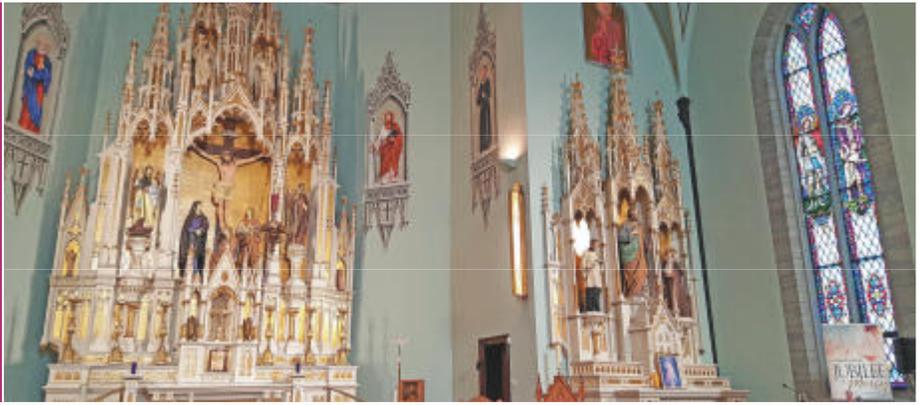


# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the  
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



DECEMBER 13, 2020 • THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## The Gaudete Sunday

We are almost halfway through the Advent season, and we continue to hear the prophetic message of John the Baptist. I feel it's time for us to seriously prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the glorious event that happened 2000 years ago, the Incarnation of the Son of God Jesus Christ. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent is also known as 'Gaudete Sunday.' As the celebration of Christ's birth draws near, joy is in the air. The liturgy of the word invites us to be joyful in preparation to celebrate the Birthday of Jesus. John the Baptist, whom we meet in the gospel, was an austere person, but his message was a joyful one. Joyful because the Lord was coming. John was honored to have been chosen by God to point him out to prepare the people for that coming. The best way to joyfully prepare for the coming of Christ is through the sacrament of reconciliation. The Sacrament of penance is especially important as a way to bring order into our hearts and souls during this often bewildering year of 2020, when chaos seems to reign in the world around us.

Due to the increased number of COVID-19 cases, this year we will not have communal reconciliation. I shall be available in the following times, so that you can make individual confession at your convenience.

**Monday, December 4, 1-2 pm**

**Tuesday December 15, 6-7 pm**

**Wednesday, December 16, 6-7 pm**

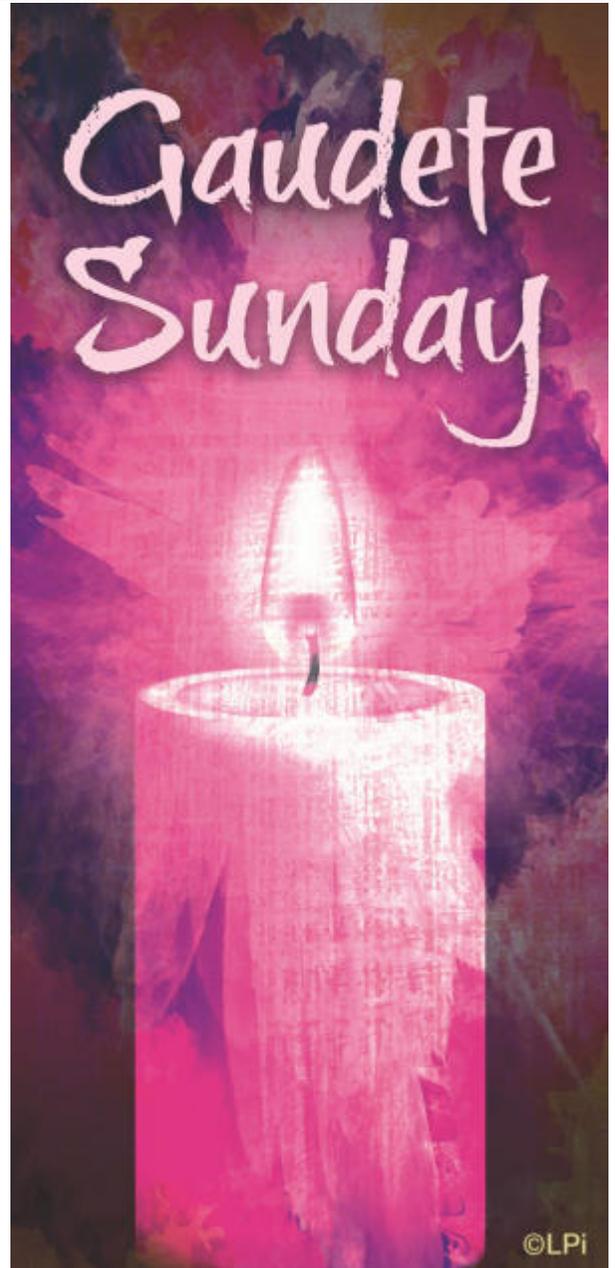
**Friday, December 18, 1-2 pm**

**Monday, December 21, 1-2 pm**

**Tuesday, December 22, 6-7 pm**

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

Fr. Kishore Babu Battu SAC



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**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 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:parishoffice@stmichaelmonroe.com) / 734-241-8645

The 4 pm and Midnight Masses will be livestreamed through our St Michael the Archangel Facebook page.

**CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?**

**Are Catholics obligated to attend Mass each Sunday, or receive Communion each Sunday?**



The questions about Mass attendance and the reception of Holy Communion are clearly outlined in what are traditionally called the "Precepts" of the Church. These specific teachings are intended to stand alongside the Ten Commandments as fundamental practices for Catholics and are outlined in the *Code of Canon Law*. The obligations related to Mass attendance and receiving Communion are outlined in the first and third precepts, which we find quoted in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (no. 2042):

The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days.

The third precept ("You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season") guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy.

Rather than seeing these as obligations that are simply to be fulfilled out of a sense of duty, Pope Saint John Paul II reminds us of the grace that is made available to us when we gather for Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist: "Sunday is the day which is at the very heart of the Christian life... Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human" (*Dies Domini*, no. 7).

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**ADVENT**



**HOPE | LOVE | JOY | PEACE**

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## MEET THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Greetings brothers and sisters. My name is Gary Carter. I was born in Monroe in 1950, grew up in Carleton, and graduated from Airport High School. I attended Western Michigan University, obtained my aircraft mechanics license, and eventually a degree in aeronautical engineering. I worked for DTE at the Fermi 2 Nuclear Plant, until I retired in 2013. I also farmed part-time and later had a tree nursery, mainly growing and selling/delivering/planting blue spruce.

I met my wonderful wife, Patricia Giannola, in 1973. She was Catholic; I was Methodist. We were married at St. Mary in Monroe in 1975. Within a few years, I converted to Catholicism. We have three sons, Andrew, Matthew and Johnathan, all of whom are married, and we have 9 amazing grandkids, aged 2-19.

When our sons were school-aged, we belonged to St. Patrick, and they attended the parish grade school, and eventually, St. Mary Catholic Central High School. Later, we joined St. Roch parish. In the summer of 2017, we came to St. Michael and I became involved with the Feast Day Committee, Michael's Men, and ChristLife. In addition, Pat and I volunteered to be mentors for engaged couples.

My spiritual journey has been a long and winding road. I spent the first 15 years of my married life, attending weekly Mass—at Pat's urging. After a series of events got my attention, I transitioned from knowing *about* Jesus to *knowing* Jesus. Once I experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in my life, my desire to serve the Lord and share the "Good News" with others grew! So did my need to share my faith. I admire those who are courageous in striking up a conversation with people and bringing God into the discussion, and, especially, Pat's boldness in sharing the Lord with family, friends, and even strangers!

I look forward to helping our parish move from maintenance to mission as Archbishop Vigneron described in "Unleash the Gospel." I have met several very spiritual parishioners here at St. Michael. I look forward to seeing where the Lord is going to lead us as we journey together.



Hello, my name is Lynn Fedewa, and I am a member of the Leadership Team. I have been a St. Michael parish member since 1989. My husband, Dean, and I joined the parish the year we were married. In my youth, I attended St. Patrick School and Parish. I graduated from Airport High School, Monroe County Community College, and the University of Toledo. I met Dean while we both worked at Michigan Gas

Utilities. We have two adult children who attended St. Michael Elementary School and Saint Mary Catholic Central High School.

I have volunteered in varying roles within the parish, school, and community. I am more of a behind the scenes participant. I substitute teach at SMCC and have also done so at St. Michael and MCES. I am an assistant coach for Airport High School Varsity Volleyball and volunteer at the River Raisin Centre for the Arts. I believe that we express our faith and convictions through our actions, and I attempt to display this through my

interaction with others; adults, students, and athletes. In doing so I yearn for others to feel the compassion, strength, and love of our Lord.



My name is Kyle Kubik and I am a lifelong resident of Monroe and member of St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Having attended school at St. Michael and SMCC, I believe strongly in the importance of Catholic education and its role in the parish community. As the principal of Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools, I believe that I form an important bridge between the families our school serves and the Leadership

Team of St. Michael. I know my own faith life is constantly growing and I am forever learning new things about our faith and my own spiritual journey. One of my favorite sayings from a saint is from St. Theresa of Avila, which I first learned on a high school mission trip to Guatemala:

"Christ has no body but yours, No hands, no feet on earth but yours, yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world, yours are the feet with which he walks to do good, yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours, yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

To me, this quote embodies the call of the modern Catholic. We are tasked with living out the mission of Christ with those we encounter.

I am recently married, and my wife Kristy is also a Catholic school leader in the Archdiocese of Detroit.



Greetings, fellow parishioners, from Molly Roehrig. When my husband, Michael, and I moved to Monroe in 1995, we joined the German-founded parish with the Irish priest. The mix matched my heritage, and the parishioners were welcoming. It felt like home. In the following twenty-five years, I said yes to many roles in the life of our parish, including Worship Commission,

Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and Communion to the Homebound, Religious Education Program, Alpha Leader, Parish Council, Feast Day Committee, and Leadership Team.

My faith journey began in earnest in fifth grade when I decided I wanted to be a priest. When God did not send me a path to the priesthood, I decided on martyr. Although for one long summer I refused to remove stones from my shoes and gave it up for the poor souls in purgatory, I soon saw that my ways were foolish. I still strive to hear God's voice with varying success. Perhaps my world has been too noisy; after all, I have raised four children, worked for thirty years as a lawyer for the federal judiciary, and am married to a guy who loves to talk. Now that I have reached a quieter place in my life, I intend to indulge in reading biographies of the holy men and women who did hear God's voice in their lives. If you have any recommendations, be sure to let me know. Please pray for me, as I do for myself, that I know God's will for my life, and fulfill it.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

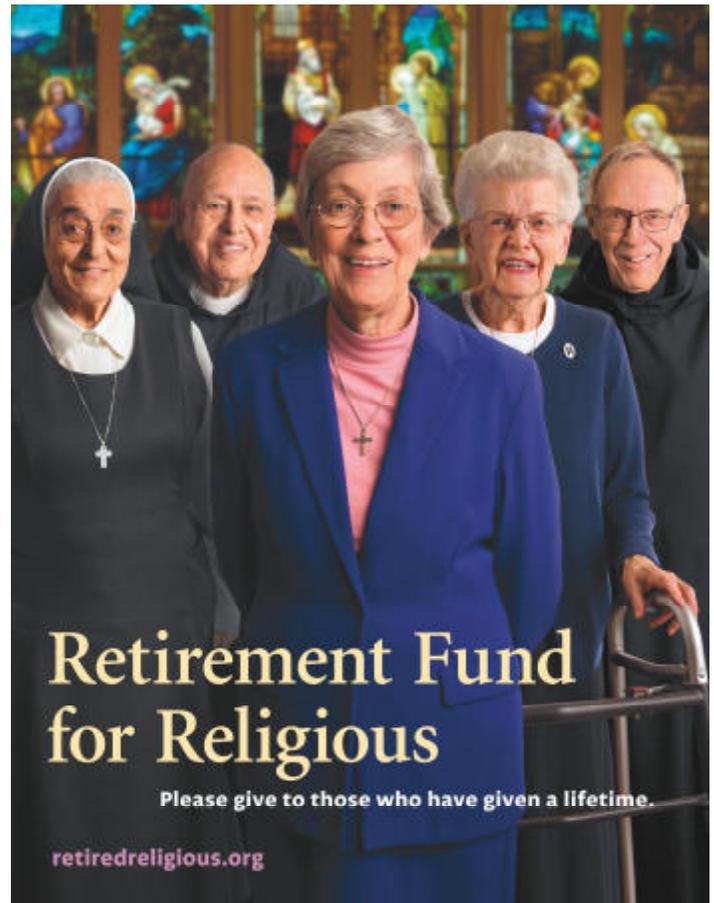
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
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### LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

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*In your charity,* please pray for the repose of the soul of **George P. Massu**, 88, husband of Gloria.

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

# Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools

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## ***Congratulations to our Fall Raffle Winners!***

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize (\$5,000): Rob Bow**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (\$1,000): Joe Malnar**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (\$500): Cathy Miller**

Dear Parishioners of St. John, St. Mary and St. Michael,

We sincerely thank you for your support of the 2020 Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools' Fall Raffle. The money raised directly impacts our ability to provide a high quality, Catholic education to our students.

This year certainly looks different! Our students must wear face coverings and practice social distancing and we have had to move to a virtual learning model for a time. Though we are presented with these challenges, we never lose sight of our mission and vision. Your support of our Fall Raffle helps us in continuing a legacy that stretches back 174 years to the founding of Catholic Education by the IHM Sisters in Monroe.

The funds raised support our annual budget, offsetting the cost of tuition for our families. This budget includes teacher and staff salaries & benefits, new technology & curriculum resources, and the experiences that make MCES unique and memorable for our students.

We thank you for your support of MCES now and in the future.

God Bless,

Kyle Kubik  
MCES Executive Principal

### **Mark Your Calendars:**

The MCES Auction is scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>!



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**Pray for:**

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

**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 <sup>st</sup> 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

**VOTIVE LIGHTS FOR DECEMBER**

Sanctuary Light: Albert Billmaier  
 St. Mary: Bernetta Brooks  
 St. Joseph: Angela Furnari Vitale

*Corrected 12-7-2020*

**Readings for the Week of December 13, 2020**

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  
 Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27  
 Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32  
 Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23  
 Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17  
 Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25  
 Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25  
 Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

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**WEEK AT A GLANCE DECEMBER 14-20**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14**

*St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

Mass 8:15 am - church  
 Confession 1-2 pm - church  
 Boy Scout Meeting 7:30 pm - gym

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15**

Confession 6-7 pm - church

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

Confession 6-7 pm - church

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18**

Mass 8:15 am - church  
 Holy Hour 9:00 am - church  
 Confession 1-2 pm - church

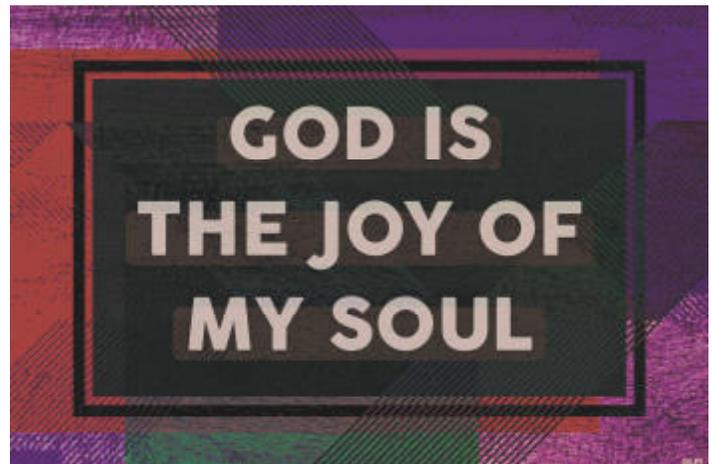
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19**

Confessions 3:30 pm - church  
 Mass 5 pm - church

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Mass 8:00 am - church  
 Mass 10:30 am - church



**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 14 - 20**

DAY & TIME		INTENTIONS
Monday	8:15 am	✠ Tony Mignano
		✠ Mary Vuich 1 year
Friday	8:15 am	✠ Bernard Raabe
		✠ Frank Liparoto
Saturday	3:30 pm	<b>Confessions</b>
	5:00 pm	✠ The People of St. Michael
Sunday	8:00 am	✠ Bernetta Brooks
		✠ Raymond Barron 1 year
		✠ Dean and Taylior Peplinski
	10:30 am	✠ John Pillarelli



## ST MICHAEL GIVING TREE

Please help those who are in need this Christmas.  
**All gift cards are due by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.**  
 Your gifts will bring happiness this Christmas.  
**Thank You!**

### Third Sunday of Advent:

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.



### To All St Michael Parishioners

Although COVID-19 and social distancing protocols prevent us from gathering as in the past, we want to wish all of you a joyful Christmas.

The blessings of Christ are not only given to those who gather together in worship, but also to all who praise His Name. We pray all of you will be open to Him. Thanking you for your continued support, we are-

*St Michael Catholic Christian Women*



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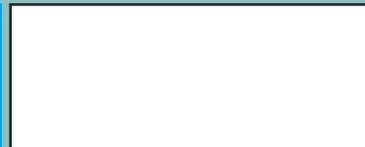
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