

St. Michael

CATHOLIC CHURCH

6912 Chestnut Road, Independence, OH 44131

stmichaelchurchindependence.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Monday--Friday:
8:30 am

Weekend Mass

Saturday:
4:30 pm

Sunday:
8:00 am
10:00 am
12:00 pm

Confession

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick

by appointment

Weddings & Baptisms

please call the Rectory to
schedule



DECEMBER 10, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:

"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,

MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.

EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED

AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."

—LUKE 3:4-5

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Matt Jordan
Administrator

Fr. Tom Haren
Retired, in residence

Sr. Betty Gulick
Minister to the Sick &
Homebound

Dcn. Vince Belsito
Deacon, Retired

Todd Dockrill
Director of Music,
PSR & Technology

Randy Kula
Coordinator of Youth
Ministry & Faith
Formation

Jennifer Conti
School Principal

SUPPORT STAFF

Christine Dockrill
Business Manager

Wendy Boergert
Admin. Assistant

Robert Reiner
Business Advisor

Tyler Lisowski
Music Assistant

Mike Stafford
Facilities Director

John Noga
Lisa Londrico
Mark Keating
Maintenance

Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-4:00pm

216-524-1394

216-524-1395

216-328-8537 (Fax)

rectory@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

School Info

216-524-6405

216-524-7358 (Fax)

stmichaelschoolinfo.com

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH



OUR MISSION

"Meeting Christ through prayer and being Christ for the world."

We do this through our participation in the Liturgy; giving ourselves in prayer and praising the Lord through the celebration of the Mass. We do this through our participation in the ministries of the Church that evangelize, build community and help others who need our charity and compassion. We do this through our participation in the activities that help us as a prayer community to grow in faith and fellowship.

St. Michael Church is proud to be one of the oldest Churches in the Diocese of Cleveland. Serving close to 1,000 families in Independence and our surrounding communities, St. Michael Church is located in the heart of Cuyahoga County. Founded in 1851, it celebrates over 170 years of Catholic Tradition. Through the weekday and weekend Liturgies, through our various parish ministries and events, our parish staff and community is committed to the mission of meeting Christ through prayer and being Christ for the world.

PARISH OFFICE STAFF CONTACT INFO

Rectory Office 216-524-1394

Fr. Matt Jordan Ext. 10
Administrator frmatt@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Fr. Tom Haren Ext. 12
Retired frharen@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Sr. Betty Gulick 216-524-1394
Pastoral Care sbgulick@yahoo.com

Todd Dockrill 216.524.4212
Dir. of Music/PSR tjd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Randy Kula Ext. 19
Faith Form/Yth randy@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Christine Dockrill Ext. 11
Business Mgr. cmd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Wendy Boergert Ext. 15
Adm. Assistant rectory@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Mike Stafford Ext. 13
Facilities Dir. mes@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

STEWARDSHIP 12/3/23

General Offertory	\$9,935
Parish Maintenance	\$1,563
School Endowment	\$303
Deacon Jim Scholarship	\$30
Immaculate Conception	\$90

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

GIVE ONLINE TODAY!



MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 12/9 1:00pm—*Wedding: Jordan Wolf & Kyle Oberlin*

4:30pm—Tom Gulick
(*Sr. Betty Gulick*)

Sun. 12/10 8:00am—HNAR
10:00am—Madonna Michalke
(*Husband*)

12:00pm—Parishioners

Mon. 12/11 8:30am—William Dockrill
(*Family*)

Tues. 12/12 8:30am—Don & Barb Kollecker
(*Don, Denise & Dennis*)

Wed. 12/13 8:30am—Ben Marotta
(*Emira, Lou, Gina & Jim Cipriano*)

Thurs. 12/14 8:30am—Judith Trem
(*Denise Strobl*)

Fri. 12/15 8:30am—Maggie Surovi
(*Ed Surovi*)

Sat. 12/16 4:30pm—Ella Krogman
(*Mary Fink*)

Sun. 12/17 8:00am—Simko, Frimel, Waye & Hoegler Families
(*Ken Simko*)

10:00am—Parishioners
12:00pm—Robert J. Wynne
(*Joanne Owczarzak*)

If the intention for the weekend Mass is for your loved one and you would like to bring up the gifts, please see the ushers in the back of the Church prior to Mass, Thank you!



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the Diocese of Cleveland came into existence in 1847?

Religion Question of the Week

What does it mean that we are conceived with an "immortal soul"?

Answer: The word "immortal" means that our soul, once created, will be around for the rest of eternity.

St. Michael PSR News

We are still looking for a couple of people interested in being on our substitute teacher list or helping out as aides.

Please contact Todd if you are interested.

tjd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

Liturgical Ministry

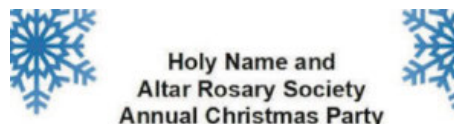
We are looking for more ushers, servers, readers, & Eucharistic ministers for our weekend Masses. If you have been thinking about one of these ministries, this would be a great time to get involved. Please contact Todd at 216.524.4212 to get more information on how to get more involved in our Church family.

tjd@stmichaelchurchindependence.org

The schedule for December & January is live including our Christmas Masses and Holy Days. Please head to the MSP portal to sign-up as you are able to. Thanks you for your ministry!

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee will be meeting on Sunday December 17th for Brunch at Creekside in Brecksville at 11:30 am. This group was formed for those who have lost a spouse. If you are interested in joining us please call Laurie at 216- 213-5070



Holy Name & Altar Rosary Society
Members Only
are invited to the annual
Christmas party.



December 15, 2023 in the
St. Francis
Spiritual Center
6:30pm

Dinner, Gifts, Entertainment
and Prizes

Please bring your favorite
appetizer or dessert!

RSVP: Gary Mann (216)-272-0220 or
Toni Muntean (216)-524-2040

Ministry Contacts

Brothers in Christ

Tom Anandel
tandel4315@gmail.com

Caring Committee

Laurie Zuchowski
216.213.5070

Heavenly Dusters

Wendy Boergert
216.524.1394 ext. 15

Holy Name & Altar Rosary

Society
Gary Mann
216.272.0220

Hospitality Committee

Jean Artrip
artripj@sbcglobal.net

Knights of Columbus

Randy Katona, Grand Knight
440.845.4821
rpkatona@yahoo.com
www.kofc3970.org

Liturgical Ministers

Music Ministry

Parish School of Religion

Todd Dockrill
216.524.4212

Parish Council

Fr. Matt Jordan
216.524.1394 ext. 10

Sandwich Saturday

Dennis & Barbara Juliani
216.524.7206
7628coco@gmail.com

St. Michael Athletic Assoc.

Joe DiGeronimo
216.276.2836


St. Vincent de Paul

Vera Bednarski
216.642.5613
George Topolski
216.524.94956


O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL


Verses



3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who
4. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem, From

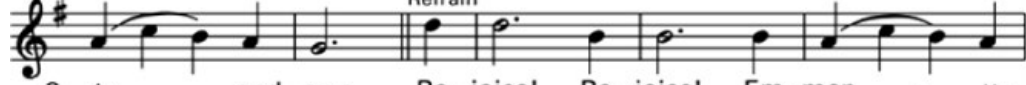


3. to thy tribes on Sinai's height In ancient
4. ev'ry foe deliver them That trust thy




3. times didst give the law, In cloud and majesty
4. mighty power to save, And give them victory

Refrain



3. ty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
4. o'er the grave.



el Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3-6, para. in *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818-1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal 1940*, alt.
Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890; Chant, Mode I.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And with your Spirit.

(another form of the greeting may be used.)

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord, have mercy.	Kýrie eléison.
Lord, have mercy.	Kýrie eléison.
Christ, have mercy.	Christe eléison.
Christ, have mercy.	Christe eléison.
Lord, have mercy.	Kýrie eléison.
Lord, have mercy.	Kýrie eléison.

The Gloria is not sung during Advent.

1ST READING

ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Comfort, give comfort to my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
that her service is at an end,
her guilt is expiated;
indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low;
the rugged land shall be made a plain,
the rough country, a broad valley.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain,
Zion, herald of glad tidings;
cry out at the top of your voice,
Jerusalem, herald of good news!
Fear not to cry out
and say to the cities of Judah:
Here is your God!
Here comes with power
the Lord GOD,
who rules by his strong arm;
here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,

carrying them in his bosom,
and leading the ewes with care.

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

RESPONSORIAL

PSALM 25:1, 4-5, 8-10



Text and music: Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA.

*Lord, make me know your ways,
teach me your paths and keep me in
the way of your truth, for you are
God, my Savior.*

*For the Lord is good and righteous,
revealing the way to those who wander,
gently leading the poor and humble.*

*To the ones who seek the Lord,
who look to God's word, who live God's love,
God will always be near,
and will show them mercy.*

2ND READING

2 PETER 3:8-14

A Reading from the second Letter of St. Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years
and a thousand years like one day.
The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay,"
but he is patient with you,
not wishing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.
But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar
and the elements will be dissolved by fire,
and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way,
what sort of persons ought you to be,
conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion,
waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God,
because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the
elements melted by fire.
But according to his promise
we await new heavens and a new earth
in which righteousness dwells.
Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,
be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Owen Alstott, 1977, 1990 © OCP.

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.*

GOSPEL

MARK 1:1-8

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."
John the Baptist appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
People of the whole Judean countryside
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem
were going out to him
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.
John was clothed in camel's hair,
with a leather belt around his waist.
He fed on locusts and wild honey.
And this is what he proclaimed:
"One mightier than I is coming after me.
I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.
I have baptized you with water;
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

“Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.”

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Preface Dialogue

“The Lord be with you.”
And with your Spirit.

“Lift up your hearts.”
We lift them up to the Lord.

“Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.”
It is right and just.

Eucharistic Prayers

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav-en and earth, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san - na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san - na in the high-est.
Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san - na in the high-est.

Text © 2010, ICFL

J. Michael Jonas
Music © 1989, 2010, WLP

Memorial Acclamation

Save us, save us, Sav - ior of the world, for
by your Cross and Res - ur - rec - tion you have set us
free. Save us, save us, Sav - ior of the world.

Text © 2010, ICFL

J. Michael Jonas
Music © 1989, 2010, WLP

Amen

A - men, a - men, a - men. men.

J. Michael Jonas
Music © 1989, WLP

Lamb of God

Cantor
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:
All
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Cantor
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:
All
grant us peace, grant us peace.

J. Michael Jonas
Music © 1989, WLP

“Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.”

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

LIKE A SHEPHERD

Bob Dufford, SJ

Refrain



Like a shep-herd he feeds his flock and gath-ers the lambs in his
arms, hold-ing them care-ful-ly close to his heart,
lead-ing them home. home, lead-ing them home.

1-3 to Verses | Final

Verses 1, 2



1. Say to the cit-ies of Ju - dah: Pre-pare the
2. I my - self will shep-herd them, for oth-ers have



1. way of the Lord. Go to the moun-tain-top,
2. led them a - stray. The lost I will res - cue and

to Refrain



1. lift your voice: Je - ru - sa - lem, here is your God.
2. heal their wounds and pas-ture them, giv-ing them rest.

Verse 3



3. Come un-to me if you are heav-i-ly bur-dened, and
3. take my yoke up-on your shoul-ders. I will give you rest.

to Refrain

Text: Based on Isaiah 40:9ff; Ezekiel 34:11ff; Matthew 11:28ff.
Text and music © 1976, Robert J. Dufford, SJ and New Dawn Music.
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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.

A VOICE CRIES OUT

Michael Joncas

Verse 1

1. Con - sole my peo - ple, the ones dear to me; speak to the
1. heart of Je - ru - sa - lem: the time of your mourn - ing is
1. end - ed now, the Lord of life will come.

Refrain

A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: "Pre - pare a
way for the Lord!" A voice cries out in the wil - der -
ness: "Make straight a high - way for God!"

Verses 2, 4

2. Ev - 'ry val - ley is made a plain, ev - 'ry moun - tain is
4. Zi - on, shout from the moun - tain top, lift up your voice, O Je -
2. lev - eled; the glo - ry of God shall then be re -
4. ru - sa - lem, and say to the peo - ple of God's own
to Refrain

2. vealed, and the na - tions will sing in praise.
4. land, "Be - hold, be - hold your God!"

Verse 3

3. A voice shouts: "Cry!" O what shall I cry? All flesh is like
3. grass and its flow - ers: the grass may with - er, the
to Refrain

3. flow - ers may fade, but the Word of the Lord is for - ev - er.

Verse 5

5. The Lord will ap - pear as a shep - herd, hold - ing his
5. lambs in his arms, keep - ing his flock so
to Refrain

5. close to his heart, lead - ing them all, old and young.

Text based on Isaiah 40:1-11. Text and music © 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust.
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St. Michael Parish -
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more!

Website



Facebook



Youtube



Podcast



ADORATION CHAPEL MEDITATIONS

by Tom Andel, Brothers in Christ
(www.brothersinchristcmf.org)
(www.kofc3970.org/blog)

Climb Time's Ruins to Grasp the Timeless

The technologies of construction and destruction teach us about two kinds of strategic bombing. Constructive bombing uses explosives to move earth, rock, or other materials to prepare the ground not only for building, but for exploration and discovery. Destructive bombing depends on missiles or missile-equipped aircraft to clear the way for ground invasion and to destroy enemy morale for eventual surrender.

Both methods are intended to end one temporary way of life to make way for another one. But we are being called to prepare the way for the advent of life beyond time. Sunday's readings dramatize the process. Isaiah used his prophecies to soften our hearts for that Godly invasion.

Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (IS 40:1-5, 9-11)

Isaiah's prophecy was intended to level us—put us all on the same plain so we can more easily hear God's word and then spread it the way Isaiah did: by climbing over our ruins to reach higher ground. As he adds, that higher elevation provides the perfect platform and acoustics for such sharing:

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God!

Sharing God by word-of-mouth and act-of-hand may seem inefficient in this age of instant telecommunications, but its timelessness is more penetrating than the shallow bottom-scraping of our time-sensitive Internet bombardments. As the author of the Second Book of Peter reminds us—as an audience separated from him by centuries—"with the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day." (2 PT 3:8-14)

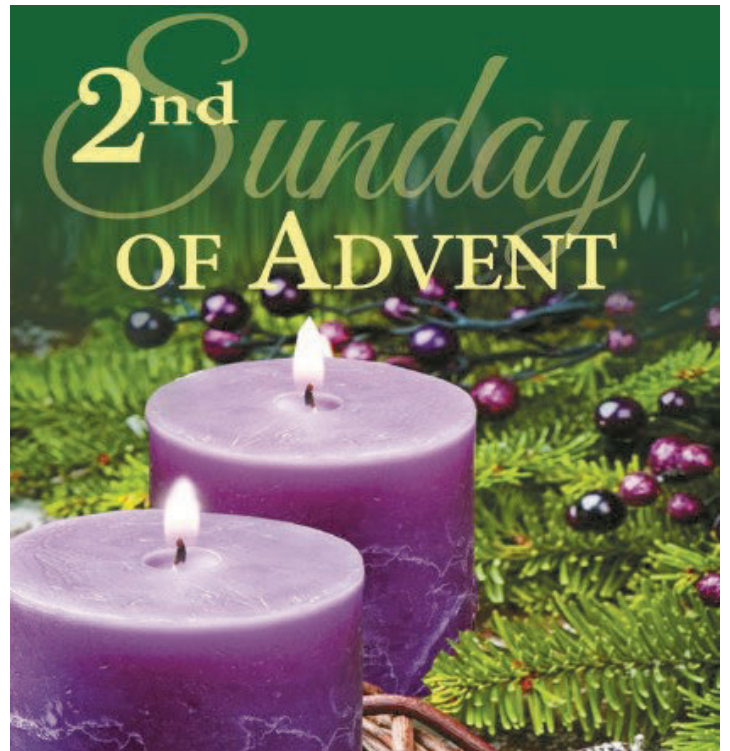


That's how good strategists think—not by the minute, but by their soul's lifetime. By that measure, readiness must always be NOW, and believers in that timeless spirit have the blessing of centuries of preparation for it—wrapped up in the writings of saints and prophets.

Those of us guided by our modern culture's flavor-of-the-minute lifestyle management have sentenced themselves to life inside a moving target that's easily dispatched by evil. God wants us to rethink our surrender to that fate so He can steal us away from the ruins of this world's false and fragile gods. Only then can we rise to his plain and see beyond ourselves as John the Baptist does in Sunday's gospel reading:

"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (MK 1:1-8)

Once the remains of our indestructible righteousness are excavated from the ruins of this world's false gods, we can more easily be assumed into God's Holy Spirit—just in time to join in the advent of life beyond time.



OUR ADORATION CHAPEL

Through the generous donations to the St. Michael Memorial Fund and additional private donations, our adoration chapel has become a beautiful space for meditation and prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Prayer is such an important part of our personal faith and there will always be a need to pray for others.

The Chapel is always open so feel free to take an hour out of your busy schedule to slow down, take a deep breath and give yourself the opportunity to pray in the real presence of Jesus. You'll be glad you did!

Please remember in your prayers our sick:

Diane Bernaciak, Gaylene Bielawski, Lisa Bielawski, Mary Jane Blue, Marilyn Case, Tom Case, Alexis Cerio, Gina Childress, Maryann Cohara, Kenny Cuglewski, Dan Danzl, Joe Denk, RaeAnn DiBaggio, Charlenea Fabrizio, Vincent Fazio, Judy Fiore, Mafalda Fiorentino, John Patrick Gallagher, John George, Pat George, Danny Goins, Terrie Goodrich, Lorenzo Gramuglia, Posy Grzincic, Barb H., Michael Herasimuk, Denise J., Donald Keller, Laura Kelley, Tony Kucia, Mark L., Flavia Langan, Jen LeBlanc, Joe Loboda, Cecilia M., Beverly Macko, Tom Matia, Cara Mitchell, Phyllis Owsiak, Barbara P., David Pichert, Denise Polasko, Joyce R., Gaetano Rini, Gayle Rini, Rick Schreiber, Merle Screptock, Ashley Skuhrovec, Mary Stanley, Ken Stephan, Linda Szymanski, Gayle Telford, David Witkowski, Jerry Wright, Christopher, Paula.

*Remembering all of our beloved deceased
in the St. Michael Memorial Fund*

*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.*

Monday Night Rosary

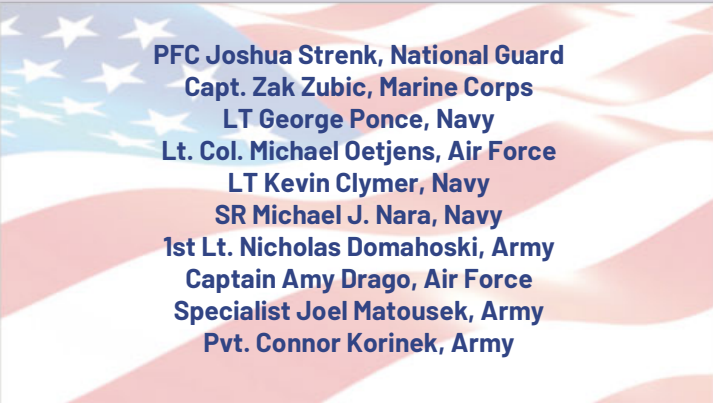
The St Michael community gathers in prayer every Monday at 6PM in the Church.

Monthly Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet

Rosary/Chaplet will continue to be prayed every FIRST Tuesday in church at 3 pm...Hour of Mercy. Please join us in prayer. Please use south entrance (by school).

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
Capt. Zak Zubic, Marine Corps
LT George Ponce, Navy
Lt. Col. Michael Oetjens, Air Force
LT Kevin Clymer, Navy
SR Michael J. Nara, Navy
1st Lt. Nicholas Domahoski, Army
Captain Amy Drago, Air Force
Specialist Joel Matousek, Army
Pvt. Connor Korinek, Army

St. Michael Memorial Fund

Consider contributing to the Parish Memorial Fund on behalf of your loved one. Members of the Parish Memorial Fund are remembered at every Mass throughout the year. Contributions to the Memorial Fund go toward improving our Church Environment (seasonal flowers, décor, etc.) Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Mass Intentions

The 2024 Mass book is open. Please call or email the Rectory office to schedule. Intentions are \$10.00 per Mass.

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

For visits to Parishioners in Hospitals, Nursing facilities or homebound, please let us know if you or someone you know is receiving some medical care and would like a pastoral visit. We want to be with you during these challenging times. Please call the rectory and leave a message for Sr. Betty.

MASS LIVESTREAMING

We livestream the 4:30pm Saturday Liturgy almost every week* for our sick and homebound parishioners. Search for our channel at Youtube: St. Michael Church Independence.

*Christmas, Easter and other holidays may have a different schedule.

STAFF PROFILE



Wendy Boergert, Administrative Assistant

Hi! My name is Wendy Boergert and I am the parish Administrative Assistant. Chances are if you called the rectory office, I was the one who answered the phone. I have worked in the rectory office since March 2019. My job as administrative assistant includes any clerical work that needs to be done and provide clerical support to my co-workers so they can complete their jobs. There is a lot of scheduling, recording and researching of peoples' important life events. Another part of my job is coordinating with various organizations within the parish for meetings, activities and events. All the organizations are an important part of our parish life. My past work in customer service has been a real asset in settling into my job at St. Michael. I really enjoy working at St. Michael. I live in Parma Heights with my husband Frank of nearly 36 years and my rescue dog Winston. In my spare time I enjoy traveling, all types of arts and crafts, 3d printing and learning new computer software.

Editor's note:

Last week, due to inadvertent error on my part, a portion of Randy's profile was omitted from the bulletin. We are reprinting it again this week in its entirety. Sorry, Randy!!!

TD



Randy Kula, Coordinator of Youth Ministry & Faith Formation

Hi, my name is Randy Kula and I am the Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Faith Formation at St. Michael Parish. My responsibilities include working with middle and high school youth in a youth group setting, directing the Confirmation program for St. Michael School and PSR students, running programs of faith development for adults, and creating and posting content for our parish's "Voices of St. Michael" podcast. My wife, Mary Lou and I have been married for 35 years. We have three children; Lisa (32), Matthew (30) and Sara (27). My wife and I have resided in the Parma/Seven Hills area for the past 34 years. After I graduated from Cleveland State University in 1984, I began my career in Information Technology as a software developer. Fifteen years later, and after a few unexpected events, God had other plans for my life. Since 2000, I worked part-time as youth minister for 15 years and full-time as youth minister for the past 9 years; for 5 years at St. Mary and St. Jude parishes in Elyria

and for the past 4 years here at St. Michael. My two main priorities in life are my Faith and Family. I love to spend time with family, whether it's playing golf, touch football, wiffleball, pickleball, card games, board games, or just hanging out and creating memories. During my time in church ministry, I like to stress the importance of relationships with God, family, friends, and our parish family. In ministry, we need to support each other, pray for each other, and care for each other. We also need to help others realize their gifts and talents. My own service to the church began when my Pastor, Fr. Ray Sutter, helped me realize the gifts God had given to me. My Catholic faith is the driving force for everything I do in life. Spending time with other Catholic believers at Mass and on retreats are my ways to keep strengthening my faith with the help of others. My favorite project that I've worked on at St. Michael's was the conception, design and building of the wiffleball field next to the St. Francis Center. Thank you, Mike Stafford, for all of your help and hard work! It's heartwarming to see how many kids use the field and how much fun they have. Thank you for any prayers, support and help that you can offer. If you have any new ideas or feel a call to help in any ministries that I am involved in, please contact me.

May God Bless You All Abundantly!

Randy

**BRING THE
WHOLE FAMILY!**

SANDWICH SATURDAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

**ST MICHAEL SCHOOL CAFETERIA
9:00AM - 10:30AM**

Help support our *Sandwich Saturday* Ministry as we make sandwiches to help St. Ambrose Pantry feed our brothers and sisters in Christ.

What to bring:

- 2-3 loaves of bread
- A jar of jelly
- Sandwich bags
- Nonperishable foods for our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry



St. Vincent de Paul Society will provide the peanut butter. We'll provide latex gloves, knives, and coffee.

Children are invited to decorate provided lunch bags!

If you are unable to join us, please consider making sandwiches at home and dropping them off at the cafeteria between 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM.

FUTURE DATES: JANUARY 20, FEBRUARY 17

PJ's Rainbow Christmas Toy Drive

We are thrilled to announce the return of PJ's Rainbow Christmas Toy Drive. This drive was started a few years ago by sixth grader PJ Ross who has spent his own time in the hospital. His experience created a desire to help his friends and other children who are in the hospital over the holidays and could use some extra cheer.

*Collection Dates:
December 1st to 15th!*

Santa's Wish List Includes...


<p>Games: Uno Yahtzee CandyLand Crayons Markers Play-Doh Elmer's Glue</p>	<p>Lego's Barbie Dolls Hot Wheels Matchbox Cars Fisher Price See-n-Say Rock-a-Stack Baby's First Blocks and much much more!</p>
--	--

Items must be new, non-toxic, latex free, no military toys/guns, bubble bath, or religious items

Complete wish list available at:
<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3V0CC9YMA9BI6>

Please bring your unwrapped donations to the school and we will collect them. There are large wrapped boxes in the hallways for students to place their gifts into.

Thank you and God Bless You



Remember, all the items should be unwrapped!

SMS Job Postings



Aftercare Aides
(monitor students, help with homework)
2:15-4:30 pm
Monday - Friday





Aftercare Director
2:15-6:00 pm
Monday - Friday



Please contact Christine Dockrill
216-524-1394 if you are interested.



2024 ANGEL GALA



Masquerade Ball

Please join us for a spectacular evening dedicated to raising funds for the benefit of our St. Michael School students, staff and community.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024
5:30—10:30 PM

EMBASSY SUITES
5800 ROCKSIDE WOODS BLVD. | INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

DETAILS and TICKETS
5:30 PM
Complimentary wine tasting donated by Guarino's Restaurant, Silent Auction Displays Open followed by Dinner, Special Guest Presentations & Live Auctions

Festive to Formal Attire. Party masks encouraged! Bring your own or choose one of ours.

ACCOMMODATIONS
A block of rooms has been reserved for SMS Guests. To book, contact Embassy Suites at 216-985-9900.

Kindly RSVP by January 18, 2024
Visit www.SMSGala.com or scan the QR code to purchase your ticket.

\$100 PER GUEST
TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE

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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

THIS WEEK'S MASS PROPERS & SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Monday, December 11th

ENTRANCE cf. Jeremiah 31:10; Isaiah 35:4—*Here the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Savior will come; you need no longer fear.*

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalms 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14

Our God will come to save us!

Luke 5:17-26

COMMUNION cf. Psalm 106:4-5; Isaiah 38:3—***Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before you with a blameless heart.***

Saint Damasus I, Pope

ENTRANCE—***The Lord chose him for himself as high priest, and, opening his treasure house, made him rich in all good things.***

Acts 20:17-18a, 28-32, 36

Psalms 110:1, 2, 3, 4

You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

John 15:9-17

COMMUNION cf. John 10:11—***The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for his sheep.***

Tuesday, December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

ENTRANCE—***A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.***

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

Judith 13:18bcde, 19

You are the highest honor of our race.

Luke 1:39-47

COMMUNION Luke 1:52—***The Lord has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.***

Wednesday, December 13th

Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

ENTRANCE—***Behold, now she follows the Lamb who was crucified for us, powerful in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity.***

Isaiah 40:25-31

Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Matthew 11:28-30

COMMUNION Revelation 7:17—***The Lamb who is at the center of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.***

or

2 Corinthians 10:17-11:2

Psalms 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Matthew 25:1-13

Thursday, December 14th

Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

ENTRANCE Galatians 6:14—***May I never boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.***

Isaiah 41:13-20

Psalms 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab

The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger, and of great kindness.

Matthew 11:11-15

COMMUNION cf. Matthew 16:24—***Whoever wishes to come after me, must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me, says the Lord.***

or

1 Corinthians 2:1-10a

Psalms 37:3-4, 5-6, 30-31

The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.

Luke 14:25-33

Friday, December 15th

ENTRANCE—***Behold the Lord will come descending with splendor to visit his people with peace, and he will bestow on them eternal life.***

Isaiah 48:17-19

Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6

Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.

Matthew 11:16-19

COMMUNION cf. Philippians 3:20-21—***We await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our mortal bodies, to conform with his glorified body.***

Saturday, December 16th

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11

Psalms 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 17th

Isaiah 61:1-2a, ,10-11

Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

My soul rejoices in my God.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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readings go
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THANK YOU!

We will share your contact information with the school so they are able to thank you for your support. I wish to remain anonymous

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 _____ \$ _____
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THANK YOU!

We will share your contact information with the school so they are able to thank you for your support. I wish to remain anonymous

Spouse Donation

General Scholarship Fund for
 Schools in Most Need: \$ _____
 School of my choice:
 _____ \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

Spouse Payment Information

Check if payment information is the same
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