

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

January 4, 2026

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD





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 219-322-4505 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 or in print form to the office or by fax to 322-4508.

Website: www.stmichaelparish.life

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

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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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Permanent Deacon/Scholarship & Grant Coordinator

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Rev. Robert Ross.....Associate Pastor

Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon

Deacon Gary Wolfe.....Permanent Deacon

Surprise, surprise! The quest of modern society, especially in the past 100 years, has been to make daily life more secure and less surprising. So comfortable have we become with security that we are shocked to hear of viruses that seemingly have no cure or tainted hamburger patties at our favorite fast food chain. Though these surprises are unwelcome they do remind us that life is never certain. Being nervous about surprises is good and bad. In one respect it encourages us to plan so we are not caught in a tight spot. On the other hand, it can encourage us to close ourselves off from new experiences and new people. This kind of security is really a prison. Avoiding surprises in our prayer, public or private, is not a virtue.

Today's feast of the Epiphany is all about surprises and the goodness of surprises. The surprise is that God has come into the world not just for the chosen people but for all people, even people who don't believe in God. Now, this might not come to us as a shocking revelation, but it was to the people of the first century. It could be a revelation for us to realize that God breaks through to you and me in similar surprising ways. The person(s) with whom we have a problem - surprise! - they can easily be God's challenge to us to grow and perhaps look at the world in a different way. The frustrations at work or in school - surprise! - can be God's way of waking us up to new possibilities. Difficulties in a relationship with someone we care for - surprise! - can easily be God's invitation to seek God's wisdom through a counselor or spiritual director.

If we have the notion that surprises are to be avoided, then we limit ourselves to experiencing God in our lives. Remember, our God is full of surprises. This is the God who made a virgin the mother of God, this is a God who surprised Elizabeth, the God who surprised the leaders of the people in sending John the Baptist, the God who surprised all of history by first becoming a human being and then freely giving his life so all of us might live for him, forever. If we expect God to act, be ready for a surprise.

You're invited to the
**MUSIC MINISTRY
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**
featuring an all new repertoire of music under
the direction of Music Director,
Danette Lashbrook.
SUNDAY, JAN. 4TH AT 3:00PM
Special Performances by
Father Robert Ross & the Childrens Choir

Spirituality and Worship

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.**

Catholic Bible Study Spring 2026

The Spirituality of Paul

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM. The first meeting is 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. Call Deacon Ron Pyle (219-742-8263) or Linda Hansen (219-682-7072) for more information.

As we start a new year, prayerfully consider joining a ministry at St. Michael Parish. Our parish is blessed with over 40 ministries that serve the Church in a variety of ways. By joining a ministry, you are invited to share your time, talent, and treasure in the Name of Jesus.



Peace and Social Justice Commission

PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

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



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.



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

RADIATE
St. Michael Youth Ministry

Our next Radiate is **Sunday, January 11th** in St Patrick Hall from 6-8pm

All High Schoolers are welcome to join us!

Radiate is a place of non-judgement. A place of fun. And a place where you can find support in your faith life!

Come check us out!

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

Radiate came together to celebrate the season.

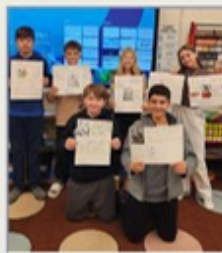
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ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL WARRIOR OF THE WEEK NICKOLAS MELENDEZ



Hello, my name is Nickolas Melendez. I've been a student at St. Michael's School since preschool with Mrs. Ellen. I completed two years of preschool, and now I am in eighth grade. The teachers are truly amazing and love to share all of their personalities. You will get to know them as someone to trust and look forward to being with them. The teachers really do love and care for you as if you were their own. They will give you attention to listen to any problems you may have. They will comfort you and help anyway they possibly can. My math teacher has saved me so many times from forgetting homework and leaving my Chromebook.

As I leave St Michael's School after this year, I am searching for a good high school. I have some good options, and I think it's between Bishop Noll or Andrean. I think both are very good schools. I just recently shadowed Andrean, and it was a blast. I learned a lot more than I previously knew about high school, and I am very interested in the soccer program at Bishop Noll. Overall, both schools are great options, but I have yet to fully decide.

While attending St. Michael's School, I have participated in many extracurricular activities, including soccer, basketball, volleyball, and choir for three years. I played all three sports throughout my middle school years. Soccer is my strongest sport, but I'm also fairly good at basketball and volleyball, which is impressive considering I had no prior experience. Even when I struggled, I focused on having fun and never gave up, even if it meant accumulating a few fouls along the way.

A part of the school that makes it special for me has to be the community. The parish is very friendly and caring. I have really been able to bond with all of my teachers and students. My friends are some of the best people I have ever met. They are funny, caring, and a bit crazy. I actually am the more responsible one of them all. I try to keep them in line, but I am usually out there acting goofy with them too.

My advice to new students is to always treat everyone with care and respect. You still can have fun and joke around, but don't be rude or use bad language. Avoid procrastinating—turn in your work on time and make sure it's complete. A planner can help you stay organized and keep track of all your homework. Finally, I recommend getting a locker organizer from Amazon. Mine has three slots: one for morning classes, one for afternoon classes, and one for extra items, which keeps my locker neat and easy to use.

Mostly our school is about our faith. Our school is nothing without our faith in Jesus. He shapes our school to be the best it is, which also includes the new A/C units we've installed. We have a beautiful church with two fathers, Father Marty and Father Robert. They have taught me some very deep inspirational and uplifting homilies from Mass. Homilies are also a big part of religion class. Every day we do a daily reflection, and on Wednesdays, we reflect on the homily. We discuss what they mean, what they are trying to teach us, and how to carry out their teachings.

Parish Life

ST. VALENTINE DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, February 14, 2026

St. Patrick Hall - 6pm

Welcoming all couples & adult singles.

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Dinner, Live Music, Cash Bar & Special Surprises.

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SATURDAY,
JANUARY 31
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For more information:

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YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young adults ages 18 to 35 we encourage you to join our Ministry. We strive to build friendships & encourage each other to live our faith. Text or call AnnMarie Hemmerling at 219-798-3248



**Chair Yoga January 9 at
8 AM in St. Amand Room**

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

NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME DINNER - JANUARY 16, 2026

**For parishioners who registered between
April 2025 and October 2025.**

Look for a personal invitation in your mailbox.

Join us for an evening of delicious food and good company with our priests and fellow parish family members. There is no hidden agenda.

LABORS OF LOVE

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



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.

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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- 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).

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Weekly Schedule

GS-Gathering Space

SPH-St. Patrick Hall

Stewardship in Action

Serve the poor and suffering this week. If you are unsure of how, ask Christ to help you -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 28, 2025

Adult Collection - \$12,488.00

Children's Collection - \$40.00

Loose Collection - \$616.00

EFT's - \$1,955.00

Misc/Other Collection - \$7,316.00

Total Weekly Offering

\$22,415.00

Christmas Collection

\$30,844.80

Thank you for your generosity!

SUNDAY JANUARY 4

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

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

MONDAY JANUARY 5

Marriage Prep Meeting, 7:00 PM, St. Amand Room
Liturgy Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM, SE Room

TUESDAY JANUARY 6

Labors of Love, 10:00 AM, SPH
Faith Formation, 6:00 PM, SMS and Gym

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7

Children's Choir Practice, 3:15, Library
Eucharistic Adoration, 1:00-4:00 PM, Chapel
Faith Formation, 6:00 PM, SMS and Gym

THURSDAY JANUARY 8

Baptismal Prep, 6:00 PM, SW Room
Music Ministry Practice, 7:00 PM, Church
Education Foundation Meeting, 7:00 PM, SE Room

FRIDAY JANUARY 9

Chair Yoga, 8:00 AM, St. Amand Room
Respect Life Meeting, 1:30 PM, SE Room
Bell Practice, 6:00 PM, Church
Radiate Volleyball, 6:30 PM, SMS Gym

SATURDAY JANUARY 10

K of C Prayer Group, 8:30 AM, St. Amand Room
Confessions, 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel
Catholic Bible Study Registrations, Before and After Mass, GS

SUNDAY JANUARY 11

Catholic Bible Study Registrations, Before and After all Masses, GS
FF Sunday Class, 9:30 AM, SMS Gym
Radiate, 6:00 PM, SPH



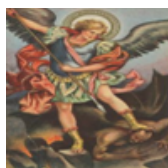
AV Ministry a meaningful way to serve and build new skills.

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



SATURDAY	JANUARY 3	THURSDAY	JANUARY 8
5:00 PM	+ Jane Urick	7:00 AM	+ Charles Bielefeld
SUNDAY	JANUARY 4 THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD	FRIDAY	JANUARY 9
7:30 AM	St. Michael Parish	7:00 AM	Fr. Robert Ross
9:30 AM	+ Roman, Adeline, Jim and Greg Barlog	SATURDAY	JANUARY 10
11:30 AM	+ Bill and Delores Wright + Robert Hamnik	8:00 AM	+ Sophie Pawlicki
MONDAY	JANUARY 5	5:00 PM	+ Maria and Elia Alvarez
7:00 AM	+ Walter and Mildred Prenizny	SUNDAY	JANUARY 11 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
TUESDAY	JANUARY 6	7:30 AM	+ Monica Drzewiecki
7:00 AM	+ Joe Hapak	9:30 AM	St. Michael Parish
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 7	11:30 AM	+ Mary Marsh + Dale Thron + Joanne Garcia
7:00 AM	+ Helen Scobee		
8:55 AM	+ Mary Ann Adam		
			+ indicates deceased

The Word

(Readings for January 11th, 2026, The Baptism of the Lord)

Reflections

I. *Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7*

“Here is my servant whom I uphold. I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice, said Isaiah. “To open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners,” and to make you a light for the nations.

II. *Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38*

God does not play favorites. All who fear the Lord are justified. God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and the power to do good works and heal all in need.

III. *Matthew 3:13-17*

The Holy Spirit descended on Him like a dove, and a voice from the heavens said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

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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