13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple--amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.” - Mt 10:42

Re-Openings as of June

Dear Friends:

The COVID-19 pandemic has extracted a tremendous toll from all. The number of deaths in the United States alone total over 110,000; health care, law enforcement and other social systems have been stretched to the limit; and the economic impact severe.

Everyone has been impacted by the virus. And this universal experience is likely to continue until a vaccine is found.

Churches, including St. Michael’s, have been among the array of social institutions impacted by the virus. Here at St. Michael’s, we have adopted a cautious and measured approach to reopening ministries and events.

We have implemented a plan allowing for a resumption of a weekend Mass schedule. Our daily Mass schedule began on June 3 and is being gradually expanded to three days per week through August. This plan relied upon guidance received through the Archdiocese, working in collaboration with health care experts as well as the Governor’s office.

We are presently working on a plan, again in collaboration with others, to reopen our school ministry. The results of this planning will be reported in the coming days and weeks. The status of our athletic ministry, including participation in football and volleyball, is also under review by the Athletic Board and myself with communication to be shared in the upcoming period.

With this in mind, I am writing today to affirm the following in-person openings. These openings are subject to change given the ever-evolving environment. However, priority attention for in-person gatherings is being given to formation and youth ministry activities.

1. Beginning in August, select youth ministry activities including a leadership team day on August 8th and our normal weekly drop-in programming and small groups will be held in the Youth Center. The wearing of masks and social distancing norms will be in place. Plans for a schedule as well as sanitation mandates are in decisions in process. The number of participants (10-15) suggests that these activities can be safely reopened. In July, a special social outreach event allowing for an in-person gathering will also be sponsored. Here again, stay tuned for details and a date/time.

2. Beginning in September, in-person meetings of those interested in joining the Church will begin. The now customary wearing of masks as well as social distancing will be required. Scheduling and facilities use, including post-meeting sanitation mandates, are decisions which have not yet been made. The number of participants (10-15) suggests that these activities can be safely reopened.

3. Beginning in September, CCD will also begin in-person gatherings. The wearing of masks and social distancing will be required. Scheduling and facilities use, including post-meeting sanitation mandates, are decisions which have not yet been made. CCD has traditionally used space assigned to the school ministry and the reopening of our school ministry will drive decisions here.

4. Bible studies, devotional recitations (e.g., communal Rosary meetings), and the offering of sacramental (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which presently occurs on-line on Wednesday nights) will be supported by social media platforms (Zoom, etc.) until further notice. The parish has already committed to paying the costs associated with the use of these distanced-means of meeting. Sponsorship of the Catholic Way Bible Study, which has tended to attract a larger audience than other Bible studies, is under review between leaders of that group and a designee of the parish Pastoral Team.

5. In-person fraternal meetings (3-M Club, Knights of Columbus, etc.) remain on hold. Again, the parish will assume the cost of the use of social media which allows these and other similar groups to hold virtual gatherings.

6. In-person support group meetings, including the Up’s and Down’s, Gamblers’ Anonymous and Families Anonymous, and all other gatherings which have been hosted in parish facilities but not specifically affiliated with St. Michael’s, will be considered after opening determinations in #4 and #5 are resolved.

7. Finally, at least five parish committees will resume meeting via social media platforms. Designated members of the Pastoral team will be reaching out to the leads for each of the committees to arrange a date and time for and a suitable platform for each of the following: Pastoral Council (Father); Finance (Kelly Collard); School Board (Stacy Tackett); PTO (Stacy Tackett); and St. Michael’s Outreach (Father). It is anticipated that at least one such meeting of each of these four groups will occur between now and the beginning of September.
I know that all of this information is a bit much. In the coming days, “bits and pieces” will be offered as part of the “Hope for Today” message series (which, along with the “Fireside Chats”) will continue until further notice.

Be safe---pray---and hope!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Steven Henriksen
Pastor
St. Michael’s Church

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WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<td>(Behind) YTD</td>
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**Become A Catechist!**

- Do you have a desire to deepen and to share your faith?
- Do you enjoy working with children and youth?
- Would you like to give back to the community the blessings you receive from God?

We have several openings for catechists and assistants in our Religious Education, CCD, Program. We also need volunteers to help us meet COVID guidelines … including taking students’ temperatures and cleaning/sanitizing the classroom at the end of class. Please consider serving with us.

Contact Maureen Rogg, mrogg@stmichaelouisville.org or 502-266-5611 Ext. 229 if you would like more information.
SUNDAY’S READINGS

FIRST READING:
Elisha promised, “This time next year you will be fondling a baby son.” (2 Kg 4:16a)

PSALM:
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

SECOND READING:
Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus. (Rom 6:11)

GOSPEL:
“Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” (Mt 10:38)

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020
Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
Tuesday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Wednesday: St. Junípero Serra, Priest
Friday: St. Thomas, Apostle
Saturday: Independence Day
Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Independence Day

REFLECT

FIRST READING
We hear how the prophet Elisha and his servant Gehazi repaid the Shunammite woman for her generous hospitality. When have you shown excessive generosity to another?

SECOND READING
Paul taught the Roman Christians that through Baptism, believers fully participate in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. How should this reality impact one’s day-to-day living?

GOSPEL READING
Jesus continues to teach his followers the challenges of discipleship. What do you find most challenging in following Christ?
GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ’s death. Take a moment to ponder these profound words. We were baptized into death. In every sense of the word, we are asked to die. This is not just about our final death but about daily deaths due to inconvenience, discomfort, pain, loss, or others’ needs. This is an incredible epiphany given the way we very often approach our lives. We do everything to avoid death, let alone encounter it! Many avoid pain, discomfort, inconvenience, uneasiness, change, interference, and suffering of any kind. We put a lot of energy into finding the easiest and least inconvenient way through many things. Even holding the door open for a stranger or saying hello to someone in the store can be major undertakings.

We are called to die. One of the biggest wake-up calls we can have is realizing that life is not about us! There are millions of other people sharing life on this planet with whom I have a relationship. Does my life celebrate those relationships? The most distracting question we can ask is, “What do I want to do?” The more focused, faith-filled question is, “What do I need to do?” What I need to do may not be what I want to do. However, asking this question more frequently will teach us how to live more sacrificially, to put others’ needs before our own, and to not always seek our own self-interest, we become aware of what baptism into Christ’s death is really all about. These are the roots of virtue and the seedbed for justice, tolerance, solidarity, love, and peace.

Learning how to accept all the “small deaths” and sacrifices life calls us to teaches us how to approach our final death. All deaths ask us to empty ourselves into something or someone else. Whether we empty ourselves into the heart and soul of another human being or empty ourselves into God at the moment of our final death, new life is always received and nurtured. A heart that exclusively seeks its own interest is a heart that is closed to love. A heart that pours itself out to others and is content with being emptied is a heart that has been touched by and open to mercy. It is a heart that overflows with joy.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” - Mt 10:37-38

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

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LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?” What do you understand these words to mean? Many see these words as an indication of what may come in eternal life. In actuality, they have more to do with our lives here and now. We are called to die to ourselves and offer our lives as gifts given generously to others. It is not about us. We are asked to serve God and not continue in our service of sin. Life is about learning to do what we really do not want to do because it brings us deeper into the mystery of God, ourselves, and others. Learning how to accept and live with the “small deaths” and sacrifices we encounter teaches us how to live with and approach our final death. We can do so with a heart that has been touched by and is open to mercy or one that is self-focused and closed.

“IT IS LOVE ALONE THAT GIVES WORTH TO ALL THINGS.”
ST. TERESA OF AVILA

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING
Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!

Please DONATE

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WHY ARE THE TV COMMERCIALS SO LOUD?

TO GET YOUR ATTENTION.

Sheryl, Make A Note To Turn Up The Sound System During My Homilies.
We know in our heads that Co-vid 19 (aka the Big Crazy) is a global pandemic, but the realities of this really hit home for our young people and Co-ordinator of Youth Ministry, Aaron Frazita. For the past 15 years, our young people have served in Guatemala and formed relationships with our Guatemalan brothers and sisters. The people of Guatemala have been hit hard as the country went into lockdown and folks have not been able to work until very recently and are now still under extremely strict limitations. Travel from city to city has been limited due to the virus and only the police, military and firepersons are allowed to travel in between. This has left many hungry, sick and yes even deceased in their homes. A flag system has been developed where a white flag means you need food, a red flag means someone needs medical attention and a black or yellow flag means there is violence going on in the household and they need help. Things are dire, but there is hope. Hearts in Motion (the non-profit our young people have worked with for years) has a great working relationship with the fire department and begun responding to the flags as they can. One big way is through food baskets. Simple baskets of rice, beans, cooking oil, powdered milk, canned goods and cereal will last a family six weeks and costs only $20! This is where St. Michael stepped in and has donated $160 to help feed 8 families for six weeks! Thank you to the parish for the support and on behalf of our Guatemalan brothers and sisters Gracias para todo!
FOR OUR CHILDREN

Sharing the Gospel

God wants you to love your family and friends. But God wants you to love him even more. Be kind to your mom and listen to her. Help your dad with chores and have fun with him. But also remember to help people who are not in your family. God gets excited when you share his love with others.

Prayer

God, show me ways to help all people who love you.

Something to Draw

Draw yourself bringing homemade cookies to a neighbor who loves Jesus.

Read the Gospel and Color

Mission for the Week

Together as a family send a care package to a missionary family.
Mary
A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Dr. Edward Sri

Based on location in the Holy Land, this study will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary’s earthly life, taking you through her joys … and her sorrows.

In Mary you will:
- Visit the grove to of Mary’s home, the cave where Christ was born, and other rarely seen places in the Holy Land.
- See the significance of Mary as you explore the Biblical roots of our beliefs about her.
- Deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way.

“Dr. Sri’s amazing teaching and unique insights gave me a deeper understanding and appreciation of Our Blessed Mother.”
—John W.

For More Information
Contact Cathy Mattingly
cathysbiblestudies@gmail.com
502-419-4782

Dates, Times, Location
Mondays beginning June 29 from 10:00 am-11:30 am
Virtual meetings via Zoom

Cost/Registration
$25 for the companion workbook

To learn more, visit BibleStudyForCatholics.com

Mary you will:

These are difficult questions to discuss in our culture. We live in a society that supports the opinion that each person should make up his or her own morality—that there is no moral truth that applies to everyone. Many of us have been affected by the relativistic outlook that pervades the modern world. Maybe some of us wonder whether there really is an absolute right and wrong for everyone. Or maybe we accept that there is a moral standard for all, but we don’t know how to explain our moral convictions in a convincing way. Maybe some of us are afraid of saying something is immoral because we’re afraid of offending others or of being labeled intolerant. How do we talk about morality in a relativistic world?

Dates, Times, Location
Wednesdays beginning June 24 from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Virtual meetings via Zoom

Cost/Registration
Free downloadable companion workbook on Formed

For More Information
Contact Cathy Mattingly
cathysbiblestudies@gmail.com
502-419-4782

The Wild Goose
Discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit

AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY
Join Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR in this incredible 14 part video series which is awakening God's love and transforming power in the hearts of all who participate.

Discover the Holy Spirit who has been revealed to us by Jesus Christ and who leads us to our heavenly Father.

This adventure consists of Fr. Dave speaking on an attribute of the Holy Spirit, a practical application on how to respond to the Holy Spirit and testimonies of people from across the country whose lives have been impacted by the Spirit of God.

DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION
Wednesday, June 24th
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
Via Zoom

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
To register, contact Cathy Mattingly
cathysbiblestudies@gmail.com
502-419-4782

Study Guides & other resources are available at www.TheWildGooseIsLoose.com

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<td><strong>V.B.S.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Women's Club</strong></td>
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**PARISH CONTACTS**

**LOCATION**
3705 Stone Lakes Drive | Louisville, KY 40299
(502) 266-5611

**OFFICE HOURS:**
Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS**
Jim Merriam: (502) 552-6729

**ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES**

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<td><strong>Jeffersontown Area Ministries</strong></td>
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PARISH INFORMATION

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PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Steven Henriksen
shenriksen@stmichaellouisville.org

Sr. Associate
Rev. Kenneth Kamber
padrekk@twc.com

Sr. Deacon
Marty Brown 502-491-0034
martdeac@gmail.com

Deacon
Ken Carter 502-494-5700
kjcarter@bellsouth.net

Deacon
Mark Kelley 502-239-2230
mark.kelley@kelleyconstruction.com

PASTORAL STAFF

Exec. Asst. to the Pastor
Sheryl Krieger
skrieger@stmichaellouisville.org

Chief Operating Officer
Kelly Collard
kcollard@stmichaellouisville.org

Bookkeeper
Rick Hohmann
righthohmann@stmichaellouisville.org

Finance Admin. Asst.
Michelle Donahue
mdonahue@stmichaellouisville.org

Director of Facilities
Jim Merriam
jmerriam@stmichaellouisville.org

Dir. of Communications
Michael Raymer
mraymer@stmichaellouisville.org

Dir. of Lifelong Formation
Maureen Rogg
mrogg@stmichaellouisville.org

Dir. of Worship/Asst. to Pastor
Dennis O’Donoghue
dodonoghue@stmichaellouisville.org

Youth Ministry
Aaron Frazita
afrazita@stmichaellouisville.org

ESC Director
Kristina Fehr
kfehr@stmichaellouisville.org

PASTORAL TEAM

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ST MICHAEL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Principal
Stacy Tackett
stackett@stmichaellouisville.org

Asst Principal
Kristyn Bowman
kbowman@stmichaellouisville.org

School Business Manager
Connie Fone
cfone@stmichaellouisville.org

School Admin. Asst.
Jamie Stepp
jstepp@stmichaellouisville.org

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