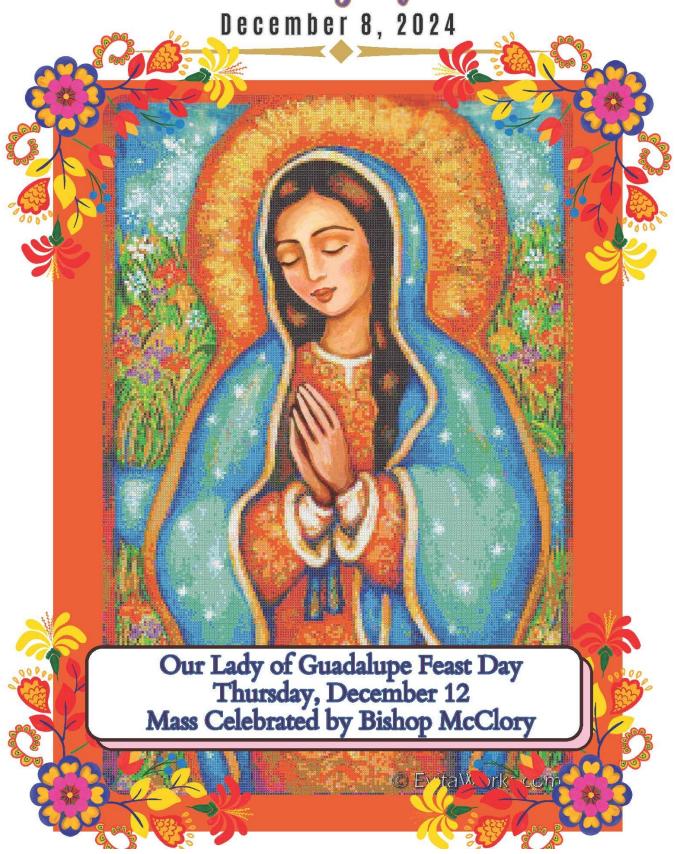
Welcome to St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Community







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

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

Rev. Robert Ross ext. 8229

frrobertr@stmichaelparish.life

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Ron Pyle ext. 8284

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

Director of Liturgy & Music

Miss Debbie Mangione ext. 8227

dmangione@stmichaelparish.life

Director of Finance & Accounting

Mrs. Jesica Cherry ext. 8226

jcherry@stmichaelparish.life

Executive Secretary

ext. 8220 Mrs. Judi Patzelt

jpatzelt@stmichaelparish.life

Communications Director

Elizabeth Munoz ext. 8263

emunoz@stmichaelparish.life

Bulletin Editor/Clerical Assistant

Mrs. Rhonda Haddad ext. 8239

bulletin@stmichaelparish.life Accounting Clerk

Mrs. Jeanette Negrete ext. 8234

jnegrete@stmichaelparish.life

Campus Facilities Coordinator

Mr. Rick Gilbert ext. 8232 rgilbert@stmichaelparish.life

Head Sacristan

Mrs. Loretta DePrez ext. 8228

sacristan@stmichaelparish.life

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	Associate Pastor
Deacon Ron Pyle	Permanent Deacon
Deacon Gary Wolfe.	Permanent Deacon

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From the Pastor's Desk

Making a Clear Path. When we think of Christmas, we often think of an event, a one or two day event, December 24th and 25th. This might be why getting ready for it seems so daunting. When you think about it, it is a lot of work for one or two days. We start out with a lot of joyful expectation that this year's "Christmas" will be the most magical, the best, the most heartwarming. After a few weeks of preparation though, we begin to feel the strain and slowly the perfect Christmas we were dreaming of is invaded by the imperfections of daily life: sickness, depression, buyer's remorse and the ever ticking clock counting down to Christmas day.

We already feel behind schedule because our more perfect neighbors already have their tree up and all their shopping done, their Christmas cards sent out and the packages wrapped. It is though this din of preparatory tasks that the words of the Advent scriptures can redirect our energies and so improve our chances for a God-filled Christmas, which really is perfect.

A rewarding celebration of the birth of our salvation is found, not in the clutter of Christmas, as charming as it might seem. Rather, the perfect Christmas is prepared for by clearing a path for Christ to be more readily felt, seen and heard in our daily lives. Preparing our hearts is important, but it cannot stop there. With hearts ready for Christ, you and I have to actually start clearing the path for Him to come. This Advent season calls us to action; to clear some more of the path which is often obstructed by our tacit acceptance of the poverty around us and even our game-like celebration of violence. Perhaps the video game, "Halo Infinite," is not the best gift to give on the birthday of the Prince of Peace.

We clear the path one stone at a time. An act of charity towards another is like a bulldozer on the job. Tuning out of the violence glorified and trivialized in TV, movies and video games can be like an earth mover making the way smooth for Christ's message of peace to fully enter this world. One decision at a time to act like Christ in a crowded store, in a traffic jam, when you are in a hurry, or when someone is not kind to you is building the royal road on which together we can travel to meet our Lord.



Marriage Preparation. It is at this time of the year and in the month ahead that many young people get engaged. If you or someone (another Catholic) is getting engaged, please remember that you need to contact the parish office no less than six months in advance.

A Catholic looking to get married must be married in a Catholic church witnessed by a Catholic priest or deacon. Any dispensation from the "form" must be approved by the Bishop. If one chooses not follow this expectation, the marriage is not sacramentally valid and thus the couple involved cannot go to communion. As Catholics, we believe that marriage is a sacramental state, not just a civil one.

Fr. Robert and I and the Deacons are charged with the responsibility to help couples prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage. Thus, it is best to contact the office sooner rather than later. The preparation period is at least six months, so it is best to contact us nine months from the wedding date. This preparation is bolstered by other married couples in the parish and it takes time. Time that cannot be made up. The whole six months is needed. We want to help you have a successful and happy marriage, not just a nice wedding day.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life Page 3 December 8, 2024

Advent Evening Prayer



A Time to Reflect A Time to Pray A Time to Prepare Come Join us on Dec. 16th, 7:00 PM for Prayer and **Fellowship**

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,* Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America and a Holyday of Obligation **December 9th Mass Times** 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

BP. Glucose and Oxygen Level **Screenings** Dec. 14th/15th in the east coat room after the 5:00 PM, 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM **Masses**

Congratulations Daniel

Daniel Kanelopoulos was recognized and blessed by Bishop McClory at The Rite of Call for Continuing Conversion for his Full Communion into the Catholic Church. May God Bless Daniel and his sponsor, Elizabeth, as they continue the journey through the OCIA process.

> Submitted by Kimberley Hoogeveen





Page 4

Join us for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:00 PM Doors Open 6:30 PM Dance Azteca 7:00 PM Mass with Bishop McClory and reception to follow Mass with Mariachi performance



December 8, 2024

Our Parish Advent Activity

In the Gathering Space, there will be ornaments with items needed by Respect Life, Sojourner Truth House, The Women's Care Center and the Good Samaritans. Please take one or more ornaments home, decorate the ornament if you like, purchase the items needed and return the ornament and the donation and place in the boxes provided. The ornaments will be hung on the Christmas tree for all to see.

Submitted by the Arts and Environment Ministry

It's Time to "Radiate" for All High Schoolers! Come experience Radiate with us! We can't wait to see you at our next gathering.



Dec. 8th: CHARCUTERIE BOARD Night & ADVENT! 6:00-8:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall **Dec. 20th:** SERVICE PROJECT Night & CHRISTMAS PARTY Night! Meet at Dyer Nursing Home at 4:45 PM, Caroling with Respect Life Ministry and Jill Udani's family. Then meet at St. Patrick Hall for our Christmas Party, 6:00-8:00 PM!

Any questions, please contact Mrs. Jeannine Quigley (219) 775-5356 or Mrs. Marisa Richardson (219) 730-4735. Keep informed with our NEW Remind messaging sign up: Send TEXT to **81010**. Then TEXT THIS MESSAGE: **@stmrad** submitted by Jeannine Quigley

Radiate Annual Fundraiser OPLATKI Dec. 14th/15th & 21st/22nd after all Masses and in the parish office during normal business hours

Michelle Biscan, Principal

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

I've been attending SMS since preschool. I plan on attending Andrean High School. I will definitely miss SMS. I enjoy playing sports, and I participate in soccer, basketball and volleyball for CYO. In my free time, I love to hangout with my family and friends. I love to play outside with my friends, and we go biking, walk around, play outside, go into the woods, etc. I also like to help out the parish and school with what they need. One of the things I did this year was help set up for St. Michael's Annual Festival. What makes SMS best is the smaller atmosphere. Being in smaller classrooms helps you get to know everyone better, especially the teachers. Everyone is always there to support you from the teachers to the staff. In the summer going into fifth grade, I opened up my own business called Smoothie Bomb. Many of the other students at SMS in 8th grade help run our company. We have done many events, from parties to St. Michael Parish Festival and Veterans

SK. We have also supplied smoothies for all of the school staff and teachers. We will be doing another event at SMS at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. It has been a great experience, and all of the middle teachers and the entire faculty have been so supportive. Our Art/Literature teacher, Mrs. Baron, was a huge inspiration and continues to help upgrade many aspects of our company. My advice for younger students is to cherish your moments at SMS, because it will fly by so fast. SMS has helped me become a better person, student, athlete, and friend. I've also grown closer to God with my time here. SMS teaches the values of the Catholic faith and how to act toward others. I have also learned the values of kindness and empathy. They also teach you how you should love one another. I am very thankful to my parents for sending me to SMS. I feel the values I have learned here will carry me through high school and beyond.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life Page 5 December 8, 2024



For Those Who Have Died...

Gerald Austgen Dolores Wright

Life has changed, not ended

Welcome the Newly Baptized

Eden Joelle Mae Grossi Vivienne Jude McMahon New Member Registration after the 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses Dec. 15th

LIFE IS PRECIOUS; HANDLE WITH PRAY



Glenda Davalos, *Denise Hahney*, Joan Hamnik, *Sherry Lazzaro*, *Patricia Christenson*, *Pam Weslowski*, *Helen Marshall*, Karen Dezarn, *Mary Ann Adam*, Carmelina Spiccia, Nicole Villanueva, Sue Gatons, Jerilyn Chapman 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.

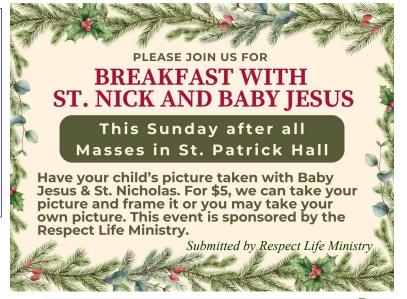
St. Michael's parishioners are in bold, italic print.

All Those 50+, join us for our last meeting of the year, December 10th at 10:00 AM in the SE room of St. Patrick Hall.

Submitted by Nancy Finley



Website: www.stmichaelparish.life





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Spiritual Adoption Program

Month 8

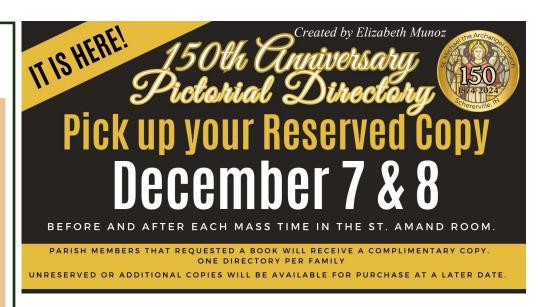
Thank you for praying for me. I am 8 months old now. I've got long fingernails and I'm busy getting ready for my birthday. I can't wait to see my Mom and Dad. Thanks to you and your prayers, I'll see them soon.

Please remember to pray daily for your Spiritually Adopted baby and the baby's mother and father.

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion." *Prayer of Archbishop Fulton*

Submitted by Respect Life Ministry

J. Sheen



Trim the Good Samaritans' Christmas Tree

"Help trim our tree, help trim our tree, How lovely are thy branches."



"May the Holy Family bless you in a deep abiding way, with special joy and gladness of that first bright Christmas Day"

In that spirit, your cards help decorate our trees and your donations will allow our ministry to continue to do the work that is asked of us. We wish you and those you love Christmas peace and God's blessings for good health.

The Good Samaritans thank you for your kind sharing.

Submitted by Sue Cohen







Means Something

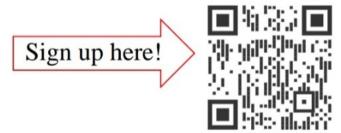
GIVE BLOOD

Blood Drive Knights of Columbus St. Michael's Archangel Parish

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Thursday, December 19th 12:00PM-5:00PM

Come give Dec. 16 thru Jan. 3 for a NEW long sleeved Red Cross T shirt, Itd. qty. Chill with us!



Schedule your blood donation appointment today!

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CAPTIAL CAMPAIGN



Additional Funding to the G.I.F.T. Campaign

- Grant from the Centers for Congregation \$11,629.00
- Grant from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assoc. \$10,000 Thank you to Lillian and John Zaborske for their efforts.
- Thank you to the 158 parishioners who have consistently contributed, even without making formal pledges. Your generosity has made a significant impact.

Ouestions? Email us at gift@stmichaelparish.life or call 219-322-4505

Christmas Flower **Envelopes** are due to the office no later than Dec. 11th if you wish to have intentions listed in the Christmas bulletin.

kly Schedule

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8

Blessing of 2025 Calendars at All Masses Breakfast with St. Nick/Baby Jesus After All Masses, St. Patrick

Church Directory Pick Up After Vigil Mass, St. Amand Room Respect Life Christmas Cards Sale After All Masses,

Gathering Space

Faith Formation Family Session 9:30 AM OCIA 9:30 AM "Do This in Memory of Me" Mass 11:30 AM

Radiate 6:00 PM, St. Patrick Hall The Rosary is said after 7:00 AM weekday Mass except Tuesday-after OLPH Devotions

MONDAY DECEMBER 9

Holy Day of Obligation Masses: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10

GEMS 10:00 AM, SE Room Children's Choir 3:15 PM, Church Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM, SMS

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11

Communal Penance Service 10:30 AM, Church Eucharistic Adoration 1:00-4:00 PM, Chapel Faith Formation Traditional Classes 6:00 PM, SMS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 12

Choir Practice 7:00 PM, Church Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass 7:00 PM, Church Fellowship in St. Patrick Hall After Mass

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13

Chair Yoga 8:00 PM, St. Patrick Hall Bell Choir Practice 6:00 PM, Church

<u>SATURDAY</u> <u>DECEMBER 14</u> Confessions 3:00-4:30 PM, Chapel Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurine at Vigil Mass BP Readings After Vigil Mass, East Coat Room Oplatki Sales After Vigil Mass

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15

Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurine at All Masses BP Readings After 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses, East Coat Room New Member Registration After 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses,

St. Patrick Hall

Oplatki Sales After All Masses, Gathering Space OCIA 9:30 AM

"Catch the Spirit" Mass 11:30 AM



Chair Yoga Class December 13th \$5/session Please call Ursula at 219-741-3276 to register.

S ewardship in Action

Donate a little extra at church this week. submitted by Conchita Bryner



November 24, 2024

Adult \$14,961.15 Children \$124.46 **EFTs** \$5,095.58 \$704.00 Loose

> Total Weekly Offering \$20,885.19

Campaign for Human development \$3,978,75

December 1, 2024

Adult \$12,717.00 Children \$90.25 **EFTs** \$2,725.30 \$891.82 Loose

> Total Weekly Offering \$16,424.37

> > Vietnamese Mass \$2,223.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life December 8, 2024 Page 9

*EVENING PRAYER

Come share a moment of prayer and fellowship and take a moment off from the craziness of shopping, baking, and parties. On Dec. 11th and 18th, you are invited to join us at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 509 W Division Road, Valparaiso for Evening Prayer and socializing. r. Robert Ross will reflect on the three apparitions of the Archangel Gabriel to Daniel, Zechariah and the Blessed Mother. We will begin at 7:00 PM and be finished by 7:45 PM.

ADVENT SERIES

Our Lady of Consolation is having an Advent Series during the month of December at 7:00 PM.

Dec. 13th: "Make Room in your Heart" by

Fr. Steven Caraher

Dec. 19th: "Receive the Gift" by Sr. Deanna Love Light refreshments will be provided in the Narthex afterwards. For more information, please call 219-769-1755, ext. 308.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

You are invited to the Second Annual Christmas Bazaar on December 14th, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM at the St. Timothy Center of Sharing Meadows, 6357 N 300 E, LaPorte. For details, please call 219-778-2585.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our Lady of Consolation in Merrillville is hosting a Christmas Concert featuring "The Noteables" on December 15th at 2:00 PM. Doors open at 1:30 PM. Adult tickets are available in advance for \$10 or \$12 at the door. Tickets for ages 12 and under are \$3. For more information or tickets, please call 219-769-0304 or 219-277-9507.

Diocesan Life Information

SENSORY SANTA VISIT

Logan's Love—Logan Speaks presents Sensory Santa Visit at Homan Elementary School-Door F

on Dec. 14th, 12:00-5:00 PM. Homan is located at 210 E. Joliet St., Schererville. This event is open to all ages and abilities. Reserve a time using the QR code. Free admission. Donations appreciated. For more information, please call Nicole 219-805-0750 or Eliana 219-885-8434.



COOKIE WALK

Descent of the Holy Spirit, 545 E. 77th Ave,. Schererville is hosting a Cookie Walk on Dec. 21st, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Delicious homemade cookies, pastries, nut rolls and breads, homemade cabbage rolls, halushki and pierogies (sold by the dozen) will be available. For additional information, please call Sharon Holowaty 219-864-4342.

A DAY OF DISCERNMENT

All high school aged men are invited to a Day of Discernment, "Vocasti Me" or "You Have Called Me" on Dec. 27th at St. Teresa of Avila, 1511 LaPorte Ave, Valpo, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. Come for a day of prayer, discussion, food, sports and fellowship. To RSVP or obtain more information, email jrosenow@dcgary.org or call 219-769-9292, ext. 221.

*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. 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.

*BECOME A MISSIONARY

Make this summer one you will always remember, sharing the Gospel with children and teens in NWI, May 29th-July 26th. \$3000 stipend + meals and housing. Learn more and apply at dcgary.org/totustuus.



SATURDAY	DECEMBER 7	WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 11	
5:00 PM	♦Anton & Soraya Haddad	7:00 AM	₱Rodrigo Murcia	
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 8 2ND SUNDAY OF	THURSDAY	DECEMBER 12 O	
	ADVENT			<u>GUADALUPE</u>
7:30 AM	♦Alicia & Andres Magana	7:00 AM	♦Ann Ayersman	
	♦ Mary Lee Thiel	7:00 PM	Leyone Haddad	
0.20 AM	†John (Bob) Dobrzynski St. Michael Parish	FRIDAY	DECEMBER 13	
9:30 AM	For an End to Abortion on Demand	7:00 AM	♦Ray Pohlman	
11:30 AM	and for a Conversion of Heart for		•	
	those who Provide Abortions	SATURDAY	DECEMBER 14	
	those who Provide Abortions	8:00 AM	†Tim Kapitan	
MONDAY	DECEMBER 9 IMMACULATE	5:00 PM	†Thomas Kudzia	
	CONCEPTION	SUNDAY	DECEMBER 15 3R	ED SIINDAV
7:00 AM	₱Rev. Terrence McCarthy	SCRIDITI	DECEMBER 13 31	OF ADVENT
9:00 AM	For Expectant Mothers	7:30 AM	St. Michael Parish	OT TID V DIVI
7:00 PM	For Expectant Mothers	9:30 AM	†Henry Lyza	
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 10	700011111	†Deacon Jack Krol	
7:00 AM	◆Kristin & John Finley		♥Kyle Arnold	_
7.00 ANI	♦ Marie Therese Perry-6th	11:30 AM	♦Frank Sink	26
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	11.00 11.01	Trum Sink	
	Anniversary	†indicates deceased	d	

THE WORD

(Readings for December 15, 2024, Third Sunday of Advent)

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Be joyful, Jerusalem! The Lord will come and save you from your enemies. Do not be discouraged or lose heart, for "the Lord, your

God, is in your midst, a mighty savior."

II. Philippians 4:4-7

"Rejoice in the Lord always," wrote Paul. "I say it again: rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God; then the peace of God that surpasses understanding will guard your hearts and minds."

III. Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptizer said to the crowds, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." In that way, he preached good news to the people.

Page 11 December 8, 2024 Website: www.stmichaelparish.life

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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!

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Advent/Christmas Liturgical Schedule 2024/25

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