Welcome to St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Community

# The Epiphany of the Lord January 5, 2025

"They were overjoyed at seeing the star." Matthew 2:10





#### SATURDAY LITURGY

Vigil: 5:00 PM

## SUNDAY LITURGY

7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 AM LIVESTREAM 9:30 AM MASS

## **DAILY LITURGY**

Weekdays 7:00 AM Saturday 8:00 AM

## HOLY DAY LITURGY

See page 9 of the bulletin

#### **CHAPEL HOURS:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 AM-3:00 PM Wednesdays 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Saturday 9:00-3:00 PM

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Wednesdays

1:00-4:00 PM in the Chapel

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Sacrament of Penance...Saturday 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

Baptisms...First time parents at St. Michael must attend a Baptism Prep session before the baptism date can be scheduled. Please call Janice at ext. 8241 to schedule the prep session and/or baptism date.

Marriage....The bride, groom or their parents/grandparents must be active registered members of the parish for at least one year prior to reserving a date for the wedding. The diocese requires that arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of the wedding date in order for the proper personal, spiritual and liturgical preparations of the couple to be completed.

Sacrament of the Sick...Please call the office until 4:00 PM. After 4:00 PM, please call 322-6623 Monday-Friday and anytime on the weekend.

Names of the sick are placed in the bulletin for a period of four weeks after which time they are either removed or placed in the Book of Intentions in the Chapel.

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Monday prior to the Sunday printing 12:00 PM (Noon). Holidays have exceptions. Please submit potential bulletin articles by email to bulletin@stmichaelparish.life or in print form to the office or by fax to 322-4508.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life

#### **MINISTRIES**

If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please visit the website for Ministry Coordinator information.

## Spirituality & Worship Commission

Altar Servers

Art & Environment

Cross Bearers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Hospitality

Lectors

Liturgy Committee

Music Ministry

Centering Prayer Ministry

OCIA

Sacristan

Ministers of Care

#### **Education & Formation Commission**

Adult Catholic Education

Alpha

**Baptismal Preparation** 

Catholic Bible Study

Faith Formation

Marriage Preparation

Radiate

School Administrator

## Stewardship & Parish Administration

AV Ministry Cemetery Committee

Parish Gardeners

Stewardship

## Parish Life

Boy Scouts of America/Girl Scouts

Comforting Chefs

Festival Committee

Holy Name Society

Knights of Columbus

Labors of Love

Ministry of Hope & Consolation

Parish Nurse

Senior GEMS

Welcoming Ministry

#### **Peace & Social Justice Commission**

Good Samaritans

Rebuilding Hope Mission Team

Wheelchair Ramp Ministry

Respect Life Group

Pastoral Care

## **CONVENT**

**Congregation of Mother of Carmel** 43 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville 219-322-4011

## SCHOOL OFFICE

16 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville (219)322-4531/FAX (219)322-1710

## **Principal**

Mrs. Michelle Biscan

mwacnik@smswarriors.org

#### **Executive Assistant**

Mrs. Karen Rapacz

krapacz@stmichaelparish.life

#### **Director of Religious Education**

Mrs. Kimberley Hoogeveen khoogeveen@stmichaelparish.life

## **Administrative Assistant**

Mrs. Mary Jo Rymarczyk

mrymarczyk@stmichaelparish.life

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## **PARISH OFFICE** 1 E. Wilhelm St, Schererville (219) 322-4505/FAX (219) 322-4508 9:00-4:00 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY or by appointment www.stmichaelparish.life

#### Pastor

Rev. Martin Dobrzynski ext. 8220 pastor@stmichaelparish.life

**Associate Pastor** 

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frrobertr@stmichaelparish.life

#### Permanent Deacon

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deaconron@stmichaelparish.life

## Permanent Deacon/Scholarship & **Grant Coordinator**

Deacon Gary Wolfe ext. 8222 gwolfe@stmichaelparish.life

Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Janice Gatons ext. 8241

igatons@stmichaelparish.life

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ext. 8232

sacristan@stmichaelparish.life

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Barbara Judge	Education & Formation Liaison
Nancy Finley	Parish Life Liaison
	Parish Life Liasion
Connie Solorio	Spirituality & Worship Liasion
	Spirituality & Worship Liaison
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	kiPastor
	Associate Pastor
	Permanent Deacon
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1	

January 5, 2025

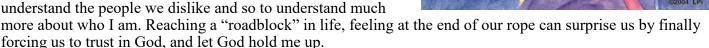
## From the Pastor's Desk

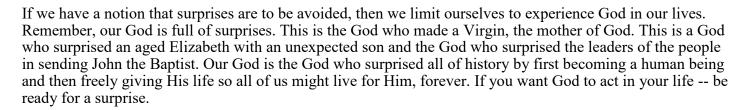
**Life is full of surprises!** It has been the quest of modern society to make daily life more secure and less surprising. So comfortable have we become with security that we are shocked to hear about tainted spinach or other unexpected difficulties that jeopardize our common peace of mind.

Though surprises such as these are unwelcome, they do remind us that life is never certain. Being nervous about surprises is good and bad. The good side is that it encourages us to plan so we are not caught in a tight spot. The bad side is that the uncertainty of surprises can tempt us to close ourselves off from new experiences, new people and new ways of understanding God's work in our life.

Today's feast of the Epiphany is all about surprises and the goodness of surprises. The surprise is that God has come into the world, not just for the chosen people, but for all people, even people who don't believe in God. Now this might not come to us as a shocking revelation, but it was to the people of the first century. It could be a revelation for us if we realize that God breaks through to you and me in similarly surprising ways.

The difficulties we each face in life can surprise us and can also become the bearers of God's power and grace. Relationships that are strained can surprise us by inviting us to grow to understand the people we dislike and so to understand much





**Change** is always hard but necessary if we are to grow. After more that 20 years of sharing her musical talents and love for the liturgy of the Church, we bid a hearty thank you and a fond farewell to Debbie Mangione. Perhaps she taught your child how to read music during her teaching years in our school. Maybe, someone you know learned how to play the piano under her expert tutelage. Hopefully you have enjoyed many Christmas concerts over the years and the Madrigal dinners in the past as well. Her direction of the parish Music Ministry has been exemplary as has been her concern to raise up musical talent, especially in our young people.

When she came to me in the spring to request her retirement, I was clear with her that we are not replacing her. To replace Debbie Mangione would be impossible. Her particular talents and passion cannot be replaced. Debbie wants to spend sometime with her grandchild and traveling. She does not intend on leaving St. Mike's, but she will take a well deserved hiatus.

The position of Music and Liturgy Director has been filled by Carole Prendergast (see page 8 for more information on Carole). Carole comes with a similar passion, to engage our young people in music for the Glory of God. She comes to us after many

years of parish experience in the Archdiocese of Chicago. She is excited to be working here in the Diocese of Gary "across the border" but close to her home. She has been working with Debbie for the past month to further ensure a smooth transition for this most important ministry in our parish.

Please pray for them both as they each undertake a new direction in their faith journeys.





EUCHARISTIC ADORATION JANUARY 8TH 1:00-4:00 PM IN THE CHAPEL

## Your Help is Very Much Appreciated!

Thank you to all who came and helped set up the Church for the Birth of our Lord. The décor turned out beautiful.

## Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

And of course, what is put up must come down. On **January 14th** at 6:30 PM, help is needed to take down and prepare the Church for Ordinary Time. Service hours are available. All are welcome! *Submitted by the Art & Environment Ministry* 

## It's time to "Radiate" with our Teen Ministry! We have a lot of fun: Themed Nights, Group Activities and Faith. All high schoolers are invited to join us - YOU are welcome!

**Upcoming Calendar:** 

January 12th: COOK WITH CHEF JACK VALESQUEZ Night! Come for the Fun & Yum!!"They broke

bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." - Acts 2:46

The Sweet and Savory Bake-Off: Biscuits vs. Scones, 6:00-8:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall

January 26th: GYM Night, 6:00-8:00 PM February 9th: GYM Night, 6:00-8:00 PM

February 23rd: St Patrick Hall Night, 6:00-8:00 PM

Any questions, please contact Mrs. Jeannine Quigley (219) 775-5356 or Mrs. Marisa

Richardson (219) 730-4735.

Sign up for our Group Text Messaging: Send text to 81010,

Then text this message to: @stmrad



Our night began with several ministries coming together (Radiate, Respect Life, Choir, and our parishioners) to sing and bring good cheer to Dyer nursing home. Radiate then finished celebrating Christmas with our own party with food, games, and a gingerbread house contest!



## PREPARATION FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION - 2025

If you are a Baptized Catholic, 18 or older, out of High School and you have also received First Communion and Reconciliation, but have not been confirmed, then these classes are for you.



## CLASSES WILL BE HELD:

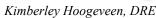
May 7th- 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM May 14th- 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM



For more information and registration, please contact Kimberley Hoogeveen at #219-322-3077.



Michelle Biscan, Principal





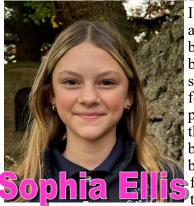
## **HELP SMS EARN EDUCATIONAL REWARDS**

Please save your Strack's receipts, put them in an envelope marked Apples for Students and place in one of the collection towers in church, drop them in the dropbox by the parish office or bring them to the parish office during normal business hours.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SMS!



Sharing the Christmas message with our local community, Faith Formation 5th graders spent their class time making Christmas cards for Assisted Living recipients.



I started attending SMS in 7th grade. My plan for high school is to go to Hanover and participate in a lot of sports. I also want to get good grades. I have played basketball since 5th grade. In the future, I want to play golf and continue playing basketball at Hanover. I have played Crown Point basketball, which is outside of school. It helps me improve my basketball skills. I also do choir at SMS, and I ran for Student Council this year. Another activity I do is help my neighbor water her plants and help her clean things that she cannot do. What makes SMS special is their fun events and gym. I like the fun events at school like the school dances because my friends and I all get ready together before the dances. I like gym class because we get to do a lot of sports and work out and also get to talk to all of my friends. Some advice I would give my younger siblings and other students is to try your best on a test and get into the habit of studying for every test. SMS helps

me grow throughout the year and improves my work every year. This grew me very close to God and to really reflect on Him. As I got older, I got closer to my friends and had strong relationships.



## OPEN HOUSE Sunday, January 26th

10:30am -12:30pm

2025-2026 OPEN ENROLLMENT

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# ST. VALENTINE DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, February 8, 2025 St. Patrick Hall - Doors Open at 6pm Dinner Served at 7pm

Welcoming all couples & adult singles.

Dinner, LIVE Music, Cash Bar & Special Prizes

## Tickets are \$60 each

Tickets available online thru Feb. 2.

To buy tickets visit stmichaelparish.life/events or scan QRCode

For Cash or Check purchases, please visit the Parish Office.



**Questions? Contact Kathryn Sanders at 219-201-1172** 



## For Those Who Have Died...

Arthur Gillespie

Life has changed, not ended

## **Welcome the Newly Baptized**

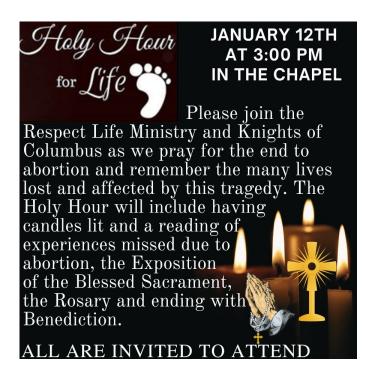
Mason Daniel Rak

## LIFE IS PRECIOUS; HANDLE WITH PRAY



Helen Marshall, Mary Ann Adam, Nicole Villanueva, Jerilyn Chapman, Judy Paswinski, Franklin Stafko, Cyndy Wilson, Erin Brown, Tim and Helen Hazzard, Steve Gatons, Phyllis Leyba, Pat Matz, Timothy Bunchek, Ruth Marie Sarros, David Sarros, Joan Gillespie, Nancy and David Schiesser, Sherry Lazzaro, Patricia Christenson, Joan Hamnik, Glinda Dayalos, Karen Dezdrn, Mary Marsh, Rose Ilgin and all those in need of the healing touch of God. Please call 219-322-4505, ext. 8220 to place a loved one on the Prayer List. Please see page 2 for guidelines regarding Pray for the Sick List.

St. Michael's parishioners are in bold, italic print.





Website: www.stmichaelparish.life



Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life Novena, 9 Days for Life, Thursday, January 16th to Friday, January 24th. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com!

Here at St. Michael, there will be an Opening Service on January 16th and a Closing Service on January 24th, both at 6:30 PM in the Chapel.



Gathering
January 7th
10:00 AM in
St. Patrick Hall



## Welcome to Ms. Carole Prendergast, St. Michael's New Director of Liturgy and Music

Hello! I am delighted to be a part of this beautiful worshipping community of St. Michael the Archangel! I am a Chicago city girl, born and raised in Pilsen, have lived in Clearing, and currently reside in Mt. Greenwood, which is adjacent to Oak Lawn and Evergreen Park. My educational background includes degrees from DePaul and St. Joseph's College {Rensselaer, IN}. As COVID led me to ponder my future, prayer and meditation helped

me to realize that church music is primary in my life. I hope that, using the gifts I have been given, I can enable us to praise our Creator to the best of our abilities. Some of my goals are: to form a strong, united parish choir and to establish more children's choirs. There seems to be an enthusiastic appreciation for music here, and I want to build on that. As I mentioned to some, the talent pool here is relatively deep, which is a blessing. When I'm not delving into music matters, my volunteer activities involve serving as watchstander and vessel examiner for the U.S. Coast Guard at Station Chicago, and working in the ER at Northwestern/Palos Hospital. Gardening, cooking, reading and caring for one fur baby are also things I find enjoyable. St. Michael, on more than one front, has exceeded my expectations and I am thrilled to be a part of this special community. Let us go forward together, and, as J. S. Bach wrote: *Soli Deo Gloria*.



## Italy & Amalfi Jubilee Pilgrimage 12 days: 7 cities December 1 - 12, 2025

Hosted by Fr. Marty and Fr. Peter interested? email: frmartyd@stmichaelparish.life







## **JANUARY 2025 MONTHLY CHALLENGE**

**Columbus**\* "And on entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage." (Gospel for Jan. 5, Mt 2:11a)

The solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord recalls the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus. The Magi recognize the newborn king and offer him homage. This great feast occurs during the liturgical season of Christmas, which begins on Christmas Eve and continues through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During Christmas time, we all remember and celebrate the reality that God assumed our human nature and became a little child. May this season also remind us to recognize the dignity of all children — including unborn children — today.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori from the Knights of Columbus: This month, I challenge you to work toward greater recognition of the sanctity of unborn human life by participating in a peaceful pro-life demonstration or supporting a pregnancy resource center.

Submitted by Jim Prasapoulos

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## THE GOOD SAMARITANS

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## **December 29, 2024**

Adult Children EFTs Loose \$18,092.00 \$29.00 \$3,039.57 \$331.00

Total Weekly Offering \$21,491.57

Christmas Collection \$34,451.00

Thank you for your generosity!



January 10th 8:00 AM in St. Patrick Hall Cost: \$5

Please call Ursula at 219-741-3276 to register.

# S<sup>†</sup>ewardship in Action

Invite someone to join you to look at the night sky and contemplate what it was like for the magi to follow the star to Christ and pay homage. Take time this week to pray and give homage to Christ. *Submitted by Conchita Bryner* 

# **Weekly Schedule**

## **SUNDAY JANUARY 5**

Super Raffle Tickets After All Masses, Gathering Space OCIA 9:30 AM

Christmas Concert 3:00 PM, Church Vietnamese Confessions 5:00 PM, Chapel Vietnamese Mass 6:00 PM, Church Reception to Follow Mass, St. Patrick Hall

The Rosary is said after 7:00 AM weekday Mass except Tuesday-after OLPH Devotions

## MONDAY JANUARY 6

Liturgy Committee Meeting 6:30 PM, Rectory

## **TUESDAY JANUARY 7**

Labors of Love 10:00 AM

Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM, SMS

## **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 8**

Eucharistic Adoration 1:00-4:00 PM, Chapel Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM, SMS

## **THURSDAY JANUARY 9**

Wine Event Meeting 5:30 PM, SE Room Choir Practice 7:00 PM, Church

## FRIDAY JANUARY 10

Chair Yoga 8:00 AM, St. Patrick Hall Respect Life Meeting 1:30 PM, St. Patrick Hall Bell Choir Practice 6:00 PM, Church

#### SATURDAY JANUARY 11

Confessions 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel

St. Valentine Dance Ticket Sales After Vigil Mass, Gathering

Space

Super Raffle Tickets After Vigil Mass, Gathering Space

## SUNDAY JANUARY 12

St. Valentine Dance Ticket Sales After All Masses, Gathering Space

Super Raffle Tickets After All Masses, Gathering Space Faith Formation Family Session 9:30 AM, SMS OCIA 9:30 AM

"Do this in Memory of Me' Mass, 11:30 AM, Church Holy Hour 3:00 PM, Chapel Radiate 6:00 PM, St. Patrick Hall

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## \*INSPIRE ADORATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Jan. 17th

Apr. 4th



Feb. 7th

May 2nd

INSPIRE Adoration for Young Adults will take place at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Center, 1511 Laporte Ave, Valparaiso,7:00-8:30 PM, on the above dates. There will be confession, praise and worship music and a witness talk by a college student.



Renew your faith during a peaceful and transformative evening of Adoration, featuring a brief reflection by Fr. Steven Caraher, live praise and worship music, silent prayer and more.

7:00-8:15 PM
Our Lady of Consolation
Jan. 17th
Feb. 21st
March 20th\*
April 25th

\*Renewed will take place at 6:00-7:15 PM Questions? Call 219-769-1755, ext. 308

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On January 18th, 8:00-10:00 AM, a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's, 8425 Broadway, Merrillville, will be held. Proceeds will help Sojourner Truth House programs. Cost is \$10 for coffee or juice, bacon and all you can eat pancakes. There will be door prizes, STH

eat pancakes. There will be door prizes, STH Strong wristbands and a bake sale. Purchase your tickets by calling 219-947-8560 or email sboyer@poorhandmaids.org.

## **Diocesan Life Information**

## \*MARCH FOR LIFE

The Diocese of Gary Office of Prolife Activities and Lake County Right to Life invite you to join us at the annual March for Life in Indianapolis on **Jan. 22nd**. We will be traveling via a premium coach bus. Registration and prepayment is required. Cost is \$35 per person which includes a box lunch for the way home. Youth Rally and Mass are being hosted by the 5 Dioceses of Indiana. Rally starts at 9:00 AM (EST) and Mass is at 11:30 AM. The fight for the right and dignity of life is not over! Come and be a voice for the voiceless. For more information and to register, go to the dcgary.org events page. Or call Rosanne at 219-769-9292.

## MARRIAGE DATE NIGHT

The Diocese of Gary is hosting a Marriage Date Night on **February 7th** at Don Quijote Restaurant, 119 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Cash bar starts at 5:30 PM followed by dinner at 6:30 PM and speakers, Sofia and James Bilder at 7:30 PM. The topic of the evening is "Pilgrim Hearts." Cost for the evening is \$120/couple. Learn more and register at dcgary.org.

## \*RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Healing the pain of abortion. Northwest Indiana retreats will be **April 4th-6th** and **Sept. 26th-28th.** To register, please contact 219-552-2944 or nwinrv@outlook.com. For more information, visit the website at www.helpafterabortion.net.

## LET'S FEED THE HUNGRY



Sojourner Truth House (STH) provides a comprehensive range of services to at-risk women and their children to help them overcome their homelessness permanently. STH's Food Pantry is the largest food pantry in NWI, serving 700-1,000 families per month. STH is looking for businesses and organizations to hold one pantry drive per year to help support the Food Pantry, Please contact Sharon for more information: 219-789-2222 or ambassadors@sojournertruthhouse.org

## **EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS**

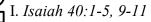
Emotions Anonymous is a 12-Step program, based off the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Anyone experiencing emotional difficulties who is willing to try this recovery program is welcome to attend our meetings. Every Monday at 7:00 PM in St. Thomas More Weis Center, 8635 Calumet Ave., Munster. We meet in Room 101. For more information, please visit www.emotionsanonymous.org



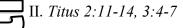
SATURDAY	JANUARY 4	FRIDAY	JANUARY 10
5:00 PM	Mary Beth Burczyk	7:00 AM	*Sophie Pawlicki
SUNDAY	JANUARY 5 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	SATURDAY 8:00 AM	JANUARY 11  †Gerald & John Verdeyen
7:30 AM	♦ Walter & Mildred Prenizny ♦ Ann Ayersman	2:00 PM	Wedding-Keegan Gray & Alana Eatinger
9:30 AM 11:30 AM	♦ Nick & Genevieve Doffin St. Michael Parish ♦ Rosario Corona	5:00 PM	♦Bill, Brenda & Ryan Pammer         ♦Pearl Salach
		SUNDAY	JANUARY 12 THE BAPTISM OF
MONDAY 7:00 AM	JANUARY 6  *Dominic Dybel, OSF	7:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
TUESDAY 7:00 AM	JANUARY 7 All Souls	9:30 AM	†Tadeusz Glinski         †John LaMagdeleine         †Kyle Arnold
WEDNESDAY 7:00 AM	JANUARY 8 All Souls	11:30 AM	♦Susan Czatla
8:55 AM THURSDAY	<b>†</b> Sr. Colleen Loehmer <b>JANUARY 9</b>		
7:00 AM	Lillian Zaborske	†indicates deceased	

## THE WORD

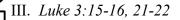
(Readings for January 12, 2025, The Baptism of the Lord)



"Comfort, give comfort to my people." Isaiah prophesies that "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it."



Through the grace of God's appearance, we have been saved "through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit...through Jesus Christ our Savior."



When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened and a voice said, "You are My beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life

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**January 5, 2025** 

## **OUR GENEROUS ADVERTISERS**

Our weekly bulletin is created and managed within our parish office. Advertising proceeds directly support our parish. When seeking services for your home, please consider these businesses and mention our bulletin when you visit their establishments!

To advertise in our bulletin, call Elizabeth Munoz, Communications Director at 219-334-8042.



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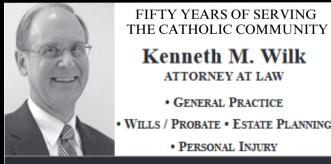
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