

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

December 28, 2025



# THE HOLY FAMILY

"Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt." - Mt 2:14





## SATURDAY LITURGY

Vigil: 5:00 PM

## SUNDAY LITURGY

7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 AM

Livestream 9:30 AM mass

## DAILY LITURGY

Weekdays 7:00 AM

Saturday 8:00 AM

## HOLY DAY LITURGY

See page 9 of the bulletin

## CHAPEL HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesdays

8:00 AM-4:00 PM

Saturday

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays

1:00-4:00 PM in the Chapel

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Sacrament of Penance...**Saturday

3:30 PM-4:30 PM

**Baptisms...**First time parents at

St. Michael must attend a Baptism

Prep session before the baptism date can be scheduled. Please call Janice at ext. 8241 to schedule the prep session and/or baptism date.

**Marriage....**The bride, groom or their parents/grandparents must be active registered members of the parish for at least one year prior to reserving a date for the wedding. The diocese requires that arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of the wedding date in order for the proper personal, spiritual and liturgical preparations of the couple to be completed.

**Sacrament of the Sick...**Please call the office until 4:00 PM. After 4:00 PM, please call 322-6623 Monday-Friday and anytime on the weekend.

Names of the sick are placed in the bulletin for a period of four weeks after which time they are either removed or placed in the Book of Intentions in the Chapel.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday prior to the Sunday printing 12:00 PM (Noon). Holidays have exceptions. Please submit potential bulletin articles by email to [bulletin@stmichaelparish.life](mailto:bulletin@stmichaelparish.life) or in print form to the office or by fax to 322-4508.

## MINISTRIES

If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please visit the website for Ministry Coordinator information.

### Spirituality & Worship Commission

Altar Servers

Art & Environment

Cross Bearers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Hospitality

Lectors

Liturgy Committee

Music Ministry

Centering Prayer Ministry

OCIA

Sacristan

Ministers of Care

### Education & Formation Commission

Adult Catholic Education

Baptismal Preparation

Catholic Bible Study

Faith Formation

Marriage Ministry

Marriage Preparation

Radiate

School Administrator

### Stewardship & Parish Administration

AV Ministry

Cemetery Committee

Parish Gardeners

Stewardship

### Parish Life

Boy Scouts of America/Girl Scouts

Comforting Chefs

Festival Committee

Holy Name Society

Knights of Columbus

Labors of Love

Ministry of Hope & Consolation

Young Adult Ministry

Parish Nurse

Senior GEMS

Welcoming Ministry

### Peace & Social Justice Commission

Good Samaritans

Rebuilding Hope Mission Team

Wheelchair Ramp Ministry

Respect Life Group

Pastoral Care

**CONVENT**  
**Congregation of Mother of Carmel**  
**43 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville**  
**219-322-4011**

**SCHOOL OFFICE**  
**16 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville**  
**(219)322-4531/FAX (219)322-1710**

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## PARISH OFFICE

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(219) 322-4505/FAX (219) 322-4508

9:00-4:00 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

or by appointment

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### PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob Solorio.....Chair

Michael Morley.....Vice Chair

Barbara Judge.....Education & Formation Liaison

Jim Lesniak.....Education & Formation Liaison

Joan Bullock.....Peace and Social Justice Liaison

Matthew Wieser.....Peace and Social Justice Liaison

Martha Kozub.....Parish Life Liaison

Lisa Codo.....Parish Life Liaison

Connie Solorio.....Spirituality & Worship Liaison

Alice Lewinski.....Spirituality & Worship Liaison

Lou Bufano.....Stewardship Liaison

Mick Adamson.....Stewardship Liaison

Jeffrey Cox.....Secretary

Rev. Martin Dobrzynski.....Pastor

Rev. Robert Ross.....Associate Pastor

Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon

Deacon Gary Wolfe.....Permanent Deacon



**The family is a canvas for the paint brush of God's grace.**

In celebrating the family of Jesus, the Holy Family, we do not celebrate a perfect family but one that strives to be whole by being open to God's grace. Joseph, Mary and the child Jesus open themselves up to grow in wisdom and grace first as individuals and consequently as a family. The relationship between mother and child and foster-father always sought balance. When the child Jesus throws the balance off and begins to assume the role of an adult (growing up too fast) with His teaching in the temple, He learns from His mother that His actions had upset many people who love Him. Why? Because He did not really act like an adult in showing concern that His absence would put Joseph and Mary into a parental panic. Jesus had to learn to be respectful of His parents' feelings and they had to learn, as parents do, that their child was not really theirs but that He had a mind of His own.



We reflect on the Holy Family not to make us feel like we can never be like them but to assure us that we can be like them by seeking whole and healthy relationships within our families. A better father or mother or son or daughter is found when we seek a listening heart and an open mind to dream like Joseph, trust like Mary and to give ourselves time to grow like Jesus. The qualities of listening, trusting, having dreams and growing are the basic things needed to be a whole person. Only when we seek God's help and guidance to be a whole person, do we build whole families that are truly holy.

**House Blessings.** Fr. Robert and I and the deacons will be available for house blessings from December 29 through January 6. Late morning and afternoon times are available. Some evening times are available as well. To schedule a time to have your house blessed call the Parish Office during its regular hours (9AM - 4PM) and speak to Janice Gatons, ext. 8241.

Thank You from Fr. Marty and Fr. Robert and the Deacons. Thank you to everyone for your cards, gifts and good wishes during this holiday season. Be assured of our continued prayers for you and your families throughout the New Year.

The Music Ministry has been preparing a beautiful concert that will take place on January 4. Please join us as we celebrate the joy of Christmas music with fellow parishioners and friends.





## Eucharistic Adoration

“Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that adoration.”

- St Teresa of Calcutta

**Come and Spend Time with the Lord—Wednesdays,  
1:00 - 4:00 PM in the Chapel. There will be no Eucharistic  
Adoration on New Year' Eve.**



## Art & Environment.

A big thank you to all who made a contribution for flowers and helped decorate our Church for Christmas. Your kindness and generosity helps our ministry. Happy New Year!

Reminder

**Holy Day of  
OBLIGATION**

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
December 31, 5:00 PM Vigil Mass  
January 1, 10:00 AM Mass

By celebrating a solemnity dedicated to Mary's motherhood, the Church highlights the significance of her part in the life of Jesus.



Members from St. Michael's Music Ministry, Respect Life Ministry, Radiate Youth Ministry, and Young Adult Ministry all came to together to spread Christmas joy by caroling to the residents of Great Lakes Nursing Home in Dyer last Friday. Thank you to all who participated.



## Peace and Social Justice Commission

### PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

***Rina Testolin, Leo Paratore, Tim & Helen Hazard, Emelia Williams, Shirley Centanni, Jill Blesha, Jennifer Jones, Phyllis Leyba, Sherry Lazzaro, Pat Matz, Pam Bane, Tom Boney, Eleanor Melle, Michelle Lamb, Helen Kwiatkowski and all those in need of the healing touch of God. Please call 219-322-4505, ext. 8220 to place a loved one on the Prayer List. Please see page 2 for guidelines regarding Pray for the Sick List. St. Michael's parishioners are in bold, italic print.***

### For Those Who Have Died...

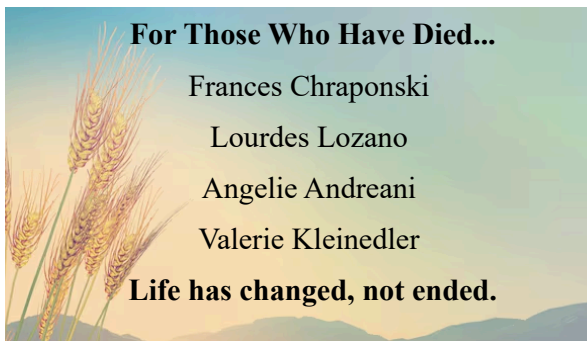
Frances Chraponski

Lourdes Lozano

Angelie Andreani

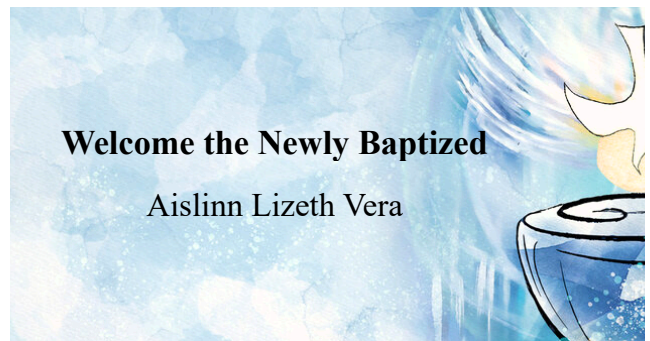
Valerie Kleinedler

**Life has changed, not ended.**



### Welcome the Newly Baptized

Aislinn Lizeth Vera





# St. Michael's High School Youth Group Invites all Teens!



Radiate finished the year by gathering this past weekend at the Great Lakes Nursing Home in Dyer to sing Christmas carols and to bring good cheer to the residents. Afterwards, we celebrated our annual Christmas party by decorating cookies, playing games, exchanging white elephant gifts, and completing the night with an Advent Prayer. If you are in High School, we hope you can join us as we will have many activities in the New Year! Our next gathering is Sunday, January 11 from 6-8 PM in St. Patrick Hall. See you there!



Thank you to all who purchased Oplatki or made donations to support Radiate Youth Ministry!

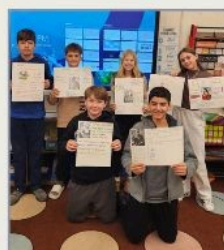
Don't miss out on faith-filled fun! To join Radiate or ask questions, contact Mrs. Jeannine Quigley 219-775-5356.



# Discover the Difference a Catholic Education Makes!



**Enroll Today! Call 219-322-4531  
or visit [stmichaelparish.life/school](http://stmichaelparish.life/school)**



## 2026-2027 OPEN ENROLLMENT

Beginning January 26, 2026

### Educating Pre-K - 8th Grade

Indiana Choice Scholarship • "A" Rated Academics • Safety First Plan  
Small Class Sizes • Family Environment • Full & Half Day Pre-K Program  
Science Lab • Technology Driven • Middle School with Rigorous Academics



## ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL WARRIOR OF THE WEEK MATTHEW LACIEN

Hi, my name is Matthew LaCien, and I've been at SMS for 4 years. I started St. Michael School in fourth grade with Mrs. Fisher, who made my transition to this school really helpful. My sister also joined SMS the same year but in second grade. I am very grateful for this school and the friends I've made here. I feel they've all become more than just friends and more like a family. I plan on attending Andrean High School next year, which I'm excited and a little nervous about. Thankfully, most of the graduating classes from SMS go to Andrean, so I am probably going to see some of my older friends there.

While I have been here, I've participated in two sports for school. I played volleyball starting in 5th through soon to be 8th grade, as well as basketball in 6th. I've also participated in Vacation Bible School, which I attended for 3 years before becoming a VBS leader for 7th and 8th grade. This made me happy to counsel the younger kids and for them to have someone to look up to. I have also been part of the student council for 2 years.

SMS is an amazing and special school because we are truly just one big family from the littles in Pre-K through 8th, to our teachers and even "grandma" (Miss Sharon, our lunch lady). My advice for the younger students is to always do your best and don't miss any school days so you do not fall behind in your class work! Make good decisions and learn from your mistakes.

SMS has helped me grow as an individual by teaching me to be kind and to know right from wrong. It has strengthened my bond with Jesus since I've learned to pray better and talk to God more and not just in my times of need but also as if he's my best friend. Some may not know, but I've already received my sacrament of confirmation through OCIA, but I'm excited to continue to learn and grow along with my 8th grade class.



## New Parishioner Welcome Dinner January 16, 2026

FOR MEMBERS WHO  
REGISTERED APRIL 2025  
THROUGH OCTOBER 2025

WATCH YOUR MAILBOX FOR A  
PERSONAL INVITATION

ENJOY AN EVENING OF GREAT  
FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH  
OUR PRIESTS AND FELLOW  
PARISH FAMILY MEMBERS

NO HIDDEN AGENDA

Mark Your Calendar

## St. Michael Parish Thank You Reception

For Ministry and Parish Volunteers

*We Hope to See You!*

Monday, December 29th from 6:30 pm  
in St. Patrick Hall

Food ❄ Drinks ❄ Fellowship

Questions? Call Parish Office  
219-322-4505



## SENIOR GEMS

Our next meeting is January 13 at 10 AM in  
the SE meeting room. Come help us plan our  
next adventures for the new year.



**Chair Yoga Will Return January 9**

Please call Ursula at  
219-741-3276 to register.

## LABORS OF LOVE

Join us for our next meeting on January 6, 2026  
at 10 AM in St. Patrick Hall.



FACEBOOK  
LIVE STREAM DRAWING  
**08 FEB 2:00 PM**

**\$50 EACH TICKET**

**HOW TO PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS:**

- CALL PARISH OFFICE AT 219-322-4505, WITH DEBIT CARD.
- REQUEST A TICKET ON OUR WEBSITE AT [STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE](http://STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE)
- IN PERSON AT PARISH OFFICE - M-F, 9-4 PM, CASH, CHECK OR CARD (M-TH).

**WIN YOUR SHARE  
of over \$25,000\*!**

**1st Prize \$15,000**

**2ND PRIZE \$2,500**

**3RD PRIZE \$1,500**

\*30+ ADDITIONAL CASH PRIZES

**30:1  
ODDS!**

SCAN HERE TO  
REQUEST A TICKET!

License #: 002572-163832  
\*Subject to promotion rules.





## Stewardship in Action

Pray for migrant families, families who are struggling and for your family this week.

-submitted by Conchita Bryner



"Faithful Giving, Blessings Abound – Thank you for Your Support." To make online giving easier, please scan the QR code to donate.

There are towers available on either side of the main aisle in church to place your Sunday donations. We no longer pass baskets for regular collections.



**December 21, 2025**

Adult Collection - \$19,368.00  
Children's Collection - \$147.25  
Loose Collection - \$525.00  
EFT's - \$10,808.80

**Total Weekly Offering**  
**\$30,849.05**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Weekly Schedule

GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 28

K of C Prayer Cards, Before and After All Masses, GS

**The Rosary is said after 7:00 AM weekday Mass except Tuesday-after OLPH Devotions**

### MONDAY DECEMBER 29

Reception for Volunteers, 6:30 PM, SPH

### TUESDAY DECEMBER 30

Ministers of Care, 12:00 PM, SE Room

### WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31

Mom's Support Group, 10:00 AM, SPH  
Vigil Mass, 5:00 PM, Church

### THURSDAY JANUARY 1

Music Ministry Practice, 7:00 PM, Church  
Mass, 10:00 AM, Church

### FRIDAY JANUARY 2

Bell Practice, 6:00 PM, Church

### SATURDAY JANUARY 3

Confessions, 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel

### SUNDAY JANUARY 4

Music Ministry Christmas Concert, 3:00 PM, Church  
Vietnamese Mass, 6:00 PM, Church



## AV Ministry a meaningful way to serve and build new skills.

**WE INVITE TEENS, YOUNG ADULTS, AND YOUNG-AT-HEART PARISHIONERS TO CONSIDER JOINING THE ST. MICHAEL AV MINISTRY.**

This small but vital ministry helps bring the Word of the Lord to parishioners who cannot attend Mass in person due to health, transportation, or mobility challenges. Through livestreaming and audio support, you help keep our parish family connected—near and far.

✨ No experience needed! We'll train you and guide you every step of the way.

Interested contact the Parish Office 219-322-4505.





# Mass Intentions

## FOR THE WEEK



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY</b>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	Respect Life Christmas Cards Intentions	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> All Souls
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 28 THE HOLY FAMILY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 2</b>
-		<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Mary Ann Adam
<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Fr. Berg <b>+</b> Fr. Patrick Connolly <b>+</b> Fr. Biegel	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 3</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Ted and Marie Tokarski	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Hector Iragana <b>+</b> Rita Madson-Jones
<b>11:30 AM</b>	St. Michael Parish	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+</b> Jane Urick
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 29</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 4 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>
<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Thomas Tadevic	<b>7:30 AM</b>	St. Michael Parish
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 30</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Roman, Adeline, Jim and Greg Barlog
<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Peter Thiel	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>+</b> Bill and Delores Wright
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 31</b>		<b>+</b> indicates deceased
<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>+</b> George and Alys Helfen		
<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>+</b> Kyle Arnold		

## Reflections...

### The Word (Readings for January 4th , 2026, The Epiphany of the Lord )

- I. *Isaiah 60:1-6* Darkness covers the earth, and heavy clouds hang over the people. But the light has come and the glory of the Lord shines bright.
- II. *Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6* In Christ Jesus, Gentiles and Jews are co-heirs and co-sharers in the saving promise.
- III. *Matthew 2:1-12* The magi from the east followed the star until it stopped over the house. They entered, found the child with Mary, prostrated themselves, and did him homage.