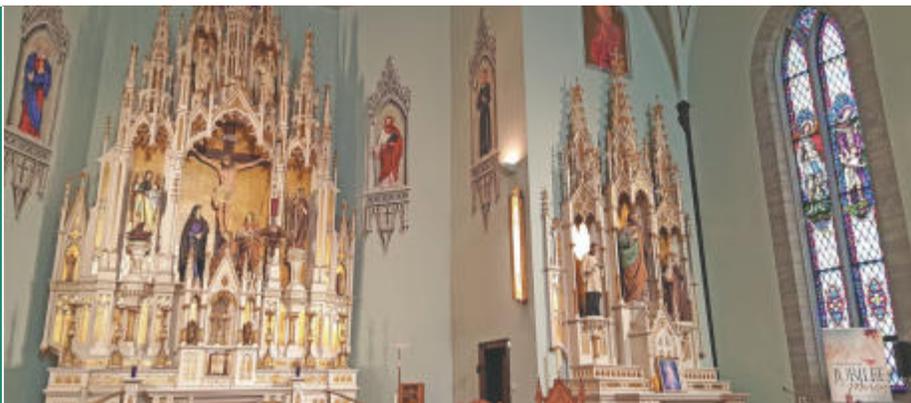


ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

• TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

A Collection to Support our Priests' Retirement

The Archdiocese is blessed to have 90 retired priests who dedicated, in some cases, more than 50 years to caring for and ministering to others. Even in retirement, many continue to give themselves in countless ways of service for which we are most grateful.

At age 70, priests in the Archdiocese of Detroit begin receiving a 1,575 monthly pension and health and automobile insurance from the Priest's Pension Plan. The Archdiocese annually assesses each parish \$9,885 per priest serving there to support this fund.

Next weekend, October 2nd and 3rd, our parish will take up a special collection to help defray the cost of this assessment and to show our appreciation for those priests who have cared for us and ministered to us throughout the years.

Please prayerfully reflect on how you can contribute to the ***With Thanks for Their Service in Christ*** collection this year. You may return your special envelope at Mass the following weekend or mail it to the parish office. You are greatly appreciated.

May God shower His blessings on our Parish
Fr. Kishore Babu Battu SAC



"You never run out of love for the priesthood. I don't know how God chose me, but I'm so glad He did."

~ Father Ed Prus
former pastor of St. Raphael Parish, Garden City



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Mass of Anointing

Saturday, October 9 • 11 am

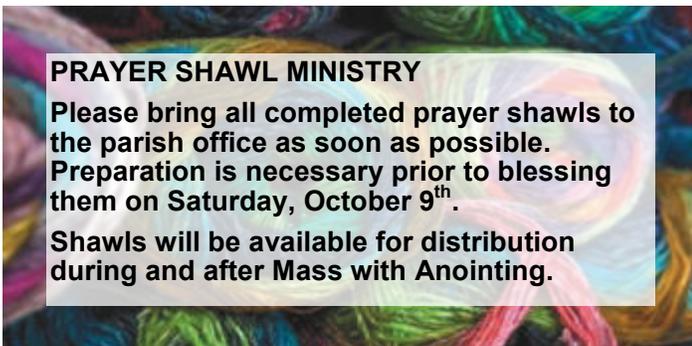
We will celebrate this special Mass with the offering of the Sacrament of Anointing for those in need of it.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, §1514-1515, reads: "The Anointing of the Sick 'is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived.' If a sick person who received this anointing recovers his health, he can in the case of another grave illness receive this sacrament again. If during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious, the sacrament may be repeated. It is fitting to receive the Anointing of the Sick just prior to a serious operation. The same holds for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced."

To receive the sacrament of anointing with the right disposition (that is, to receive without sacrilege), one ought to have gone through the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to its reception or at least be aware that one does not have any unconfessed mortal sins.

Please contact the parish office, 734-241-8645 or parishoffice@stmichaelmonroe.com, to reserve space and allow adequate preparation.

Father will also bless any recent donations of prayer shawls for use in the future.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please bring all completed prayer shawls to the parish office as soon as possible. Preparation is necessary prior to blessing them on Saturday, October 9th.

Shawls will be available for distribution during and after Mass with Anointing.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Breaking the Stewardship Mold

Have you noticed how we always tend to pigeonhole one another — and ourselves? "I could never serve on the Parish Council. That's for Rick and Ellen and that whole group of people who have done it for years." "Greg takes care of faith formation in the parish — he always has. He doesn't need my help." "I can't afford to give the big bucks like those families who sit up front can. My offering wouldn't matter even if I did increase it."

Thinking like this is a good indication that we aren't in conversation with God about what His will is for our lives. If we have already decided what we are and are not meant to do, we aren't likely to pray over it, to discern it.

We have to be open to the spirit of the Lord wherever it leads us, regardless of what we or others have come to expect from us. We human beings come to believe that we are such good judges of what others can offer — or what we ourselves can offer. But God has plans for us to which we aren't privy. God calls everyone to serve Him in the way that pleases Him best, and only He can decide what that is. Everyday Stewardship demands a continual accounting of who we can be, what we can offer — even if it's outside our comfort zone, even if it's something that never occurred to us before.

There's only one Person who can tell us what God wants from us. Do we even think to ask Him?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, *MTS*
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CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

What do Catholics believe about the resurrection of the dead?

Every Sunday, we proclaim in the Creed that we believe "in the resurrection of the body." Does that mean Christ's resurrection or our own? Both! Jesus' resurrection is part of the work of salvation, but it's also a sign of what's to come. While death separates our bodies and our souls, this was not the intention of God when He first created us. It's an effect of original sin. At the end of time, our bodies and our souls will be reunited.

Scientifically, we may have questions about this, since bodies decompose over the course of centuries. Or what about the saints, whose relics are spread around the earth? How the resurrection will happen is a mystery. But we know that our resurrected body will be our body. If we are in heaven, our body will be in a glorified state. Some theologians speculate what this glorification will be like based on Jesus' resurrected body. Will we be able to walk through walls? Will we eat, since Jesus broke bread with his disciples? We don't really know the answers to these questions. We do know, however, that we will be free from the effects of the fall (such as sickness and pain) and physical defects that occurred in life. Christ redeems us as whole persons, body and soul!





**Faith Formation classes began already!
Are your children enrolled?**

If not, please contact 734-241-6097 right away!

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) begins on **Sunday, October 17th** at 10:30 am Mass. **But we NEED volunteers!** If you can help with our young Catholics or have any questions, please call us: 734-241-6097.

We are also still in need of catechist assistants.

Please call for more information 734-241-6097.

Leslee Smith, Director



Michigan Catholic Women's Conference

Women from across Michigan are invited to come together to focus on their faith and experience the fellowship of sisterhood in Christ Jesus. Throughout the day, women will be encouraged and inspired to ignite their spirits and grow their faith by hearing from Catholic speakers, engaging in praise and worship music, and celebrating holy Mass with our bishops. The conference will be held at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan on **October 16, 2021**. To learn more and register, visit www.michigancwc.org.

REFLECT & RESPOND

FIRST READING:

Early in their Exodus journey, Moses taught the young Joshua an important lesson on avoiding jealousy and trusting the Lord's providence. How do you avoid the trap of jealousy and envy?



SECOND READING:

James speaks of the trappings and dangers of excessive wealth. What do you think should be the believer's proper disposition toward money?

GOSPEL:

Jesus warns his disciples against the danger of causing other believers to sin. What do you think would motivate a Christian to do this?

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Who was pope during Vatican II?

- Pope John Paul II
- Pope John XXIII
- Pope Benedict XV
- Pope Pius IX

Answer is on the calendar page.



MARRIAGE CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 10th

10:30 am Mass

Fr. Kishore, the Catholic Christian Women, and all parishioners of Saint Michael would like to recognize the anniversaries of those parishioners married **1 year, 5 years, 10 years, 15 years**, etc. **Sunday, October 10th at 10:30 am Mass.**

All married couples are encouraged to attend and renew their marriage vows.

Coffee and donuts for the couples and their families will follow Mass.

Couples celebrating a special anniversary are asked to please contact the parish office at **734-241-8645** or **parishoffice@stmichaelmonroe.com** to give your name, wedding date, and number of family members expected to attend for donuts.

Congratulations to all our Married Couples!



GOSPEL MEDITATION

What are the little ones? They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus' looking for Jesus from a tree, those mired in sin, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers and the different ones who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who suffer from abuse and grave injustices and oppression. They are children who want nothing more than to be loved and enjoy celebrating their innocence. These are all the little ones and they are all vulnerable. Life already brings them burdens, we don't need to add to them.

St. Oscar Romero said, "When the church hears the cry of the oppressed it cannot but denounce the social structures that give rise to and perpetuate the misery from which the cry arises." Why are so many people still so gravely hurting? We have the resources and the means to make things better. We choose not to. There are still those things called greed, pride, lust, apathy, jealousy, gluttony, and anger that prevent us from seeing each other and people to be loved and not objects to be used. Is this how God intended things to be?

God loves what is good and upright. It doesn't matter who did it or where it came from. In God's eyes, the end result is always faith, hope, and love. Those will always unite a person with God. We fill our lives with many things that are not good either for ourselves or for others. All of us have to work to discover what it is, exactly, that leads to the world's brokenness. There are people, systems, and ideologies in place that foster oppression and injustice rather than equity and fairness. Sadly, our complacency can be the greatest evil. Turning a blind eye, ignoring the truth, and believing that we are helpless to fix so great a problem, does little to move us closer to the kingdom of God. As members of the Body of Christ, we cannot condone anything that keeps people in misery.

As it is said, charity begins at home. Perhaps a good place to start is with our own households and making sure their foundations are properly laid.

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Priesthood Sunday

In honor of Priesthood Sunday, September 26, 2021, the Office of Priestly Vocations is inviting parishioners to offer a spiritual bouquet for their pastors and associate pastors:

<https://detroitpriestlyvocations.com/priesthood-sunday>

Part of that bouquet includes an option to share a story about how this priest's ministry has impacted your life.



St. Michael the Archangel: 'Make known my greatness'

by James Day

Crisis after crisis, century after century, St. Michael the Archangel remains God's warrior angel of peace. It was Michael who emerged from angelic obscurity to counter the rebellion of Lucifer and his minions. With his name meaning "Who is like God?," translated from the Latin, *Quis ut Deus?*, Michael destroyed Lucifer's cry of "*Non Serviam!*" — "I will not serve!" — so much so that Christ himself declared, "I have observed Satan fall like lightning from the sky" (Lk 10:18).

St. Michael's thwarting of the evil one and all his works did not cease with the battle in heaven, of which the Book of Revelation speaks: "Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels battled against the dragon. The dragon and its angels fought back, but they did not prevail and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The huge dragon, the ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, who deceived the whole world, was thrown down to earth, and its angels were thrown down with it" (Rv 12:7-9).

Each human soul is a battleground, one in which Satan hopes to deceive and seduce. It is one, as Pope Francis said, that is "waged every day: It is waged in the heart of men and women." Knowing that he was already defeated and will never topple God, Satan still hopes to lure souls blinded by ego and lust for sin in his feckless pursuit to turn hearts and minds away from God.

The virtues of St. Michael the Archangel always outweigh and outshine the hidden world of sin. Michael's pursuit of those who decried God was not of vainglory, but of loyalty, humility and ceaseless faith — weapons more powerful than anything Satan can summon.

And not just Satan, but the tribulations wrought by life itself: even amid health crises, plagues and pandemics, the divine Godhead continually sent St. Michael to offer courage and hope to a suffering people. His enduring presence, even when a situation seemed dire or hopeless, reinvigorated the faithful to stand firm, together, and to put on the armor of God (cf. Eph 6:10).

In the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, where millions around the globe contracted the virus, hundreds of thousands died from it, and scores of families and livelihoods are thrown into turmoil because of it, St. Michael the Archangel once again stands ready, eager to defend us in battle.

Here are a few examples throughout Church history when St. Michael interceded during times of plagues.

Rome, 590

It was the time of the Dark Ages. Pope Gregory's immediate predecessor, Pelagius II, succumbed to the plague rampaging through the Eternal City. With little material aid left to help the Roman people, Gregory had recourse to spiritual sustenance.

On the morning of April 25, 590, the pope led a penitential procession through the abandoned streets

— an image Pope Francis echoed in his walking pilgrimage of an abandoned Rome on March 15, 2020 - that had decimated its people. On the modern Church calendar, April 25 is known as the feast of St. Mark, but that particular day initially became the date designated by Pope Gregory as the Greater Litanies. On this April 25, as the pope carried the holy icon of Our Lady of *Santa Maria Maggiore*, so sick were the people even some in the procession collapsed. While the procession crossed the Aelian Bridge over the Tiber, in the shadow of Hadrian's tomb — the massive, imposing fortress built for the Roman Emperor Hadrian in A.D. 135 — a heavenly choir, intoning the *Regina Caeli*, directed the procession's gaze skywards. According to the *Legenda Aurea*, an immensely popular collection of stories gathered by chronicler-priest (and archbishop of Genoa) Jacobus Voragine (1228-98), Gregory then saw above Hadrian's mausoleum the sight of the glorious and fearless St. Michael in the process of cleaning blood from his sword and sheathing it. It is believed the plague ended at that moment.

Today, we know Hadrian's tomb as Castel Sant'Angelo, and the Roman sky is punctuated with a statue of St. Michael atop its parapet.

Mexico, 1631

In 1631, a plague devastated Mexico. In the village of San Bernabe in the small state of Tlaxcala, the Greater Litanies procession was held on April 25, just as Pope Leo oversaw on that very day in 590. And just as the plague ravaged the Roman people that year, in 1631, smallpox crippled the municipality of Nativitas. Among those who suffered from the disease was a 17-year-old boy, Diego Lazaro. Nevertheless, Diego participated in the solemn procession. And just as on April 25, 590, St. Michael appeared, but only to Diego Lazaro. In the apparition, Michael gave Diego directions to where a spring of water will cure those affected by smallpox. Yet Diego Lazaro chose to ignore the encounter. His condition worsened, and he was anointed and given the last rites. At that moment, Michael appeared again, transporting Diego to the location of the miraculous spring.

The date of this second apparition to Diego Lazaro was May 8, 1631, another feast day for St. Michael in the Church calendar. The miraculous spring was soon publically discovered, and three official investigations concluded Diego was not fabricating the story. Health returned to the inhabitants of the region, and the spring was named St. Michael's Well. Today, the area in Nativitas where Diego Lazaro brought hope to his afflicted people is known as *San Miguel del Milagro* — the Miracle of St. Michael.

The greatness of St. Michael has been made known by Scripture, Church tradition, miracles, apparitions and ceaseless prayer. He remains ready to assist at this hour, at this time, if we but ask for his aid.

James Day is the author of "Saint Michael the Archangel"

Excerpted from <https://www.osvnews.com/amp/2020/09/11/st-michael-the-archangel-make-known-my-greatness/>



Pray for:

Rebecca Alexander	Bill Dempsey	Leigh Ann Parrack
Javier Barrios	Rita Getchey	Donna Perez
James Barron	Veronica	Mary Ray
Monica Beeson	Greenawalt	Parker Reau
Carolyn Bellino	Sean Griffin	Linda Rice
Lynda Billock	Kate Herr-Maletich	Neil Runyon
Philip Bloom	Rose Kavanagh	Mary Ann Soleau
Addie Bressler	Edna Kinsey	Betty Steffes
AJ Bressler	Lois Knegendorf	Wilbur Stotz
Ruth Brown	Alice LaPrad	Carol Thompson
Carol Carle	Donna Leask	Bob Vajcner
Fr Daniel Compló	Madeline Lemerand	Alex Vanisacker
Tom Cousino	Dorothy Louwsma	Alice Villarreal
Keith Dean	Diane Mennell	Cody Wood
	June Neph	Diane Zarend
	Pat Orr	Mary Zubkoff

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Major Matthew Aubry	Staff Sgt. Angelo Marino
Brett Bennett	Staff Sgt. Emily Marino
Tracy (Scobel) Bennett	Airman 2 Drew McLaughlin
Pvt. Adrien Boudreault	Sgt. William McGowan
Major Zachery Briscoe	S. Sgt. Jill (Hoffman) Miles
CWO3 Ricky Brown	AB Tannar Osborne
Cpt. Kyle Burkardt, DDS	Major Tim Payment
Cpt. Patrick Burkardt, DDS	Alan Scobel
1 st Sgt. Robert C. Cebina	Lt Col Marcus Sitterly
Cpl 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
Sgt. Michael Makela	CPL Justin Zukowski

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Answer: **b**

Readings for the Week of September 26, 2021

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Zec 8:23]/Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde -3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11[9ab]/Lk 10:1-12
Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Lk 10:13-16
Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 [34]/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Next Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/ Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

THIS WEEK ~ SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
Mass 8:15 am - church
Devotions 9 am - church
RCIA Sessions 6:30 pm - St John the Baptist

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

St. Wenceslaus, Martyr;
St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
Faith Formation 6 - 7:15 pm - St Mary Campus
Michael's Men Meeting 7 pm - SMCC Chapel

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
Choir Practice 6:30 pm - loft
Cub Scouts 6:30 pm - Archangel room
Girl Scouts 6:30 pm - gym

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible 7 pm - Archangel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Mass 8:15 am - church
Parker - Lane Rehearsal 5 pm - church

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

The Holy Guardian Angels
Parker - Lane Wedding 1 pm - church
Confession 3:30 pm - church
Mass 5:00 pm - church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday
Mass 8:30 am - church
Mass 10:30 am - church
Baptism noon - church

WEDDING BANNS

Ricky Parker and Carly Lane (3)

LITURGY SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3

DAY & TIME		INTENTIONS
Monday	8:15 am	† John Wiley † For the Poor Souls in Purgatory and Poor Sinners
Friday	8:15 am	† Yvonne Mullen 1 year † For the Poor Souls in Purgatory and Poor Sinners
Saturday	5:00 pm	† Jerome Van Belle † John Pillarelli
Sunday	8:30 am 10:30 am	† The People of St Michael/V † Chad Fanning † Gloria Collingsworth

Sign up through the parish office!
Called & Gifted Workshop
 Live (in-person)

Saturday, October 16th 9 am - 3 pm

Have you ever thought about the gifts of the Holy Spirit that you received at Baptism and that were strengthened in you at Confirmation?

Have you ever wondered where God is leading you in this life?

If so, please join us at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Monroe on Saturday, October 16th for a live, in-person **Called and Gifted Workshop.**

Our Spiritual Gifts Support Team will take great time and care with you after the workshop to help you discover and develop the gifts God has given you as you look together in wonder at **All the goodness He places before you.**

Contact your parish office to sign up. A \$20 materials fee applies to this workshop. Scholarships are available.

All are welcome and invited to come!

*The Knights of Columbus Hall, Council #1266
 202 West Front Street; Monroe, Michigan 48161*

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In today's gospel Jesus tells his disciples: "Anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to Christ will not, I assure you, go without his reward." On September 27, the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are on the front line in laboring for the poor, they are among the first to know their real needs.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist families, providing food, and help with utility, rent and other bills. God Bless You!

Pantry needs: Cream soups, crackers, pancake mix, and syrup. Thanks!



LIVE THE LITURGY

Who are the little ones? They are the many and varied faces of people who see hope in Jesus' message about the Kingdom of God. They have come to believe that there is a different world to be had: a place where everyone has a home, all have an equal opportunity to share in God's bountiful gifts and blessings, where justice reigns, truth presides, and peace fills hearts. The little ones are those who may have left their former views behind, perhaps even their former lives to follow Jesus and believe in the Beatitudes as God's world vision. They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus' looking for Jesus from a tree, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who have learned that suffering and death are nothing to fear. These are all of the little ones. Jesus gathers and protects them as a shepherd guards his sheep. Whoever causes one of these little ones to sin deserves the greatest wrath. Be more concerned about what people are doing than where they came from.

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Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest

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 DeeDee Perkins, Office Manager x14
 Courtney Phillips, Bookkeeper x18
 Leslee Smith, Faith Formation Director 734-241-6097

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Mr. Kyle Kubik, Executive Principal
 www.mcesmonroe.com ~ 734-241-6335

ST. MICHAEL CAMPUS 734-241-3923
ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY 734-241-1411

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