

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

March 22, 2026



• 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT •

**LAZARUS,
COME OUT!**



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

1:30-4:00 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

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(219) 322-4505/FAX (219) 322-4508
9:00-4:00 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY
or by appointment
www.stmichaelparish.life

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pastor@stmichaelparish.life

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Permanent Deacon/Scholarship & Grant Coordinator

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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

Eternal Life – In the Present. There have been so many hymns and prayers written about the events related to today's Gospel. Sometimes those hymn texts, to achieve poetic form, actually limit the understanding of the biblical texts. That is why it becomes important for us to return to the actual words from Jesus, given to us in the biblical text. Jesus did not say “the person who believes in Him **will** have eternal life.” Rather, Jesus said “the person who believes in Him **has** eternal life.”

Now, this might seem like a small difference, but the difference from “will have” to already “has” is not small at all. If we take Jesus at His word, and we have no reason not to, then we must understand Him to say that in the present we have within us “new life.” In other words, we who share in Christ's Paschal Mystery through baptism **have** eternal life **now**.

Another point to consider is that this “eternal life” is not natural to us as human beings, as if it just naturally happens. Rather, it is given by God, gained by the obedience of His Son and imparted by the Holy Spirit on us in Baptism. To be baptized means to live out the life-death-resurrection of Jesus now. That means we must be willing to die in order to live. You and I must be willing to be obedient to God's Will for us. We must be willing die to self and selfishness.

This is the Paschal Mystery. It is not a mystery like a British murder mystery; it is the event of God's full outpouring of Himself in Jesus. It is the whole of the “Jesus Event;” - His ministry, His passion, death, resurrection, ascension and sending of the Holy Spirit - by which Jesus sanctifies our lives. It is the initiation of this Paschal Mystery that we are about to commemorate, in a very solemn way, in less than two weeks from now.

Through His sharing in all that it means to be human, except sin, Jesus shows us practically how we can be obedient to God's Will for us. In doing so, He paves the way for us to follow. No longer do we need to fear the death of rejection, ridicule, suffering or despair. Indeed, we can know in this life that by staying obedient to God, we will come through all such situations, and many others, and experience a new freedom, a new life.

Thus, Lent is the time during which we can die to all those things that bind us, that keep us from healthy relationships with one another and God, and that stop us from living as people marked by the Paschal Mystery.

Making an Easter Confession is necessary in preparing us for the Paschal Mystery we are about to celebrate. Take some time over the next several days giving some thought to those attitudes that lead you to walk in the opposite direction of God's love. What are those more hidden habits of the heart directing your actions that offend others and so offend God? Take advantage of God's healing forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance imparted by Christ through His priests. There is ample times set aside for this. Come and know the weight that God longs to remove from you, so you can hear His voice clearly calling you from the darkness of the tomb of sin, stretching out His hand to guide you into the light of Easter joy.

Where does it hurt? What do you want Him to do for you?

Healing Service on Divine Mercy

Sunday, April 12, 2026, 7:00 – 9:00 PM at St. Michael the Archangel Church

Come experience a night of special prayer, asking God to heal us of all our infirmities and wounds: physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual, and social. We will begin with Evening Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration before moving to a period of prayer for individuals who are seeking God's Easter promise of new life, freedom, and healing. Calling upon the gift and guidance of the Holy Spirit, you will be welcome to come forward and share with our prayer ministers (priests and trained lay ministers) what causes you pain, and they will pray over you in the name of the Lord Jesus. Miracles still happen—our God is alive and moving—come and be healed!

Eucharistic Adoration



“The more we receive the Eucharist, the more we become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven”

- Saint Carlo Acutis

**Come and Spend Time with the Lord
Wednesday, 1:30 - 4:00 PM in the Chapel.**

Art and Environment Needs You!

Palm Sunday Set Up is March 28, 9 AM, Church
Holy Thursday Set Up is March 31, 6 PM, SPH
Easter Set up is April 4, about 9:30 AM,
after the Blessing of the Easter Baskets, Church

All Helping Hands Are Welcome

From Your Sacristan's Desk

During the penitential season of Lent, we do not display flowers in the church, as the worship space is meant to remain simple and reverent.

Stations of the Cross Ministries

Friday, March 27, at 7:30 PM

Music Ministry, Catechumens/Candidates/Sponsors,
Sacristans, Ministers of Care, Liturgy Committee,
Young Mothers Group, Pastoral Council

COMMUNAL LENTEN PROJECT 2026 TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER IN PRAYER.

- *Choose & Commit from the Lenten Display located in the Gathering Space.* Select a fellow parishioner's intention(s) and commit to an Act(s) of Sacrifice, Prayer or Almsgiving you can comfortably and faithfully do.
- *Share Your Act(s) of Sacrifice, Prayer or Almsgiving -* Submit your Weekly Action through the parish form (scan the QR CODE) or visit our website at stmichaelparish.life.
- *View our collective Acts on the Video Screens in the Gathering Space.*



Scan Here
for a quick entry form.



Easter Flower contribution envelopes must be submitted to the Parish Office no later than March 30, 9:00 AM to be printed in the Easter Day Bulletin.

Do You Want to be a Part of the Last Supper?

On Holy Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 PM, we will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. During the Mass we will take part in the Mandatum, the ritual washing of feet that recalls how Jesus washed the feet of His Twelve Apostles at the Last Supper as a sign of humble service and love. If you would like to partake in this event, please call or text Cheryl at 219-242-2630.



**On Holy Saturday,
Everyone is Invited to
the Blessing of the First
Foods of Easter
April 4, at 9 AM
in the Church.**



Experience the Living Stations of the Cross

Presented by the
St. Michael School
8th Graders, Wednesday,
April 1 at 6:30 PM
in the Church.





St. Michael Resurrection Choir



St. Michael Parish is forming a Resurrection Choir. Members sing at funerals and are notified by email when one is scheduled. Those who are available come to sing and respond to the prayers of the Mass, giving greater support and life to the liturgy. The music consists of songs already known here at St. Michael, so no rehearsal is required for this choir. No prior choir experience is needed. Funerals at St. Michael Parish are usually held at 10:30 AM. If you are interested, please call Danette Lashbrook at 219-322-4505, ext. 8227, with your name and phone number. Thank you for your willingness to be the voice of God for those in this difficult time.

Peace and Social Justice Commission

PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Don Miniuk, Sandra Walker, Michael Young, **Krista Bane**, Jennifer Jones, **Phyllis Leyba**, **Pat Matz**, **Pam Bane**, **Dennis Walker**, **Ken Anderson**, **Ruth Marie Sarros**, **George Ristich**, Soledad Salinas, Joan Hamnik, **Tim Bunchek**, Joe Kruzan, Tom Boney, Gerry Scheub, Jim Morehouse, Jennifer Engel, **Dave Matthews**, Allen Gagnon, **Betty Ann & Frank Bradkee**, Randy McGuire 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.*



The Good Samaritans Holy Thursday Collection



“Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need, the remainder is needed by others” - Saint Augustine

The Good Samaritans will be collecting donations on April 2, Holy Thursday Mass, at 7 PM.

Especially Needed Items: bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, dish soap, detergent, toothpaste, household cleaners.

Food Items: pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats such as spam, tuna, chicken, corned beef hash, canned stew, canned fruit, Manwich, hamburger helper, pasta & rice sides, potato sides, crackers, cookies, stuffing mix, chili, black beans, pork n’ beans, baked beans, white beans, pinto beans, tomato sauce, applesauce, cake & biscuit mix, Jello & breakfast items.

One or two of these items would be most appreciated. Please, **no expired food** or partially used food, and we **cannot** distribute over the counter medicines or vitamins. Should you prefer a monetary donation or grocery gift card donation, there are envelopes on the racks in the Gathering Space for your convenience.

For your kind sharing and generous support, we thank you!

“No one has ever become poor from giving.” - Anne Frank

Spiritual Adoption Cards and Patron Ads for Lake County Right to Life Available



In honor of the Annunciation of the Lord on March 25, the Respect Life Ministry will be handing out free Spiritual Adoption cards after all Masses this weekend in the Gathering Space. On the cards, there is space to give the name of an unborn child you are spiritually adopting. The cards have a place for the date, which indicates the beginning of the Spiritual Adoption of an unborn child. The completion date concludes on December 25, the Nativity of Our Lord. Additionally, the cards have a prayer to be said every day for the nine months to spare the life of a baby in danger of abortion.

Also at this table, you may purchase a Patron Ad for the Lake County Right to Life Banquet to be held on April 24. There will be examples of the ad for you to view. You will be able to purchase a Silver Ad for \$20, or a Gold Ad for \$30. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL WARRIOR OF THE WEEK MADELINE MARCO

Hi, my name is Madeline Marco, but everyone I know calls me Maddy. I have been attending St. Michael's School since I was in preschool. I grew up here, and this school will forever be a part of me. I plan on attending Andean High School, where I hope to play soccer with my dad as my coach. I participated in many activities such as cheer, basketball, soccer, altar serving, choir, and Girl Scouts. St Michael's is special to me and always will be because of the way everyone always gets along and acts as a family. If you are a new student or teacher at St.

Michael's, everyone will accept you with open arms, and that is something that can be hard to find at other schools. For me, it is also special because I have been attending here so long that it is basically like my second home. I love all the teachers, staff, and students that go here, and they will all forever be in my heart.

Another thing special to me about this school is all of our traditions and how they stay alive each year. One of my favorite traditions is how we always say "St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us!" after every time we pray. This means a lot to me because I have always grown up saying it, and I catch myself saying it outside of school. In addition, there is one last thing about St Michael's School that I have always loved, and that is our small class sizes. I love being in a small environment because it gives you opportunities to ask the teacher for one-on-one time and to really connect with your classmates. Going to church every Wednesday has introduced me to a very important part of my life, and that is the Catholic religion.

Some advice I would give to younger students is to enjoy your time here while you can. One thing I would love to get back is time because it goes by so fast. So, if you are young and you are reading this, enjoy being young. Being young and growing up in St. Michael's School is a blessing that you will only realize when you are all grown up and ready to leave this school. St. Michael's School has helped me become a better person and student by teaching me to be kind to all no matter what, to treat everyone with respect, and to never forget the people who were there for you at your lowest times. They have helped me become a better disciple of Jesus by helping me to always follow God and strengthening my faith everyday.

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

All High Schoolers are invited to join Radiate! It's a great place of support as you journey through life, becoming closer to Jesus with your peers! We can't wait to meet you!

Next Meeting: Radiate – let's get ready to have a **COOKING NIGHT** with Chef Jack Velasquez! We will be making dutch babies, sweet and savory. All High Schoolers are invited!
Sunday, March 22 in St. Patrick Hall, 6-8 PM



DO YOU LIKE TO SING? DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?
8th graders and high schoolers are invited to join us at our next Teen Choir Practice this Sunday, March 22, 5-6 PM in Church. Radiate will sing in the choir on Sunday, March 29 at the 11:30 AM Mass. Please come at 11:00 AM to warm up.

ALL ABOARD

Passport to Our Heritage 26

Food • Drinks • Monte Carlo • Silent Auction



Saturday, April 18 | 6PM–Midnight
St. Michael School Gym | 21+

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Parish Life

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

10 DAYS: OCTOBER 27 – NOVEMBER 5, 2026

VISITING: HAIFA / TIBERIAS / NAZARETH / BETHLEHEM / JERUSALEM

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For more information, please contact: Fr. Dobrzynski

Tel: (219) 322-4505 ext. 8233 Email: fmartyd@stmichaelparish.life



SENIOR GEMS

Please join us on March 24 at 10 AM in the SE Room for our surprise meeting. We might play games, see a movie, go on an outing or just go to lunch. Come join the fun.



CHAIR YOGA

Join us for Chair Yoga, March 27 at 8 AM in the St. Amand Room. Call Ursula 219-741-3276 to register.

CENTERING PRAYER

The next Centering Prayer Meeting will be on Monday, March 23 at 6:00 PM in the SW Room.

LABORS OF LOVE

Our next gathering will Tuesday, April 7, 10-12 PM, in SPH.

Sojourner Truth House in Gary, IN thanks St. Michael the Archangel Parish for their generous donations of food and gift cards in November, as well as hygiene products, cleaning supplies, diapers, and other essentials during the holiday season. Your support helps feed families in our food pantry, as well as provide necessary items for families that visit our day center when they transition from shelters into stable housing. We are so grateful for St. Michael Parish!





EVANGELIZING REALITY: SCIENCE & THE CULTURE OF LIFE

*Learn how FEMM is influencing
modern medicine and the latest in
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**Wednesday,
April 15, 2026 | 6 p.m.**

at Journeyman Distillery
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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

March 15, 2026

Adult Collection - \$14,856.00
Children's Collection - \$66.85
Loose Collection - \$333.00
EFT's - \$2,794.33

**Total Weekly Offering
\$18,050.18**

**Vietnamese Mass
\$1,269.00**

Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Schedule

GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

SUNDAY MARCH 22

Respect Life Spiritual Cards Available / Patron Ads Sales, After All Masses, GS

Blood Pressure Screenings, After 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM Masses, E. Cloak Room

OCIA, 9:30 AM, SE and SW Rooms

Radiate Choir Practice, 5:00 PM, Church

Radiate Meeting, 6:00 PM, SPH

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

MONDAY MARCH 23

Centering Prayer, 6:00 PM, SW Room

Adult Education Program, 7:00 PM, SPH

TUESDAY MARCH 24

Senior Gems, 10:00 AM, SPH

Catholic Bible Study, 7:00 PM, SPH

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25

Eucharistic Adoration, 1:30 - 4:00 PM, Chapel

Children's Choir, 3:30 PM, SMS Library

THURSDAY MARCH 26

K of C Rosary, 6:00 PM, Chapel

K of C Meeting, 6:30 PM, St. Amand Room

Music Ministry Practice, 7:00 PM, Church

Unbound, 7:00 PM, SPH Room

FRIDAY MARCH 27

Chair Yoga, 8:00 AM, St. Amand Room

Stations of the Cross, 12:00 PM and 7:30 PM, Church

Bell Choir Practice, 6:00 PM, Church

SATURDAY MARCH 28

Art and Environment Palm Sunday Set Up, 9:00 AM, SPH

Confessions, 2:30-4:30 PM, Chapel

SUNDAY MARCH 29

OCIA, 9:30 AM, SE and SW Rooms

K of C Corporate Communion, 10:00 AM, SPH and SPH Kitchen

Cemetery Clean-Up



THE SPRING CLEANUP OF THE CEMETERY IS IN PROGRESS. PLEASE REMOVE DECORATIONS (EXCEPT EXTERNAL LIGHTS/VASES). RULES AND REGULATIONS CAN FOUND ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE - STMICHAELPARISH.LIFE HOVER OVER "MINISTRIES" AND CLICK ON "CEMETERY".



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY	MARCH 21	THURSDAY	MARCH 26
5:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Herbert Lemon Sr. ✚ Mary Lemon ✚ Herbie Lemon III 	7:00 AM	✚ Doug DePrez - 12 Yr. Anniv.
SUNDAY	MARCH 22	FRIDAY	MARCH 27
	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	7:00 AM	For an End to Abortion On Demand and for a Conversion of Heart for Those Who Provide Abortions
7:30 AM	✚ Jill Maragala	SATURDAY	MARCH 28
9:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Joanne Garcia ✚ Patricia Christenson ✚ Luis Colon 	8:00 AM	✚ Mary Lee Thiel
11:30 AM	St. Michael Parish	5:00 PM	✚ Martin and Mary Mannion
MONDAY	MARCH 23	SUNDAY	MARCH 29
7:00 AM	✚ Kristin Finley		PALM SUNDAY
TUESDAY	MARCH 24	7:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
7:00 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Norma Dobrzynski ✚ Bill Salas - 3 Yr. Anniv. ✚ Kathryn M. Knapik 	9:30 AM	✚ Deacon Ed Gatons
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 25	11:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Andy Panega ✚ Mike and Mary Starr ✚ John Finley
7:00 AM	✚ Gerald and John Verdeyen		✚ indicates deceased

The Word

(Readings for March 29, 2026, Palm Sunday)

Reflections...

- | | | |
|------|---------------------|--|
| 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 at. 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. |

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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O ST. JOSEPH, WHOSE PROTECTION IS SO GREAT, SO STRONG, SO PROMPT BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD, I PLACE IN YOU ALL MY INTEREST AND DESIRES.

O ST. JOSEPH, DO ASSIST ME BY YOUR POWERFUL INTERCESSION, AND OBTAIN FOR ME FROM YOUR DIVINE SON ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. SO THAT, HAVING ENGAGED HERE BELOW YOUR HEAVENLY POWER, I MAY OFFER MY THANKSGIVING AND HOMAGE TO THE MOST LOVING OF FATHERS.

O ST. JOSEPH, I NEVER WEARY OF CONTEMPLATING YOU, AND JESUS ASLEEP IN YOUR ARMS; I DARE NOT APPROACH WHILE HE REPOSES NEAR YOUR HEART. PRESS HIM CLOSE IN MY NAME AND KISS HIS FINE HEAD FOR ME AND ASK HIM TO RETURN THE KISS WHEN I DRAW MY DYING BREATH. ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF DEPARTING SOULS, PRAY FOR ME. AMEN.

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