

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent



SATURDAY LITURGY

Vigil: 5:00 PM

SUNDAY LITURGY

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

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

EUCCHARISTIC 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
RCIA
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
Emotions Anonymous
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

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9:00-4:00 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

or by appointment

www.stmichaelparish.life

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pastor@stmichaelparish.life

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Permanent Deacon

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Nancy FinleyParish Life Liaison
Michael MorleyEducation & Formation Liaison
Donna KriepsEducation & Formation Liaison
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Martha KozubParish Life Liaison
Connie SolorioSpirituality & Worship Liaison
Jeffrey CoxSecretary
Rev. Martin DobrzynskiPastor
Rev. Robert RossAssociate Pastor
Deacon Ron PylePermanent Deacon
Deacon Gary WolfePermanent Deacon

From the Pastor's Desk

Nearsightedness Needs Corrective Lenses. The people and the things that are around us most of the time are the people and things that we often overlook. It is as if we are nearsighted. As a result of this nearsightedness, we often look for excitement and new adventures away from the people that are closest to us. When we do this we often do it at the peril of those who are our nearest and dearest. Our nearsighted condition exhibits itself in indifference, impatience and anger, just to name a few signs.

Our nearsightedness opens us to temptations that lead us to sin. We look right past those who are near to us who remind us of who we are supposed to be, and where our final end lies. Those commitments that we made to true friends who bring out the best in us, or to one's spouse who is a partner in life's journey to eternal life, are supplanted by a search for the new and exciting.

Often this search can lead us to disbelieve God because God is not seen in our self-seeking nearsightedness. God is nearer to you and me than we can imagine, or even wish to consider. In the nearsightedness of a self-indulgent culture, it is easy to blot God out.

However, in the first reading today we are reminded that God's existence does not depend on our belief. In other words, it is not our belief that creates God; it is God that creates our belief. God exists whether one believes in Him or not. We see this in the actions of Cyrus, a full-fledged pagan King. God uses him as an instrument to accomplish his mercy. The Israelites, who have endured 70 years of hard exile because of their nearsightedness, and not wanting to recognize God's warning to them to change their ways, are not rescued by their own hand, but by the God who is ever close to them.

They removed themselves from God, but God was never far from them. The very essence of God is mercy, and it's the very thing that we often fail to embrace. Our failure to embrace God's mercy only leads us deeper into selfish endeavors that promise the world, but deliver only debt and unrelenting disappointment.

Let us take a lesson from our ancestors in the faith. They refused God's presence in their life, thinking that their refusal would deny God's existence. They found out too late that this was not the case. They sold themselves into the slavery of their exile. We can often do the same following tempting promises for our family and our children that really just take our money, our time and leave us bereft of our true wealth found only in the Holy Eucharist, around God's Altar. We substitute the Altar for a basketball court, a baseball field, a volleyball court, a soccer field, a dance studio, extra work, social life, etc. In and of themselves, these things are not bad, but when they take the place of God Himself and the worship that is due to Him, we are led down a path away from Christ and our ultimate success, which is to be ready for eternal life.

In our chosen nearsightedness, we cannot see what is truly necessary for a good life. You and I need the corrective lenses of the Scripture proclaimed to us and the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood fed to us every week. Without these corrective lenses, we jeopardize our ultimate happiness and our final goal. Let us encourage one another to remain faithful to the Word of God and to His Sacrament weekly. It is our only hope in this constantly changing world.

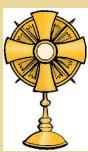


Do You Want to be a Part of the Last Supper?

On Holy Thursday, March 28th, 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. If you would like to partake in this event, please call or text Cheryl at 219-242-2630.



**Eucharistic Adoration
March 13th
1:30-4:00 PM
in the Chapel**



The Pillars of Lent Prayer Almsgiving Fasting

Don't forget about our Parish Lenten project! There are ribbons representing Prayer, Sacrifice and Almsgiving on the 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.

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 15th at 7:30 PM is the suggested time for the following ministries:

Ministry of Hope & Consolation
Senior GEMS
Parish Gardeners
Money Counters

Parish Nurse
Welcoming Ministry
Stewardship

**Little White Easter Season
Reflection Books Available
March 16th, 17th, 23rd & 24th
After All Masses**

A donation of \$1.00 each in *exact change* is appreciated. . .
Submitted by Janice Gatons

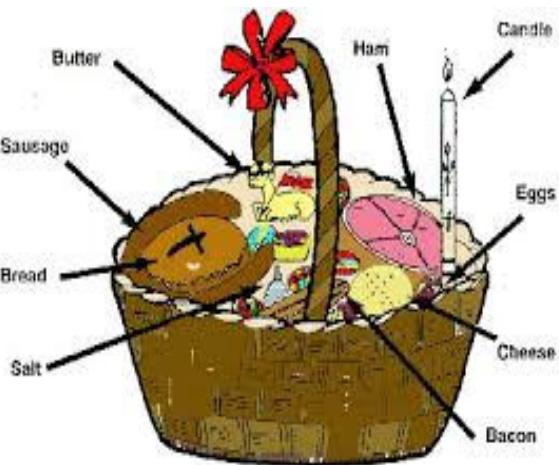
COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

**MARCH 18TH 7:00 PM
MARCH 26TH 7:00 PM**

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

**MARCH 16TH 3:00-4:30 PM
MARCH 23RD 2:30-4:30 PM**

The Blessing of the Easter Food



Everyone is invited to the Blessing of the First Foods of Easter which will take place on Holy Saturday, **March 30th**, at 9:00 AM in the church.

Experience the...

**Living
Stations of
the Cross
(performance by
our 8th graders)**

**Wednesday,
March 27th
6:30 PM
in the Church**

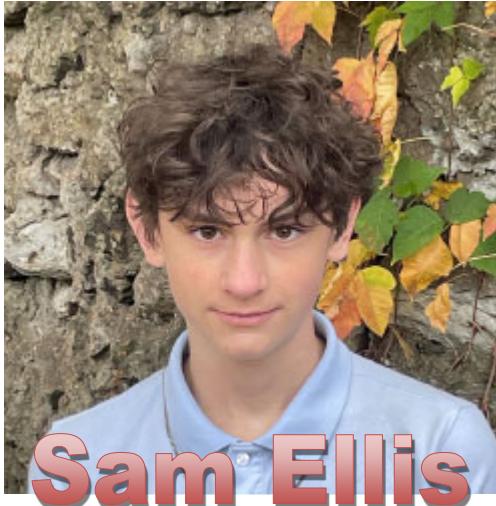


SMS & Faith Formation News

Michelle Wacnik, Principal

Kimberley Hoogeveen, DRE

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Sam Ellis

This is my first year attending SMS. I will be going to Hanover High School. I play a lot of sports such as soccer, basketball, airsoft, fishing and paintball. I love doing things outside. SMS is special to me because school starts at 8:15 AM. It gives me extra time to sleep or get ready for the day. My advice for younger students is to pay attention, ask questions and if you get bad grades it's only hurting you. Another piece of advice is try to stay out of trouble. Think things through when you're doing something you're not sure about. As I am new to the school I am not sure what all I will miss. I am sure over the course of this year I will walk away with many memories. I am ready to attend Hanover, where many of my friends will be attending. I'm excited to go to high school because I want to get a job and my license and start this new chapter in my life. But in order to do that I have to get middle school done first.

COMING
SOON



Faith Formation Registration

April 14th at 9:30 AM

April 17th at 7:30 PM

More information to follow in upcoming bulletins.



Grade 2 Faith Formation students learn about the Stations of the Cross by creating symbols and pictures. Lent is truly a journey!



REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN
FOR ALL
NEW &
CURRENT
FAMILIES!
NEW
APPLICANTS
VISIT
THE SCHOOL
WEBSITE AND
CLICK ON
ADMISSIONS.

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL'S BIGGEST FUNDRAISER

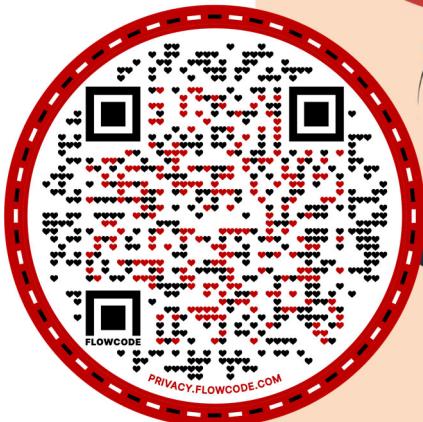
SAVE *The* DATE

PASSPORT *24*

To Our Heritage

APRIL
13TH

6PM - 12AM
IN SMS GYM



16 WEST WILHELM
SCHERERVILLE, IN

**COME FLY
WITH ME**

Join us for our major St. Michael School Fundraiser, "Passport to Our Heritage." Purchase your 2024 Passport Tickets for \$75.00 each.

This year we have 2 types of tickets:

Passport Admission Ticket - this ticket is for those who plan to attend the event.

Support Ticket - this ticket is for those NOT attending

Please use this link: <https://passport2024.givesmart.com/> or scan the QR code

Just a reminder - SMS Family Service

Requirement: All SMS Families (K-8) are required to purchase a fundraiser ticket as part of their Family Service Requirement Obligation.

Thank you in advance in making this fundraiser a success!

COME JOIN THE SMS ALUMNI CREW

Please consider making a donation to honor your SMS graduate

Flight Attendant \$50

- Family name featured in program and on event poster

Co-Pilot \$100

- Name - Program & Poster
- Photo included our program

Pilot \$250

- **Free ticket to event**
- Name - Program & Poster
- Photo in program
- Social media shoutout on SMS pages

Captain \$500

- **Free ticket to event**
- Name - Program & Poster
- Photo in program
- Social media shoutout
- Port sponsor (name featured at port of your choice)



Contact:
Renee Scearce
219.712.1486
reneescearce@yahoo.com

APRIL
13TH


PASSPORT 
To Our Heritage

High Schoolers: Come “Radiate” with Us at our Next Youth Group Night!

You will feel Supported, Make Friendships, Enrich your Faith, Discuss Topics YOU are interested in, and have FUN! Mark your calendars for our upcoming gatherings—lots in store for you.

SCHEDULE

March 10th: Take a “Walk” in Christ’s Passion and Spend Time in Peace & Quiet with Him, 6:00-8:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall

March 24th: Sr. Deanna will be our guest speaker. Last year we had so much fun with Sr. Deanna! Join us! 6:00-8:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall

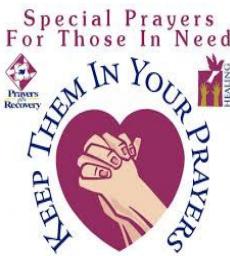
April 7th: Gathering in St. Patrick Hall, 6:00-8:00 PM

April 21st: Gathering in St. Patrick Hall, 6:00-8:00 PM



Submitted by Jeannine Quigley

LIFE IS PRECIOUS; HANDLE WITH PRAYER



Cecilia O'Donnell, **David Mendoza**, Whitney Brittle, Charlotte Hanrahan (Gram Char), Ronan Willis, Chris Weller, **Bill Napolillo**, Larry Carter, Stephen Dravet, **Emilyn Cherry**, **Kathy Cerrito** 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.

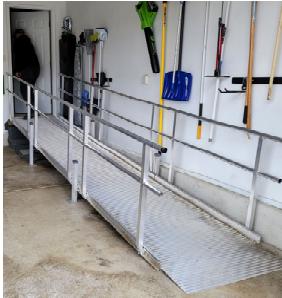
The Wheelchair Ramp Ministry Has Been Keeping Very Busy

In less than 10 days, the Wheelchair Ramp Ministry has installed four ramps, one in East Chicago and three in Hobart. If you would like to participate in this ministry in any way, please contact the St Michael's parish office at 219-322-4505. If you know of anyone who may need our services, please contact Catholic Charities at outreach@catholic-charities.org or call 219-886-3549 and ask for Daniela Ocanas.

Submitted by Jim Koeling



Ramp #67



Ramp #68



Ramp #69



Ramp #70

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

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 the weekend of March 16th/17th. 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.

THE GOOD SAMARITANS NEED YOUR HELP TO STOCK THEIR SHELVES

"Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need, the remainder is needed by others" Saint Augustine

The Good Samaritans will be collecting donations at the Holy Thursday 7:00 PM Mass, March 28th.

Please consider the following items: Especially needed are personal care items such as dish soap, detergent, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, soap, household cleaners, paper towels & toilet paper.

Also, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats such as spam, tuna, chicken, corn beef hash, canned stew, various soup, Manwich, hamburger helper, pasta & rice sides, potato sides, stuffing mix, crackers, chili, black beans, pork n beans, baked beans, white beans, tomato sauce, applesauce, canned fruit, cake mix, biscuit mix, crackers, cookies and cereal.

One or two of these items would be most appreciated. Please, no expired food or partially used food and we cannot distribute over the counter medicines or vitamins. Should you prefer a monetary donation or grocery gift card donation, there are envelopes on the racks in the gathering space for your convenience. For your kind sharing, we thank you!

"No one has ever become poor from giving." Anne Frank



Subscribe to the NWI Catholic before it's too late! March 15th is the deadline. Place your envelope with a check in the collection box or visit dcgary.org.

AND THE LUCKY SUPER RAFFLE WINNER IS:



All those 50+, Parishioners, Non-Parishioners

Join us for an informational meeting on **March 12th** at 10:00 AM in the SE meeting room of St. Patrick Hall. Gary Krieps from the GIFT Campaign will be present to answer all questions pertaining to the GIFT program. Afterwards, a discussion on future outings will take place. Come on out and share your ideas!
submitted by Nancy Finley

Paul Koleske Thanks You

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to share my mission series with you this past week in your church. I look forward to seeing/hearing from you again in the future. For updates on future recordings, events and news or to purchase cd's, visit www.paulkoleske.com. May God bless each and every one of you beyond your fondest dreams.

Give hope this spring.

Give blood.

1-800-RED CROSS/RedCrossBlood.org
Blood Donor App/Sponsor Code: smap



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive
Knights of Columbus
March 21st
11:00 AM-5:00 PM





Become Part of Our Church Family

**New Member Registration
March 17th After the
7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses**

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES ARE DUE
MARCH 17TH IN ORDER FOR THE
INTENTIONS TO BE PLACED IN THE
EASTER BULLETIN.

Stewardship in Action

Ask God to always keep you in His light and fill you with His light. Bring into the light that which you are hiding or keeping in the dark.

Submitted by Conchita Bryner



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 28, 2024

Adult	\$15,999.00
Children	\$24.00
EFTs	\$2,763.00
Loose	\$558.00

**Total Weekly Offering
\$19,344.00**

**Latin America Collection
\$4,710.00**

Thank you for your generosity!

Effective April, 2020: In an effort to provide accurate weekly collection totals, there is a six week lag in bulletin reporting. The timing of when weekly collections are received changed in early 2020, due to Covid. We went from 90% received on Sunday, to 30%. We have gradually moved up to 70%, but feel it's best to hold off on reporting until the majority of envelopes are received.

Blood Pressure, Glucose and Oxygen Level Screenings

Screenings will take place **March 16th & 17th** in the east coat room after the 5:00 PM, 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM Masses by the parish nurses.



**Coffee and Donuts
this Sunday after
all Masses**

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY MARCH 10

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses
Girl Scout Cookie Sales After All Masses
Faith Formation Family Program 9:30 AM
RCIA 9:30 AM
“Do This in Memory of Me” Mass 11:30 AM
Radiate 6:00 PM

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

MONDAY MARCH 11

Emotions Anonymous 6:00 PM
Jesus & the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist 7:00 PM
Pastoral Council Meeting 7:00 PM

TUESDAY MARCH 12

Senior GEMS 10:00 AM
Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY MARCH 13

Eucharistic Adoration 1:30-4:00 PM
Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM
Discernment 7:00 PM

THURSDAY MARCH 14

Bereavement Session 7:00 PM
Choir Practice 7:00 PM

FRIDAY MARCH 15

Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM & 7:30 PM
Respect Life Meeting 1:30 PM
Bell Choir Practice 6:00 PM

SATURDAY MARCH 16

Anointing of the Sick at 8:00 AM Mass
Confessions 3:00-4:30 PM
BP Readings After Vigil Mass
KofC Membership Drive After Vigil Mass
Spiritual Adoption Cards Available After Vigil Mass

SUNDAY MARCH 17

BP Readings After 7:30 & 9:30 Am Masses
New Members Registration After 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses
Kof C Membership Drive After All Masses
Spiritual Adoption Cards Available After All Masses
RCIA 9:30 AM
“Catch the Spirit” Mass 11:30 AM

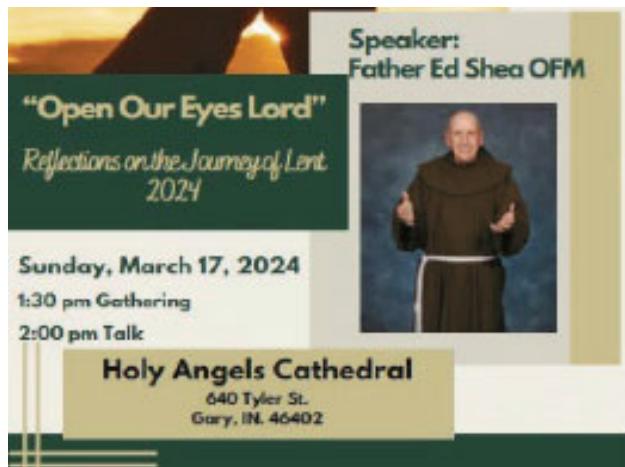
Diocesan Life Information

FISH FRY FRIDAYS

Descent of the Holy Spirit, 545 E 77th Ave/ Seberger Rd, Schererville is having a Fish Fry **every Friday during Lent**, 3:00-7:00 PM. Eat in or take out. Please call 219-864-1529 for orders or more information.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 7132 Arizona Ave., Hammond will be hosting an exhibit on Eucharistic Miracles until **March 17th**. The exhibit will be open to visitors as follows:
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
Monday & Tuesday, 6:00-7:30 PM
Saturday, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Sunday, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM



Lenten SOUP supper

Lenten Soup Suppers at St. John Bosco are held each Wednesday until **March 20th**, 4:30-6:30 PM. Cost is \$8/person. Each week offers a choice of 4 different soups, salad, bread/butter, crackers, dessert and drink. Dine-in or carry-out. St. John Bosco Parish Hall is located at 7111 Columbia Ave., Hammond. Sponsored by the SJB Youth Group. All are welcome.

*CULVER'S FUNDRAISER

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. James in Highland will be having a fundraiser at Culver's in Highland on **April 5th**, 3:00-8:00 PM. Please mention "ST. VINCENT" upon ordering so a 20% donation will be received.

SPRING LUNCHEON

The Service League of the SHARE Foundation invites you to join us at the 33rd annual Spring Luncheon on **March 20th** at the Halls of St. George in Schererville. Delight in a delicious meal, door prizes and delightful entertainment, 10:30 AM-2:00 PM. This event supports Sharing Meadows, a residence and camp dedicated to enriching the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental abilities. 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.

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

The Indianapolis Council of Catholic Women will have a Spring Retreat on **April 13th**, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM at St. Mary Cathedral, 1207 Columbia Street, Lafayette. All Indiana women are invited. This year's retreat will focus on the Eucharist: Guided Adoration, speakers and a guided spiritual painting. The cost of the retreat is \$20, which includes snacks, lunch and painting supplies. Please RSVP to ICCW, Tammy Metzinger, Treasurer, 1236 N 800 W, Delphi, IN 46923 or at 765-427-4441 by April 7th. Don't miss this spiritual opportunity and fellowship with other Catholic women.

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, June 10, 2024

Innsbrook Country Club
Merrillville, Indiana



"Fore!" OUR
NEIGHBORS
WHO ARE IN NEED
GOLFING EXPERIENCE

Questions? Contact Kevin Feldman at KFeldman@Catholic-Charities.org
If you or someone you know needs help or you wish to give to help
neighbors in need, please visit www.Catholic-Charities.org.

CAREER NETWORKING GROUP

The Career Networking Group will no longer hold regular meetings due to low attendance and difficulty in securing relevant speakers. If you have employment questions or need a resume review contact D. Weidenfeller, 219-688-7597 or STMCareerGroup@gmail.com for assistance.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY	MARCH 9	THURSDAY	MARCH 14
5:00 PM	†Andrew & Mildred Husseman	7:00 AM	†Dolores Redman-9 year Anniversary
SUNDAY	MARCH 10 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	FRIDAY	MARCH 15
7:30 AM	†Charles (Bud) Bobliak †Bob & Josie Siminski †DeWayne Culp St. Michael Parish	7:00 AM	†Sharon & David Kras †Randal Lyons †Gerald Verdeyen
9:30 AM	For an End to Abortion on Demand and for a Conversion of Heart for those who Provide Abortions	SATURDAY	MARCH 16
11:30 AM		8:00 AM	†Bill Salas
MONDAY	MARCH 11	5:00 PM	†Robert & Patricia Hansen
7:00 AM	†Joseph Heintz	SUNDAY	MARCH 17 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
TUESDAY	MARCH 12	7:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
7:00 AM	†Departed Souls in the Congregation of Mother of Carmel	9:30 AM	†Henry Lyza
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 13	11:30 AM	Senior GEMS & Labor s of Love Ministries
7:00 AM	†Henry Lyza		†Luis Colon
8:55 AM	†Donnabelle Bohling		†Lenard & Len Lula

♦indicates deceased



reflections!!!

THE WORD (Readings for March 17, 2024, Fifth Sunday of Lent)

- I. *Jeremiah 31:31-34* Words of hope are spoken to the exiled people of Israel. God is calling them to enter a new covenant; one where they will be more attentive and obedient.
- II. *Hebrews 5:7-9* Obedience is a key element in Jesus' relationship with the Father. Obedience is not something those who choose to follow Christ take lightly.
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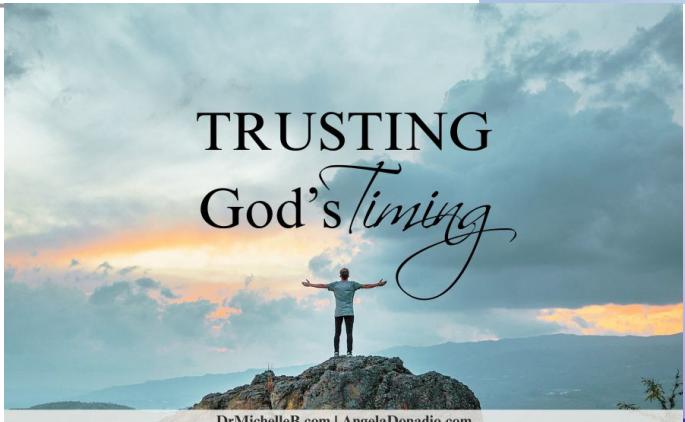
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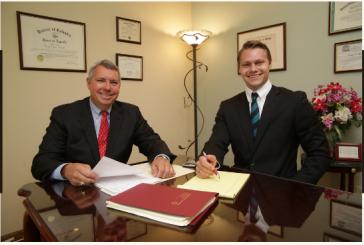
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