



Saint Michael Catholic Church

6912 Chestnut Rd. Independence, OH 44131

February 7, 2021

Pastoral Staff

Fr. John J. Mullee
Pastor

Fr. John Vrana
Retired—in residence

Sr. Betty Gulick
Minister to the Sick &
Homebound

Mr. Todd Dockrill
Director of Music
PSR & Technology

Ms. Yvonne Saunders
School Principal

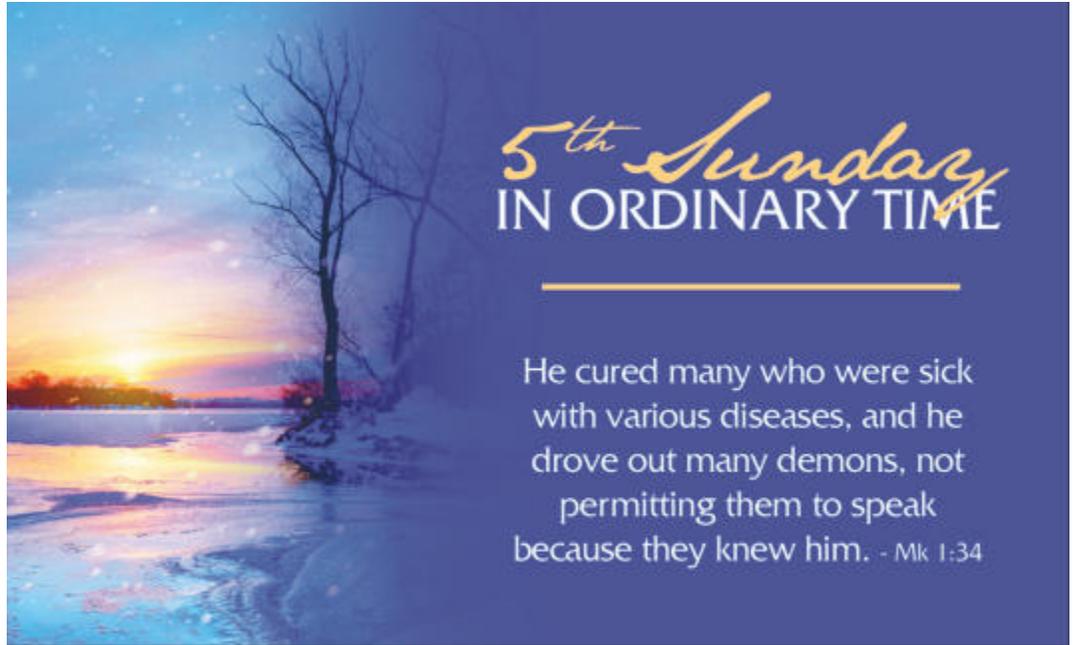
Mr. Randy Kula
Coordinator of Youth
Ministry & Faith
Formation

Support Staff

Christine Dockrill
Business Manager

Wendy Boergert
Secretary

Ed Riegelmayr
John Noga
Doug Petrillo
Maintenance



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



Rectory Office 216.524.1394
216.524.1395
Rectory Fax 216.328.8537

Rectory Hours (Mon.-Fri.)
9am—4pm

**Religious Education &
Music Ministry Office**
216.524.4212

Ministries Scheduling Coordinator
Sue Synek
syneks22@gmail.com

Church Website:
stmichaelchurchindependence.org

School Office 216.524.6405
School Fax 216.524.7538

School Website:
stmichaelschoolinfo.com

Mass Schedule

Saturday—4:30pm
Sunday—8:00am
10:00am
12:00pm
Mon.-Wed. & Fri.—8:30am
Holy Days—8:30am
12:05pm
7:00pm
Legal Holidays 8:30am

Confessions

Saturday—3:30pm
and by appointment

Anointing of the Sick

by appointment

Weddings & Baptisms

please call the Rectory
to schedule

“Meeting Christ through prayer and
being Christ for the World”

We Remember

Refrain



We re - mem - ber how you loved us to your death,
and still we cel - e - brate, for you are with us here;
and we be - lieve that we will see you when you come
in your glo - ry, Lord. We re - mem - ber, we
cel - e - brate, we be - lieve.

Verses

4. See the face of Christ re - vealed in
yearn - ing just to touch you and be healed.
bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
all the hopes and dreams of ev - 'ry heart,
ev - 'ry per - son stand - ing by your side,
Gath - er all your peo - ple, and hold them to your heart.
Sign of grace and mer - cy, the pres - ence of the Lord.
Peace be - yond all tell - ing, and free - dom from all fear.
Gift to one an - oth - er, and tem - ples of your love.'" data-bbox="62 502 645 797"/>

1. Here, a mil - lion wound - ed souls are
2. Now we re - cre - ate your love, we
3. Christ, the Fa - ther's great "A - men" to
4. See the face of Christ re - vealed in
yearn - ing just to touch you and be healed.
bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
all the hopes and dreams of ev - 'ry heart,
ev - 'ry per - son stand - ing by your side,
Gath - er all your peo - ple, and hold them to your heart.
Sign of grace and mer - cy, the pres - ence of the Lord.
Peace be - yond all tell - ing, and free - dom from all fear.
Gift to one an - oth - er, and tem - ples of your love.

**Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to
people of goodwill.**

**We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks
for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins
of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins
of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right
hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are
the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most
High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of
God the Father,
Amen.**

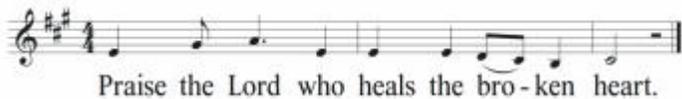
1st Reading - Job 7:1-4, 6-7

A Reading from the Book of Job

Job spoke, saying:
Is not man's life on earth a drudgery?
Are not his days those of hirelings?
He is a slave who longs for the shade,
a hireling who waits for his wages.
So I have been assigned months of misery,
and troubled nights have been allotted to me.
If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?"
then the night drags on;
I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.
My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle;
they come to an end without hope.
Remember that my life is like the wind;
I shall not see happiness again.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial—Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6



Music: T.J. Dockrill © 2018.

*Praise the LORD, for he is good;
sing praise to our God, for he is gracious.
The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;
the dispersed of Israel he gathers.*

*He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
He tells the number of the stars;
he calls each by name.*

*Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
to his wisdom there is no limit.
The LORD sustains the lowly;
the wicked he casts to the ground.*

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

A Reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast,
for an obligation has been imposed on me,
and woe to me if I do not preach it!
If I do so willingly, I have a recompense,
but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a
stewardship.
What then is my recompense?
That, when I preach,
I offer the gospel free of charge
so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

Although I am free in regard to all,
I have made myself a slave to all
so as to win over as many as possible.
To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak.
I have become all things to all, to save at least some.
All this I do for the sake of the gospel,
so that I too may have a share in it.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Music: Owen Alstott © 1977, 1990 OCP.

*Christ took away our infirmities
and bore our diseases.*

Gospel - Mark 1:29-39

The Lord be with you. **And with your Spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On leaving the synagogue
Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with
James and John.
Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.
They immediately told him about her.
He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up.
Then the fever left her and she waited on them.

When it was evening, after sunset,
they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by
demons.
The whole town was gathered at the door.
He cured many who were sick with various diseases,
and he drove out many demons,
not permitting them to speak because they knew him.

Rising very early before dawn, he left
and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.
Simon and those who were with him pursued him
and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you."
He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages
that I may preach there also.
For this purpose have I come."
So he went into their synagogues,
preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole
of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten
Son of God, born of the Father before all ages, God
from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made. For us men and for
our salvation he came down from heaven (*bow*) and by
*the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and
became man.* For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and
rose again on the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to
judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have
no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who
with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who
has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy,
catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to
come. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven
and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(*bow*) *who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the
Virgin Mary,* suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father almighty; from there he will come to
judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy
Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body and life everlasting. Amen.

O HOW BLESSED (THE BEATITUDES)

Dan Schutte



1. O how blessed are the poor in spir - it, the
2. O how blessed are the meek and low - ly, for
3. O how blessed are the pure of heart, for
4. O how blessed those who fight for peace, the



1. king - dom of God is theirs. O how blessed those who
2. they shall pos - sess the earth. O how blessed those who
3. they shall be - hold God's face. O how blessed those who
4. chil - dren of God are they. O how blessed those de -



1. dwell in sor - row, they sure - ly will be con - soled.
2. thirst for jus - tice, they sure - ly will have their fill.
3. mend with mer - cy, for - give - ness is their re - ward.
4. spised and hat - ed, who bear it be - cause of me.



Re - joice and be glad, be - loved of the Lord, the



king - dom of heav - en is yours. The first shall be last, the



last shall be first, for such is the wis - dom of God.

Text: Based on Matthew 5:3-12. Text and music © 2015, Daniel L. Schutte.
Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

After everyone has received communion and after the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Tabernacle, you may be seated or kneel for a time of quiet prayer.

Prayer to St. Michael

**Saint Michael
the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection
against the wickedness
and snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him,
we humbly pray;
and do thou,
O Prince of the
heavenly host,
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.**

LEAD ME, LORD

John D. Becker



1. Bless - ed are the poor in spir - it, long - ing for their
2. Bless - ed are the mer - ci - ful, for mer - cy shall be
3. Blest are they who through their life - times sow the seeds of



1. Lord, for God's com - ing king - dom shall be theirs.
2. theirs, and the pure in heart shall see their God.
3. peace, all will call them chil - dren of the Lord.



1. Bless - ed are the sor - row - ing, for they shall be con -
2. Blest are they whose hun - ger on - ly ho - li - ness can
3. Blest are you, though per - se - cu - ted in your ho - ly



1. soled, and the meek shall come to rule the world.
2. fill, for I say they shall be sat - is - fied.
3. life, for in heav - en, great is your re - ward.



Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord, by the light of truth to



seek and to find the nar - row way. Be my way;



be my truth; be my life, my Lord, and lead me, Lord, to -



day. day. And lead me, Lord, to - day.

Text: Matthew 5:3-12; 7:7, 13; John 14:6. Text and music © 1987, John D. Becker.
Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Parish Website
<https://stmichaelchurchindependence.org>

Connect with us on Facebook:

search:
St Michael Church

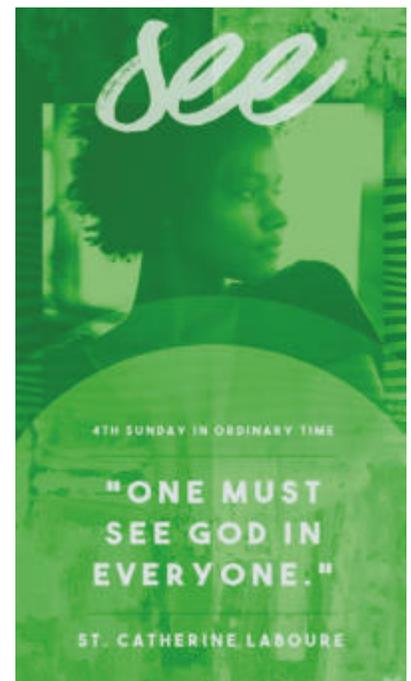
url:
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Michael-Catholic-Church-116205771740072/>

We are streaming Mass each week from the 4:30pm Saturday Liturgy

St. Michael YouTube Channel

search:
St. Michael Church
Independence, Oh

url:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4RbRgEbRcTyZYvP7UXJtJQ>



All music unless otherwise noted is printed with the following permission:
Reprint Permission: OneLicense.net#A-722655

Please Remember in Your Prayers Our Sick

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Joyce R. | Maryann Cohara |
| Michael Herasimuk | Michelle Murach |
| Tom Matia | David Pichert |
| Betty Schwab | Sal Loparo |
| Rick Schreiber | Charlenea Fabrizo |
| Laura Kelley | John Patrick Gallagher |
| Christopher | Diane Bernaciak |
| Mary Stanley | RaeAnn DiBaggio |
| Gina Childress | James Stenger |
| Gayle Telford | Thomas Gannon |
| Phyllis Owskiak | Lisa Bielawski |
| Gaetano Rini | Danny Goins |
| Gayle Rini | Lorenzo Gramuglia |
| Daisy Santocildes | Connie Fossa |
| Carol S. | Fred Wright |
| Arlene Marie Rau Mitchell | Gaylene Bielawski |
| Ron Gerba | Judy T. |
| Jerry Wright | Posy Grzincic |
| Judy Fiore | Ron Krzynowek |
| Mark L. | Dorothy K. |
| Jen LeBlanc | Christine Banaszak |
| Cecilia M. | Nina Gollon |
| Joe Denk | Terrie Goodrich |
| Barbara P. | Linda Szymanski |
| Ashley Skuhrovec | Ken Stephan |
| Sylvia Priebe | Alexis Cerio |
| Rita Matthis | Tony Kucia |

A Prayer for our Military:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**PFC Joshua Strenk, National Guard
1LT Zak Zubic, Marine Corps**

Our goal is to provide prayer support and recognition for the men and women of the St Michael community who are serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. If you have a family member or close friend serving on active duty who could use our community's prayer support for their health, well being and safe return, call the church office so we can add their name:
Please provide their rank and which branch of the service they are in.

Remembering all of our Beloved Deceased, and those in the St. Michael Memorial Fund and

Harriette Bukowski

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

Prayer before meals:

*Loving Father,
As we gather at our table to give thanks and honor to You, We remember Your grace and open our hearts to Your compassion.
We are in a pandemic and our hearts are restless. The future which lies ahead is uncertain and anxiety producing. We place ourselves in Your care, entrusting our lives to You. Bless our family, our parish, our nation, and our world.
Give us comfort and strength.
Help us to see beyond this challenge and find comfort in Your guidance.
Jesus, we place our trust in You.
St Michael the Archangel- Pray for us!
Amen.*

Reflections from the Pastor

February 7th, 2021—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear friends in Christ:

In this excerpt from the Gospel of Mark we hear:

Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.

When do we find time to pray? How apropos that in the midst of His healing ministry Christ had the insight to ask God His Father for help in bringing healing and peace to so many troubled souls; a very real need in these turbulent times is to find that time to pray, put down our phones, and go into the silence of His Mercy and Light.

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ.

His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin (see **Genesis 3:17–19**). Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes.

But, as we sing in today's Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the brokenhearted and gather those lost in exile from Him (see **Isaiah 11:12; 61:1**). We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel.

Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself.

But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand (see **Isaiah 42:6**), Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise (see **Mark 5:41–42**). It's used again to describe His own resurrection (see **Mark 14:28; 16:7**).

What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity—raised all of us who lay dead through our sins (see **Ephesians 2:5**).

Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. **The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ. We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence (see Hosea 6:1–2).**

Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel.

Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in today's Epistle. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come—that others, too, may have a share in this salvation.

(Dr Scott Hahn)

St Michael: Pray for Us



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 6

4:30 + Thomas Grande
(Grande Children)

Sunday, February 7

8:00 Parishioners
10:00 + Tom Grande
(Aunt Yolanda Marotta)
12:00 + Helen Sinko
(Sinko Family)

Monday, February 8

8:30 + Marie Johaneck
(Joan Benos)

Tuesday, February 9

8:30 For Thomas Kurtz's Birthday
(Bob Hickey—CCF)

Wednesday, February 10

8:30 + Rita & Hank Drabek
(Steve & Diane Polasko)

Friday, February 12

8:30 + Artemio Mendoza
(Family)

Saturday, February 13

4:30 + Betty Curatola
(Husband)

Sunday, February 14

8:00 HNAR
10:00 + Helen Krause
(Roberta & Keith Krause)
12:00 Parishioners

ASH WEDNESDAY—FEBRUARY 17TH, 2021

Masses on Ash Wednesday
will be celebrated at:

8:30am & 12:05pm

2021 MASS INTENTIONS

The 2021 mass intentions book is now open.
Mass intentions are \$10.00.
You are allowed 3 mass intentions
(one weekend, two weekday.)
Please contact the Rectory Office to schedule.

ST. MICHAEL PRAYER CHAIN

Email your prayer requests to stmprays@gmail.com.
If you don't have access to email, call the rectory
office and we can get your prayer requests submitted
to the chain. Prayer requests can be submitted
anytime. A list of prayer requests will go out to the
prayer chain via email. You can also request just to
be part of the prayer chain. Just email us at
stmprays@gmail.com

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Deadline for the February 14th issue is
Monday, 2/8 by 12:00pm

all announcements need to be emailed to:
tjd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH OFFERTORY

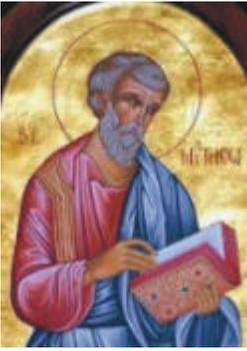


	1/31/2021
Regular Collection	\$15,941
Parish Maintenance	\$395
Total Sunday Collection	\$16,336
School Endowment	\$700

Thank you!

Thank you for your generous offertory giving this past weekend. St. Michael continues to rely on your support, both spiritually and financially. I ask you to please consider giving as you are able in one of the following ways:

1. Donate online using this secure link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>
2. Mail your envelope/weekly contribution: 6912 Chestnut Rd.
Independence, OH 44131
3. Drop your offertory envelope off using our mail slot located in the rectory front door.



Matthew 25

Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.'

Love Your Neighbor. Many parishioners received letters in January, inviting their support of the Annual Appeal. Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities and make a pledge today. Your donation makes a difference!

Your support of the 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal will help us serve those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. From Matthew's Gospel: Whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for me. When we feed the hungry, take care of the sick, and welcome the stranger, we are also serving Jesus himself.

We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely in providing essential programs and services to people in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

We invite you to view stories of inspiration and more information at CatholicCommunity.org/2021Appeal.

Double your impact! A generous donor, who believes in the mission of Catholic Charities, will match your gift, up to \$1 million. Do twice as much good when you give online at CatholicCommunity.org/Match. Thank you!



Love your
NEIGHBOR

who is hungry and isolated



CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/DONATE

Love your
NEIGHBOR





68/2021
27 January 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This past week in our country we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. I celebrated a Mass at the Cathedral that was virtually watched in all our Catholic Elementary Schools. It was a great joy for me. In that same joy, I wanted to share some exciting news! Since coming to the Diocese of Cleveland this past fall, I have come to see that one of our great treasures is our Catholic School System. We are blessed with 87 Elementary Schools and 20 High Schools as well as a number of preschools, childcare centers, colleges and universities. We educate over 37,000 children in our K through 12 schools. Without a doubt, this is a very important youth ministry of our diocese.

Aware of shifting demographics, enrollment challenges, and a desire for a renewed vision for Catholic education here, a yearlong “Think Tank” was convened under the leadership of my predecessor, now Archbishop Nelson Perez. This Think Tank emphasized the need for a plan for Catholic schools in the Diocese as well as the need to address several areas of concern, ranging from governance and finance to efforts to offer high quality and vibrant Catholic schools accessible to all.

With the transfer of Archbishop Perez and the limitations caused by the pandemic, strategic planning was put on hold. Over the last few months I have met with various stakeholders around the Diocese as well as many priests and other leaders. They have encouraged me to restart this strategic planning process as soon as possible. I am now able to move this forward.

I am very excited to announce the *Keeping the Faith: The Future of Catholic Schools Initiative* in our Diocese. This initiative is a major undertaking in our Diocese, and I have assembled a task force to lead us through this process and present me with a strategic plan for our Catholic Elementary Schools by May 2022. After reviewing the plan with additional consultation, I hope to begin to implement this plan in the 2022 – 2023 school year.

The Task Force is charged with creating a plan with objectives, strategies, and tactics to keep our schools grounded in the Catholic faith, academically excellent, and as widely available and affordable as possible within our Diocese. The hope is that this plan will serve as a model that can be used to strengthen our Catholic high school system and guide our Parish Schools of Religion, Youth Ministry and Adult Faith Formation programs.

The Task Force includes just over 50 members to assist in this work. These members represent clergy, school staff, diocesan staff, and members of the business community and experts in education.

This initiative is not about closing schools, merging them, or suggesting major reconfiguration throughout the Diocese. While some of this may come naturally as part of the process, I believe that we can create something that allows Catholic schools to be viable, accessible, and vibrant for those who want them to be the best option for their children’s education and Christian formation.

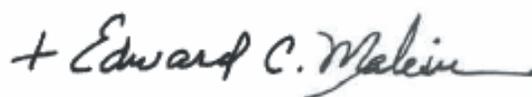
The Task Force will use the guiding principles of **Strong Mission, Multiple Models, Subsidiarity, Parish and Diocesan Support, Parental Choice, and Innovation** in creating this plan. The Task Force will look specifically at and make recommendations to strengthen six areas of Catholic Schools: Quality &

Catholicity, Leadership, Data Systems, Finances, Governance and Marketing and Communications. Finally, we will work to create an atmosphere within the Diocese of Cleveland that emphasizes the relationship of our Catholic schools to each other rather than one that encourages an unhealthy competition among them. **The education and Christian formation of our youth is the responsibility of all of us, and this must also include our common support of our Catholic schools.**

Considering this treasured heritage and shifting context, I, and leaders of Catholic schools in the Diocese believe it is the right time to reflect deeply and creatively on the vision, strategy, and operational norms of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cleveland, to deepen and renew the commitment to our mission, and to chart a course for the future of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cleveland. We look forward to sharing with you in the coming months and years our plans to *Keep the Faith* with a secure and strong *Future for our Catholic Schools*.

May God bless the children in our care, their families, all those who serve the educational mission of our Church, you, and those you love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, JCL
Bishop of Cleveland



APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED! JOIN US IN SCHOOL 5 FULL DAYS A WEEK!

As we welcome our Kindergarteners to St. Michael School, **we sow the seeds of academic excellence, responsible citizenship, and compassionate service.** Our Kindergarten students find their voices in their classes, as they experience learning with their hands, heads, and hearts. We hope you will use this information below to understand the ways we inspire their exploration of each subject area, develop their passion for learning, and encourage their collaboration with each other.

Kindergarten students are building crucial foundational skills in all areas: social and emotional, language and communication, gross and fine motor skills, citizenship and their place in a community, creative expression, and academic skills and knowledge. Our teachers work to develop these areas in a variety of teaching methods, events, and settings. Therefore, our students are provided with a creative and nurturing classroom environment where they can take the time to explore new ideas, meet new friends, and begin their faith journey.



Yvonne V. Saunders | Principal, St. Michael School

WWW.STMICHAELSCHOOLINFO.COM/KINDERGARTEN

Adoration Chapel Meditations

Brothers in Christ Ministry of St. Michael (www.brothersinchristcmf.org/blog)



Just when I thought I was out...

The recent announcement of a beloved local priest's retirement was like a call to action on his parish's Facebook page. Underneath his photo soon appeared hundreds of posts from people whose lives he touched in some way. All of them recognized his early call to service and thanked him for the sacrifices that came with it. Reading all those posts, one could wonder if this priest might have felt a bit like Michael Corleone, the boss retiring from his "family business" in *Godfather III*, when he says: "*Just when I thought I was out they pull me back in!*" This begs the question: Do priests and ministers ever really retire?

Jesus' original disciples imitated him by giving their lives to his tireless ministry of forgiveness and truth-telling. When Peter asks Jesus how often he must forgive someone who sins against him, seven wasn't enough. More like seventy-seven, Jesus tells him. Multiply that by the multitudes who came to Jesus and his disciples for healing and one wonders how a true servant of Jesus could ever retire. The real question is how do we view such service? Slavery? Indentured Servitude (done for one's own ultimate benefit)? Selfless purpose? All three are depicted in the readings for the fifth Sunday in ordinary time.

In the first reading (**Jb 7:1-4, 6-7**), we hear Job complaining to God about his tortuous lot in life. But then comes a happy ending (Job, CHAPTER 42 | USCCB). God acknowledges Job for "speaking rightly" about Him while others lived the folly of not doing so. The comforts Job eventually enjoys aren't the aim of service, but they can come with the territory—along with the status of being a revered source of Christ's teachings. But in Sunday's second reading (**1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23**), Paul warns his fellow Christians not to seek the kind of indentured servitude offering fandom as a perk of preaching:

If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship.

In other words, telling the truth is its own reward. But truth-tellers can also be targets of evil-doers who feel threatened by any light source. This world's natural inclination is toward darkness, so emitting light is a full-time job from which natural death is the only means of retirement. In Sunday's gospel reading we get a picture of a day in the life of Christ's ministry. Its continuous pace reminds us of what retiring priests and nuns—and preachers of every denomination—soon realize: that simply continuing to pray for the lives they've brightened during their ministries will always be a full-time job all by itself. They're in it for the long haul.

Have you ever thought about becoming Catholic? Have you been attending Mass with your spouse, a friend, or family member and would like to learn more about joining the faith and sharing in the full sacramental life of the Church? R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process by which non-Catholics journey towards sacramental initiation within the Catholic Church. RCIA is a learning and loving process in which one walks with members of our faith community towards a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Body, the Church. Contact Fr. John in the Parish Office for more information.

St. Michael Parish School of Religion

St.

THIS WEEK

tjd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org
216-524-4212

4TH GRADE—Monday, February 15th—6:30-7:00pm
6TH GRADE—Monday, February 15th—7:00-7:30pm

Michael PSR

ANTIPHONS FOR THIS WEEK'S MASSES	SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
----------------------------------	----------------------------------

Monday 2/8

ENTRANCE Psalm 95:6-7—**O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.**

COMMUNION cf. Psalm 107:8-9—**Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

Saint Jerome Emiliani
ENTRANCE cf. Mark 10:14—**Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.**

COMMUNION Matthew 18:3—**Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven, says the Lord.**

Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
ENTRANCE—**Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ.**

COMMUNION cf. Matthew 25:6—**Behold, the Bridegroom is coming; come out to meet Christ the Lord.**

Tuesday 2/9

ENTRANCE Psalm 95:6-7—**O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.**

COMMUNION cf. Psalm 107:8-9—**Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

Wednesday 2/10

Saint Scholastica, Virgin
ENTRANCE—**Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ.**

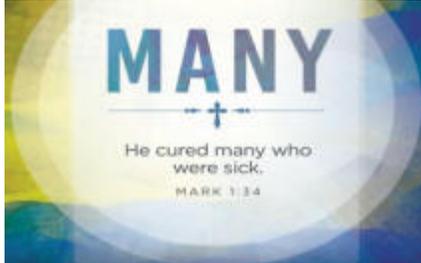
COMMUNION cf. Matthew 25:6—**Behold, the Bridegroom is coming; come out to meet Christ the Lord.**

Friday 2/12

ENTRANCE Psalm 95:6-7—**O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.**

COMMUNION cf. Psalm 107:8-9—**Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

2/8	Genesis 1:1-19 Ps.104:1-2a,5-6,10&12,24&35c May the Lord be glad in his works. Mark 6:53-56 or <u>Saint Jerome Emiliani</u> Tobit 12:6-13 Ps.34:2-3,4-5,6-7,8-9,10-11 I will bless the Lord at all times. or Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Mark 10:17-30 or 17-27 or <u>Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</u> 1 Corinthians 7:25-35 Ps.45:11-12,14-15,16-17 Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear. or The bridegroom is here; let us go out to meet Christ the Lord. Matthew 25:1-13
2/9	Genesis 1:20-2:4a Ps.8:4-5,6-7,8-9 O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth! Mark 7:1-13
2/10	<u>Saint Scholastica, Virgin</u> Genesis 2:4b-9,15-17 Ps.104:1-2a,27-28,29c-30 O bless the Lord, my soul! Mark 7:14-23 or (optional readings) Song of Songs 8:6-7 Ps.148:1bc-2,11-13a,13c-14 Young men and women, praise the name of the Lord. Luke 10:38-42
2/11	Genesis 2:18-25 Ps.128:1-2,3,4-5 Blessed are those who fear the Lord. Mark 7:24-30 or <u>Our Lady of Lourdes</u> Isaiah 66:10-14c Judith 13:18bcde,19 You are the highest honor of our race. John 2:1-11
2/12	Genesis 3:1-8 Ps.32:1-2,5,6,7 Blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. Mark 7:31-17
2/13	Genesis 3:9-24 Psalm 90:2,3-4abc,5-6,12-13 In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge. Mark 8:1-10
2/14	Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps.32:1-2,5,11 I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation. 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 Mark 1:40-45









For daily bible readings, go to usccb.org



Family Owned and Operated
www.vodrazkafuneralhome.com • 216-524-3900
 6505 Brecksville Road, Independence, OH 44131



Your trusted community painters!
TOOTH PAINTING SOLUTIONS
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
 216-459-8684
 TothPainting.com



FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
 - 800-477-4574 -

For all of your home buying/selling needs.
 Brecksville-Broadview Heights Office
 call **216-630-9689**
Howard Hannah
 Real Estate Services
 Parishioner Since 1993

Move forward with confidence.
Contact us for a complimentary second opinion at 440.740.0130

FRANK FANTOZZI,
 President and Founder

PLANNED FINANCIAL SERVICES
 7000 Fitzwater Road, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio 44141
 PlannedFinancial.com
 Investment advice offered through Planned Financial Services, a Registered Investment Advisor

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

1-855-225-4251

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

1-855-225-4251

Fortuna FUNERAL HOME
Family Owned and Operated Since 1958
 7076 Brecksville Rd., Independence | **216-520-7335**
 5316 Fleet Ave., Cleveland
 www.fortunafuneralhome.com

ROMITO'S PIZZA *The Best*
 Pizza • Pasta • Salads • Sandwiches • Ribs • Wings
 "HOME OF THE SHEET PIZZA"
 6474 Brecksville Rd. • We Deliver - Catering • Since 1980
 www.romitospizzawest.com **216-524-8858 • 216-524-5905**

Independence Dairy King
 6484 Brecksville Rd
 Custard/Sundaes • Old Fashioned Hard
 Mon-Sun 11a-10p Scooped Ice Cream

Bicycle service, sales and accessories.
GEAR UP
 (216)232-4300
 www.gearupvelo.com

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
 Contact **Vic Preisel** to place an ad today!
 vpreisel@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6317

Valley LASER WASH
 7850 Granger Rd • Valley View, OH 44125
Premium \$15 • Super \$13
Economy \$12 • Express \$8
We Provide Every Need For Your Car's Cleanliness
 OPEN 24 HOURS • GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
(216) 328-5468

ADI TREE & STUMP REMOVAL SERVICE
 75' Bucket Truck
 15% OFF Ash Tree Removal
 For a Free Estimate Call:
330-468-1033
 Insured
 Senior Discount

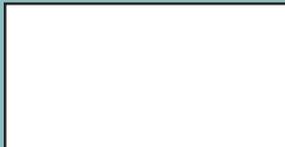
Find your loved ones using the CCA App!
 Download on the App Store
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION
 DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
 Buy a bulletin ad space today!

Luxury in a Safe Retreat
 VistaSpringsLiving.com
 "My team and I at Vista Springs promise to make every day a special occasion, every visit more rewarding, every meal a delicious and elegant experience, every interaction more safe, and every moment "Full of Life" for you and your family."
216.232.4900
 Vista Springs Ravinia Estate
 6046 Brecksville Rd., Independence VISTA SPRINGS

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.

Too Sick for Mass?
 SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
 Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
 www.parishesonline.com



NORTHEAST ROOFING INC
 330-659-6666
 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ROOFING CONTRACTOR
 Owner Dan Zust, Parishioner
 northeastroofingoh.com

PLUMBING TECH
Commercial & Residential Plumbing Services
 Veteran & Senior Discount **Kyle Kaczmarek • 216-337-2434**

Veteran Owned & Operated License # 48939



ST. MICHAEL CHURCH, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

PUBLIC MASSES HAVE RESUMED

DAILY MASS:

8:30 AM MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY

WEEKEND MASSES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30PM

SUNDAY: 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM

*****MASKS MUST BE WORN*****

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL CDC RECOMMENDATIONS

ONLY ALLOWED 50% OCCUPANCY

PLEASE OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING

RECYCLE BULLETIN IN BOXES AS YOU EXIT

