Welcome to St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Community

Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

Disciple Maker Index SURVEY

Your Voice Matters - We Need Your Input!

A heartfelt thank you to those who have already shared their voices by participating in the DMI survey. However, additional participation is still needed to ensure we truly reflect the voice of St. Michael Parish. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of this endeavor for the future of our parish and diocese— your voice matters.

This process is about assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities, and that's where the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) comes in. The DMI is a crucial tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at St. Michael the Archangel Church.

For more information, please refer to Father Marty's letter on page 3 or visit our website at stmichaelparish.life.

Join us in making a difference today by taking the survey—simply scan the QR code to the right. This weekend, let your voice be heard in St. Patrick Hall after each Mass, where computers will be available for your convenience. You can also find paper copies in the Gathering Space to fill out at your own pace, whether in the hall or at home. For more information or to return your completed paper form, our parish office is here for you. Your participation matters!

Scan here to take survey.





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

Page 2

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

or by appointment www.stmichaelparish.li	ifo
Pastor	
Rev. Martin Dobrzynski	ext. 8220
pastor@stmichaelparish.life	CAL 0220
Associate Pastor	
Rev. Robert Ross	ext. 8229
frrobertr@stmichaelparish.life	
Permanent Deacon	
Deacon Ron Pyle	ext. 8284
deaconron@stmichaelparish.life	020 .
Permanent Deacon/Scholarship	. &
Grant Coordinator	
Deacon Gary Wolfe	ext. 8222
gwolfe@stmichaelparish.life	
Pastoral Associate	
Mrs. Janice Gatons	ext. 8241
jgatons@stmichaelparish.life	
Director of Liturgy & Music	
Ms. Carole Prendergast	ext. 8227
cprendergast@stmichaelparish.li	
Director of Finance & Account	
Mrs. Jesica Cherry	ext. 8226
jcherry@stmichaelparish.life	
Executive Secretary	. 0220
Mrs. Judi Patzelt	ext. 8220
jpatzelt@stmichaelparish.life	
Communications Director Elizabeth Munoz	ext. 8263
emunoz@stmichaelparish.life	ext. 6203
Bulletin Editor/Clerical Assista	nt
Mrs. Rhonda Haddad	ext. 8239
bulletin@stmichaelparish.life	CAL. 0237
Accounting Clerk	
Mrs. Jeanette Negrete	ext. 8234
jnegrete@stmichaelparish.life	
Jan Barrana Parasininto	

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

ext. 8232

ext. 8228

Campus Facilities Coordinator

rgilbert@stmichaelparish.life

sacristan@stmichaelparish.life

Mr. Rick Gilbert

Head Sacristan

Mrs. Loretta DePrez

THE TOTALE COUNCIL MEMBERS	
Bob SolorioCha	ir
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Deacon Ron Pyle	
Deacon Gary WolfePermanent Deaco	n

March 23, 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

Encounters. We all have stories about incidents that have happened to us. Sometimes those stories take on a role that is larger than just the first circumstances of the incident. There are stories that simply relay some facts that happened to us and then there are stories that seem to have a deeper meaning. Usually those stories of our life, that have deeper meaning, are not seen as such until some time has passed. Upon reflection we begin to see deeper meanings in the factual events that took place. That is the case with the stories we will hear over the next three weeks. The three encounters Jesus has, related to us by St. John, are more than just factual events. Upon reflection, the Church of the second and third century saw in these encounters something more, a deeper reality.

The first of these stories is the encounter of Jesus with a certain woman at a communal well. The location of the well is telling; it happens in a region of the Holy Land that is occupied by Samaritans. These people were seen by their Jewish cousins as heretics, not really Jewish. Consequentially, they were to be avoided. But their territory was a convenient short cut to Jerusalem. That is why Jesus is there.

Jesus, as usual, does not follow all the norms of society when dealing with people He shouldn't be hanging around with. He is left alone for a moment and speaks to the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus is like that with us. He doesn't follow the rules. He encounters us and speaks to us when we least expect and when we would rather be left alone. He asks of us things we find excuses to sidestep. The woman does not satisfy His request, rather she objects: "You are a man and a Jew and you speak to me a woman and a Samaritan?"

We might say to Jesus' request to help Him: "You're the Son of God, and I'm just a human being, and you ask me to help?" Then Jesus tells her and us, that He can help, He can give us living water. Again, the woman says what we think and replies with a skeptical "How?"

Why this sparring with Jesus? What is she hiding; what are we hiding? We usually put someone off when we don't want to confront the deeper reality of the situation. We come up with all sorts of excuses. Like this woman who begins a debate about where the proper place to worship God should be, you and I try to keep our conversation with Jesus on the surface. We forget, Jesus knows us all too well.

Jesus calls the woman to admit her condition, her unfaithfulness, our unfaithfulness. He desires to be fed by us and the thing we feed Him with is our dedication to Him alone. Jesus' hunger is satisfied. He tells His disciples by our faith in Him and so then by our faithfulness to Him alone. Now we get to the real part of the story. This story survives because it leads us on a journey we have all been on; a journey of coming to trust Jesus, to be faithful to Him, to allow us to be satisfied by His love and so then satisfy Jesus by our faith in His love for us.

What are the road blocks you set up in your encounter with Jesus day after day? They usually seem very logical to us and very dogmatic just like the woman at the well. Jesus wants to go deeper with her. Remember, He already knows you, but He wants you to reveal yourself to Him. He does not look for you to hand Him a polished apple; He wants you, the apple, with its deformities and worm holes. He'll do the polishing. Only in this way can He quench your thirst in an eternal fashion.





Please do the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) if you have not already done so.

Use the QR Code or go to www.stmichaelparish.life and click of the Disciple Maker Index tab. Thank you.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life Page 3 March 23, 2025



Eucharistic Adoration

March 26th

1:30-4:00 PM

in the Chapel

Stations of the Cross



All are invited to follow in Jesus' footsteps on this very powerful and spiritual moving journey of His last days on Earth each Friday during Lent at 12:00 PM and 7:30 PM in the church. In the spirit of fellowship and formation, all *Lay Ministers* are invited to travel the Stations of the Cross together as a way to express your devotion to God and your commitment to your ministry. March 28th at 7:30 PM is the suggested time for the

following ministries:

Adult Catholic Education Catholic Bible Study Marriage Preparation School Administrators

Baptismal Preparation Faith Formation Radiate OCIA

THREE PILLARS OF LENT







Lent is a time for prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving. To help keep the season in our lives, there are ribbons representing *Prayer*, *Sacrifice and Almsgiving* on tables in the Gathering Space. As you come to Mass each week, please take a ribbon corresponding to your Lenten deed and tie it to the cross. Here are some examples for you to consider.

Prayer—attend Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration or daily Mass, take time to read the Bible,

pray for family or special intentions, pray the rosary, visit church.

Sacrifice (Fasting)—give up sweets, that special cup of coffee, television, movies, or computer time; put the phone away during meal times, limit surfing the Internet, etc. Sacrifices can also be that one thing you don't want to do but should.

Almsgiving (Offering)—donate money, food or other needed items to a charitable organization, participate in Operation Rice Bowl, give your time and talent to someone or group in need.

St. Michael's Rebuilding Hope Mission Team helped parishioner, Monica Drzewiecki who suffered water damage from a sump pump failure. We removed water damaged debris to about two feet, vacuumed up the water remaining and installed fans to thoroughly dry out her basement and crawlspace. We will return to do mold remediation at a later date. Pictured from left to right is Jim Koeling, Cynthia Napirwocki, Monica Drzewiecki, Rob Olson, Sharon Vail, Mike Macki, Dave Ledyet, and Rick Lisak. The team got "T" shirts for volunteering, and a feast for a king put on by Monica and her sister. If you would like to participate in projects such

as these, please contact the Rebuilding Hope Mission Team by calling the St. Michael's parish office at 219-322-4505.



CONGRATULATIONS
to our high school
Co-ed Christian
Volleyball Team!
#1 in League
&
#1 in Tournament
March 2025

- •Ethan Battig
- Brady Cook
- •Lizzie Cusick
- •Ella Doffin
- Ricky Gallegos
- Sarah Gordon
- •Carter Knueppel
- •Trevor Prisby
- •Leah Velazquez
- ·Bella York









March 23, 2025

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life





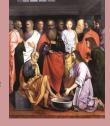




Any questions? Please contact Jeannine Quigley 219-775-5356 or Mrs. Marisa Richardson 219-730-4735

Do You Want to be a Part of the Last Supper?

On Holy Thursday, April 17th, at 7:00 PM, we will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. During the Mass, foot washing will take place just as Jesus washed the feet of the Twelve. We invite parishioners,



young or senior, to partake in this event. Please call or text Cheryl at 219-242-2630 to experience this moment in history.



Chandler Daigre celebrated his Rite of Introduction and has entered our OCIA program as a Catechumen. Welcome Chandler!



Apples for the Students

Strack and Van Til receipts due April 2nd. Drop off at the parish office, drop box outside parish office or collection towers in Church. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

R OF THE WEEK



I started going to SMS when I was in preschool. When I leave this school to attend high school, I would like to go to Andrean. The reason is because it will be easier for my family and me. I play basketball and volleyball both inside and outside of school, and I currently play for a volleyball club. I hope I become good enough to participate in sports in high school and be good at what I like to do. Sports will hopefully be a big part of high school because I love playing sports! Hopefully, I will also make some new cool friends while I am there. I think what makes SMS special is the community. There are a lot of good, funny, and nice people here, and I have made many friends here. Another special thing at SMS is the teachers. They make you feel special and will treat everyone equally and nicely. I am going to miss the feeling and community of this school, but I have to move on, and soon, SMS will be a special memory. My advice to the younger people would be to not take anything for granted. You are going to meet a lot of good people, and you should make memories with them. I would also tell them to be grateful for the teachers and community here because the people here are really nice. They will

help you learn and support you throughout the years you go here. SMS has helped me grow in my relationships with my friends, family, and especially God. Even though there are challenges and temptations, my teachers and friends help me to make a good choice. I have also started to grow in God's love ever since I was baptized. SMS has given me the opportunity to keep learning about God, and my love for Him is much stronger. I wish everyone here at SMS much happiness in the future!

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LIFE IS PRECIOUS; HANDLE WITH PRAYER



Pope Francis, Gerry Scheub, Constance Musick, Karen DeZarn, *Pat Matz, Geraldine Heintz,* Nicole Villanueva, *Tim & Helen Hazard,* Steve Gatons, *Cindy Wilson, Joan Gillespie, May Ann Adam,* Ruth Marie Sarros, *Timothy Bunchek* 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.

Spiritual Adoption Cards Available

March 25th is the Annunciation of the Lord and in honor of this day the Respect Life Ministry will have Spiritual Adoption cards available after all Masses this weekend. The cards have a place for the date to indicate the beginning of the Spiritual Adoption of an unborn child and the completion date will be Dec. 25th with the birth of Jesus. There will be a space to give a name to the unborn child you are spiritually adopting along with a prayer to be said everyday for the nine months to spare the life of a baby in danger of abortion. There is no charge for these cards, so please stop by the Respect Life table in the Gathering Space after Mass.

Patron Ads for Lake County Right to Life

At the table of Spiritual Adoption Cards, you may purchase a Patron Ad for the Lake County Right to Life Banquet to be held on April 4th. There will be examples of the ad at the Respect Life table. Silver Ads for \$20 or a Gold Ads for \$30 are available. Many of you have asked about the ads as you have purchased them in the past.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Cathy standing on ramp #88

Closing in on 90

St. Michael's Wheelchair Ramp Ministry installed its 88th and 89th wheelchair ramps these last couple of weeks. One is for George and Cathy Warquier in Highland. Cathy is caring for her husband, George. Cathy had been a member of Comforting Chefs for years at St.



Ramp #89

Michael's, and now was in need of our assistance. The other ramp was installed for Nellie Moore of Gary. Rick Besich helped with the installation. If you know of anyone who may benefit from our services, please contact Catholic Charities at outreach@catholic-charities.org or call 219-886-3549 and ask for Daniela Ocanas. If you would like to participate in this ministry in any way, please contact the St. Michael's parish office at 219-322-4505.



Italy & Amalfi Jubilee Pilgrimage

12 days: 7 cities December 1 - 12, 2025

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



Website: www.stmichaelparish.life Page 6 March 23, 2025

Wedding Anniversary Mass

May 18th at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels

Couples celebrating a 5 year milestone anniversary or 50+ years of marriage are invited to join Bishop McClory for a special anniversary Mass and light luncheon. Families welcome. RSVP to dcgary.org/2025AnniversaryMass



March 25th 10:00 AM







Come and Join the Fun

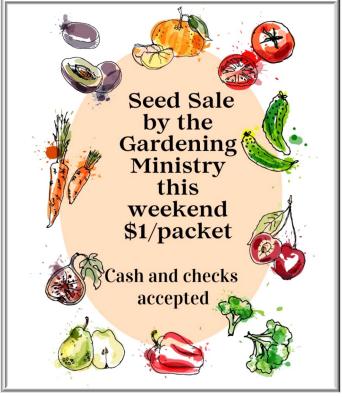


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219-322-4505 EXT. 8250

SPRING CLEAN UP OF CEMETERY
IN PROGRESS
PLEASE REMOVE ALL DECORATIONS
(EXCEPT ETERNAL LIGHTS AND VASES)
RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE
FOUND ON THE WEBSITE,
STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE
HOVER OVER MINISTRIES &
CLICK ON CEMETERY







Chair Yoga March 28th at 8:00 AM in St. Patrick Hall **Cost: \$5** Please call Ursula at 219-741-3276 to register.

Tewardship in Action

Make plans to attend reconciliation. Invite someone to join you. submitted by Conchita Bryner



There are towers available on either side of the main aisle in church to place your Sunday donations. We no longer pass baskets for regular collections.



"Faithful Giving, Blessings Abound – Thank you for Support."

To make online giving easier, please scan the OR code to donate.



March 16, 2025

Adult Children **EFTs** Loose

\$19,117.00 \$48.36 \$2,847.88 \$325.00

Total Weekly Offering \$22,338.24

Vietnamese Mass Collection \$1,679.00

Thank you for your generosity!

IT'S **COFFEE & DONUT TIME** SUNDAY AFTER ALL MASSES



GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

SUNDAY MARCH 23
Coffee and Donuts After All Masses, SPH DMI Survey Table After All Masses, GS Seed Sale After All Masses, GS Spiritual Adoption Cards Available After All Masses, GS OCIA 9:30 AM Radiate 6:00 PM, SMS Gym

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

MONDAY MARCH 24

"Into His Likeness" Series 7:00 PM, SPH

TUESDAY MARCH 25

GEMS 10:00 AM, SE Room

No Faith Formation Traditional Classes –Spring Break Bereavement Session 7:00 PM, SW Room

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26

Eucharistic Adoration 1:30-4:00 PM, Chapel No Faith Formation Traditional Classes-Spring Break

THURSDAY MARCH 27

Choir Practice 7:00 PM, Church

FRIDAY MARCH 28

Chair Yoga 8:00 AM, SPH Stations of the Cross 12:00 & 7:30 PM, Church Bell Choir Practice 6:00 PM, Church

SATURDAY MARCH 29

Confessions 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel 2nd Collection-Catholic Relief Services

SUNDAY MARCH 30

2nd Collection-Catholic Relief Services OCIA 9:30 AM

Congregation of Mother of Carmel 50th Jubilee Mass 11:30 AM

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life Page 8 March 23, 2025

Diocesan Life Information

HELP WANTED

St. Mary's Religious Education office in Griffith is looking for a part-time secretary. A high school degree is required. Please email your resume to Elizabeth Stadnik at: stmaryreledgriffith@yahoo.com

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Are you or someone you know silently suffering from the spiritual and emotional effects of a past abortion, either chemical or surgical? Rachel's Vineyard retreats are here to for you! The next retreat will be **April 4th-6th** in Michigan City. Confidential and non-judgmental, the weekend retreat will help you walk with Christ as you release your grief with those who understand what you have been through. Go to www.helpafterabortion.net or call or text the confidential line 219-552-2944.

ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

The Service League of The SHARE Foundation invites you to join us at the 34th Annual Spring Luncheon on **April 9th** at the Halls of St. George, Schererville. Delight in a delicious meal, door prizes and delightful entertainment, 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM. This event supports Sharing Meadows, our residence and camp dedicated to enriching the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Tickets are \$50/person. For more information, please contact Annette at The SHARE Foundation (219.778.2585) or navigate to ShareFoundation.org and click on the Events tab to learn more.

*REFLECT

Mid-life singles (mid-30s-50s): are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose and belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL, April 25th-27th. Take a chance and get involved...you won't regret it! Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, email reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com or call 630-222-8303 for details.

*LAS VEGAS NIGHT

St. Mary's Men's Club is hosting a Las Vegas Night on **April 26th**, 5:30 - 11:30 PM. Hildebrandt Hall 525 N. Lafayette, Griffith. \$20/person and \$35/couple. Includes all you can eat and drink.

*MERRILLVILLE PARISHES LENTEN FISH DINNERS

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET
FRIDAYS DURING LENT
(except Good Friday)

OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION VAMOS HALL

8303 Taft St., Merrillville

Prices: \$16 (12 and older) \$14 (senior 60+)

> \$14 (to go meal) \$10 (6-11)

Free (5 and under)



SINGLES UPPER 50S AND ABOVE

Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing RENEW weekend retreat at the Carmelite Renewal Center in Darien, IL (southwestern suburbs of Chicago), on May 2nd-4th. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Visit www.RenewRetreats.org, e-mail renew.chicagoland@gmail.com, or call (309) 912-6065 for details.

*BECOME A MISSIONARY

Make this summer one you'll always remember, sharing the Gospel with children and teens in NWI, **May 29th-July 26th.** \$3,000 stipend + meals and housing. Learn more at dcgary.org/totustuus

*EMMAUS: A MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

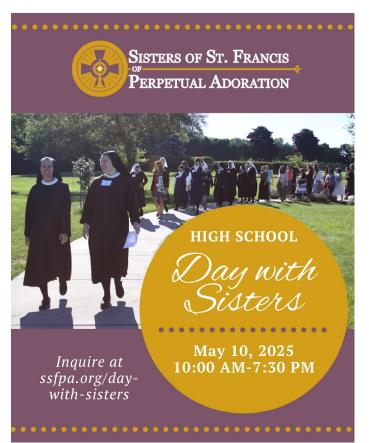
A transformative experience designed to inspire and equip individuals t live out the Gospel message in their daily lives.

AUGUST 9 PORTER COUNTY EXPO CENTER DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 AM

Keynote speakers will be: Dr. Edward Sri, Dr. Mary Healy, Dr. Dora E. Tobar and Alejandro Aguilera.

Cost is \$75. Early Bird special until Easter is \$50

Please register at dcgary.org/emmaus







whole year.

Scan the QR code to RSVP or go to: https://tinyurl.com/MTDG25

all transportation

Questions? Contact Dr. Claudia Sadowski at csadowski@dcgary.org

Registration is now open!Applications are now due by

Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life





SATURDAY	MARCH 22
5:00 PM	♦ Herbert, Sr., Mary & Herb
	Lemon III
SUNDAY	MARCH 23 3RD SUNDAY OF
	<u>LENT</u>
7:30 AM	♥Kristin Finley
	♦Jose Macaya
	†Donnabelle Bohling
9:30 AM	♦James Pillacella
11:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
MONDAY	MARCH 24
7:00 AM	†Patti Siedelmann
TUESDAY	MARCH 25
7:00 AM	†Ann Ayersman
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 26
7:00 AM	†Doug DePrez-11th Anniversary

THURSDAY 7:00 AM	MARCH 27 ◆Mary Scheub
FRIDAY 7:00 AM	MARCH 28 †Mary Thiel
SATURDAY 8:00 AM 5:00 PM	MARCH 29 †Verl Elliott †Henry, Sr. & Patricia Lyza
SUNDAY	MARCH 30 4TH SUNDAY OF
SCIUDITI	
7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM	†Kyle Arnold St. Michael Parish For an End to Abortion on Demand and for a Conversion of Heart for those who Provide Abortions †Dolores Wright Gladys D'Mello

†indicates deceased



THE WORD

(Readings for March 30, 2025, the Fourth Sunday of Lent)

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a The Lord sent Samuel to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse, where Samuel was to anoint the new king of Israel. After Jesse presented each of his sons, the Lord instructed Samuel to anoint the youngest, David.

II. Ephesians 5:8-14

Live as children of light in goodness, justice, and truth. "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

III. John 9:1-41

Jesus cured a man born blind. The Pharisees became upset because He did this on the Sabbath. After the Pharisees rejected the man's story, he met Jesus again. Jesus, "Son of Man," explained how the blind will see, but those who hold on to sin will

remain in darkness.

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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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ruoff.com/cindyjansky

Edward Jones

Tom Dinges, AAMS™ Financial Advisor 833 W Lincoln Hwy Suite 315e Suite 315e Schererville, IN 46375 219-865-9702

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Kenee Egna

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(219) 808-7337 reneeegnatz.mccolly.com Proud parent of 3 SMS grads:

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