Welcome to the Stillwater Catholic Parishes



Church of St. Michael

611 South Third Street www.stmichaelstillwater.org

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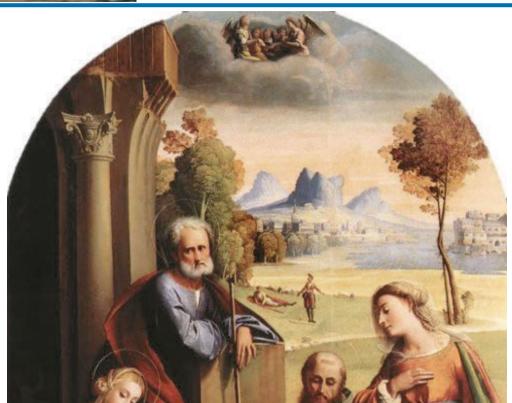
St. Mary's Church

423 South 5th Street www.stmarystillwater.org

651-430-1551



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph | December 26, 2021 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord | January 2, 2022



Fr. Michael Izen, Pastor frizen@costm.org | 651-379-1261

Fr. Austin Barnes, Parochial Vicar frbarnes@costm.org | 651-379-1262

St. Mary's Church

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM *Closed December 24, 27, 30, and 31 651-439-1270 | fharris@costm.org

Mass Times

Monday - Saturday at 7:30 AM Sunday at 8:00 AM; 10:30 AM; 6:00 PM

Church of St. Michael

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Friday: 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM *Closed December 24, 27, 30, and 31 651-439-4400 | info@costm.org

Mass Times

Monday - Friday at 5:30 PM Saturday (Vigil) at 4:30 PM Sunday at 7:30 AM; 9:15 AM; 11:00 AM

Sacrament of Penance

St. Michael's

Monday - Friday 5:00 - 5:25 PM Saturday 3:00 - 4:15 PM

St. Mary's

Saturday 8:00 - 8:30 AM

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

See <u>stmichaelstmaryweadorehim.com</u> to commit to a regular Holy Hour the St. Faustina Adoration Chapel at the Church of St. Michael.

Ms. Samantha Bertrand, Coordinator sjkbertrand@gmail.com | 612-615-4393.

Televised Mass

Our 9:15 Sunday Mass will be broadcast on Channel 18 (Valley Access) on: Wednesdays (5:00 PM and 11:00 PM) Thursdays (5:00 AM and 11:00 AM) Saturdays (9:00 PM) Sundays (Live at 9:15 AM)

"Nativity with Saints" by Ortolano (1480-1525)

From the Pastor

"Behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord." (*Luke 2:10-11*)

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:14)

Merry Christmas to the good people of St. Mary's and St. Michael's – Christ is born! We are so glad you are here to celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus with us! It is perhaps the most glorious time of year. You are welcome here every Sunday to experience firsthand the joy and peace that the angels promised to us on that first Christmas.

If we find ourselves in a place that is not very joyful or peaceful, the Christ Child invites us to turn to Him. This December, I have been reading a wonderful new book: <u>The True Meaning of Christmas</u> by Michael Patrick Barber. Referencing Sacred Scripture, the book explains that joy is only possible if one has repented and turned away from sin. Just as the angels in Luke's Gospel proclaimed joy on that first Christmas, we also know "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (*Luke 15:10*). Even Zacchaeus, a

tax collector and notorious sinner, repents and receives Jesus with "joy" (*Luke 19:6*). Thus, reconciliation with the Lord is the doorway through which we find lasting joy.

Saint Augustine tells us, "God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them." We make room for all the Lord wishes to give us by first acknowledging the ways we have failed to love God and others and repenting of those sins through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Perhaps we also need to let go of grudges or forgive someone who has hurt us. Joy is always possible when we turn to the Lord with humility and receive His goodness with trust.

In previous years, I have been grateful that a couple of All-Star volunteers, Marty Rossini and Ron Lugge, would camp out in the atrium on December 31 and receive your last-minute donations. Marty has since retired from such strenuous efforts, but this year, Ron and his wife Jean will be in St. Michael's atrium from about 8:30 AM until noon on Friday, December 31. This will give you a chance to submit your last-minute gift to St. Mary's, St. Michael's, or St. Croix Catholic School and receive tax credit for the 2021 Year. Year-end donations can also be dropped off or mailed to the parish office. Thank you for your ongoing support of our parishes and school.

Be assured of our prayers for your family in this season of joy. God bless you, and Merry Christmas!

In the Newborn Christ, Father Izen



Christmas Octave 2021

Vigil of the Nativity: Friday, December 24
(No 7:30 AM Daily Mass)
4:00, 6:00, & 10:00 PM The Church of St. Michael
5:00 PM St. Mary's Church

Feast of the Nativity: Saturday, December 25
7:30, 9:15, & 11:00 AM The Church of St. Michael
8:00 & 10:30 AM St. Mary's Church
(No 4:30 PM Anticipatory Mass)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph:
Sunday, December 26
7:30, 9:15, & 11:00 AM The Church of St. Michael
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 6:00 PM St. Mary's Church

Vigil of Mary, Mother of God: Friday, December 31 (7:30 AM Daily Mass at St. Mary's) 5:30 PM The Church of St. Michael

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: Saturday, January 1

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation This Year)
7:30 AM St. Mary's Church
9:00 AM The Church of St. Michael
(Regular 4:30 PM Anticipatory Mass)

Denotes Facebook Livestreamed Masses

Parish News

Cana Catechesis: Tuesday, January 11

All married and engaged couples are invited to attend the first in a new monthly series of evenings dedicated to the catechesis of marriage. Come and enjoy dinner, fellowship, a presentation, and small group discussion with other engaged and married couples. Our first session's topic is "The Life of Prayer." Join us Tuesday, January 11 from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Michael's Rose (Social) Hall. For registration or questions, please contact Mrs. Anna Wahl at awahl@costm.org.





Third Saturday Community Dinners at St. Mary's: Starting January 15

Inspired by the needs of our community, the desire to live out the Works of Mercy, and an opportunity to build a broader faith community, our tri-parish will be hosting a community dinner every third Saturday of the month! Starting on January 15, all are invited to join us at St. Mary's Great Hall from 5:00-6:30 PM. Please visit our parish website to learn more about volunteer roles and sign-up to assist with this important outreach ministry of St. Michael's, St. Mary's, and St. Charles'. This would be a wonderful opportunity to serve together as a family in January or any month to come! Please contact Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Karen Sisson at

pksisson1@gmail.com with any questions.

Christmas Flowers & Décor Appreciation

If you would like to donate Christmas flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please note the names on your donation. Thank you to the many volunteers and donors who have dedicated their time, talents, and treasure to making our churches so beautiful for this Advent and Christmas Season! We are so grateful for your assistance!

Christmas Weekend Liturgical Note

Please note that attending one Saturday Mass on December 25, 2021 does not "count" for both Christmas and Holy Family Sunday. Catholics are obligated to attend one Mass for Christmas (anytime between the evening of December 24 and midnight December 25) and another Mass for Holy Family Sunday (by midnight on December 26). We look forward to celebrating these Holy Days with you and your family!

COVID Update for Christmas

We understand that because of the pandemic, some of you are still hesitant about attending Holy Mass in person. We want to inform you of our recommendations for our Christmas Masses. Masks are still an option but are encouraged. Social distancing will be available in our social halls (Rose Hall at St. Michael's and the Great Hall at St. Mary's). If you desire to be in the main church but are concerned about spacing, Christmas Eve Masses have historically been crowded while Christmas Morning Masses are always less populated. May God bless you all this Christmas season! —Fr. Izen and Fr. Barnes

Weekly Financial Update

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the operating funds for these past weeks were not prepared for publication. We will include them in our January 9th bulletin instead. Thank you for your understanding!

Operating Funds:

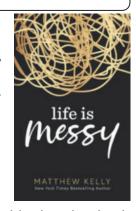
(Weekly collection, EFT payments and gifts used only for operating expenses for Fiscal Year July 1, 2021—June 30, 2022).

7/1/2021 - 12/12/2021	St. Mary's	St. Michael's
Budgeted Collections	\$191,856	\$697,954
Actual Weekly Collections	\$203,944	\$711,330
Amount Over / (Short)	\$12,088	\$13,376

Local News & Events

Christmas Book Giveaway

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous parishioner, the Churches of St. Michael and St. Mary are offering a new book this Christmas to refresh your faith life: *Life is Messy* by Matthew Kelly. This book is about putting our lives back together and allowing ourselves to be put back together when life doesn't turn out as we expected it. Based on his own heartwrenching personal journals, Matthew Kelly shares how the worst three years of his life affected him by exploring the question: Can someone who has been broken be healed and become more beautiful and more lovable than ever before? Books will be available at both parishes during the Christmas season. We hope you enjoy this gift and share it with others!





2022 Offertory Envelopes & Calendars Available

2022 offertory envelopes are available for pick up on a table by the back parking lot ramp (St. Michael's) and in the back of church (St. Mary's). Please contact your Parish Office with questions.

The 2022 liturgical calendars have arrived and are available at both parish entrances while supplies last. (Please take only one per household due to limited supply). A special thank you to Simonet Funeral Home, who fully sponsored the calendars for both parishes again this year!

Afternoon Receptionist Volunteers

The Church of St. Michael is seeking office assistant volunteers with strong communication and interpersonal skills to assist with front desk coverage one afternoon weekly from 12:00-4:00 PM. Responsibilities include greeting office visitors, answering phones, managing Mass intention requests, taking in-person messages, directing visitors to particular staff members when appropriate, and other office tasks. Interested applicants, please submit a cover letter to Mrs. Brenda Grubb at bgrubb@costm.org.

Spots Still Open for March Mission Trip!

Vianney is in the final planning stages of the mission trip being held over spring break in March. We have openings for more senior high students (9th-12th grade). We will drive to keep expenses manageable and expect costs to be around \$450-500. With fundraising efforts split among all of our participants, we can further reduce our final costs. A registration fee of \$50 will be due the first week in January. If you are thinking of coming, please reach out to Mr. Vianney Nguyen at vnguyen@scvff.net or Mr. & Mrs. Marlay and Margaret Smith at mbsmith721@gmail.com. This is an outstanding way to live the works of mercy, learn some new skills, give of yourself, and receive more graces than ever imagined!

Priest Meal Calendars

The January, February and March meal calendars for Fr. Izen and Fr. Barnes are posted and ready to be filled. Thank you to all of the magnificent cooks who faithfully prepare and deliver meals for our priests! To sign-up, visit www.carecalendar.org (Calendar ID: **215802** | Security Code: **9368**). Please contact Mrs. Jackie Valerius with any questions at ipvalerius@gmail.com or 612-269-7563. Thank you for your support, and God bless you!

Parish Nurse News

Are you the parents or caretaker of someone with special needs? When I took this position 3 years ago, one of my focus points was to make sure our most vulnerable families had the support they needed. This is an area of need I am passionate about as the parent of a 17-year-old with various medical/cognitive needs. I am hoping to start a support group sometime after the holidays where we can gather for coffee, treats, and prayer, supporting each other as we walk this journey with our loved ones. Please email me at mgibbons @costm.org if this is something you would be interested in partaking in!
-Mrs. Maria Gibbons, Parish Nurse

St. Croix Catholic School

Serving the parishes of St. Michael, St. Mary, and St. Charles | SCCS Office: 651-439-5581 | www.stcroixcatholic.org







Advent Christmas Programs 2021

A special thank you to Mrs. Hammerschmidt, Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Thigpen!

And thank you to teachers for their support with practices, to our parents for their excellent work in costume making, and to all of our children for making these shows such a beautiful reflection of the miracle of Christmas! Our school is a gift which we love to share! We are now accepting applications for Preschool through 8th Grade. The priority application deadline is quickly approaching – January 13th. See our website for details.

Faith Formation

Serving the parishes of St. Michael, St. Mary, and St. Charles | Faith Formation Office: 651-351-3175

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level III Adult Formation

The Church of St. Michael is blessed to have a beautiful space to form children in their faith through a program called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). The Faith Formation Department recently hosted a series of eight, twoday adult formation sessions for aspiring Level III CGS Catechists. Thirty adults (including six from our own parish and school communities) participated in the first half of the Level III course. Level III catechists spend 110 hours in formation sessions and many hours studying and preparing lessons for the children. We were blessed to have Carolyn Kohlhaas (a National Level I, II and III CGS Formation Leader and Montessorian) lead these adult formation sessions. Participants learned how the structure of the Level III Atrium addresses the child's growing desire and capacity to wrestle with the mystery of time and their own role in history. It assists the child in grasping the big picture of God's work in the universe. In the Level III Atrium, children ages 9 - 12 are invited to explore the Plan of God through Old Testament studies as well as the archeological and historical aspects of the Middle East and Europe, with a special focus on key moments of the history of Israel. The children reflect on their own roles in the Plan of God and how

to use their gifts for the service of God. Along with further prophet studies, prayer and Gospel reflections, the Level III children explore in detail the complete celebrations of Eucharist, Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Anointing of the Sick. The children also meditate on many moral parables and maxims through the teachings of Jesus that show us how those who love and listen to God are called to live. The atrium environment promotes the practice of harmonious community living which extends to the larger world we live in. We are grateful for those who are committed to CGS formation in order to serve the youth in our parish community. Interested in learning more? Please contact Mrs. Jenny Ostrom at jostrom@costm.org.



Worship and Liturgy

December 27 - January 9 Mass Intentions



(B) Birthday (A) Anniversary (L&D) Living & Deceased

St. Mary's Church		Church of St. Michael	
Mon. 7:30 AM	† Molly Kennealy Crumley	Mon. 5:30 PM	† Judy Wilson (A)
Tues. 7:30 AM	† Andrew & Marie McNicoll	Tues. 5:30 PM	Alyosha Wald
Weds. 7:30 AM	† Karen Marie Tomes	Weds. 5:30 PM	† Larry Zenner
Thurs. 7:30 AM	† Mae Pepin	Thurs. 5:30 PM	Chuck Sawyer
Fri. 7:30 AM	† Stephen MacDonald	Fri. 5:30 PM	† Harriet Marchetti
Sat. 7:30 AM	† Thomas Guberud	Sat. 9:00 AM	The People of St. Michael's
		4:30 PM	Priest's Intention
Sun. 8:00 AM	† Albert & Helen Ritzer	Sun. 7:30 AM	† Marlene Holter
10:30 AM	The People of St. Mary's	9:15 AM	† Ann Tousley Luther
6:00 PM	† Michael Weisman	11:00 AM	The People of St. Michael's
Mon. 7:30 AM	(L&D) Members of the	Mon. 5:30 PM	The People of St. Michael's
Tues. 7:30 AM	Aggerbeck Family Carolyn Kohlhaas	Tues. 5:30 PM	† Richard Young
Weds. 7:30 AM	† Joen Ott	Weds. 5:30 PM	The People of St. Michael's
Thurs. 7:30 AM	† Joseph & Gloria Nash	Thurs. 5:30 PM	† Ron Karsnia
Fri. 7:30 AM	The Sick of the Parish	Fri. 5:30 PM	The Sick of the Parish
Sat. 7:30 AM	† Dorothy Murray	Sat. 4:30 PM	The People of St. Michael's
Sun. 8:00 AM	Elijah Aggerbeck (B)	Sun. 7:30 AM	† Edith & Vern Hophan
10:30 AM	The People of St. Mary's	9:15 AM	† Ann Tousley Luther
6:00 PM	† Mary Strom	11:00 AM	Jeremy Bullinger

Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunities at the Church of St. Michael & St. Croix Catholic School

The Church of St. Michael is seeking candidates for the following open positions:

- Pastoral Minister 20 hours per week
- Human Resources & Payroll Coordinator 30 hours per week (benefits eligible!)
- Custodian 20 hours per week; 6:00-10:00 PM, Monday-Friday

St. Croix Catholic School is seeking an Educational Assistant and Substitute Teachers.

For complete job postings, please visit https://careers.archspm.org.



In Sympathy

Florence Pajerski (Sister of Angela Racine) St. Mary's Church

New Parishioners

Jeffrey & Sarah Norem with their children Liam, Josie, Abel, and Luca The Church of St. Michael

> Timothy & Maureen McClanahan with their sons Peter & William The Church of St. Michael

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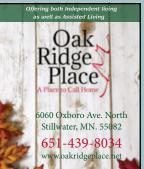
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