

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH

ONE PARISH. ONE SCHOOL. ONE FAITH COMMUNITY.

SEPTEMBER 12, 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 Website: 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 Website: 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 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.

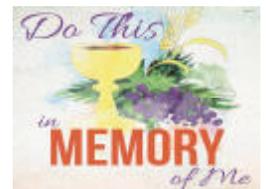


Saint Michael School, founded in 1889 by the Dominican Sisters, is a private Catholic School dedicated to academic excellence from Pre-School (ages 3-4) through Grade 8 and is a fully accredited Catholic elementary school by the Archdiocese of Boston Department of Education and the NEASC (New England 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 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.



Deadline for Bulletin Submissions: Mondays at Noon, except during Advent, Lent, or the week of a holiday.
Email submissions to 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
Pianist: Ernie Houle
Parish/Religious Ed Secretary: Mary Brooks



Saturday, September 11

7:00am: Jesse Pena
4:00pm: Michael Wiroll, Sr./25th Anniversary

Sunday, September 12

7:00am: Jesus Heli Hernandez
9:00am: Francis R. Stone, Sr.
11:15am: Frances Ann Melanchook
Linda O'Neil/Third Anniversary

Monday, September 13

7:00am: Catherine B. McCall

Tuesday, September 14

7:00am: Marie A. Whitney

Wednesday, September 15

7:00am: Mary Jane Lemay

Thursday, September 16

7:00am: Dorothy Mattoon/For Health

Friday, September 17

7:00am: Mary Brooks/For Spiritual Health

Saturday, September 18

7:00am: Regina C. Pigeon
4:00pm: John & Josephine Markiewicz

Sunday, September 19

9:00am: Jeanette Barros
11:15am: Norma Figueroa



For the weekend of September 4-5:

Due to an early publishing deadline, the Offertory amounts will be published in next week's bulletin edition.

Upcoming Special/Second Collections:

9/11-9/12: Saint Michael School

9/18-9/19: Clergy Health & Retirement Trust

10/2-10/3: Holy Father & Missionary Efforts

Thank you for your generosity!

The Lowe Down



A couple of weeks ago, we inserted the September calendar in the bulletin. The calendar is once again its normal busy self. While Covid-19 is still with us, we are developing strategies to still gather and grow and celebrate. We are striving for a unified parish calendar this year. You should be seeing

school, religious education and church events on the calendar. It will look a bit more congested, but we will all know more of what is going on.

The normal rhythm of our parish is resuming. The 9:00 Mass on the Second Sunday will be a Family Mass where we hope to see many of our school families in attendance. Religious Education is starting up along with our RCIA program. Our choir will be returning to lead us in song at the 11:15. There is much going on, but we have room for so much more. What programs should we be doing? What do you want to see?

I am happy to announce that beginning this week on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM we will be having adoration in the church. This adoration is led by a team of lay people, and they have been trained in the proper procedure for lay adoration. I hope that you might find an hour to spend with the Lord on Tuesday nights. The adoration hour will end at 7:00. It is possible that this may expand if there is a demand for it, but we must start somewhere. The Eucharist is central to our faith as Catholics. Come, let us adore!

I often hear, 2nd or 3rd hand, that I don't like a certain ministry in the church. Nothing could be further from the truth. Not everyone hears what I am saying, and communication is a difficult process at times.

I would love those individuals to come speak to me and I would try to be clear in my information. Each ministry in the church has a specific role. Unfortunately, over time, sometimes the basic role is forgotten. If I remind folks of their basic roles, or encourage them to fully embrace their roles, it does not mean that I don't like the ministry that people provide. It means that it is valuable and needs to be done with the benefit of the congregation in mind. Simple message: talk to me!

Fr. Chris

HELP US REACH OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL PARISH GOAL!



If you haven't had a chance to make your gift to the 2021 Catholic Appeal, there is still time! Every gift makes a difference. You can make your gift online at bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your support!



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.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

All parish volunteers MUST complete this very important awareness session, held in the church conference room on Sunday, September 19, 1pm-3pm. Please register at virtus.org. If you have taken this class in the past there is no need to take it again.

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.



Online Giving

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 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.

Saint Michael Harvest Dinner Dance

Honoring our Deacons both past & present

Saturday, Oct. 2nd

7pm-11pm Dinner & Dancing

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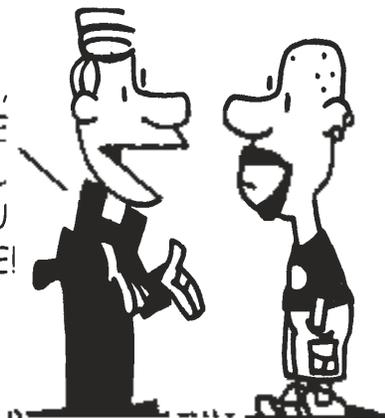
\$65 per person or Reserve Your Table of Ten Now!

Tickets can be purchased at the rectory or by emailing **Kathy Whitney at whit374@gmail.com**

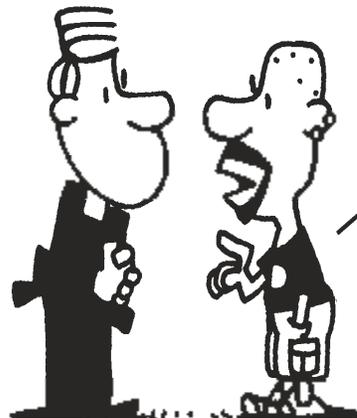


24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MATTER WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH, REMEMBER THERE IS A WONDERFUL REWARD FOR YOU IN THE NEXT LIFE!



BUT I'M NO GOOD WITH DELAYED GRATIFICATION.



Snyder Webb
©2006 LFi

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.

CLASS ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Fr. Chris has begun his newest class, "The Gospel of Mark Through Home Videos." This combination of lecture and video gives us a new look at the Gospel of Mark from beginning to end. Classes are every Tuesday through October 5th at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Join us and prepare yourselves to see Mark's writing in a refreshing new way.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL MUM SALE



Once again this year St. Vincent de Paul will be sponsoring a mum sale to assist us in providing for the needs of our less fortunate parishioners. We will be available at the back of the church before and after all Masses on weekends in September through the 18th. As in prior years, you will purchase a coupon which will be good for one potted mum at the Og-

anowski Farm in Dracut. The coupons are valid through September 30. Price of the mums is \$8 each. As always, thank you for your continued support!

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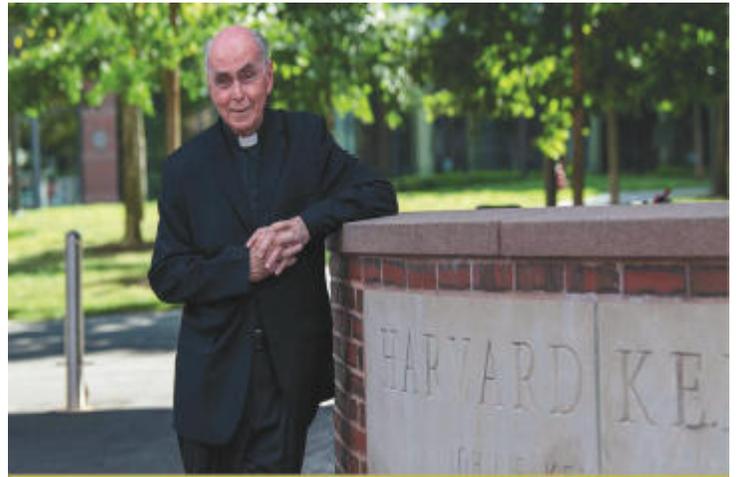
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3. If you'd like to support the parish, search & select **ST. MICHAELS PARISH**. To support the school, search & select **SAINT MICHAEL SCHOOL**.

GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

The latest total of the 2020-2021 Grand Annual prior to publication is 96%. Thank you so very much for your generosity and financial support of our \$100,000 goal! Let's make it to 100%!!!

RELIGIOUS ED FOR PreK—GRADE 8



Saint Michael Religious Education began Saturday, September 11th. If you have not registered yet, please do so on the parish website: www.saint-michael.com, where you'll find the Religious Ed registration form under the "Parish Life" tab. Classes are held at Saint Michael School on Saturdays from 9:00am-10:30am. Registration is \$80 per student and \$160 for a family.

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.



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.



Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary is pleased to announce that the Annual Lawn Party will be in-person in 2021, at full capacity under the tent! On Wednesday, September 29th at 6:00 PM we will be excited to welcome all to the Seminary - to gather together and celebrate the formation program, to meet and mingle with our seminarians, faculty, and staff, and to help bolster the future of the Catholic Church with your support and prayers.

This wonderful event, hosted by His Eminence, Seán Cardinal O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Boston, will encourage us to step forward together and confidently renew our commitment to support the formation of men answering their unique call to serve God's Church. As leaders of the Church, the men formed at Pope St. John XXIII will fulfill God's desire to serve and bring as many people as can be closer to Him and His kingdom. Ticket prices and registration can be found at psjs.edu.



PPC NOMINATIONS DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 12!

There are three open positions for upcoming nominations to our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). Enclosed in the bulletin this week is the form that will be used for nomination yourself or a parishioner you know that may be a good fit for the PPC. Completed nomination forms will be accepted the weekends of September 4-5 and 11-12, with the deadline of midnight on September 12th. Forms can be dropped in the offertory basket, at the rectory or via email at saintmichaels@comcast.net.

The PPC is a group of 13 elected lay persons, clergy and some staff members that meets up to 10 times per year and is a consultative body to the pastor. Terms for the PPC are three years and members are expected to make a conscientious effort to attend these meetings and may be asked to participate in sub-committees.

An additional (fourth) PPC nomination is also open and this is a new position. This parishioner will represent Saint Michael School at PPC meetings, which will make attendance at school board meeting a requirement. Person does not need to be a current school parent.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact our election chairperson, Kathy Whitney at whit374@yahoo.com.

Clip this page and bring it with you to the September 19 Sunday Mass ; it will assist in readings, prayers and responses. Please do not leave in pews—remember to take it home!

First Reading: The wicked say: Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us; he sets himself against our doings, reproaches us for transgressions of the law and charges us with violations of our training. Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him. For if the just one be the son of God, God will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes. With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience. Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him.

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord upholds my life.*

Second Reading: Beloved: Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace. Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from? Is it not from your passions that make war within your members? You covet but do not possess. You kill and envy but you cannot obtain; you fight and wage war. You do not possess because you do not ask. You ask but do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

Gospel Reading: Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, “The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise.” But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him. They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

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
DUE AT END OF SEPTEMBER**

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.



Help support Erin Morrissey, granddaughter of parishioner Margaret Janas, as she participates in this fall's Boston Marathon in support of Caring for a Cure (CFAC). Erin's goal is to raise \$10,000

for this non-profit organization that supports patients with cancer and their families throughout treatment; its' mission "...to ease the journey and uplift the spirits of our patients and families through research, resources and awareness." Erin herself is a cancer survivor, diagnosed with adrenocortical carcinoma and works as a clinical researcher at Mass General Hospital. Checks must be made out to "MGH" and please ensure that "CFAC/Erin Morrissey" is written in the memo line. Please mail to MGH Development Office, Attn: Caring for a Cure, 125 Nashua Street, Boston, MA 02114. Thank you!

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