

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

January 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE SPIRIT OF GOD
DESCENDING LIKE

A DOVE.

— MATTHEW 3:16 —



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

EUCHARISTIC 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 9:00 AM. 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.

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

Principal

Mrs. Michelle Biscan
mwacnik@smswarriors.org

Executive Assistant

Mrs. Karen Rapacz
krapacz@stmichaelparish.life

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Kimberley Hoogveen
khoogveen@stmichaelparish.life

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Mary Jo Rymarczyk
mrymarczyk@stmichaelparish.life

PARISH OFFICE

1 E. Wilhelm St, Schererville
(219) 322-4505/FAX (219) 322-4508
9:00-4:00 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY
or by appointment
www.stmichaelparish.life

Pastor

Rev. Martin Dobrzynski ext. 8220
pastor@stmichaelparish.life

Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Ross ext. 8229
frrobertr@stmichaelparish.life

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Ron Pyle ext. 8284
deaconron@stmichaelparish.life

Permanent Deacon/Scholarship & Grant Coordinator

Deacon Gary Wolfe ext. 8222
gwolfe@stmichaelparish.life

Evangelization & Missionary Discipleship

Mrs. Janice Gatons ext. 8241
jgatons@stmichaelparish.life

Director of Liturgy & Music

Ms. Danette Lashbrook ext. 8227
dlashbrook@stmichaelparish.life

Director of Finance & Accounting

Mrs. Jessica Cherry ext. 8226
jcherry@stmichaelparish.life

Executive Secretary

Mrs. Judi Patzelt ext. 8220
jpatzelt@stmichaelparish.life

Communications Director

Mrs. Elizabeth Munoz ext. 8263
emunoz@stmichaelparish.life

Bulletin Editor

Mr. Joseph Udani ext. 8239
judani@stmichaelparish.life

Accounting Clerk

Mrs. Jeanette Negrete ext. 8234
jnegrete@stmichaelparish.life

Campus Facilities Coordinator

Mr. Rick Gilbert ext. 8232
rgilbert@stmichaelparish.life

Head Sacristan

Mrs. Loretta DePrez ext. 8228
sacristan@stmichaelparish.life

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

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- Jim Lesniak.....Education & Formation Liaison
- Joan Bullock.....Peace and Social Justice Liaison
- Matthew Wieser.....Peace and Social Justice Liaison
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- Rev. Robert Ross.....Associate Pastor
- Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon
- Deacon Gary Wolfe.....Permanent Deacon

The End is Really the Beginning. Endings are not endings at all but launching pads into a new reality, usually more challenging and also more promising. In the development of any human being, there is always growth, not just physical but mental, psychological and emotional. If we grow up physically but our emotional life is stuck back in our teenage years or earlier, we can find the next stage of growth painful and impossible. Mercifully it is always possible and indeed necessary to retrace our steps at times, to revisit the past (our personal past) and to make up for growth that was sidetracked for one reason or another.



When we are willing to look at our past and see the areas we still need to grow in, you and I embrace the way of conversion. We choose to turn ourselves around to be open to new directions.

The feast today recalls one of the more significant events of growth in the early public life of Jesus. Jesus comes out of His “private” life into the public spotlight; to the Jordan and seeks, indeed insists, on baptism by John, His cousin. Jesus decides it’s time to begin a new phase of His life, he feels compelled to do so. It is as much His choice as it is His Father’s unrelenting call.

This feast is purposeful in its placement at the end of the Christmas Season. You and I are not allowed to tarry at the manger bed. We do not end there with a sweet image of a little child, an image that any man or woman could love with little difficulty. You and I are brought to the banks of the little, muddy Jordan River. Here on the edge of the desert, on the edge of a wilderness that is not nice and pretty like our Christmas memories, we are left. Like Scrooge who is left by the ghost of Christmas Present, in the cold dark night to be confronted with what really matters most.

Our ending today is the launching pad into a new, more challenging relationship with Jesus who was born unto us in the still of the night. Jesus lunges fully into the river ready to move on to the promises this transition brings. He does not need baptism as is professed by John. However, Jesus knows that the waters need to be cleansed by His baptism so that when we follow we can be cleansed to the core and share in His divinity. Jesus, by His baptism, makes it possible for the waters of this earth to be the conduit that washes us clean. With the dirt off of our very being washed away, we can be the person and the people he created us to be in the beginning, before the Fall.

Jesus hears the voice claim Him as SON and He sees the dove rest upon him marking Him as God’s SERVANT. The same has happened to you and to me. Like Jesus, God names us His SON/DAUGHTER, His SERVANT. Jesus does not stay at the river, and neither do we. We, like Him, are sent out to bring God’s presence to those who are afraid of the holy water, those who have tried to wipe all the water off their life, and to those who do not even realize that they could be washed in God’s water and made clean.

In our neighborhoods and work places we know those who need to return to the promise of new life. We know those who need a friendly encouragement to return to the Lord’s Table, who need a second sponsor, as it were, who will lead them back. We have something great to give them — HOPE! Hope that there is more to life than work, bills, and always wanting more things. Jesus leads us, dripping wet with the Water of Life, and helps us by His grace to remind them of real freedom, a freedom they can feel down to their souls.

The Adult Education Team of St. Michael Church Presents:

“The Elements of the Catholic Mass”.

The class will be weekly starting, February 8 through March 23 in St. Patrick Hall. Sign up sheets are available in the Gathering Space.



Art and Environment



It's hard to believe, but the Christmas season is coming to a close on January 11, The Baptism of the Lord. Art and Environment will be taking our Christmas decorations down on January 13, at 6:00 PM. All helping hands are invited.

Catholic Bible Study Spring 2026

The Spirituality of Paul

The first meeting will be Tuesday, January 27. You may pay \$20 to order your book (we have to cover shipping) or you can save money and purchase yours through Amazon. Registration starts the weekends of January 10 & 11 and 17 & 18 in GS before and after Masses. Please call Deacon Ron Pyle (219-742-8263) or Linda Hansen (219-682-7072) for more information.

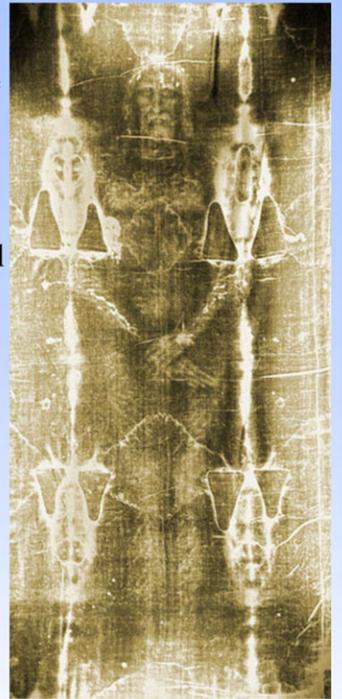
Eucharistic Adoration

“A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.”- Saint Padre Pio
Come and Spend Time with the Lord—Wednesdays, 1:00 - 4:00 PM in the Chapel.

Shroud of Turin Presentation

Father Robert and his Dad will be giving another presentation on Shroud of Turin. This is a great opportunity for those who missed it last year. Additionally, there will be a life-sized replica of the Shroud displayed this year. The presentation will be on Monday, January 26 at 6:00 PM at St. Bridget in Hobart.

Any questions?
Contact Father Robert at (219) 322-4505 ext. 8229



Peace and Social Justice Commission

PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Susan Stern, Rina Testolin, Geraldine Heintz, Leo Paratore, Tim & Helen Hazard, Kimberly Hoogeveen, Emelia Williams, Shirley Centanni, Jill Blesha, Jennifer Jones, Phyllis Leyba, Pat Matz, Pam Bane, Krista Bane, Dave and Jo Brown, Nicole Villanueva, Rose Ilgin, Ruth Marie Sarros, Ken Anderson, George Ristich, Soledad Salinas, Joan Hamnik, Tim Bunchek, Joe Kruzan, Tom Bohney, Eleanor Melle, Michelle Lamb, 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.

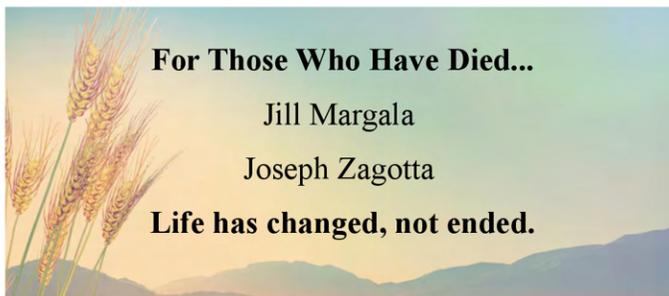
St. Michael's parishioners are in bold, italic print.

For Those Who Have Died...

Jill Margala

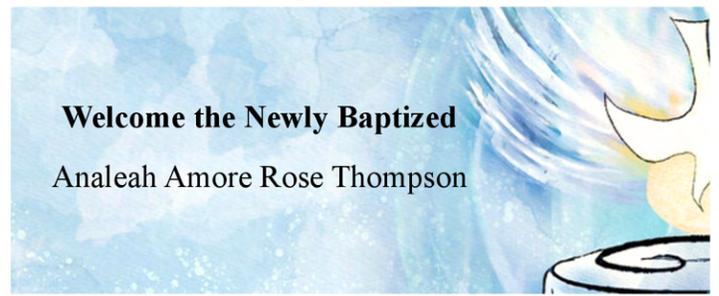
Joseph Zagotta

Life has changed, not ended.



Welcome the Newly Baptized

Analeah Amore Rose Thompson





SAVE THE DATE: Holy Hour for Life
January 25 at 3 PM in the Chapel
 Please join the Respect Life Ministry and Knights of Columbus as we pray for the end of abortion and remember the many lives lost and affected by this tragedy.



Education and Formation

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

Next Event: MOVIE NIGHT, PJs & POPCORN

Bring your own camping chair and any snacks that you'd like to share!

Sunday, January 11 from 6-8 PM in St. Patrick Hall

Radiate has been a part of a local Christian coed volleyball team for 3 years and has had so much fun! All are welcome to attend our next games.

Friday, January 9 at St. Michael School Gym
 (7:00 PM & 8:00 PM)

Friday, January 23 at St. Michael School Gym
 (7:00 PM & 8:00 PM)



Radiate is a place of non-judgement, fun, and support for your faith life!

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

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 Difference a Catholic
 Education Makes!**



2026-2027 OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open House January 25, 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

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 or visit stmichaelparish.life/school**



ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL WARRIOR OF THE WEEK ZARAI ROBLEDO

My name is Zarai Robledo, and I started attending SMS in 6th grade. I plan to go to Andean high school because of the good education and to hang out with my friends. The activities that I do out of school are Mexican Folklorico Dance, and I also go to an art club at the library. I also love to babysit, take care of animals, and do arts and crafts outside of school. In addition, I enjoy swimming when the weather is perfect outside. The activities that I do in school are helping with kindergarten. During recess time, I go to the kindergarten homeroom and help out. When it's time to go home, I take the kindergartens to their cars.

What makes SMS so special is the people that go here. Everyone here is really nice. Not only are the principal and teachers nice but the whole school. The moment I came here, I knew I was welcomed in this school. The teachers will always help you whenever you need help. The students here are very kind to everyone and support you. My advice to the students is to work hard no matter what. Working hard will help you get somewhere in life.

SMS helped me grow as a friend by teaching me to respect others like Jesus did. SMS helped me grow as a family member because I learned how to honor my loved ones and take care of them.

I am becoming a stronger disciple of Jesus by working towards making myself into a better person than I was before. I am praying more and am listening to God while He leads me in the right way. During the challenges of this school year, I try to get closer with Jesus and God to help me through these challenges.

Parish Life

ST. VALENTINE DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, February 14, 2026

St. Patrick Hall - 6pm

Welcoming all couples & adult singles.

Buy Your Tickets Today!

Dinner, Live Music, Cash Bar & Special Surprises.

\$60 each

Tickets are Limited.
Tickets available thru Feb 4th.

Scan Here to buy your ticket online.

For Cash or Check visit
the Parish Office.



Join us at the Annual



Chili
COOK
OFF

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 31
6:00 - 8:00 PM
PARISH HALL



*Submit Your Best Recipe for a
Chance to Win a Prize and Earn
Well-Deserved Recognition!*

EVENT ADMISSION

- \$10 PER PERSON
- DOZENS OF CHILI & SOUPS TO SAMPLE
- HOT DOGS AND JUICE INCLUDED
- CASH BAR

For more information:

CALL/EMAIL DEACON GARY 219-678-1332
CWOLFE@STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE

Next Weekend After Mass



New Member Registration
Sunday after 7:30 AM and
9:30 AM Masses in
St. Patrick Hall.



Coffee and Donuts
after all Sunday
Masses in
St. Patrick Hall.



Blood Pressure, Glucose, and
Oxygen Screenings available after
5:00 PM Mass Saturday, and
7:30 AM and 9:30 AM Masses
Sunday in the East Cloak Room.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Looking for a young adult community with Catholic values? Young adults ages 18 to 35 strive to build friendships, encourage each other to live our faith, and support each other in prayer. Text or call AnnMarie Hemmerling for more info and to join the Young Adult GroupMe! 219-798-3248



SENIOR GEMS

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



Join Us for Chair Yoga, January 16 at
8:00 AM in the St. Amand Room

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

STAY CONNECTED WITH ST. MICHAEL PARISH!

Keep up with everything happening by signing up for Flocknote.

Has your contact information changed?
Are you receiving the Weekly Message every Friday at 12:12 PM?

If not, join Flocknote or reach out to the parish office so we can make sure you're connected!

Get ready for an amazing part of the year don't miss a moment, stay in the know!



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MIKE

TO 84576



Keep in touch with us via
email and text!



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

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
- IN PERSON AT PARISH OFFICE - M-F, 9-4 PM, CASH, CHECK OR CARD (M-TH).

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.

Music Ministry Christmas Concert 2026





Interested in Making a Difference in Your Community?

“Members of Rebuilding Hope and Wheelchair Ramp Ministry act as the hands and feet of Jesus.”

Rebuilding Hope Mission Team’s focus is on Christian social justice projects like the construction repair at Shady Oaks Summer Camp for those with Disabilities, Campagna Academy, True North Riding Stables, and at Camp Lawrence. We also have helped families recover from flood damage and have collaborated with the Labors of Love Ministry to deliver survival bags to the homeless. Wheelchair Ramp Ministry installs wheelchair ramps and wheelchair elevators for clients in need of egress from their homes. Referrals for both of these ministries come from hospital social workers, Catholic Charities, or parishioners whom are aware of issues where we may be able to assist. We have members from St. Michael the Archangel, St. John the Evangelist, and Holy Name of Jesus parishes. We welcome anyone who may want to participate in these ministries in any way by contacting the St. Michael's parish office at 219-322-4505.



9 DAYS FOR LIFE



*Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
Chapel*

Schererville, Indiana

Opening

Friday, January 16, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Closing

Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 7:00 PM



A PRAYER FOR HOPE

Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life. Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own.

Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world.

Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying.

Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For more information

www.respectlife.org

EMBRACE!

*Retreat for married
and engaged couples*

FEATURING:

Chris and Linda
Padgett

Cost: \$120 per couple



Saturday, Feb. 14

9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



St. Paul Catholic Church

1855 Harrison Blvd,
Valparaiso, IN, 46385

Retreat includes:

- Interactive talks
- Personal time for couples' reflection and discussion
- Continental breakfast and catered lunch
- Adoration with a special blessing for the couples

**Bring your bible, your
journal, and get ready
for some fun!**



Diocese of Gary
dcgary.org

**Learn more
and register:**
[dcgary.org/
couples-retreat](https://dcgary.org/couples-retreat)



INDIANA MARCH FOR LIFE

Thursday, January 22, 2026 Indianapolis

The Diocese of Gary Office of ProLife Activities and Lake County Right to Life invite you to come with us on the March for Life in Indianapolis

The fight for the right to life and the dignity of all people continues!
This is not a time to become complacent. Be the voice for the voiceless.

Transportation: Premium Coach Bus Cost: \$40 Adults, \$25 Students
Box lunch included for the trip home



7:00 AM CST	Bus #2 leaves Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, Merrillville parking lot
11:30 AM EST	Mass with the Bishops of Indiana @ Indiana Convention Center
1:00 PM EST	Pre-March Rally, Georgia & Capital Ave
1:45 PM EST	March for Life, Georgia & Illinois St to the Capitol
2:30-3:30 PM EST	Rally, South steps of Capitol Building
3:30 PM EST	Return to Merrillville

Register at dgary.org or scan code
For more information call Rosanne at 219-769-9292



Weekly Schedule

GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

SUNDAY JANUARY 11

OCIA, 9:30 AM, SE and SW Rooms
 Faith Formation Class, 9:30 AM, SMS and Gym
 Radiate, 6:00 PM, SPH

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

MONDAY JANUARY 12

Pastoral Council, 7:00 PM, SE Room

TUESDAY JANUARY 13

Senior Gems, 10:00 AM, SE Room
 Faith Formation, 6:00 PM, SMS and Gym
 K of C, 6:30 PM, St. Amand Room

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14

Eucharistic Adoration, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, Chapel
 Faith Formation, 6:00 PM, SMS and Gym
 Good Samaritans, 6:30 PM, SW Room
 Parish Council, 7:00 PM, SE Room

THURSDAY JANUARY 15

Centering Prayer, 6:00 PM, SW Room
 125th Anniv. Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM, SW Room
 Music Ministry Practice, 7:00 PM, Church

FRIDAY JANUARY 16

Chair Yoga, 8:00 AM, St. Amand Room
 Bells Practice, 6:00 PM, Church
 K of C Novena for Life Prayer Service, 7:00 PM, Chapel

SATURDAY JANUARY 17

K of C Prayer Group, 8:30 AM, St. Amand Room
 Confessions, 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel
 Catholic Bible Study Registration, Before and After Mass, GS
 Blood Pressure Readings, After 5:00 PM Mass, East Cloak Room

SUNDAY JANUARY 18

Coffee and Donuts, After All Masses, SPH
 Catholic Bible Study Registration, Before and After All Masses, GS
 Blood Pressure Readings, After 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses, East Cloak Room
 New Member Registration, After 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses, SPH

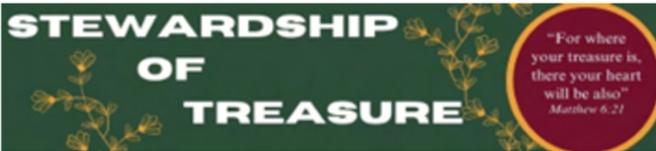
Stewardship in Action

Pray for those not baptized that they may find their way to Christ. Also pray for the baptized who no longer practice their faith.



"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.



January 1, 2026 Solemnity of Mary

\$4,395.00

January 4, 2026

Adult Collection - \$20,352.00

Children's Collection - \$119.25

Loose Collection - \$914.00

EFT's - \$9,198.57

Vietnamese Mass

\$1,453.50

Total Weekly Offering

\$36,432.32

Thank you for your generosity!

12/28/25

Corrected Adult Total (With EFT's)

\$21,490.34



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY	JANUARY 10	THURSDAY	JANUARY 15
5:00 PM	✚ Maria and Elia Alvarez	7:00 AM	✚ Kenneth Kollasch
SUNDAY	JANUARY 11	FRIDAY	JANUARY 16
	THE BAPTISM	7:00 AM	✚ Walter Zdonek
	OF OUR LORD	SATURDAY	JANUARY 17
7:30 AM	✚ Monica Drzewiecki	8:00 AM	✚ Robert Scobee
9:30 AM	St. Michael Parish	5:00 PM	✚ Mary Anne Gagron
11:30 AM	✚ Mary Marsh ✚ Dale Thron ✚ Joanne Garcia	SUNDAY	JANUARY 18
MONDAY	JANUARY 12		2ND SUNDAY OF
7:00 AM	Claira Spoering	7:30 AM	ORDINARY TIME
TUESDAY	JANUARY 13	9:30 AM	✚ Kyle Arnold
7:00 AM	✚ Norma Dobrzynski		✚ Girolamo Elepto ✚ Norma Dobrzynski ✚ Mary Kay Endre
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 14	11:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
7:00 AM	✚ Departed Souls in Congregation of Mother Carmel		
8:55 AM	✚ John D. Boyle		✚ indicates deceased

The Word

(Readings for January 18, 2026, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reflections...

I. *Isaiah 49:3, 5-6*

The Lord said, “You are my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory...I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

II. *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*

“Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus,” greeted the holy people of the Corinthian church with God’s grace and peace. He addressed them as “sanctified in Christ Jesus.”

III. *John 1:29-34*

John exclaimed, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” He continued, “I saw the Spirit come down like a dove...I have seen and testified that He is the Son of God.”

OUR GENEROUS ADVERTISERS

Our weekly parish bulletin is created and managed right here in our parish office. The advertising proceeds directly support our parish. When you're in need of services for your home, please consider supporting the businesses that make our bulletin possible—and don't forget to mention that you saw their ad here!

To advertise in our bulletin, call Elizabeth Munoz, Communications Director at 219-334-8042.



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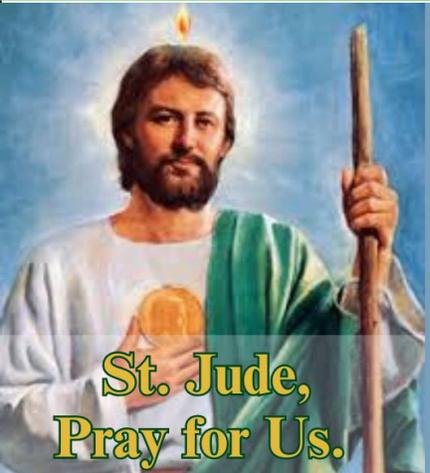
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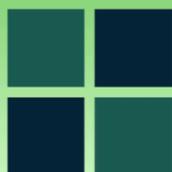


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