



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
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.-11:00 p.m. and from 5:00 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 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.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – MARCH 2, 2025

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 1

4:00 p.m. + Joan O’Leary (The O’Leary Family)

Sunday, March 2

8:30 a.m. + Lisa Colosimo
(Therese Buoni & WHS Classmates)

10:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

12:30 p.m. + Dominic Raco, Sr.

5:00 p.m. + Vincent J. Sharron, Jr. (Tony Pfeifer)

Monday, March 3

6:30 a.m. + Msgr. John T. Dittoe (Mike & Jane Leeuw)

8:15 a.m. + Donato Tempesta
(Armando & Liliana Tempesta)

Tuesday, March 4

6:30 a.m. + Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Central Ohio Purgatorial Society)

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Dee Jiminez
(Church Ladies Breakfast Club)

Wednesday, March 5

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Yenny Blain
(Jim & Diane Vincent)

8:15 a.m. For the School

12:00 p.m. +Deacon Klaus Fricke (The Live Wires)

5:30 p.m. +Sandra Ann Saboley

7:00 p.m. Special Intention of the Hollback Family

Thursday, March 6

6:30 a.m. + Lucille Cummiskey
(Diane & James Vincent)

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Rafael, Miguel, Kieran
& Glesmarie Farrell (The Farrell Family)

Friday, March 7

6:30 a.m. + Alfred Herold (The Aman Family)

8:15 a.m. + Deacon Klaus Fricke
(Diane & James Vincent)

Saturday, March 8

8:15 a.m. + Lisa Colosimo (The DeCenzo Family)

4:00 p.m. Special Intention of Leo & Uyen Zupan IV &
Family (Leo Zupan)

Sunday, March 9

8:30 a.m. + Betty & Howard Kyte (Randy & Sue Kyte)

10:30 a.m. + Phyllis Utz (Anita Claricoates)

12:30 p.m. + Kenneth Morris (The Cap Family)

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

PARISH CALENDAR: MARCH

SUNDAY, March 2	Friendship Sunday after morning Masses Girl Scout Cookie Sales after morning Masses 9:00 a.m. OCIA (UMR) 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (A) 9:30 a.m. PSR (LMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptisms (C) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (G)
Monday, March 3	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 5:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop Meeting (UMR) 6:00 p.m. High School Adoration (AC) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)
Tuesday, March 4	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 9:00 a.m. SVDP Sandwich Making (MH) 7:30 p.m. WFF Bible Study (UMR)
Wednesday, March 5	ASH WEDNESDAY Eucharistic Exposition (AC) Masses at 6:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. No 6:00 p.m. Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions
Thursday, March 6	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts (U) 6:30 p.m. Knights of the Altar (LMR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C) 7:00 p.m. Lenten Speaker Series: How to Make a Holy Hour (MH)
Friday, March 7	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 9:30 a.m. Mom’s Day Out (UMR) 12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (C) 12:00 p.m. Confessions (C) 5:00 p.m. Fish Fry (MH,U) 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross (C)
Saturday, March 8	6:45 a.m. Men’s Faith & Fellowship (UMR) 7:00 a.m. Pietra (LMR) 9:00 a.m. SVDP Monthly Meeting (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 5:00 p.m. Girl Scout Cookie Sales (MH)
SUNDAY, March 9	Girl Scout Cookie Sales after morning Masses Confessions before morning Masses 9:00 a.m. OCIA (UMR) 9:30 a.m. PSR (LMR) 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

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Envelopes \$ 10,082.48

Online Giving \$ 8,940.56

Total \$ 19,023.04

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

The Knights of Columbus are accepting baked goods for the dessert table for the Fish Fry. Please drop off baked goods to the church starting at 3:30 p.m. on Fridays. Thank you for your support and generosity!

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners of St. Michael,
Praised be Jesus Christ!

Our bulletin this week has a great deal of information on different opportunities to grow closer to Jesus.


With the season of Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday this week, I pray each of you will find something out of all of the different "things" being offered to be of benefit in your journey of growing closer to the Lord. We have everything from our Adoration of Jesus in the Chapel to Stations of the Cross (Fridays at noon and 7:30 p.m.), additional times for Confessions to a book study and speaker series being offered.

As the Church asks us to be intentional about Prayer, Penance and Almsgiving during Lent, I hope you will find ample opportunities to pray, to do penance and to give alms through the many different offerings in our parish.

For those who will attend Holy Mass on Ash Wednesday, please note we have additional Mass times. Ash Wednesday is a good time to bring your old palms from previous years' Palm Sunday celebrations. We will make use of those old palms mindful of them being blessed and thus deserving respect.

Please note our Ash Wednesday collection/tithe will go towards the sustainability and good works of a convent in Bethlehem. The Bridgettine Sisters are working to preserve the presence of the Lord in the city of His birth even amidst the tragic conditions surrounding them as a result of the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land.

In Jesus through Mary,
Fr. Stash Dailey



40 DAYS OF ADORATION
TUESDAY, MARCH 25
9:00AM - 9:00PM


The Diocese of Columbus will be hosting its annual 40 Days of Adoration at different churches throughout the Diocese this Lenten season. St. Michael will host adoration this year on March 25th, the **Feast of the Annunciation**. Exposition will take place in the Church from 9:00am until 9:00pm. All registered adorers are asked to spend their hour in the Church during this time, and all are welcomed and encouraged to come and adore Our Lord throughout the day.

Stations of the Cross
at Saint Michael the Archangel




Fridays in Lent
12:00pm and 7:30pm

Join us for Stations of the Cross this Lenten season. Each week will offer a different reflection to deepen your Lenten journey. All are encouraged to join us, we hope to see you there!



Mary's Way of the Cross
Wednesdays
5:30pm
March 12
March 26
April 2
April 9

All women of the parish are invited to gather to pray Stations of the Cross during Lent. Experience the Stations of the Cross through Mary's eyes using Mary's Way of the Cross by Father Richard Furey. We will meet in the Church and pray the Stations together at 5:30pm on Wednesday evenings prior to the 6:00pm Mass on the dates provided above. All women are encouraged to join us as we journey through Lent together. We hope to see you there!



You and your family are invited to
JOIN US AT ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19
MASS AT 5:30PM
FOLLOWED BY DINNER & FELLOWSHIP

Entree will be provided by the parish with the request to assist with additional meal donations and goodwill offerings to support our parish ministries. To help us plan, RSVP's are requested. Scan the QR code for more information or to RSVP today.



Please note: this will replace the weekly 6:00pm Mass followed by Holy Hour & Confessions in the Church. Adoration will still be available in our Adoration Chapel that evening.

Lenten Book Study
Register Now!



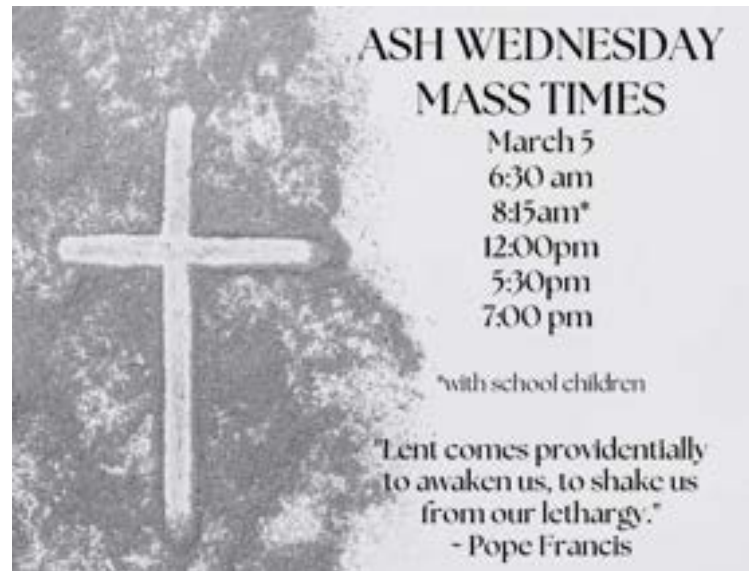
Join us this Lenten season for a book study with Father Johnstone. Together we will journey through the book *Jesus and the Jubilee: The Biblical Roots of the Year of God's Favor* by John S. Bergsma. Meetings will be on Monday evenings throughout Lent at 7:00pm in the Upper Meeting Room. Books will cost \$15 each. A wonderful way to enrich your faith this Lenten season, this is a study you won't want to miss! Scan the QR code to register now!



AROUND THE PARISH

ASH WEDNESDAY COLLECTION

It is customary for the Ash Wednesday Collection to go toward a work of mercy. This year's Ash Wednesday Collection will go toward the Bridgettine Sisters living in Bethlehem. The Bridgettine Sisters adore the Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist praying for Christian Unity. They welcome travelers and pilgrims in their guesthouse and provide for the needs of the poor. Since the terrible acts of Hamas and the retribution that followed by Israel paralyzed the Holy Land, the sisters have gone without any source of income. Their life is one of constantly running for shelter when the sirens alert incoming bombs and missiles. Their Mother Abbess in Rome has asked them continually to consider moving to Jerusalem for safety but the sisters do not want to abandon the small Christian community of Bethlehem nor leave their tabernacle empty. The sisters wish to remain as a source of prayerful support to the local residents of Bethlehem, regardless of their religion. All alms given on Ash Wednesday will be immediately wired to the Bridgettine Sisters in Bethlehem. Our support will enable them to remain and provide support to their neighbors in the village where the Lord Jesus was born.



**ASH WEDNESDAY
MASS TIMES**

March 5
6:30 am
8:45 am*
12:00 pm
5:30 pm
7:00 pm

*with school children

"Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."
- Pope Francis



*Would you not
keep watch with
Me for One
Hour?*

Lenten Adoration Appeal

This Lenten season, as we are called to enter deeper into our faith with prayer, fasting and almsgiving, consider taking an hour of Adoration during Eucharistic Exposition each week on behalf of your parish. Support our Adoration Chapel and allow us to expand Exposition this Lenten season to include weekends. Please prayerfully consider adding an hour to your week throughout Lent.



Register with our Adoration Chapel and sign up for an hour using the QR code now!



Lenten Speaker Series
How to Make a Holy Hour

Thursdays in Lent
7:00pm in Marian Hall

Featuring different speakers each week, this is a series you won't want to miss! Stay tuned for more details on the speakers we will be welcoming!



**PSR Survey for the
2025-2026 School Year**

St. Michael's is excited to bring back PSR programming for children of our parish for the next school year! As we prepare to welcome your children, we need your assistance to aid us in our preparations. We kindly ask all those who would be interested in registering for or helping with children's faith formation to please complete our PSR survey by scanning the QR code below, or by visiting

<https://forms.gle/TBF3Q2LjzbEbzfzmZ9>



Scan to complete today!



ATTENTION, PARENTS OF DAUGHTERS!

Our parish is in the beginning stages of bringing **American Heritage Girls** to St. Michael. American Heritage Girls is a Christ-centered character and leadership development program for school-age girls. AHG is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. In order to get started with this amazing program, we need your help! If you have a daughter (or daughters!) who would be interested in joining AHG at St. Michael, please scan the QR code to complete the survey to help us as we plan. If you would like to learn more about the American Heritage Girls program, we invite you to visit americanheritagegirls.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 11445
www.kofc11445.com

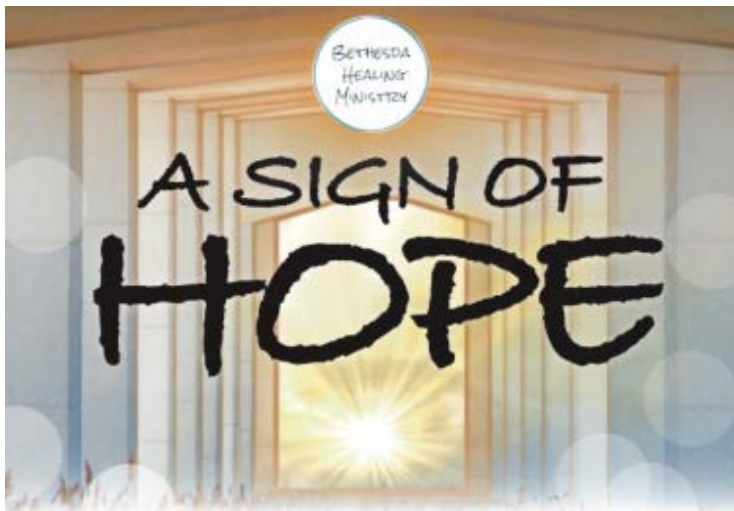
UPCOMING EVENTS:
 3/8-9 — Special Olympics Winter Games (Indoor) — Volunteers Needed
 3/10 — LMR — Business Meeting

**Fish Fry
Volunteers Needed**

Sign Up Today

<https://kofc11445.com/volunteer-appointments/>





Join us for the
PARISH LIFE FAIR

After all Masses March 22 & 23
 Join us to learn more about what's happening at St. Michael. Representatives from various parish ministries will be present to share more about their ministries and opportunities for you to get involved at our parish.



Bethesda Healing Ministry is a Catholic ministry of healing and hospitality for those seeking healing from an abortion experience. As Pope Francis opened the Holy Door for this Jubilee Year, he has called Catholic Christians to be a sign of hope to a world in need. Bethesda Healing Ministry seeks to do that through its ministry. "Please join us for this important fundraiser. Be a sign of hope and help Bethesda carry out its mission of healing."

Saturday, March 8, 2025

St. Andrew Church Nugent Parish Hall
1899 McCoy Road, Columbus, Ohio 43220

9:00 AM — Parish Mass
10:00 AM — Brunch & Program
\$35.00/Person

Guest Speaker:

Reverend Michael Lumpe

Very Rev. Michael Lumpe, Priest of the Diocese of Columbus, Vicar for Senior and Infirm Priests, Vicar for Hospital Ministry, Chaplain for Mother Angeline McCrory Manor and Villas of St. Therese.

Registration Online:

bethesdahealing.org/events

Or Call: Bethesda Healing Ministry (614) 718-0277



SAINT MICHAEL
 OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

REGISTER FOR SPRING SPORTS!

Registration for Spring sports is open now! Registration closes on March 2, don't delay in ensuring your child is registered to play!



Spring Sports Available:

- Softball (Girls 4-8th grade)
- Baseball (Boys 4-8th grade)
- Track (Boys & Girls 4-8th grade)
- K-3 Soccer (Boys & Girls K-3rd grade)
- New Sports Offerings this Spring: Coach pitch for baseball and softball is a new offering by the diocese this year for our 2nd and 3rd graders.


Register Here!



Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 36: Bread and Wine

Continuing our review of the Offertory and the gifts of bread and wine, we take time to address a few common questions.

Why do we use bread and wine and not something else?

During my years on campus, I recall meeting a student who had grown up in an Asian country. He said that, early on in his Christian journey, he would think of "daily bread" as a portion of rice, since that is what he was most familiar with. His question was a practical one: Why didn't the Church adapt what was used for Mass as the Church spread throughout the world? For a short answer, the Church has stayed consistent with what Jesus used at the Last Supper. As Fr. Guy Oury says, bread and wine would have been "daily fare" for the people of the Holy Land and "were particularly suitable to convey [Christ nourishing us with true and everlasting life] because they were typical nourishment. Obviously, Jews at the time of Christ consumed other food and drink besides bread and wine, and indeed, on the table of the Last Supper where the Passover meal was celebrated, lay a lamb... But Christ made a choice of bread and wine, and the Church has scrupulously conformed to what he instituted, using only bread from wheat and wine from grapes. The Church has never felt itself authorized to modify what it has received from the Lord himself" (The Mass, p. 78). This has been true as the Church spread to places where different grains as well as other drinks were common. In many places, missionaries brought with them wheat seeds and grape seedlings so that what was needed for the wine and hosts could be grown locally.

Why do we use unleavened bread?

Similar to the use of wheat, Fr. Guy Oury observes that the Church wishes to honor the tradition handed down to us. "At the time of Christ the ancient feast of Azymes had been merged with the feast of Passover. On the eve of Passover unleavened breads were prepared to commemorate what had happened when the Hebrews fled from Egypt: in their haste they could not have their dough leavened... At the Last Supper (according to the Synoptic Gospels, but not John) Jesus observed the Passover ritual, which called for unleavened bread" (The Mass, p. 80). We should note that in some places in the early Latin Church, as well as still currently in Eastern Rite and Eastern Orthodox Churches, leavened bread is used for the Eucharist. Each Rite within our Church is able to determine certain details for the celebration of the Mass. However, the core elements of the Mass will always be present and consistent.

What about the wine?

"The symbolism of wine is as rich as that of bread... Among Jews wine conveyed the idea of feasting and rejoicing... Wine has no doubt become less meaningful than it was [for Christians of earlier times. For them, wine was] thought to nourish the body, restore health, prevent sickness, help digestion, maintain bodily temperature, clarify ideas, dilate the arteries, rest the brain, halt congestion of the liver, chase away the 'blues,' as well as being useful for washing and cleansing wounds" (The Mass, p. 81-82). While the natural elements of wine may do these things for the body, doesn't the Blood of Christ do so many more powerful things for body and soul?

Lastly, why do we call the bread we use at Mass "hosts?"

Charles Belmonte teaches that "originally, 'host' (from Latin *hostire*, to strike) referred to any animal about to be sacrificed" (Understanding the Mass, p. 112). Since the bread is the offering made for the sacrifice of the Mass, it is fittingly called by the name host. To be proper and reverent, after the bread has been changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus, hosts should be called "Consecrated Hosts" or "Sacred Hosts," out of honor for Jesus Christ, who is now truly present.

For Reflection:

1. Pray with Psalm 104 in praise of God's provision for human needs, including "wine to gladden their hearts... and bread to sustain the human heart" (Ps. 104:15). Consider the life-giving role bread and wine have played in your life.
2. Have you ever baked bread or made wine? Reflect on your experience of each phase of this process. If you have the opportunity, visit a bakery or vineyard to learn more about bread and wine.
3. Some religious communities make hosts. Find out if anyone in your diocese facilitates these experiences, and see if you can visit to observe the process.

Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 37: Silent, Humble, Contrite

As we continue our walk through the Offertory of the Mass, have you ever noticed that sometimes the priest is saying something you can't hear (or can barely hear)? As we have reflected on previously, there are moments in the Mass—such as before proclaiming the Gospel—where the priest prays a prayer silently or quietly. These prayers are to prepare the priests (or deacons) for what comes next; they provide a moment of reflection for the priest and open his heart. Another one of these quiet prayers happens after the offering of bread and wine during the Offertory.





We offer ourselves...

After placing the bread and wine on the altar, the priest bows and says quietly, "With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God." As the Diocese of Peoria explains, "In this prayer, the priest silently speaks in his own name and on behalf of all the faithful, asking that God accept the sacrifice and find us in humility and contrition" (A Study of the Mass, p. 12). The priest acknowledges the truth about how much we need God and that we at times fall short of living up to his standards. With that mindset, the priest is asking God to accept us and the sacrifice as we are, not faulty Christians who have given up and thrown in the towel, but honest Christians who admit our shortcomings and yet strive toward that perfection to which God calls us.

Reflecting on this prayer, Edward Sri invites us: "Notice how the sacrifice envisioned in this prayer is not some thing being offered to God, like bread and wine, but the people assembled: 'May we be accepted by you...' This theme, as well as the mention of a humble spirit and contrite heart, recalls the petition of the three Hebrew men thrown in the fiery furnace in Daniel [Chapter 3]" (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 90). If you have read this interesting story, you know that these three faithful men would not worship a false image made of gold by King Nebuchadnezzar. As punishment, they were thrown into a burning furnace, heated seven times more than normal. Instead of burning, the three men walked around unharmed and began singing a long hymn of praise to God. This hymn praises God for his goodness, recalls the many blessings he has given to his people, and then asks every part of creation to sing praise to God. Just before this last part, the three men say to God that they offer all they have (which is themselves) and ask him to accept them as if they were providing the best offering one could imagine (tens of thousands of rams, bulls, and fat lambs).

... and receive God himself.

Our prayer in the Mass, which echoes the prayer of the three faithful men, works in a very similar way. We have just said to God that we offer him the gifts of bread and wine, which are not much even by human standards. Along with the bread and wine, we have ourselves to offer, and we all know that sometimes we are not very worthy offerings to God either. Yet, we ask God to accept what we offer as if it were good and pleasing to him. And what is God's response? For the last 2000 years of Masses, no matter how big or small the congregation, no matter how strong or how weak their faith, no matter how worthy (or unworthy) we think our offerings are, God accepts them. As if that weren't enough, God in his love and generosity does something unbelievable with our meager offerings. He changes them into the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! God accepts the bread and wine from us and gives us back the gift of himself! What a generous exchange! What a great God we have!

For Reflection:

1. Reflect on Daniel 3 and pray with the words of the three young men in the fiery furnace.
2. This prayer at the conclusion of the Offertory was at one time called the "Secret." Consider these words from the Book of Tobit: "A king's secret should be kept secret, but one must declare the works of God and give thanks with due honor" (Tob 12:7, 11). Reflect on the intimate values you hold in "sacred silence" within your own heart. Allow this sense of reverence and wonder at God's generosity to inspire how you participate in the Offertory prayer at Mass.

Did You Know?

The votive candles in front of the side altars and near the statues of St Patrick and St Teresa serve as a reminder?

Each candle lit and burning is representing an intention, or intentions, of the person who made the sacrifice of offering the cost of the candle. The intention is continually offered to the Lord through the intercession of the Saint for as long as the candle is burning.

Here at St Michael, we have the blessing of offering '6 day votive candles' as well as the small one-day votives.

It is quite the beautiful sight to be in the church when it is dimly lit or even dark and see only light of the candles burning knowing that each candle is 'working' for the benefit of the intention placed upon it when it was offered and lit.



LENT AT SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

JOIN US:

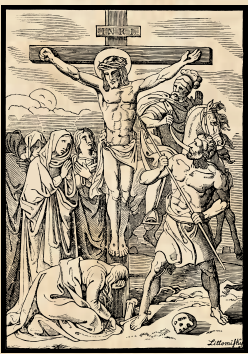
- Friday Stations of the Cross, 12:00PM on March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
- Friday Stations of the Cross, 7:30pm on March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
- Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry, 5:00pm – 7:30pm Fridays during Lent, dine-in and drive-thru available.
- Diocese of Columbus 40 Days of Adoration at St. Michael, Tuesday, March 25th from 9:00am-9:00pm with Exposition in the Church.
- Thursday Evening Speaker Series: How to Make a Holy Hour, Thursdays during Lent at 7:00pm in Marian Hall.
- Lenten Book Study with Father Johnstone, Mondays during Lent, register now by visiting saintmichael-cd.org/lenten-book-study/
- Women's Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm on March 12 & 26, April 2 & 9

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT:

- Sundays 30 minutes prior to the 8:30am, 10:30am & 12:30pm Masses
- Saturdays 2:30pm - 4:00pm
- Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:30pm during Holy Hour
- Weekdays 7:00am - 8:00am
- Fridays 12:00pm - 1:00pm

FASTING & ABSTINENCE:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting. The Law of Fasting binds all from the age of 18 through the end of the 59th year. The Law of Fasting prescribes that only one full meal a day be taken. Two lighter meals are permitted but combined should not be more than one full meal. Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. The Law of Abstinence binds all those who have completed their 14th year of age and older. On those days these faithful are not to eat meat.



PRAYER - PENANCE - ALMSGIVING

With the great Season of Lent around the corner it is good to revisit a few basic principles of our holy faith when it comes to how to LIVE LENT.

PRAYER:

Prayer is essentially communication. It is supposed to be communication which arises from within the interior life and is directed to the Lord. There are movements of prayer where we address the Father in Heaven, like the Holy Mass and the Our Father, and there are prayers which are addressed to the Lord Jesus who is the Christ, like 'Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy on me a sinner', and then there are prayers addressed to the Holy Spirit, think of the 'Come Holy Spirit...' prayer. All of these prayers are acts of worship, we would call them Latria, worshipful acts to the Most High God.

Then there are prayers which engage others who are in our lives to intercede on our behalf or to petition God with us, like the 'Hail Mary', the 'St Michael Prayer', or the novena to St Joseph. These prayers are not in and of themselves acts of worship, Latria, but rather they are acts of veneration, Dulia, and this practice goes all the way back to our Jewish roots.

Worship is given to God alone while veneration may be expressed to the Holy Ones who form the great cloud of witnesses who surround us on our journey to the Father.

During the Holy Season of Lent we are presented with opportunities, invitations really, to intentionally engage in acts of prayer so we can re-direct the attention of our hearts back to the Most High God while acknowledging the presence of the holy ones in our midst.

PENANCE:

The practice of self-denial, going without, or self-growth, taking upon oneself something new, is like prayer, it is rooted in our Jewish roots. While its roots go back to the original covenants between God and Man it takes upon itself a unique hue as a result of our discipleship in following Jesus.

While the Church has given us a call to oblige to a Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday she invites and recommends Abstaining on multiple days throughout the year. During Fridays in Lent we all are expected to Abstain from meat.

To 'Fast' refers directly to how much food we consume whereas to 'Abstain' refers to what we will and what we will not consume. They are two different, yet related, practices of Penance. For clarity, the obligation to Fast is placed upon only those who are of a mature age and presumably in a state of health where they can engage in the practice without dire consequences. All Catholics are expected to abstain.

When does one abstain and fast? There are prescribed days of Penance which are obligatory but with careful consideration, direction and guidance from your pastor or a trusted guide in the spiritual life one may add other days of intentional Penance. For example, EVERY FRIDAY IS A DAY OF PENANCE. Fridays in Lent are all days of the Penance called ABSTAINING because that is the day of the Passion and Death of Jesus. So we as Latin Rite Catholics are obliged to ABSTAIN from meat every Friday in Lent. But one may rightly consider adopting particular intentional penances on Wednesdays because that is the day of betrayal where Judas betrayed Jesus with the High Priests of the Temple. Others may choose to do particular and intentional Penance on Saturdays as an act of solidarity with Our Lady who lives in the aftermath of the death of her son Jesus and waits for His Resurrection.

When we look to the penances of the Apostles and the first generations of Christians, our own present age is pretty lax, ok, it's actually lame and pathetic. We have long lines of people looking for dispensations and permissions to skip on penances and then we wonder why our young people don't see any depth to the Christian Way of Life. Introducing penance to our daily life is a way of increasing self-discipline and self-possession. Think of penance as a kind of training for a marathon, regular penance helps keep our focus on the big goal or victory which is heaven.

Our coaches expect our youth to practice their proper sport regularly before playing in a game so that they are ready to play and prepared to win. In the reality of our faith, regular penance helps keep us focused and tuned in so when we pray the Holy Mass or prepare for a Sacrament, we are ready for the Lord and prepared to go all the way to Heaven.

ALMSGIVING:

In a self-centered culture and overly materialistic society Almsgiving is truly difficult. We tend to give from our surplus and our comfort rather than to give from our hearts and from a disposition of sacrifice.

While Almsgiving can be related to our biblical tithe to the Church it shouldn't just be rooted in nor wrapped up in our tithe. Do we give to the point of it being an actual sacrifice so there is a plan to give and a plan to recover from giving?

Almsgiving is a powerful way to take the temperature on our dependency upon the Lord.

Do we give in such a way as to allow Him to provide for our needs or do we give from our surplus and thus are not truly dependent upon Him. Jesus' own words are 'Blessed are the Poor' and yet again 'Blessed are the Poor in Spirit'.

The Lord is quite clear that for those who do not take care of the poor there will only be condemnation awaiting them.

Find a group of disciples who actually care for the poor and support them to the point that your livelihood is bound up in their love for the materially poor. The Catholic community is not supposed to be a United Nations NGO or some Government agency where the majority of money is supporting overhead and not the hungry mouths.

Consider CROSS CATHOLIC, our own St Vincent DePaul Society here at St Michael or Holy Family Soup Kitchen as possible groups of disciples who can tie in your almsgiving with the Command of Jesus to care for the poor.

Through PRAYER, PENANCE, and ALMSGIVING there will be incredible growth in the interior life and a true bond of Union with the Father in Heaven.

While these elements are not solely for the Lenten Season the Lenten Season lends itself to adopting these practices in a new way so that we can use the forty days of Lent as a journey towards Jesus and then a run towards the Father.

PRAYER - PENANCE - ALMSGIVING





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