



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

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

<u>Daily</u>	
Monday-Friday	6:30am
Monday-Saturday	8:15am
Wednesday	6:00pm

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: Father Stash Dailey

Parochial Vicar: Fr. David Johnstone

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Transitional Deacon: Dcn. Sam Severance

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Pastoral Minister: Sr. Riya Mary

srriya@saintmichael-cd.org

Youth Minister: Jake Asuncion

jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org

Director of RCIA: Jake Neal

jneal@sjchcc.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

Choir Director/Organist: Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL PARISH 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

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Athletic Association Representative:

Liz Trolli

smaa@saintmichael-cd.org

Knights of Columbus Representative:

Mike LaMorte

grandknight@kofc11445.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

svdp@saintmichael-cd.org

SAINT MICHAEL INFORMATION CENTER



ADORATION CHAPEL

There is no better way to spend an hour of your week than in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider signing up for Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition each Monday from 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays until 9:00 p.m. Friday evenings. 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 or use the QR code.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are currently available to schedule for 2024 & 2025. If you would like to remember a loved one in this way, please scan the QR code to order and pay online or visit the Parish Office. One should never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul, both for the living and the deceased.



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.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 19, 2025

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 18

4:00 p.m. + James C. Fristad (James & Diane Vincent)

Sunday, January 19

8:30 a.m. Special Intention of the May Family
(Jasmine May)

10:30 a.m. + Ruth & Floyd Hoerig (Jeanne Ferkany)

12:30 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

5:00 p.m. Special Intention of Therese Malone
(Fran Toussaint)

Monday, January 20

6:30 a.m. + Cherie Bettinger (Emily Mauro)

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Audrey Zupan
(Leo Zupan)

Tuesday, January 21

6:30 a.m. + Daniel Avramovich (Emily Mauro)

8:15 a.m. + Josephine Melekian (Lucia & Nurses)

Wednesday, January 22

6:30 a.m. + James McNally (Joe Fiala)

8:15 a.m. For the School

6:00 p.m. + Richard Lumpe (Fr. Michael Lumpe)

Thursday, January 23

6:30 a.m. + Fr. Michael Brown
(The LaVern Sattler Family)

8:15 a.m. + Souls in Purgatory (Anita Claricoates)

Friday, January 24

6:30 a.m. + Forgotten Poor Souls in Purgatory
(Earl Crosby)

8:15 a.m. + Sarah A. Davis (James & Diane Vincent)

Saturday, January 25

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Bob Schram
(James & Diane Vincent)

4:00 p.m. + Tom O'Leary (The O'Leary Family)

Sunday, January 26

8:30 a.m. + Michael Plunkett (Janet Plunkett)

10:30 a.m. + Joan C. Brown (The Brown Family)

12:30 p.m. + Betty Petrarca (Laura Beggin)

5:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

PARISH CALENDAR – JANUARY

SUNDAY, January 19	K of C Hoagies for Heaven Orders after all Masses 9:00 a.m. OCIA (UMR) 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (A) 2:00 p.m. Baptisms (C) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (G)
Monday, January 20	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) Parish Office Closed
Tuesday, January 21	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 p.m. Women's Faith & Fellowship (UMR)
Wednesday, January 22	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 6:00 p.m. Mass, followed by Holy Hour & Confessions (C)
Thursday, January 23	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts (U) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)
Friday, January 24	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 9:30 a.m. Mom's Day Out (UMR) 7:30 p.m. Opus Dei (C, MH)
Saturday, January 25	6:45 a.m. Men's Faith & Fellowship (UMR) 7:00 a.m. Pietra Fitness (LMR) 8:30 a.m. Opus Dei (UMR, C) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 5:30 p.m. Father Daughter Dance (U) K of C Hoagies for Heaven Orders after Vigil Mass
SUNDAY, January 26	K of C Hoagies for Heaven Orders after all Masses 9:00 a.m. OCIA (UMR) 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (A) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (G) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (G)

To view Parish Masses & Ministry Activities in advance,
please view our Parish Calendar online by visiting:
www.saintmichael-cd.org/about-us/calendar/
(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, (A) = Atrium



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES

Confirmation Preparation Classes for students in Middle School will begin this winter. If you have a child who is in need of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please register now using the QR code.

BAPTISM

**CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BAPTISM OF
MYLA MARIE HAYES**



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP JANUARY 12, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 14,268.30
Online Giving	\$ 11,011.00
Total:	\$ 25,279.30

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Praised be Jesus Christ!

I have just wrapped up a week of continuing education involving conferences and classes. I now enter into a silent retreat. Please know I carried all of you in my heart as I entered the Holy Doors in the Basilicas of St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and then finally, St. Peter's Basilica. I then ran around and entered each of the doors a second time for myself, much to the chagrin of my brother priests who gently reminded me "once was enough!"

Last weekend, I left the parish campus early in the morning on Saturday with a group of men from the parish as they went on their annual bourbon trail run. Some called it a pilgrimage others called it a trip still others claimed it was a mix of both. I share this with you because while I was on the bus returning to Northern Kentucky, I was thinking of the parish family of St. Michael and why I find it such a blessing to be assigned to St. Michael parish. Simply put, the people, generally speaking, live out their humanity.

What do I mean?

I have lived life as a priest for sixteen years, and that is after eight years as a seminarian. That isn't very long from the perspective of some and might be way too long for others. I have been missioned all over the world on some assignments which were enjoyable and some which were solely formative. In all of these experiences, I have seen people in different states of life in different cultures living their lives as they did.

One of the things that has always remained within me since I served at St. Michael from 2008-2011 is the love that fathers have for their children. The memory of seeing so many dads, fathers, holding their children at Holy Mass is one which has stood in contrast to what I have noticed, or perhaps better put, did not notice elsewhere. I now realize this observation is applicable to the whole Midwest, but I have noticed it particularly lived out among the men at St. Michael. It is a truly remarkable and beautiful expression of fatherhood to behold.

The priests of the church must be willing to correct, console, and also congratulate. I was thinking about all of this while traveling with those 30 men from the parish, which led me to give thanks to the Lord as I left their presence to begin traveling to my classes and conferences in Rome. It is a blessing to serve the Lord among parishioners who live out their humanity and treasure the gift of being husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters.

Our entrance into Ordinary Time in the Sacred Liturgy fosters an embrace of the Lord Jesus in the totality of His preaching and teaching and the proclamation of the Kingdom. It is of utmost importance for us to bring the totality of our humanity to the Lord as we meet Him in the Sacred Liturgy, as well as in the day in and day out of our lives. Living out our lives the best we can ordered around the Lord Jesus being at the center of our lives is what leaves an impact on others and leads them to consider the Lord as the One who is alive and leading us to the Father in Heaven.

Please pray for the many who will participate in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.; among them will be some of our junior high students and a vast number of other parishioners. The March is scheduled for Friday of this week, your prayers for their safe travels is most deeply appreciated.

May the Lord bless you with His peace!

In Jesus,
Fr. Stash Dailey

AN ADDITIONAL NOTE FROM FATHER DAILEY:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The reports coming out of the area of Los Angeles provide images of absolute tragedy and terrific disaster. As of the writing of this note, there was still no end in sight for the fires presently burning.

Please join me in praying to the Holy Virgin Mary, the Queen of Angels, to intercede for the people who have died as a result of the fires, as well as those who have lost everything they own. Of particular note, I beg you to please join me in praying for the many men and women who are fighting the fires and those who are serving as first responders. May the Lord bestow His mercy upon the dead and give those who are serving the grace of strength to persevere in the face of so much danger.

For those who are filled with a desire to assist those in need, the Diocese of Columbus has provided the following link so that donations may be made and the entirety of those donations will go towards those in need as a result of the fires: https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/?form=25LAFires&utm_campaign=20250108_00268_LAFires25&utm_medium=organic&utm_source=website&utm_content=disaster.

May the Lord in His mercy and Our Lady, through Her intercession, bring a quick end to the devastation and related suffering brought about by the fires burning in and around the City dedicated to Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles.

In Jesus!
Fr. Dailey



Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 22:

The Harmony of the Gospels

Is anyone else still thinking about having four different Gospels? This question was discussed and pondered by some of the earliest Christians. Some tried to develop a harmonious account of the life, death, and teachings of Jesus, and the result was a kind of one-volume gospel. Although we don't have any historical manuscripts of it, a one-volume harmonization called "The Gospel" is referred to by some early Christian writers, including St. Ignatius of Antioch (writing around 115 AD). There is a manuscript dated 170 AD by a man named Tatian, who was a student of St. Justin Martyr. This manuscript is called the Diatessaron and is subtitled "The Gospel Harmony." Others tried this as well through the ages, including St. Augustine (writing in 405 AD) who wrote a work titled "On the Harmony of the Evangelists."

Uniquely Harmonious

Remarkably, what each person found was that the four Gospels could not be squeezed into one without losing something important. As we have reviewed previously, every detail of each of the Gospels is written for a specific purpose. To miss one of these details is to miss an important part of the life of Jesus and his message of salvation to the world. Each of the four Gospel writers gives us a special understanding of Jesus, something we would miss if we forced them into just one Gospel. As the early Church moved forward toward the finalizing of the Canon of Scripture (the official list of the books included in the Bible), we see that the four Gospels are consistently included and honored.

The Canon of Scripture

The Canon of the Bible is the official list of texts discerned and compiled by the Roman Catholic Church over time and confirmed by Church Councils, first completed around the time of the Council of Hippo in 390 AD. This list was reiterated by the Council of Trent in the 1500s and again at the First Vatican Council in the 1800s. We believe that certain books are inspired by the Holy Spirit and therefore are included in the canon. No known inspired book is outside the canon and no non-inspired book is inside it. Since the Church is entrusted with Sacred Scripture, the Church declares what is included in the canon. A couple of other definitions are helpful here:

Inspiration: The Holy Spirit was present and inspired the human writers of the Bible so what God intended—and only those things—were not only understood correctly, but following from this understanding, the Gospel writers wrote them down, expressed in appropriate and meaningful language. (See [Providentissimus Deus](#), 1, 4, and 14).

Inerrancy: The Bible is free from errors, not just in faith and morals, but in all parts that pertain to and which God wished to teach for our salvation. (See [Dei Verbum](#), 6 and 11).

These definitions help us know with confidence that what we are reading is God's Word to us, and they can also help us understand what we read. We come to see the unity of all of Scripture and that all the books are important. We read through the lens of our lived faith and tradition. We value how Scripture has been understood and prayed with over the last 2000 years. We recognize that the Church Fathers and saints have much to tell us about Scripture and how it helps us live life in Christ today.

A Synopsis of the Gospels

An interesting alternative to the idea of a Gospel harmony is called a Synopsis of the Gospels. A synopsis keeps all four Gospels intact as they were written and arranges the passages in four columns so that all four Gospels are side-by-side. The passages are arranged and spaced out so that one can compare the details of each Gospel account. Doing this really helps one see how each of the four writers gives a special flavor to the life and ministry of Jesus. A synopsis is like having each of the Gospel writers with us, sitting in his own armchair, telling us about Jesus.

For Reflection

1. What are some of your favorite Gospel passages? Do you know which Gospel(s) feature these passages? Take some time to find some of your "favorites" and develop your relationship with particular Gospel authors.
2. Our Catholic liturgies and traditions celebrating the birth of Jesus and his Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension draw from different Gospel accounts. Choose either [Matthew 1-2](#) and [Luke 1-2](#) or the Passion narratives in the four Gospels for deeper study to see how each Gospel contributes to our understanding of these events in our salvation.





Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 23: The "Fifth" Gospel

More on the Gospels? This week, for our final Gospel topic, we are going to discuss the fifth Gospel. Fifth Gospel?! But Father, you went into detail last time about why there are four Gospels! Before I cause too much confusion, let me clarify that the fifth "Gospel" is not one that is written. It is the place where Jesus lived, the place where he walked on the water and worked miracles, the place where he celebrated the Last Supper with the Apostles, and the place where he carried the Cross and offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to the Father for the forgiveness of sins: the Holy Land.

The Land Where Jesus Walked

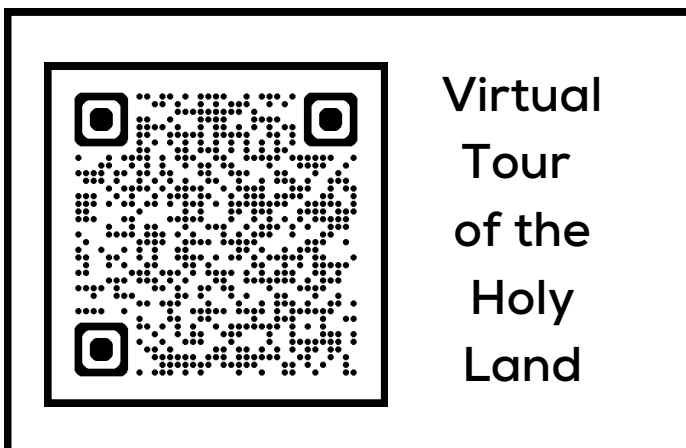
A New Catholic Encyclopedia article quotes Gino Concetti's 1974 article in L'Osservatore Romano: "The geographical and historical setting...bears a quite special witness (to Christ). It has been said that the Holy Land is itself a Gospel, the fifth Gospel. The judgment is not an exaggerated one. [...] Those places that Christians have venerated, since the beginning, as sacred because sanctified by the Savior, are still able today, 2000 years later, to re-echo his voice and his message" (New Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 245). Similarly, Pope Francis recently encouraged journalists to "keep telling stories from the Holy Land, calling it the 'Fifth Gospel,'" a title which "has been invoked by popes from Paul VI to Benedict XVI to describe the Holy Land" (Courtney Mares, Pope Francis: The story of the Holy Land is the "Fifth Gospel" CNA, January 17, 2022). The Holy Land is more than a spot on the map half a world away: it is a true witness to the Lord Jesus as the place where he lived and walked and died for our sins!

Since I had the privilege to spend some time in the places where Jesus walked, the words of the four Gospels truly do feel different. Standing by the shore of the Sea of Galilee and feeling the afternoon breeze, it is not hard to see where a large crowd could have gathered to listen to Jesus. Experiencing the dusty, dry environment brings a deeper understanding of the moment Jesus asks the Samaritan woman for a drink. Walking up the stone steps in part of the Old City of Jerusalem, the Way of the Cross is vivid and closer.

Unfortunately, the Holy Land continues to be a place of turmoil and violence. As an important center for three world religions (Christianity, Judaism, and Islam), there has been a long history of ongoing tensions. Although leaders have worked together to secure and protect important religious shrines and historical places, the struggle for territory and control has long made the Holy Land a place of unrest and uncertainty. Sadly, this uncertainty has at times prevented many Christians from journeying to Israel and walking in the places and pathways that Christ walked, losing an opportunity to grow closer to him by walking in his footsteps. May our respect for this unique "fifth Gospel" inspire us to pray always for peace and justice and for the opportunity for each soul to freely seek out the true Savior of the world, Jesus Christ.

For Reflection

1. Next time you read or hear a Gospel passage referring to a place Jesus visited, find its location on a map. You can watch the video using the QR code below that offers a virtual tour of the Holy Land. Imagine yourself in that place with Jesus and any others in the Gospel passage. If you have time, learn more about the condition of that place now. Pray for those who live there, that they, too, might encounter Jesus in the land where he lived.
2. Do you have any images or artifacts from the Holy Land? If possible, display such items in a suitable area of your home as a way to remember and pray for the Church there.



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)

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope
Month of January: Dedicated to the Most Holy Name of Jesus

“Have Jesus always for your patron, His Cross for a mast on which you must spread your resolutions as a sail. Your anchor shall be a profound confidence in Him, and you shall sail prosperously.” +SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

Monday, January 20 ~ Second Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr

Holy Gospel: Mark 2:18-22 The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to Jesus and objected, “Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?” Jesus answered them, “Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins.”

Meditation: Jesus warns his disciples about the problem of the "closed mind" that refuses to learn new things. Jesus used an image familiar to his audience — new and old wineskins. In Jesus' times, wine was stored in wineskins, not bottles. New wine poured into skins was still fermenting. The gases exerted gave pressure. New wine skins were elastic enough to take the pressure, but old wine skins easily burst because they were hard. What did Jesus mean by this comparison? Are we to reject the old in place of the new? Just as there is a right place and a right time for fasting and for feasting, so there is a right place for the old as well as the new. Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old (Matthew 13:52). How impoverished we would be if we only had the Old Testament or the New Testament, rather than both. The Lord gives us wisdom so we can make the best use of both the old and the new.

Prayer (Saint Fabian): O God, glory of your Priests, grant we pray, that, helped by the intercession of your Martyr Saint Fabian, we may make progress by communion in the faith and by worthy service. 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.

Prayer (Saint Sebastian): Grant us, we pray, O Lord, a spirit of fortitude, so that, taught by the glorious example of your Martyr Saint Sebastian, we may learn to obey you rather than men. 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: Which comes first, fasting or feasting? The disciples of John the Baptist were upset with Jesus' disciples because they did not fast. Fasting was one of the three most important religious duties, along with prayer and almsgiving. Jesus gave a simple explanation. There's a time for fasting and a time for feasting (or celebrating). To walk as a disciple with Jesus is to experience a whole new joy of relationship akin to the joy of the wedding party in celebrating with the groom and bride their wedding bliss. But there also comes a time when the Lord's disciples must bear the cross of affliction and purification. For the disciple there is both a time for rejoicing in the Lord's presence and celebrating his goodness and a time for seeking the Lord with humility and fasting and for mourning over sin. Do you take joy in the Lord's presence with you and do you express sorrow and contrition for your sins?

Tuesday, January 21 ~ Second Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Mark 2:23-28 As Jesus was passing through a field of grain on the Sabbath, his disciples began to make a path while picking the heads of grain. At this the Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions were hungry? How he went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of offering that only the priests could lawfully eat, and shared it with his companions?" Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. That is why the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

Meditation: What does the commandment "keep holy the Sabbath" require us to do? The religious leaders confronted Jesus on this issue. The "Sabbath rest" was meant to be a time to remember and celebrate God's goodness and the goodness of his work, both in creation and redemption. It was a day set apart for the praise of God, his work of creation, and his saving actions on our behalf. It was intended to bring everyday work to a halt and to provide needed rest and refreshment. Jesus' disciples are scolded by the scribes and Pharisees, not for plucking and eating corn from the fields, but for doing so on the Sabbath. In defending his disciples, Jesus argues from the scriptures that human need has precedence over ritual custom.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who choose what is weak in the world to confound the strong, mercifully grant, that we, who celebrate the heavenly birthday of your Martyr Saint Agnes, may follow her constancy in the faith. 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: So how do you spend the Sabbath? (Sunday for we Catholic Christians.) There was a time when families and individuals spent Sunday attending Mass, relaxing in one way or another, having "Sunday Dinner" with family, visiting grandma. The Sabbath – the "Lord's Day" should always be a day of praise and worship to God through the Mass; it should also be a day rest for us, giving us time to "re-create" ourselves for the coming week. In our hurried world, take some time to contemplate how you spend your Sundays. Carve out time on this day to give praise and worship to God the Father and receive the Eucharist during Mass, then carve out some time for yourself and your family.

Wednesday, January 22 ~ Second Week in Ordinary Time

~ Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children ~

Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 The disciples approached Jesus and said, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?" He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said, "Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me. See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father. What is your opinion? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray? And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it than over the ninety-nine that did not stray. In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost."

Meditation on this special day of prayer: Love is not merely a feeling, but is rather the desire for the best possible good for those whom we love. Through our natural intelligence and through Divine Revelation we become aware of the value of this most basic of all gifts which is life. Mere reason leads us to comprehend that it is better to be alive than never have had been in existence. The knowledge of the value of life that comes through revelation leads us to understand better this gift and to appreciate it: as a result, we worship and love more and more the Giver of this gift. This love is what moves us to protect the life of the unborn or any who might be unjustly treated. We are also led to protect women that might feel tempted or forced to commit abortion, as we know the devastating consequences that abortion will have in their lives. Last but not least we have to love, even if most of them seem to be utterly unlovable, the many perpetrators of abortion: medical personnel, and pro-abortion activists, politicians, and the media. We have to do everything that we can to convince them of their errors so that they repent and change their ways, both for their own benefit (especially their eternal soul) and for the benefit of human society.

Prayer: God our Creator, we give thanks to you, who alone have the power to impart the breath of life as you form each of us in our mother's womb; grant, we pray, that we, whom you have made stewards of

creation, may remain faithful to this sacred trust and constant in safeguarding the dignity of every human life. 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 on this special day of prayer: All human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. Using a traditional scholastic term, we can state that He is the exemplary cause of every human being, in other words, He is the model on which all human beings are created. He looked upon himself and wished that other beings would share in His own happiness. So if we reflect upon ourselves, we can begin to understand our participation in the greatness of our Creator. This participation on His greatness leads us to comprehend that He has brought us out of nothing with a purpose, because knowing His intelligence and His loving nature it is clear that all His actions are always guided by a magnificent purpose. The first intention for which He has created us is that we should enjoy for an eternity His loving company in Heaven. All human persons are called to this eternal and loving company, no one is excluded, save those who, through their own actions, exclude themselves. This manner of creation brings us to understand the unique essential dignity of every human being. A dignity that is not lost for any deprivation of the many external perfections that we might expect to find in a human person. A person might be born with a disability, or may suffer disability through injury or disease, but these deprivations do not affect his basic dignity. A Christian also has the hope that one day when the doors of Paradise will be opened for those children, all their human imperfections will be healed and they will enjoy forever the beatific vision that we all long for.

Thursday, January 23 ~ Second Week in Ordinary Time Saint Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Mark 3:7-12 Jesus withdrew toward the sea with his disciples. A large number of people followed from Galilee and from Judea. Hearing what he was doing, a large number of people came to him also from Jerusalem, from Idumea, from beyond the Jordan, and from the neighborhood of Tyre and Sidon. He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, so that they would not crush him. He had cured many and, as a result, those who had diseases were pressing upon him to touch him. And whenever unclean spirits saw him they would fall down before him and shout, "You are the Son of God." He warned them sternly not to make him known.

Meditation: Is there anything holding you back from giving yourself unreservedly to God? Jesus offered freedom to everyone who sought him out. Wherever Jesus went the people came to him because they had heard all the things he did. They were hungry for God and desired healing from their afflictions. In faith they pressed upon Jesus to touch him. As they did so power came from Jesus and they were healed. Even demons trembled in the presence of Jesus and acknowledged his true identity: You are the Son of God. When you hear God's word and consider all that Jesus did, how do you respond? With doubt or with expectant faith? With skepticism or with confident expectation? Ask the Lord the increase your faith in his saving power and grace.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, mercifully pour out your Spirit upon us, so that our hearts may possess the strong love by which the Martyr Saint Vincent triumphed over all bodily torments. 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 this scene, where Jesus is withdrawing a bit, do you feel a special closeness to him? He came to enter our world completely and be with us. It must have been a challenge for him to be so misunderstood by his disciples, to be so sought after by the poor, to be so rejected by the religious leaders, and have the demons proclaim that they alone seem to know who he is. In scenes like this, we can recognize that he must understand us when we are tired or stretched, misunderstood or rejected, frustrated or discouraged. Knowing this, can you draw closer to him during times of anxiety or challenge? Times of rejection or persecution?

Friday, January 24 ~ Second Week in Ordinary Time Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Patron Saint of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus

Holy Gospel: Mark 3:13-19 Jesus went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him. He appointed Twelve, whom he also named Apostles, that they might be with him and he might send them forth to preach and to have authority to drive out demons: He appointed the Twelve: Simon, whom he named Peter; James, son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James, whom he named

Boanerges, that is, sons of thunder; Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddeus, Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

Meditation: When Jesus embarked on his mission he chose twelve men for the task of preaching the kingdom of God and healing the sick in the power of that kingdom. In the choice of the twelve, we see a characteristic feature of God's work: Jesus chose very ordinary people. They were non-professionals, who had no wealth or position. They were chosen from the common people who did ordinary things, had no special education, and no social advantages. Jesus wanted ordinary people who could take an assignment and do it extraordinarily well. He chose these men to be his apostles – not for what they were, but for what they would be capable of becoming under his direction and power.

Prayer: O God, who for the salvation of souls willed that the Bishop Saint Francis de Sales become all things to all, graciously grant that, following his example, we may always display the gentleness of your charity in the service of our neighbor. 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.

Intercessory Prayer to Saint Francis de Sales: O Blessed Francis, who in your life did excel in all virtues, especially in your love of God and of your neighbor, I earnestly ask you to take me under your immediate protection, to obtain from God my perfect conversion, and that of all sinners. Teach me, O Father, to fix my eyes on heaven, that I may generously trample under foot every obstacle that presents itself in my way, and attain that degree of glory which you in your mercy hold out to me. Obtain also the favor for which I now pray: **(mention your request here)**. Assist us O Lord, we beseech you, through the merits of St. Francis de Sales that, what our endeavors cannot obtain may be given to us by his intercession. O God, who for the salvation of souls, did will that St. Francis de Sales should become all things to all men and women, mercifully grant that we, helped by the gentleness of his charity, guided by his teachings, and sharing in his merits, may obtain eternal happiness. This we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Contemplation: While Jesus called twelve men to be his apostles, Jesus calls all of us to serve the Lord as his disciples. When the Lord calls us to serve, we must not shrug back because we think that we have little or nothing to offer. The Lord takes what ordinary people, like us, can offer and uses it for greatness in his kingdom. Do you make your life an offering to the Lord and allow him to use you as he sees fit?

About Saint Francis de Sales: Francis was born on August 21, 1567, and ordained to the priesthood in 1593. From 1594 to 1598 he labored at the difficult and dangerous task of preaching to the Protestants of Chablais and effected the return of some 70,000 souls to the Catholic faith. In 1602 he became bishop of Genf. His zeal for souls is attested in 21,000 extant letters and 4,000 sermons which exemplify how he applied St. Paul's words: "I have become all things to all men." You may epitomize his character in two words, kindness and loveliness – virtues that were the secret of his success. His writings reflect his kindheartedness and sweet disposition. Most widely known is the saint's *Introduction to the Devout Life*, which, with the *Imitation of Christ*, is rightly considered the finest outline of Christian perfection. Francis' *Introduction* proves to the world that true piety makes persons amiable, lovable and happy. A renowned and holy friendship existed between him and St. Frances de Chantal. In cooperation with her he founded the Visitation Nuns in 1610. Out of love for his own poor diocese, he refused opportunities for advancement, including the cardinalate. In recognition of the *Introduction* and his other writings, Francis has been declared a Doctor of the Church. How Francis developed a gentle and amiable disposition is a story in itself; he was not born a saint. By nature his temperament was choleric, fiery; little was needed to throw him into a state of violent anger. It took years before he mastered his impatience, his unruly temper. Even after he became bishop, there were slips, as for instance, when someone rang a bell before he had finished preaching. The important point, of course, is that by constant perseverance he did in time attain perfect self-mastery. Wherein lies a lesson.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of Catholic Culture.

frlumpe:2025



AROUND THE PARISH

CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH JOINING US ON JANUARY 25 AND 26

On January 25 and 26, we will welcome Fr. Frank Iacona. Fr. Iacona will speak at all the Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach, which was founded to forge a stronger and more supportive link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns serving the poor in the Caribbean, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central and South America. Fr. Frank Iacona was born in Montelepre, Sicily. His family left for a better life to Canada then to the U.S. He grew up in Detroit and began his professional career as a teacher, lawyer, and CPA. His career path led to the "good life," but he hungered for more, leading him to the city of Indianapolis, working with the poor, seniors, and widows. Fr. Iacona was ordained in 2002 and is a priest in the Diocese of St. George's-in-Grenada. As an itinerant preacher, he raises funds for the poor and tries to awaken Christ in those in the pews. His guide and spiritual quest: Peace and joy, by affirming and giving thanks for the blessings in each of us. As it is said, "No God, no peace. Know God, know peace. To know God, look for the good in you and others." We are delighted to welcome Fr. Iacona to St. Michael and look forward to hearing from him and learning more about Cross Catholic Outreach.

Remembering Roe 2025 with Greater Columbus Right to Life

January 27th | 12:00PM

Ohio Statehouse Atrium

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Celebrated at St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
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ANNUAL ST. CHARLES SPAGHETTI DINNER ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

St. Charles Preparatory School will host its annual Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, February 2, from 1:00-6:30 p.m., in the school’s Walter Student Commons. Dinner will be prepared by the Susi Family and its staff from Berwick Manor. Guests will enjoy a bountiful meal of spaghetti with meatball, salad, rolls, ice cream, and a beverage. Cost is \$15.00 for Adults; \$10.00 for Senior Citizens; \$7.00 for Children ages 5-12 (4 and under are free). There is also a special \$60.00 Family Rate (dine-in, up to 6 immediate family members). Tickets can be purchased at the door and carryout orders will be available.

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JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Join Bishop Earl K. Fernandes for a Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy, October 9-17, 2025.

Please visit <https://www.ctscentral.net/travel-tours/jubilee-pilgrimage-with-bishop-earl-k.-fernandes-and-the-diocese-of-columbus> for more details.

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