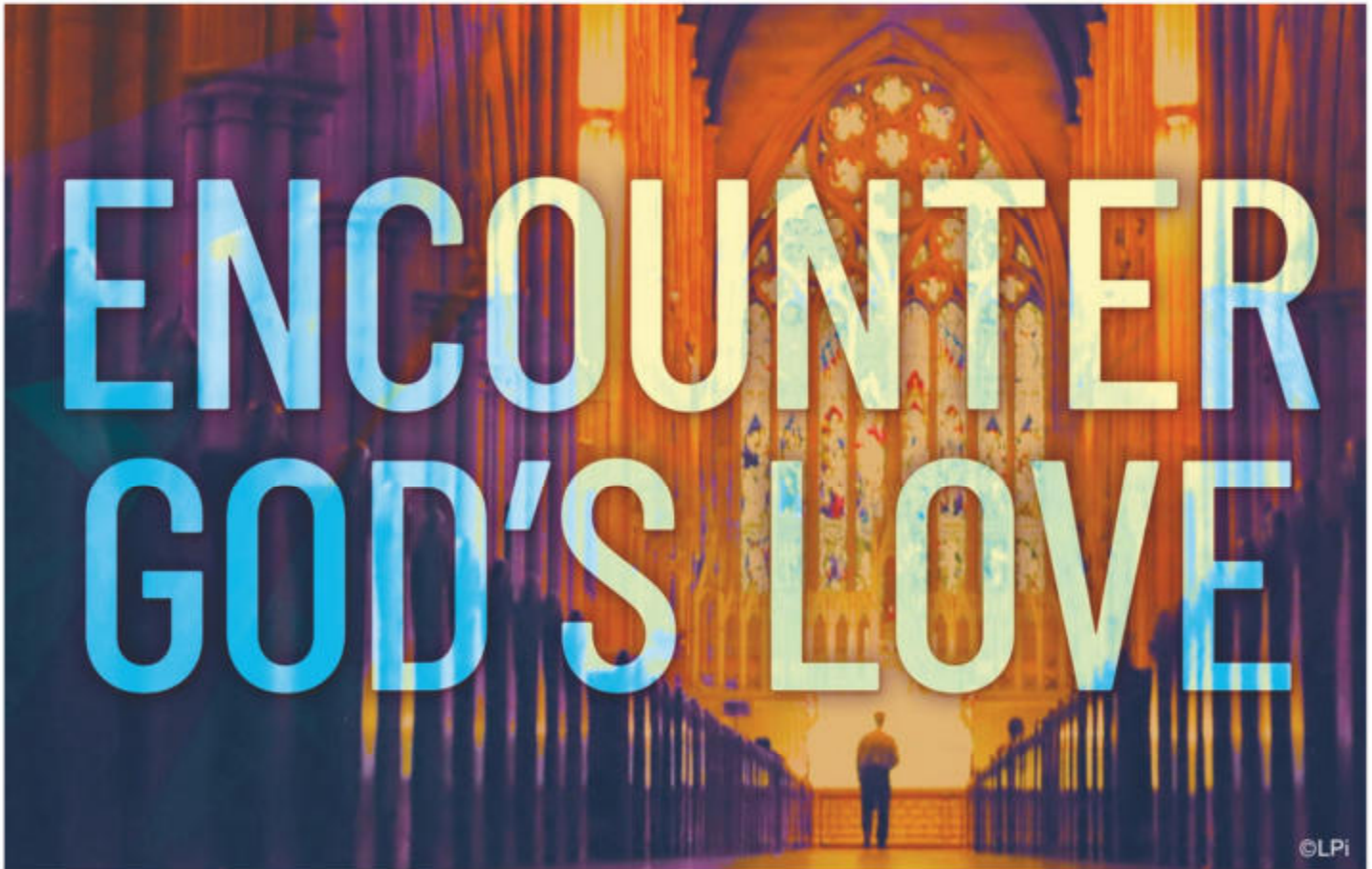




January 2, 2021 | Bulletin

St. Damien of Molokai

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL



The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.



GET IN TOUCH



248-332-0283(84)



www.st-damien.org



St. Michael Church
120 Lewis St. Pontiac

St. Vincent Church
46408 Woodward Ave. Pontiac



[stdamienpontiac/](https://www.facebook.com/stdamienpontiac/)



[@stdamienofmolokai](https://www.instagram.com/stdamienofmolokai)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Parish Office is located at the St. Michael Site.

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9:00AM - 12:00PM & 1:15PM - 4:00PM

For concerns or questions regarding Mt. Hope Cemetery | 248-350-1900.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

12:00 pm, St. Vincent, English

Saturday

4:00pm, St. Vincent, English

6:00pm, St. Vincent

Sunday

8:30am, St. Vincent, Spanish

10:30am, St. Vincent, English (Livestreamed)

12:00pm, St. Michael, Spanish

7:00pm, St. Vincent, Spanish

RECONCILIATION

Every Friday

5:30pm - 7:30pm, St. Vincent, Bilingual

Or by appointment please call our parish office

ADORATION CHAPEL

The chapel is open 24/7 at St. Michael's Church site. Please text or call 248-838-9805 (bilingual) or 248-897-9155 (Spanish)

If you would like to sign up to be a regular Adorer. Instructions and more information will follow.

STAFF DIRECTORY

Pastor

Rev. Jacob VanAssche
jvanassche@st-damien.org

Pastoral Minister

Guadalupe Guzman
guzman@st-damien.org

Office Assistant, Christian Services

Cris Bowker
cbowker@st-damien.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Andrew Mabee
amabee@st-damien.org

Director of Religious Education

Carmen Ochoa
mochoa@st-damien.org

Office Assistant, Communications

Karina Ramirez
kramirez@st-damien.org

Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Michael Merlo
mmerlo@st-damien.org

Business Manager

Carol Pates
Accounting@st-damien.org

Property Manager

Fernando Perales
fperales@st-damien.org

Maintenance Assistance

John Reynolds

MASS INTENTIONS

All weekly masses are in English at St. Vincent Campus.

Monday, January 3

Betty Esnault (L)
Damien Staff

Tuesday, January 4

Sr. Mary Finn H.V.M.
Maria M. Jimenez

Wednesday, January 5

Herbert M, Drake, Jr
Brothers & Sisters

Thursday, January 6

Florencio Hernandez (D)
Jimenez Family

Friday, January 7

Teresa Delgadilo (D)
Gabriela Alvarado

Saturday, January 8

4:00pm:
Shannon Whiting (D)
Ann Mitchell

6:00pm:
Pedro Hernandez II (D)

Sunday, January 9

8:30am, Spanish:
Por Todos Los Feligreses de San
Damian.

10:30am, English:
Leon and Grace Kramer (D)
Reynolds & Alessi Families

12:00pm, Spanish:
Guadalupe Delgado Jimenez (D)

7:00pm, Spanish:
Fr. Charles Niehaus (D)
1st. Anniv.

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone please call the parish office.



PRAY FOR...

Helen Alvarado
Catherine & Michael Blasyck
Lynn Brockman
Marie Jacqueline Bicies
Katie Clark
Jerry Crawford
Janet Holley
Dolores, Mike, Billy Hockenberry
Joan Haslinger
Gilbert Ochoa
Susan Kelchner
Oaken Kovary
Melinda Kici-O'Brian
Carol McInnis

Noelito Nieves
Andres Nieves
Tony Nieves,
Don Nelson,
Edward Robak
Patricia Smith
Rod Schneider
Juan Carlos Trejo,
Brian Thornberry,
Nick Tubbs
Humberto Vargas
Fernando Tapia
For all expecting Mothers in our
parish, and for all those suffering
from an illness.



God bless and keep
safe all of our troops
wherever they are
stationed. May they
all be returned home
safely to their
families.

READINGS

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

First John 3: 22 - 4: 6
Psalms 2: 7bc-8, 10-12a
Matthew 4: 12-17, 23-25

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

First John 4: 7-10
Psalms 72: 1-2, 3-4, 7-8
Mark 6: 34-44

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

First John 4: 11-18
Psalms 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13
Mark 6: 45-52

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

First John 4: 19 - 5: 4
Psalms 72: 1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17
Luke 4: 14-22

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

First John 5: 5-13
Psalms 147: 12-13, 14-15, 19-20
Luke 5: 12-16

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

First John 5: 14-21
Psalms 149: 1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b
John 3: 22-30

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

BAPTISM OF THE LORD FEAST

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11
Psalm 104: 1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30
Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7
Luke 3: 15-16

Prayer List: Unless otherwise requested the names published in the prayer list will be included for six weeks and then removed. To renew or add, please call the parish office.

FORMED®

My Dear Parishioners,

It gives me great joy to share with you that our parish now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its catechism. Best of all, this material is free to you.

Our parish will be using the material on FORMED to support our ministries and provide continuing education for staff members and parishioners, as well as outreach for our sick and homebound members. Much of FORMED's content is available in both English and Spanish. You have easy access to all of the material on FORMED to support your own faith journey and that of your family members.

Are you hesitant to return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation after a long absence? Watch *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*.

Would you like to be more confident in answering your teenagers' questions about the validity of the Gospels? Watch *Lectio: The Case for Jesus*.

Do you search for a reliable source of Catholic teaching on current issues? Tune in each week to *The Augustine Institute Show with Dr. Tim Gray*.

Have you despaired of finding good movies that your family can enjoy together on a Friday night? Start with *Mother Teresa*, the story of the selfless saint who brought hope and love to the poorest of the poor.

You can enjoy FORMED on your computer or on your television with an inexpensive Roku device or Apple TV. You can even listen on your phone as you commute to work or do chores.

My hope and prayer is that the content on FORMED will enrich, deepen, and inspire your faith. Please pray for our benefactors who have made a FORMED subscription a reality for our parish. Please pray for the people at the Augustine Institute who create this wonderful and much-needed Catholic content for our people.

May the good Lord bless you and all of your loved ones!

Fr. Jacob VanAssche



To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's zip code
- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in. Now you can get the free FORMED app for your phone by searching FORMED Catholic in your app store.





After 10 years of having the privilege of working in the Parish Office, with a very sad heart, I have decided to step down from my position. This has been the best job of my working career; thanks be to God. I also am thankful for Fr. Jim Kean for employing me. It was an honor to work in the house of the Lord and for the wonderful community of St. Damien of Molokai Parish.

I made many friends during this time. I could write a whole page on how thankful I am to everyone who has helped me in some way or another, but space will not permit me to do this. I thank everyone sincerely from the bottom of my heart for everything you have done for me. To the Spanish-speaking community, I was the one that always said "Yo puedo hablar un poquito de español, ¿cómo te puedo ayudar?" I thank you for your patience and your willingness to always help me with my "broken" Spanish. Your help was greatly appreciated and always touched my heart how caring you were to me.

Fr. Jake, Fr. Drew, the Parish Staff, and the Parish Community who make St. Damien such a beautiful and faith-filled place to worship and work, you all will always be in my thoughts and prayers. If you attend the Sunday English mass, I will see you there, otherwise, you will always remain in my heart.

Peace & Love to you all,
Cristina "Cris" Bowker

.....
A BIG Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who took ornaments from the "Giving Trees" and to those who brought in personal hygiene items for the "Christmas Project." There were forty families who benefited from your most gracious generosity! The smiles on their faces were truly priceless. They were all so appreciative for this wonderful blessing made possible because of your love for Jesus in helping those in need.

A heartfelt thanks to all of you here at St. Damien of Molokai for your most generous gifts, as well to our brothers and sisters at: Sacred Heart, St. Anastasia, St. Mary of the Hills and St. Thomas More! Thanks also to the Baldwin Center for their donation of food, beverages, and boxes. It took many volunteers to work on this project. Thank you to each of you for your part in making this event possible and successful.

May God abundantly bless you all in the New Year!

In Faith and with Peace,
Cris Bowker
Christian Services

AT OUR PARISH

24/7 PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

Our chapel is located at our St. Michael site. Please call the parish office for instructions after 4pm during the week.

MONDAY

Faith Nights every second Monday of the month. 5:30pm at St. Vincent (English) and 6:45pm at St. Michael (Spanish).

FRIDAY

Mercy Nights every Friday at St. Vincent from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Adoration + Confessions.

FRIDAY

Molokai Youth every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. For high school students from 6pm to 8pm.

SATURDAY

Every 1st Saturday of the month join us for a Young Adult Mass at 6pm. This mass is in Spanish and English.



Enter the gates where we bring beauty
To your loved ones resting place.

Danny Losee, President
878 North Perry St. | Pontiac, MI 48340
Office: 248-334-1563 • Fax: 248-334-1872
Office Hours: M-F 9:00a-4:30p | S 9:00a-1:00p

SE ALQUILA CASA
248-240-6197

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

Don't miss your favorite
BURRA PARAY

Grand Tavern Northbrook, MI
Bakers Indianapolis, IN, Toledo, OH

Grand Tavern page on 4LPI.com

Para información, llame a nivel
en mensaje de texto
248-392-0850


WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

**BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.**

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!**



NOW HIRING
WE NEED BUILDERS AND PROJECT FOREMEN

Full-time and Part-time positions available:

LANDSCAPING PAVERS & PATIOS MASONRY CONCRETE POOLS & TILE DRIVERS WITH CDL	\$15-25 per hour	- 50-65 hrs/week. Weekly pay. - 90-day raise guaranteed - Yearly bonus guaranteed - Health insurance options
---	-------------------------	---

 **ANTONELLI** LANDSCAPE

Call John at (586) 943-3003

**AVAILABLE FOR
A LIMITED TIME!**

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Dave Polansky** to
place an ad today!
dpolansky@4LPi.com or
(800) 477-4574 x6326

**FREE
AD DESIGN**

WITH PURCHASE
OF THIS SPACE

 **CALL**
800.477.4574

Servicios En Español Disponible

Serving the
Families of the
Pontiac Community
for over 75 Years

Sparks-Griffin "Thoughtful Service"
FUNERAL HOME
Thomas G. Griffin
Gregory T. Griffin

www.sparksgriffin.com • 46 Williams St., Pontiac • (248) 338-9288

El Rincon
CHIANGO
Authentic Mexican Food
1188 Joslyn Ave. • Pontiac
248-977-5665

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL PARISH.**

 Buy a bulletin ad space today!

NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin
emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com

