

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC PARISH

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

1st

SUNDAY OF LENT

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:15

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

©LPi



CONTACT US!

MAIN CHURCH (MC)

750 BRIGHT ROAD
FINDLAY, OH 45840

P: 419.422.2646

F: 419.422.2602

findlaystmichael.org

parish@findlaystmichael.org

DOWNTOWN CHURCH (DT)

617 W. MAIN CROSS ST.

MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY MASSES

MC: Monday-Friday 6:45AM

DT: Wednesday 12:10PM

MC: Saturday 8:00 AM

WEEKEND LITURGIES

MC: Saturday 4:30 PM

MC: Sunday 8:00AM, 10:00 AM,
NOON & 6:00 PM

DT: Sunday 9:00AM



Facebook.com
[/FindlayStMichael](https://www.facebook.com/FindlayStMichael)



Search St. Michael
the Archangel Parish

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Adam Hertzfeld	332
<i>Pastor</i>	
Fr. Peter Grodi	334
<i>Parochial Vicar, Youth Director</i>	
Msgr. Mike Hohenbrink	---
<i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	
Dow Campbell	335
<i>Chief of Staff</i>	
Suzanne Nickerson	336
<i>Accountant</i>	
Geri Leibfarth	333
<i>Director of Religious Education</i>	
Ryan Neal	328
<i>Director of Music and Liturgy</i>	
Dave Sadler	337
<i>Deacon</i>	
Mike Eier	223
<i>Deacon</i>	
Keith Talbert	330
<i>Deacon</i>	
Armando Gonzalez	---
<i>Deacon</i>	
Donna Zoll	324
<i>Administrative Asst., Bulletin Editor</i>	
Courtney Popenberg	331
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	
Denise Burkin	325
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	
Kim Schmitz	325
<i>Evening Receptionist</i>	

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

The registration form is on our website under “New Members”

- It can be completed online and submitted electronically
- Current members are asked to let the Parish Office know of any change of address
- Current members under 18, listed as dependents, are asked to register as an individual upon turning 18

Parish Office Hours
Monday—Thursday:
 8:00 AM—8:00 PM
Friday
 8:00 AM—4:30 PM
Saturday-Sunday
 CLOSED



WELCOME

To everyone who has joined us today, whether you are here on your own or with family or friends, we want you to feel at home.

Table of Contents

PG	CONTENT
2	About Our Parish
3	From Our Pastor
4	Lenten Activities
5	Lenten Activities
6	Parish Events
7	Parish Events
8	Dominican Sisters
9	St. Michael School
10	Mass Readings & Intentions
11	Spiritual Enrichment
12	Message from the Pope
13	Message from the Pope



SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Baptism instruction is necessary when:

- this is your first child
- there are more than 3 years between children
- the baptismal instruction was completed at a different Parish.

To arrange a baptism, contact the Parish Office.



MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office six months in advance to start planning your wedding. Email: cpopenberg@findlaystmichael.org



RECONCILIATION

Main Church:

Saturdays:

8:30AM

3:00PM-4:00PM

Downtown:

Wednesdays

11:30AM



Anointing of the Sick

Please call the parish Office if you need a Priest to perform the Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites. If calling after hours, there will be a number available for you.



Adult Faith Formation

RCIA & Discipleship

Contact Geri Leibfarth, Director of Religious Education, by calling the Parish Office.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel.”

We can imagine the excitement of our Lord when he left the desert behind and entered into his public ministry with full force! He was confident in the mission given to him by his Heavenly Father and zealous to put it into effect. He saw a people in darkness and his Heart was moved with pity. To live in the new Covenant he was establishing was to live the fullness of life. It was this “fullness of life” he came to offer all people of every nation and time.

That same confidence in God lives also in your heart and mine. This is an easy conclusion for me to draw. I write this column and you read it because the love of Christ compels us, a love which spills over, in superabundance, upon all we encounter. We are committed to the cause of Christ!

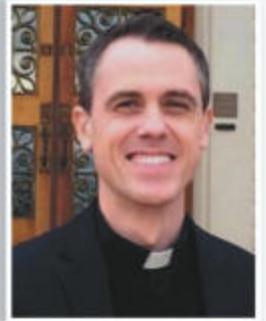
Yet we can suffer frustration in accomplishing the task entrusted to us by our Lord. I find this is especially true when we look only at the “big picture” and see so much in our culture which needs reforming. We are tempted to say, “What can I do, small one that I am? How can my efforts make a difference in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ?” Satan tempts us to get lost in this macro view of things and thus despair. God prompts us, on the other hand, to view things from the micro perspective, and in doing so we can begin to make a difference.

Lent invites us into the microcosm of our soul and our transformation in Christ. This holy season calls us to look inward, toward our inner depths, and focus upon that which is essential. In doing so, we are made anew by God’s grace.

Contrary to being insignificant, when a single person is transformed in Christ it is as if a whole universe has been transformed, since each of us is a profound, unique, and irreplaceable creation of God. Each of us—every individual person—is loved by our Heavenly Father as if we are the only other being in existence; He loves us that much! Our personal transformation in Christ, small as we are, results in a profound metaphysical victory of good over evil, of love over hate, of blessing over curse. And we become a powerful source of charity in the lives of those around us.

Because you are already moving along this path of

transformation in Christ, I set aside some of the necessary fundamentals, the most basic of which are repentance and belief (see our Lord’s words quoted above). Instead, we consider a more advanced theme: recollection.



Recollection is the act of pulling oneself together and focusing, like a laser, upon the most essential truth of our existence. The recollected person sees all things in the light of the Eternal. In the microcosm of our soul we encounter a new “macrovision”: the fact that ALL things take their meaning ONLY in their relationship with Jesus Christ. The great saints were great because (by God’s grace) they mastered this ability to see everything in their lives through this powerful lens and then live accordingly.

To become skilled at recollection takes effort. It takes a commitment to reflection. It takes the carving out of spiritual space from our daily endeavors. We may lament the fact that this seems impossible to us. If so, then transformation in Christ is impossible! In fact, the time and space required for recollection need not be so significant that it impairs our ability to perform other important tasks. Christ’s forty days in the desert was a period of profound recollection. In his goodness, however, our Lord grants us the fruit of recollection even though we do not exactly imitate his choice of place and length of time. Daily moments dedicated to recollection, with more deliberate and lengthy periods peppered throughout our week, will produce great results.

Therefore, I encourage you to use these forty days of Lent to grow in a spirit of recollection, diving into the microcosm of our personal relationship with Christ so as to see all things in his light! Your efforts will not be wasted.

Now, on to other things. First, I hope you can participate in our parish mission this week. More details are in this bulletin. In light of what I said above about recollection, the message of this mission will help us put our lives in the divine perspective. This is also true of our individual Lenten penances and our commitment to other devotions like the Stations of the Cross.

Also, someone recently asked about some ministers

04 FROM OUR PASTOR CONTINUED

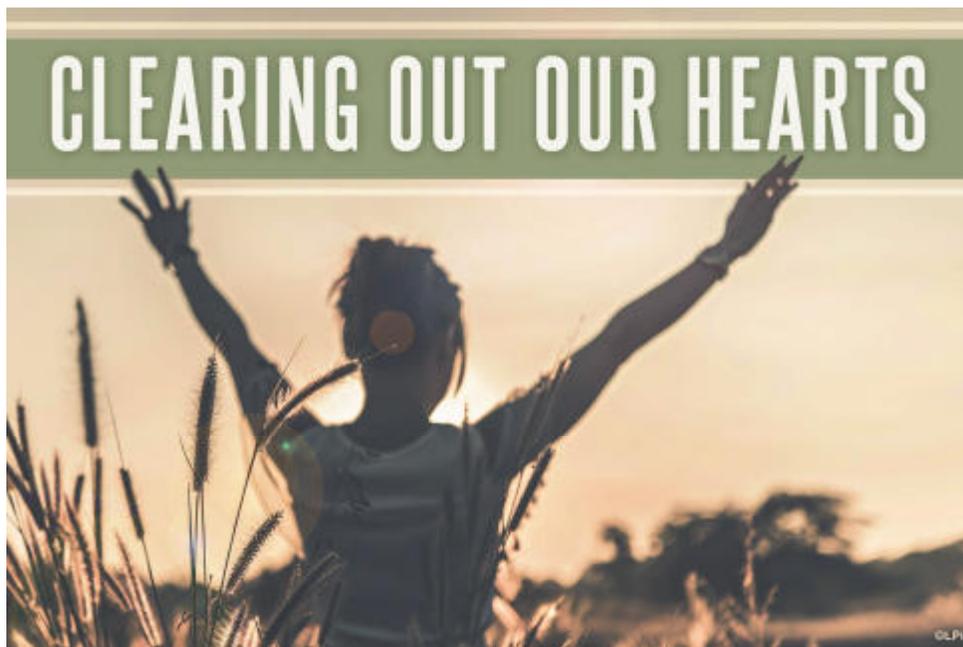
not wearing masks in the sanctuary. This is a good question, as it could cause us to wonder if this is engaging in risky behavior. Of course, this is not the case. The ministers are here to serve God and neighbor and we want to do so in the best and safest way possible. The governor and our bishop built into their respective mandates an exemption for those who minister at religious services. The exemption is meant to protect the sacredness of the liturgy, since the altar is the place where heaven meets earth and sacramental grace is poured forth. The exemption is reasonable from the perspective of science. One lesson that the pandemic has highlighted is relative risk. We have a moral obligation to weigh the risk of our actions. If the risk of harm to ourselves or others is high, we might be obliged to forego the activity. If the risk is low, the activity is acceptable. With regards to the transmission of disease, there is always a risk with any form of social interaction. Certain precautions mitigate the risk, and our parish engages many of those precautions. To apply all possible precautions results in the greatest reduction of risk, but it is also true that at some point we reach a level of diminishing returns. The brief amount of time the sacred ministers are close to one another in the sanctuary involves a low level of risk, especially in light of the other precautions we have in place. Of course, it goes without saying that all the ministers are free to wear masks if they so choose, especially if their personal circumstances put them at higher risk. Please remember that the best way to prevent the worst consequences of Covid is for those who are

sick to isolate and for those who are vulnerable to limit their exposure to the public. Recall that the bishop has suspended the requirement to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation. We long for the day when this pandemic is relegated to the past! If you are homebound and would like me or Fr. Grodi to bring you Holy Communion, please call the parish office to set up an appointment. We will take all reasonable precautions to keep you safe as we bring you the Bread of Life!

Lastly, you may have noticed a change in our pre-Mass announcement regarding receiving Holy Communion on the tongue. For those who desire to do so, they can approach the priest at any time in the Communion procession. Such a change will hopefully prevent the backup that has been occurring in the priest's Communion line and should not increase to any significant degree the relative risk of contracting Covid, since Covid is primarily spread by aerosols and not fomites. I realize that a person may be uncomfortable if someone ahead of them in line receives Holy Communion on the tongue. In such a case, please feel free to step over into a non-priest line or select seating in a section not distributed to by the priest. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but my hope is that it will help smooth out distribution and prevent the backlog.

In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Hertzfeld



Lenten Activities

FEBRUARY 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY

6:45 AM MC, 12:10 PM DT, 7:00 PM MC

FEBRUARY 19 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

FEBRUARY 22, 23 AND 24 - PARISH MISSION - 7:00 PM

MAIN CHURCH AND LIVE-STREAMED

FEBRUARY 26 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

FEBRUARY 28 - NIGHT OF WORSHIP - 7:15 PM MC

MARCH 5 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

MARCH 10 - TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE - 7:00 PM MC

MARCH 12 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

MARCH 14 - FAMILY HOLY HOUR - 4:30 PM MC

MARCH 19 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

MARCH 24 - THE LIGHT IS ON - DAY OF CONFESSIONS

7:15 AM - 4:00 PM MC - ONE PRIEST AVAILABLE

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM MC - MULTIPLE PRIESTS AVAILABLE

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM MC - MULTIPLE PRIESTS AVAILABLE

MARCH 26 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:00 PM DT

MARCH 28 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 6:00 PM MC

9:00 AM DT

MARCH 28 - NIGHT OF WORSHIP 7:15 PM MC

MC = MAIN CHURCH

DT = DOWNTOWN CHURCH

06 PARISH EVENTS



St. Michael Cemetery Spring Clean-Up will begin March 1st, weather permitting. Please remove all decorations before that date as anything left may be discarded.



We would like to thank all of our Parishioners who joined together in pledging their gift to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not made your commitment, we encourage you to do so today to help us reach our parish goal. Pledge envelopes and pencils are available in pews. Once completed, kindly place your pledge card in the offertory. Every gift is very important. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information on the impact of your support for the appeal or to make a gift online, visit <https://www.acatoledo.org/>



Easter Flower Fund

YOUR NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT LISTED IN THE BULLETIN:

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

CIRCLE ONE: IN HONOR OF OR IN MEMORY OF

NAME(S)

I AM ENCLOSING A DONATION OF \$

PHONE:

EMAIL:

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC PARISH - WITH EASTER FLOWER FUND ON THE MEMO LINE

PLEASE RETURN TO THE PARISH OFFICE NO LATER THAN MARCH 24, 2021



Demonstrating the Kingdom of God -

St. Michael Catholic Church Parish Mission

Presented by Patrick Reis
Executive Director of
Encounter Ministries

February 22, 23, 24
7:00 - 8:30 PM
Main Church, Bright Road

Encounter Ministries exists to train and disciple Catholics to demonstrate the power and love of God in their sphere of influence through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

It starts tomorrow!

Identity...Hearing God's Voice...Healing

We are called to be faithful and to ask the Holy Spirit to send the fire of love into our hearts; to teach us to minister with compassion to broken, hurting people; to help us work for healing within our families and through our families; to show us how to transform the world around us by using our gifts bestowed upon us by the Holy Spirit. We pray you will join us to grow in your faith and confidence to share God's grace working in your life.

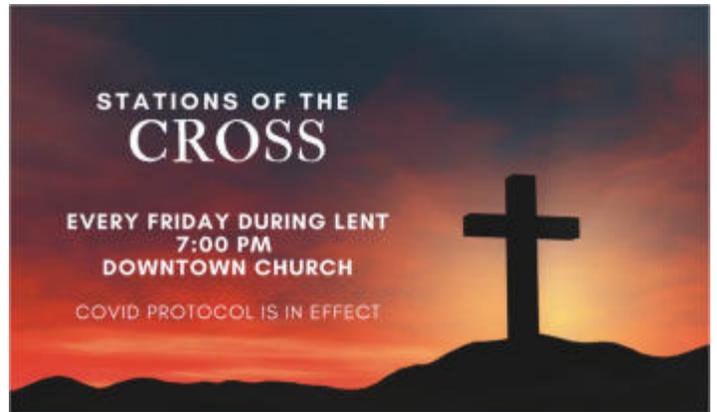
It has been quite the winter so far!

Snow, Ice, Wind . . .

Would you please consider a donation to our snow removal fund for St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church & School?



Thank you for your consideration. If you do make a donation, please make sure to notate that it is for the Snow Removal Fund.



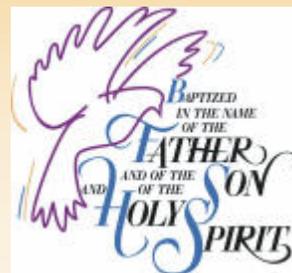
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT
7:00 PM
DOWNTOWN CHURCH

COVID PROTOCOL IS IN EFFECT

Recently Baptized

Chloe Ann Wildermuth
Elijah Jordan Schimmoeller
Brynn Marie Ballinger
Beckett Trevor Ballinger



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Save A Life!

Sunday, February 28, 2021

10:30 AM to 4:30 PM

St. Michael The Archangel
Activity Center

Go here to make your
appointment today!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

08 DOMINICAN SISTERS OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE EUCHARIST

Draw Me After You - Let Us Run!
Entering Lent Racing Towards Christ
Sr. Mary Bethany, O.P.



I love to run. I love the feeling of the breeze in my face, the rhythmic movement of muscles, and the exhilarating pounding of the heart. And I am grateful that God has blessed me with many Sisters who also enjoy athletic activities. I never would have thought that I would play more sports in the convent than I did growing up in a big family with four brothers!

Scripture contains many images of the spiritual life as a race, with one of the most beautiful occurring in the Letter to the Hebrews.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, who for the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:1-2).

I was reminded recently of this passage when the Findlay Sisters received a letter from Sr. Mary Samuel, one of our community's four foundresses. Full of the wisdom of fifty-five years of religious life, Sister wrote us the following about Lent: **"Sometimes we think of Lent as dragging on for six weeks when actually it is a sprint—toward Him!—and another precious chance to purify ourselves for eternity."**

Now, if you are like most people, the prospect of Lent does not fill you with eager anticipation. Perhaps you even secretly dread the Church's annual liturgical season of repentance and sacrifice! For many of us, Lent can feel like a marathon, grueling and painful. We may reach Easter exhausted, feeling defeated at our failure to remain faithful to our resolutions and relieved to be able to set aside our little penances.

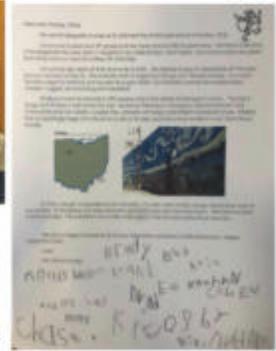
Yet, in a way, the difficulty of Lent is the whole point. If we feel the pinch of fasting and the commitment to prayer burdensome, that is a good thing *insofar as it lets us see how much those other things - be it food, drink, social media, or entertainment - distract us and weigh us down. For this reason, I think Sr. Mary Samuel's approach to Lent is such a helpful one. Rather than regretting it, we should welcome these 40 days as a reminder that our time on earth is very brief; that we are on a journey, a race toward Our Lord and toward ultimate union with Him in heaven.*

On our own, Lent *is an impossible challenge. On our own, we cannot free our fallen hearts from slavery to self's idols. But the Paschal Mystery - the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus - reminds us of the glorious truth that we have a Savior: "For freedom Christ has set us free" (Gal 5:1). He is the one who will make our Lenten practices fruitful and freeing. In our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving this Lent, may we keep our eyes fixed always on Jesus, relying on Him to strengthen us as we run this life's race toward the unending Easter of eternity!*



STAFF

Principal - Amy Holzwart.....x222
 aholzward@findlaystmichael.org
 Asst. Principal - Mike Eier.....x223
 meier@findlaystmichael.org
 Tammie Morman - Counselor.....x303
 tmorman@findlaystmichael.org
 Vicky Bihn - Secretary.....x221
 vbihn@findlaystmichael.org
 Heather Kreinbrink - Attendance.....x296
 hkreinbrink@findlaystmichael.org
 findlaystmichaelschool.org



Mrs. Hanna's Kindergarten class (KB) is participating in a Valentine Exchange with other elementary classes across the United States. They worked on creating the original Valentine together—everyone helped write a letter to spell out “all you need is love”. Next the class used water color paints to decorate the hearts and cut them out. The class also came up with a letter together to tell the other classes about St. Michael School and Findlay. The letters and hearts were then put in envelopes and we watched a quick video on how the post office gets mail to people. The whole class walked the letters to the office to be mailed. 21 Valentines have been received by Mrs. Hanna's class from all over the US. When the Valentine's arrive, the class reads the letter and then adds the Valentine to their display, marking with a string on a map of the United States where it came from. In all, KB should receive 25 Valentines!

KB News



Great Scot GIFT CARDS
community markets

\$50.00 Gift Cards available in the office now. Each purchase earns the school 15% back in profits.

RETURN CARD TO PLACE ORDER OR CALL SCHOOL OFFICE

Name: _____
 # of \$50.00 cards: _____
 Total payment: \$_____ (checks made payable to St. Michael School)
 I will pick-up in school office from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm
 Please send home with my child in homeroom _____

ART ROOM newsletter

"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep."

The first half of the school year has flown by in the art room. The fall semester provided great inspiration for our artists at St. Michael School, as we have been hard at work on reindeer, snowmen, penguins, and much more!

Your students have created many beautiful pieces that will be displayed at St. Michael's "Evening of the Arts."
 --Mrs. Wellman



10 MASS READINGS AND INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS:

Monday, February 22

6:45 AM (MH) MC Richard & Ruth Rinebolt

Tuesday, February 23

6:45 AM (AH) MC Joseph Urschaltz Family

Wednesday, February 24

6:45 AM (PG) MC Maria Kieffer

12:10 PM (AH) DT Marilyn Metzger
The Gonzalez Family

Thursday, February 25

6:45 AM (PG) MC Donna Pappas
Pat Woods

8:35 AM (AH) MC Richard LaFontaine

Friday, February 26

6:45 AM (MH) MC Mary Stoll

8:35 AM (AH) MC Jim Van Atta

Saturday, February 27

8:00 AM (PG) MC Bill Hostler
Jeff Schulte

4:30 PM (AH) MC Richard & Arlene Holman
Betty Kelbley
Cecilia McKinley
Al & Margie Gonzalez

Sunday, February 28

8:00 AM (AH) MC For the People of the Parish

9:00 AM (MH) DT Levi Davis

10:00 AM (AH) MC Margie Bumb
Max Gerard Bott
Denny & Gracie Rissler
Gerald Gosche

12:00 PM (PG) MC Al & Margie Gonzalez
Dolores & Phillip Pina
Catalina & Francisca
Saldana

Ethan Leiber

6:00 PM (PG) MC Carrie Yates

Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



Please send your prayer requests to:
parish@findlaystmichael.org
We will be happy to pray for you, and you can rest assured that your requests will be handled confidentially.



In Loving Memory:

Marilyn Koch

Lola Crown

Sr. Darlene Mary Siebeneck

COUPLES CORNER

Pat Reis from Encounter Ministries will be sharing a message of healing with the St. Michael Parish community.

Please consider attending as a couple, either in person at the main church, or via livestream. Every marriage has bruises from day to day life - what a blessing to set aside time together to come and listen for ways to allow God's grace and mercy to bring healing and holiness into your home.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Will begin as usual on Tuesday, February 23
That will be the 2nd day of our Parish Mission.

*We encourage all to come and Adore our Savior
and pray for our Mission to reach the hearts of all!*

The Blessed Sacrament **will be reposed at 6:00 PM** so that the Parish Mission may begin.



WELCOME TO A Night Of Worship

- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AT
7:15 PM
- EVERY 4TH SUNDAY
- ADORATION, PRAISE &
WORSHIP, AND REFLECTION
- ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO
COME!

"COME TO THE ALTAR,
THE FATHER'S ARMS ARE OPEN WIDE..."



12 POPE FRANCIS LENTEN MESSAGE

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2021

“Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem” (Mt 20:18)

Lent: a Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Jesus revealed to his disciples the deepest meaning of His mission when He told them of His passion, death and resurrection, in fulfilment of the Father’s will. He then called the disciples to share in this mission for the salvation of the world.

In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who “humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our *faith*, draw from the “living water” of *hope*, and receive with open hearts the *love* of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. At the Easter vigil, we will renew our baptismal promises and experience rebirth as new men and women by the working of the Holy Spirit. This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the light of the resurrection, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ.

Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus (cf. Mt 6:1-18), enable and express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (*fasting*), concern and loving care for the poor (*almsgiving*), and childlike dialogue with the Father (prayer) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.

1. Faith calls us to accept the truth and testify to it before God and all our brothers and sisters.

In this Lenten season, *accepting and living the truth revealed in Christ* means, first of all, opening our hearts to God’s word, which the Church passes on from generation to generation. This truth is not an abstract concept reserved for a chosen intelligent few. Instead, it is a message that all of us can receive and understand thanks to the wisdom of a heart open to the grandeur of God, who loves us even before we are aware of it. Christ Himself is this truth. By taking on our humanity, even to its very limits, He has made Himself the way – demanding, yet open to all – that leads to the fullness of life.

Fasting, experienced as a form of self-denial, helps those who undertake it in simplicity of heart to

rediscover God’s gift and to recognize that, created in His image and likeness, we find our fulfilment in Him. In embracing the experience of poverty, those who fast make themselves poor with the poor and accumulate the treasure of a love both received and shared. In this way, fasting helps us to love God and our neighbor, inasmuch as love, as Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches, is a movement outwards that focuses our attention on others and considers them as one with ourselves (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 93).

Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing Him to “make His dwelling” among us (cf. Jn 14:23). Fasting involves being freed from all that weighs us down – like consumerism or an excess of information, whether – true or false – in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet “full of grace and truth” (Jn 1:14): the Son of God our Savior.

2. Hope as “living water” enabling us to continue our journey.

The Samaritan woman at the well, whom Jesus asks for a drink, does not understand what He means when He says that He can offer her “living water” (Jn 4:10). Naturally, she thinks that He is referring to material water, but Jesus is speaking of the Holy Spirit whom he will give in abundance through the paschal mystery, bestowing a hope that does not disappoint. Jesus had already spoken of this hope when, in telling of His passion and death, He said that He would “be raised on the third day” (Mt 20:19). Jesus was speaking of the future opened up by the Father’s mercy. Hoping with Him and because of Him means believing that history does not end with our mistakes, our violence and injustice, or the sin that crucifies Love. It means receiving from His open heart the Father’s forgiveness.

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for His creation which we have

often mistreated (cf. *Laudato Si'*, 32-33; 43-44). Saint Paul urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: “Be reconciled to God” (2 Cor 5:20). By receiving forgiveness in the sacrament that lies at the heart of our process of conversion, we in turn can spread forgiveness to others. Having received forgiveness ourselves, we can offer it through our willingness to enter into attentive dialogue with others and to give comfort to those experiencing sorrow and pain. God’s forgiveness, offered also through our words and actions, enables us to experience an Easter of fraternity.

In Lent, may we be increasingly concerned with “speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demean, sadden, anger or show scorn” (Fratelli Tutti, 223). In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind, to be “willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference” (ibid., 224).

Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray (cf. Mt 6:6) and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love.

To experience Lent in hope entails growing in the realization that, in Jesus Christ, we are witnesses of new times, in which God is “making all things new” (cf. Rev 21:1-6). It means receiving the hope of Christ, who gave His life on the cross and was raised by God on the third day, and always being “prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls [us] to account for the hope that is in [us]” (1 Pet 3:15).

3. Love, following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and hope.

Love rejoices in seeing others grow. Hence it suffers when others are anguished, lonely, sick, homeless, despised or in need. Love is a leap of the heart; it brings us out of ourselves and creates bonds of sharing and communion.

“‘Social love’ makes it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us can feel called. With its impulse to universality, love is capable of building a new world. No mere sentiment, it is the best means of discovering effective paths of development for everyone” (Fratelli Tutti, 183).

Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness. Such was the case with the jar of meal and jug of oil of the widow of Zarephath, who offered a cake of bread to the prophet Elijah (cf. 1 Kings 17:7-16); it was also the case with the loaves blessed, broken and given by Jesus to the disciples to distribute to the crowd (cf. Mk 6:30-44). Such is the case too with our almsgiving, whether small or large, when offered with joy and simplicity.

To experience Lent with love means caring for those who suffer or feel abandoned and fearful because of the Covid-19 pandemic. In these days of deep uncertainty about the future, let us keep in mind the Lord’s word to his Servant, “Fear not, for I have redeemed you” (Is 43:1). In our charity, may we speak words of reassurance and help others to realize that God loves them as sons and daughters. “Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society” (Fratelli Tutti, 187).

Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.

May Mary, Mother of the Savior, ever faithful at the foot of the cross and in the heart of the Church, sustain us with her loving presence. May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter.

Rome, Saint John Lateran,
11 November 2020,
the Memorial of
Saint Martin Of Tours

FRANCISCUS

FINDLAY TRUCK & RV
419-422-9797 • www.FindlayTruckRVSales.com

Jim and Austin May Parishioners

Best Price of the Season! Come In and Look!
1333 W. Trenton Ave • Findlay

Carpets Direct

Findlay's #1 Rated Flooring Store
419-422-6070 • 328 E. Sandusky St.

GEORGE HOUSE COFFEE & TEA

1041 N. MAIN STREET
419-425-3930

"COFFEE, ATMOSPHERE & ENLIGHTENMENT"

Griffin's Groundkeeping
419-566-8951
For all your Lawn and Landscape Needs

The Ohio GAS • Since 1945 • Truck, Automotive, Paint, Hydraulics, and More
Automotive Supply Co. www.ohioautomotive.com
419-422-1655 • 525 W. Main Cross St. • 800-472-6638

FASTSIGNS | Findlay

Josette Brinkman
OWNER & PARISHIONER
567-208-4227
303 E. Sandusky St.
www.fastsigns.com/2290



FREE Breakfast Sandwich or Large Sandwich
w/Purchase of the same.

Offer Valid Only At These Participating McDonald's®:
Bowling Green • North Baltimore • Fostoria • Findlay. Limit One Coupon Per Customer Per Visit. Sandwich Must Be of Equal Or Lesser Value.



Dr. Tyler Vorst, DC
Chiropractic Physician

Better health through better motion.
419-967-7522 • www.grovedc.com
2303 N Main St. Findlay, OH 45840



JOHN D. ERDELJAC, DDS
1816 Chapel Dr. • Findlay
419-423-4651
findlayoralsurgery.com
- Parishioner -

FINDLAY PLUMBING & HEATING



- PLUMBING
- HVAC
- REFRIGERATION

419.423.9300 • fph1.com

JOIN LEO COUNCIL 957

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | Call Chuck Sear
419-424-9858
Hall Rental: 419-299-3710
Meetings - 1st & 3rd Wed. • 4th Degree - 2nd Wed.
Councilettes - 4th Tues. • Bingo - Every Sat.



Eric A. Morman, Financial Advisor
1000 E. Main Cross Street
Suite 101
Findlay, OH 45840
419-423-3917

Parishioner



OIO Orthopaedic Institute of Ohio

1501 Bright Road
(419) 424-0131
OrthoOhio.com



Findlay Hearing Center

EXPERTS IN HEARING
419-422-5242
findlayhearing.com
930 Plaza St. • Findlay

ATKINS DENTISTRY
family & cosmetic dentistry

J. SCOTT ATKINS, DDS, PARISHIONER • KENNETH J. VERDELL, DDS
419-422-1872
1725 Western Ave., Ste. D, Findlay
www.scottatkinsdds.com



Insurance & Investments

419.423.1250
www.uisprotect.com

Greg Hull • Matt Hull • Mason Lowery • Amy Gutting

COOPERTIRES

401 E. Main Cross St. • 419-422-0414
findlaycooperservice.com
(online coupon/promotions)
TIRES • AUTO REPAIR

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Sherri Fischhaber • sfischhaber@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6553

BRINDLE'S

Serving Findlay since 1960

Window Treatments
Custom Upholstery
Solid Wood Furniture



Jan Brindle
Interior Designer

419-422-4451
1100 Croy Dr, Findlay

SEE US ON FACEBOOK

There is ONLY One Place to go ...NWO!



(419) 427-1984



Drake, Phillips, Kuenzli & Clark
General Practice Law Firm Serving NW Ohio's legal needs since 1948

With more than 200 years combined experience, we can handle your legal needs.

We are here to help.

301 S. Main St., 4th Floor, Findlay, OH 45840
419-423-0242 • findlaylaw.com



3-D-4-3

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-1742



Verl D. Warnimont, Owner
1016 N. Blanchard St.
419.423.5723
AllStarPlumbingHVAC.com



Accepting New Patients
269 Park Dr. South, McComb
419-293-2335
mccombdental.com

- General Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Emergency Dentistry
- Laser Dentistry

Nancy E. Dysinger, D.D.S. • Kimberli C. Best, D.D.S. • Emily Heintzelman, D.D.S.

PANDORA THE NARROW STORE WITH THE WIDE SELECTION
FLOORING & SUPPLY
101 E. Main St. • Pandora
419-384-3102 pandoraflooring.com



CR Nails & Spa
1404 N. Main St., Findlay
419-819-8456
Mon-Sat 9:30a - 7:00p
Sunday 11:00a - 6:00p
Gift Certificates Available
Walk-Ins Welcome

Findlay Monument Co.
Specializing in Monument Sales & Engraving
Contact Steve or John Johns
419-424-5654

1121 W. Main Cross St., Findlay • FindlayMonument.com



Shop Supply Service Ltd.
• Industrial Supplies
• Fasteners
• Hand & Power Tools
• Janitorial Supplies

Merle, Derek, Nathan, & Jared Hohman
300 E Crawford St. 422-2907

MEMBER OF THE PARISH
STREACKER
TRACTOR SALES, INC.
www.StreakerTractor.com
419.422.6973



THE BAKER'S CAFE
A Quaint Feel-Good Cafe in the heart of Downtown Findlay
408 S. Main St., Findlay • 419-422-7133
www.TheBakersCafeFindlay.com



MassMutual FINANCIAL GROUP
Larry Nold, Parishioner
Financial Services Professional
1265 Fostoria Ave.
Young or Old, See Larry Nold
419-423-3747



legacylawnandpet.com
6566 County Rd. 236, Findlay, OH 45840
(419) You Purchase Online 427-9413
WE LOAD IT!



Dr. Thomas F. Vail
Board Certified Foot Surgeon
Heel Pain Treatments: Shockwave & Platelet Injections
Laser Therapy • Diabetic Shoes • Custom Orthotics
1725 Western Ave., Ste. C
419-423-1888 www.vailfoot.com



NISSAN WARNER AUTOMOTIVE
Innovation that excites
STEVE WARNER
419.429.6141 • WarnerNissan.com
NISSAN INTELLIGENT MOBILITY



BRUNCH 7a-12p
Saturday and Sunday
MANCY'S STEAKHOUSE AT THE HANCOCK HOTEL
631 S. Main Street • 567-271-0033
10% OFF YOUR TOTAL BILL
*Excludes alcohol. Please mention this ad.

Warner Won't Be Beat! www.WarnerNissan.com



Millstream Area CREDIT UNION
Fall Back In Love With Your Home Loan!
Let Ann keep more money in your pocket this holiday season by making your mortgage more manageable.

Ann Tong - NMLS ID 506936
419.422.LOAN Ext 120 • atong@millstreamcu.com

Doug Hiegel, Parishioner/Owner
HIEGEL INSURANCE AGENCY
318 West Sandusky St. • Findlay
567-525-4530
www.hiegelinsurance.com

JOE KUHLMAN
Plumbing • Heating • Electrical • A/C
237 Prospect Ave.
419-425-2504

Weber Construction
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
STAMP CONCRETE, ASPHALT, CONCRETE
ROOFING, ADDITIONS, REMODELING
SEWER AND WATER LINES
Over 40 years in business 419-619-6832



Gillig Winery
1720 Northridge Rd.
Findlay, OH
419-408-3230
gilligwinery.com
GLOBALLY SOURCED, LOCALLY CRAFTED



ST. CATHERINE'S MANOR OF FINDLAY
a tradition of caring
Therapy Services • Memory Care
2101 Greendale Blvd., Findlay
412.422.3978
StCatherinesFindlay.com

Knueve & Sons inc.
Heating & Air Conditioning • Air Quality & Humidification
Water Treatment Systems • Plumbing Services
Tankless Water Heaters • Bathroom Remodeling
Home Standby Generators
1730 E. Melrose Ave., Findlay
419-420-7638 • 800-676-3619
"Your Comfort Is Our Concern!"
knueve.com
Financing Available



Coldren-Crates FUNERAL HOME
205 W. Sandusky St.
419.422.2323 ColdrenCrates.com



Frankart Electric
We Pride Ourselves with Complete Customer Satisfaction!
419-435-4220 • Info@FrankartElectric.com
INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION



ROMANS HAIR DESIGNERS
Mary Dible, Owner / Stylist / Parishioner
626 S. Main St. • 419.424.9950



Ridge & Company
Certified Public Accountant
Robin L. Ridge, CPA | 419.424.1835
Parishioner | 314 W. Hardin St
www.ridgecpas.com



FORNES COMPLETE AUTO & TRUCK SERVICE
A Name You Can Trust
Family-Owned & Operated Specialists Since 1929
125 E. Front St., Findlay
419-422-8945
FornesBrake.com



Tony Schock, CRPS Director
BAIRD
Family Wealth Partners
937-428-3033
aschock@rwbaird.com
fwpbaird.com
©2020 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated. Member SIPC. MC-502400.



THE WORLD HAS CHANGED
OUR MISSION HASN'T
THE HERITAGE
INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | AND MORE
419-424-1808 | THEHERITAGEHC.COM



Basilia and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation Carey, OH
~ Shrine Gift Shop ~
Rosaries, Statues, Religious Items, Gifts for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation & other occasions
Open seven days a week **419.396.6080**
~ Shrine Cafeteria ~
Rental for Weddings, Meetings, Reunions & Company Parties
419.396.7107
www.olcshrine.com



FLAGCITY REALTORS

flagcity.com

Brian J. Whitta
ABR, C2EX, CRB, CRS, GRI, PSA, RENE, SRS
President / Principal Broker
419-701-4040
brian@flagcity.com



Marlene Burns, CRC®
419-894-0001
burnsfinancial@gmail.com
www.burnsfinancial.com




94.9
TUNE INTO THE TRUTH
holyfamilyradio.fm



BROWN SUPPLY COMPANY
CLEANING SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT
419-224-5881



BROWNIE ELITE
HOME USE BLOWING ELITE PRODUCTS
www.browniesupply.com

SPECTRUM
EYE CARE, INC. | FINDLAY, OH

Focusing on Outstanding Eye Care through Innovation and Compassion

419-422-6190
888-803-9583

15840 Medical Dr. South, Ste. A
Findlay, OH 45840

SpectrumEyeCareInc.com



CLARE A. BOHN
REALTOR | PARISHIONER
419-265-5670
The KEY to finding your dream home!
Reviews @ Realtor.com/ClareA.Bohn




RPM CARBIDE DIE, INC
894-6426
Precision Machining since 1967
WWW.RPMPRECISION.COM

Specialists in Carbide & Steel Precision Tooling
PARISHIONERS

HANNEMAN FUNERAL HOMES
Standard of Excellence Since 1912

Drew C. DeVore
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

McComb **Findlay**
Hammenman Funeral Home Hammeman Funeral Home
370 Park Dr. South 201 Osborn Ave.
419-293-3552 419-424-0777



devore@hannemanfuneralhomes.com | www.hannemanfh.com



Kathryn A. Lewis, D.D.S.
419.423.0343 • 12515 County Rd. 99 • Findlay
FindlayDentalGroup.com



Kresser
PLUMBING / CAMERA INSPECTION
HEATING / AC
RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

Larry Kresser Jr.
Parishioner
419.423.1421
www.kresserplumbing.com



10283 US 224 W • Findlay
567-301-2450
FlagCityFurniture.com



Kevin & Nancy Hall
PARISHIONERS
kdhall@FlagCityFurniture.com



fitzgerald & mihalik, LLC.
• TRIAL PRACTICE •

Drew J. Mihalik, Managing Partner ~ Parishioners ~
Dennis M. Fitzgerald, Of Counsel
(419) 420-9312
400 S. Main St., Findlay, OH 45840
www.fitzgeraldlawfirm.net



KIRK CORPORATION
kirkbros.com
Companies of Kirk Corporation Include:

KIRK BROS CO, INC **ALVADA TRUCKING** **KIRK BROS TRUCKING** **BODIE**



YOUR HOMETOWN HAULER!



- Roll-offs/ Hooklifts
- Compactors

handoservices.com

LaRiche Family Of Dealerships

larichecars.com
Downtown Findlay
PARISHIONERS
toyotabob.com
Next to Best Buy in Findlay



SWITCH TO LARICHE
Proudly Invested In Your Community!