

Martha, do you believe?

This is a question for all of us in our present situation. Jesus asks us to believe that out of the confusion of this time he can still work, he can still bring the ultimate good, life itself, to realization. In our daily prayer we should be calling upon him like Martha. This is certainly a time to “exercise” our faith. Faith that, even in the face of death, God still triumphs. Even more powerful is that he makes it possible for you and me to share in his triumph. Baptism makes us immune to eternal death and regenerates our very bodies making us fit for life in God.



**ST. MICHAEL
P A R I S H**

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From the Pastor's Desk

Being Led. For the last four Sundays, we have been concluding our Sunday Mass with the song, *Jerusalem, My Destiny*. We pledge our hearts to the Way of Jesus, to follow him to Jerusalem AND beyond! With the events of the last month, we realize that getting to the “beyond” piece is not an easy road.

In the first week, as we began Lent with great zeal and confidence, little did we know that by this fifth week of Lent things would be so terribly different. Yet, that difference is really in our expectations of how we should be able to do what we wish when we wish. Whether it’s the freedom to pray when we want or the freedom to go wherever we wish when we wish. You and I are certainly on a journey to Jerusalem that reminds us of the Lord’s words to Peter at the seashore after the Resurrection. Even then, with the Passion behind them, Peter is told by Jesus: “Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.”

This is, maybe, how you feel. We are being led in a direction by events beyond our ultimate control. But our being led does not have to be the stress factor it is for unbelievers. Rather, we can take hope in the knowledge that God always does the “final” leading.

God has not brought this virus to blossom to punish us and God does not intend for us to suffer. Rather, He can transform the weakness of our humanity, in this life, to respond not with fear, but, with kindness, charity and prayer for the people near to us and those we cannot physically touch. In addition, God can even transform our mortal weakness so much so that we can be confident of a new life that bears fruit in us even now and helps us to confidently approach the throne of God when we are called home.

In addition to calling upon the prayer of Our Lady of Lourdes, I would also encourage everyone to seek the powerful assistance of our patron, St. Michael the Archangel. To assist in this, printed below are prayers that are traditionally assigned to these powerful patrons. Also pray in your own words too. Don’t be afraid to ask them to help you, your family and your neighbors.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,
be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him we humbly pray;
and do thou,

O Prince of the Heavenly host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan
and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Oh ever immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy,
Health of the Sick, Refuge of Sinners,
Comfortress of the Afflicted,

you know my wants, my
troubles, my sufferings.

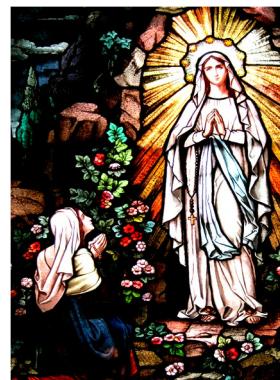
Look upon me
with mercy.

When you appeared in
the grotto of Lourdes,
you made it a privileged
sanctuary where you
dispense your favors,
and where many
sufferers have obtained
the cure of their
infirmities, both spiritual and corporal.

I come, therefore, with unbounded
confidence to implore your maternal intercession.

My loving Mother, obtain my request.

I will try to imitate your virtues
so that I may one day share your company
and bless you in eternity. Amen.



Contributions

Did you know that you can make your weekly or monthly contributions through Electronic Fund Transfers? You can use your debit card, cancelled check or even a credit card. Please call Jesica at 322-4505, ext. 8226 to set up a plan or if you have any questions.

Also a drop box for your contributions is available on the west side of the parish office.

If you have an email, please check your spam for any emails from St. Michael.

If you or someone you know is in need of getting groceries from the store, please contact Janice at 219-322-4505, ext. 8241.

All parishioners are provided with a free subscription to FORMED, a streaming platform full of Catholic related shows, films and learning materials for all ages. During this lockdown, why not join and see what FORMED has to offer? Visit formed.org and choose signup, "I am a member of a parish," input 46375 to find St. Michael, register with your name and email address and lastly, check your email for a link.

Stewardship Challenge

Ask God to help you bring new life to something that is dead within you or within a loved one.



For Those Who Have Died...

Harold Hilbrich

Life has changed, not ended

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



March 22, 2020

| | |
|----------|------------|
| Adult | \$5,110.00 |
| EFTs* | \$5,205.00 |
| Children | \$2.00 |

**Total Weekly Offering
\$ 10,317.00**

*Electronic Funds Transfer



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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.



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.

The Good Samaritans will be volunteering on one day a week basis. If you are interested in donating food, please call the Good Samaritans extension and leave a message and they will call you back to set up an appointment for drop off. If you would like to make a monetary donation, there is a drop box on the west side of the parish office where you can put your envelope. Please make checks payable to Good Samaritans and write on the outside of the envelope that is for Good Samaritans.



Children's Worship Bulletin™

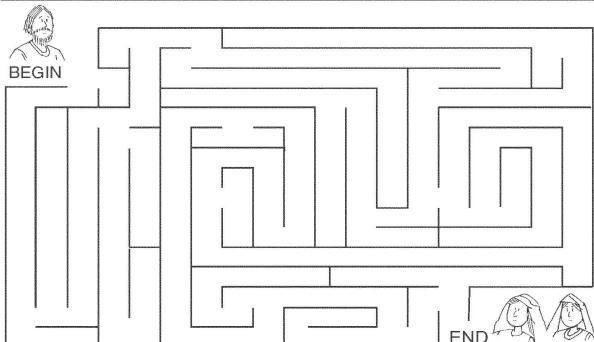
Ages 7+

March 29, 2020 • John 11:1-45

Jesus Raises Lazarus

A man named Lazarus was sick.
His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus.
Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
But before Jesus got to them, Lazarus died.

Help Jesus find the way to Mary and Martha.



When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went out to meet Him.

Martha said to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give You whatever You ask."

In each group, circle the word that does not rhyme.
Then write the circled words in order on the lines below.

Sour
Your
Hour
Flour
Power

moth
sloth
cloth
broth
brother

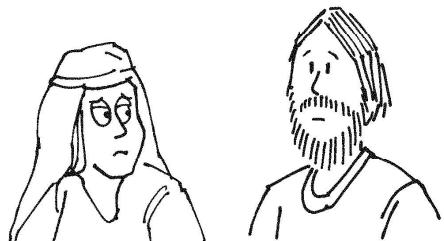
will
well
sell
tell
bell

clothes
toes
rose
rise
flows

blend
spend
again
fend
mend

Jesus said to her, _____

_____.



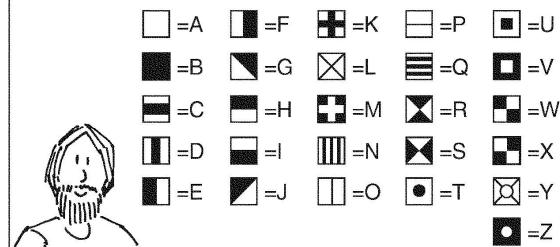
Please print this page for your children to use as an indoor activity.

THINGS TO DO WHILE INDOORS

1. Watch FORMED
2. Pray the rosary
3. Call family and friends
4. Play board games
5. Play cards
6. Make Easter crafts
7. Read the Bible
8. Go outside and get some exercise
9. Have a movie night
10. Work on a puzzle

Then what did Jesus say to Martha?

Use the code to find John 11:25-26.



"



The one who believes



they die;









Please join Fr. Marty for Mass on <https://www.facebook.com/pg/StMichaelSville/videos/>. You can watch without an account. A schedule of virtual masses with a link is on the website.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY MARCH 28

5:00 PM †Troy Hartog

SUNDAY MARCH 29 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:30 AM St. Michael Parish
†Debra Poskin
†Verl Elliott
†Rose Paratore
†Anthony Adducci

MONDAY MARCH 30

7:00 AM †Kyle Arnold

TUESDAY MARCH 31

7:00 AM †Wayne Sherrick

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1

7:00 AM Jim Skelton
†Philip & Kerry Bruno
†Sandra Pyle

THURSDAY APRIL 2

7:00 AM †Carol Jakubowicz

FRIDAY APRIL 3

7:00 AM †Deacon Ed Gatons

SATURDAY APRIL 4

8:00 AM †Anna Kuzma
5:00 PM †Victoria Gargas

SUNDAY APRIL 5 PALM SUNDAY

9:30 AM St. Michael Parish
†Robert Ayersman, Sr.
†Joyce Mullaney
†Len Lula
†Nick Coniglio

† indicates deceased



reflections!!!

THE WORD

(Readings for April 5, 2020, Palm Sunday)

I. *Isaiah 50:4-7*

The servant of the Lord God was rebuffed but did not turn back; he was beaten and spat upon. The suffering one knew the Lord God was with him.

II. *Philippians 2:6-11*

Christ was in the form of God but did not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped. He emptied himself, took the form of a slave, and was obedient unto death! Therefore, God exalted him, and all proclaim him Lord.

III. *Matthew 26:14-27:66*

The Passion of the Lord.

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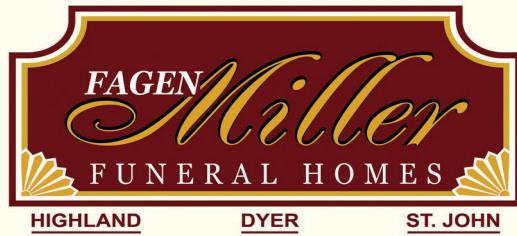
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