THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord. Though traditionally celebrated throughout the world on January 6, at some point in the history of the Church here in the United States, the feast was transferred to the nearest Sunday. Unfortunately, in doing so, it often shortens the joy of the ancient celebration of the twelve days of Christmas. Historically, in many Christian areas of the East, this feast preceded that of Christmas. While the Byzantine East celebrates the Baptism of the Lord on January 6, the Latin West celebrates the visit of the Magi to our Lord. However, in the Divine Office of the Latin Church, interestingly, three events are commemorated: the Baptism of Christ, the Wedding Feast of Cana and the Visit of the Magi to the Child Jesus. The relics of the Magi are kept in the Cathedral of Cologne in Germany, and it is believed that they were the first evangelizers of their countries following their encounter with Jesus as a baby, paving the way for Christianity following the death and resurrection of Christ.

One of the most ancient depictions of the Adoration of the Magi is found in the Catacombs of Priscilla in Rome, Italy, dating to the late 3rd or early 4th century. The depiction is of Mary presenting the child Jesus on her lap to three Magi. This iconography of Christ and Mary became very important in the ancient Church, and is often entitled the Mother of God Enthroned. The point that I wish to make is that Christ is being worshipped as Mary holds him out to us, as she always does, directing us to Him, as our King and Savior. The Gospel account of the Evangelist, St. Matthew, states that the Magi, “...prostrated themselves and did Him (Jesus) homage.”

As we continue to celebrate all of the mysteries surrounding the Birth of the Christ Child, let us recall that in the Eucharistic celebration, and our worthy reception of Christ’s true Body and Blood, whether actually or spiritually (in case we cannot attend Mass), is our primary way of adoring Christ. Also, (and
it naturally flows from and leads back to the reception of Jesus’ Body and Blood at Holy Mass, adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is another primary way of worshipping Christ in the most effective way. After the primary reception of Jesus in Holy Communion, the graces obtained through Eucharistic Adoration have been well known in the Church for centuries and have been recently making a very strong comeback in our Age. Consider the possibility of Eucharistic Adoration, normally held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in our parish of St. Michael the Archangel. By worshipping Our Lord’s Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, in effect, His Real Presence in the Eucharist, we are spending time in His presence. One quickly begins to understand the changes that take place in our lives as a result of loving Jesus in a tangible, physical manner.

Last, in order to celebrate Epiphany in our parish Church, three special events will be occurring this year:

*The blessing and distribution of chalk at all Masses (outdoor and indoor – one per household) on the weekend of January 2/3. Instructions for the blessing of your home with the sacramental of blessed chalk will follow this article.

*The Blessing of Epiphany water will be held with the chanting of Solemn Vespers on the evening of January 5 at 7 p.m. at the St. Bernard Church site. Please bring your own containers of water for the blessing. An explanation of this ancient rite follows this article.

*A Solemn candlelight Mass will be held at Our Lady of Grace Church site at 7:00 p.m. on the traditional night of Epiphany, January 6, at 7 p.m. This special Mass will be celebrated “Ad Orientem,” meaning toward liturgical east, with the Priest and Faithful offering the prayers of the Mass in the same direction toward Our Lord. This is not done normatively on a regular basis in our parish, but on special occasions, outside of the Sunday celebration of Mass.

Blessing of Home with the Sacramental of Blessed Chalk
Recite the following prayer in the home on Epiphany:

Lord God of Heaven and Earth, You revealed Your Only-Begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill it with the Light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect Your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then mark the door (outside or inside) with the blessed chalk as such:

+ 20 + C + M + B + 21 +

C, M, B, stands for two things: 1. The traditional names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. 2. Also, it is an acronym for the Latin phrase, Christus Mansionem Benedicat, meaning, “Christ bless this home.”

The Blessing of Epiphany Water
Historically, many diocesan rituals existed in the Church that incorporated the Blessing of Water for the Feast of Epiphany in the Latin West, primarily in Germany. However, in 1890, the Roman Ritual added a Blessing of Water for the Feast of the Epiphany, borrowing from the Eastern Rites for the use of the Church universally. The Blessing and Exorcism of the Water are very powerful and the use of this Blessed Water as a Sacramental is a wonderful privilege for the faithful to have and use in their homes. Please bring your own vessels of water the evening of January 5th, at 7 p.m. at the St. Bernard Church site for this unique and beautiful event.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, Jan 3 - Epiphany of the Lord</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Diane Pfister</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Mary Jean McNalley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>William Varley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Carmela Jeraci</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Josephine Morice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Clifford Tuttle</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, Jan 4 - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Mary Margaret Tutena</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Dr. Rudolph Janosko</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, Jan 5 - Saint John Neumann, Bishop</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Sam McCamy III</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Confession indoors at OLG</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Blessing of Epiphany Water</td>
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<td></td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, Jan 6 - Christmas Weekday</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>John McMenamin</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Confession indoors following the 7:00am Mass at STB</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Votive Mass of the Epiphany</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Solemn Candlelight</td>
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<td></td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, Jan 7 - Christmas Weekday</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Tony Runco</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<td>4:00-5:00pm</td>
<td>Confession indoors at STB</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00-7:30pm</td>
<td>Confession indoors at STB</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, Jan 8 - Christmas Weekday</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Margaret Markovick</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, Jan 9 - Christmas Weekday</strong></td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Deceased Ushers and Money Counters</td>
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<td>Confession indoors following the 8:00am Mass at STB</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Confession outdoors 2:45-3:45 at OLG</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Rev. Robert Coyne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Joseph Feeney &amp; Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, Jan 10 - Baptism of the Lord</strong></td>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>For All People of the Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Betty Feeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Kaye Lamatrice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Judith Flaherty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>OLG</td>
<td>Alexander Higie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Joseph Altieri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 8:00am Mass on Saturday, January 9th is dedicated to the deceased ushers and money counters of the parish by Laughlin’s.

The Rectory Office Remains Closed to the Public

Your Charity to Saint Michael the Archangel Parish

- Sunday, 12/20/2020: $19,830.00
- Capital Improvements: $1,893.00

November 2020 Online Giving (Sundays Only): $68,739.09

Thank You For Your Generosity

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Wednesdays
6:30-8:30 PM
Fontenay Center, St. Bernard’s
For Information 412-561-0199
Open to All! No RSVP Necessary
Jesus commissioned the eleven remaining Apostles to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Congratulations on your commitment to further His great commission by baptizing your baby at St. Michael the Archangel Parish! We know this is a very exciting and blessed time for you and your family, and we rejoice with you.

If this is your first baby, email Deacon Eric Schorr at eschorr@smapgh.org to set up a time to meet, preferably before your baby is born. Your meeting with Deacon Eric gives you the opportunity to meet with a member of the parish clergy team to learn more about our parish and having your child baptized. We want to get to know your family better!

After your meeting with Deacon Eric, you will attend our Baptism Formation Evening for New Parents. These evenings are held every-other-month. You will receive the dates of the evenings at your meeting with Deacon Eric.

You will be able to schedule your baby’s baptism after you have met with Deacon Eric and attended the Baptism Formation Evening.

If this isn’t your first baby to be baptized and it has been more than three years since you have attended our Baptism Formation Evening for New Parents, you will need to meet with Deacon Eric before you schedule your baby’s baptism.

The “Wedding Committee” at St. Michael the Archangel Parish is looking for new members to join our ministry.

Responsibilities include contacting the bride prior to the wedding day to gather necessary information, assisting with rehearsals, and coordinating the events of the wedding day. This committee is truly enjoyable.

Interested volunteers who would like to join, please contact Debbie Tony at bt.dt@verizon.net.

Thank you!  Debbie

In Memory of Our Beloved Deceased

†Daniel Hubert
†Stephen McGalla III
†Wanda Lambl
†Charles Torisky

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

The promise of heaven is our eternal hope.

Recent Baptisms

Wilder Downs Lynch
Child of Ryan & Megan Riggs Lynch

Emlyn John Hayes
Child of Timothy & Lindsay Lynch Hayes

Claudia Jude Craig
Child of Michael & Margaret Joyce Craig

Sacrament of Baptism at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish

Recent Baptisms

Wilder Downs Lynch
Child of Ryan & Megan Riggs Lynch

Emlyn John Hayes
Child of Timothy & Lindsay Lynch Hayes

Claudia Jude Craig
Child of Michael & Margaret Joyce Craig

All sacramental records for Our Lady of Grace and St. Bernard Churches prior to July 1, 2020 have been sent to the Diocesan Archives. If you are in need of any sacramental information prior to this date, please contact the archives at 412-456-3158.

To view or subscribe to this bulletin go to www.parishesonline.com
Are You or Someone You Know Struggling to Make Ends Meet During These Trying Times?
The St. Michael the Archangel St. Vincent de Paul Society may be able to help! We assist those within our Parish boundaries with rental assistance, utilities, medications, food, furniture, and clothing needs. All requests are completely anonymous. Simply call the Rectory and leave a message for the St. Vincent de Paul Society! We are here to help!
To reach the Society: (412)561-3300 ext. 303
For Food Assistance:
St. Michael the Archangel Food Pantry: (412) 200-2244
St. Winifred Food Pantry (412)343-1915

Hearts and Soles Walking Group

Thursdays 5-6pm
Our Lady of Grace behind the Church

Please join fellow parishioners for an opportunity to gather to walk, talk and spend time together. There is such a gift in community and fresh air. Masks and safe distancing please.

Contact Katie at k.m.keating@icloud.com to let the group know you are coming or for more details.

Friday, January 29 is the date for the 48th March for Life in Washington D.C.
St. Paul of the Cross Parish has reserved a bus
Due to the virus we will do things a little differently this year. Family members will be able to sit together and those travelling alone will have 2 seats to themselves. We will, of course, wear masks and use hand sanitizer. Our bus has a recently installed air filtration system and will be completely sanitized prior to our trip. All necessary precautions will be taken throughout the day. Because of the reduced number of passengers, our fee will be $40 this year which will again include a continental breakfast and our "famous" Respect Life bagged lunch!
Please call Kathy or John with any questions or to make reservations: 412-344-9690.
Please prayerfully consider joining us!
St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Family Faith Nights

NEW in 2021!

JANUARY 18
THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

3rd Monday of Each Month
6:30-8:00 pm
Clairvaux Hall - St. Bernard

Prayer, Praise, Teaching, Craft, Take-Home Activity
For the Whole Family

Register online at smapgh.org

Music by:
Jonah Soucy

children

412-561-0199 · dthimons@smapgh.org
“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” 1 Corinthians 15:58

As St. Michael the Archangel Parish builds a strong faith community and continues to grow close connections to God during this difficult time of the pandemic, we will begin to feature a parish ministry in the bulletin.

The Meet our Ministry spotlight in the bulletin will allow parishioners to explore ministry opportunities in the parish and offer a way for parishioners to learn more about ways to be involved in the St. Michael the Archangel community. The pandemic has brought many challenges for the ministries but many still continue their mission to pray, serve others and share the many blessings they have been given by Our Lord.

The time and talents of the St. Michael the Archangel ministries help the parish remain active, strengthen faith in the church and help to make a difference in the lives of many in the community. The St. Michael the Archangel ministries welcomes ways to open one’s self to serve the church and feel how God can work fully in their lives and strengthen their faith. The ministries also provide ways to meet parishioners who share the same deep faith in God and find connections to the church outside of attending mass.

Meet our Ministry spotlights will begin in the New Year. Please continue to read and review the future bulletins for the spotlights of all the St. Michael the Archangel Ministries in our Parish.

We pray for God to continue to bless all our St. Michael the Archangel ministries, our parish community and inspire those with a willingness to serve others in 2021. God Bless St. Michael the Archangel Parish!
WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3, 2021

SUN 1/03  
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

MON 1/04  
1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

TUE 1/05  
1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44

WED 1/06  
1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

THR 1/07  
1 Jn 4:19  5:4/Ps 72:1 2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14 22a

FRI 1/08  
1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16

SAT 1/09  
1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

SUN 1/10  

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3, 2021

Sunday:  The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week
Monday:  St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Tuesday:  St. John Neumann, Bishop
Wednesday:  St. André Bessette, Religious
Thursday:  St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Sunday:  The Baptism of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life’s journey we may think we are walking in the light but are really lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, either because we are distracted, disinterested, or even apprehensive. Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? In Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God’s revelation gives us the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tells us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to go out to all the world. Is this something we want to see?
Happy New Year and many blessings for a bright year ahead from Ave Maria Academy! Students spent the Advent season lighting the darkness with service projects and some Christmas fun.

AMA was proud to participate in the National Family Volunteer Day. Instead of the annual Saturday morning at school, this year students crafted ornaments for the Angel Tree and tied blankets for Project Linus in the comfort of their own homes with their families. The project benefited The Red Door Ministry, Operation Troop Appreciation, Homebound Elderly, Foster Love Project, The Turning Point, And Pittsburgh Mercy’s Operation Safety Net.

Students helped put Thanksgiving Dinner on many tables this year by collecting more the $9,000 for the KDCA TV Turkey Fund. They also took the opportunity to thank today’s everyday heroes. Area police officers, firefighters, EMT’s and hospital workers joined the student body on our campuses for a huge thank you from all of us!

The eighth graders led the way in the canned food collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor Food Drive. Students brought in bags and bags of food to be delivered to needy in our area. Students enjoyed a dress down day as a reward for their generous donations.

Even though the school year looks and feels different, we’re still taking time to celebrate our teachers, our students, our school community, and Christmas! Students of all ages enjoyed the last day of school before break watching movies, making crafts, and eating yummy treats. Our teachers enjoyed a catered lunch provided by our PTG.

Learn more at avemariapgh.org. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.
Temporary Mass Schedule
Parishioners must sign up on the website to attend all indoor weekend Masses only

Mon-Fri
7:00am Indoors at St. Bernard Church (Main Church)
9:00am Indoors at Our Lady of Grace Church

Saturday
8:00am Indoors at St. Bernard Church (Main Church)
4:00pm Outdoors at Our Lady of Grace Church
5:00pm Indoors at St. Bernard Church (Main Church)

Sunday
7:00am Indoors at St. Bernard Church (Main Church)
9:00am Outdoors at St. Bernard Church
9:30am Outdoors at Our Lady of Grace Church
11:00am Indoors at St. Bernard Church (Main Church)
11:30am Indoors at Our Lady of Grace Church
7:30pm Candlelight Mass Indoors at St. Bernard (Main Church)

Saint Bernard Church
311 Washington Road/Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Our Lady of Grace Church
310 Kane Blvd/Pittsburgh, PA 15243

New Website: smapgh.org
**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH**

### CLERGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bishop</td>
<td>Most Rev. David A. Zubik, MSEd, DD</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Vicar</td>
<td>Very Rev. Joseph E. Sioli, VE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Rev. Brian Welding, JCD</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bwelding@smapgh.org">bwelding@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-3300 x 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parochial Vicar</td>
<td>Rev. Benjamin Barr, Ph.B, STB, MDiv</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bbarr@smapgh.org">bbarr@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-3300 x 603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parochial Vicar</td>
<td>Rev. Thomas Gramc, STL</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tgramc@smapgh.org">tgramc@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-3300 x 602</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>Rev. Gilbert Z. Puznakoski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>Rev. Michael L. Yaksick</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td>Rev. Mr. Fred Eckhardt, MEd.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:feckhardt@smapgh.org">feckhardt@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-500-6553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td>Rev. Mr. John Mayer</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmayer@smapgh.org">jmayer@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td>Rev. Mr. Eric Schorr</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:eschorr@smapgh.org">eschorr@smapgh.org</a></td>
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### SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director of Evangelization</td>
<td>Daniel Thimons</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dthimons@smapgh.org">dthimons@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-0199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Education Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Christy Fabus</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:cfabus@smapgh.org">cfabus@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-0199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Education Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Danielle Vernillo</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dvernillo@smapgh.org">dvernillo@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-0199 x 310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Youth Ministry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Social Service Outreach/ Pastoral Associate</td>
<td>Angela Gaughan, MA</td>
<td></td>
<td>a <a href="mailto:gaughan@smapgh.org">gaughan@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-6021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Music</td>
<td>Chaz Bowers, MSM</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:cbowers@smapgh.org">cbowers@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-531-7412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Director of Music</td>
<td>Aaron Sproul, BM</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:asproul@smapgh.org">asproul@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-531-7412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Diann Murtaugh</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmurtaugh@smapgh.org">dmurtaugh@smapgh.org</a></td>
<td>412-561-3300 x 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database Administrator/Assistant Business Mgr.</td>
<td>Mary Beth Schnieder</td>
<td></td>
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