

WELCOME TO  
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



*Third Sunday of*  
***Advent***

December 16, 2018

I am baptizing you with water,  
but one mightier than I is coming.  
I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

Luke 3:16

# 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  
 Transitional Deacon.....dmcnicholas@stmichaelparish.life  
 Deacon Declan McNicholas.....322-4505, ext. 222  
 Permanent Deacon.....322-4505, ext. 284  
 Deacon Ron Pyle.....deaconron@stmichaelparish.life  
 Executive Secretary.....322-4505, ext. 220  
 Mrs. Michaeline Gargas.....mike@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  
 Communications Coordinator.....322-4505, ext. 263  
 Steven Koontz.....skoontz@stmichaelparish.life  
 Assistant Sacristan .....322-4505, ext. 228  
 Mrs. Loretta DePrez

## 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 & Thursday  
 12:00-8:00 PM Tuesday & Wednesday  
 Phone .....(219)322-3077 Fax.....(219)322-1710  
 Director of Religious Education  
 Mrs. Marge Swanson.....mswanson@stmichaelparish.life  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Mrs. Mary Jo Rymarczyk..mrymarczyk@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 one  
 year prior to reserving a date for the wedding. The diocese re-  
 quires 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.

## EUCHARISTIC 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  
 Thomas Molnar.....At Large  
 Linda Kinzer .....Education & Formation Liaison  
 Jim Prasopoulos.....Parish Life Liaison  
 Lynn Schmitt.....Stewardship Liaison  
 Joseph Tomaszewski.....Stewardship Liaison  
 Jeffrey Cox.....Secretary  
 Rev. Martin Dobrzynski.....Pastor  
 Rev. Gregory Bim-Merle.....Associate Pastor  
 Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon



**ST. MICHAEL**  
**PARISH**  
Schererville, Indiana

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

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## From the Pastor's Desk

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***Worry about nothing, pray about everything.*** As Christmas draws near and the list of what has yet to be done grows, our patience can wear thin. Human beings have a tendency to feel that the world would not revolve if they didn't exist. The message from St. Paul is quite different today. St. Paul reminds us that as Jesus' followers, we are to practice the same sort of trust Jesus demonstrated. You and I don't make the world revolve for our family or even for ourselves. Certainly, you and I would be missed by families and friends but life would go on as does our life when we lose someone. Realizing the truth of this is a sobering thought. It tempers our tendency for self-importance and redirects our attention to God. For only God makes it all spin and you and I need to continuously discover our need to trust in God's importance.

Advent presents a real challenge as we get ready to commemorate Jesus' birth and prepare for His final coming. All of the hustle and bustle can lead us to think that if we don't do this or that, Christmas won't be meaningful; as if "we" give meaning to Christmas. Certainly, we like things to be nice, but nice is not perfect. If you and I are trying to prepare for a close to perfect Christmas we are bound to worry, because so many variables can lay our preparations to waste. What happens is that you and I are not able to see the beauty of the forest. We only see the individual trees, many of which are not perfect at all.

When we hand our hopes over to God, our worry diminishes and we are able to see God being made flesh in many more places than manger scenes. You see, our worry about the things of this life can easily cloud our vision of the great gift of God's presence among us. In handing our worry over to God in prayer, our tasks do not go away but they are put into perspective. We begin to see how God takes the less than perfect trees making them into a forest of great beauty.

***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, or they, 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 to follow this expectation, the marriage is not sacramentally valid and thus the couple involved cannot go to communion or act as baptismal/confirmation sponsors. As Catholics we believe that marriage is a sacramental state, not just a civil one.

Fr. Gregory and I 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 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.

***Generosity.*** During this time of the year our generous spirit is seen in many ways. This is a good thing. Actually, it should encourage us to be generous throughout the year as well. None-the-less, this time is a particular time to gift others as we have been gifted.

Please remember the work of your parish for and with you in this endeavor. If you have fallen a bit behind on your *Our Lasting Legacy* pledge this year, or your regular Sunday giving, do some catch up before December 31st.

Also, if you have been particularly blessed I thank you for sharing those extra blessings with your parish. God bless and thank you.



# Spirituality and Worship Commission

## Come Decorate the Church for Christmas

December 18th at 6:30 PM

Families are welcomed and service hours are available, but parents need to accompany children under the age of 16. Please call Judy at 365-8613 if you have questions.

**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/Clarendale Ministers

## Parish Advent Activity

In the Gathering Space, there are links of paper with items needed by the Sojourner Truth House, the Carmelite Home, Respect Life and the Good Samaritans. Please take a link or two home and purchase the items. Bring the gift(s) with the link attached 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. *Submitted by Judy Hisick*

Advent Evening Prayer  
Come Share a Moment of  
Prayer and Fellowship



Dec. 17th

7:00 PM in the Church

Christmas Concert  
& Cantata  
January 6th  
in the Church  
3:00 PM

Night of  
Miracles

# Education and Formation Commission

## SCHOOL NEWS

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

## Warrior of the Week



This week's Warrior of the Week is Kristen Schutz. Kristen has been a student at St. Michael School since kindergarten, and currently participates in volleyball, basketball and cheerleading for the Warriors. She also plays the trumpet for the school band and really enjoys doing all of these activities. Kristen says, "My favorite thing at SMS is the family feel and all of the people here. Everyone here picks each other up no matter what grade. I really enjoy this." Kristen will be attending Andean High School next year, and when she leaves SMS, she says, "I will miss all of my friends. I am going to miss seeing my best friends every day. They make me smile, laugh, and feel better about myself. I really appreciate you guys!" Kristen's advice to younger students is to have fun, and, "Don't worry if you get a chart mark, it isn't the end of the world." Thanks Kristen, we hope you have an excellent year!

*Submitted by Jen Poskin*

## Here's What's Happening in Preschool

### Pajama Day and Prayer Pillows



On Friday, November 16th, we celebrated Pajama Day! The preschoolers were able to come to school dressed in their cozy pajamas. We discussed bedtime routines, watched a movie, ate popcorn, and relaxed. During the morning activities, we also discussed the importance of prayer and how praying to God before bedtime is a great way to reflect on our day. We wanted to make sure our preschoolers were stocked full of bedtime prayers, so we made prayer pillows! Each child was able to stuff their pillows, seal it with glue, and fill their pockets full of prayers. Our preschoolers were able to take these pillows home and share the prayers with their family. We had a wonderful time and look forward to praying to God each and every day before bedtime!

### Thanksgiving Feast

On Tuesday, November 20th, we celebrated Thanksgiving by hosting a Thanksgiving Feast. During morning activities, both classrooms joined together in Ms. Ellen's room to sing songs and read, "Pete The Cat - The First Thanksgiving." After learning all about Pilgrims and Native Americans, we decorated hats, bonnets, and vests. Once we were done, we pretended to sail the Mayflower to Ms. Erin's room to enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast together! We did an excellent job using our manners, too! We had a wonderful time and are looking forward to our next holiday celebration!



*Submitted by Erin DeJong*

# Education and Formation Commission



## December Calendar

Dec. 18th: Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes  
6:00-7:30 PM  
Dec. 19th: Traditional Classes 6:00-7:30 PM  
**Dec. 25th/26th: No classes-Christmas Break**

## Get Your Oplatki—and Support RADIATE

**Dec. 15th-16th:** RADIATE will be selling Oplatki after all Masses this weekend. 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. Come to the back tables after Mass to meet our teens. We will gratefully and enthusiastically accept all donations. Thank you for your support. Questions? Please contact Mike Quigley at [mp.quigley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mp.quigley@sbcglobal.net) or 219-616-6105. You can purchase packets of 3 for \$5 and 15 for \$20.

**ANY DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF OUR 'MARCH FOR LIFE' TRIP! Thank you for your prayers and support.**



### Upcoming Calendar:

**Jan. 6th:** Radiate Gathering 6:00 - 8:00 PM in St Patrick Hall

**Jan. 17th-20th:** Pilgrimage in Washington, DC for the March for Life

**Jan. 26th:** GAME NIGHT— Inviting ALL High School students & 8th graders, 6:30-9:30 PM in SMS GYM! Please wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes.

## Having Some Christmas Fun!!!



*Submitted by Jeannine Quigley*



# 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, Labors of Love

## For Those Who Have Died...



Larry Miller  
Marie-Therese Perry  
Alan Rose

*Life has changed, not ended*

## Welcome the Newly Baptized

Dee Chester Castle  
Leah Patricia Castle  
Maura Eloise Marco

Special Prayers  
For Those In Need



**Sharon Kras, Britney Tuskan, Rosemarie Rossman, John Palis, Carol Smialek, Debbie Kaminski, Anthony Adducci, Anthony Caposey, Betty Carlos, Wally Gargas, Zbigniew Sochacki, Tina Serna, Phil Krivickas, Ardy Baker, Marci Rose, Donna Rau, Nancy Greco, Don Smith, Pamela Weber, Dianna Donnell, Anita Thomas, Dawn Light, Jennifer Casteneda, Art Vasquez, Nancy Van Egtern, Nawal Haddad** 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.*

## Blood Pressure, Glucose and Oxygen Level Screenings this Weekend

in the east coat room after  
the 5:00 PM, 7:30 AM  
and 9:30 AM Masses



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



*Please*

*“help trim our tree,  
help trim our tree..*

*how lovely are thy branches.”*

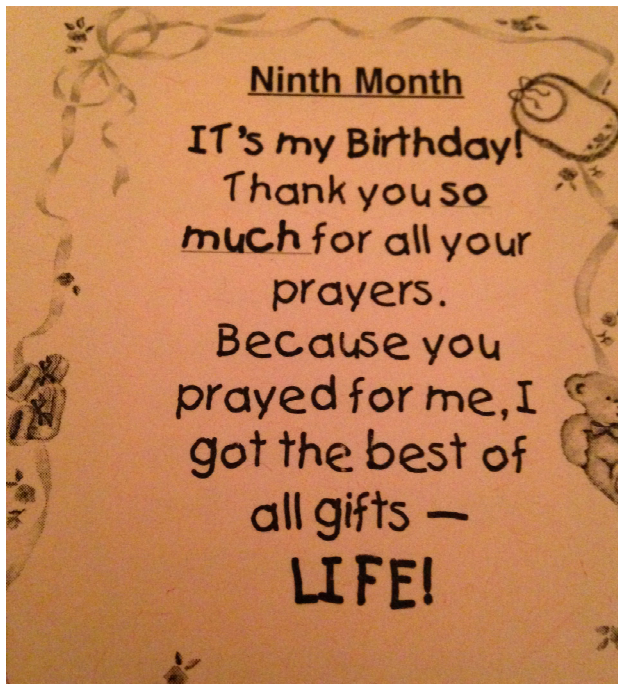
*In our gift to others, we remember the true meaning of Christmas,  
the birth of the Prince of Peace.*

*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 peace and God’s blessings.*

*The Good Samaritans  
thank you for your  
generous hearts.*

*Submitted by Sue Cohen*



During your earthly life this spiritually adopted child of yours will be known only to God but in the world to come it is hoped that you will meet the child whose life was spared by your prayers and spend eternal happiness with them.

In celebration of the baby’s birth, the Respect Life Ministry is sponsoring a Diaper Drive during Advent. Please bring diapers in any size and place them in the box next to the Good Samaritan chest. The Respect Life Ministry will make sure they are donated to one of our supported organizations.

*Submitted by Cathy Bartczak*

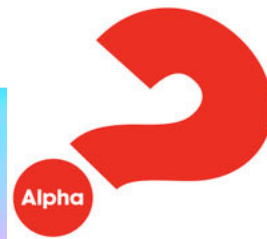




**Commission Members:** Welcoming Ministry, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, Festival Committee, Comforting Chefs, Senior GEMS, Boy Scouts of America

Ministry Leaders  
Mark February 6th  
on your Calendar  
Commissions Night

**Everyone Has Questions.  
Alpha helps you find answers.**



Alpha provides an environment to explore the Christian faith, ask questions, and share your point of view. There are 11 sessions, beginning mid-January on Tuesday evenings, here at St. Michael's. Each session includes food, a short talk in the form of a video, and discussion in a small group where you can share your thoughts. There's no pressure, no follow up, no charge, and no homework.

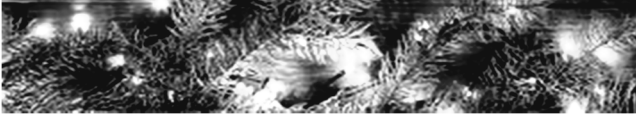
More details coming soon!

*Submitted by Carol Slager*

*Save the Date*  
*That's Amore Dinner Dance*  
**FEBRUARY 16TH, 2019**  
*Cocktails at 6:00 PM*  
*Dinner at 7:00 PM*  
*In St. Patrick Hall*  
**\$80 PER COUPLE**

## Bulletin Schedule for the Christmas Season

Bulletin Date	Article Deadline
Dec. 30th	Dec. 19th by 9:00 AM
Jan. 6th	Dec. 27th by noon



**Communal  
Penance Service  
December 19th  
7:00 PM**

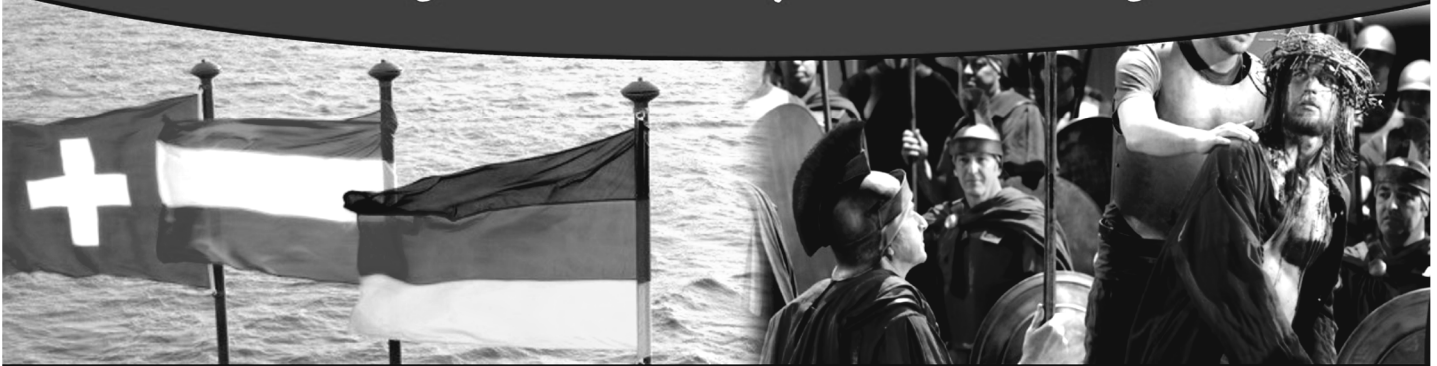


## Registration for New Parishioners

There will no parish registration during the month of December. You may register at the parish office Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. We ask that you have the **dates and places of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage** for all members of the family. If you have any questions please call Debbie at the parish office 322-4505, ext. 225.

# ALPINE EUROPE PILGRIMAGE

## Featuring the Passion Play of Oberammergau



LED BY

**BISHOP DALE MELCZEK & FR. MARTIN DOBRZYNSKI**

**12 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 15 – 26, 2020**

**\$4569 FROM CHICAGO**

*(Air/land tour price is \$4099 plus \$470 government taxes/airline surcharges)*

*First deposit of \$800 due at time of booking*

**VISITING:**

**Heidelberg - Rhine Valley - Lucerne - Einsiedeln  
Innsbruck - Salzburg - Altotting - Marktle Am Inn -  
Munich - Rothenburg**

Tour includes: Roundtrip Airfare from Chicago, First-Class/Select Hotels, Most Meals, Professional Tour Director, Comprehensive Sighting, Flight Insurance, and more!

*For more information call: 219-322-4505 ext. 225 (Debbie Fotia)*



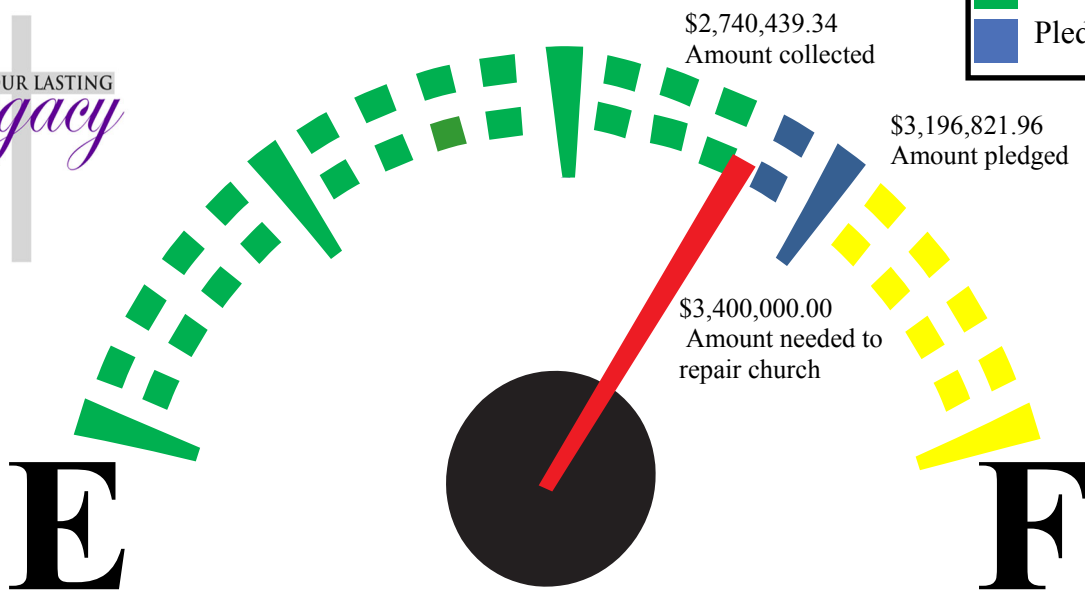
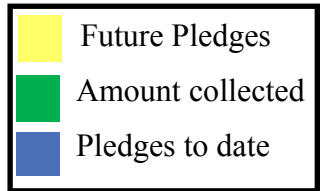
In appreciation to all our dear Liturgical Ministers, members of the Parish Ministries and Council/Commission Advisory Boards, Parish Staff, School Staff and volunteers from the funfest, school, faith formation or any other event you may have helped with, a thank you reception will be held in your honor.



Thank You Reception  
 Thursday, December 27th  
 6:00-9:00 PM  
 St. Patrick Hall

Please RSVP to the parish office by Dec. 24th at noon.

Capital Campaign Totals as of December 7, 2018





# Stewardship & Parish Administration Commission

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



## CSA NEWS: THE 2018 CAMPAIGN IS WINDING DOWN

All payments must be received in the CSA Office by the end of December in order to be claimed on your 2018 tax return! Please complete your outstanding pledge by December 31st. When making a payment, please be sure to include our parish name and your CSA ID# on your checks when you mail your payment to the Diocese.

**Thank you for your generous stewardship to the 2018 CSA Campaign.**

## The Third Sunday of Advent Stewardship: A Way of Life

### A SIMPLER CHRISTMAS

- ❖ Forget the “ideal” Christmas complete with snow, carols, angelically-behaved children, and the perfect presents, food, and decorations. Put the emphasis on Jesus.
- ❖ If there is a Christmas chore or activity that you hate, either stop doing it or stop complaining. If you still do it and you still complain, don’t expect sympathy!
- ❖ If you dread writing and mailing Christmas cards, don’t bother. If you want to greet people in a simpler way, use Internet sites such as catholicgreetings.org and send e-cards with a few clicks of your mouse.
- ❖ If you are hosting a Christmas dinner for family and friends, don’t do everything yourself. Tell the people living with you they can all pitch in—assign tasks if necessary—and ask guests to bring their favorite dish.
- ❖ Don’t spend what you don’t have. Set a dollar limit and stick to it.
- ❖ Consider a family gift exchange or donate to a favorite charity in honor of friends and family. Place gifts under a parish or community giving tree. Give coupons representing your gifts of time and talent to those you love. Buy gifts that are faith-related from your parish bookstore.
- ❖ Create your own traditions: make a Christmas nativity scene, light Christmas candles, go with the family to Midnight Mass, read the Christmas stories out loud (in Matthew 1 and 2 and Luke 1 and 2), help serve dinner in a shelter.
- ❖ Don’t expect too much from others. Don’t expect them to be in a certain mood or to behave in certain ways, or to give you the right gifts.
- ❖ Don’t do anything to excess: gift-giving, partying, drinking, eating.
- ❖ Don’t fight with family, particularly over who does or does not go to church; don’t bring up old grudges.

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# Stewardship & Parish Administration Commission

## Stewardship Challenge

Have a generous heart. Share with those less fortunate with an attitude of gratitude of what you have. Light your third Advent candle.



"Good works are links that form a chain of love."  
*Mother Teresa*

## Weekly Schedule

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 16

Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines at All Masses  
Blood Pressure Readings After the 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses  
RADIATE Oplatki Sales After All Masses  
RCIA 9:30 AM

**Rosary is said after 7:00 AM Weekday  
Mass Except Tuesday – after OLPH Devotions**

### MONDAY DECEMBER 17

Centering Prayer 6:00 PM  
Advent Evening Prayer 7:00 PM

### TUESDAY DECEMBER 18

OLPH Devotions 7:30 AM  
Children's Choir Practice 3:15 PM  
Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes 6:00 PM  
Christmas Décor Set-Up 6:30 PM

### WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19

Eucharistic Adoration 1:00-6:00 PM  
Traditional Classes 6:00 PM  
Communal Penance Service 7:00 PM

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 20

Choir/Cantor Practice 7:00 PM

### FRIDAY DECEMBER 21

*No School-Christmas Break*  
Cleaning of the Church 2:00 PM  
Bell Choir Practice 5:30 PM

### SATURDAY DECEMBER 22

Confessions 3:00-4:30 PM

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



December 9, 2018

Adult	\$18,034.26
EFTs*	\$4,705.00
Children	\$53.35
Loose	\$764.72

**Total Weekly Offering**  
**\$23,557.33**

**The Immaculate Conception**  
**\$4,648.00**

\*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,  
Julie Hudec, Hal Slager, Joe Townsend,  
Dr. Ed Udani, Donna Velez

Look for us on the website: [www.stmichaelparish.life](http://www.stmichaelparish.life).

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

A Christmas Cantata, *Invitation to a Miracle* by Joseph M. Martin, will be performed by the Queen of All Saints Contemporary Choir under the direction of Stephanie Sobecki at *St. Mary the Immaculate Conception Church, 400 W. Tenth Street, Michigan City* on **December 16th** at 3:30 PM. Joyful sounds abound in this Christmas gift of music. Through poetic narration, scripture passages and creatively arranged carols, the timeless story of the birth of Christ is presented. Gathered around the wonders of Jesus' birth, this cantata journeys from the miracle of prophecy to the incarnation and proclamation of this significant moment. Admission is free.



## \*LINKEDIN IS NOT FACEBOOK

STM Career Networking Group will have its monthly gathering on **January 9th**, 7:00-8:30 PM at the *STM Weis Center, 8635 Calumet Ave., Munster*. The topic of the evening is LinkedIn IS NOT Facebook: Inappropriate Use Will Damage your Job Search presented by Chandra L. Gary, Certified Career Advisor.

## \*ANDREAN EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Andean events located at *5959 Broadway, Merrillville*:

**Jan. 10th:** Parent Information Night 6:00-7:00 PM  
Andean High School invites families to our Parent Information Night in Andean's Cafeteria. Families will have the opportunity to meet with Andean students, parents, and faculty. We look forward to meeting you!

**Jan. 13th:** Entrance Exam 1:00-4:30 PM  
Andean High School invites prospective students to our Entrance Exam. Students are asked to check in by 12:45 PM and enter through Door M. Parents are invited to join us for refreshments and a presentation on the admissions process.

**Jan. 27th:** Open House 2:00-4:00 PM  
Andean High School invites prospective families to visit with teachers, students, coaches, players, clubs, and academic teams. Families are also welcome to tour Andean's campus!

Families can pre-register for events by visiting [andeanhs.org/rsvp](http://andeanhs.org/rsvp).

Andean's online Admissions Application is now open. Families can begin applying at [andeanhs.org/apply](http://andeanhs.org/apply).

## \*CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

There will not be a December meeting due to the Christmas holiday. The next meeting will be held on **January 19th**.

## \*2019 DIOCESE OF GARY YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS' FORMATION/RETREAT

Adolescents in 2019 face anxieties never before seen. Youth face stress, addiction, depression, abuse, family crisis, sexual pressures and a slew of other problems, and their always connected smartphone culture makes it difficult for them to disconnect. Your youth programs can be transformational experiences for a hurting teen, if you're ready to acknowledge-or dance with-the elephants in your youth room and present the healing Christ. These sessions provide you with a "State of the Youth" address and a frank discussion on how to provide pastoral care for youth in need. This will take place **Feb. 1st starting at 6:00 PM to Feb. 2nd ending at 7:00 PM** at the *Lindenwood Retreat & Conference Center in Donaldson, IN*. **Because we need to place an order with the retreat center, it is important that you register on or before January 16th.** If you have registration questions, please contact Emily Sutton at 769-9292, ext. 282 or [esutton@dcgary.org](mailto:esutton@dcgary.org).

**PRAYER, SPIRITUAL REFLECTION, NETWORKING,  
IDEA-SHARING, MASS;  
IT'S THE RETREAT YOU DESERVE!**

## \*ADORATION NIGHT

*St. Patrick in Chesterton* is having an Adoration Night with Praise & Worship on **March 2nd**, 7:00-8:30 PM for young adults, age 20's to 30's. Confessions will be available. Social gathering after. Presented by the Diocese of Gary Bishop's Council on Young Adult Evangelization.

## \*MADE FOR MORE

**VISIONS OF THE PROMISED LAND**  
*Queen of All Saints, Michigan City*  
Wednesday, **March 20, 2019**  
7:00 – 9:30 PM

## LOVING OUTREACH TO SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

If you are coping with the loss of a loved one due to suicide, contact LOSS and begin the healing process. Please call 312-655-7281 for a meeting schedule and locations. This group offers help for adults in a nonjudgmental environment.



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



**SATURDAY DECEMBER 15**

5:00 PM †Robert Keyl

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 16**

7:30 AM St. Michael Parish

9:30 AM †Sandra Pyle  
 †Evelyn Culp & Josefina Chua-Chiaco  
 †Barney Davis

11:30 AM For an End to Abortion on Demand and  
 for a Conversion of Heart for  
 those who Provide Abortions

**MONDAY DECEMBER 17**

7:00 AM George P. Hamnik  
 †R.C. Shelby

7:00 PM Advent Prayer Service

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 18**

7:00 AM †Ann Gaspar

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19**

7:00 AM †Helen Sandor  
 8:55 AM All Souls

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 20**

7:00 AM †Edward J. Vondrak

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 21**

7:00 AM Rose Turco

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 22**

8:00 AM †Ken Grzywana  
 5:00 PM †Helen Frantz-13th Anniversary

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 23**

7:30 AM St. Michael Parish  
 9:30 AM †Stanley Pytel  
 †Kyle Arnold, Que Kim Kuan & Mariano  
 Chua Yu Keng  
 †Frank Sink  
 11:30 AM †Joan Mance

†indicates deceased



reflections...

## THE WORD

*(Readings for December 23rd, Fourth Sunday of Advent)*

I. *Micah 5:1-4a*

Out of tiny Bethlehem will come one who is to be ruler over all Israel. “He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock...he shall be peace.”

II. *Hebrews 10:5-10*

God took no delight in holocausts and sin offerings, even those that fulfilled the law. Rather, God desired Christ. By death, Jesus took away the first covenant to set up the second.

III. *Luke 1:39-45*

When Mary visited Zechariah’s house, Elizabeth greeted her: “Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, “the infant leaped in her womb.”

## The Parish Website

Visit our website, [www.stmichaelparish.life](http://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

## CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Michael the Archangel  
1 W. Wilhelm Street  
Scherverville, IN 46375

## PHONE

219-322-4505  
Ext 220 - front office receptionist  
Ext 239 - bulletin editor

## CONTACT PERSON

Rhonda Haddad, bulletin editor

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [bulletin@stmichaelparish.life](mailto:bulletin@stmichaelparish.life)

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