

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

JULY 5, 2026

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MY YOKE IS EASY,  
AND MY BURDEN

**LIGHT.**

— MATTHEW 11:30 —





**SATURDAY LITURGY**

Vigil: 5:00 PM

**SUNDAY LITURGY**

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

Livestream 5:00 PM and 9:30 AM

**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

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**

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www.stmichaelparish.life

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Rev. Robert Ross.....Associate Pastor

Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon

Deacon Gary Wolfe.....Permanent Deacon

***The Comfort of A Good Fit!*** The yoke Jesus speaks of today in the Gospel is like a custom made pair of shoes that allow you to work all day and still feel refreshed. Most of us think of yokes as those big heavy rough hewn wooden yokes we see on oxen in movies about western farmers. Those yokes were made in a production line as just a piece of equipment to control the movement of the oxen and were consequently irritating to the oxen. But yokes in Jesus' day were carved for a particular beast. Thus, the beast that wore the yoke, made just for them, allowed the beast to do its work with far less exhaustion.

This custom-made yoke is what Jesus offers us. The yoke Jesus asks us to put on is meant to help us do His work in the world, the work of being a faithful follower. We might buck at first not wanting any yoke, claiming our freedom. But if we do not take on Jesus' yoke we will take on one of the yokes of society, an "off-the-rack" yoke not made for me or you personally, but an uncomfortable "one-size-fits-all" yoke. That societal yoke might be the pursuit of wealth, popularity, fame, pleasure or a combination of these, and they will leave you tired and never fulfilled.

These yokes which seem so pleasing in the catalog turn out to be a bad fit and only leave one tired at the end of the day. Increasingly we hear about how tired we are and how we work more hours than even before and yet happiness is not on the rise. Rather, we see more despair, weariness, disconnectedness in relationships and depression. This is the weight of society's yoke.

The yoke of Jesus made especially for me and the one made especially for you will challenge us in many ways. But at the end of the day even though our body might tire, our spirit is refreshed knowing the yoke we carry is meant to lead us to God where all our desires are really fulfilled. One yoke presented to us looks rough, seems to inhibit our freedom and promises death in return for our self-giving — but in reality, is it smooth and desirable. The other yoke appears to be pleasant and promises good times and comfort — but in the end it eats away at our soul, exhausts our spirit and perhaps gives us riches that fade and a good life that is good for nothing in the end.

It is not easy to put down this yoke of society. With Jesus' strength, nurtured through prayer, are we able to allow Jesus to guide us with His gentle yoke of humility and service, generosity and thankfulness and unselfish love for others. Then we realize how deadly the other yoke can be.

***Independence Day #250.*** The yearly celebration of our nation's independence, throwing off the yoke of our mother country Great Britain, has changed over the centuries. In our national imagination we still carry with us a great abhorrence to being "subject" to anyone. This is not a bad thing, but a feeling once reserved for other human beings or nations is now often assigned to God as well.



Independence has come to mean not freedom from political and/or economic oppression, but freedom from anyone or anything that prevents or hinders you or me from doing what we want to do; including freedom from God's will revealed in the Holy Scriptures. The Scriptures challenge and even seek to prevent us from going our own way no matter the cost. Many justify their individual quest for total independence with the phrase: "As long as I don't hurt someone else." Yet, freedom that is practiced as license does hurt other people. The Gospel today invites us to take on Jesus' yoke.

The misleading and popular notion of freedom is that I should be able to do what I want when I want. We are very quick to react when we feel our personal freedoms are threatened. Often time with little thought to their well-being of others with whom we interact in many different ways.

Our communal freedom as a people allows you and me some amount of personal freedom, but if that personal freedom becomes the ultimate good, the communal solidarity that supports the very structures of freedom decays. Valid political debate turns into rancorous partisan politics. The idea of compromise, the honest search for common ground, is villainized and the common good is weakened.

Together let us ask in our prayer on this Independence Day for Divine Assistance; seeking God's infinite wisdom found in the Scriptures and in our Christian/Catholic Tradition, upon which this nation is built. Let us ask God to assist each of us to understand what our role needs to be in helping to build up a society of true justice and peace.

We often ask God to bless America. Let us, faith-filled Americans bless God. The God who has given us so many gifts not to squander or hoard but to use for the common good, which in the end is for our own individual good.

## Eucharistic Adoration

“Every Holy Hour we make so pleases the Heart of Jesus that it is recorded in Heaven and retold for all eternity!” - Mother Teresa  
Wednesdays, 1 - 4 PM in the Chapel.



## St. Michael Ministries

Have you considered joining a ministry at St. Michael Parish? There are over 32 ministries where you can use your time, talent, and treasure in the Name of Jesus.



# Ministry Outreach

## Meet Leah!



Leah Velasquez  
Senior Altar Server

Leah Velasquez is a 16-year-old junior at Lake Central High School who loves spending time with family and friends and enjoying life with the people around her.

Leah first became interested in altar serving after watching her older sister serve and decided to give it a try herself. What started as simple curiosity quickly turned into something she truly enjoys. One of her favorite parts of the ministry is helping teach younger servers, serving God during Mass, and making many new friends along the way.

Learning to serve was easier than she expected, thanks to the many kind people who were always ready to help. Like many new servers, Leah was a little nervous about making mistakes at first, but as she learned the responsibilities and gained confidence, those worries quickly disappeared. Being an altar server has also helped Leah grow in everyday life, teaching her responsibility, respect, and how to stay calm under pressure.

*She happily encourages other young people to give it a try, sharing that altar serving is a fun, meaningful experience and a wonderful way to be part of the parish.*

## Marian Devotions

Join us for a night of prayer that will leave you feeling calm, refreshed and ready for a peaceful night's sleep. The next Marian Devotion is Sunday, July 12 at 8:15 PM at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine. Blessed Mother Mary, thank you for your love and intercession!



# Peace and Social Justice Commission

## PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

***Karla Lesko***, Rhonda Kelly, ***Kathleen Mance***, Lynn Fesenmyer, ***Audrey Weber***, ***Carol Good***, ***Katherine Cullinane***, ***Geraldine Heintz***, ***Nicole Villanueva***, Dennis Walker, Sandra Walker, ***Rina Testolin***, ***Timothy Bunchek***, ***Tom Swanson***, ***Leo Paratore***, ***Shannon Gallas***, ***Mary Jo Rymarczyk***, Donna Saber, ***Sherry Lazzaro***, ***Ken Anderson***, Ruth Sarros, ***“Mick” Adamsom***, ***Marlene Townsend***, Thomas Boney, Charlie Bandera, Joan Hamnik, ***George Ristich***, ***Helen Kwaitkowski***, Krista Bane, Gerry Scheub, ***Pat & Tom Matz***, Andy Manahan, Jennifer Engel, 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.

Welcome the Newly Baptized

Madeline Jean Slevnik



## MOTHER'S DAY AND FATHER'S DAY MASS CARDS

The Respect Life Ministry would like to thank everyone who supported our Mother's Day and Father's Day cards sale held at the beginning of May and at the beginning of June. As always, your response was overwhelming and greatly appreciated. We want to remind everyone that all names entered for Masses are prayed for all year, not just on Mother's Day and Father's Day. This is a major fundraiser for our group and allows us to continue our support to organizations that are helping to promote life throughout the year.

## REBUILDING HOPE MISSION TEAM

Members of the St. Michael Rebuilding Hope Mission Team have been assisting a parishioner who was directly affected by the tornado that recently passed through Merrillville. A fellow parishioner opened up their home so the affected parishioner would not have to stay at the Lincoln Center in Highland. Others have helped by paying to have trees removed from around the home. Additional assistance was provided by digging through debris to recover the parishioner's cell phone, computer, and important personal documents.



As you are possibly aware, insurance does not cover everything. If you are able to help, Catholic Charities has established a Tornado Relief Fund where you can make an online donation at [www.catholic-charities.org](http://www.catholic-charities.org).



A special thanks to Cynthia Napiwocki (pictured on the right) and her son for their help with tornado recovery. They volunteered alongside United Way as part of a crew of about 50 volunteers, providing storm relief to 20 homes.

## Education and Formation

### THEOLOGY UNCORKED



Join us for Theology Uncorked on July 28 at 6:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall with wine, socialization and food. At 7:00 PM, Deacon Nicholas Emsing will be helping us see how AI can influence our faith. He will also be presenting and giving feedback on Pope Leo's Encyclical recently published - "Magnifica Humanitas."

**There is no cost for Theology Uncorked. However, we ask that you sign up after masses so that we are aware of how many people we have to prepare for. Sign up sheets will be on the table in the Gathering Space, or you can call Janice at 219-322-4505 and leave your name. Signup dates are July 5, 12, 19 and 26.**

### Did You Know...? Faith Formation Starts in 1st Grade!

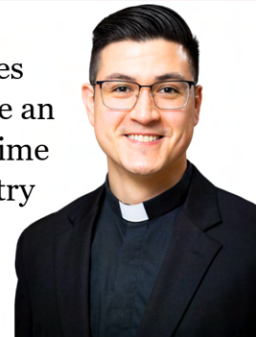
Children 6–7 years old are enthusiastic to learn, enjoy stories, games, and are eager to connect with their peers. We create an environment that builds a warm welcoming spirit, allowing room for learning and spiritual growth. The office will now be open: Tuesday ~ Thursday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**CALL THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE TODAY AT 219-322-3077 TO REGISTER YOUR 1st GRADER FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!**

# Welcome Fr. Glick!

Please join us in welcoming Fr. Zachary Glick, our New Associate Pastor!

Father Glick grew up in Highland and attended Our Lady of Grace School and Highland High School. Before entering the seminary, he earned BS and MS degrees in mechanical engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. He became an Air Force chaplain candidate during seminary, and will eventually become a full-time active-duty U.S. Air Force chaplain after completing his last year of priestly ministry in the Diocese of Gary. Let us welcome Fr. Glick to St. Michael Parish—we are so happy to have him as part of our community!



**\$100** per ticket

# \$50,000 GRAND PRIZE

\$100,000 in Cash Prizes Over 100 Winners 1 in 20 Odds

**BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY!**

- CALL WITH DEBIT CARD AT 219-322-4505, EXT. 8220.
- REQUEST A TICKET ON OUR WEBSITE AT [STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE](http://STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE).
- DROP BY THE PARISH OFFICE, MON -FRI, 9AM - 4PM.

LICENSE #002572-164938



SCAN TO WEBSITE



**MEGA RAFFLE**

**EARLY BIRD DRAWING JULY 26TH!**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**




# FAITH, COMMUNITY, FUN—ONE DAY TOGETHER

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH


### 5 PM - 11 PM

LIVE MUSIC, ST. MICHAEL FOOD BOOTH, SWEETS, BINGO, KID ZONE, BEER GARDEN & MORE!  
PLUS MEGA RAFFLE DRAWING - CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF WINNING!

 **SENIOR GEMS**  
Our next meeting is July 14 at 10:00 AM in the SE Room. Come help plan our next adventure.

 **LABORS OF LOVE**  
Our next gathering will be on July 7 from 10:00 AM -12:00 PM in SPH.

 **CHAIR YOGA**  
Chair Yoga will meet on July 10 at 8:00 AM in the St. Amand Room. Please call Ursula at 219-741-3276 to register.

 **CENTERING PRAYER**  
Centering Prayer will meet on July 6 at 6:00 PM in the SW Room.

# CALLING ALL BAKERS!



Share your favorite homemade treats and help make our Parish Bake Sale a sweet success!

We invite all parishioners to donate baked goods, which may be dropped off on Friday, August 7, at 11:00 AM inside St. Patrick Hall. Please label your items with the name of the baked good and clearly indicate whether they contain nuts or are nut-free.



**The Saint Michael the Archangel Knights of Columbus Council 12177 has earned the prestigious Double Star Council Award from the Knights of Columbus, a distinction that reflects an extraordinary year of dedication, service, and growth.**

Achieving this honor requires far more than simply meeting basic expectations. Councils must excel in membership growth, charitable outreach, faith-based programming, promotion of fraternal benefits, administrative compliance, and reporting throughout the fraternal year. The Double Star designation signifies that the council significantly exceeded the requirements for the Star Council Award, one of the highest recognitions within the Knights of Columbus. This accomplishment is a testament to the countless volunteer hours, strong leadership, and commitment of our brother Knights who serve our parish and community. Fewer than five percent of Knights of Columbus councils earn this level of recognition each year, making this achievement a source of great pride for Council 12177 and the entire Saint Michael Parish family. Through their hard work and dedication to faith, family, community, and life, the members of Council 12177 continue to exemplify the mission and values of Blessed Michael McGivney and the Knights of Columbus.

## Life in the Spirit

Come join our praise group as we encounter the Holy Spirit. Listen and join in the singing as we joyfully present songs of worship. There will be plenty of time for listening and quiet reflection in between the music as we acknowledge the Holy Spirit in our lives. Near the end, we will offer over intentions to God! Meetings are the first and second Mondays of the month at St. John the Evangelist Day Chapel (not the big church) at 11301 W. 93rd Ave Saint John, Indiana. Our next scheduled meetings are on July 6 & 13 and August 3 & 10 at 6:30 PM.



# EMMAUS

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

**AUGUST 22, 2026**

Porter County Expo Center

*Hearts on Fire!*  
*-Walking with Purpose-*

### Keynote Speakers

- Jason Evert: Hearts on Fire
- Liz Kelly: Walking with Purpose

Come for a day of **inspiring speakers** and **Eucharistic Adoration**, closing with a **Vigil Mass**. Lunch is included! **For details, visit the website.**



**SIGN UP HERE!**  
[dcgary.org/emmaus](http://dcgary.org/emmaus)

**¡También  
en  
Español!**

  
**QUO VADIS?**  
*WHERE ARE YOU GOING?*  
**DISCERNMENT RETREAT**

**JOIN OUR SEMINARIANS**

**MEN  
16 - 24  
YEARS OLD**

**AUGUST 2-4, 2026**  
**CAMP LAWRENCE**  
68 E. 700 NORTH  
VALPARAISO, IN

**TO RSVP: CONTACT JO ANNE ROSENOW**  
✉ [jrosenow@dcgary.org](mailto:jrosenow@dcgary.org) ☎ 219.769.9292  
ext. 221

We want to stay connected with you through every stage of life. Keeping your parish information updated helps us better serve you and your family.

Whether you've moved, changed contact information, welcomed a new baby, gotten married, experienced a loss, or had another major life change, we encourage you to keep us informed so we can walk alongside you and be there when you need us most. Thank you!



Updating your information is simple:

- Call the parish office at (219) 322-4505
- Complete the form available in the Gathering Space.
- Fill out the Google Form



## Stewardship

### Stewardship in Action

This week, pray for peace for our country and war torn countries. Pray for our leaders, our military and civil servants.

"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.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

**Sunday June 28, 2026**

Adult Collection - \$14,094.00  
Children's Collection - \$31.25  
Loose Collection - \$594.00  
EFT's - \$3,465.80

**Total Weekly Offering  
\$18,185.05**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

### SUNDAY JULY 5

OCIA, 9:30 AM, SE and SW Rooms  
Vietnamese Confessions and Mass, 5:00 PM, Church  
Vietnamese Reception, 7:00 PM, SPH

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

### MONDAY JULY 6

Centering Prayer, 6:00 PM, SW Room

### TUESDAY JULY 7

Labors of Love, 10:00 AM, SPH  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Meeting, 6:00 PM, SW Room  
Catholic Bible Study, 7:00 PM, SPH

### WEDNESDAY JULY 8

Eucharistic Adoration, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, Chapel

### THURSDAY JULY 9

No Events Scheduled

### FRIDAY JULY 10

Chair Yoga, 8:00 AM, St. Amand Room  
Respect Life Meeting, 1:30 PM, SE Room

### SATURDAY JULY 11

Confession, 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel  
Mega Raffle Ticket Sales, Before and After 5:00 PM Mass, GS

### SUNDAY JULY 12

Mega Raffle Ticket Sales, Before and After All Masses, GS  
OCIA, 9:30 AM, SE and SW Rooms  
Vietnamese Sacramental Prep, 2:30 PM, SW Room  
Marian Devotions, 8:15 PM, Cemetery

# Mass Intentions and Readings

<p><b>SATURDAY JULY 4</b>  <b>5:00 PM</b>     <b>✚</b>Our Nation</p> <p><b>SUNDAY JULY 5 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY</b>  <span style="text-align: center;"><b>IN ORDINARY TIME</b></span>  <b>7:30 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Conrad Maslowski</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Andy Zimmerman  <b>✚</b>Gene Wydrinski  <b>✚</b>Shirley Tadevic</p> <p><b>11:30 AM</b>     St. Michael Parish</p> <p><b>MONDAY JULY 6</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>All Souls</p> <p><b>TUESDAY JULY 7</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b>     For an End to Abortion On Demand  and for a Conversion of Heart of  Those Who Provide Abortions</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY JULY 8</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Norma Dobrzynski</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY JULY 9</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Paul Van Sickle  <b>✚</b> Steve Shelby</p> <p><b>FRIDAY JULY 10</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Mary Boyle 7 Yrs. Anniversary</p> <p><b>SATURDAY JULY 11</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Gerald and John Verdeyen</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b>     Marilyn Gutierrez</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b>     <b>✚</b>Elizabeth Oberman</p> <p><b>SUNDAY JULY 12 FIFTHTEENTH SUNDAY</b>  <span style="text-align: center;"><b>IN ORDINARY TIME</b></span>  <b>7:30 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Jill Margala</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b>     St. Michael Parish</p> <p><b>11:30 AM</b>     <b>✚</b>Sara Kozub  <b>✚</b>Leonard and Len Lula  Tom Matz</p> <p><b>✚</b> indicates deceased</p>
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## Reflections...

### The Word

*(Readings for July 12, 2026, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

- |      |                 |   |
|------|-----------------|---|
| I.   | Isaiah 55:10-11 | Just as rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return until the whole earth is watered and fruitful, so shall the word of the Lord go out to do God's will and accomplish God's purpose.    |
| II.  | Romans 8:18-23  | Paul told the Romans that the whole created world eagerly awaits the revelation of God's children. The world will be set free and take part in the wondrous freedom of God's children.              |
| III. | Matthew 13:1-23 | Jesus told the parable of the sower. When disciples questioned Him about it, He explained how those who hear the word and understand it will bear fruit and yield a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. |



### Prayer to St. Michael

Saint 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 through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



# 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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Jack '15  
Sam '18

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O Holy Apostle, because you are the Rock upon which Almighty God has built his church; obtain for me I pray you, lively faith, firm hope and burning love; complete detachment from myself, contempt of the world, patience in adversity, humility in prosperity, recollection in prayer, purity of heart, a right intention in all my works, diligence in fulfilling the duties of my state of life, constancy in my resolutions, resignation to the will of God and perseverance in the grace of God even unto death; that so, by means of your intercession and your glorious merits, I may be made worthy to appear before the chief and eternal Shepherd of souls, Jesus Christ, Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever.

Amen

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