

# SAINT MICHAEL PARISH

ONE PARISH. ONE SCHOOL. ONE FAITH COMMUNITY.

AUGUST 15, 2021



## *Our Mission*

*Rooted in our sacramental celebrations of the Eucharist, we seek to shape our future in a positive way through our parish school, religious education, youth ministry programs and numerous Christian services. While maintaining a strong sense of Catholic tradition, we look for ways to revitalize our Christian values through more openness to God's word and our gospel call to love God and neighbor. Trusting in the Holy Spirit, we seek new ways of being a church for members, active or not, as well as reaching out to the wider community.*

## **Mass Schedule**

**Monday-Saturday at 7am. Weekends: Saturday at 4pm, Sunday at 7am, 9am & 11:15am**

**12:30pm Mass in Swahili every Sunday.**

**Holy Days: 7am & 7pm.**

**Rectory:** 543 Bridge Street, Lowell, MA 01850 Phone: 978-459-0713 Fax: 978-453-1123

Religious Education Phone: 978-459-0713 Saint Vincent de Paul Society: 978-459-1770

Email: [saintmichaels@comcast.net](mailto:saintmichaels@comcast.net) Website: [www.saint-michael.com](http://www.saint-michael.com) Facebook: Saint Michael Parish

Rectory Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

**School:** 21 Sixth Street, Lowell, MA 01850 Phone: 978-453-9511 Fax: 978-454-4104

Email: [sms@saint-michael.com](mailto:sms@saint-michael.com) Website: [www.school.saint-michael.com](http://www.school.saint-michael.com) Facebook: St. Michael School Lowell

**Below is useful information about our parish.  
You can contact the Rectory at 978-459-0713  
or saintmichaels@comcast.net.**



Baptisms are usually held at 2pm on the fourth Saturday of each month. Parents must attend one class prior to baptism date. Godparents must be Catholics who have received the sacraments of baptism, first communion & confirmation. Please contact one month in advance to schedule.



If you'd like to be married at Saint Michael's, please contact us one year prior to your wedding. Couples must meet with the priest prior to confirming a date.



Religious Ed classes for grades K-8 are held on Saturdays from 9-10:30am, Sept-May. High school students meet Sundays January-May. First Communion is usually celebrated in June; Confirmation in the fall.



When you are sick or have scheduled surgery, please contact us. This is the Sacrament formerly known as Last Rites.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation, formerly known as Confession, is available every Saturday from 3pm-3:30pm in the church. If you would like to meet face-to-face with a priest, please contact the rectory.

Are you homebound and would like to receive communion on a temporary or permanent basis? Let us know so we can send an Extraordinary Minister to you.



If you are attending Mass & require a low gluten (0.02%) host, we're happy to help. Please speak with the priest or sacristan to make arrangements prior to Mass.



Are you an adult and would like to become a member of the Catholic faith? Contact the rectory about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

Saint Michael is home to a vibrant, faith-filled Kenyan community, with Mass in Swahili every Sunday at 12:30pm. The contact for the **Kenyan Catholic Community & Friends (KCCF)** is Chairman Robert Ndirangu, [rondimbu@gmail.com](mailto:rondimbu@gmail.com) or 260-804-9444 via text or WhatsApp.



### Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Saint Michael Parish is blessed to have a Saint Vincent de Paul Society conference, complete with dedicated volunteers who participate in community outreach, helping to supply relief to our neighbors in need. To help support these efforts, please remember to deposit your donation in one of the boxes at the entrance of the church. Thank you!



Welcome! We'd love to have you share in our faith and community. Welcome packets are at the entrance of the church. To become a registered parishioner, please contact the rectory.



**Saint Michael School**, founded in 1889 by the Dominican Sisters, is a private Catholic School dedicated to academic excellence from Pre-School (ages 3-4) through Grade 8 and is a fully accredited Catholic elementary school by the Archdiocese of Boston Department of Education and the NEASC (New England Association of Schools / Colleges). 21 Sixth St, Lowell 978-453-9511

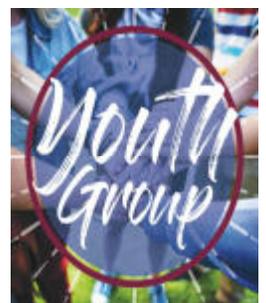


If you are a **Saint Michael School Alumni** please keep in touch by making sure we have your updated information. Please visit [www.school.saintmichael.com](http://www.school.saintmichael.com) and click on the ALUMNI tab on the homepage. Don't have online access? Call the school at 978-453-9511!

We invite parishioners to give an offering for the **Bread** at all Masses on a given weekend. The offering for this memorial is \$75.00. Please contact the rectory for more information.



**SMYLE (Saint Michael Youth Leadership)**, our Youth Group, is open to young people ages 15-25 and meets at least twice a month for unique and fun faith-based activities. If you or someone you know is interested in joining SMYLE or would like more information, please contact Ashley Melanchook at [SMYLE@saint-michael.com](mailto:SMYLE@saint-michael.com).



**Deadline for Bulletin Submissions: Mondays at Noon, except during Advent, Lent, or the week of a holiday.**  
Email submissions to [pminch@saint-michael.com](mailto:pminch@saint-michael.com)

## Saint Michael Parish

Administrator: Rev. Christopher Lowe  
Deacon: Gerry Hardy  
School Principal: Mark Rocha  
School Consultant: Mary Fran Chisholm  
Religious Education Director: Nicole Walsh  
Development Director: Pauline A. Minch  
Parish Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Terry Georgopoulos  
Facilities Manager: Charlie Nutt  
Organist: Ernie Houle  
Parish/Religious Ed Secretary: Mary Brooks



## From the Deacon's Bench



Years ago, while studying to be ordained as a Permanent Deacon, we were reminded at times, that deacons are to be transparent while performing their ministry, whether in the parish or in their community. Two weeks ago, Fr. Chris was asked where was Deacon Gerry? He responded that I

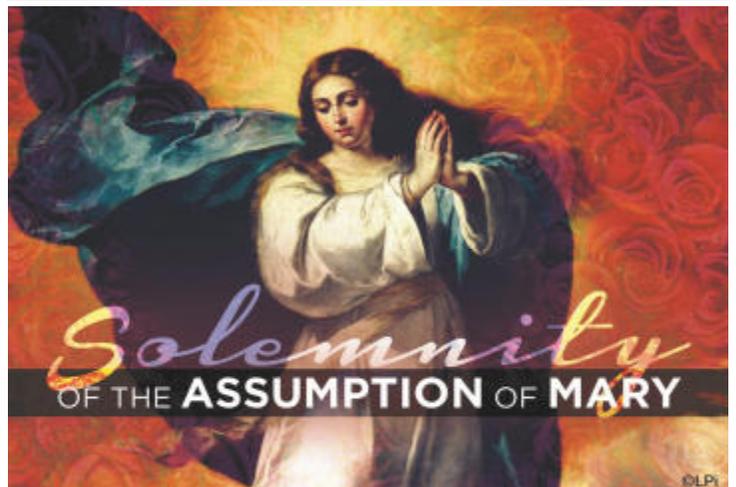
usually follow a Mass rotation which allows me to be at different Masses every week. So, maybe I was too good at being “transparent” but other than that, I do have a few responsibilities around the parish and two of them are coming up soon.

During the weekend of August 21-22, all parish volunteers will be asked to fill out their new CORI forms for the year 2022. That will take place after all the Masses. The forms will be available on the tables in the rear of the church and members of the staff will be there to verify your information and sign off on the form. You may also come to the rectory during business hours to fill out your form. Please remember to bring your driver's license or other form of identification with you.

Also mandated by the Archdiocese of Boston, is the requirement for all parish volunteers to attend (one time) the Protecting God's Children program that consists of a two-hour class that presents to us, ways in which to keep our children safe. As defined by the Office of Child Advocacy, “a volunteer is defined as a non-salaried person in a parish or school ministry who has the potential for interaction with children or young people under 18 years of age.”

Currently, you can attend the PGC class online by signing up at: [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). St. Michael's will have an in-person class on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm in the lower church. Please call the rectory in advance if you plan to attend.

**Blessings,  
Deacon Gerry**



# CLPI MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, August 14

7:00am: Parishioners of Saint Michael  
4:00pm: Gerard Geoffroy/18th Anniversary

### Sunday, August 15

7:00am: Friends of Saint Michael  
9:00am: Joan Andella  
11:15am: Cpl. Peter Orlando, USMC & Gino Orlando

### Monday, August 16

7:00am: Michael Dwinell

### Tuesday, August 17

7:00am: Parishioners of Saint Michael

### Wednesday, August 18

7:00am: Joan Downing

### Thursday, August 19

7:00am: John C. Degan

### Saturday, August 21

4:00pm: Arlene Cox

### Sunday, August 22

7:00am: Friends of Saint Michael  
11:15am: Elizabeth Ann Melanchook

# PARISH SUPPORT

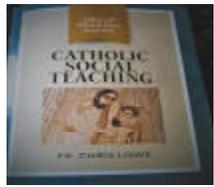
### *For the weekend of August 7-8*

The Offertory amount was **\$5,438**; Online Giving was **\$2,745**, which totals **\$8,183**. Our weekly Offertory goal is **\$9,000**, leaving us with a shortage of **\$817**. The second collection totaled \$849 and is for the benefit of Saint Michael School.

*Thank you for your generosity!*



The Mass Book is open for the remainder of the year. If you'd like to schedule an intention, please stop by the rectory during office hours, Monday—Friday 9am-4pm. Mass Intentions are \$10 each.



Did you know that Fr. Chris is an author? His book, "Catholic Social Teaching", a group reading guide, is on sale now at the rectory for \$6 per copy. Autographs are free of charge! The rectory is open Monday—Friday, 9-4.

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please remember to pray for the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, that they be kept safe wherever they are stationed or deployed.



Forget the checkbook and make tithing simple for you and your family. With Online Giving, you can give back to your church whenever and wherever with the simple click of a button from your computer or smart device. Look for the Online Giving Online on our website homepage at [www.saint-michael.com](http://www.saint-michael.com) and sign up!

### BATTERY RECYCLING AVAILABLE

Reminder that the Green Team has made battery recycling available for parishioners. Located in the church's gathering space, there is a lockbox for placement of your old, used batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9 volt & "Button" batteries). A donation of .25 cents per battery or a one-time \$10 donation (good for one year of battery recycling) is requested.



The Child Advocacy office is now providing 'live' weekly PGC trainings on Zoom through Virtus. Just go to [Virtus.org](http://Virtus.org), the 'Live Training' tab and 'Pre-register for an upcoming live training session' – and you will find the schedule for adults to complete their PGC requirement with the Archdiocese of Boston via Zoom (Braintree). You will also see that other Live sessions are being offered throughout the diocese so an individual may find one either in their own parish or close to home. If an individual is able to join one of the above live trainings, then this would take the place of the online combined PGC + Man-

dated Reporter trainings that have been required during covid precautions. So if you take the live training, you do not have to take the online Mandated Reporter training since it is included in the live training.

Moises Rodrigues will be providing two weekly trainings starting at the end of July, with one being available on the weekends to allow for more accessibility for participants. Live trainings, be it in-person or on Zoom (or some other platform), are preferable because they allow for questions and discussion which is where much of the learning takes place. We encourage everyone who is able to take part in a live training. Also know that, assuming that covid restrictions continue to be lifted, in September of 2021 we will be eliminating the temporary option for taking the online training instead of a live training.

### SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL PARISH INDOOR/OUTDOOR YARD SALE!

Our second annual yard sale, held inside the church hall and outside in the rectory parking lot this past weekend was hugely successful — earning **\$5,879.75** for the church!!! It was wonderful to see our parishioners, new faces from our neighborhood and yard sale lovers from as far away as Lawrence and Stoneham.

Such a successful fundraiser could not have been possible without the support of some outstanding people: Joyce Cloutier, Charlie Nutt, Bev Alecca, Holly Hession, Jack Minch, Irene Munene, Colleen Dubuc, Diane Vandal, Trish & Gerry Hardy, Ann Anderson, Midge Landry, Jeannine Yianopoulos, Mary Mytka, and Rose Lockhart. Of course the yard sale would not have been possible without your generous donations of gently used clothing, household goods and other items. We're grateful!



### HARVEST DINNER DANCE

We're back and excited to be planning a social event called the Harvest Dinner Dance! Our original event, the Spring Fling, was cancelled due to the pandemic, and we're now looking for committee members to help organize this October 2nd event. Email Kathy Whitney at [kathyw374@gmail.com](mailto:kathyw374@gmail.com) if you're interested!



### LIGHT A CANDLE



Two stands of candles in the Sanctuary are there for you to light as a symbol of your intentions and prayers. We ask that at least a \$1 donation be offered for each candle that you light, which helps us defray the cost of the candle.

### SAVE THE DATES FOR NEXT CLASS

This fall, Fr. Chris will be offering a new class, "The Gospel of Mark Through Home Videos." This combination of lecture and video will give us a new look at the Gospel of Mark from beginning to end. Save the dates, Tuesday, September 7th-October 5th (yes, 5 sessions) at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Prepare yourselves to see Mark's writing in a refreshing new way.

### FREE MEALS FOR KIDS 18 & UNDER

Mondays & Fridays: 12:30pm-2:30pm  
Saint Michael Church Rectory Parking Lot

Free! Fresh, ready-made meals for children. Meals are culturally relevant and nutritious and need only be heated up. First come, first serve. No registration required. Child(ren) do not need to be present. Come by foot or by car. Brought to you by the Greater Lowell YMCA.

Monday Box: 4 days of breakfast and lunch meals  
Friday Box: 3 days of breakfast and lunch meals

### BOOK OF PRAYERS

The Book of Prayers is located on the side altar in front of the Blessed Mother statue. You're invited to write your prayers, hopes and needs in this book, and as a parish family, let us remember these written intentions in our daily prayers.

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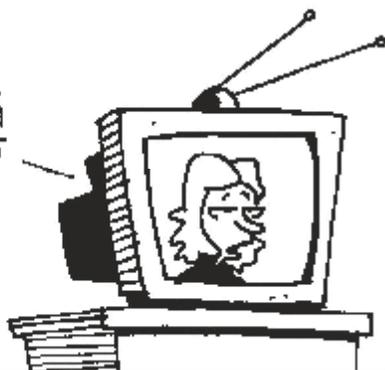
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3. If you'd like to support the parish, search & select **ST. MICHAELS PARISH**. To support the school, search & select **SAINT MICHAEL SCHOOL**.

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### ASSUMPTION

THE GOOD NEWS IS, ALL BELIEVERS WILL RISE TO HEAVEN SOME DAY -- BUT NOT EVERYONE IS HAPPY, DAVE.



ISSUED WEEK!  
© 2000 GPI

THAT'S RIGHT, PEGGY. I'M HERE WITH A BROTHER WHO'S AFRAID OF HEIGHTS...



WVJD

## GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

*The latest total of the 2020-2021 Grand Annual prior to publication is 95%. Thank you so very much for your generosity and financial support of our \$100,000 goal!*

## MASS CARDS & SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS



A Mass Card is a remembrance by which we offer a Mass for the repose of the soul of a deceased person or for the intention of the living. A Spiritual Bouquet is an enrollment by which we remember the person at one Mass per week for the year. Mass Cards are \$10 and Spiritual Bouquets are \$15; both are available at the rectory.

*Are you or someone you know looking for a school that provides PreK-3 & PreK-4 education? Look no further than Saint Michael School! Compare our low tuition to day care rates! Call the school at 978-453-9511 for more information.*



## Year of the EUCCHARIST

*The real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist will be celebrated across the world from June 2020 (the Feast of Corpus Christi) to June 2022, uniting all Catholics as one body of Christ. Join with family and friends in prayer, promotion & participation.*

**Prayer:** Each day commit to praying an additional 15 minutes, including Mass, Adoration, grace before meals and bedtime prayer.

**Promotion:** Share your faith in the true presence of the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist by giving witness by talking to others about your beliefs.

**Participation:** If you would like to participate in the next event, please send your email address to our Parish Coordinator Mary Regan, skeedood1@aol.com and details will be sent to you.



As we can begin to carefully exit our extended hibernation, there are several volunteer programs that we should be creating and staffing. Perhaps one of these would interest you.

**Outreach Committee:** There are many home-bound parishioners. We need to match them up with folks who could bring them communion or bring them to Mass on some sort of regular basis. I would also like to set up a twice a year Mass to bring them into the church, offer the anointing of the sick and refreshments after Mass.

**Baptism Preparation Team:** We need younger families who are at Mass every week to teach (we will train and support you) and be an example to the new parents that Saint Michael's offers a path for life to them. This would probably be a monthly gathering with the parents of the soon to be baptized.

**Adoration Team:** There has been great interest in our "Evenings of Prayer" during Lent and Easter. We could expand this to a weekly hour of adoration. This hour could be expanded as this ministry grows. This is an important part of celebrating the "Year of the Eucharist". If this were to approach a 24/7 adoration, the Baptistry under the Day Chapel would be an ideal location.

We have room for **volunteer receptionist** on Tuesday. This can be 1/2 or a full day.

I am  
a Child  
of  
God

**Clip this page and bring it with you to the August 22 Sunday Mass ; it will assist in readings, prayers and responses. Please do not leave in pews—remember to take it home!**

**First Reading:** Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: “If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” But the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

**Second Reading:** Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

**Gospel Reading:** Many of Jesus’ disciples who were listening said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, “Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father.” As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?” Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

**Gloria:** *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

**Nicene Creed:** *I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

#### **2021-2022 CORI FORM RENEWALS**

Criminal Offense Record Investigation (CORI) forms for 2021-2022 are now available at the rectory. The Archdiocese of Boston mandates that all parish employees and volunteers must fill out a CORI form yearly. You may do so at the rectory during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00am—4:00pm. Please remember to bring a government-issued identification for verification purposes.

For New Hampshire residents, please remember to complete a NH CORI form, which is also available at the rectory.



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