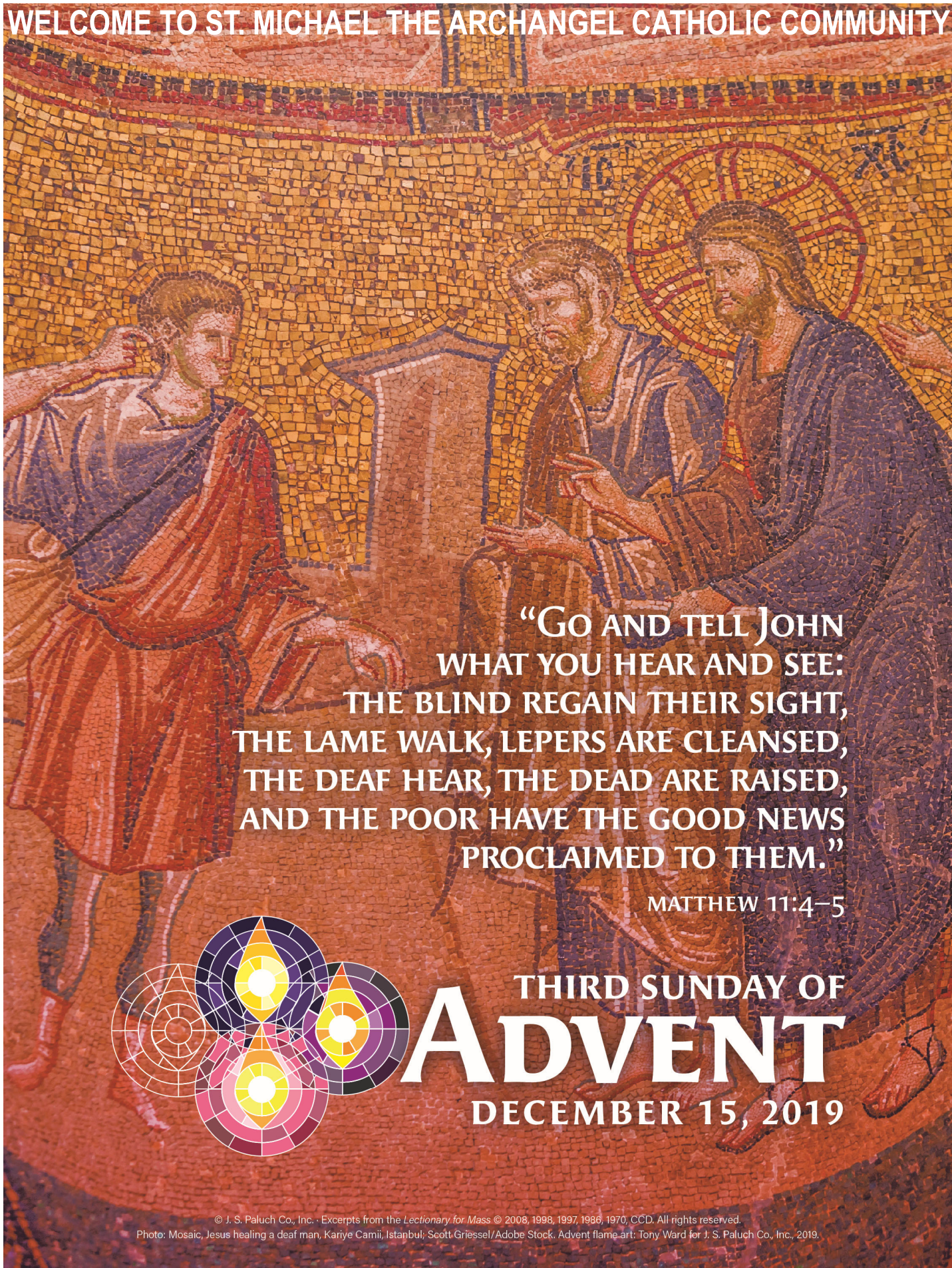


WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

A detailed mosaic depicting Jesus Christ on the right, seated and gesturing towards a man on the left who is being held by another man. The scene is set in an arched architectural space. The mosaic uses a rich palette of gold, blue, red, and brown tones.

“GO AND TELL JOHN
WHAT YOU HEAR AND SEE:
THE BLIND REGAIN THEIR SIGHT,
THE LAME WALK, LEPERS ARE CLEANSED,
THE DEAF HEAR, THE DEAD ARE RAISED,
AND THE POOR HAVE THE GOOD NEWS
PROCLAIMED TO THEM.”

MATTHEW 11:4–5



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2019

Community, Personnel & On-Going Information

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor.....322-4505, ext. 8220
Rev. Martin J Dobrzynski pastor@stmichaelparish.life
Permanent Deacon.....322-4505, ext. 8284
Deacon Ron Pyle.....deaconron@stmichaelparish.life
Executive Secretary.....322-4505, ext. 8220
Mrs. Monica Wantuch.....mwantuch@stmichaelparish.life
Director of Liturgy & Music.....322-4505, ext. 8227
Miss Debbie Mangione.....dmangione@stmichaelparish.life
Pastoral Associate.....322-4505, ext. 8241
Mrs. Janice Gatons.....jgatons@stmichaelparish.life
Finance/Accounting Services Manager.....322-4505, ext. 8226
Mrs. Jesica Cherry.....jcherry@stmichaelparish.life
Campus Facilities Coordinator.....322-4505, ext. 8232
Mr. Rick Gilbert.....rgilbert@stmichaelparish.life
Bulletin Editor/Clerical Assistant.....322-4505, ext. 8239
Mrs. Rhonda Haddad.....bulletin@stmichaelparish.life
Accounting Clerk.....322-4505, ext. 8234
Mrs. Fran Hintz.....fhintz@stmichaelparish.life
Communications Coordinator.....322-4505, ext. 8263
Mr. Steven Koontz.....skoontz@stmichaelparish.life
Head Sacristan322-4505, ext. 8228
Mrs. Loretta DePrez.....sacristan@stmichaelparish.life

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Office Hours: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM Monday-Friday
Phone.....322-4531 Fax.....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-3:00 PM Monday & Thursday
9:00 AM-3:00 PM & 5:30-8:00 PM Tuesday &
Wednesday
Friday by appointment
Phone322-3077 Fax.....322-1710
Director of Religious Education
Miss Jessica Yoder.....jyoder@stmichaelparish.life
Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Mary Jo Rymarczyk...mrymarczyk@stmichaelparish.life

Traditional Classes.....Tuesday or Wednesday 6:00-7:30 PM
Good Shepherd Classes.....Tuesday 6:00-7:30 PM
Sunday Family Classes.....Once a month 9:30-11:00 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
HOLYDAY LITURGY
See page 15 of the bulletin for
Holy Day Mass Schedule.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays, 1:00-6:00 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 322-4505, 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.

Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on the third Saturday of each
month at the 8:00 AM Mass 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 219.322.4508.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Daniel Price.....Chair
Cynthia Morley.....Vice Chair
Lee Ann Egan.....Spirituality & Worship Liaison
Barbara Anderson.....Peace & Social Justice Liaison
Kathleen Lakatos.....Parish Life Assoc. Liaison
Thomas Molnar.....Parish Life Liaison
Devin Sanders.....Spirituality & Worship Assoc. Liaison
Jack Velazquez.....Stewardship Assoc. Liaison
John Zaborske.....Peace & Social Justice Assoc. Liaison
Linda KinzerEducation & Formation Liaison
James Prasopoulos.....Education & Formation Assoc. Liaison
Lynn Schmitt.....Stewardship Liaison
Joseph Tomaszewski.....At Large
Jeffrey Cox.....Secretary
Rev. Martin Dobrzynski.....Pastor
Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon



ST. MICHAEL
PARISH
Scherrerville, Indiana

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

From the Pastor's Desk

Balance. It doesn't take long to figure out that most things in life are not simply a matter of black and white. Our love and our anger falls on a scale. This scale does help us deal with the ups and downs of life lived in this world.

Sadly, we often don't apply this same reality to our understanding of God. Last week John the Baptist foretold the coming of Jesus as the one who would set things straight. He comes with his winnowing fan to separate the wheat from the chaff, and the chaff will be thrown into the fire to be consumed. This week Jesus is questioned by John if he is the one. Why? Because, Jesus' ministry was at the beginning about mercy and healing. A bit different than John had foreseen. But, God is neither just one way nor the other. Jesus does bring God's mercy, forgiveness and healing. Yet, later in Matthew's gospel he make it clear that there will be a judgment based on how this gift of forgiveness, mercy and healing was received or rejected.

It's not that John the Baptist was wrong, Jesus is clear that he is the "greatest born among women." What John could not see, as he was sent to "prepare a people fit for the Lord" is that beyond God's judgment is God's mercy.

This mercy is for you and me too. And we too need to make a decision either to accept it or ignore it. When we accept it, we begin to act out of what has been given to us. Not only do we engage in works of charity but we also engage in converting our lives to be like the One who has shown us mercy.

This week and next there are many opportunities for the sacrament of penance. Not allowing yourself to be touched by Jesus in this beautiful sacrament is a sadness. To know His loving voice saying so you can hear, "your sins are forgiven," is far more real than any mental exercise we might engage to convince ourselves of that fact. If everyone is sinless there is no need for Jesus or all the big hoopla that surrounds His birth. But, we all need His mercy not in some general philosophical way, but in a very real concrete way.



Penance Services:

St. Joseph, Dyer – Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Grace, Highland – Monday, December 16th at 7:00 PM
St. Thomas More, Munster - Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00 PM
St. Michael, Schererville - Wednesday, December 18th at 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Consolation, Merrillville -Thursday, December 19th at 7:00 PM

Bulletin Schedule:

All articles for the **December 29th** bulletin are due by Tuesday, **December 17th, at 9:00 AM.**

All articles for the **January 5th** bulletin are due by Monday, **December 23rd, at 9:00 AM.**

Thank you for being attentive to these deadlines.

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/Clarendale Ministers

**Break Open the Word
With Carol Schiessle
Dec. 15th & 22nd
After the 9:30 AM Mass
in the St. Amand Room
in St. Patrick Hall
Hope to see you there.**

**Last Advent Evening Prayer
Come Share a Moment of
Prayer and Fellowship
Dec. 16th**

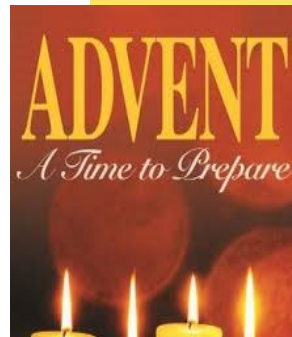


**7:00 PM in the Church
Fellowship & Refreshments
to Follow in St. Patrick Hall**

Our Parish Advent Activity

Sojourner Truth House, the Carmelite Home, and our own Good Samaritans and Respect Life are part of St. Michael's charitable acts of kindness this Advent. In the gathering space, there will be links of paper with items needed by the above charities. Please take one or more links home and purchase the items. Return the link with 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.

Submitted by Judy Hisick



**Everyone is
Invited**

**Penance
Service**

Dec. 18th

7:00 PM

Becoming Catholic

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

is a process by which one becomes Christian. This process calls those people who have not been baptized, are of another faith tradition or have only received the Sacrament of Baptism to prepare to enter fully into the Catholic Faith through the Sacraments of Baptism, if necessary, Confirmation and Eucharist. For information regarding the Rite of Initiation process, please call Janice at 322.4505, ext. 8241.

Submitted by Janice Gatons

Spirituality and Worship Commission



Eucharistic Adoration
Dec. 18th
in the Chapel
1:00-6:00 PM.

Decorating the Church
For Christmas
December 17th
6:30 PM and
December 22nd
After the 11:30 AM Mass

Please come and help the Art & Environment Ministry decorate the church with artificial trees and the manger on December 17th. Then on December 22nd, tinsel the live trees, hang garland and the Advent links in the gathering space and complete other miscellaneous tasks to make our church the best decorated. Families are welcomed and service hours are available, but parents need to accompany children under 16. The more hands we have, the quicker the work gets done. Please call Judy at 365-8613 if you have any questions.

Submitted by Judy Hisick

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, RADIATE Youth Ministry, Bible Study

SCHOOL NEWS

Warrior of the Week



This week's Warrior of the Week is Mariano McNabb. Mariano has been a student at St. Michael School since 6th grade. He plays basketball and runs track for the Warriors, and also plays travel baseball for Indiana Steel. Mariano says this favorite thing about SMS is "how we all remember good memories from 6th grade. The teachers were funny and they let us do a lot of fun stuff." The most important thing Mariano learned at SMS is "to think before I do anything." Mariano will be attending Andean High School next year, and he says when thinking about leaving St. Michael, "I am thankful that I came to this school in 6th grade and made some good friends."

Good luck in your future, Mariano!

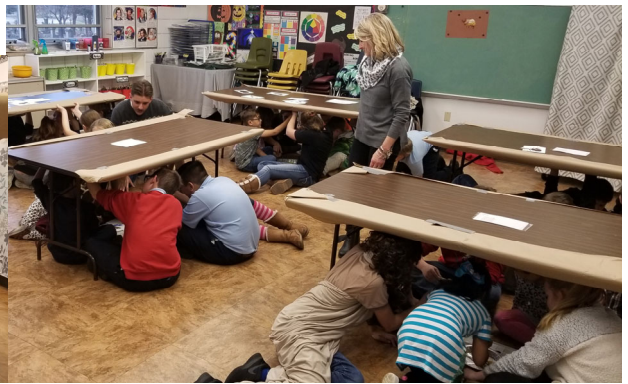
Submitted by Jen Poskin

MORE SCHOOL NEWS

First & Sixth Grade Collaborate on a Cave Project!

On November 26th, SMS first and sixth graders participated in a very special collaborative project put together by their homeroom teachers and the Art teacher: Mrs. Rusin, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Baron. The project focused on learning more about Cave Art created in Lascaux, France. Each class grew their knowledge about cave art, what was depicted, and how it was created with their homeroom teachers the week before coming together for their project. Sixth graders were also given the task of creating templates of animals seen in cave paintings to be used in the second phase. Both classes came together to create their very own Cave Art. The classes were broken apart into “families.” The sixth graders represented parents or grandparents, while first graders represented children in a family. Each family was given a table to use as their cave, with brown paper taped to the bottom. As families, they worked together using earth tone paints, and the templates created by sixth grade to begin their cave paintings. They were then able to add simple images with brushes: stick figures, suns, and dot or line patterns. When each family was done with their picture, it was carefully untaped and laid on top of the table. The students were able to complete their art with a special signature; a sprayed handprint. The collaboration was a great way to bring together two grade levels to learn, and create an amazing work of art.

Submitted by Mrs. Baron



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

The State of Indiana has a School Scholarship Tax Credit Program. This is how the program works. An individual or business donates money into this program for St. Michael School. The donation can only be used for financial aid scholarships. An Indiana State tax credit for 50% of your donation amount will be given. For example, if a business or individual donates \$100, a \$50 tax credit will be given on their Indiana State income taxes. If a business or individual donates \$1000, a \$500 tax credit will be given on their Indiana State 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://scholarshipsforeducationchoice.com/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.

Submitted by Marty Lucas

Education and Formation Commission



Please Help SMS

Please remember to turn in your Strack & Van Til receipts. The more receipts we collect, the more items our school will receive.



FAITH FORMATION

DECEMBER CALENDAR

17th: Traditional/Good Shepherd
Classes 6:00-7:30 PM

18th: Traditional Classes
6:00-7:30 PM

24th & 25th: No Classes-Christmas Break
31st/Jan. 1st: No Classes-Christmas Break



RADIATE'S ANNUAL OPLATKI FUNDRAISER THIS WEEKEND AND NEXT WEEKEND AFTER ALL MASSES

Tradition: As you break a piece off another's Oplatki and then share yours with each person before your meal, these wafers are a reminder of the Eucharist we share at Mass and also, as well, come together and share our love with one another. It is a great symbol of forgiveness and blessings for the New Year.

Upcoming Schedule:

December 22nd: Christmas Pizza Party and Games! 6:00-9:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall.

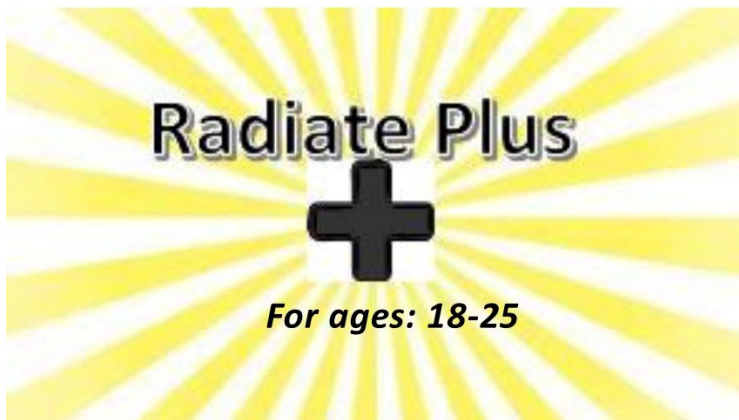
Be ready for CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST: Prizes for UGLIEST / FUNNIEST / MOST CREATIVE. Also WHITE ELEPHANT Gift Exchange—bring something from home or purchase one for \$5.

December 23rd: Christmas Caroling at the Dyer Nursing Home at 4:30 PM. (Service Project)

ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS ARE INVITED TO RADIATE!

You will love to meet friends, enrich your faith, and eat food all the while having fun! For more information: Jeannine Quigley 219-775-5356

Submitted by Jeannine Quigley



Radiate Plus is gathering with other young adults (ages 18-25 years old) to hang out, play games, share and support each other. See you in St. Patrick Hall on Sunday, December 29th, 6:00-9:00 PM. Please contact Anastasia Watroba at 219-718-3361 or Matt Udani for more information.

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

Special Prayers
For Those In Need



Arnold Camp, Jim Morehouse, **Helen Hazard, Blaine & Kay Parker**, Harmanie Morris, **Marie Mosher, Kathy Lundquist, Debbie Kaminski**, Alicia Magana, **Martin Rayski, Tim Hazard, Kristen Finley, Nick Barone**, Dave Kintzel, **Ed Zurawski**, Ashley Soltis, Marilyn Doran 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 Monica at 322-4505, ext. 8220 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.

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

FINAL WEEK FOR FAMILY CHRISTMAS MASS CARDS FOR SALE

Due to the overwhelming response received last weekend, the Respect Life Ministry will be selling Family Christmas Mass Cards after all Masses this weekend in the Gathering Space. For \$2.00 you not only get a beautiful card to send to your family for Christmas, but their name will also be entered in our Book of Intentions and prayed for at Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family on December 29th. Cards are also available in packs of 10 for \$15.00. Please make sure all names are entered on the available sheets to ensure they are added to the Book of Intentions.

Submitted by Cathy Bartczak



Blood Pressure, Glucose and Oxygen Level Screenings

Screenings will take place next weekend, Dec. 21st & 22nd, 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. 8250 and leave a message.

Peace & Social Justice Commission



*“Help trim our tree, help trim our tree
How lovely are thy branches.”*

*“Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth,
may we begin to see the world in the light of understanding you give us.
As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the
world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart.
May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves
in this season of giving. Amen”*

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

Submitted by Sue Cohen

Parish Life

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



**Mindful Chair Exercise
Friday Mornings 9:00-10:00 AM
St. Patrick Hall
Cost is \$5 per session**

Any questions, please call Ursula Buchnat at 219-741-3276.

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, SMS, Faith Formation or any other event you may have helped with, a thank you reception will be held in your honor.

Thank You Reception

Friday, December 27th

6:00-9:00 PM

St. Patrick Hall



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

219-322-4505, ext. 8220



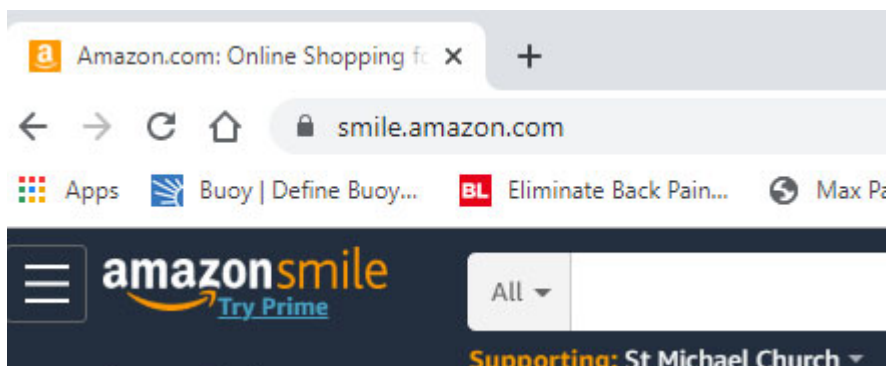
Help St. Michael Parish While Shopping at Amazon

Amazon will donate a portion of all your Amazon purchases back to St. Michael. There is a one-time setup to activate this program located at smile.amazon.com.

While on the internet, type: smile.amazon.com



Type St. Michael Church Schererville. Be certain to include Schererville, otherwise, you might select a different St. Michael location.



If done correctly, it should look like the above screenshot.

In the future, you must remember to type: smile.amazon.com for the donation process.

If you have any questions, contact Marty Lucas at 219-789-6970. Thank you for supporting St. Michael Parish.

GEMS: WHERE THE FUN BEGINS



All those 50+ are invited to join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 10:00 AM in St. Patrick Hall for some fun and conversation.

Upcoming Schedule:

December 18th: *Christmas Cabaret* at Valpo Opera House. Meet in the church parking lot at 10:00 AM (Note change in time). Lunch before the show.

January 14th: Gathering 10:00-11:00 AM

January 28th: Gathering 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Planning for 2020.

Submitted by Carol Rusich

**NOTE TO SELF:
JUST BECAUSE IT POPS INTO
MY HEAD DOES NOT MEAN
IT SHOULD COME OUT OF
MY MOUTH**

Registration for New Parishioners

There will be no December new member registration. The next parish registration will be January 19th after the 7:30 & 9:30 AM Masses. You may also register at the parish office Monday through Friday, 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 Monica at the parish office 322-4505, ext. 8220.

Changing Your Address

If you will be moving, we ask that you contact the parish office at your earliest convenience to inform us of your new address and phone number. If you will be leaving the parish and do not wish to be included in future mailings, please let us know that as well. Thank you in advance for being good stewards.

Stewardship & Parish Administration Commission

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



CSA REMINDER: All payments must be received in the CSA Office by the end of December in order to be claimed on your 2019 tax return, if applicable. When making a payment, please be sure to include our parish name and your CSA ID# on your checks when you mail in your payments to the diocese or drop them into the collection basket.

Thank you for your generous stewardship to the CSA 2019 Campaign!

Stewardship Challenge

Like John the Baptist, where can you be more patient this week? Acknowledge those who are patient with you!! Light your third Advent Candle with prayer.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15

Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines at All Masses
 Oplatki Sales After All Masses
 Respect Life Christmas Card Sales After All Masses
 RCIA 9:30 AM
 Breaking Open the Word After 9:30 AM Mass

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

MONDAY DECEMBER 16

Cleaning of the Church 8:30 AM
 Centering Prayer 6:00 PM
 Advent Evening Prayer Service 7:00 PM

TUESDAY DECEMBER 17

OLPH Devotions After 7:00 AM Mass
 GEMS 10:00 AM
 Children's Choir Practice 3:15-4:00 PM
 Good Shepherd/Traditional Classes 6:00 PM
 Christmas Décor Set Up 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18

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

THURSDAY DECEMBER 19

Bell Choir Practice 5:30 PM
 Choir/Cantor Practice 7:00 PM

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20

No School-Christmas Break
 Mindful Chair Exercise 9:00 PM
 Cleaning of the Church 1:30 PM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

Anointing of the Sick 8:00 AM Mass
 Confessions 3:00-4:30 PM
 BP Readings After Vigil Mass
 Oplatki Sales After Vigil Mass

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



December 8, 2019

Adult	\$20,845.00
EFTs*	\$3,554.00
Children	\$66.35
Loose	\$972.31

**Total Weekly Offering
 \$25,437.66**

**Immaculate Conception
 \$3,271.00**

**Electronic Funds Transfer*

High school and college students: Envelopes for the new year are available in the gathering space. Please pick up your new box and write your name and the number you choose on the sheet provided. Please discard any old envelopes you may have.

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
 Dr. Ed Udani, Secretary
 Kenneth Bohling, Patrick Cusick, Don Doffin,
 Julie Hudec, Hal Slager, Joe Townsend,
 Donna Velez

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

*SHOP AT THE SHRINE

If you're in need of a few last minute Christmas gifts, The Gift Shoppe can help! You'll find beautiful lighted lanterns that will brighten anyone's Christmas: inspirational wall art, stunning Nativity sets, Christmas ornaments, purses, jewelry, men's gift ideas, easy dips & sauces for your guests. We have so many lovely gift ideas - available in all price ranges!

Extended Christmas Hours

Monday-Friday 10:00 AM-8:00 PM
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
Christmas Eve 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

*NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Ring in the New Year with a night of dinner and dancing at *St. James, 9640 Kennedy Ave, Highland*. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Dinner served at 8:00 PM. Motown music and more performed live by Chicago's UpBeat Orchestra, 9:00 PM-12:30 AM. Champagne toast at midnight. Cash bar 7:00 PM-12:00 AM. For more information, please contact 924-4220, 218-8453 or stjhall.org.

BASEBALL CAMP

BNI Baseball is holding a Winter Sports Camp from 12:00-3:00 PM on **Jan. 4th** at *Bishop Noll Institute, 1519 Hoffman St. in Hammond*. This camp is for all fifth to eighth grade prospects and will run as a varsity baseball practice. Participants will get hands on instruction from BNI coaches and varsity players. The camp costs \$20, payable by cash or check on day of event. Visit bishopnollathletics.org for more information.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

A spaghetti dinner fundraiser will take place 3:00-5:30 PM on **Dec. 15th** in the *Bishop Noll cafeteria, 1519 Hoffman St., Hammond*. Enter Door C. Cost is \$7 and is all you can eat. Students and senior citizens pay a reduced price of \$5. Proceeds benefit the BNI Band Program. For more information, visit bishopnoll.org.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

An annual tradition returns to the Bishop Noll auditorium this year when the Bishop Noll Band and Choir present their Christmas concert at 6:00 PM on **Dec. 15th**. Attendees should enter Door C of the school, *1519 Hoffman St., Hammond*. For more information, visit bishopnoll.org.

COOKIE WALK

Descent of the Holy Spirit, 545 E. 77th Ave, Schererville is having a Cookie Walk on **Dec. 21st**, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. You choose your own cookies and pay by the pound. Homemade pierogies, cabbage rolls and halushki will also be sold. For more information, please call Sharon at 864-4342.

*A MORNING WITH SANTA & FRIENDS

The Bishop Noll Drama Department will host A Morning with Santa & Friends from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on **Dec. 21st** in the *Bishop Noll Auditorium, 1519 Hoffman St*. Enter Door C. Admission is \$10 per family. There will be games, prizes, Christmas skits performed by the BNI Drama Department and pictures with Santa Claus. For more information, email kjones@bishopnoll.org.



*STM CAREER NETWORKING GROUP

STM Career Networking Group is hosting a seminar, "Build Your Personal Brand & boost career Success," presented by Kristin Jurczak, from Spark Marketing on **Jan. 8th**, 7:00-8:30 PM, at *STM Weis Center, 8635 Calumet Ave., Munster*. This is free and open to all those who are unemployed, new to the job market or want to change careers.

RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND

If your marriage is struggling, come to Retrouvaille to learn from other couples who share their journeys of reconciliation, generosity, transparency, humility and respect. No couple is ever denied the chance to heal and renew their marriage because they are facing financial difficulties. Find hope and a path to healing **January 24-26, 2020** in *Portage*. Register online at www.Retrouvaille.org. Confidential inquiries 708-802-1830.

*BISHOP NOLL HISTORY COMMITTEE

As Bishop Noll prepares to celebrate its 100th birthday in 2021, its History Committee is seeking to gather historic items from Catholic Central and Bishop Noll alumni. They are looking for vintage uniforms, memorabilia, student handbooks, newspapers and photos (that did not appear in yearbooks). Please contact Jennifer Florek at jflorek@bishopnoll.org or (219) 932-9058 if you have any items to share.

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



<p><u>SATURDAY DECEMBER 14</u> 5:00 PM †Carol Keyl</p> <p><u>SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</u></p> <p>7:30 AM †Robert Ayersman, Sr. 9:30 AM †Evelyn Culp †Josefina Chua Chiaco †Frank Sink 11:30 AM St. Michael Parish</p> <p><u>MONDAY DECEMBER 16</u> 7:00 AM †Sandy Pyle 7:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer</p> <p><u>TUESDAY DECEMBER 17</u> 7:00 AM †Sharon Kras</p> <p><u>WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18</u> 7:00 AM †Stu & Alice Wilson †Anne Sullivan †John Moore 8:55 AM †George & Marlene Sarros</p>	<p><u>THURSDAY DECEMBER 19</u> 7:00 AM †Adam Rau</p> <p><u>FRIDAY DECEMBER 20</u> 7:00 AM †Ernesto & Ernestina Flores</p> <p><u>SATURDAY DECEMBER 21</u> 8:00 AM †Beverly Mullaney 2:00 PM <i>Wedding</i>-Andrew Delgado & Rebecca Blake</p> <p>5:00 PM †Robert & Carol Keyl</p> <p><u>SUNDAY DECEMBER 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</u></p> <p>7:30 AM †Helen Frantz-14th Anniversary 9:30 AM For an End to Abortion on Demand and for a Conversion of Heart for those who Provide Abortions †Kyle Arnold †Mariano Chua, Yu King & Que Kim Kuan</p> <p>11:30 AM St. Michael Parish</p> <p style="text-align: center;">† indicates deceased</p>
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reflections...

THE WORD

(Readings for December 22, 2019, Fourth Sunday of Advent)

- I. *Isaiah 7:10-14* The Lord offered Ahaz a sign. Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the Lord!" Nevertheless, the Lord gave a sign: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel."
- II. *Romans 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6* Paul told the Romans he was called to be an apostle and set apart to proclaim the gospel of God about Christ Jesus. He said to them, "We have received the grace of apostleship" that we may spread the name and bring to faith all those called to belong to Jesus Christ.
- III. *Matthew 1:18-24* Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they wed, Mary became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph decided to break the engagement. He changed his mind when an angel in a dream told him to receive Mary as his wife.

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.

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