

Second Sunday in the Season of Advent



*“As the journey of Advent continues,
as we prepare to celebrate the Nativity of Christ,
John the Baptist’s call to conversion
sounds out in our communities.*

*It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts
and to welcome the Son of God Who comes
among us to make Divine judgement manifest.”*

+Pope Benedict XVI
*Angelus for the Second Sunday of Advent
Saint Peter’s Square, December 2005*



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

Saturday Vigil	4:00pm
Sunday	8:30am
	10:30am
	12:30pm
	5:00pm

Daily

Monday-Friday	6:30am
Monday-Saturday	8:15am

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2:00pm on first and third Sundays.
Pre-Baptism class is at 2:00pm on
second Sunday. All by appointment.

Sponsors need letter from
their pastor.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

2:30–3:30pm every Saturday;
Weekly Holy Hour with
Confessions from 6:30–7:30pm
every Wednesday.
Anytime upon request.
(Call for appointment.)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

No date should be set prior to
seeing a priest or deacon six
months before desired date.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish office.

614.885.7814

SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG
5750 NORTH HIGH STREET
WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



FIND US ON
facebook
facebook.com/stmichaelworthington

SAINT MICHAEL STAFF DIRECTORY

WEBSITE: SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG

Parish Office: 614-885-7814

MINISTERS TO THE PARISH

Pastor:

Fr. Michael J. Lumpe

Parochial Vicar:

Fr. Wojciech Stachura, SAC

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Dcn. Klaus Fricke (Retired)

Pastoral Minister:

Sr. Riya Mary

srriya@saintmichael-cd.org

Youth Minister:

Jake Asuncion

jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org

Director of RCIA:

Jake Neal

jneal@sjhcc.org

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager:

Kris Jesse

kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org

Office Manager:

Kathy Trafford

ktrafford@saintmichael-cd.org

Receptionist/Secretary:

Rhonda Marinelli

rmarinelli@saintmichael-cd.org

Marketing & Communications:

Rebecca Lund

rlund@saintmichael-cd.org

Campus Facility and Safety Director:

Steve Moore

smoore@saintmichael-cd.org

Safe Environment Coordinator:

Bethany Cook

bcook@saintmichael-cd.org

Choir Director/Organist:

Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Website: stmichaelworthington.org

School Office: 614-885-3149

Principal:

Sr. Mary Regina, O.P.

principal@stmichaelworthington.org

Preschool Director:

Laura Wells

lwells@stmichaelworthington.org

SAINT MICHAEL INFORMATION CENTER



LOW-GLUTEN HOST

If you are in need of a low-gluten host, please scan this QR code for full details.



NEW MEMBERS

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. We are often asked to provide affidavits for parishioner standing. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. You can register by scanning the QR code above or by visiting our website at www.saintmichael-cd.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

To submit a bulletin request, the request must be made no later than 12:00 p.m., Monday. Send bulletin requests to rlund@saintmichael-cd.org with "BULLETIN REQUEST" in the subject line with all details and contact person for questions. Early submission deadlines may be required surrounding holidays. All bulletin requests are subject to approval.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

St. Michael's Homebound Ministry is available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound. If you or a loved one within St. Michael Parish boundaries would like someone to bring the Eucharist to you, please reach out to Sr. Riya Mary to coordinate. She can be reached by calling the Parish Office or by emailing srriya@stmichael-cd.org.



ONLINE GIVING

St. Michael offers online giving as a convenient tool for you to use. Scan the QR code to learn more or to set up online contributions.

Athletic Association Representative:

Liz Trolli

smaa@saintmichael-cd.org

Knights of Columbus Representative:

Seth Walker

grandknight@kofc11445.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

svdp@saintmichael-cd.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2023

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 10

- 8:30 a.m. + Maureen Ferega (James Ferega)
- 10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Bohnen-Hartley Family
- 12:30 p.m. + Marian Denlinger (Deacon John Crerand)
- 5:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Monday, December 11

- 6:30 a.m. + Pilar Caso Requena & Julio Requena (Luis Caso)
- 8:15 a.m. + Theresa Deibel (Steve & Mary Deibel)

Tuesday, December 12

- 6:30 a.m. Special Intention of the Agnello Family (Rich & Theresa Agnello)
- 8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Elizabeth Shepherd (Lauren Jazwicz)

Wednesday, December 13

- 6:30 a.m. + Joan Carol Brown (The Brown Family)
- 8:15 a.m. For the School
- 6:00 p.m. For our Parish Families during this Advent Season

Thursday, December 14

- 6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Megan Wells (Laura Wells)
- 8:15 a.m. + Elizabeth Sulich (Liz & Meg Heller)

Friday, December 15

- 6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Linda Orlik (Lauren Jazwicz)
- 8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Vincent DeCenzo (The DeCenzo Family)

Saturday, December 16

- 8:15 a.m. + Mary Jane Stofer (The Stofer Family)
- 4:00 p.m. + Mr. & Mrs. James O'Leary (The O'Leary Family)

Sunday, December 17

- 8:30 a.m. + Deceased Members of the Mathy-Miller Families
- 10:30 a.m. + James Mentel (Rose & Doug Bickford)
- 12:30 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
- 5:00 p.m. + Christopher Pena (The O'Leary Family)



DECEMBER 10, 2023 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Prepare the way of the Lord..."

— MARK 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP DECEMBER 3, 2023:

Envelopes.....	\$ 15,243.50
Online Giving	\$ 15,752.00
Total.....	\$ 30,995.50

PARISH CALENDAR: DECEMBER

SUNDAY, December 10	SVdP Giving Trees in Marian Hall K of C Collection for Troops in Marian Hall 11:30 a.m. RCIA (LMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptism Class (UMR)	Thursday, December 14	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 5:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting (U) 6:00 p.m. Respect Life Ministry Meeting (UMR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)
Monday, December 11	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U) 6:30 p.m. K of C 4th Degree Meeting (LMR) 6:30 p.m. Youth Group Mission Trip Inquiry Night (UMR) 7:30 p.m. K of C Meeting (LMR)	Friday, December 15	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 4:00 p.m. Opus Dei (UMR) 7:00 p.m. Opus Dei (C)
Tuesday, December 12	11:30 a.m. Live Wires Christmas Luncheon (MH)	Saturday, December 16	SVdP Giving Trees in Marian Hall 7:00 a.m. Pietra Class (LMR) 8:00 a.m. Opus Dei Recollections (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, December 13	6:00 p.m. Melchizedek Project (UMR) 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY, December 17	SVdP Giving Trees in Marian Hall K of C Collection for Troops in Marian Hall 11:30 a.m. RCIA (LMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptism (C) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (MH)

(U) = Undercroft/Cafeteria, (S) = School, (C) = Church, (G) = Gym, (MH) = Marian Hall, (SL) = School Library, (UMR) = Meeting room on the first floor of the Parish Ministry Center, (LMR) = Meeting room in the basement of the Parish Ministry Center, (AC) = Adoration Chapel

FROM THE PASTOR

ON THIS SECOND SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT, we meet up with John the Baptist at the River Jordan, who boldly says: "I am the voice of One crying out in the desert." He didn't say, "I am one crying out in the desert," but rather, "I am *THE VOICE* of one crying out in the desert." John is the voice, the loudspeaker, the spokesperson; who is the "one crying out?" It's the Word, Christ Jesus Himself. John's message is God's message, which John was screaming at the top of his powerful lungs. The message was urgent and clear: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptist is telling us that to get ready for the Lord, who is coming this Advent; we, too, need to prepare a way for Him. We, too, need to make straight the paths. In the ancient world, preparing such a path meant a great deal of manual work, making crooked paths straight, rough ways smooth, polishing our edges, and even charting paths through the mountains and valleys. For us, that pathway will not be traced on the ground, but in our minds and hearts. It will not be made in the wilderness, but in our life and the choices we make in life. The work is not something that will make our hands dirty, but our souls clean. What John the Baptist is calling us to is a conversion of mind and heart. To preach conversion is the mission of John the Baptist, which is why we encounter him every Advent, because in Advent, this message must be preached and conversion must be practiced. The reason is because Jesus has come into the world – to save us from our sins, to save us from ourselves, and from what our sins lead to: death. In order for us to appreciate Christ our Savior and what He did for us, we have to realize that we are sinners who need Him to save us from our sins. That's why John the Baptist's message is such a gift. His whole vocation, his whole mission, was to deliver that message. Before he was even conceived, the Archangel Gabriel said to his dad, Zechariah, "He will turn the hearts of many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah, he will go before the Lord, to turn ... the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." (Luke 1:16-17) Nine months later at his birth, Zechariah exclaimed, "You, my child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins." (Luke 1:76-77) When the Baptist arrived at the Jordan, he fulfilled those prophecies, "proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of their sins," as we read in today's Gospel (Mark 1:4). His first words at the Jordan were "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." (Matthew 3:2) Those were the identical words that Jesus Himself would use to inaugurate His public ministry a little later, after His forty days in the desert, "Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven has come near. (Matthew 4:17) Thus, John was the voice of Jesus crying out in the desert for "repentance" through the forgiveness of our sins. That voice and that Word continue to echo in our minds and our hearts today. Folks, the Lord comes for us in Advent, but for Him to reach His destination, we have to convert from the way of the world and sin, and embrace the way of Christ. "To make straight the paths of the Lord" means to clear the path of sin, which is the major obstacle for the Lord to come into our lives. Quoting the prophet Isaiah from today's first reading (Isaiah 40:4), John the Baptist says, "Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth." (Luke 3:5) We have to call those topographical formations by their proper names. We have to make low the mountains of our pride and egocentrism. We have to fill in the valleys that come from a shallow prayer life and, perhaps, a minimalistic way of living our faith. We have to straighten out whatever crooked paths we've been walking. To help identify those crooked paths, an **Examination of Conscience** is included in this bulletin. And the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available here not only on Saturday afternoons (2:30-3:30 p.m.), but also Wednesday evenings (6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.) as part of our Weekly Holy Hour. No time like the present, folks, to clear away all the sin and debris in our paths; and if we've been pushing Christ's way off the side of the road, if we've been saying we don't really have the time for His ways, now's the time to get our priorities straight. This Advent – which is a gift of the Lord to us – we will succeed or fail on the basis of how well we convert and clear our lives of sin so that the Lord may come to us. Let's make a good Confession as the first step in straightening our paths!

OF NOTE:

+ C'MON MEN, WE CAN DO THIS! "EXODUS 90" – A NEW PROGRAM FOR THE MEN IN OUR PARISH (AND YOUR FRIENDS): Exodus 90 is a men's program focused on prayer, asceticism, and fraternity. The intent is to identify and separate from the things in our life that pull us away from God, which is rather abundant in our current culture. We are looking to form our own Exodus 90 group from the men of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish. Please consider joining this program; see the ad in the bulletin to learn more, and to sign up (click on the QR code or visit the link; you can email questions to John Rihtar at jrihtar@gmail.com). With the celebration of Easter on Sunday, March 31 this coming year, the beginning of the Exodus 90 program happens to take place on January 1. What a great way to start the New Year! (Yes, I am going to do this! – Fr. Mike)

+ DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA forms or envelopes is this Monday, December 11. Fill them out and place them in an envelope, place the envelope in the Offertory, or drop off your envelope to the Sacristy or Parish Office.

+ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT PLANNING: For the Fourth Sunday of Advent, I've added an additional Vigil Mass for Saturday, December 23 – 4:00 p.m. **AND** 6:00 p.m. This is because on Sunday, December 24, we will have our 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses, but we **WILL NOT** have a 12:30 p.m. Mass; after the 10:30 a.m. Mass, we will be decorating our Church for Christmas.

+ CHRISTMAS MASS PLANNING: Our Parish schedule is: Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. with a Homecoming Reception to follow in Marian Hall; Monday, December 25, Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m.

God bless,

Fr. Mike Lumpe

ADVENT SEASON

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish + 5750 N. High Street + Worthington, Ohio 43085 + (614) 885-7814

A Good Guide for us this Advent

By Father Peter John Cameron, O.P.

A good guide for us this Advent is Simone Weil (1909-1943) — the French philosopher whom T. S. Eliot described as "a kind of genius akin to that of the saints."

Weil was a Jewish woman who became a Christian mystic. Fascinated from her childhood with the Gospel commandment of love of neighbor, Weil painstakingly practiced self-sacrificing charity, even to the point of limiting her personal daily allotment of food to that prescribed by World War II rationing, so as to be in solidarity with the afflicted French people under Nazi occupation.

Her love of the Catholic Faith was fostered by encounters with priests like Dominican Fathers Joseph-Marie Perrin and Edouard Couturier. She recounts a dramatic mystical experience:

In a moment of intense physical suffering, I felt, without being in any way prepared for it, a presence more personal, more certain, more real than that of a human being, though inaccessible to the senses and the imagination. Christ himself came down and took possession of me. I felt in the midst of my suffering the presence of a love, like that which one can read in the smile on a beloved face.

We want that certain, most personal Presence of a love to take hold of us this Advent. How can we help it happen? Weil gives us this counsel:

The infinity of space and time separates us from God. How shall we seek for him? How shall we turn towards him?... We cannot make a single step towards heaven. God must traverse the universe and come to us. But in fact anyone who consents to orient their attention and their love outside the world, toward the reality situated beyond every human faculty, is given to succeed.... Across the infinity of space and time the infinitely more infinite love of God comes to possess us. God comes in his time. We have the power to consent to welcome God's love or refuse it.

Weil is entreating us to give our attention to divine wisdom. No wonder, then, that the first of the great O Antiphons of Advent implores, "Come and show your people the way to salvation."

Desire, oriented toward God, is the only force capable of raising the soul. Or rather, God alone comes to possess and lift the soul, but only desire obliges God to descend. God only comes to those who ask God to come — those who ask often, for a long time, and ardently. God cannot prevent himself from coming to them.

This desire is expressed in the ancient traditional Advent plea Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus! Or in the words of the O Antiphons, "Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid" — you who are the "desire of the nations" and "the only joy of every human heart."

The attitude that brings about salvation does not resemble any human activity... It is expectant waiting.... The slave that listens before the door to open it when the master knocks is the best image of it. He must be ready to die of hunger and exhaustion rather than changing his attitude.... We must not do anything but wait expectantly for the good and depart from evil.... I realized that Christianity is the religion of slaves, that slaves cannot help belonging to it, and I among others.

We wait like the father of the prodigal son, searching the horizon for the certain return of his beloved child. Our Advent vigilance will pay off in dividends of virtue, for "every time that we truly pay attention, we destroy evil in ourselves." Like famished, eager, listening slaves, we beg through the O Antiphons: "Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness...and lead your captive people into freedom.... Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free."

Simone Weil died at the age of thirty-four from tuberculosis, and she is buried in the Catholic section of the cemetery in Ashford in Kent, England.

Courtesy of the Catholic Education Resource Center.

ADVENT SEASON

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish + 5750 N. High Street + Worthington, Ohio 43085 + (614) 885-7814

Advent and the Christmas Crib

By Pope Benedict XVI

After celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, we enter during these days into the evocative atmosphere of immediate preparation for Holy Christmas, and we already see the tree set up here.

In today's consumer society, this period has unfortunately suffered a sort of commercial "pollution" that risks changing its authentic spirit, marked by recollection, moderation and joy, which is not external but intimate.

It is thus providential that almost as a portal to Christmas there should be the Feast of the one who is the Mother of Jesus and who, better than anyone else, can lead us to know, love and adore the Son of God made man.

Let us therefore allow her to accompany us; may her sentiments prompt us to prepare ourselves with heartfelt sincerity and openness of spirit to recognize in the Child of Bethlehem the Son of God who came into the world for our redemption. Let us walk together with her in prayer and accept the repeated invitation that the Advent liturgy addresses to us to remain in expectation — watchful and joyful expectation — for the Lord will not delay: He comes to set his people free from sin.

Following a beautiful and firmly-rooted tradition, many families set up their Crib immediately after the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, as if to relive with Mary those days full of trepidation that preceded the birth of Jesus. Putting up the Crib at home can be a simple but effective way of presenting faith, to pass it on to one's children.

The Crib helps us contemplate the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto. Saint Francis of Assisi was so taken by the mystery of the Incarnation that he wanted to present it anew at Greccio in the living Nativity scene, thus beginning an old, popular tradition that still retains its value for evangelization today.

Indeed, the Crib can help us understand the secret of the true Christmas because it speaks of the humility and merciful goodness of Christ, who "though he was rich he made himself poor" for us (2 Corinthians 8: 9).

His poverty enriches those who embrace it and Christmas brings joy and peace to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the Angel's words: "Let this be a sign to you: in a manger you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes" (Luke 2:12). This is still the sign for us too, men and women of the third millennium.

There is no other Christmas.



Courtesy of the Catholic Education Resource Center.

DOERS OF THE WORD

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH ▪ 5750 N. HIGH STREET ▪ WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085 ▪ (614) 885-7814

The Conversion of Souls: Never Give Up!

By Judy Keane

At a recent Catholic conference I attended, one of the guest speakers asked those present if they had a family member who had either lapsed from the Catholic faith or if they had family members who never had it to begin with. Out of the more than 700 attendees, nearly every hand in the audience went up. Not surprising since it is estimated that upwards twenty million Americans consider themselves to be lapsed Catholics. More than likely, we all know of someone within each of our families who simply no longer practice the faith or who have not yet come to know Jesus. Yet despite this, Jesus wants each person to receive salvation. We know through the Gospels that Jesus continually interceded for others throughout his ministry – including the sick, the possessed, and even his Apostles. Following Jesus' example, we know that God the Father also wants us to intercede for the conversion of others.



Chances are when we are praying for a loved one, they won't have an immediate conversion like Saint Paul, who in an instant converted from Judaism on the road to Damascus. Therefore, we must be willing to persevere in prayer for our loved ones, knowing that prayer is powerful and that God has begun to work in their soul through his grace. We can look to the Saints to see many examples of how they persevered in prayer for the conversion of another.

One of the most popular examples is Saint Monica. Through her daily prayers and copious tears for 17 years, Saint Monica's prayers eventually led to the conversion of her pagan husband and her son, who went on to become Saint Augustine of Hippo. When Saint Monica once approached the great Christian theologian, Saint Ambrose, to see if he would speak to her son to help bring about his conversion, Saint Ambrose replied to her, "It is impossible for the son of such tears to perish!" Even though she did not see immediate results, Saint Monica serves as a great role model in never giving up in praying for the conversion of her son despite no real change in St. Augustine for 17 years!

It is also important to note that God wishes us to pray for the conversion of not only our loved ones, but also for the conversion of all unbelievers across the world, including those we have never met but may feel called to pray for in a special way– whether they be a politician, celebrity, sports figure, or someone we encounter just once in our lives in a chance meeting.

An example of such prayer comes to us from St. Therese of Lisieux who prayed for the conversion of a notorious and unrepentant killer named Henri Pranzini prior to his death by guillotine for his murderous crimes. Therese read what happened in the paper the following day after his death and recorded how when he was about to put his head into the guillotine saying, "he turned, took hold of the crucifix the priest was holding out to him, and kissed the sacred wounds three times! Then his soul went to receive the merciful sentence of him who declares that

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

"What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?" ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

"If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself. Order your soul; reduce your wants; live in charity; associate in Christian community; obey the laws; trust in Providence." +SAINT AUGUSTINE

Monday, December 11 ~ Second Week in the Season of Advent Saint Damasus I, Pope

Holy Gospel: Luke 5:17-26 One day as Jesus was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there, and the power of the Lord was with him for healing. And some men brought on a stretcher a man who was paralyzed; they were trying to bring him in and set him in his presence. But not finding a way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "As for you, your sins are forgiven." Then the scribes and Pharisees began to ask themselves, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who but God alone can forgive sins?" Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them in reply, "What are you thinking in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – he said to the one who was paralyzed, "I say to you, rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." He stood up immediately before them, picked up what he had been lying on, and went home, glorifying God. Then astonishment seized them all and they glorified God, and, struck with awe, they said, "We have seen incredible things today."

Meditation: Jesus' treatment of sinners upset the religious teachers of the day. When the paralyzed man was brought to Jesus because of the faith of his friends, Jesus did the unthinkable. He first forgave the man his sins. The scribes regarded this as blasphemy because they understood that only God had authority to forgive sins and to unbind a man or woman from their burden of guilt. Jesus claimed an authority which only God could rightfully give. Jesus not only proved that his authority came from God, he showed the great power of God's redeeming love and mercy by healing the cripple of his physical ailment. This man had been crippled not only physically, but spiritually as well. Jesus freed him from his burden of guilt and restored his body as well. The Lord is ever ready to bring us healing of body, mind, and soul. His grace brings us freedom from the power of sin and from bondage to harmful desires and addictions. Do you allow anything to keep you from Jesus' healing power?

Prayer: Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may constantly exalt the merits of your Martyrs, whom Pope Saint Damasus so venerated and loved. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Is there anything in your life that keeps you from receiving the blessings of God's kingdom? The prophets foretold that when the Messiah came to usher in God's kingdom the blind would see, the deaf hear, and the lame walk (Isaiah 35:5-6). Jesus not only brought physical healing, but healing of mind, heart, and soul as well. Jesus came to bring us the abundant life of God's kingdom (John 10:10). But that new life and transformation can be stifled by unbelief, indifference, and sinful pride. Sin cripples us far more than any physical ailment can. Sin is the work of the kingdom of darkness and it holds us in eternal bondage. There is only one solution and that is the healing, cleansing power of Jesus' forgiveness. In this Season of Advent, as we prepare our hearts and minds, let us humble ourselves, let us be honest with ourselves, and let us conform ourselves to Christ, who was sent by God to redeem us.

About Saint Damasus: Saint Damasus was Supreme Pontiff from 366 to 384. He was a very learned man, well versed in the Scriptures. He commissioned Saint Jerome to complete the translation of the Bible into the Latin language. Shortly after his reign the 72 books of the Bible, hitherto scattered in different parts of the Orient, were collected into one volume. He defended the rights of the Holy See, and beautified

the Roman resting places of the Christian dead and of the saints. He also confirmed the practice of singing the Psalms day and night in the churches and adding a "Glory Be" at the end of each Psalm.

Tuesday, December 12 ~ Second Week in the Season of Advent

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Meditation: How does Mary respond to the word of God delivered by the angel Gabriel? She knows she is hearing something beyond human capability. It will surely take a miracle which surpasses all that God has done previously. Her question, "how shall this be, since I have no husband" is not prompted by doubt or skepticism, but by wonderment! She is a true hearer of the Word and she immediately responds with faith and trust. Mary's prompt response of "yes" to the divine message is a model of faith for all believers. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God's will, even if it seemed difficult or costly. Mary is the "mother of God" because God becomes incarnate when he takes on flesh in her womb. When we pray the Nicene Creed we state our confession of faith in this great mystery: "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man". God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willingness, obedience, and heart-felt trust as Mary did. When God commands he also gives the help, strength, and means to respond. We can either yield to his grace or resist and go our own way. Do you believe in God's promises and do you yield to his grace?

Prayer: O God, Father of mercies, who placed your people under the singular protection of your Son's most holy Mother, grant that all who invoke the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe, may seek with ever more lively faith the progress of peoples in the ways of justice and of peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Do you know the favor of the Lord? God lavishes his grace upon all who believe in him. He shows his favor to the lowly, to those who are humble and receptive to his word. We see the unfolding of God's plan of redemption in the events leading up to the Incarnation, the birth of the Messiah. The new era of salvation begins with the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary. This child to be born is conceived by the gracious action of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, who finds favor with God. As Eve was the mother of all humanity doomed to sin, now Mary becomes the mother of the new Adam who will father a new humanity by his grace (Romans 5:12-21). This child to be conceived in her womb is the fulfillment of all God's promises. He will be "great" and "Son of the Most High" and "King" (Luke 1:32-33), and his name shall be called "Jesus", which means "the Lord saves." "He will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). The promise of an everlasting kingdom to the house of David (Isaiah 9:6-7) is fulfilled in the King to be born in Mary's womb. Let us prepare ourselves in these weeks of Advent to come and adore him.

Web site of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin including prayer intentions and Mass intentions: <http://www.guadalupe Shrine.org/>

Wednesday, December 13 ~ Second Week in the Season of Advent

Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus said to the crowds: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Meditation: The Jewish people used the image of a yoke to express submission to God. They spoke of the yoke of the law, the yoke of the commandments, the yoke of the kingdom, the yoke of God. Jesus says his yoke is "easy." The Greek word for "easy" can also mean "well-fitting." Yokes were tailor-made to fit the oxen well. We are commanded to put on the "sweet yoke of Jesus" and to live the "heavenly way of life and happiness." Oxen were yoked two by two. Jesus invites us to be yoked with him, to unite our lives with him, our wills with his will, our heart with his heart. Jesus also says his "burden is light." There's a story of a man who once met a boy carrying a smaller crippled lad on his back. "That's a heavy load you are carrying there," exclaimed the man. "He ain't heavy; he's my brother!" responded the boy. No burden is too heavy when it's given in love and carried in love. When we yoke our lives with Jesus, he also carries our burdens with us and gives us his strength to follow in his way of love. Do you know the joy of resting in Jesus' presence and walking daily with him along the path he has for you?

Prayer: May the glorious intercession of the Virgin and Martyr Saint Lucy give us new heart, we pray, O Lord, so that we may celebrate her heavenly birthday in this present age and so behold things eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: In the Season of Advent we celebrate the coming of the Messianic King who ushers in the reign of God. The prophets foretold that the Messiah would establish God's kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy. Those who put their trust in God and in the coming of his kingdom receive the blessings of that kingdom - peace with God and strength for living his way of love and holiness (ref. Isaiah 40). Jesus fulfills all the Messianic hopes and promises of God's kingdom. That is why he taught his disciples to pray, "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (ref. Matthew 6:10). In his kingdom sins are not only forgiven but removed, and eternal life is poured out for all its citizens. This is not a political kingdom, but a spiritual one. The yoke of Christ's kingdom, his kingly rule and way of life, liberates us from the burden of guilt and from the oppression of sin and hurtful desires. Only Jesus can lift the burden of sin and the weight of hopelessness from us. Jesus used the analogy of a yoke to explain how we can exchange the burden of sin and despair for a burden of glory and yoke of freedom from the grip of sin. The yoke which Jesus invites us to embrace is his way of grace and freedom from the power of sin. Do you trust in God's love and submit to his will for your life? If not, why not?

Thursday, December 14 ~ Second Week in the Season of Advent

Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:11-15 Jesus said to the crowds: "Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the Kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now, the Kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent are taking it by force. All the prophets and the law prophesied up to the time of John. And if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah, the one who is to come. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Meditation: John the Baptist is the last and greatest of the prophets of the old covenant. He fulfilled the essential task of all the prophets: to be fingers pointing to Christ, God's Anointed Son and Messiah. John proclaimed Jesus' mission at the Jordan River when he exclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" (ref. John 1:29). John saw from a distance what Jesus would accomplish through his death on the cross — our redemption from bondage to sin and death and our adoption as sons and daughters of God and citizens of the kingdom of heaven. John the Baptist bridges the Old and New Testaments. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets who point the way to the Messiah. He is the first of the New Testament witnesses and martyrs. He is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus the Messiah. Jesus confirms that John has fulfilled the promise that Elijah would return to herald the coming of the Messiah (Malachi 4:5). Jesus declares that John is nothing less than the great herald whose privilege it was to announce the coming of the Messiah. Jesus equates the coming of his kingdom with violence. John himself suffered violence for announcing that the kingdom of God was near. He was thrown into prison and then beheaded. Since John's martyrdom to the present times the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence and persecution at the hands of violent men. The blood of the martyrs throughout the ages bear witness to this fact. The martyrs witness to the truth — the truth and love of Jesus Christ who shed his blood to redeem us from slavery to sin and Satan and the fear of death. The Lord Jesus gives us the power of his Holy Spirit to overcome fear with faith, despair with hope, and every form of hatred, violence, jealousy, and prejudice with love and charity towards all — even those who seek to destroy and kill.

Prayer: O God, who gave the Priest Saint John of the Cross an outstanding dedication to perfect self-denial and love of the Cross, grant that, by imitating him closely at all times, we may come to

contemplate eternally your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

A Prayer of Saint John of the Cross: O blessed Jesus, give me stillness of soul in You. Let Your mighty calmness reign in me. Rule me, O King of gentleness, King of peace.

Contemplation: God may call some of us to be martyrs for our faith in Christ. But for most of us our call is to be dry martyrs who bear testimony to the joy and truths of the laws of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ in the midst of daily challenges, contradictions, temptations and adversities which come our way as we faithfully follow the Lord Jesus. What attracts others to those who follow the truth of God and his son, Jesus Christ? When they see Christians loving their enemies, being joyful in suffering, patient in adversity, pardoning injuries, and showing comfort and compassion to the hopeless and the helpless. Jesus tells us that we do not need to fear our adversaries. He will give us sufficient grace, strength, and wisdom to face any trial and to answer any challenge to our faith. Are you eager to witness to the joy and freedom of the gospel?

Friday, December 15 ~ Second Week in the Season of Advent

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19 Jesus said to the crowds: "To what shall I compare this generation? It is like children who sit in marketplaces and call to one another, 'We played the flute for you, but you did not dance, we sang a dirge but you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said, 'He is possessed by a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they said, 'Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is vindicated by her works."

Meditation: The prophets remind us that God's kingdom is open to those who are teachable and receptive to the word of God. Jesus' parable challenges us to examine whether we are selective to only hear what we want to hear. The children in Jesus' parable react with dismay because they cannot get anyone to join in their musical medley. They complain that if they play their music at weddings, no one will dance or sing; and if they play at funerals, it is the same. This refrain echoes the words of Ecclesiastes 3:4 – "there is a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance." Are you in tune with the message of the kingdom or reign of God? Jesus' message of the kingdom of God is good news and it produces true joy and spiritual freedom for those who will listen; but it is also a warning for those who refuse to listen.

Prayer: Grant that your people, we pray, almighty God, may be ever watchful for the coming of your Only Begotten Son, that, as the author of our salvation himself has taught us, we may hasten, alert and with lighted lamps, to meet him when he comes. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Why did the message of John the Baptist and the message of Jesus meet with deaf ears and with stiff resistance? It was out of jealousy and spiritual blindness that the scribes and Pharisees attributed John the Baptist's austerities to the devil and they attributed Jesus' table fellowship as evidence for messianic pretense. They succeeded in frustrating God's plan for their lives because they had closed their hearts to the message of John the Baptist and now to Jesus' message. What can make us spiritually dull and slow to hear God's voice? Like the generation of Jesus time, our age is marked by indifference and contempt, especially in regards to the things of heaven. Indifference dulls our ears to God's voice and to the good news of the gospel. Only the humble of heart can find joy and favor in God's grace. Have you come to experience the joy of the Advent season? Do you know the joy of the Gospel? Is your life in tune with Jesus' message of hope, salvation and redemption through him? 'Tis the season to get in tune with what Christ brings to each of us!

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits' *Sacred Space* web page and *Biblical Medications for Ordinary Time* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2023



in heaven there will be more joy over one sinner who does penance than over ninety-nine who have no need of repentance!"

From these powerful examples we can see that Jesus desires that we actively participate in the salvation of all souls through our prayers. Combined with fasting and penance, our prayers become even more powerful for the conversion of others, even hardened sinners such as the one St. Therese prayed for.

In her diary, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, Saint Faustina Kowalska recorded that she received a private revelation regarding intercessory prayer from Jesus who told her to "Call upon My mercy on behalf of sinners; I desire their salvation. When you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith on behalf of some sinner, I will give them the grace of conversion. This is the prayer: **"O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You"** (Diary, 186-187). You may be saying to yourself, "this is too simple an act to bring about the conversion of another!" Yet even if we find it difficult to comprehend or believe in the power of intercessory prayer, such as the prayer above, we are encouraged to act with faith and trust that Jesus will honor His promise to save the souls for whom such prayer is offered.

We must also realize that conversion is a daily process for all of us by which we all are called to grow more like Christ. Frankly, I see myself as ever converting! Of course, we must also realize that individual souls ultimately have free will and can decide to love Jesus or reject him along with God's saving graces. For while God desires each person's individual conversion, He does not desire a coercive conversion; He desires a cooperative conversion. Still, this should never deter us from offering ongoing prayers for the conversion of another.

To borrow a famous line from Winston Churchill he once used in speaking to a group of students just after the Blitz, "Never, Never, Never Give Up!" Trusting in the power of God, these words can also be applied to us in praying for the conversion of others when it comes to the battle of saving souls in our own families and across today's world.

Judy Keane is a Catholic writer and business professional and resides in Phoenix. This article is made available courtesy of the Catholic Exchange.

An Intercessory Prayer for the Conversion of a Loved One (From the *Manual of Prayers*, 1851)

O Divine and Adorable Savior,
Thou Who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life,
I beseech Thee to have mercy upon **(NAME or NAMES)**,
and bring (him or her) to the knowledge and love of Thy truth.
Thou, O Lord, knows all (his or her) darkness, (his or her) weakness,
and (his or her) doubts: have pity upon (him or her), O merciful Savior;
let the bright beams of Thy eternal truths shine upon (his or her) mind;
clear away the cloud of error and prejudice from before (his or her) eyes,
and may (he or she) humbly submit to and embrace
with (his or her) whole heart the teaching of Thy Church.
Oh, let not the soul for whom I pray be shut out from Thy blessed fold!
Unite (him or her) to Thyself in the sacraments of Thy love,
and grant that, partaking of the blessings of Thy grace in this life,
(he or she) may come at last to the possession of those eternal rewards
which Thou has promised to all those who believe in Thee
and who do Thy Will.
Hear this my petition, O merciful Jesus,
Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

AROUND THE PARISH

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

With Advent season upon us, there are early bulletin deadlines in the coming weeks. Please submit any bulletin requests to the parish office by noon of the following dates:

For December 16 & 17: Monday, December 11

For December 23 & 24: Wednesday, December 13

For December 31 & January 1: Tuesday, December 19

Please email all bulletin requests to rlund@saintmichael-cd.org

Parish Office Holiday Hours

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on the following days as we celebrate this Christmas season. We look forward to serving you in 2024!

Monday, December 25

Tuesday, December 26

Monday, January 1

SPEND TIME IN ADORATION

As we begin a new season of Advent, there is no better way to prepare your heart for the coming of Our Lord than in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider signing up for Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. Thursday morning through 9:00 p.m. Friday evening. Adoration is available at all other times with the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle. Registration is easy to do from your phone, visit StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com to sign up. You can also visit the Church on Wednesdays during Advent for Mass at 6:00 p.m. followed by our weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30 p.m. each week.



Break free from your Pharaohs.



Our culture today has no shortage of Pharaohs and idols that hold us back from true unity with God. Exodus 90 offers you a way out.

This men's Catholic program spends the 90 days leading up to Easter focused on prayer, asceticism, and fraternity. We are looking to bring together the men of St. Michael's Parish for this journey. We start January 1... join now.

Sign up using the QR code or at bit.ly/st-michael-exodus-90
Program details can be found at exodus90.com/exodus-90

MEN'S FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, December 16th, The Summary of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. This is our last session of this year. Pope St. John Paul II said, "The family that recites the Rosary together reproduces something of the atmosphere of the household of Nazareth." Come and join our parish family to pray with for our parish and church. All are welcome to meet at 6:45 a.m. in the Upper Meeting Room for the Rosary and then have the presentation and a short discussion. Any questions can be directed to mensgroup@saintmichael-cd.org.



YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP TO CRANKS CREEK

Attention all high schoolers! This winter, we will be doing a mission trip down to Cranks Creek Kentucky with St. Brendan's Youth Ministry, The Vine. We will leave the morning of December 21 and return December 23 late evening. The bulk of our mission trip will be serving the people of Harlan County. If you are interested and want to go, please email Jake Asuncion at jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org and registration form will be sent via email. The cost of the trip is \$120.00, but if you need financial assistance, please reach out to Jake Asuncion. There will an inquiry meeting on December 11. Scan the QR code to donate to the Mission Trip, simply select "Cranks Creek Mission Fund" when making your donation. This will cover expenses for food and donations that will be bought for the people of Harlan County. Please consider donating!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR TROOPS

St. Michael's Knights of Columbus will be collecting items for deployed troop on the weekends of December 10 and December 17 prior to Masses. The items being collected will be sent to Fr. Chris Yakkel, deployed U.S. Air Force Chaplain from the Diocese of Columbus and the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, to provide to troops he is deployed with. Fr. Yakkel is also the Faithful Friar for the Cristino P. Damo Assembly 3932, the Fourth Degree assembly our local Knights of Columbus council is associated with for patriotic activities. In this role, Fr. Yakkel has requested items that the servicemen he serves could use. **The items requested and that we are collecting are: Beef Jerky, Coffee*, Hand Lotion, Body Wash, Shampoo and Handmade Christmas Cards.** * Please no Keurig cups as they need coffee they can use in the pot. Knights of Columbus members will be in Marian Hall to collect donations before Mass on the weekends of December 9-10 and December 16-17. Any questions on the collection can be sent to BrettGissel@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting our troops this Christmas season.



LIVE WIRES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS!

Please join us for our favorite Holiday Tradition
Tuesday, December 12
11:30am - 1:00pm

If interested, please **RSVP NO LATER THAN December 10th** so we can get an accurate count for food and beverage purposes. If you plan to come, you must call the Parish Office directly at **614-885-7814**.

THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE DEADLINE EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 17

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree deadline has been extended through December 17th. All additional donations collected will benefit the High School Youth Ministry mission trip to Cranks Creek.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you planning for a scheduled medical procedure, or are you being admitted to a hospital or other out-patient facility for surgery or for medical treatment? If so, please see one of the priests before or after any of our parish Masses so that he can provide you with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick **BEFORE** you have your procedure, treatment or surgery. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the priest anoints the seriously ill, injured, or the elderly with the "Oil of the Infirm," which is a special oil, blessed by the Bishop, used for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Obviously, there are emergency situations, but anything that you can do in advance to receive the sacramental graces of the Anointing of the Sick – physical, spiritual and emotional healing – is helpful to you, your family, and to the priests.

SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL IS HIRING!

St. Michael School is hiring a Before Care Assistant for the 2023-2024 School Year to work the following shift: 6:45-7:45 a.m., Monday-Friday. Students arrive at 7:00 a.m., so the start time for the position could be discussed if applicant wishes to attend the 6:30 a.m. Mass. **Requirements:**

- Current satisfactory BCI and FBI background checks.
- Have attended or be willing to attend a **VIRTUS Protecting God's Children** training.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

For more information or to apply, please contact Sr. Mary Regina at principal@stmichaelworthington.org.

ST. MICHAEL PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

St. Michael Preschool is now accepting application for the 2024-2025 school year. Please visit www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions/prekindergarten/ for the application form and for more information. Completed applications can be emailed to Preschool Director, Laura Wells at lwells@stmichaelworthington.org. Please note that we only accept digital copies of the application form. We anticipate to have a waitlist, so be sure to get your applications in as soon as possible.

On the Feast of St. Nicholas, St. Michael students learned about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, and then put them into practice by making tie blankets for the homeless and delivering to St. Nick (who made a special appearance) items they had collected for our St. Vincent DePaul Society pantry. St. Nick, not one to be outdone in generosity, shared stories about his life, and gifted students with a prayer card and candy cane. Thank you, St. Nick!



Enrollment now open and accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year!
St. Michael School is now an Ed Choice scholarship provider. Learn more about St. Michael School and find application paperwork by visiting www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions



SAVE THE DATE FOR TRIVIA NIGHT 2024!

Trivia Night is a FUNdraising evening benefiting the St. Michael Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund. Trivia Night will take place on Saturday, February 10th. Tables will be on sale for \$300.00 for a table of eight, which will include unlimited water and eight drink tickets. Tables can be purchased through One Cause using the QR code or by visiting <https://one.bidpal.net/smstrivianight24/welcome>. If using a mobile phone, please go to the MENU to purchase a table.



REDUCE YOUR OHIO INCOME TAXES ... AND HELP MAKE AN AUTHENTIC CATHOLIC EDUCATION AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL!

It's true! As an Ohio taxpayer, when you make a donation to the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, you could receive a dollar-for-dollar credit* against your state income tax liability while creating scholarship dollars for students to attend St. Michael School. Even with the recent expansion to Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship program, financial need still exists for many families. Your gift helps bridge the gap between state scholarships and the cost to educate a child while reducing your Ohio tax burden. Use the QR code to donate today!

Ohio tax credit is up to \$750.00 per person, or \$1,500.00 if married filing jointly. Based on tax rates posted by the Ohio Department of Taxation, an individual with an annual income of \$40,000.00 has an average state tax liability of \$750.00. Consult a tax advisor for guidance on your specific situation. The Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund is a certified scholarship granting organization (SGO) in the state of Ohio.

BOSCH Service *acceleration* **AS**
Import Car Repair Specialists

- Audi
- BMW
- Volvo
- Mercedes
- Porsche
- Subaru
- Volkswagen
- Toyota
- Acura
- Honda
- Lexus
- Nissan

5193 N. High St.
Just north of Graceland Mall

614-436-8085

HORVATH VISION CARE **180 Northwoods Blvd.**
Columbus, OH 43235
614-739-0660

Optometrists serving Columbus for 23 years

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS

THE Basement Doctor Drew Sanderell
614-653-0639
1-877-DRY-TIME

www.mybasementdoctor.com

Shop Local for the Holidays
AT YOUR HOMETOWN JEWELER

Worthington Jewelers

692 High St., Worthington | 614.430.8800 | worthingtonjewelers.com

CONNELLS MAPLE LEE
FLOWERS & GIFTS

740-548-4082
800-790-8980

Hutta
Orthodontic Specialists

Dr. J. Lawrence Hutta & Dr. Tori Hutta

6641 N High St #104,
Worthington, OH
614.885.2000
huttasmiles.com

W Audrey Lower GENERAL DENTISTRY
DR. AUDREY LOWER, D.M.D.
(614) 888-2563
6641 N. High Street, Suite 101, Worthington

Schoedinger
Funeral & Cremation Service
Creating Healing Experiences

6699 North High St. | 614-848-6699 | www.schoedinger.com

SCHOEDINGER WORTHINGTON
Creating Healing Experiences

6699 North High St. | 614-848-6699 | www.schoedinger.com

BW FAITH COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE
BISHOP WATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL
BISHOPWATTERSON.COM

How Can Better Hearing Improve Your Life? Find out for FREE!

Luebbe Hearing Call 614-356-8069

5074 N. High St. www.HearOhio.com Doctor of Audiology/Patron of Parishes

RE/MAX
Capital Centre, Inc.
614.447.1000

PAT KEARNS-DAVIS
pkdavis@remax.cc.com

BRIGID DAVIS-RAY ADDIE DAVIS-HOLSINGER KEVIN DAVIS

Carfagna's MARKET & RISTORANTE
CULINARY MERCHANTS SINCE 1937

Four Generations
1440 Gemini Pl., Columbus, 43240
WWW.CARFAGNAS.COM • (614) 846-6340

Italian Food Headquarters
Ohio's Largest Italian Wine Selection

In Loving Memory of Dorothy Murnane

framing center **25% OFF**
Custom Picture Framing
Expires in December
Polaris/North Pointe Plaza
Kingsdale Center: 451-8392 • Dublin Plaza: 889-7586
For more details. Visit framingcenter.com

PAT GRACIE'S
kitchen • tavern

Please join us for brunch,
10:30am-2:00pm, Saturday & Sunday

138 Graceland Blvd.,
Columbus, OH 43214
614-987-5147
patandgracies.com

JACK L. WOODS PLUMBING

The Trusted Name in Plumbing Repairs and Remodeling

614-882-9700
OH Lic. #25971

FAVRET
HEATING AND COOLING RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
• Gas • Oil • Electric • Heat Pumps • Humidifiers
1296 Dublin Road
www.favret.com • 488-5211

Catholic Social Services

Empowering Change. Transforming Lives.

Be the change in 1 of more than 14,000 lives transformed each year.

Learn more and give today at colscs.org or (614) 221-5891.



MICHAEL RERKO, M.D.
HAND & UPPER EXTREMITY
PARISHIONER
614-827-8700

OUR SPECIALTIES INCLUDE: GENERAL ORTHOPEDICS - FOOT & ANKLE-HAND & WRIST-JOINT PRESERVATION - NECK & SPINE SURGERY - PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION - SHOULDER & UPPER EXTREMITY - SPORTS MEDICINE - HIP & KNEE REPLACEMENT - TRAUMA & FRACTURE CARE

www.orthopedicONE.com



PERSONAL LEGAL SERVICES

Your case. Your life. Our passion.

307 E. Livingston Ave.
Columbus, OH 43215

614-224-6488



Jeep

Complete Auto & Light Truck Repair
749 E. Lincoln Avenue

614-885-9242



Rob Hamm
Owner
488 Yoeman Ave,
43201

614-489-8121

<http://www.columbusasphaltcoating.com>

James J. Pardi, II
Attorney at Law Parishioner
Practice Limited to Domestic
Relations & Family Law
614-221-2580
400 W. Wilson Bridge Rd, Suite 260
james@pardilaw.com

Edward Jones

Member SIPC



Partnering throughout the years to reach your financial goals.

Derek M Voytovich, CFP® CRPC®
Financial Advisor/Parishioner

6797 N High St Suite #218
Worthington, OH 43085-2533
614-848-7839

www.edwardjones.com



Trent D. Albright, M.D.
89 E. Wilson Bridge Rd.
Worthington, Ohio **614-885-8833**
www.worthingtoneye.com



Karyn Flynn
Doctor of Audiology



HEARING SYSTEMS & AUDIOLOGY, INC

Hearing Testing & Hearing Aid Fittings

6641 North High St, Worthington

www.echohearing.com • **614-457-5848**

Dr. Anthony Lordo DDS
Keep Smiling!



Parishioner
"We Welcome New Patients!"
614-885-4754
www.drlordo.com



Laurie Luft

St. Michael Parishioner

614.893.4200

www.LaurieLuft.com



O'REILLY LAW OFFICES
"ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR YOU"

7846 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43235 P: (614) 436-6020
WWW.OREILLYLAWYERS.COM

OUR PRACTICE AREAS

- GENERAL PRACTICE
- REAL ESTATE LAW
- CIVIL LITIGATION
- WILLS / TRUSTS / POA
- BUSINESS LAW
- PROBATE LAW

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION FOR PARISHIONERS!

THE NORTHEAST WRENCH
4330 Indianola Avenue
614-263-4978

Certified Technicians
"Your Preventive-Maintenance Experts!"
Monday-Friday: 7a to 6p


GRANVILLE MECHANICAL
PO Box 713 | Granville, OH 43023
740-277-1988
www.GranvilleMechanical.com
OH Lic #47238


UpTowne Flowers
Since 1961

2145 W. Dublin Granville Rd., Worthington
614-889-1001 • www.uptowneflowers.com

Custom-made Birthday, Anniversary, Sympathy and Wedding Flower Arrangements


Austin Goare


870 High St., Worthington
Cell: 614-563-6933


Each Office Independently Owned & Operated

Faith • Family • Tradition


ST. FRANCIS DESALES HIGH SCHOOL
www.sfdstallions.org

THE ARLINGTON GROUP
INVESTMENT CONSULTING, LLC

Lis McNealey Davies lis@theArlingtongroup.com
Jeff Matthews jeff@theArlingtongroup.com
Contact the Arlington Group today at 614.569.0380


EGAN RYAN FUNERAL SERVICE
A Growing Tradition
www.egan-ryan.com

Owned and Operated by the same family since 1859

NORTHWEST
4661 Kenny Rd. • 451-5900
CENTRAL
403 E. Broad St. • 221-6665


Lincoln Financial Advisors®
A member of Lincoln Financial Group

7650 Rivers Edge Dr. Suite 250,
Columbus OH 43235
614-431-4329
Darnell.Perkins@LFG.com


Darnell Perkins
Financial Planner
Parishioner

Securities and investment advisory services offered through Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp., a broker-dealer (member SIPC) and registered investment advisor. Insurance offered through Lincoln affiliates and other fine companies. Lincoln Financial Group is the marketing name for Lincoln National Corporation and its affiliates. GRN485914-1071922


Rutherford
Funeral Homes & Crematories

"There is a Difference"

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 N. High St. • 614-885-4006

Rutherford Funeral Home
2383 N. High St. • 614-299-1153

Funeral Pre-Planning Available
RutherfordFuneralHome.com • info@RutherfordFuneralHome.com


Eagle Specialty Remodeling

Kitchens Basements
Baths Room Additions

4920 Reed Road, Suite A
614-326-0011
The Carskadon Family
eagleknowsremodeling.com

KERNAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.


John Kernan, Agent
614-764-0121 • 800-718-2663 toll free
614-764-0310 fax
9932 Brewster Ln., Powell, OH 43065
jtkernan@kernaninsurance.com


Erie Insurance®
HOME • AUTO
LIFE • BUSINESS


EQUES LAW GROUP

Tom Schmitt
Parishioner & Attorney

- Life Planning
- Real Estate
- Business and Corporate

1-844-My-EQUES
www.eques.law
Co-Hatch 240 S. State St
Westerville, OH



RESIDENTIAL Designed SOLUTIONS
Inspired Ideas. Proven Plans.

Call your local licensed Humana sales agent.


Aaron Bayer
614-329-4026 (TTY: 711)

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
abayer@humana.com

Humana®

Y0040_GHHHXDFEN23a_BC_C

Please Patronize Our Advertisers... To Place An Ad, Call 614-777-8700

Michael, Worthington, OH #2051-CH-11/14/23