



ST. MICHAEL

Catholic Church

December
8
2019

OUR MISSION

We, the members of St. Michael Parish, are disciples of Jesus Christ. We are a welcoming community in the greater Grand Ledge area, belonging to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we nurture our faith and life-long formation through Word and Sacrament. We grow in holiness by faith-sharing, prayer, worship, stewardship, and service. We live by the Gospel, sharing our faith through witness and compassion. We resolve to reach beyond ourselves, dedicated to the spiritual enrichment and needs of each other, our neighbors and the world.



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

**345 Edwards Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837**

Parish Office: 517-627-8493
Parish Fax: 517-627-1289
School Office: 517-627-2167

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Closed for lunch 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

ONLINE

stmichaelgl.org
facebook.com/StMichaelGrandLedge

MASS & RECONCILIATION

Liturgy of the Eucharist:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm
Sunday: 8:30am and 11:00am
Weekdays: Tuesday 7:00pm
Wednesday - Friday 9:00am

Reconciliation:

Saturday: Following 4:30pm liturgy
By appointment: Contact the parish office

SACRAMENTS

EUCCHARIST AND MASS

The source and summit of the life of the Catholic. For those interested in preparing to receive the sacrament, please contact Jennifer Nelson, our Coordinator of Child and Family Ministry.

BAPTISM

The gateway to the Christian life. For inquiries about Infant Baptism or the baptism of young children, please contact the parish office. For teens, and adults, please contact Jennifer Nelson, our Coordinator of Child and Family Ministry.

CONFIRMATION

The deepening of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. If you, or your son or daughter, are interested in receiving this sacrament, please contact Anthony Fisher, our Coordinator of Youth Ministry.

RECONCILIATION

Everyone needs the mercy of God. Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday after the 4:30 pm liturgy in our Reconciliation Room, located at the back of our worship space. Additional special times are scheduled during Advent and Lent. Appointments can also be made by calling the parish office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

"Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the church, and let the priests pray over them anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord," James 5:14. To receive the sacrament of the sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office or Fr. Jim.

MARRIAGE

"The Two Became One," Mark 10:8. If you are interested in beginning marriage preparation, please contact the parish office to schedule a meeting with Fr. Jim.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Today: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9;
Matthew 3:1-12

Next Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-6A, 10; James 5:7-10;
Matthew 11:2-11

To view Readings for the Day, listen to them, or sign up to receive by email, go to www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

Advent Reconciliation

Individual Reconciliation

Tuesdays, December 10th and 17th at 6:30pm
Saturday, December 21st at 11:00am
Saturdays after 4:30pm Mass at St. Michael

Communal Penance Service

Sunday, December 15th - 2:00pm at St. Gerard and St. Thomas Aquinas in East Lansing

Call the parish office for reconciliation by appointment.

Christmas and New Years' Mass Schedule / Office Hours

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm (no incense), 7:00pm*, 10:00pm*
*Masses preceded by 30 minutes of carols

Christmas Day Mass

9:30am* (no incense)

Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31 - 5:00pm
Wednesday, January 1 - 9:30am

Parish Office hours in observance of Christmas and New Years' will be as follows:

December 24th and 25th - CLOSED
December 31st - CLOSED AT NOON
January 1st - CLOSED

NEWLY BAPTIZED!

▪ November 23 ▪

John Robert Krause

son of Sarah & William

Elliott Lincoln Hurth

son of Amy & Clifford

Oliver James Justice

son of Emily & Andrew

Daphne Mila Andrews

daughter of Krystal & Benjamin

Our Sanctuary Light this Week
is burning in memory of

deceased members of the
Fox & Rademacher Families

requested by Leo & Janet Rademacher



Parish Service Project

Each month we gather to serve at a local community organization to support them in their efforts to serve the community. If you are available to participate, please let Laura Castner know by calling the office or emailing lauracastner@stmichaelgl.org. Thank you to everyone who has been participating in our service projects - we always welcome new faces!

December 14: Homeless Angels, 4:30-7:00pm
Preparing and serving dinner to their residents.

January 18: Ronald McDonald House, 4:00-7:00pm
Preparing dinner for and possibly serving family members of children at the hospital.

SCRIP News for the Holidays

Christmas Orders:

SCRIP special orders for physical cards that are placed and paid for by Monday, December 16, will be available for pick up in the parish office on Friday, December 20 between 3:00-4:00pm. No special orders will be placed again until January 6, 2020.

Parish Office Holiday Hours:

Closed for Christmas,
December 24 and 25
Office closed for New Years,
at noon December 31 and all day January 1

On Hand SCRIP will be available during parish office hours as usual.



FunFest Evening at Wharton Center

Bruce and Kerry Linder, Rob and Jessie White, Daniel and Samantha Linder, and Father Jim enjoyed Les Miserables on November 15. VIP tickets to the performance at Wharton Center preceded by a prime rib dinner was the top auction item at this year's parish festival. Many thanks to organizer and sponsor, Mayette Hicks. *The 2020 FunFest will be held August 28 and 29.*



MATTHEW 25 INITIATIVE

Caring for the poor is part of the mission of St. Michael Parish. One way to make a sign of our commitment to the least of our sisters & brothers is by contributing to charities which serve them in their need.



THIS WEEKEND

4% of our offertory collection and any gifts received in Matthew 25 envelopes will go to:

■ **Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo**
ccdok.org

NEXT WEEKEND

On December 15th, our designated charity will be:

■ **Refugee Development Center**
600 W. Maple St, Suite A
Lansing MI, 48906
517-999-5090
refugeedevelopmentcenter.org

To cultivate a welcoming, thriving community that collaborates with refugees and newcomers through education, engagement, and support.

WEEKLY FINANCIALS

Fiscal year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

■ **November 24** ■

Actual Weekly Budget:	\$20,279
This Week's Offertory:	\$
This Week's Children's Offertory:	\$
Average Weekly Electronic Contributions:	\$
BELOW Weekly Budget to Date:	\$

MATTHEW 25 CHARITY:

4% of Offertory to	\$
Direct Charity Contributions	\$
Total	\$

Sponsor of the Week

MYERS

Serving the Needs of St. Michael

PLUMBING & HEATING

www.myersmechanical.com

16825 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY • LANSING

517-886-2255

Remember to patronize all of our sponsors and thank them for advertising in our bulletin. They make the bulletin possible at no cost to our parish.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MON ▪ DEC09 *Immaculate Conception*

- 4:30pm K-6 Religious Education & 3-6yrs Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - School
6:00pm Scout Troop 645 Meeting - Fellowship Hall
6:30pm Small Group Facilitator Training - Siena Room

TUE ▪ DEC10

- 9:30am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - School Atrium
1:00pm Rosary - Chapel
6:30pm Individual Reconciliation - Church
7:00pm †Mass for Thane Belen II by Karin S. Kwiet
8:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous - Gym

WED ▪ DEC11 *St. Damasus*

- 9:00am †Mass for Kim Fuller by Patrick & Lisa Malloy
5:00pm Grand Ledge Shopping Tour - Fellowship Hall
6:00pm BeFrienders - Siena Room
6:00pm Education Commission - Library

THU ▪ DEC12 *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

- 9:00am †Mass for Paula Bazela by the Berini Family
10:00am Galazin Bible Study - Siena Room
5:30pm GLEAP - Science Room
6:00pm K-6 Family Home Study - Siena Room
6:15pm Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall (S)
6:30pm School Christmas Program - Church
7:00pm K of C Business Meeting - Fellowship Hall (N)

FRI ▪ DEC13 *St. Lucy*

- 9:00am †Mass for Thane Belen II by Belen Family

SAT ▪ DEC14 *St. John of the Cross*

- 9:00am Jazzercise - Gym
3:30pm Choir Rehearsal - Church
4:30pm †Mass for Robert Powers
by Sherry Powers-Dalimonte & family
5:30pm Individual Reconciliation - Church

SUN ▪ DEC15 *3rd Sunday of Advent*

- 8:30am Mass for People of the Parish
10:00am Choir Rehearsal - Church
10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous - Gym
11:00am †Mass for Francis Xavier Westen,
anniv. of birth by Carol Westen
12:00pm Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal - Church
12:00pm Rosary Chaplets - Chapel
6:00pm Youth Group Christmas Party - Siena Room

SAVE THE DATE

- JAN08 Seniors 55+ Luncheon
JAN12 Hot Dogs for Hope
JAN26 Catholic Schools Week Open House
JAN31 Winter Carnival

Christmas Light Recycling NOV30 - DEC15

The St. Michael Christmas Light recycling program takes old, broken, and unwanted Christmas light strands and recycles them each holiday season. Please place light strands in the drop box in the main entrance of church. Please only drop off light strands. No garland, tinsel, strand reels, plastic bags, etc.

Don't Let the Grinch Steal Christmas

December 11 at 7:00pm in the Siena Room

Please join us as Mary Tardif (former Director of both Adult Formation at St. Gerard and of Lay Ministry Formation for the Diocese of Lansing) presents an Advent reflection on the ways Jesus comes to us with a special focus on preparing to meet Jesus today. How do we encounter Jesus in prayer, scripture, community, and sacrament? How do we prepare our hearts?

Poster Contest

Keep Christ in Christmas!

Hey kids, How are those posters coming? Don't forget. . the deadline to turn in your poster to your teacher is Monday, December 16 at 6:00pm!

Thank you!
Knights of Columbus
#7311



Hearing Help Available

Our church is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you have a hearing aid with a T-Coil Setting, you will be able to hear through your hearing aid if you switch it to that setting. If you do not have a T-Coil setting or do not have a hearing aid, listening devices are available in the sacristy.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

For information on article submission and due dates please see stmichaelgl.org/bulletins-1

Micah 6:8

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy. And to walk humbly with your God.

From January 5-11, 2020, the Catholic Church will celebrate National Migration Week. The theme for this year's celebration is **Promoting a Church and a World for All**.

One of the verbs used by Pope Francis to frame our obligation toward migrant populations is:

Protecting This "may be understood as a series of steps intended to defend the rights and dignity of migrants, independent of their legal status." The Catholic Church has long emphasized the importance of protecting the human dignity of migrants, both through the implementation of humane policies and through their accompaniment.

Action If you were unable to sign a letter at church you can still send one to your US Senator urging them to support the Senate Dream Act, Senate Secure Act and a path to citizenship for Dreamers and TPS holders. You can find the letter at <https://support.crs.org/act/lead-the-way-HE> or you may text Encuentro to the number: 306-44 to receive links to the letter to complete the action on your cell phone.

Prayer Pray for our neighbors, coworkers, friends, fellow Christians, and all people, that they may grow in their awareness of the issue of migration and become a voice in the public square calling for greater protections for these populations.

Source: Migration & Refugee Services/USCCB

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Confirmation Retreat

For all 2020 Confirmation candidates: the St. Michael Confirmation retreat will be from the evening of December 27 to the morning of December 29. More details about registration to come!

Year-End Charitable Giving for 2019

We encourage anyone contemplating charitable gifts before the close of 2019 to consider a gift to St. Michael Parish. Contributions for 2019 need to be **dated no later than December 31, 2019** and be submitted to the parish office by **Thursday, January 2, 2020**. If you have questions, please contact the parish office at 627-8493.

Did You Know? IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

Those over 70 1/2 years of age may make a direct contribution from their IRA to a qualified charity. A QCD permits annual direct transfers to a qualified charity totaling up to \$100,000 of tax-deferred IRA savings. Funds that have been distributed from the IRA to the IRA owner and are then contributed to charity WILL NOT qualify. Distributions **must be made directly to the qualified charity**.

Advantages:

- Contribution is not included in adjusted gross income.
- Contribution is not subject to federal income tax.
- Contribution is not subject to state income tax.
- Contribution may reduce federal income taxes as reduced adjusted gross income reduces taxable social security.
- Contribution counts as withdraw to meet required minimum distribution requirements.

How to make the gift? Direct the IRA custodian to send the check directly to the charity. Prior to making any distribution, please be sure to consult with your tax adviser.

Starting in January • Adult Faith Formation at St. Michael

We've just started a new liturgical year, and we're about to enter into 2020. What will you do with this new year to grow in faith and spirituality? Here are some options through the parish. Does one (or more) of them fit with your personal goals for your faith journey? Sign up online, contact the office, or email to lauracastner@stmichaelgl.org.

Women of the Old Testament: While the men of the Old Testament often garner the most attention, the women of the Old Testament may be even more worthy of our interest because we have to dig deeper to recover their special contribution to the annals of faith. Their stories are remarkable in that they arise from historical eras that limited their options in influencing or changing the flow of history. The women of this study can be bold and decisive, also meek and faithful, but they are always compelled to act in ways that bring about change. God's saving deeds often came through the mind and will of amazing women using limited resources.

When: Thursdays, 10:00am-noon, January 9 - March 5

Where: Siena Room

How much: \$16 - study sets will be available in the parish office or may be picked up at the first class.

Catholic Social Teaching

Faith and Racial Equity: Exploring Power and Privilege (Just Faith Ministries): This is an 8-week module that awakens groups to the economic systems, public policies, cultural norms, and hidden biases that empower some and oppress others. The first half of the module introduces a framework for understanding and recognizing racial disparities in power and privilege. Sessions 5-8 take a deeper dive into specific issues related to power and privilege, including affirmative action, the school-to-prison pipeline, the criminal justice system, and powerful biases in media representation. As with all JustFaith programs, participants will explore how their faith should inform their response to their learning, as well as discern action steps for working toward racial equity in their own communities. Please note that Faith and Racial Equity is not for the faint of heart! The module is designed for participants who are willing to wrestle with hard questions and take an honest look at their own attitudes, assumptions, and choices. However, through spiritual grounding and community-building, participants find support and belonging throughout their journey to personal transformation and social action.

When: Sunday afternoons, 1:30-4:00pm, January 19 - March 15

Where: Siena Room

How much: \$40

The **Called & Gifted™** discernment process has been used since 1993 by over 100,000 lay, ordained, and religious Catholics and other Christians around the world. It is designed to help Christians discern the presence of charisms in their lives. Charisms, or spiritual gifts, are special abilities given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to give them power both to represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness for people. Whether extraordinary or ordinary, all charisms ought to be exercised in the service of God (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2003). **Note: At St. Michael we are offering the workshop in a set of five 2-hour sessions.** Alternatively, you may get the same content in a one-day format through the diocese. Currently planned sessions are February 29 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Jackson and March 21 at St. Agnes in Fowlerville. You can register for the one-day workshops through the diocese www.dioceseoflansing.org/outreach-ministry/called-and-gifted-workshops at a cost of \$50 (or \$45 if you register early).

When: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, January 15 - February 12

Where: Siena Room

How much: Approximately \$15

Scripture Studies

A Quick Journey through the Bible—An 8-part introduction to the Bible timeline: This study is designed to give each participant a brief overview of salvation history, from Genesis through the resurrection of Christ and the establishment of the Catholic Church. Participants will learn about the need for studying the Bible and how to enter deeper into "His-story" as they begin their study of the Scriptures.

When: Days and times to be determined, based on the availability of small group facilitators.

How much: \$10 - study sets will be available in the parish office or may be picked up at the first class.

Reflections on the Sunday Readings: These small groups will use a variety of resources to help each participant learn about the context for the upcoming readings and reflect on the readings before the weekend. **When:** Days and times to be determined, based on the availability of small group facilitators.

General

Plus, plan for these opportunities in February and March!

Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace
UNIVERSITY
begins February 12



Playbook on the Our Father
(men's group): begins mid-March

Catholic Women's Club

All Catholic women of the Lansing Diocese are invited to our monthly luncheon on December 12 at the Fireside Grill (6951 Lansing Rd Dimondale). The charity that we are sponsoring this month will be the Mother Theresa House. If you have any questions or would like to make a reservation call Judy Sibal at 517 449-5365 by December 6.



Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 14 from 1:00-3:00pm

This FREE party will be held at Columbus Hall (5300 N. Grand River, Lansing). Children to 11 years of age are invited. All are encouraged to bring a canned food item which will be donated to a local charity.

Activities include a simple craft project which can be donated to a local nursing home. There are Christmas cards to sign for Michigan Veterans. A Christmas story and a Christmas Blessing by Dcn Andy Tardif. There will be games, snacks, Christmas music, and a visit from Santa Claus. Please join in! For more information, contact Ken Watterson at 517-881-0812. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Bishop Albers Assembly #0496 and Lansing Assembly #3334.



The Diocese of Lansing Outreach Mass is broadcast every Sunday on Lansing WLAJ ABC-3 at 6:00 am and 10:00 am.