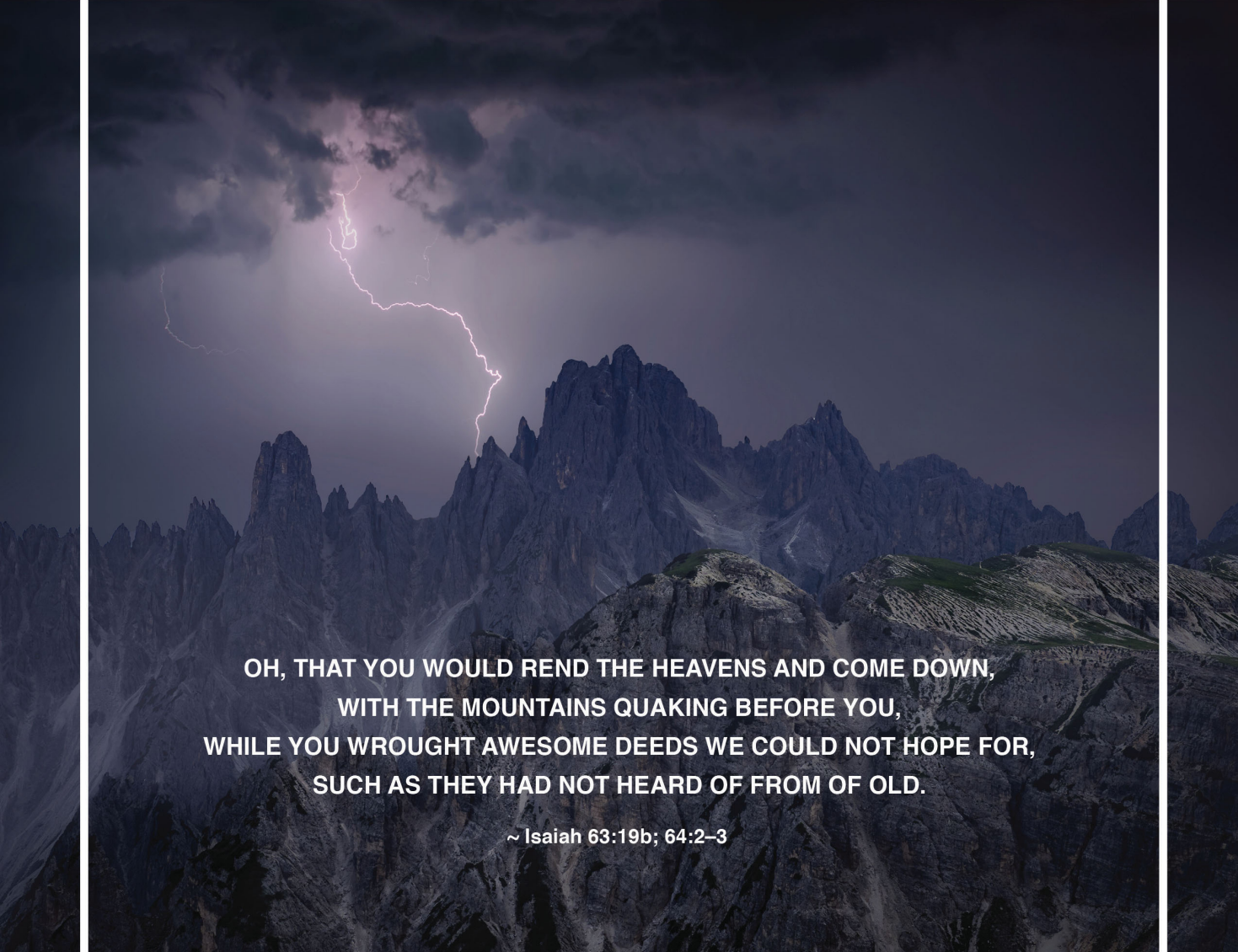


**WELCOME TO
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2017 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**OH, THAT YOU WOULD REND THE HEAVENS AND COME DOWN,
WITH THE MOUNTAINS QUAKING BEFORE YOU,
WHILE YOU WROUGHT AWESOME DEEDS WE COULD NOT HOPE FOR,
SUCH AS THEY HAD NOT HEARD OF FROM OF OLD.**

~ Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2-3

Community, Personnel, & On-Going Information

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor.....322-4505, ext. 220
 Rev. Martin J Dobrzynski pastor@stmichaelparish.life
 Associate Pastor.....322-4505, ext. 229
 Rev. Gregory Bim-Merle.....frgregory@stmichaelparish.life
 Permanent Deacon..... 322-4505, ext. 285
 Deacon Edwin Gatons.....deacon@stmichaelparish.life
 Permanent Deacon.....322-4505, ext. 286
 Deacon Jack Krol.....deacon@stmichaelparish.life
 Permanent Deacon.....322-4505, ext. 284
 Deacon Ron Pyle.....deaconron@stmichaelparish.life
 Executive Secretary..... 322-4505, ext. 220
 Mrs. Michaeline Gargas.....mike@stmichaelparish.life
 Communications Coordinator322-4505, ext. 263
 Mr. Patrick Massoels.....pmassoels@stmichaelparish.life
 Director of Liturgy & Music.....322-4505, ext. 227
 Miss Debbie Mangione.....dmangione@stmichaelparish.life
 Pastoral Associate.....322-4505, ext. 241
 Mrs. Janice Gatons.....jgatons@stmichaelparish.life
 Finance/Accounting Services Manager.....322-4505, ext. 226
 Mr. Glenn Cantrell.....gcantrell@stmichaelparish.life
 Campus Facilities Coordinator..... 808-1489
 Mr. Rick Gilbert.....rgilbert@stmichaelparish.life
 Administrative Assistant.....322-4505, ext. 225
 Mrs. Debbie Fotia.....dfotia@stmichaelparish.life
 Bulletin Editor/Accounting Clerk.....322-4505, ext. 239
 Mrs. Rhonda Haddad.....bulletin@stmichaelparish.life
 Accounting Clerk.....322-4505, ext. 234
 Mrs. Fran Hintz.....fhintz@stmichaelparish.life
 Head Sacristan322-4505, ext. 228
 Mrs. Joan Hamnik

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Monday-Friday and
 by appointment
 Phone:.....(219)322-4505 Fax.....(219)322-4508
 Email.....office@stmichaelparish.life
 Website.....www.stmichaelparish.life

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Office Hours: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM Monday-Friday
 Phone.....(219)322-4531 Fax.....(219)322-1710
 Website.....www.stmichaelparish.life/school
 Principal
 Miss Colleen Kennedy.....ckennedy@stmichaelparish.life
 School Executive Assistant
 Mrs. Karen Rapacz.....krapacz@stmichaelparish.life

FAITH FORMATION

Office Hours: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Monday
 12:00-8:00 PM Tuesday & Wednesday
 11:00 AM-4:00 PM Thursday
 By appointment on Friday
 Phone(219)322-3077 Fax.....(219)322-1710
 Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Marge Swanson.....mswanson@stmichaelparish.life
 Traditional Classes...Tuesday or Wednesday 6:00 PM-7:30 PM
 Good Shepherd Classes....Tuesday 6:00 PM-7:30 PM
 Sunday Family Classes.....Once a month 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

SATURDAY LITURGY

Vigil: 5:00 PM
DAILY LITURGY
 Weekdays **7:00 AM**
 Saturday **8:00 AM**

SUNDAY LITURGY

7:30, 9:30, & 11:30 AM
HOLY DAY LITURGY
 See page 15 of the bulletin for
 Holy Day Mass Schedule.

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 322-4505, ext. 241 to schedule the prep
 session and/or baptism date.
Marriage...The bride, groom, their parents/grandparents
 must be active registered members of the parish for at least three
 years 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.
 Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on the third Saturday of each
 month at the 8:00 AM Mass in the chapel.
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
 Wednesdays from 1:00-6:00 PM 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.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Companik.....Chair
 Daniel Price.....Vice Chair/Parish Life Liaison
 Lee Ann Egan.....Spirituality & Worship Liaison
 David Gray.....Peace & Social Justice Liaison
 Linda Hansen.....Education & Formation Liaison
 Linda KinzerEducation & Formation Liaison
 Alice Lewinski.....Peace & Social Justice Liaison
 Jim Prasopoulos.....Parish Life Liaison
 Lynn Schmitt.....Stewardship Liaison
 Joseph Tomaszewski.....Stewardship Liaison
 Gib Wieser.....Spirituality & Worship Liaison
 Jeffrey Cox.....Secretary
 Rev. Martin Dobrzynski.....Pastor
 Rev. Gregory Bim-Merle.....Associate Pastor
 Deacon Ed Gatons.....Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Jack Krol.....Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon



St. Michael Parish
 1 E. Wilhelm St.
 Schererville, IN
 46375

ST. MICHAEL
PARISH
 Schererville, Indiana

From the Pastor's Desk

Christmas: Past, Present, Future. Several years ago, in a parish far, far, away on the Sunday after Thanksgiving I was approached by an agitated worshipper after Mass. “Father, why is the church so bare? Why are there no wreaths up? No trees in the sanctuary? Is this some new,” and the way they said new was with distain, “directive from Rome or the diocese?” I was speechless. I was trying to understand the context of her question. It was, after all, November 28th, not even December yet. It was the first Sunday of Advent.

My confused look only agitated the inquirer even more. Then I realized that this person thought we should be like Marshall Field's (that wonderful store would not be a Macy's for several years). To this person, it was already Christmas. They somehow thought we just skipped from Thanksgiving to Christmas overnight, like the magic of Uncle Mistletoe.

I responded by trying to explain, as I did in my homily, that we were in preparation for Christmas, not celebrating it yet. They didn't buy it because they had already bought the promise of Christmas Present.

Christmas Present without the foundation of Christmas Past and the real fulfillment of Jesus coming in what we might call Christmas Future is a pretty, glittery, fanciful, delicious, abundant lie. This season of Advent is in jeopardy just like the slow disappearance of Thanksgiving. It is a day that is being swallowed up in the pursuit of Christmas Present.

It is hard, but as followers of Christ, we are called to be different than the world around us. Anybody who knows me knows I am no Scrooge when it comes to Christmas. But, I do not sacrifice spending time with the Prophets of Christmas Past and with the admonition of Jesus Himself to be prepared for Christmas Future. You and I can prepare for Christmas Present but we must do so with great care lest we be swept up into a Christmas lie.

One way to keep our balance in a tipsy season is to engage in some self-discipline. Get ready but don't light the light until mid-December and leave them lit through the Epiphany. This is an outward sign to keep Christmas Present from trampling the Scriptural promises of Christmas Past. For every hour spent decorating or shopping for Christmas Presents, spend 3-5 minutes in prayer, reading the Scriptures of the season. You can find them on <http://www.usccb.org/bible> and click on Today's Reading. Or you can download the application iBreviary.

The whole point of our preparation is so that we do not grow weary from too much of too much. Christmas Present without its Past or the promise of its Future is a dead end. It tries us out, makes us dizzy, slow to respond to Jesus in the many encounters we have with him daily.

The wreaths, trees, lights and all the trimmings of Christmas Present are lovely. Without our personal and communal preparation for this great Feast they can be a big distraction, a fulfillment before its proper time. Likewise without a prayerful and clearer understanding of when this Babe is leading us, our future cannot be fruitful. Advent is the time we need to appreciate what Jesus fulfills for us all and what He calls us to be ready for in the end. The real Christmas is our birth through Christ to the eternal Christmas.



Spirituality and Worship Commission

Commission Members: Director of Liturgy, Art & Environment, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality, Lectors, Music, Sacristan, Altar Servers, Cross Bearers, Prayer Ministry, RCIA, Ministers of Care, Deer Creek Ministers

Advent Evening Prayer
Come Share a Moment of
Prayer and Fellowship



December 4th, 11th & 18th
7:00 PM in the Church
Fellowship and Refreshments
to follow in St. Patrick Hall

The Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Patronal Feast Day of
the United States of America
and a Holyday of Obligation

December 8th

Mass Times

Dec 7th: 7:00 PM

Dec. 8th: 7:00 AM, 8:55 AM & 7:00 PM

Come Decorate the Church
for Christmas

December 19th at 6:30 PM

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



During the season of Advent let us remember the joy and peace that living the Catholic life can bring. Let us pray for those who are searching for God and for those who are thinking about finding out more about the Church. Please call 322-4505, ext. 241 for information.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the process for those who are over the age of 8, baptized in another faith tradition, non-baptized, or only baptized in the Catholic faith and wish to complete their Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12th

7:00 PM Mass in the Church



In honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, there will be a celebratory Mass with Mariachi and folk dancing afterwards in St. Patrick Hall. Refreshments and pastries will be available. If you are interested in helping to defray the cost of the Mariachi (the parish will pick up half the cost), volunteering to help with our celebration, or have any questions, please call Lucy Gallegos at 773-859-1014 or John Madrigal at 322-9792.

Spirituality and Worship Commission

Parish Advent Activity

The Art & Environment Ministry has picked four charitable organizations to sponsor for our annual parish Advent activity. These groups are: Sojourner Truth House, the Carmelite Home, Good Samaritans and Respect Life.

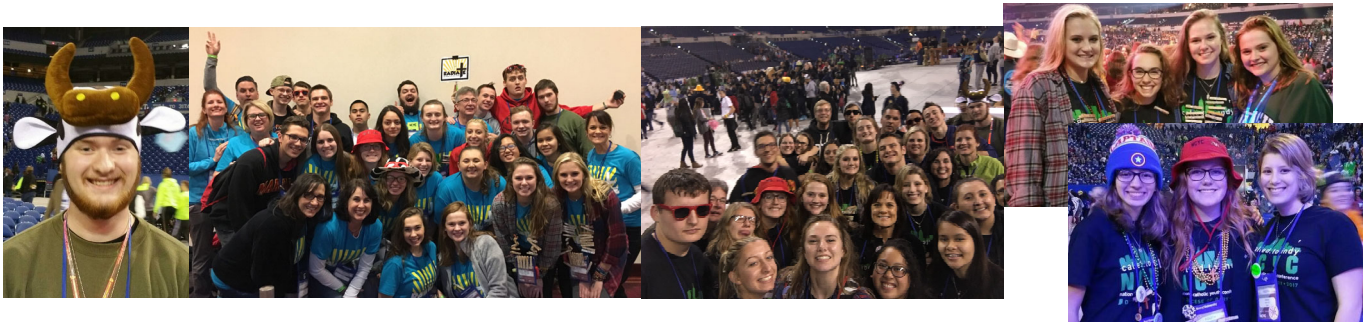
On the tables in the Gathering Space, there are links of paper with items needed by the above charities. Please take one or more links home and purchase these items. Return the link and the gift and place in the baskets provided. At Christmas, we will join the links and decorate the Gathering Space. Let us fill the space with a chain symbolizing our love and concern for our brothers and sisters.

Education and Formation Commission

Commission Members: Director of Religious Education, School Principal, Sport/School Advisory Board/HSA Representatives, Marriage Prep, Baptismal Prep, Adult Catholic Education, Vocations Ministry, RADIATE Youth Ministry, Bible Study

RADIATE

What an amazing experience we had at NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) in Indy, Nov. 16th-19th. We listened to keynote speakers, attended small group discussions, toured the exhibit hall, met kids from all over the country, and attended Mass in Lucas Oil Stadium with 25,000 of our new closest friends. Thank you for your prayers and support! We love our St. Michael's family!



And last week we had a great time at our gym night—with some 8th graders too!

We can't wait for you to join RADIATE! Games, fun, and a lot of laughs had by all.

RADIATE invites all high school students for fun, friends, and faith. Have you been wondering what RADIATE, St. Michael's high school youth ministry is all about? Please contact any of us and we'll tell you more. RADIATE offers all high school teens a place to bring your friends or make new ones with faith as a core. It's not like a class—and you can bring a friend if you don't want to come alone. All are welcome. Come for the FOOD, stay for the rest!

Be sure to sign up for our texts for the most updated info so you won't miss out! Text "@radiate" to 81010.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 10th: Come to our Christmas party! 6:00-8:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall. Bring a White Elephant gift for the gift exchange.

Dec. 15th: Caroling Service Project at Dyer Nursing home (behind DQ) at 4:30 PM. Come share your Christmas spirit with the residents. **8th graders are invited too!**

Questions? Please contact Jeannine Quigley (Adult) at 775-5356, jm.quigley@sbcglobal.net, Mike Reesman (Adult) at 670-1975 or Grace Richardson (teen) at 276-9903.

SCHOOL NEWS

SMS Second-Fifth Graders Enjoy a Musical Performance

On November 16th, St. Michael School children in second, third, fourth and fifth grade attended a musical performance at St. Thomas More School in Munster. The children were treated to Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr. which was performed by the students of St. Thomas More. Each child brought a non-perishable item as an entry fee. These items were donated to the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry. The children enjoyed rocking out to the educational music!

SMS Third Graders and PreSchoolers Celebrate Thanksgiving Together

The third grade students and the pre-school students joined together to celebrate Thanksgiving! The third graders read a Thanksgiving book to the pre-schoolers and they worked together on an art project. Afterwards, they shared some finger play poems and a snack.

Submitted by Mrs. Tonkovich

Lower Your Taxes and Help the Children at St. Michael School

The State of Indiana has a School Scholarship Tax Credit Program. Here is how the program works. An individual or business will donate money into this program for St. Michael School. The donation can only be used for financial aid scholarships. You will receive an Indiana State tax credit for 50% of your donation amount. For example, if a business or individual donates \$100, they will receive a \$50 tax credit on their Indiana State income taxes. If a business or individual donates \$1000, they will receive a \$500 tax credit on their Indiana State income taxes. You can also use this same donation as an itemized tax deduction for your federal income taxes. It is truly a win-win situation. You can lower your taxes while helping the children at St. Michael School. This tax credit program is only available while state funding is available. In recent years, the tax credit program was only available through mid-December. The bottom line is to make your donation as early as possible to take advantage of this tax saving program.

To donate online: <https://www.scholarshipsforeducationchoice.com/donors/idonate/>. On the page, you will see a **Choose Your Designation** field, use the drop down search and select **St. Michael School, Schererville**. If you do not make this selection, your donation will not be applied to St. Michael School.

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to **Sagamore Institute SGO**. On the check, please indicate that it is for St. Michael School, Schererville. You should mail the check to:

SEC at Sagamore Institute
2902 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Thank you for your generosity. If you have any questions or seek additional information, please contact Marty Lucas at 219-789-6970 or smlucas13@sbcglobal.net.

Education and Formation Commission



Faith Formation

December Calendar

Dec. 3rd: Family Session 9:30-11:00 AM

Dec. 5th: Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes
Traditional Classes drop off & pick up at
the church 6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 6th: Traditional Classes drop off & pick up at
the church 6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 12th: Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes
6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 13th: Traditional Classes 6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 19th: Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes
6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 20th: Traditional Classes 6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 26th/27th: No Classes-Christmas Break

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.



FORMED is a revolutionary online platform that provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks and video-based studies from trusted providers like the Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, the Knights of Columbus, St. Paul Center, Sophia Press and more!

St. Michael has purchased this program for one year to provide our parish of all ages access to excellent Catholic resources. In a parish, school, or home setting, utilizing the best in current technology, FORMED becomes a powerful evangelization tool for the parish in this modern world.

You will soon be able to sign up free using the parish code. Watch for the details in upcoming bulletins.

Peace & Social Justice Commission

Commission Members: Ministry of Consolation and Hope, Good Samaritans, Pastoral Care, Respect Life, Health & Spirituality Committee, Parish Nurse Ministry, Rebuilding Hope Mission Team, Visitation Ministry, Labors of Love

Blood Pressure, Glucose and Oxygen Level Screenings

The next screenings will take place the weekend of Dec. 16th and 17th in the east coat room after the 5:00 PM, 7:30 AM, and 9:30 AM Masses by the parish nurses.



We are here to assist anyone with temporary help. If you know someone from Schererville, Dyer, or St. John who could use help with their NIPSCO bill, rent, or groceries, **please have that person in need (due to privacy act)** call 322-4505, ext. 250 and leave a message.

Peace & Social Justice Commission

Welcome the Newly Baptized

Peter Benjamin Kazuaki Ema



For Those Who Have Died...

Catherine Curley
Leona Novak

Life has changed, not ended

Special Prayers
For Those In Need



Jeff Scheive, Carson Schafer, **Kristin Finley**, Mary Merkle, **Donna Cistaro**, **Tina Serna**, Noah Ramirez, **Glenna Goldasic**, **Jean Mastey**, **Dianna Voyak**, **Stella Sowinski**, **Alan Girmus**, **Elizabeth Jean Sanchez** and all those in need of the healing touch of God.

Life is precious; handle with prayer.

Placing the name of a loved one or yourself in the bulletin *Prayer List* can be done through Michaeline or Debbie at 322-4505, ext. 220 in the parish office. The names 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. In praying for a sick person, we show our solidarity with that person and we remind ourselves to do all that is within our power to help in the healing done through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Please remember that the names of parishioners and non-parishioners who are still in need of our prayers after the 4 week period of time of being in the bulletin are placed in our Book of Intentions in the Chapel. It is updated weekly.

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

National Handwashing Awareness Week - December 3rd – 9th

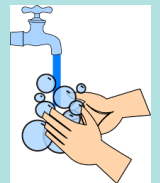
December is a busy time for most people. Between the rush of the holidays, the end-of-the year excitement, and the turn in the weather, it's easy to become run down and exhausted-perfect condition for illness to take hold. When your body system is compromised, it's extra important to stay healthy by avoiding germs, and the best way to do that is by washing your hands. By keeping up with these good habits, you can easily decrease your risk of flus, viruses, and the common cold.

When should you wash your hands?

Most people are good about washing their hands when they use the restroom or about to prepare food, but there are many other moments throughout your day in which a good washing will go a long way. For example, if you're caring for someone who is sick, treating a wound, cleaning up after a child or changing a diaper, in contact with animals or their waste, or you just took out the trash, you should absolutely wash your hands. All of these everyday activities could spread germs and disease, so make sure to wash up!

What is the best way to wash your hands?

1. Wet your hands w/ clean, running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
4. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



The 4 Principles of Hand awareness as endorsed by the American Medical Association and American Academy of Family Physicians:

- * Wash your hands when they are dirty and BEFORE eating.
- * DO NOT cough into your hands.
- * DO NOT sneeze into your hands.
- * Above all, DO NOT put your fingers into your eyes, nose or mouth (known as the T-zone).

Peace & Social Justice Commission

A Heartfelt Thank You from The Good Samaritans

“Joy springs from a grateful heart. Truly, we have received much, so many graces, so many blessings and we rejoice in this.”—Pope Francis

It is with grateful hearts, the Good Samaritans wish to thank the St. Michael Parish Family for your overwhelming response to our Thanksgiving Food Drive.

The Knights of Columbus St. Michael Council 12177 has donated the proceeds of the Pancake Breakfast, in addition to member donations of food, totaling near \$2500.00! We thank you.

Two families donated ten turkeys each. One family added 80 lbs of fresh sweet potatoes and other sides which allowed our ministry to provide 20 families with complete dinners for their holiday. We thank you.

St. Michael School Girl Scout Troop #10076, with the direction of their leader, Jessica Roberts, had a food drive benefiting our ministry. These young ladies delivered and put away close to 40 bags of food. We thank you.

The St. Michael School children brought over one item each to their Thanksgiving Mass and filled a flat bed with boxes of food. We thank you.

The HSA and Sue Cusick had a wonderful idea of donating pies from Market Day for our families. We received 31 pies. We thank you.

Crowder Chiropractic located in downtown Schererville, with their patients, donated many bags of food to our ministry. We thank you.

Finally, our fellow St. Michael parishioners once again answered our appeal with great generosity. Your willingness to share and your kindness is greatly appreciated. Truly you are one of our greatest blessings from God because of your ongoing support of our ministry.

The Good Samaritans thank you, thank you, and thank you!

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE

The Respect Life Ministry will be selling Family Christmas Cards after all Masses on December 10th and the weekend of December 16th/17th. For \$2.00 you not only get a beautiful card to send to your family for Christmas, but their name will be entered into our book of intentions and prayed for at Mass on February 4th.

As most of you know, Deacon Jack is in Texas receiving treatment for his cancer. If anyone would like to send Deacon Jack a card, you may do so at the following address:

Deacon Jack Krol
c/o Rich & Jean Philpot
3422 Rolling Terrace Drive
Spring, Texas 77388

Please Return Baby Bottles

Baby Bottles from The Answer's fundraiser in October need to be returned as soon as possible, even if they are empty. Bottles not returned are an added expense to their fundraising. Please be considerate of this request.



Save the Date
That's Amore Dinner
Dance
February 10, 2018
Cocktails at 6:00 PM
Dinner at 7:00 PM
in St. Patrick Hall
\$80 per couple

Registration for New Parishioners

There will be no parish registration in December. The next parish registration will be Jan. 21st after the 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses. You may also register at the parish office Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. If you have any questions please call Debbie at the parish office 322-4505, ext. 225.

Commission Members: Welcoming Ministry, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, Festival Committee, Comforting Chefs, Senior GEMS, Boy Scouts of America

Get Your Oplatki—and Support RADIATE

RADIATE will be selling Oplatki Dec. 9th & 10th and Dec. 16th & 17th after all Masses in packets of 3 for \$5 and 15 for \$20. This Eastern European tradition celebrates family by sharing a Christmas wafer with those present while praying for God's grace and the welfare of all and remembering those who couldn't be with us. Continue this wonderful tradition or consider adding it to your own Christmas celebrations. Our teens are on fire for their faith—come to the back tables after Mass to meet them and be energized! We will gratefully and enthusiastically accept all donations. Thank you for your support.

Questions or to preorder, please contact Jane Wallace at wallacejane1@hotmail.com or 219-796-5328.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas December 10th After All Masses in St. Patrick Hall

Have your child's picture taken with Baby Jesus and St. Nicholas.

A continental breakfast will be available: juice, milk, cereal, donuts, bagels

Good will offerings accepted.

See You There!





*Volunteer...
Our appreciation
for you and all
those things you
do grows and
grows...*

Thank You Reception

in appreciation to all St. Michael Parish volunteers (Festival, School, Faith Formation, etc.), Liturgical Ministers, Parish Ministries, Council/Commission Advisory Boards, and Parish & School Staff

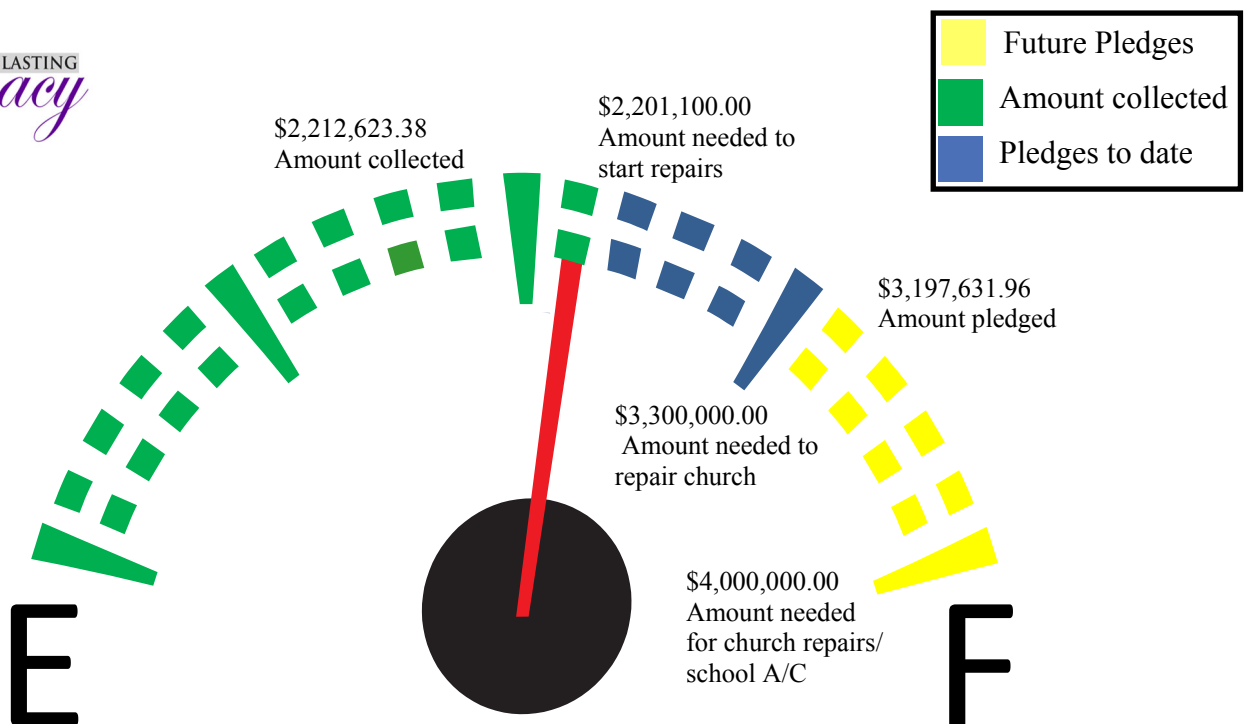
Wednesday, December 28th

6:00-9:00 PM

St. Patrick Hall

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. Please RSVP by Dec. 23rd at noon to the parish office, 322-4505, ext. 220.

Capital Campaign Totals as of November 27, 2017



Senior GEMS

All seniors over the age of 50 are invited to attend our meetings and outings. You do not have to attend the meetings to go to the outings.



Calling All Seniors!

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 12th: 10:00 AM Meeting with Book Club or games to follow.

Dec. 13th: Christmas Story at Valpo Opera House. Meet at Toast and Jam at 10:30 AM. **Please note we will not have lunch at Suzy's Café.**

Dec. 29th: Christmas Light Show at Theatre in the Center. Meet at the Center at 1:30 PM.

Feb. 13th: Fat Tuesday Celebration, 12:00-2:00 PM

Feb. 28th: Steel Magnolias at Theatre in the Center, Munster, 2:00 PM. Cost is \$34 and must be reserved by Dec. 29th.

Tickets to all shows must be paid in advance and NO REFUNDS allowed. Any questions, please contact Carol at 805-0413.

FIREFIGHTERS FOOD DRIVE

The Schererville Fire Department and the Professional Firefighters Union Local 4279 invites you to ...Help us Help Others.

Drop off non-perishable food items, cash or gift cards at Fire Station 1, 1650 Cline Ave., anytime until December 15th.

SPECIAL ONE DAY ONLY
 "Drive Up & Drop Off" is December 15th
 6:30 AM-6:30 PM



Set Your Legacy In Stone in Our Cemetery Paved Walkway

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Type of Paver:

Graduate - \$175

Memorial - \$125.00

Founder's Circle - \$250

Benefactor - \$200.00

Each paver may contain up to 3 lines, with 15 characters (this includes spaces) per line.

Mail form and check to: St. Michael the Archangel Church / Paver Project
 1 E. Wilhelm Street
 Schererville, IN 46375

Stewardship & Parish Administration Commission

Stewardship Challenge

Send a note of love and compassion to someone who has lost a loved one.

Commission Members: Finance Council, Gardener Ministry, Education Foundation, Cemetery Committee

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY DECEMBER 3

RCIA 9:30 AM
 K of C Special Needs Christmas Party 2:00 PM
The Rosary is said after 7:00 AM Weekday
Mass Except Tuesday – after OLPH Devotions

MONDAY DECEMBER 4

Centering Prayer 6:00 PM
 Advent Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
 Followed by Fellowship in St. Patrick Hall

TUESDAY DECEMBER 5

OLPH Devotions 7:30 AM
 Labors of Love 10:00 AM
 Children's Choir Practice 3:15 PM
 Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6

School Communal Penance Service 10:30 AM
All are welcome
 Eucharistic Adoration 1:00-6:00 PM
 Traditional Classes 6:00 PM
 Good Samaritans' Meeting 6:30 PM

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7

Choir/Cantor Practice 7:00 PM

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8

Bell Choir Practice 5:00 PM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9

Respect Life Meeting 8:45 AM
 Confessions 3:30-4:30 PM
 Oplatki Sale Before & After Vigil Mass

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

November 19, 2017

Adult	\$16,716.00
EFTs*	\$4,545.00
Children	\$53.35
Loose	\$500.00

Total Weekly Offering
\$21,814.35

Campaign for Human Development
\$4,579.50

November 26, 2017

Adult	\$16,402.00
EFTs*	\$790.00
Children	\$46.89
Loose	\$656.03

Total Weekly Offering
\$17,894.92

**Electronic Funds Transfer*

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Please consider supporting our education endeavors at St. Michael Parish through the **St. Michael Education Foundation with a Memorial Donation.**

Your gift will be listed here and acknowledged to the family or individual you memorialize.
 Living Memorial - Anniversary Memorial - Deceased Memorial

Directors of the Foundation

Rev. Martin J. Dobrzynski, Pastor
 Colleen Kennedy, Principal
 Kenneth Bohling, Patrick Cusick, Don Doffin,
 David Jarzombek, Joe Townsend,
 Dr. Ed Udani, Donna Velez

Look for us on the website: www.stmichaelparish.life.



Christmas Flower Envelopes

A reminder that "Christmas Flower Offering" envelopes are due today.

*BNI EVENTS

Dec. 6th: Open House, 6:00-8:00 PM. Tour the school and meet current students, teachers and coaches.

Dec. 16th: Entrance Exam, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. Fee is \$25. If you attend the Open House, fee is \$20.

Dec. 17th: Christmas Concert, 6:00 PM, in the Auditorium.

Bishop Noll Institute is located at 1519 Hoffman St., Hammond. For more information, please call 219-932-9058, ext. 1008 or visit bishopnoll.org.



*A BI-LINGUAL MASS



St. John the Evangelist in St. John presents a bi-lingual Mass honoring the Virgin of Guadalupe on **Dec. 9th** at 9:30 AM with Bishop Donald Hying as celebrant. If you have any questions, please contact sjehispanicministry@gmail.com

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

St. Matthias, 101 W. Burrell, Crown Point, is hosting a Holiday Craft Fair on **December 9th**, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, in the parish hall. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 663-2201.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is having its weekend retreat, **Dec. 8th -10th**, at the *Wyndham Garden Hotel in Elk Grove, Village, IL.* Questions? Please call 630-577-0778 or email applications@wwme-chicagoland.org.

ANDREAN ENTRANCE EXAM

Andrean High school is having their Entrance Exam on **Dec. 9th**, 8:00-11:30 AM. Please check in by 7:45 AM through Door L. Parents are invited for refreshments and a presentation on the admissions process. Please register for the exam at andreanhs.org.



Andrean is located at 5959 Broadway, Merrillville. If you have any questions, please call the Director of Enrollment Management, Jim Nohos, at 219-887-5959, ext. 260 or visit our website.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly
80 W. Northwest Highway, Palatine, IL
December 10th, 2:00-4:00 PM

Christmas Carols
Santa and Games for the Kids
Beautifully Decorated Trees
Cookies and Hot Chocolate

*COOKIE WALK



The Ladies Altar Society of the *Descent of the Holy Spirit Church, 545 E. 77th Ave., Schererville* is hosting a Cookie Walk in their hall on **Dec. 16th**, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK & BAZAAR

St. Andrew Women's Guild is having its Annual Christmas Cookie Walk & Craft Bazaar on **Dec. 9th**, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, in *Ameling Hall at St. Andrew the Apostle Church, 801 W. 73rd Ave., Merrillville.*

Assortment of cookies is \$7.00/lb. Hand-made gifts and delights from local crafters and artisans will be for sale.

Crafters needed. Please contact Irene at 219-670-8848 to reserve a table.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOR THE PREBORN AND THEIR PARENTS

On **January 19th** at historic *DAR Constitution Hall at 1776 D Street, NW, Washington DC*, there will be a Catholic Mass at 7:30 AM and an Interdenominational Service at 8:30 AM with the March for Life Rally starting at 11:30 AM. Please email Christa@nprcouncil.org to let them know you are coming.

— We Remember . . . We Prepare . . . —



<p><u>SATURDAY DECEMBER 2</u> 8:00 AM †Nicholas, Genevieve & Jerry Doffin 5:00 PM †Tom Kudzia</p> <p><u>SUNDAY DECEMBER 3</u> 7:30 AM †James Mendoza 9:30 AM †Dennis Smith †Joe & Julie Krupa †Gracelynn Joi Heikema 11:30 AM St. Michael Parish</p> <p><u>MONDAY DECEMBER 4</u> 7:00 AM †Sandy Pyle 7:30 PM Advent Prayer Service</p> <p><u>TUESDAY DECEMBER 5</u> 7:00 AM †Departed Souls of the Congregation of †Mother of Carmel</p> <p><u>WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6</u> 7:00 AM †Joseph Penczak †Meredith Macki †Sandra Morgan</p>	<p><u>THURSDAY DECEMBER 7</u> 7:00 AM †George & Bernice Doppler 7:00 PM †William Potts</p> <p><u>FRIDAY DECEMBER 8</u> 7:00 AM †Victor Makiejus 8:55 AM †Bob (John) Dobrzynski 7:00 PM †Bryant O'Malley</p> <p><u>SATURDAY DECEMBER 9</u> 8:00 AM †Edward J. Vondrak 5:00 PM †Stella Hemann</p> <p><u>SUNDAY DECEMBER 10</u> 7:30 AM St. Michael Parish 9:30 AM †Nick Coniglio †Carol Keck †Rich Mosior 11:30 AM †Sandy Pyle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">† indicates deceased</p>
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reflections...

THE WORD

(Readings for December 10th, Second Sunday of Advent)

I. *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

Speaking for God, Isaiah said, “‘Comfort, give comfort to my people,’ says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her service is at an end.”

II. *2 Peter 3:8-14*

Peter wrote that God does not want anyone to perish but wants all to repent, for the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.

III. *Mark 1:1-8*

Fulfilling what Isaiah foretold, John appeared in the desert as a messenger making ready the way of the Lord and proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

The Parish Website

Visit our website, www.stmichaelparish.life for up-to-date information on upcoming events, St. Michael Catholic School, St. Michael Cemetery, photo gallery, information on all of our ministries/committees, and St. Patrick Hall and our adjacent meeting rooms.

Dear Parish Members,

Our Sunday bulletin is a primary way we use to communicate with you. The parish does not pay for the bulletin printing because of the generosity of our advertisers-many of which are our own parish members. Most are members of our local community. Please support our advertisers with your patronage. Let the business owner know that you appreciate their support of our parish through their advertising in the bulletin.

***A strong and vibrant parish is good for our community
and a strong business community is good for our parish.***

If you would like to advertise in our bulletin, please call Barbara at 219-427-4803.

INFORMATION PAGE FOR J.S. PALUCH

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SOFTWARE

Microsoft® Publisher 2013
Adobe® Acrobat® 7.0 Standard
Windows 7

PRINTER

Canon iR3225 PCL6

TRANSMISSION TIME

Tuesday 10:30 AM

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

December 3, 2017

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 17

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: