

# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the  
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



NOVEMBER 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



- The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the “Prophet’s Candle” reminding us that Jesus is coming.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the “Bethlehem Candle” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the “Shepherd’s Candle” reminding us of Joy the word experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the “Angels Candle” reminding us of the message of the Angels: “Peace on earth Good will toward men.”

## Adoration Opportunities

On this Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin the new liturgical year. During this Advent season we prepare our hearts and minds to invite Child Jesus into our lives. During this joyful season our parish provides great opportunity to spend time with our Lord in adoration. During this season every Friday we have exposition of the blessed sacrament following the Friday masses until 6 pm. concluding with benediction.



1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Advent December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9 am - 6 pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of Advent December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am - 6 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of Advent December 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am - 6 pm

I would like to encourage you to plan your Fridays in this Advent season accordingly, so that you can spend some time with the Lord quietly adoring and seeing His blessings in your life.

Have a blessed Advent Season!

Stay safe. God bless.

Fr. Kishore Babu Battu SAC

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Today we begin the new liturgical year. We begin this new season of Advent with lighting of the wreath candle. For many Christians, Advent wreaths are a favorite way to celebrate the month of December leading up to Christmas Day. Even though Advent Wreaths are popular among Christians, many are not aware of the rich meaning and symbolism embedded in the tradition. If we learn this meaning, we can appreciate it all the more!

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the Advent Wreath is used to symbolize God the Father and eternal life. The Wreath holds four candles which are lit over the four weeks of Advent. There are three violet (purple) candles and one rose candle, each representing 1,000 years, the four candles symbolize the 4,000 years that humanity waited for the Savior.



ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

FEARLESS DISCIPLES, FORMED BY THE WORD, FILLED WITH THE HEART OF JESUS

502 WEST FRONT STREET | MONROE, MI 48161 | 734-241-8645 | STMICHAELMONROE.COM

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

**How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?**



The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world.

Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.

©LPI

## Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPI

## CATHOLIC TRIVIA

**What sacrament is symbolized by a dove?**

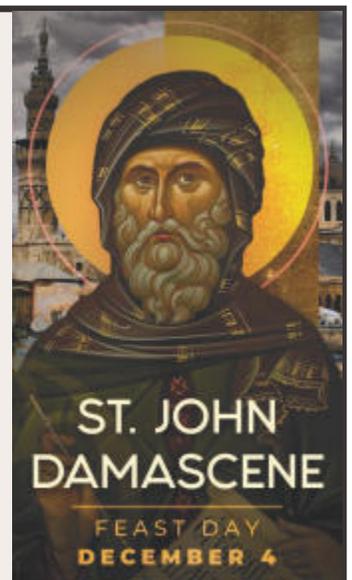
*Answer is on the calendar page.*

**St. John Damascene** (676 -749) was the son of the chief of the revenue department in the city of Damascus. Through his father, he received a classical and theological education and attempted to follow in his footsteps by serving in a government position. However, the Lord was calling him to a different life, and a few years later he resigned from his position and went to the Monastery of St. Sabas, where he wrote books and composed hymns along with his adopted brother, Cosmas.

St. John Damascene is best known for his writings against the iconoclasts, who opposed the veneration of images; his treatise, *Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, a summary of the Greek Fathers; and his work as a poet, one of the two greatest of the Eastern Church. His devotion to the Blessed Mother and his sermons on her feasts are well known.

©LPI

*St. John Damascene is the Patron Saint of icon painters and theology students.*



# MONROE *faith* Formation



Our preschool and kindergarten in the atrium are working on controlled pouring and preparing cruets.

Our second grade students spent time with their parents learning the history and making advent wreaths, as well as learning about the parts of Mass, meal prayers, and adding to their prayer tables at home.

Our third and fourth grade students are working on the different parts of the liturgy, as well as learning to make rosaries.

Our fifth and sixth grade students are working through Exodus, as well as saint history reports.

Our seventh and eighth grade are continuing through the Chosen Confirmation preparation material with their sponsors joining them in class.

St. Michael Parish recently hosted our Faith Formation and MCES confirmation students and their sponsors for Mass and dinner.

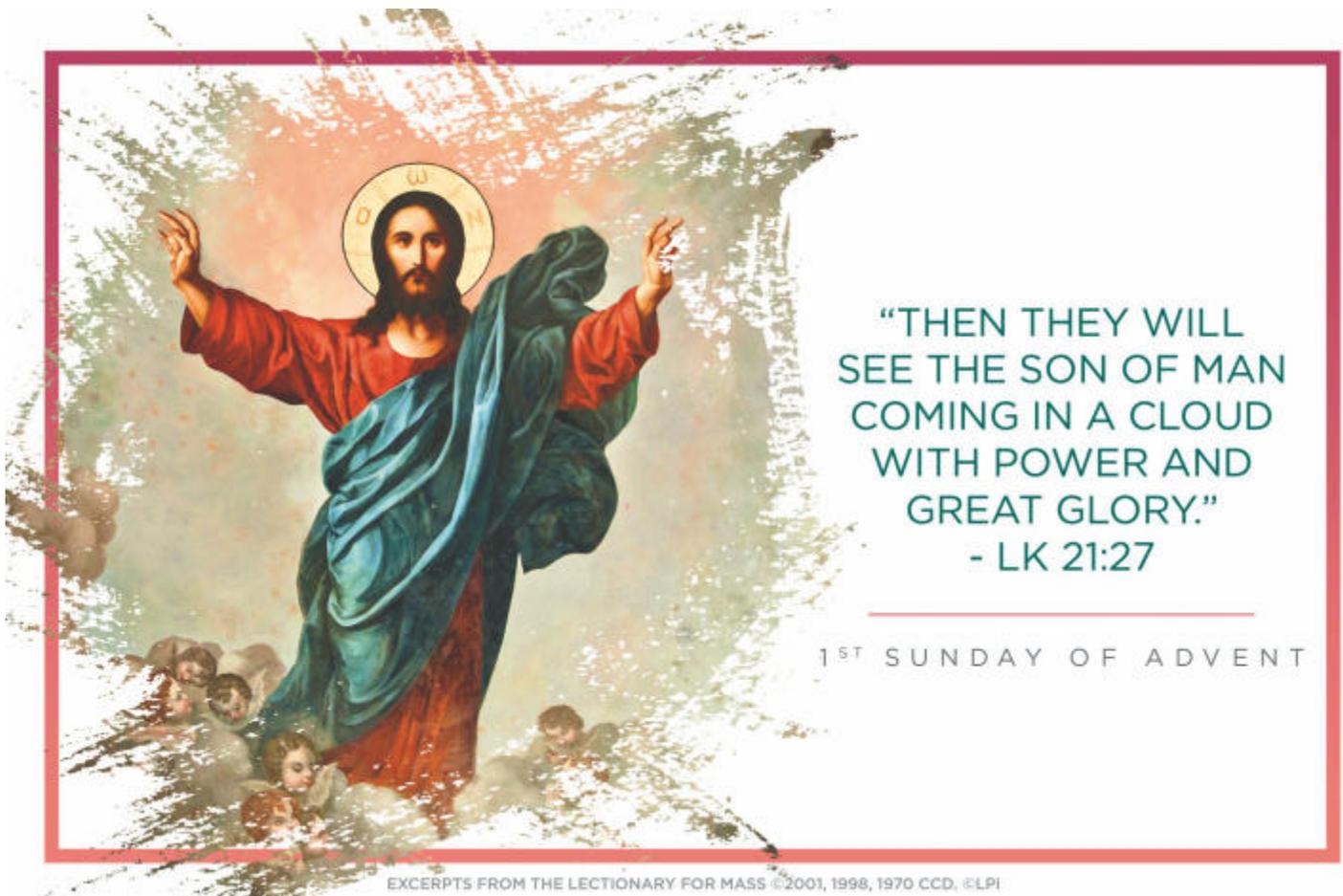
Our students are continuing to collect items for Selah Center for Hope and Monroe County Humane Society for our November and December outreach.

We cannot believe we are closing in on the end of this year!

### **We still need help in the following areas!**

- Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday at 10:30 am Mass.
- Help with translation in Spanish
- Substitute catechists/assistants, Tuesday evenings

***Leslee Smith, Director***



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.

©LPI

**If you or someone you know is ill** and would like a prayer shawl, please contact the parish office. These shawls (lap or shoulder) are created by members of our parish. While they knit, crochet, tie, or quilt, they pray for the sick. Call 734-241-8645 for more information.



### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Our Children's Choir will sing Christmas Eve at 4 pm Mass, December 24<sup>th</sup>, in the choir loft.

The choir is open to students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and older. New singers are always welcome to join those who have sung in the choir previously.

We will rehearse on two Sundays, December 12 and 19, immediately after 10:30 Mass (11:45 am-12:30 pm) in the choir loft. Parents are encouraged to remain on campus during rehearsals.

Please contact Kyle Engelmann, 734-241-8645 x 39, or bring your student to the first practice. Forms are located in church too!



**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

**You are Invited / Please Come / All are Welcome**

Introductory / informational meeting to learn about  
Stephen Ministry

**Wednesday, December 1, 2021**

**6:30 - 7:30 pm**

SMCC High School (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Center)

For more information, please contact John Castiglione:  
313-363-3545 or [johncastiglione15@gmail.com](mailto:johncastiglione15@gmail.com).



©LPI

# Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools

[www.mcesmonroe.com](http://www.mcesmonroe.com) 734-241-6335

## Executive Principal's Fall Update

*Dear Supporters and Friends of the MCES Community,*

*It is hard to believe our academic year is nearly half over! Though we are still very much weathering the COVID-19 pandemic, we are excited to see our students back in the classrooms fully - seeing their smiling faces and helping them learn and grow. There are many protocols in place to keep our families safe and we do our best to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.*

*We are most excited to welcome our new families and new faculty and staff. First and foremost, we welcome Mrs. Frances (Frannie) Jagielski as our new Assistant Principal for Academic and Student Affairs. In her new role, she will support the needs of our faculty, staff, and students. I am grateful to have her on the team!*

*MCES has experienced a 4% increase in enrollment from last school year! In addition, we have seen a 24% increase in preschool enrollment. This is undoubtedly thanks to our incredibly dedicated teachers and staff and to our welcoming families. We are excited for continued growth with the help of our new admissions director, Colleen Flint.*

*We also welcome multiple new teachers and staff across our three campuses:*

*Jen Carroll, MS Foreign Language  
Diana Costantini, MS Social Studies  
Kelly Dotson, MS Social Studies  
Brittany Jaskot, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade*

*Pat Johnson, MS Art  
Jennifer Musulin, Intervention Services  
Miriam Sponsler, MS Theology  
Larkin Wensink, MS Physical Education*

*As we begin this year, we have outlined a strong development program that will help us grow our scholarship funds and provide for our general operations budget. Nearly two years ago, I announced the establishment of the Friends of MCES Scholarship and am happy to report we awarded our first (six) \$500 scholarships this fall, as well as seven additional scholarships to MCES staff members who have children attending our schools! We are grateful to the benefactors who made this possible and look forward to continue its growth!*

*Thank you to everyone who supported our successful Golf Outing in October and our Fall Raffle in November! We look forward to sharing information about our Auction and our new Fun Run in May!*

*As we continue to advance toward a sense of normalcy, I implore you to join us in our efforts to ensure the strength of Catholic Education in downtown Monroe! I sincerely thank you for your support and ask that you always keep MCES and its students, faculty, and staff in your prayers.*

*God Bless,*

*Kyle Kubik*

*MCES Executive Principal*

Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools is a Christ-centered, Catholic learning community committed to the academic excellence and spiritual development of every student.



*Make Care Embrace Seek*  
[www.mcesmonroe.com](http://www.mcesmonroe.com)



### Pray for:

Rebecca Alexander	Bill Dempsey	Pat Orr
Javier Barrios	Rita Getchey	Leigh Ann Parrack
James Barron	Lisa Giarmo	Donna Perez
Monica Beeson	Veronica Greenawalt	Mary Ray
Carolyn Bellino	Sean Griffin	Parker Reau
Lynda Billock	Kate Herr-Maletich	Linda Rice
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	Jon-Luke LaVanway	Bob Vajcner
Fr Daniel Compló	Donna Leask	Alex Vanisacker
Tom Cousino	Madeline Lemerand	Alice Villarreal
Keith Dean	Dorothy Louwsma	Arlene Walsh
	Diane Mennell	Cody Wood
	June Neph	Diane Zarend
		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 <sup>st</sup> 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	LCpl Justin Zukowski

### CATHOLIC TRIVIA Answer: Confirmation

### Readings for the Week of November 28, 2021

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36  
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

### NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Mass 8:15 am - church  
Devotions 9 am - church  
RCIA 6:30 pm - Archangel room  
Boy Scouts 7:30 pm - gathering space

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

##### *St. Andrew, Apostle*

Faith Formation 6 - 7:15 pm - St Mary Campus  
Altar Server Training 6 - 7:15 pm - church  
Cub Scouts 6:30 pm - gathering space

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Worship/Christian Serv Comm Mtg 6 pm - Arch rm  
Choir Practice 6:30 pm - loft

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

##### *St. Francis Xavier, Priest*

Michael's Men Prayers 7 am - church  
Mass 8:15 am - church  
Eucharistic Adoration 9 am - 6 pm - church  
Robinson - Riggs Rehearsal 6:30 pm - church

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

##### *St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church*

Robinson - Riggs Wedding 1:30 pm - church  
Confession 3:30 pm - church  
Mass 5:00 pm - church

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

##### *Second Sunday of Advent*

Mass 8:30 am - church  
Mass 10:30 am - church  
Baptisms noon - church

## Wedding Banns

Riley Robinson and Megan Riggs

### LITURGY SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5

DAY & TIME	INTENTIONS
<b>Monday 8:15 am</b>	† Bryan Riggs † Vincenza Bartolotta
<b>Friday 8:15 am</b>	† Ted & Mildred Hawkins † Jeneese Vereb
<b>Saturday 5:00 pm</b>	† Frank Liparoto † Frances & Pasquale Rotti
<b>Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am</b>	† The People of St Michael † JD Furnari & Jack Grippi † Vincenzo Manzella

**LIVE THE LITURGY**

Any human success requires vigilance. Opportunities and powerful moments of encounter can easily be missed when we are not attentive. It is all too easy today to live distracted and preoccupied lives. There is so much vying for our attention that it can be hard to be selective and really focus. Caught up in this whirlwind of busyness and anxiety, we become tired and almost sleepwalk through life. Advent is a time to selectively focus. These beautiful four short weeks are a time to look backward and forward and be attentive to the human journey and God's revelation. From the beginning of time, God has been seeking our attention. He constantly reminds us of the justice he desires to bring and the promise of his abiding unconditional love. Understanding and growing in these truths requires alertness so that we can be strengthened in our faith and prepared for whatever will come.

©LPI

**November Top Hat Collection: \$1,113.94**  
**THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

**First Sunday of Advent:**

As we begin Advent we are called to "wait" in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

Your gift to the St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas.

**Pantry Needs:** Gravy, bouillon, cream soup, stuffing mix, sweet potatoes/yams, cranberry sauce, biscuit mix, corn muffin mix, crackers, instant potatoes, and personal products such as deodorant, toothpaste, mouthwash, bar soap, small packages of toilet tissue and paper towels.

**Please consider donating any small hotel or travel sized products you may have from traveling. These are perfect for many of our clients.**



Our **Giving Tree** is now up in church! Please consider helping those who are in need by one of these ways:

- Take an ornament off the tree and purchase the item. When returning the item, tape the ornament to the outside of your wrapped gift.
- You can also put a monetary donation in an envelope marked "Giving Tree" and put it in the offertory basket. We will use the money to fill requests for ornaments left on the tree or for gifts not received.

Gifts are **due** back by **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Thank you for your support.

**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH ~ 734-241-8645**  
*Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest*

Fr. Kishore Battu x12 frkishore@stmichaelmonroe.com  
 DeeDee Perkins, Office Manager x14  
 Sharon Venier, Pastoral Associate x35  
 Kyle Engelmann, Music Director x39  
 Leslee Smith, Faith Formation Director 734-241-6097

**Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools (MCES)**

**Mr. Kyle Kubik, Executive Principal**

www.mcesmonroe.com ~ 734-241-6335

**ST. MICHAEL CAMPUS**  
 734-241-3923

**ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY**  
 734-241-1411

**SMCC HIGH SCHOOL**  
 734-241-7622

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
 734-241-8645 x42

Bulletin email: bulletin\_staff@yahoo.com

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**



**BACARELLA FUNERAL HOME**

Wm. A. Bacarella, Owner/Manger  
 Jeffery C. Rupp, Funeral Director  
 Deanna M. Maurice, Funeral Director

**734-241-4600**

1201 South Telegraph Rd. • Monroe, MI  
 www.bacarellafuneralhome.com

**Monroe Family Dentistry**

Dr. Jeremy Dull, D.D.S., P.C.  
 Dr. Bradley Zemke, D.M.D.  
 876 Stewart Rd., Suite D  
 Monroe, MI 48162  
**(734) 241-6550**

**YINGER PHARMACY SHOPPE**

Jim Yinger, RPH • Eric Nagel, RPH  
 Holly Mills, RPH • Melissa Massengill, RPH  
 1704 S. Custer | 1036 N. Monroe | Hours:  
 (734) 243-5451 | (734) 384-7044 | M-F 9-6  
 Sat 9-2

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**

**ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Sherry Fischhaber** to place an ad today!  
 sfischhaber@4LPI.com or **(800) 477-4574 x6553**



