



St. Michael

CATHOLIC CHURCH

310 S. Wheaton Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60187

December 8, 2024

Most Rev. Ronald Hicks, Bishop
Most Rev. Dennis E. Spies, Auxiliary Bishop
Rev. Santos 'Sunny' Castillo, 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
Email: churchoffice@stmichaelcommunity.org

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 on 12/31/24.....4:00pm
Holy Day on 1/1/259:00am, 10:45am

See Page 5 for 2024 Holy Day & Christmas Mass Schedule

ADORATION CHAPEL

Perpetual Adoration. Access only with a key fob.
Call Parish Office at 630-665-2250 for information.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

For Baptisms, Wedding and Funeral information,
please contact the Parish Office.

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday.....4:00pm ~ 5:45pm
Saturday.....8:30am ~ 9:30am

Or by appointment

PARISH REGISTRATION & BULLETIN

Available at www.stmichaelcommunity.org or call the Parish Office.





Fr. Santos 'Sunny' Castillo — FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

ASK FATHER SUNNY: Advent Advice, Immaculate Conception and Simbang Gabi

Blessed Second week of Advent! The second candle shines bright and illustriously as we come to this new milestone in our preparation for the Coming of the Lord.

But as we continue in our Advent pilgrimage, I would like to take this opportunity to answer some questions that have come my way over the past few weeks and months. Occasionally, I address those relevant questions for the rest of our parish to know, especially when the questions have been asked repeatedly.

QUESTION # 1: ADVENT IS SO BUSY, HOW CAN I EVEN FOCUS ON PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS?

ANSWER: Admittedly, the four weeks of Advent can swiftly go by, and if we are not paying attention, we can easily spend it running around like a chicken without a head. Before we know it, Christmas arrives, and we are caught off guard. Over the years, I have found that it is hard to find long and extended moments to reflect and silence myself for the season, so I take intentional little moments instead. One thing I have found enjoyable to do during this season is driving around the neighborhood quietly in the evening and enjoying the ambience of the season. I turn off the sounds and music in the car and drive around for ten minutes. Being that the Blessed sacrament is exposed and so accessible for me here at our church, a short and sweet visit to the Eucharist never fails to draw me into the way that Jesus summons my heart to a moment of intimate spiritual communion with Him. Lastly, I understand that part of the reason why Advent and Christmas have become a season of busy and frantic rush is because we have overcomplicated our expectations of what this time should look like. Perhaps it is time to simplify and edit our Christmas plans to give way to a more peaceful, introspective season of Advent. Try it this year!

QUESTION # 2: WHY IS THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOT OBSERVED AS A SOLEMNITY?

ANSWER: Some parishioners have called our attention about this, but please know that we do not make those decisions as a parish. We rely on the instructions provided for the Universal Church as well as by our local ordinary in the Diocese of Joliet. For many years, when December 8 falls on a Sunday just like this weekend, observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is moved to Monday and is not a holiday of obligation. However, the Holy See has recently sent out a directive instructing that even when the Immaculate Conception is moved to Monday, December 9, it should still be a holy day of obligation. Thus, the faithful are obliged to observe both Sunday and Monday as obligatory solemnities.

Given that the ordo of the Chicago Province already indicates that December 9 observance of the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is NOT obligatory to the faithful, Bishop Ronald Hicks has sent out a letter to the priests of our diocese that he is giving a dispensation from attending Mass on December 9, but he highly encourages the faithful to do so because it is our nation's patronal feast day. Such discretion is indeed left ultimately to the bishop of the local diocese.

Obligatory or not, I do hope that we observe the Feast of the Immaculate Conception well, not so much because it is required but because we want to thank God for the gift of the Blessed Mother to the Church and the world, who by being spared from sin was chosen as the worthy vessel of Divine Grace, her Son Jesus our Savior.

QUESTION # 3: I REMEMBER BACK WHEN YOU WERE OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR THAT WE CELEBRATED THE FILIPINO TRADITION OF SIMBANG GABI. WILL THIS BE HAPPENING AGAIN?

ANSWER: I have been officially involved in Simbang Gabi celebrations of our diocese since I was ordained a priest. It is a time of the year when Filipino priests make themselves available to Filipinos and their friends and family to observe these special novena masses that lead to the day of Christmas. The series of masses usually happen in two clusters of parishes in DuPage and Will County, converging into one final mass usually presided by our bishop. This year, our parish is indeed in the list of masses where Simbang Gabi will be celebrated. It will be held on Saturday, December 14, at our usual 5:00 PM Vigil Mass. Many of our parishioners who have experienced Simbang Gabi express their appreciation for the richness of this cultural religious tradition of the Philippines. I hope that you will find it delightful and inspirational. May it bring the heart and Spirit of the season to our parish.

With by solemn devotion,
Fr. Sunny Castillo

Prayer Ministry

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"For God will show all the earth your splendor:
you will be named by God forever
the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship." (Bar 5:3-4)

Psalm:

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
(Ps 126)

Second Reading:

So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
filled with the fruit of righteousness
that comes through Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:10-11)

Gospel:

"The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Lk 3:5-6)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of 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 8, 2024

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Offered For

Requested By

SUNDAY, December 8

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7:15AM | St. Michael Parishioners | |
| | + Elizabeth O'Rourke | Hepburn Family |
| 9:00AM | + Sophie Zurawski | Zurawski Family |
| 10:45AM | + Sr. Patricia Downey | PJ & Carol Lee Borter |

MONDAY, December 9

- | | | |
|--------|------------------------|--------|
| 6:30AM | + Frances Bradford | Family |
| 8:00AM | + Al & Carol Savegnago | Family |

TUESDAY, December 10

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 6:30AM | + Maria King | Rob & Gina Carroll
Family |
| 8:00AM | + Carol O'Neill | Peggy & Jack Gleason |

WEDNESDAY, December 11

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6:30AM | + Michael Ruggaber | Ann & Charlie Evans
Family |
| 8:00AM | + Bruce Wisner
+ Dan Donovan | Marge Donovan |

THURSDAY, December 12

- | | | |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|
| 6:30AM | Vincent Capuano | Sitley Family |
| 8:00AM | + Meredith Thomas | LaBelle Family |

FRIDAY, December 13

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 6:30AM | Daria Skrzypczynski | Gabi Reczek |
| 8:00AM | + Anne Marie Barks | St. Francis Math Dept. |

SATURDAY, December 14

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:00AM | + Emilia Bautista | Miranda & Bautista
Families |
| 5:00PM | + Sr. Patricia Downey | PJ & Carol Lee Borter |

SUNDAY, December 15

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 7:15AM | + Ronald Severino | Kathy & Bill Keller |
| 9:00AM | St. Michael Parishioners | |
| | + Antonina Bautista | Challenger Family |
| 10:45AM | + Charlotte McPherson | St. Michael Choir |



Margaret Hagerdon

Joyce Hubbard

June Bily

*"Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them. May all the souls of
the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen."*



Prayer Ministry

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

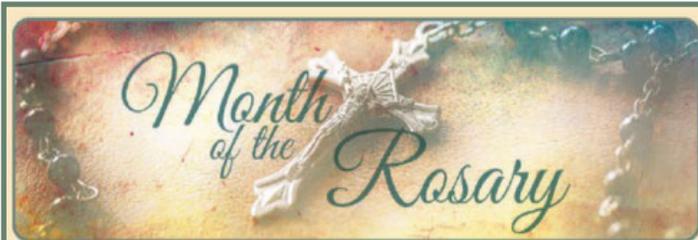
John Adamek	Frank Ferri	John Lisner	Jon Riley
Elaine Adamek	Teresa Fillman	Matthew Lisner	Sheryl Rutkowski
Eleanor Agan	Theresa Fogarty	Andja Lozancic	Mike Sambo
Teresa Aguilar	Dale Foreman	George Lozancic	Anne Marie
Charles Baker	David Fountain	Theresa Lozano	Schneider
Josu Beruete	Connor Giles	Juan T. Lozano, Jr.	Jan Seimetz
Peg Birt	Mary Ellen Giner	Wilma	Tobias Siennetts
Steve Blagaich	Brice Grudzien	Mabilangan	Ann Smith
Marianne Bluhm	Giancarlo Herrera	Robert Mucerino	Jacek Sowinski
Yecenia Bosley	Robert	Cathy McGuire	Stroner Family
David Brummett	Hoppenstedt	Joanne Metoyer	Dominic Thomas
Kathy Brummett	John Hyde	Nancy	Cindy Tory
Frank Cyncenas	Kathy Keller	Mackowiak	Andrew Valadka
Althea G. Dades	Miki Kern	James Oliver	Carole Weber
Evan DeBock	Maribeth Kerr	Joan Peters	The Wulffe
Lynn Dennis	Barbara	Victoria Holmen	Family
DePratt Family	Krzyzewski	Peterson	Eileen Yanan
Lisa Fanucchi	Margaret Kuhn	Ray Reynertson	Sr. Mary Clarine
Joseph Fenton	Barbara Lambke	Rita Richards	Young, SND
Carol Ferri	Al Liskey	Margaret Riggs	Greta Zilch

VOCATIONS PRAYER CALENDAR December 8 — December 15

- 12/8 Sr. Ritz Schmitz OSF
Sr. Clarita Schumacher OSF
- 12/9 Deacon William Thomas
Deacon Arturo Tiongson
Deacon Matthew Tretina
Deacon Robert True
- 12/10 Fr. Steven Borello
- 12/11 Sr. Margaret Rose Sczesniak OSF
Sr. Mary Frances Seeley OSF
- 12/12 Fr. Zygmunt Ostrowski SCh.
- 12/13 Fr. Tomasz Sielicki SCh.
Fr. Miroslaw Stepien SCh.
- 12/14 Sr. Faith Szambelanczyk OSF
Sr. Louise Marie Skoch OSF
- 12/15 Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF
Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF



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.



Rosary Groups at St. Michael

Join us to pray the rosary after weekday 6:30AM and 8:00AM Masses in the Church.

The Angelus and the Rosary

Every day at Noon, the Angelus and the Rosary are prayed outside in the Mary Grotto. There is no need to sign up, please just show up and pray! All are welcome, all the time!

The Flame of Love

The Flame of Love is the Immaculate Heart of Mary movement to blind Satan. We meet on Saturday mornings at 7:00AM (before Mass) in the Family Chapel at the west end of the Narthex to say the rosary and special prayers.

Living in the Divine Will

We are a group studying the messages given to 20th century mystic Luisa Piccarreta by our Lord Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother. We meet every Thursday morning at 10:00AM in Room 308 of the Faith Center. Come study with us!

For the Parishioners of St. Alexis Parish in Bensenville, and the Parishioners of Saint Mary Parish in Beaverville, that they will receive abundant blessings during this our Diocesan Anniversary Year.
Let us pray to the Lord.

Tuesday, December 10 ~ St. Alexis Parish, Bensenville
Friday, December 13 ~ St. Mary Parish, Beaverville



Around the Parish



St. Michael Catholic Church 2024 Holy Day and Christmas Mass Schedule

The Immaculate Conception
of The Blessed Virgin Mary.
Monday, December 9th
Not a Holy Day of Obligation
This Year

Advent Reconciliation
Tuesday - 4:00pm - 5:45pm
Saturday - 8:30am - 9:30am



Christmas Eve Masses
Tuesday, December 24th
NO MORNING MASSES
NO CONFESSIONS
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)

Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25th

9:00am 10:45am

*Overflow seating in gym for 3pm & 5pm Mass
with live-stream viewing

Thursday, December 26th
8:00am Mass Only

Solemnity of Mary.
Holy Day of Obligation
Tuesday, December 31st
NO CONFESSIONS

4:00pm (Vigil for Holy Day)
Wednesday, January 1st
9:00am 10:45am

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 15 - 3:00PM
St. Petronille Church, Glen Ellyn

Please join us in the church for this beloved annual service of scripture readings and carols sung by the combined choirs of St. Petronille, St. Michael, and Sacred Heart. The service will be about an hour long and features festive music for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

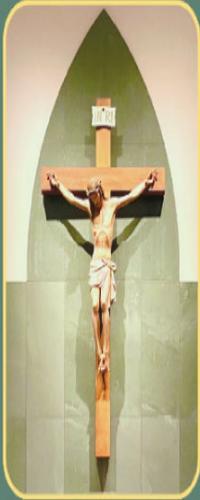
A free will offering will be received and a reception will follow the service.

Around the Parish

BROTHERS IN CHRIST

Saturday Mornings - 7:00AM - 8:00AM

310 S. Wheaton Avenue - Conference Room - Use Door #8



The men's faith sharing group, Brothers in Christ, provides Catholic men with a form to study the Bible together, to compare experiences striving to lead a faithful Catholic life, and to encourage one another to continue to grow in the Catholic faith. We are faithful to Church teachings, respectful of each other, welcoming of participants from different rites, apostolic movements, and other Catholic organizations, and require confidentiality to encourage participation.

Questions? Please contact Brian Hengesbaugh at 312-315-6178 or chicagomensbiblestudy@gmail.com



HOLY NAME SOCIETY



The Holy Name Society is looking for Dads who are willing to get involved with service to the Parish community once a month. We host the Parish Picnic, the Pasta Dinner, Donut Sundays, the DisAbilities Mass, Cougars game and many other events needing manpower.

Most of our Holy Name members have enjoyed working for the parish for decades, and we could use some help from the next generation to supplement our efforts. Holy Name Societies started in response to the persecution of Catholics by the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920's. We exist to honor the name of Jesus and to serve the Parish community at social and religious events.

Please come join us the first Sunday of each month during the school year. We promise not to overwhelm you. Please contact brianjdiamond14@yahoo.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization founded by Blessed Michael McGivney to provide men with support as husbands, fathers, parishioners, and heads of their families. We engage in a variety of charitable work, supporting our priests, the intellectually disabled, our parishes and our communities. This organization is ideal for men over 18 who feel a calling to actively work in service of our greater parish community.

Please come join us the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM. For more information, please contact briandiamond14@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATE!

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK

MARCH 7-8, 2025



Please consider participating in this life-saving ministry! Join fellow St. Mike's parishioners and other partnering churches at Benedictine University's Rice Center (Lisle) on **March 7-8, 2025!**

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

julialouisemorrow@gmail.com
cell: 714.397.7076 (text or call)

Volunteer sign-up will be in the narthex during January weekend Masses.

feedtheneedillinois.org

Around the Parish

St. Michael Parish
Celebrates
Simbang Gabi
Saturday, December 14
5:00PM



JUNE 27-29, 2025

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Catholic Youth
Conference



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DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN UP TODAY!



CALLING ALL CATHOLIC TEENS



Something big is happening at St. Mike's!

Help us become the Catholic youth hub for our area. All middle schoolers, high schoolers and college students are invited to be a part of this transformation.

Your input is needed!

Tell us what you want in a youth group.

Join us January 12, 2025, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for food, feedback and fun in the St. Michael School gym.

Hear from your peers who have led with their faith.

Scan the QR code for a quick and easy registration.

Be a part of the change!



Parish Support

Monthly Stewardship Report

As of 11/28/24

	Nov 2024
Offertory Budget	\$ 160,000
Envelopes	106,473
Online	64,951
Offertory Actual	<u>\$ 171,424</u>
Total Over (Under)	\$ 11,424

Live Stewardship

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season, it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To live Stewardship and grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Diocese of Joliet				
Thru 12/1/2024	2024	2023	Inc/Dec	2023 (Final)
Goal	\$169,300	\$176,900	(\$7,600)	\$176,900
Amount Pledged	\$238,738	\$269,277	(\$30,539)	\$277,084
Amount Paid	\$231,556	\$266,308	(\$34,752)	\$276,504
Balance Due	\$7,181	\$2,969	\$4,212	\$580
Donor Count	600	598	2	613
2024 Rebate	\$43,579			



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Scan the QR code with your phone's camera and tap on the pop up link which will bring you to our website for one-time or recurring online donations or go to our website at <https://www.stmichaelcommunity.org/donate>



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PARISH APP — Download at the APP Store. Search for "Saint Michael Wheaton"

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YOUTUBE — "St. Michael Wheaton"

FLOCKNOTE — www.Flocknote.com/StMichaelParish






Bulletin Submission Due Dates & Requirements

****Upcoming Early Deadline Dates****



December 29th Due: Wednesday, December 13th
January 5th Due: Wednesday, December 13th

Send to: communications@stmichaelcommunity.org
Please send content that can be used in a 14 & 1/2 page format, as full-page space is limited. Early deadlines are due to the upcoming holidays.

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone #: _____

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

New Address Interested in becoming Catholic

12.3.2024



#stay

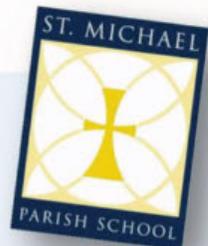
#wearelove



SCAN ME

BE LOVE THIS #GIVINGTUESDAY!

Your donation ensures students affected by the expiration of Empower Illinois STAY at St. Michael Parish School.



We need your help! Over 20 students are relying on donor generosity to STAY! Help us continue to ensure these students receive a Catholic education in their school-family / parish-family at St. Mike's. Donate today! Thank you!

Donate **online** at stmichaelschoolwheaton.org

Donate in the **Sunday basket** (memo line or envelope: "SMPS #GIVINGTUESDAY")

Donate with a check by **mail** to 314 W. Willow Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187

Thank You
to the St. Michael's community and school
for the support and patronage.
We're Grateful!



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David Coghlan Parishioner

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