

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



DECEMBER 6, 2020 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Voice of John:

More than 2000 year ago John the Baptist's voice was in the desert. Many regarded him as a strange man, clothed in camel's hair fastened with a leather belt, eating grasshoppers and wild honey. John's core message is announcing the advent of Christ. He proclaimed that Jesus comes to save all humanity, liberating us from sin and death. He preached that Jesus would baptize them with the Holy Spirit to make them heirs of God's Kingdom. Our part is to repent for our sins and reform ourselves.

The Advent message of this Sunday compels us to orient our life to Christ. The Lord is coming and we have to receive him. We have to remove all obstacles and make the way straight to receive him in our hearts. Let us begin our spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christ's Birthday.

Have a blessed Advent! God bless you. Stay safe.

Fr. Kishore Babu Battu SAC

Called and Gifted

As part of our parish Missionary Strategic Plan, the Called and Gifted program will begin with our staff and leaders of various ministries on December 12th, with hopes to expand to the parish at large in the future. Please keep the participants in your prayers. Lisa Kuhlman explains more:

What is Called and Gifted? Called and Gifted is a program and movement of the Holy Spirit used for the discernment of Spiritual Gifts and Charisms. It was developed by author and evangelist, Sherry A. Weddell, through Catherine of Siena Institute. Called and Gifted is an integral step and tool to be used in exploring the gifts God has given us. Through discovering the spiritual graces which are unique to each of us, we are better able to find our best fit in serving the Lord and in helping others come to know Jesus.

What are Spiritual Gifts and Charisms? Spiritual Gifts and Charisms are graces given by God through the Holy Spirit at Baptism.

- **Gifts** are strengthened at Confirmation and are used throughout our lives for our own personal use in the development of our Faith, the growth of our relationship with Christ, and to help us on our journey toward Eternal Salvation.

- **Charisms** are supernatural graces that are given to us that we may more effectively share Christ with others and help them to grow in their Faith. Charisms are specifically given to us to help others and usually begin to be realized as we become mature in our Faith, as we find that deeper walk with God, and during moments of great spiritual awakening in our lives.
- Throughout our lives, spiritual gifts (such as wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord) all work to help us become good servants of the Lord and to work to reach a moment at which our charisms become active.

Called and Gifted is the starting point for:

- ◇ Helping God's people grow in their relationship with Him and with others,
- ◇ Creating an environment that nurtures the gifts and charisms with which God has graced His people,
- ◇ Assessing the gifts of our current teams and helping them to better develop and feel comfortable using those spiritual graces in the work they already do for God,
- ◇ Developing new teams dedicated to building and sharing the Faith, supporting and encouraging the Faithful, and reaching out to embrace others in the larger Community,
- ◇ Replenishing/ keeping full our parish ministries,
- ◇ Planning for the future by seeing what gifts God has placed among us and using those gifts as indicators as we continue to discern the path ahead.

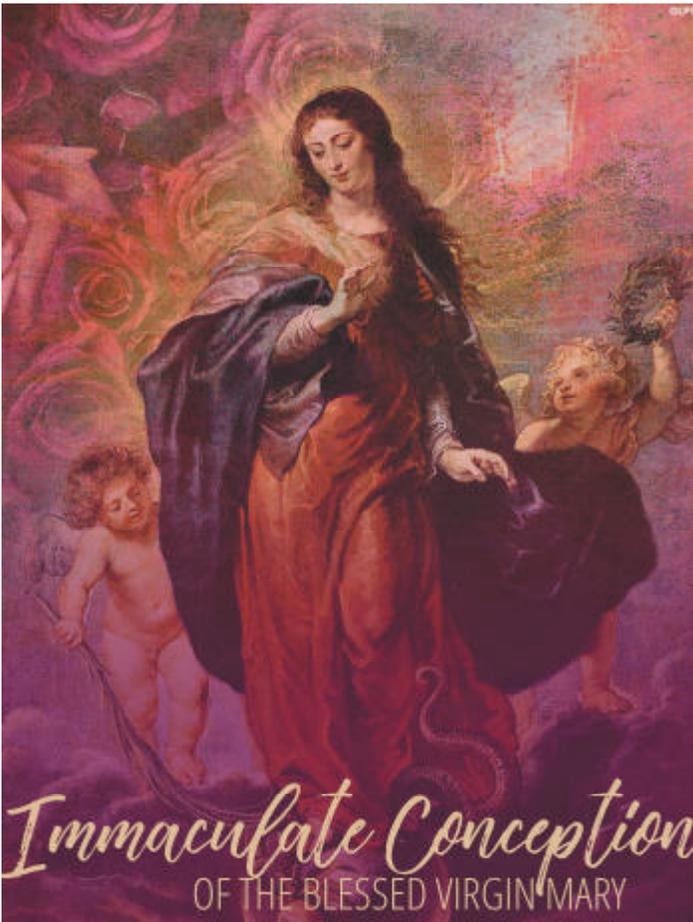
Called and Gifted is our first stop along the journey of building up God's people and re-building His Church. It allows us to find the gifts and charisms God gives each of us. Once discerned, those graces may begin to fully flow and be utilized as we lay the groundwork that will, one day in the not-so-distant future, allow us to be successful in moving forward "full-steam ahead" in the evangelizing of all peoples and the building of God's Kingdom on Earth. May God bless each of you!



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Mass Schedule

Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 7 at 7 pm
 Tuesday, December 8 at 8:15 am



Advent Confession Opportunities:

December 14, 18, 21 • 1-2 pm
 December 15, 16, 22 • 6-7 pm
 December 19 • 3:30 pm

Christmas Eve Masses

4 pm, 7 pm, midnight

Christmas Day Mass

9 am

Reserved seating is planned for all Masses on December 24th and 25th due to COVID-19 safety requirements and restrictions.

Please call or email the parish office with your name, the number of people in your household wishing to attend, and which Mass you would prefer: parishoffice@stmichaelmonroe.com or 734-241-8645.

All Christmas Masses will be livestreamed through our St Michael the Archangel Facebook page.



**ST MICHAEL
 GIVING TREE**

Please help those who are in need this Christmas. Take an ornament from the Giving Tree. Place the ornament with a gift card and return it to church.

All gifts are due by Sunday, December 13th.

Your gifts will bring happiness to this Christmas.

Thank You!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

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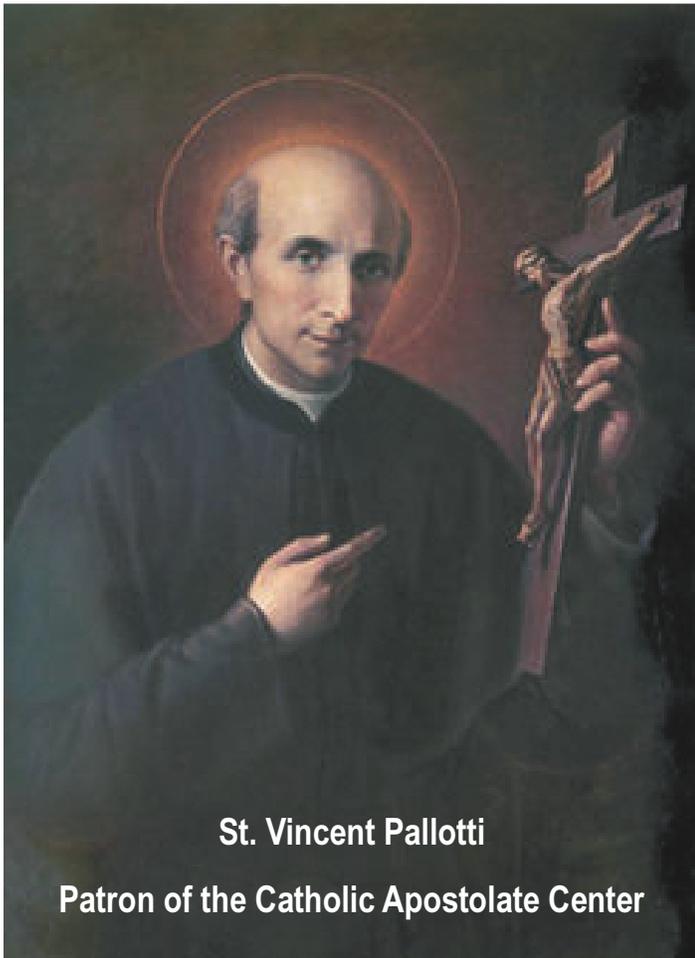
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In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **John A. Maloche**, 67, father of Michael Maloche (Melissa Blair) and Robert Maloche; brother of Lisa (John) Reddington, Nancy (Dennis) Eby, Karen (Kirby) Boron, Gary (Felicia) Maloche, Donald Maloche (Robert Figueroa), William "Bill" (Patty) Maloche, and Timothy (Karen) Maloche.



Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.



St. Vincent Pallotti

Patron of the Catholic Apostolate Center

For those who have inquired, here is a bit more information about St. Vincent Pallotti, the patron saint of Fr. Kishore's order.

Saint Vincent Pallotti was born in Rome in 1795. From the time of his childhood, he offered his resources and his life to the service of people who are poor. He was a well-known priest because many people sensed that God worked extraordinary graces through him. In his lifetime, he founded the Union of Catholic Apostolate, an association to revive faith and rekindle charity among Catholics and propagate the faith to all. At that time, the laity was not actively involved in the ministry of the church. Saint Vincent wanted to inspire people of all walks of life to work constantly for God's kingdom.

Truly radical for his time, Saint Vincent was known for approaching the "faithful of every class, rank, and condition" to minister to "those who are most spiritually needy." He sought people to treat those in need "with care and with a loving and tender concern." He called the members of the Union of Catholic Apostolate, laity, sisters, priests, and brothers, to charity, patience, humility, zeal, and love of God and of Jesus Christ. Saint Vincent Pallotti died in 1850, leaving a legacy that continues to inspire people worldwide.

St. Vincent Pallotti was canonized by Saint John XXIII on January 20, 1963, just after the close of the first session of the Second Vatican Council. His feast day is January 22nd.

Excerpted from <https://www.sacapostles.org/our-founder.html>

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Can a divorced Catholic receive holy Communion?



Unfortunately, too many people today — Catholics and non-Catholics alike — mistakenly believe that divorce separates one from the Communion of the Church and that divorced persons may not receive Communion. However, as the Church has communicated in a number of places, the issue at hand is not the reality of divorce, but is more often the reality of re-marriage outside of the Church (such as in the case of a Catholic who was previously married within the Church, divorced, and remarried without receiving an annulment).

Divorced persons are called to live chastely as single people and to observe the same call to avoid sin as anyone else who desires to receive the Eucharist. Beyond this, however, Pope Francis has reminded us that the healing power of the Eucharist can be especially significant for those who have "endured separation, divorce, or abandonment ... divorced people who have not remarried, and often bear witness to marital fidelity, ought to be encouraged to find in the Eucharist the nourishment they need to sustain them in their present state of life." (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 242) Moreover, he continues, "The local community and pastors should accompany these people with solicitude, particularly when children are involved or when they are in serious financial difficulty." (*AL*, no 242)

As Pope Francis has also reminded us, the Eucharist is "not a prize for the perfect," but "a powerful medicine and nourishment" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 47). Because we all stand in need of healing and wholeness, the Church invites all who seek to live their faith in integrity and devotion to come and receive the grace offered in the Eucharist.

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#GiveMCES is still going!

Tuesday, December 1st was National Giving Tuesday. GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement, unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past nine years, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

At a time when we are all experiencing the pandemic, generosity is what brings people of all races, faiths, and political views together across the globe. Generosity gives everyone the power to make a positive change in the lives of others and is a fundamental value anyone can act on.

YOU CAN STILL GIVE! We ask that you consider a monetary donation to MCES. **ANY donation, whether it's \$5 or \$500, will help us fulfill our mission** and help us in forming Saints + Scholars! We know that the pandemic has created challenges, and if you cannot give, we just ask that you say an extra prayer for MCES!

How to Give:

Online: Visit one.bidpal.net/givemces to give online.

Credit Card By Phone: 734-241-3377 between 8 am - 3 pm

In Person: Stop by St. Mary Campus between 8 am - 3 pm; 151 N Monroe St; 48162

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who has already supported MCES this year!



Make Care Embrace Seek
www.mcesmonroe.com



Pray for:

Rebecca Alexander	Jeffrey Eagle	Leigh Ann Parrack
Theresa Balk	Veronica Greenawalt	Donna Perez
Javier Barrios	Marion Hass	Zayden Perry
James Barron	Kate Herr-Maletich	Mary Ray
Monica Beeson	Tricia Hummel	Baby Parker Reau
Carolyn Bellino	Rose Kavanagh	Marge Salow
Florence Bialy	Edna Kinsey	Mary Ann Soleau
Lynda Billock	Lois Knegendorf	Betty Steffes
Philip Bloom	Alice LaPrad	Wilbur Stotz
Addie Bressler	Madeline Lemerand	Janelle Thursrud
AJ Bressler	Donna Leask	Donna Torres
Marlene Campbell	Bob Vajcner	Alex Vanisacker
Thomas Carpenter	Alex Vanisacker	Alice Villarreal
Kathy DeFigueiredo	Stella Mannausa	Linda Wallace
Bill Dempsey	Diane Mennell	Arlene Walsh
Craig Dominiak	Albina Motyka	Cody Wood
	June Neph	Gordon Yerke
	Pat Orr	Mary Zubkoff
	Kenny Pardo	

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Major Matthew Aubry	Sgt. Michael Makela
Brett Bennett	Staff Sgt. Angelo Marino
Tracy (Scobel) Bennett	Staff Sgt. Emily Marino
Pvt. Adrien Boudreault	Airman 2 Drew McLaughlin
Major Zachery Briscoe	Sgt. William McGowan
CWO3 Ricky Brown	S. Sgt. Jill (Hoffman) Miles
Cpt. Kyle Burkardt, DDS	Major Tim Payment
Cpt. Patrick Burkardt, DDS	Alan Scobel
1 st Sgt. Robert C. Cebina	Major Marcus Sitterly
LCPL Chase E. Collingsworth	Gregory Smith
Spc. Skylar Cooper	M/Sgt. Marian Olmsted Smith
SMS. Wayne Fetty	Spc. Travis Weber
Cpl. Jacob Luthy	Cpt. Brian Worley, USMC
	LCPL Justin Zukowski

Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

WEEK AT A GLANCE - DECEMBER 7-13

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

St Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Mass, Devotions 8:15 am - church
Mass Immaculate Conception Vigil 7 pm - church
Boy Scout Meeting 7:30 pm - gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Immaculate Conception Mass 8:15 am - church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

St. Juan Diego

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

St. Damasus

Mass 8:15 am - church
Holy Hour 9 am - church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Confessions 3:30 pm - church
Mass 5 pm - church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

Third Sunday of Advent
Mass 8:00 am - church
Mass 10:30 am - church

VOTIVE LIGHTS FOR DECEMBER

Sanctuary Light: Paul Dalpe
St. Mary: Bernetta Brooks
St. Joseph: Angela Furnari Vitale

LITURGY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 7-13

DAY & TIME	INTENTIONS
Monday 8:15 am	✠ Gasper Giarmo Intentions of Father Phil Ching
	7 pm ✠ The People of St Michael
Tuesday 8:15 am	✠ The People of St Michael
Friday 8:15 am	✠ Anita Gentil ✠ Nina Mignano Lewis
	Saturday 3:30 pm 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am 10:30 am	✠ Bertha Peplinski ✠ Joanna Battistella ✠ The People of St Michael



Advent Retreat Focuses on Companions from Scripture

Adrian Dominican Sister Janet Schaeffler, OP, author of numerous Advent reflection books, offers the opportunity to share an Advent journey with familiar women and men from Scripture.

“Supportive Companions for our Advent Journey: A Virtual Retreat” is offered from 7 pm EST Sunday, December 6, 2020, through 11:30 am EST Thursday, December 10, 2020. This time of prayer, input, conversation, liturgy, and quiet invites participants to reflect with fresh eyes on faithful people living with the same questions, worries, joys, and challenges we experience today.

In light of the pandemic, Weber Retreat and Conference Center offers this virtual retreat for free, but donations are appreciated. Please register to receive a link to the retreat at www.webercenter.org; click on “programs.” Register by calling 517-266-4000 or emailing webercenter@adriandominicans.org.

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 DeeDee Perkins, Office Manager x14
 Dr. Ray McLellan, Music Director x39 rm@msu.edu
Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools (MCES)
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kubik@monroecatholicschools.com
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 SMCC High School 734-241-7622
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 Zachary Bruck, Chair
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 Ignazio Cuccia, Finance
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Bulletin email:
bulletin_staff@yahoo.com

Second Sunday of Advent

In today’s Gospel John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord.”. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned peaches, pears, mixed fruit, tuna, chicken, ravioli, beef stew, soup, crackers, gravy, corn and sweet muffin mixes.

Thank you for all your donations!



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