

St. Michael Church



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

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

~ A Family Perspective ~

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed" or an "obstacle to my career." It is said "Christmas is for children." It is more accurate to say "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

Paper Goods Drive

The Ladies Guild is sponsoring a paper goods drive. With all the various activities and fund raisers our church family has, we are constantly purchasing paper goods. This has become very costly. We are asking everyone to help stock our shelves. If you are able to donate any of the following items, boxes will be located at all the entrances.

- * Paper Towels
- * Cake Plates
- * Dinner Plates
- * Napkins
- * Foam 8 oz. Hot Cups & plastic cups
- * **No Toilet Paper please**



Thank you for your continued support! ~ Ladies Guild

Annual Collection Announcement

We are grateful for those who have made a gift to our Annual Collection. Thank you for your care and concern for our parish. If you chose the payment plan, all payments must be made by the end of December to be included in your tax statement for 2021.



Weekly Offertory Report

December 12, 2021.....Will be in Next Week
Retired Religious Fund.....Will be in Next Week

Please prayerfully consider giving just \$2 or \$3 more so we can bridge the gap in our budget.

Thank you for supporting your parish!



Fr. Nathan and the staff of St. Michael Church wish you a very Merry Christmas, filled with many blessings from our newborn King.

The Nativity of the Lord

“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).” The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart. Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed. Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed.





Mass Schedule
~ *Christmas* ~

Friday, December 24th
Vigil Mass - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 25th
Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m.
No 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Saturday, January 1st
New Year's Day - 9:00 a.m.

Please Note there will be no 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday December 25th. There will be 9:00a.m. Mass on December 26th.

4th Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:39-45



Blessed Advent!

Today we have two mothers meeting; they are related, and one carries in her womb John the Baptist and the other woman, Mary, carries in her womb Jesus.

The Gospel account says that John, who would cry out in the desert the message that everyone needs to "prepare the way of the Lord," leapt with joy in the womb of his mother upon hearing Mary's greeting.

John's message in the desert is the message that we all need to heed as we get closer to the Christmas celebration. May our faith leap with joy at the chance to proclaim our Lord and to prepare the way!

"Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



Saturday 4:00PM **December 18 - Late Advent Weekday**
Nicolina Baratta, Maria T. & Domenic Rosa, Maria & Nicola Baratta, Antonio Rosa, Cosimo Petraroia by Baratta Family

Sunday 9:00AM **December 19 - 4th Sunday of Advent**
Trung Nguyen by his wife and children

Monday 8:00 AM **December 20 - Late Advent Weekday**
John V. & Elizabeth H. Conway

Wednesday 8:00 AM **December 22 - Late Advent Weekday**
All Souls in Purgatory & World Peace

Friday 4:00PM **December 24 - Late Advent Weekday**
Christmas Vigil
Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael Church

Saturday 9:00 AM **December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord**
Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael Church

4:00 PM **No Vigil Mass**

Sunday 9:00 AM **December 26 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
Daniel Mennillo Sr. "Birthday Remembrance" by wife & family



The Sanctuary Lamp
burns this week for the intentions of:
Yvette Johnston
By sister, Pauline Bessette

The Sanctuary Lamp signals the Eucharistic presence of the Lord Jesus in the tabernacle and burns for 7 days. You may have the Sanctuary Lamp memorialized for a sick person, a deceased love one, or a special



2022 Upcoming available Sanctuary Lamp Dates
Jan 9, 16, 23, 30



Prayer Chain & Hospital Visits

If you need prayers, a hospital visit or if you would like to join our prayer chain, please call or email:

Parish Office 203-753-0689
Email stmichael062@gmail.com

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