15 Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF  
Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF  
Sr. Faith Szambelanczyk OSF  
12/16 Fr. Thomas Logue  
12/17 **Pope Francis**



**OUR LADY**  
OF  
*Guadalupe*  
PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS  
\*\*\*\*\*  
PRAY FOR US  
DECEMBER 12

**PRAY THE ANGELUS  
AND THE ROSARY**  
Join your fellow parishioners  
each day at noon in the  
Marian Grotto to pray the  
Angelus and Rosary to honor  
our Blessed Mother.  
Feel free to bring a chair,  
if needed. In inclement  
weather, the group meets  
in the Church.  
All are welcome.

# Prayer Ministry

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

John Adamek	Giancarlo Herrera	Ray Reynertson
Elaine Adamek	Robert	Rita Richards
Eleanor Agan	Hoppenstedt	Margaret Riggs
Josu Beruete	Miki Kern	Bill Riley
Peg Birt	Barbara Krzyzewski	Sheryl Rutkowski
Steve Blagaich	Margaret Kuhn	Mike Sambo
Marianne Bluhm	Al Liskey	Kathryn Sengstock
Yecenia Bosley	Andja Lozancic	Steve Schultz
David Brummett	George Lozancic	Anne Marie
Kathy Brummett	Theresa Lozano	Schneider
Althea G. Dades	Juan T. Lozano, Jr.	Tobias Siennetts
DePratt Family	Wilma Mabilangan	Ann Smith
Jack Deshida	Robert Mucerino	Stroner Family
Carol Ferri	Cathy McGuire	Dominic Thomas
Frank Ferri	Joanne Metoyer	Andrew Valadka
Teresa Fillman	Nancy Mackowiak	Carole Weber
Theresa Fogarty	Joan Peters	The Wulffe Family
Dale Foreman	Victoria Holmen	Sr. Mary Clarine
David Fountain	Peterson	Young, SND
Connor Giles	Vicki Piccolo	Greta Zilch
Brice Grudzien	Tony Pisciotta, Sr.	

To inform us of an illness or hospitalization of a parishioner or family member, call the Parish Office at (630) 665-2250 to add or remove a name. Due to privacy laws and family preferences, the names of the sick and the deceased can only be published in the bulletin with specific consent and request of the patient or their immediate family.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Mass Offered For

### Requested By

#### SUNDAY, December 10

7:15AM + Carol O'Neill  
 9:00AM + Bob Kempf  
 10:45AM + Paul Miller, DDS

Peggy & Jack Gleason  
 Branches Friends  
 Wisner Family

#### MONDAY, December 11

6:30AM + John Richard Mclvor  
 8:00AM + Bruce Wisner

Bill & Cory Voller  
 Family

#### TUESDAY, December 12

6:30AM + Carol Nielsen  
 8:00AM + Ann & Jack Hays

Donna Arrigo  
 Julie Devane

#### WEDNESDAY, December 13

6:30AM + Salvatore, Angelina & Bernie Tacito  
 8:00AM + Jennifer Gregory  
 + William & Sarah Ryan

Family  
 Family  
 Doerries Family

#### THURSDAY, December 14

6:30AM + Raymond Reske  
 8:00AM + Emilia Bautista

Woody & Mary Wachter  
 Miranda & Bautista  
 Families

#### FRIDAY, December 15

6:30AM + Barbara Dixon  
 8:00AM + Erin McGuire

Krynicky Family  
 Ochsner Family

#### SATURDAY, December 16

8:00AM + Ken Bergman  
 5:00PM + Ken McPherson

Connie Healy  
 Brodhead &  
 McPherson Families

#### SUNDAY, December 17

7:15AM St. Michael Parishioners  
 9:00AM + Sophie Zurawski  
 10:45AM + James Gruhlke

Zurawski Family  
 Hughes Family



**Raymond J. Bonelli**  
 Husband of Judy

**Michele O'Neill**  
 Daughter of Maryann O'Neill

**Theodora Bax**

**Maria King**  
 Wife of Seamus  
 Mother of Madalyn

*Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them, and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

For information regarding recently departed parishioners and others, please consider subscribing to email notifications from local funeral homes.



<https://www.williams-kampp.com/obituaries/obituary-listings>



<https://www.hultgrenfh.com>



# Around the Parish



**Sunday, December 10th, 4:00PM, Church**  
**LESSONS & CAROLS** — The choirs of St. Michael Church, St. Petronille Church and Sacred Heart Church perform. This concert is FREE. A Free Will Offering will be received.

**Friday, December 15th, 9:30-11:00AM, Faith Center**  
**WOMEN'S FAITH GROUP BOOK CLUB** — Join us as we read "An Introduction to the Devout Life", by St. Francis de Sales. We will discuss Part Four, Chapters 14 & 15 and Part Five.

**Saturday, December 16th, 9:00-10:30AM, Bridal Room**  
**PRAYER SHAWL GROUP — Annual Christmas Brunch Meeting** Come by and see what we're all about! Skill level is beginner crochet/knitter & up! Please bring a dish to pass. Questions? Contact Barb Loiacono at [bal5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bal5@sbcglobal.net)



**Tuesday, January 2nd, 6:30-8:00PM, Faith Center**  
**ST. MICHAEL'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**  
Compassionate support for those experiencing a loss. Join us as we pray, journey through scripture, reflect and share. Contacts: Deacon Dan Aderholdt, [dladerholdt@gmail.com](mailto:dladerholdt@gmail.com) or Hope Keber, [HopeK19@comcast.net](mailto:HopeK19@comcast.net).

**Sunday, January 7th, after 9:00 & 10:45AM Masses, Parish Center**  
**DONUT SUNDAY** — Please join us downstairs in the Parish Center after the 9:00 and 10:45AM Masses for FREE donuts, coffee, juice, milk and fellowship.

**Thursday, January 11th, 9:30-11:00AM, Faith Ctr, Room 114**  
**WOMEN'S FAITH GROUP — Prayer Partners**  
All women of the parish are welcome to attend as we pray the rosary and discuss meaningful faith-based topics. Kids are welcome! For additional information, sign up on Flocknotes or email Gina Carroll at [sjsginacarroll@yahoo.com](mailto:sjsginacarroll@yahoo.com)

**St. Michael Prayer Shawl Ministry**



**Annual Christmas Brunch:**  
**Saturday, December 16th**  
**9:00 - 10:30 a.m. in the Bridal Room**  
**\* Please bring a dish to pass \***

**LESSONS & CAROLS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH**  
**4:00PM**

*Featuring the Choirs of St. Michael Church,  
St. Petronille Church and Sacred Heart Church*

**Concert is FREE!**  
**A Free Will Offering will be received.**




*Fall Book Club*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th**  
**9:30AM - 11:00AM**  
**FAITH CENTER - 317 W. WILLOW AVENUE**  
**"An Introduction to the Devout Life"**  
*By Saint Francis de Sales*

**This week we will discuss:**  
**Part Four, Chapters 14 & 15**  
**& Part Five**

**All are welcome!**

**SAINT MICHAEL**  
**WOMEN'S FAITH GROUP**



*St. Michael's*  
**Grief Support Group**

*In grief, the one person you'd like to talk to, is no longer here for you.*

**Please consider attending the St. Michael's Grief Support Group meeting, to receive support, comfort and encouragement from those facing your common concerns.**

**Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is on**  
**Tuesday, January 2nd, 6:30-8:00PM**  
**in the Faith Center - Room 114.**

**For more information, contact Deacon Dan L. Aderholdt at**  
**[dladerholdt@gmail.com](mailto:dladerholdt@gmail.com)**



# Around the Parish



## St. Michael Catholic Church Christmas Mass Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Saturday, December 23rd  
(Fulfills Sunday Mass Obligation)  
5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday, December 24th  
7:15am 9:00am

Christmas Eve Masses  
Sunday, December 24th  
3:00pm—St. Michael Church\*  
3:15pm—St. Francis High School  
(Slant Dome Gym)  
5:00pm—St. Michael Church  
10:00pm—St. Michael Church  
(Choir Prelude Begins at 9:30pm)  
\*Overflow seating in gym for 3:00pm

Christmas Day  
Monday, December 25th  
9:00am 10:45am

Tuesday, December 26th  
8:00am Mass Only  
No Confessions

**Donut Sunday**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH

AFTER 9:00AM & 10:45AM MASSES

IN THE PARISH CENTER

SPONSORED BY THE ST. MICHAEL HOLY NAME SOCIETY




**Prayer Partners**

**January 11th**  
**The Meaning of the Eucharist and Adoration**

9:30-11:00, first Thurs. of the month, Faith Center Rm 114

All women of the parish are invited to attend! Kids are also welcome (we will have some toys available). We will start each session praying a decade of the rosary over the God Box that holds intentions of the parish and the school. Then we will discuss the month's topic. We hope you can join us!

For more information, sign up on Flocknotes and/or e-mail Gina Carroll: [sjsginacarroll@yahoo.com](mailto:sjsginacarroll@yahoo.com).

 SAINT MICHAEL WOMEN'S FAITH GROUP

## SAVE THE DATE

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK

MARCH 1-3, 2024



Please consider participating in this life-saving ministry! Join fellow St. Mike's parishioners and other partnering churches at Benedictine University's Rice Center on **March 1-3, 2024**, for the 2024 MobilePack!

**Volunteer sign-up will take place in the narthex in January.**

Questions? Please contact the parish's FMSC coordinator, Julia Morrow, for more information.

[EMAIL JULIA](mailto:juliamorrow@gmail.com)

[juliamorrow@gmail.com](mailto:juliamorrow@gmail.com)  
[feedtheneedillinois.org](http://feedtheneedillinois.org)

# St. Michael Religious Education Celebrates St. Nicholas Day!



Feast of St. Nicholas - December 6th

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THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

ADVENT

## The Spirituality of Advent

Dr. Tim Gray

FORMED NOW

### The Spirituality of Advent

Dr. Tim Gray discusses the spirituality of Advent and the joy of waiting for Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.  
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and graces press

Can you help us? We are seeking sponsorships & donations for the 31st annual

ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL  
BLUE & GOLD

Gala

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2024

The Abbington  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

[gala@stmichaelcommunity.org](mailto:gala@stmichaelcommunity.org)





# Parish Support

## Stewardship Report

November 2023

	November	YTD
Offertory Budget	\$160,000	\$762,000
Offertory Actual	\$162,290	\$765,025
Total Over (Under)	\$ 2,290	\$ 3,025

	November	YTD
Major Maintenance	\$ 2,004	\$ 11,381
Needy Fund	\$ 3,553	\$ 12,817
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 5,929	

### LEAD Project

Pledged	Collected
\$1,779,043	\$1,445,280

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

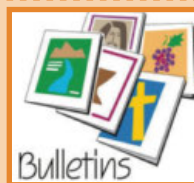
*"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - MARK 1:3*

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?



	Thru 12/3/23	2023	2022	Inc/Dec	2022 (Final)
Goal		\$176,900	\$171,600	\$5,300	\$171,600
Amount Pledged		\$269,042	\$250,457	\$18,585	\$267,594
Amount Paid		\$265,831	\$243,298	\$22,533	\$263,709
Balance Due		\$3,211	\$7,159	(\$3,948)	\$3,885
Donor Count		596	601	-5	626
2023 Rebate		\$62,252			

**PARKING** In an effort to accommodate our seniors and members with special needs, we ask you to refrain from parking in the main parking lot adjacent to the church/school and the parish office parking lot during Church services.



**Never Miss A Bulletin!!**  
Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



*Donating Made Easier!*

Enroll in WeShare on our website at <https://www.stmichaelcommunity.org/donate>



or scan the QR code with your phone's camera. Tap on the pop up link which will bring you to our website for one-time or recurring online donations to St. Michael Parish.

## St. Michael Parish

So that we might better serve your needs, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to us at:

310 S. Wheaton Avenue, Wheaton IL 60187

[www.stmichaelcommunity.org](http://www.stmichaelcommunity.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ New Parishioner \_\_\_\_\_ Returning to Parish

New Parishioner Form On Website  
Please complete and return to Parish Office.

\_\_\_\_\_ Interested in becoming Catholic  
\_\_\_\_\_ New Address \_\_\_\_\_

### \*\*EARLY Bulletin Submission Deadline & Requirements\*\*



**December 31st Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, December 13th**

**January 7th Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, December 20th**

[communications@stmichaelcommunity.org](mailto:communications@stmichaelcommunity.org)

Please send content that can be used in a 1/4 & 1/2 page format, as full-page space availability is limited. Earlier printing deadlines occur before holidays.

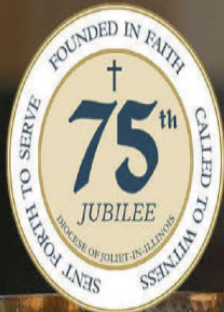


# 75th Anniversary Opening Mass

December 11, 2023  
Choirs begin 5:15 p.m.  
Liturgy 6 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



On Monday, December 11, 2023, the diocese will celebrate the Opening Liturgy for the 75th Anniversary at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus.

Ten bishops are expected to be in attendance for this special liturgy, which will begin with 5:15 p.m. performances by three choirs (Vietnamese, Polish and African American) ahead of the 6 p.m. Mass.

The universal prayers will be read in seven languages, and a custom 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Psalm and Prayer will be incorporated into the liturgy. The Mass will be livestreamed starting at 5:15 p.m. from the Diocese of Joliet's YouTube channel.



# WE ARE CALLED

Updates from Principal Ferguson & St. Michael Parish School

BELIEVE.  
EXCEL.  
RESPECT.  
SERVE.  
LEAD.

## #GIVEBACK

Did you know in honor of [#GivingTuesday](#), our students hold an annual [#GiveBack](#)? Led by Student Council (thank you!), every class finds a way to give back to our community. Some projects are internal (like the All-School-Kindness Chain, appreciation cards for staff members, or positive posters of gratitude) and some are external (like thank yous for our Wheaton PD, first responders, and health care workers; inspirational posters for Marianjoy; cards for the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans; and more!). What a gift to live in such a wonderful community. We are so grateful!

In case you need a pick-me-up, spend a few seconds reading the students' messages on their Kindness Chain links!



### JOIN US IN PRAYER

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, DEFEND US IN BATTLE. BE OUR DEFENSE AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL. MAY GOD REBUKE HIM, WE HUMBL Y PRAY, AND DO THOU, O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOSTS, BY THE POWER OF GOD THRUST INTO HELL SATAN AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS WHO PROWL ABOUT THE WORLD SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS. AMEN.



## CONNECT WITH US





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