



## Saint Michael Parish

*Living with purpose... Living with Christ!*

196 Main Street North Andover, MA 01845 • 978-686-4050  
www.saint-michael.org • email: information@saintmichael.com



## THE NATIVITY *of the Lord*

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you  
who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:11

December 25 & 26, 2021

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
AND  
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

*Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.*

*cf. (Isaiah 9:1, 5: Luke 1:33)*



It is good to be here, together, worshipping Jesus Christ who loves us so much that He became one with us! Today, Christ has gathered us together (whether in the church or remote from our homes) to share Himself in this Eucharistic Feast, this **Banquet of Love!** He gives us strength; He gives us hope; He gives us joy; He gives us peace. May we, in the days to come, be bearers of his generous love to those we encounter.

**Please know that the clergy and staff are here to serve you!** Please do not hesitate to call on us! In the meantime, be assured of our prayers for a **blended Christmas and a wonderful New Year!**

***The Light of Christ Shines Brightly through our Volunteers!***

We are very blessed by the many people who share their time and talent in volunteering! Our Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council help lead our parish in *Living with Purpose... Living with Christ!* Our Video Ministry has kept us connected during the pandemic. Our Safety Guides, Hospitality Ministers and Lazarus Funeral Ministers make us feel welcomed, safe and comfortable as we come to Mass. Our children and adult choir members, our lectors and Eucharistic Ministers share Christ with us in song, Word and Body. Our Theresian Flower Ministry, Sanctuary Society and St. Martha Cleaning Ministry make the church sparkle inside and out! Our Catechists, our youth ministry team, our small faith-sharing group leaders and Year of the Eucharist team lead us closer to Christ. Our Picnic Team brought us together with joy. Our St. Vincent de Paul Society, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound and nursing homes bring Christ's healing presence to the most vulnerable of our community. **Sincerest thanks to all of our volunteers!**



**Feast of Mary**  
*New Year's Day*

Friday, December 31, 2021, Vigil Mass at 4:00pm (with music)  
Saturday, January 1, 2022, Masses at 8:00am (no music) and 10:00am (with music)

**Giving Thanks for our Priests**

Today's Christmas collection will benefit the **Clergy Trust** so that they can continue caring for the health and well-being of our wonderful diocesan priests in good standing. By supporting this collection, you are helping our active priests receive the support they need to continue their ministry, and our senior priests live in community with access to quality care. This collection is the primary source of funding for the Trust and your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping support our priests this Christmas. You can write your check to St. Michael Parish, put Clergy Trust in the memo section and drop it in the offertory basket, use the QR code to the right, or visit [www.clergyfunds.org](http://www.clergyfunds.org).







## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Christmas time is a time of very heavy travel. Many people fly or drive to their destination to be with family. There is something special about gathering with family members to celebrate this beautiful Feast. The Church continues the theme of family with the celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph on this Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. Family is an important part of all of our lives.

The Second Scripture Reading this Sunday from the Letter to the Colossians contains some advice that would certainly strengthen all of our families. Paul advises that as God's chosen ones we have "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Those are certainly powerful gifts to build up one's family!

The Church sees family life as a very special part of society. The Catholic Catechism states: "The family is the original cell of social life. It is the natural society in which husband and wife are called to give themselves in love and in the gift of life." The Catechism further states: "The family is the community in which from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honor God, and make good use of freedom. Family life is an initiation into society."

As we hear this Sunday's Gospel of Luke, the Holy Family also traveled to Jerusalem for the celebration of Passover. Their experience of family life here and in other Gospel passages reminds us that we look to the Holy Family for inspiration in our own family life.

Let us pray during this Christmas Season in thanksgiving for the gift of family. Let us consciously make an effort to strengthen our families with the gifts that St. Paul suggested. May our families be blessed in every way in this special season and throughout the New Year.

God Bless!

*Fr. Deeley*

Fr. Kevin J. Deeley

## This Week in Our Parish

Sunday December 26	Monday December 27	Tuesday December 28	Wednesday December 29	Thursday December 30	Friday December 31	Saturday January 1
<p><b>Masses</b> 8:00am, 10:00am, 12noon and 5:00pm</p>	<p><b>Mass:</b> 8:00am</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> 6-7:00pm in the Day Chapel</p> <p><b>Adoration</b> 4:00-7:00pm</p>	<p><b>Mass:</b> 8:00am</p>	<p><b>Mass:</b> 8:00am</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> 6-7:00pm in the Day Chapel</p>	<p><b>Mass:</b> 8:00am</p> <p><b>Rosary Cenacle</b> 6:45pm in the Day Chapel</p> <p><b>Al-Anon*</b> 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>Mass:</b> 8:00am</p> <p><b>Solemnity of Mary</b> Vigil Mass: 4:00pm</p>	<p><i>Pastoral Center is closed today</i></p> <p><b>Solemnity of Mary Masses:</b> 8:00am 10:00am</p>

*Please note: \* means meeting is held in the Pastoral Center*

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

*December 25 through January 2*

<b>Sunday</b>	8:00am	Mary Trask
	10:00am	Sydney Field
	12:00noon	Rose & Louis Messina Peggy Deminski Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cascone George T. & Marilyn Early Valerie Lopez (living) Ellen & David Blackstock
	5:00pm	Ratham & Rushpam Percy
<b>Monday</b>	8:00am	Paul Mscisz (living)
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00am	James Gilbert (living) Wes Gilbert Rose Gilbert
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00am	Marcie Beaudoin Constance Caron
<b>Friday</b>	8:00am	Willem Bouhuis
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00am	Frank Cunningham Fr. Paul T. Keyes
	4:00 pm	Mary-Louise Conte and family (all living)
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00am	Joan Reil
	12:00noon	Gustavo Mora Robert A. Coppeta Coppeta, Fionte & Hanley Families Jerry Haley

### "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."



Confirmation: It is never too late to receive the Grace of this important Sacrament. If you have never been confirmed and would like more information about what is involved, please contact Deacon Vinny at 978-686-4050 or email him at [vgat@comast.net](mailto:vgat@comast.net).



### First Saturday Rosary Devotion

First Saturday Rosary Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima will be held on January 1, following the 8:00 am Mass in the church. Please bring your booklet as it will be used at that time. If you need one, call the pastoral center at 978-686-4050.



Please note that our January Holy Hour featuring Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on **Sunday, January 9 at 3:00pm**, in the church (not on Sunday, January 2 as originally scheduled).



Our next Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:00AM Family Mass will be held on Sunday, January 9.

### **Rest in Peace**

Shirley McDonald                      Mary McNeil  
James Stephen Stagno



**Thank you to Holland Flower Shoppes** for generously donating our altar flowers each week.



## SCHOOL NEWS



Merry Christmas from  
Saint Michael School!

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## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Our high schoolers have been busy serving our parish by **volunteering** for Lazarus House's Pop Your Trunk food drive and **preparing** the parish hall for Christmas by cleaning the chairs.

**Now it's time for some fun during  
Christmas vacation!**

Save the date of Thursday, December 30, for an ice skating outing! More details will be posted on our website.

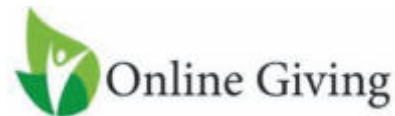
Thank  
You

Thank you to the Conte Family of **Conte Funeral Homes** for their generosity in providing calendars for our parishioners again this year. The calendars can be found at the entrances of the church.

## Offertory Donations to Saint Michael Parish

50% of parishioners who donated to St. Michael's 2021 Offertory Commitment Program (OCP) have responded to the calendar year 2022 OCP. Many thanks! Please note the following:

- We assume no response means your 2022 OCP pledge will stay the same as your 2021 pledge.
- All information on the Online Giving site, including changing, suspending a donation amount or updating credit card information, is maintained by the parishioner and cannot be changed by St. Michael Parish.
- You can make a pledge via our website at [www.saint-michael.org](http://www.saint-michael.org) by selecting the *Giving* button.
- If you have any questions, email us at [donations@saintmichael.com](mailto:donations@saintmichael.com)



<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/298>

**Job Opening:** In mid-January, we are looking for a person to serve the parish as a **part-time housekeeper**. *The housekeeper's role is to provide a comfortable home for the priests and a hospitable and welcoming environment in the parish rectory and pastoral center by maintaining cleanliness.* This is a part-time position, ideal for someone seeking "mother's hours".

If you are interested, please contact Dorothy Varga or Mary Alice Rock at 978-686-4050 or [information@saintmichael.com](mailto:information@saintmichael.com).



## Pastoral Center Hours This Week

Sunday: 9:00am—3:00pm  
Monday—Thursday: 9:00am—7:00pm  
Friday: 9:00am—3:00pm  
Saturday: CLOSED

Happy New Year!



## St. Michael's Mission Statement

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to us.  
 For He has anointed us with His Life.  
 He has sent us to: Bring Good News to the poor,  
 To proclaim liberty to captives;  
 And to the blind bring new sight;  
 To set the downtrodden free;  
 and to proclaim the Lord's favor in our lives.  
 (Luke 4:18)



## Parish Directory

Parish Phone: 978-686-4050  
 Faith Formation: (Gr. 1-5): 978-682-9484  
 (Gr. 6-10): 978-686-4050  
 St. Michael School: 978-686-1862

**Pastor:** Rev. Kevin Deeley  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Jiwon Yoon  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Joseph Hubbard  
**Weekend Assistance:** Rev. Ray Dlugos, O.S.A.  
**Deacon:** Deacon Vincent Gatto  
**Deacon:** Deacon Daniel Sheridan  
**Deacon:** Deacon Eugene Schaeffer

**Director of Pastoral Ministries:** Mary Alice Rock  
**School Principal:** Susan Gosselin  
**Finance & Operations Manager:** Dorothy Varga  
**Pastoral Associate:** Dominic Margaglione  
**Music Director:** Jennifer Wells

## Prayer Line Intentions

Call Honey: 978-688-0079

In the case of our discovering that someone at Mass tests positive for **COVID-19**, we will make any announcement of a positive test on the parish website & bulletin board, so please check on a regular basis.

*Prayers for all who have been affected by this disease and prayers for a complete end of the pandemic!*

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<p><i>We've Missed You!</i>          Welcome Back to Mass</p>  <p>Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!</p> <p><b>www.ParishesOnline.com</b></p>	<p><b>ROGERS SPRING HILL</b>          GARDEN &amp; FARM CENTER          1269 Boston Rd, Ward Hill, Haverhill, MA          978-372-4780   www.rogersspringhill.com</p>	 <p><b>support our ADVERTISERS</b></p>	
 <p><b>Mary Schruender, Senior Loan Officer</b>          mary.schruender@rate.com   www.rate.com/maryschruender          C: (978) 407-8397          2 Elm Square Suite 203, Andover, MA 01810          NMLS IS: 885647 LO#: MA - Licensed, NH - Licensed          Guaranteed Rate: NMLS ID 2611 (Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org)</p> <p><b>EQUAL HOUSING LENDER</b></p>	<p><b>FREE AD DESIGN</b>          WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE  <b>CALL 800.477.4574</b></p>	<p><b>support our ADVERTISERS</b></p>	
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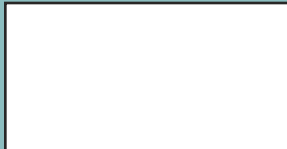
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