WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

November 23, 2025



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

He said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:42-43

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 322-4508.

MINISTRIES
If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please visit the website for Ministry Coordinator information.
Spirituality & Worship Commission
Altar Servers
Art & Environment
Cross Bearers
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Hospitality
Lectors
Liturgy Committee
Music Ministry
Centering Prayer Ministry
OCIA
Sacristan
Ministers of Care
Education & Formation Commission
Adult Catholic Education
Baptismal Preparation
Catholic Bible Study
Faith Formation
Marriage Ministry
Marriage Preparation
Radiate
School Administrator
Stewardship & Parish Administration
AV Ministry
Cemetery Committee
Parish Gardeners
Stewardship
Parish Life
Boy Scouts of America/Girl Scouts
Comforting Chefs
Festival Committee
Holy Name Society
Knights of Columbus
Labors of Love
Ministry of Hope & Consolation
Young Adult Ministry
Parish Nurse
Senior GEMS
Welcoming Ministry
Peace & Social Justice Commission
Good Samaritans
Rebuilding Hope Mission Team
Wheelchair Ramp Ministry
Respect Life Group
Pastoral Care

CONVENT
Congregation of Mother of Carmel
43 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville
219-322-4011
SCHOOL OFFICE
16 W. Wilhelm St., Schererville
(219)322-4531/FAX (219)322-1710

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krapacz@stmichaelparish.life
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Mrs. Kimberley Hoogeveen
khoogeveen@stmichaelparish.life
Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Mary Jo Rymarczyk
mrymarczyk@stmichaelparish.life

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or by appointment
www.stmichaelparish.life

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pastor@stmichaelparish.life
Associate Pastor
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frrobertr@stmichaelparish.life
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Permanent Deacon/Scholarship & Grant Coordinator
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Deacon Ron Pyle.....Permanent Deacon
Deacon Gary Wolfe.....Permanent Deacon

Power: Its Pros and Cons. Power and its use in our society has always been a mixed bag. Power can be used to encourage change for the good or it can be used to control. Power can guarantee freedom and it can also destroy it. Power in the hands of human beings has been used for all these things and even more than could be mentioned here.

In the end, we are suspicious of power, especially when it is wielded by one person or a even a certain group of people. With this reality in mind, the solemn feast of "Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe" might strike a pious cord in us but, on another level, it is hard for us to swallow with our inbred suspicion of absolute power.

The fact remains that today's feast is about power and how you and I can discern what is REAL power, as opposed to people and groups who play at being full of power. We are all subject to abuses of power, we play with it, we use it at times for the good of others but also at times for our own good, whether that be emotional, financial, or interpersonal. But notice how the Author of power carries it.

Jesus, the Son of the Most High, carries REAL power, and He carries it to the cross. He also carries on His back our feeble excuse for power, a power that condemns, that oppresses, and kills. On the cross, His power crushes our weak imitation of the same. And what is the celebration of this ultimate defeat of our worldly power? It is the do, the absolute opposite of what those who have absolute power usually do. It is to forgive.

Final and full forgiveness is the exercise of God's power. Condemnation comes not from the mouth of God, but from the unrepentant thief who, by his own unwillingness to surrender to God's power, condemns himself. Through the other thief, Dismas we call him, God's power is made fully manifest. Dismas surrenders to Jesus and in doing this God shows His hand like a overanxious poker player. God shows us that REAL power on earth and in the heavens is about compassion, forgiveness, and reconciliation with our Creator.

The King we celebrate is not constrained by a constitution which seeks to limit power, nor a bill of rights that presumes power will be misused. The King we celebrate is singular and absolute. But you and I have no need to fear His power. Because God is all-powerful, He can be all-generous in forgiveness.

Not only this, but we too have a share in God's power. That REAL power that creates all things, and sustains all things. We have a share in it when you and I forgive whom we need to forgive.

CONFERENCE '25, is a two day event for the recommitment and training for those who serve us at the liturgy as ministers of hospitality, music, environment & art, sacristans, altar servers, catechists for those adults preparing to become Catholic, readers of Holy Scripture and ministers of care who take communion to the sick and elderly. This CONFERENCE found its infancy here at Saint Michaels in 1986. Next year it will be celebrating 40 years since its inception. And we will be thrilled to host that 40th celebration next November 6-7, 2026. Mark your calendars.





Photos from this year's CONFERENCE, hosted at St. Michael last Friday and Saturday.

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



All are Welcome!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day


Danza Azteca - Chicago


LIVE Reenactment


Mariachi Juvenil Zamora - Chicago

Friday, Dec 12

6pm Doors Open

6:30 pm Danza Azteca

7pm Mass with Fr. Robert Ross

Fellowship & Refreshments to follow in St. Patrick Hall.



Scan here to make an online donation and support this wonderful festivity honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe. Your generosity is truly appreciated!

Peace and Social Justice Commission

PRAY FOR THE SICK; LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Rose Ilgin, ***Ken Andersen***, Jennifer Engle, Marisa Adams, ***Pat Matz***, ***Rina Testolin***, ***Leo Paratore***, ***Geraldine Heintz***, Bob Gabor, ***Michelle Lamb***, ***Jo Brown***, ***Dave Brown***, Nicole Villanueva, Ruth Marie Sarros, Soledad Salinas, Phyllis Leyba, ***Timothy Bunchek***, ***Tim & Helen Hazard,*** Joan Hamnik, Emelia Williams, Gerry Scheub, ***George Ristich, Pam Bane,*** Krista Bane, Donna Saber, 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.***

Good Samaritans' FOOD DRIVE

"It is not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them is the true meaning of Thanksgiving."

The Good Samaritan's Food Drive will again be at the 9 AM Thanksgiving Mass, November 27. We will be collecting food, as well as monetary donations, to assist families in need. The following items are needed.

Personal Care Items: Shampoo, deodorant, bar soap, toothpaste & toothbrushes

Food: Pasta sauce, canned & dried soup, pork & beans, kidney, baked and various types of beans, canned vegetables, chili, Manwich, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, applesauce, canned meats, tuna, various pastas, noodles, instant potatoes, pasta sides, rice sides, instant rice, mac & cheese, stuffing mix, hamburger helper, cereal, oatmeal, saltine crackers, cookies, pancake mix, syrup, Jello, pudding, cake and biscuit mixes.

Cleaning Supplies & Paper Products: Paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, dish soap, all-purpose cleaners, SOS pads, kitchen cleanser and laundry detergent.

Monetary Donations: These dollars are used to purchase meat and perishable food items for our freezer and help with rent & utility assistance.

As always, we thank you for your continual support of our ministry and know your kind and generous hearts are greatly appreciated.

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." Saint Mother Teresa

Respect Life Ministry – Feast of the Holy Family Mass Cards

As in past years, the Respect Life Ministry will be selling Feast of the Holy Family Mass cards. As we have learned from our past sales, many people want to get their Christmas cards out right after Thanksgiving, so we will begin selling cards after Mass the weekend of November 22 and 23. We will continue to sell cards until December 14. We will have 2 tables in the Gathering Space until December 13. On December 14, we will be in St Patrick Hall during Breakfast with St. Nicholas and Baby Jesus after all Masses. As in past years, we will be selling individual cards for $2 or cards in packs of 10 for $15. Although the main focus of having these cards is being able to send a beautiful card to your family and friends, it also means having their names entered into our Book of Intentions. These names will be prayed for at the Mass of the Feast of the Holy Family, December 28, and all throughout the year. Forms will be available to enter the names of those you are sending cards to and they can be dropped off in the Gathering Space during the month of December. Exact change will be greatly appreciated or your personal check made out to St Michael's Respect Life. Proceeds from the sale help us support the many organizations that need our help.

As always, thank you for your support and God Bless You.

Sample Cards





Education and Formation



ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL
WARRIOR OF THE WEEK
HAILEY FILETTI

Hello, my name is Hailey Filetti. I started attending St. Michael's School in second grade. I transferred from Oak Hill Elementary School. Moving schools wasn't a big difference for me. I instantly clicked with everyone in my class. I have made so many friends over the years, some of which are still my best friends. I am currently undecided on which high school I am going to. My two options are Illiana Christian or Andrean High School. Some activities I have done outside of school are AAU basketball, school basketball, travel softball, choir, liturgy leaders, Girl Scouts, volleyball, cheerleading, and helping the kindergarteners for service hours. I have played softball since I was 4 years old. I started playing travel softball when I was 9 years old and am still currently playing. I currently play on 5 Star Lady Mafia. I am going into my third year of AAU basketball. I am going to be playing on Indiana Game this spring. I have played school basketball since 5th grade. In 5th grade, my team and I won the SJE Holiday Tournament.

I have always felt welcomed at SMS. I have formed great relationships with my classmates throughout my years at SMS. Being in smaller classrooms has helped me to make many friends. All of my teachers are very easy to talk to and are always willing to help me with my homework. Something that makes SMS so special to me are my teachers. I love talking to my teachers, and I talk to them everyday. I still like to catch up with some of my former teachers. I have been so stressed about which high school I am going to, but my teachers have helped me in choosing the right path for myself. This is something I worry about everyday, knowing I can talk to someone about it, and that makes me feel relaxed.

My advice to younger students is to always stay on top of your work. School can be so overwhelming and stressful at times. Knowing what assignments you need to do will help you stay much more organized. Always study for your tests. Even if you think you know what will be on the test, it is always good to double check before taking the test.

SMS has helped me grow as a friend, and family member, teammate, student, and disciple of Jesus in many different ways. Sometimes I find myself saying how much I don't like school, but I am truly grateful for all of the things I have learned. My teachers have helped shape me into the person I am today. They have taught me how to be a good follower of Christ. I would not know as much about God if it weren't for my teachers. My love for God has deepened. My relationship with God is much stronger. When I am struggling with something, I always turn towards God for help. I will soon be entering high school and leaving SMS. I wish my classmates the best of luck entering high school. I will miss SMS so much, but it will always hold a special place in my heart.



FAITH FORMATION

Meet some of our Faith Formation Car Train volunteers! Megan, Kerrie, and King (on left) and Anthony, Paul, and Josh (on right). We have 9 wonderful volunteers, who ensure the children are safe each week upon arrival and dismissal for classes. Thank you to all of them!



RADIATE YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming dates for Radiate:

Sun, November 30: Celebrating Advent with Hot Cocoa Bar, Cookies & A Christmas Story NIGHT! (6-8 PM in St. Patrick Hall)
NOTE: Bring Your Own Favorite Coffee Mug!
Sun, December 7: GYM NIGHT (6-8 PM in SMS Gym)
Fri, December 19: SERVICE PROJECT & CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT: Caroling at Dyer Nursing Home (4:30 PM). For Christmas Party, meet afterwards in St. Patrick Hall until 8:00 PM.

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



Parish Life



Hand Carved Religious Figures for Sale After All Masses in Saint Patrick Hall this Weekend

"A beautiful collection of hand carved olive wood religious articles from the Holy Land are for sale in Saint Patrick Hall. They are very beautiful, and they make excellent gifts for First Communion, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, and school raffle donations. The profits support the Catholic families who carved these articles in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Supporting Catholics in the Holy Land is very important at this difficult time because they are protecting the Holy Churches for all of us. I encourage you to stop by and support our suffering Catholic families in the Holy Land." - Imad Qumsieh



LABORS OF LOVE





Happy Thanksgiving from Labors of Love!
Labors of Love would like to thank all who purchased items or made monetary donations at our annual Craft Boutique last Donut Sunday, November 16. Join us for our next meeting, December 2 at 10 AM in St. Patrick Hall.

Giving Tuesday • December 2

Your Gift Makes a World of Difference.

Did you know?



The Labors of Love Ministry became an official ministry of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in 2016. What began as a small group of crafters creating sleeping mats for the homeless has grown into a vibrant ministry of over 30 dedicated members. Over the years—including through the challenges of COVID—the members continued creating, encouraging one another, and finding ways to stay connected. Their perseverance allowed the ministry not only to survive but to flourish. Today, their outreach extends across Northwest Indiana, delivering handcrafted gifts of compassion wherever they are needed.

Members of the ministry create a wide variety of items: baby blankets, hats, shawls, scarves, slippers, lapghans, rosaries, baptismal gifts, and more. This past year, they introduced a special Baptismal Package for every baby baptized in the parish, a meaningful gift for families to celebrate this important milestone. Every item crafted by the Labors of Love is made with prayer, purpose, and compassion. Each piece is a masterpiece, and every recipient is a reminder of why this ministry serves.



To continue sharing God's love in such a tangible, heartfelt way, the ministry relies on community support. This Giving Tuesday, your generosity helps the Labors of Love Ministry continue spreading warmth, hope, and compassion throughout the community. Thank You!



Scan to Donate



QRCode is now active for online donations. Cash or check donations can be sent to the parish office.



Christmas Flower envelopes should be submitted in the collection towers by Dec 8 at 9 AM if you would like your intentions printed in the Christmas Bulletin.

The Parish Office will be closed November 26 at 12:00 PM until December 1 at 9:00 AM. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

CLOSED

SENIOR GEMS

Please join us on our next outing, Nov. 25. We will meet at the Antique Mall in Highland at 10 AM. Then we will go to the Welcome Center in Highland to see the Christmas trees followed by lunch. Hope to see you there.



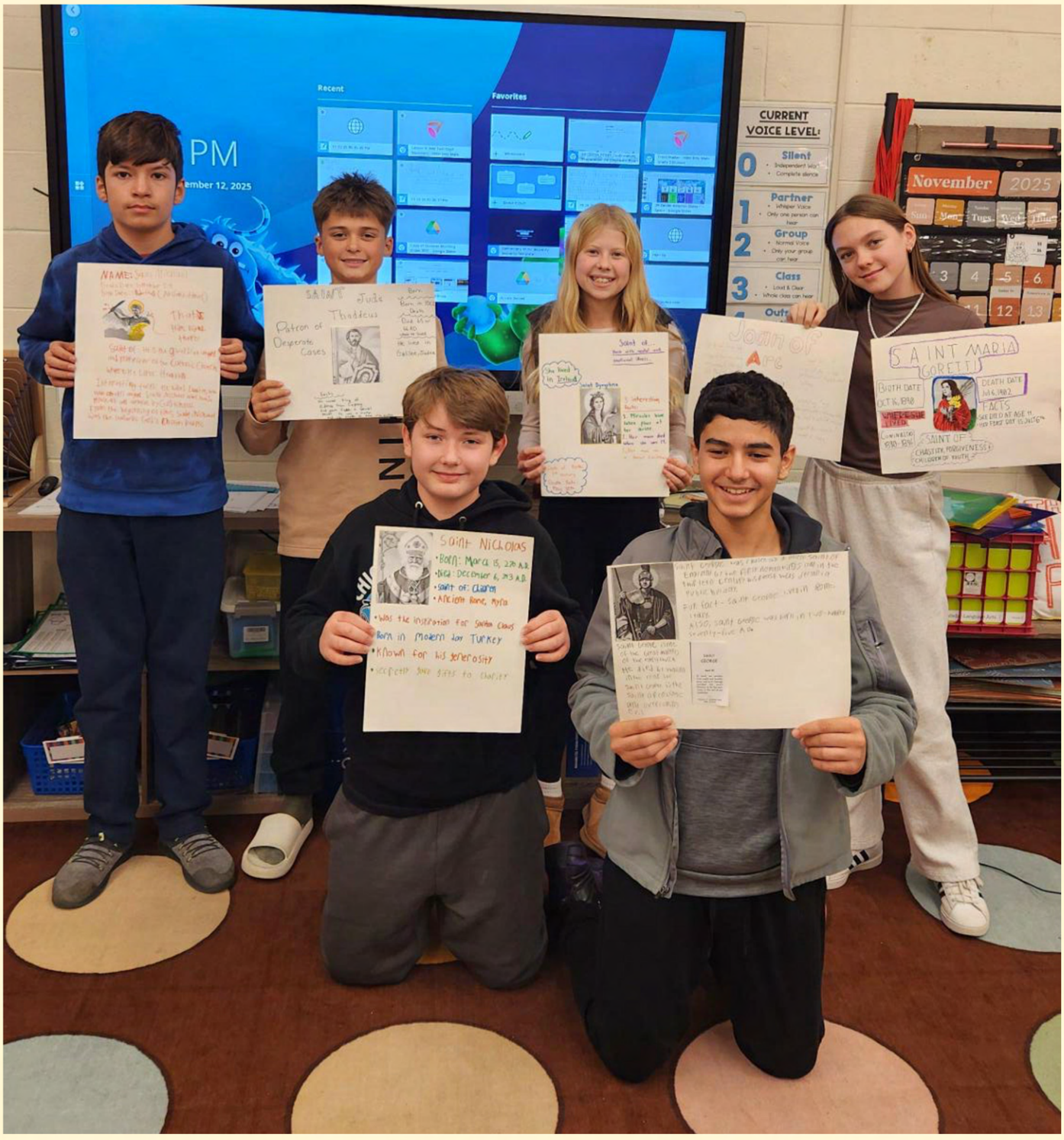
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Looking for a young adult community with Catholic values? Text or call AnnMarie Hemmerling to join the Young Adult GroupMe! 219-798-3248





Faith Formation



7th Grade Tuesday Faith Formation students shared a Saint presentation they have been working on for class. Some are looking forward to their Confirmation year when they will choose a Saint that inspires them!

Keep children warm this winter!

Caps for Kids

Now through January, the Diocese of Gary's communication team is helping the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, District Council of Gary, collect new or handmade hats, scarves and gloves for its Caps for Kids campaign.

Items can be dropped off at the Diocese of Gary
9292 Broadway | Merrillville, IN 46410

Make checks payable to "Caps for Kids" and send to
St. Vincent de Paul, 2714 169th St., Hammond, IN 46323



SOCIETY of ST. VINCENT de PAUL
St V de P
GARY

NWI CATHOLIC

Contact Erin (219) 769-9292; 88251
email: eciszczon@dcgary.org

Pause & Prepare

BEAUTY BORN IN THE BROKEN

Advent Retreat

Hosted by the Catholic Churches of Crown Point

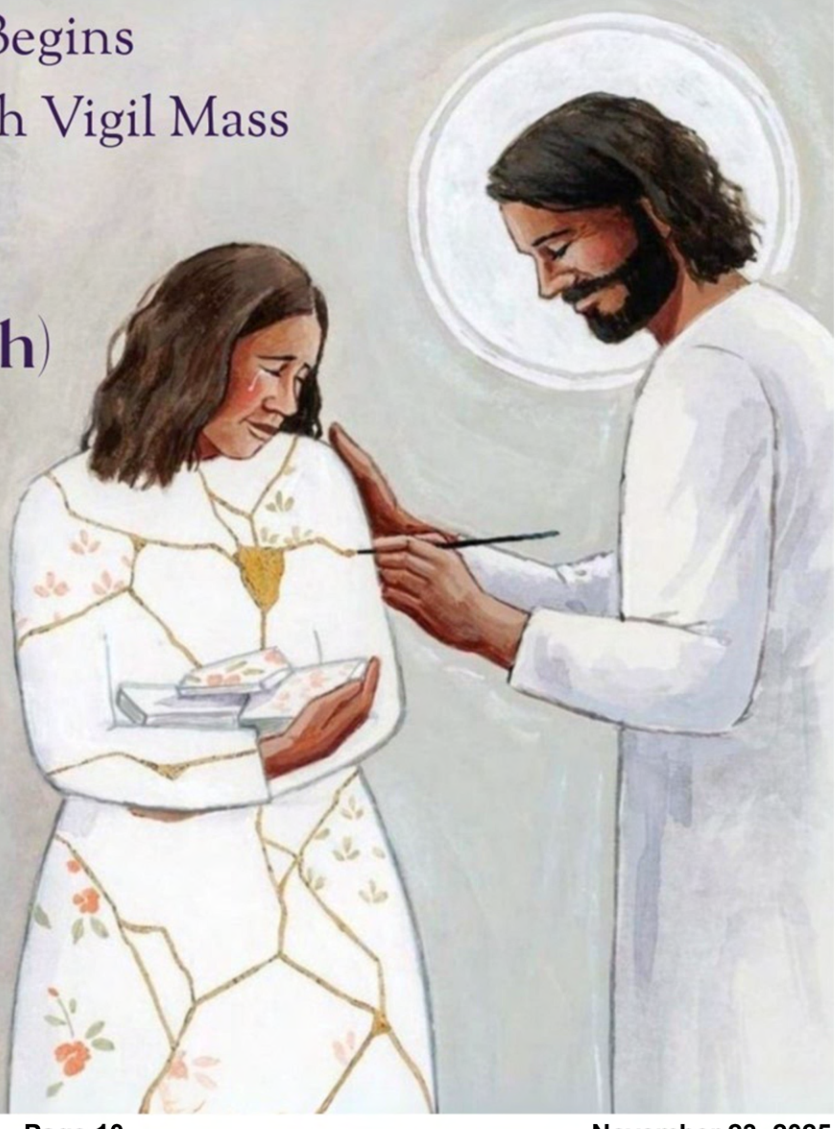
Saturday, December 13, 2025

The Carmelite Banquet Hall | 1628 Ridge Road, Munster

- 10:00 am Registration Begins
- 4:30 pm Concludes with Vigil Mass

Cost is $50.00 per person (includes lunch)

Please visit website or scan QR Code to register.



Stewardship in Action

Going to confession is an act of faith and hope. Honor Christ by making a strong confession. Encourage someone to go to confession.

-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.



November 16, 2025

Adult Collection - $12,782.00

Children's Collection - $119.59

Loose Collection - $598.00

EFT's - $5,341.00

Total Weekly Offering

$18,841.14

Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Schedule

GS-Gathering Space SPH-St. Patrick Hall

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23
2nd collection-Campaign for Human Development
K of C Pancake Breakfast, After All Masses, SPH
Pre-Order Advent Wreath Pickup, After all Masses
Olive Wood Sales, After All Masses, SPH
Respect Life Card Sales, After All Masses, GS
OCIA, 9:30 AM–12:00 PM, SE and SW Rooms

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

MONDAY NOVEMBER 24
Liturgy Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM, SE Room

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25
Senior Gems, 10:00 AM, SPH
Catholic Bible Study, 7:00 PM, SPH

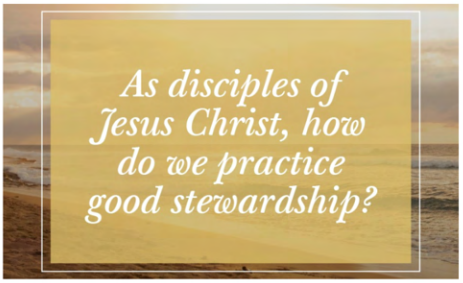
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26
Parish Office Closes at 12:00 PM
Eucharistic Adoration, 1:00-4:00 PM, Chapel

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 27 - Happy Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00 AM
Good Samaritan Food Drive Drop Off, Drop Bags Off at Beginning of 9:00 AM Mass, GS
Parish Office Closed

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28
Parish Office Closed
Bell Choir Practice, 6:00 PM, Church

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29
Advent Decorating, Open to All, 9:30 AM, Church
Confessions, 3:30-4:30 PM, Chapel
Respect Life Card Sales, After 5:00 PM Mass, GS
Tree of Life Sales, After 5:00 PM Mass

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30
Respect Life Card Sales, After 5:00 PM Mass, GS
Tree of Life Sales, After All Masses, GS
OCIA, 9:30 AM–12:00 PM, SE and SW Rooms
Radiate, 6:00 PM, SPH





Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22

5:00 PM ✚ Elizabeth Oberman

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

7:30 AM ✚ Kristin and John Finley

9:30 AM ✚ Henry Lyza
✚ Rita Madson-Jones
✚ Joanne Janowski

11:30 AM St. Michael Parish

MONDAY NOVEMBER 24

7:00 AM ✚ Jose Guadalupe Flores

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25

7:00 AM ✚ Deceased Parents of the Sisters of Congregation of Mother of Carmel
✚ George and Bernice Doppler

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26

7:00 AM ✚ James Condreva, Sr.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 27

9:00 AM In Thanks of God's Blessing

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28

7:00 AM ✚ Pat Christenson

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29

8:00 AM ✚ Daniel Kuzma

5:00 PM ✚ James "Nacho" Mendoza, 9th Anniversary

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 AM St. Michael Parish

9:30 AM ✚Greg Mis

11:30 AM ✚Elizabeth Bohling
✚Mary Marsh
✚ Dolores Wright

✚ indicates deceased

The Word

(Readings for November 30, 2025, 1st Sunday in Advent)

Reflections...

I. Isaiah 2:1-5 — On that day, "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks," prophesied Isaiah. "One nation shall not raise the sword against another." He went on: "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord."

II. Romans 13:11-14 — Paul urged the Romans: "It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. Let us put on the armor of light. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ."

III. Matthew 24:37-44 — Jesus said that the Son of Man will come at an hour no one can expect. Therefore, all people must stay awake, keep a watchful eye and be prepared.

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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Parishioner &
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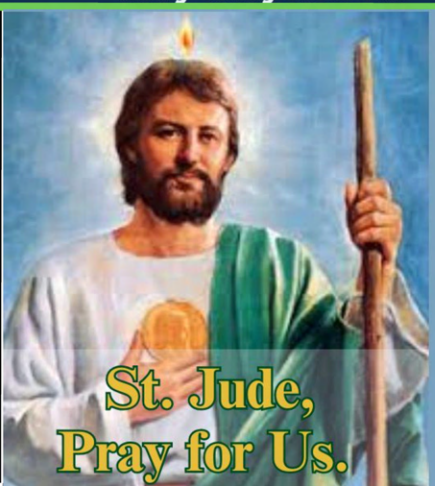
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faithful servant and friend of Jesus,
the Church honors and invokes you
universally,
as the patron of hopeless causes,
of things almost despaired of.
Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone.
Help me, I implore you,
by that particular privilege given to you,
to bring visible and speedy help
where help is almost despaired of.

Come to my assistance in this great need,
that I may receive the consolation
and help of Heaven in all my necessities,
tribulation and sufferings,
particularly (state request)and that I may praise
God with you and all the elect forever.
I promise, O blessed St Jude,
to be ever mindful of this great favour,
to always honour you as my special & powerful
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