



St. Michael the Archangel The Second Sunday of Lent

The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary
The Scourging at the Pillar

5750 N. HIGH STREET WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085
614.885.7814 ~ SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG

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:
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ST. MICHAEL

PARISH SCHOOL

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Knights of Columbus Representative:

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St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

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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 sriya@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 OF LENT – MARCH 16, 2025

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 15

4:00 p.m. + Gus Fristad (The Fiala-Fristad Family)

Sunday, March 16

8:30 a.m. + Paul Butler (Betsy Butler)

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

12:30 p.m. + Bruce Crosby (Earl Crosby)

5:00 p.m. + Tony Sylvester (Clare Adams)

Monday, March 17

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of the Hollback Family

8:15 a.m. + Deacon Klaus Fricke (John Paul Munhall)

Tuesday, March 18

6:30 a.m. + Agnes & Dick Gormley (Pat & Joe Kearns)

8:15 a.m. + Laura Ryan (Kristen Cobb)

Wednesday, March 19

6:30 a.m. + Joyce Meiners (Barb Weaver)

8:15 a.m. For the School

5:30 p.m. Special Intention of the Miller Family

Thursday, March 20

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Ron Stanko (Martha Tangeman)

8:15 a.m. + Jody Munhall (James & Diane Vincent)

Friday, March 21

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of the Bruggeman Family

8:15 a.m. + Anastacio Yang (Eric & Josephine Yang)

Saturday, March 22

8:15 a.m. + Deceased Members of the Dierker Family

4:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Sunday, March 23

8:30 a.m. Special Intention of John & Linda Kish (The Kish Family)


10:30 a.m. + Judith Giannetto

12:30 p.m. + Joseph Ailabouni (The Adams Family)

5:00 p.m. + Shane Fitzpatrick (The Adams Family)

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP MARCH 9, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 54,423.55
Online Giving	\$ 12,304.56
Total:	\$ 66,728.11




ST. JOSEPH, MAN OF VIRTUE

A reflection by
Fr. Daniel Bowen O. de M.


Tuesday, March 18 at 6:30pm

Light refreshments to follow

SPONSORED BY




RSVP



PARISH CALENDAR: MARCH

SUNDAY, March 16	Girl Scout Cookie Sales after morning Masses Confessions before 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. Baptism Class (UMR) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (G)
Monday, March 17	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 a.m. Confessions (C) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U) 7:00 p.m. Lenten Book Study (MH)
Tuesday, March 18	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 a.m. Confessions (C) 7:00 p.m. K of C Speaker: Joseph, Man of Virtue (C,MH) 7:30 p.m. WFF Bible Study (UMR)
Wednesday, March 19	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 a.m. Confessions (C) 5:30 p.m. St. Joseph's Table Mass & Dinner (C,U) NO 6:00 p.m. HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS NO 6:30 p.m. Mass
Thursday, March 20	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 a.m. Confessions (C) 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 21	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 7:00 a.m. Confessions (C) 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 22	6:45 a.m. Men's Faith & Fellowship (UMR) 7:00 a.m. Pietra (LMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C) Parish Life Fair after 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
SUNDAY, March 23	Parish Life Fair after all Masses Confessions before morning Masses 9:00 a.m. OCIA (UMR) 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (A) 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



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.

FROM THE PASTOR

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

I am happy to share with all of you that as a result of your generosity and dedication to the parish, and its needs, we were able to send a check in the amount of \$33,008.03 to the Office of Finance for the Diocese. This payment toward the parish's loan has wiped out all of the parish's debt.

The debt incurred from building the addition to Marian Hall and the debt from the payroll loan have both been paid off! It is fitting that, in a Jubilee Year, our debt is paid off for one of the foundational principals behind the concept of the Biblical Jubilee: to reset one's clock. Once again, THANK YOU for your continued generosity toward the parish and your fidelity to the Lord Jesus.

I am very humbled to announce that our Ash Wednesday tithe collected at the five Masses amounted to just around \$4,000.00. As a parish tithe, we will enhance this amount and send \$10,000.00 to the Bridgettine Sisters in Bethlehem. This Ash Wednesday tithe is truly more of an Almsgiving as the sisters are not able to tithe to anyone else at this moment given the tragedy of life in the Holy Land. Please pray for their safety and for the Lord to bless their good work among the very small and struggling Christian minority there in the city of the Lord's birth.

This coming week, we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick and the Solemnity of St. Joseph! Two great opportunities to celebrate the power of the Gospel and the presence of Jesus in the life of individuals. Appreciating the life of St. Patrick, one is rightly moved by his desire to forgive and work for the salvation of those he forgave.

Pondering how St. Joseph provided for the needs of Our Lady and the Christ Child, may we entrust ourselves to the powerful intercession of Good St. Joseph! Join us for the Holy Mass at 5:30 p.m. on the Solemnity of Joseph, Wednesday the 19th, followed by the St. Joseph Table.

In Jesus, through Mary, with Joseph,
Fr. Stash Dailey

AROUND THE PARISH



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!



Friday, April 4 @ 5pm - 8pm

St. Michael Convent 5694 N. High St., Worthington, OH 43085
If you have any questions, please email Sr. Ave Marie at Columbus@sistersofmary.org.

Please RSVP by Friday, March 28



Scan the QR code to RSVP Today!



Learn more about the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist at sistersofmary.org

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/TBF3Q2LjzbEbzfmZ9>



Scan to complete today!



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.

ATTENTION 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 3:30pm on Fridays. Thank you for your support and generosity!



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!





Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 40: Washing Hands

We continue our journey through the Offertory of the Mass. After the gifts are brought forward (and after the incense, when it is used), you may notice that the priest washes his hands over a dish called a lavabo (meaning, "I shall wash") and dries them with a towel. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal says that this washing is a rite "in which the desire for interior purification finds expression" (GIRM, 76).

Practical and Symbolic Significance of Handwashing

To explain this handwashing in more depth, Charles Belmonte teaches, "In every Mass, a liturgical act is performed which originally was a response to a practical necessity. The celebrant washes his hands, which have touched the sundry offerings as well as the censer, before taking up the bread about to become the body of Christ. The Church has kept this ceremony of the Lavabo to express the desire of interior purification. This mystical meaning was emphasized by St. Cyril of Jerusalem in the fourth century, when he wrote: 'This action shows that we must be free from all sin. We perform actions with our hands; to wash our hands is the nearest thing to purifying our deeds'" (Understanding the Mass, p. 114).

Even if the spiritual meaning makes sense, you may note the practical reality that the priest's hands don't look dirty. It is true that our offerings today are clean, but if you remember a few installments back, in the early days of the Church people would bring all kinds of things for the offertory, not just neat little containers of bread and wine. For example, someone might bring produce or chickens as gifts for the poor. Naturally, if the priest was handling these kinds of offerings, we would want him to wash his hands before continuing the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

While we no longer need the practical cleaning today, the understanding of spiritual cleansing is very valuable. As the Diocese of Peoria notes, "the Church maintains this washing ritual as it expresses an inward desire to be cleansed within" (A Study of the Mass, p. 12). This desire is very clear when we see the private prayer the priest prays at this washing: "Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." Although the priest prays this prayer privately, this is another place where all the faithful could unite in prayer, asking God to purify our minds and hearts in anticipation of being in the True Presence of Christ himself on the altar.

Uniting Ourselves to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

After washing his hands, the priest goes back to the center of the altar, extends his hands and then rejoins them, and asks the faithful: "Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father." According to our most recent directives, the faithful stand to make the response: "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church." Charles Belmonte writes that "the priest begs us to unite ourselves with him in the sacrificial act as it draws nearer... the priest stresses that the sacrifice is mine (i.e., Christ offers himself—the aspect of ministerial priesthood) and yours (the entire Church offers the sacrifice—the aspect of common priesthood)" (Understanding the Mass, p. 115). The Diocese of Peoria explains, "The invitation makes a distinction between the way in which the priest makes his offering and the way in which the faithful make theirs. The Sacrifice of the Mass is not offered by the priest alone. All of us by virtue of our baptism are called upon to offer ourselves to the Father through Christ" (A Study of the Mass, p. 12).

As we have seen throughout the Offertory, there are several opportunities to unite ourselves and our sacrifices to Jesus. This is no accident! Each of these invitations helps us to be aware of what we can offer and to be attentive to what is about to happen in the Mass. Next time, we'll see the Prayer over the Offerings draw our prayers and sacrifices together as the time of Christ's True Presence draws ever closer.

For Reflection:

1. Accept Father Luke's invitation to unite your prayers to that of the priest during the Lavabo. Next time you observe this rite, make the priestly prayer your own: "Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." Be attentive in this moment to relinquish distractions and enter more fully into the Mass.
2. Outside the context of Mass, take time to pray slowly and attentively with the people's response to the priest's invocation after the Lavabo: "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church." As you prepare to participate in Mass, renew your intention to give praise and glory to God and to seek the true good for yourself and for others.

Do This in Remembrance of Me; Part 41: The Prayer over the Offerings

Our next "stop" in this journey through the Mass is the Prayer over the Offerings. Similar to what we saw with the Collect at the beginning of Mass, the Prayer over the Offerings gives us a summary of our offering and points our minds and hearts to the coming Eucharistic Prayer. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal says, "Once the offerings have been placed on the altar and the accompanying rites completed, by means of the invitation to pray with the Priest and by means of The Prayer over the Offerings, the Preparation of the Gifts is concluded and preparation made for the Eucharistic Prayer. At Mass, a single Prayer over the Offerings is said, and it ends with the shorter conclusion, that is: Through Christ our Lord. If, however, the Son is mentioned at the end of this prayer, the conclusion is: Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. The people, joining in this petition, make the prayer their own by means of the acclamation Amen" (GIRM, 77).





Offering Prayers, Receiving Graces

What are we praying about at this point in the Mass? Generally speaking, if we look through these prayers, we find the following familiar words: prayers, gifts, offerings, sacrifices, and oblations. We also ask God to sanctify, accept, and transform these gifts. Fleshing out the content of these Prayers over the Offerings, Charles Belmonte writes, “we usually acknowledge our incapacity to offer to God gifts adequate to his goodness and power. We ask God to accept what we offer with sincerity. We ask some grace in connection with the mystery celebrated on that particular day, in return for the material gifts. We notice an ascending or upward-striving rhythm in the progress of the liturgical action. If we contrast this prayer with the Collect, we can perceive an increase in fervor and assurance. We know that our gifts to God will be returned to us multiplied a hundredfold” (Understanding the Mass, p. 116).

Hearing mention of sacrifice, we recall one of the great truths about the Mass: it truly is the one sacrifice of Christ. In the Mass, the perfect sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is re-presented to us. In the traditional understanding of a sacrifice, we need a priest, a victim/offering, and an altar. For Christ’s perfect sacrifice, Jesus is both the priest and victim/offering; that is, he offers himself in sacrifice on the altar of the cross. The Mass is our access to that sacrifice and its many fruits. How amazing: the sacrifice of Jesus is right there before us. No wonder the Mass is such a powerful prayer!

Uniting Our Offerings with Christ’s Sacrifice

Of course, we are not just spectators at the Mass; we don’t just sit back and watch what Jesus does. We have been invited to take part and to unite with Christ in offering our own sacrifices. As we have been reflecting on this part of the Mass, we are able to join our prayers and offerings to the perfect offering of Jesus. As Charles Belmonte says, “St. Paul exhorted the first Christians to offer every action to God. ‘Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God’ (1 Cor. 10:31), and never say or do anything except ‘in the name of the Lord Jesus’ (Col 3:17). The Second Vatican Council [in the Constitution on the Church, Lumen Gentium, 34] encourages ordinary Christians to make their daily offering united to the [E]ucharistic sacrifice: For all their works, prayers and apostolic endeavors, their ordinary married and family life, if patiently borne—all these become ‘spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ’ (1 Pet. 2:5). Together with the offering of the Lord’s body, they are most fittingly offered in the celebration of the Eucharist” (Understanding the Mass, p. 116–117). Belmonte goes on to suggest that we make offerings to God each day as an anticipation of joining in this Prayer over the Offerings. If you are up for it, I invite you to consider his challenge. Resolve to make offerings each day this coming week, and then bring those offerings to be spiritually joined to the sacrifice of the Mass on Sunday. Hopefully, you will experience deeper union with Jesus, especially the next time you are at the Mass!

For Reflection:

1. Join Father Luke’s challenge to make conscious, daily sacrifices or offerings and to bring those efforts to Mass. During the Prayer over the Offerings, unite your sacrifices of the past day(s) with Christ’s sacrifice on the altar.
2. When you face an unexpected difficulty today or this week, call to mind the Prayer over the Offerings and ask for the grace to respond to this opportunity according to God’s will. Take strength for perseverance by offering this experience “through Christ our Lord.”



ALMSGIVING ISN’T JUST ABOUT GIVING MONEY

Please join the St Vincent de Paul Society this Lent in “almsgiving” to supply our Pantry and our partners at Joint Organization for Inter-City Needs (J.O.I.N) with cleaning and personal hygiene items.

Purchase the following items from March 15th thru April 6th and drop them off in our designated boxes in Marian Hall

Items needed: bar soap, deodorant (men and women), 2:1 Shampoo/Conditioner, body lotion, small bottles of dish soap, multi-purpose spray cleaner, toilet paper, laundry detergent pods
In addition, our pantry could use: Spaghetti pasta, spaghetti sauce, boxes of mashed potatoes, pasta sides (Knorr or off brand packets).

*“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.”
Proverbs 19:17*

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
The Month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph*

“Receive me, dear and chosen Father, and the offering of every movement of my body and soul, which I desire to present through thee to my blessed Lord. Purify all! Make all a perfect holocaust! May every pulsation of my heart be a Spiritual Communion, every look and thought an act of love, every action a sweet sacrifice, every word an arrow of Divine love, every step an advance toward Jesus, every visit to Our Lord as pleasing to God as the errands of Angels, every thought of thee, dear Saint, an act to remind thee that I am thy child. I recommend to thee the occasions in which I usually fail, particularly . . . [Mention these]. Accept each little devotion of the day, though replete with imperfection, and offer it to Jesus, Whose mercy will overlook all, since He regards not so much the gift as the love of the giver. Amen.” +PRAYER ~ MORNING OFFERING TO SAINT JOSEPH

Monday, March 17 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Optional Memorial: Saint Patrick of Ireland, Bishop and Confessor

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:36-38 Jesus said to his disciples: “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

Meditation: God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return. Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm, ill-will, and grief? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who know his love and who ask for the gift and help of the Holy Spirit. Paul the Apostle reminds us that “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us” (Romans 5:5) God’s love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and grief. Only the cross of Jesus Christ and his victory over sin can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment, and give us the courage to overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21).

Prayer: O God, who have taught us to chasten our bodies for the healing of our souls, enable us, we pray, to abstain from all sins, and strengthen our hearts to carry out your loving commands. 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 Patrick: O God, who chose the Bishop Saint Patrick to preach your glory to the peoples of Ireland, grant, through his merits and intercession, that those who glory in the name of Christian may never cease to proclaim your wondrous deeds to all. 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 ~ “The Deer’s Cry” ~ “Saint Patrick’s Breastplate”: Visit this web page for this beloved prayer: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=139>

Contemplation: What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace – treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated – with loving-kindness and mercy. Do you pray for mercy and forgive those who wrong you? When we are confronted with our sinful condition and failings we experience guilt and shame. This can often either lead

us to cast off pride and make-belief or it can lead us to lose our inhibitions and fall into more shameless deeds! If we are utterly honest and humble before God, we will admit our sins and ask for his mercy and forgiveness. Do you know the joy and freedom of repentance, forgiveness, and a clean heart?

Tuesday, March 18 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent
Optional Memorial: Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12 Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people's shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to move them. All their works are performed to be seen. They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels. They love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor in synagogues, greetings in marketplaces, and the salutation 'Rabbi.' As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Meditation: Jesus appears to be warning both his disciples and the religious leaders about the temptation to seek titles and honors to increase one's reputation and admiration by others. Sacred scripture gives ample warning about the danger of self-seeking pride: "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6; Proverbs 3:24). Respect for God and his ways inclines us to Godly humility and simplicity of heart. What is true humility and why should we embrace it? True humility is not feeling bad about yourself, or having a low opinion of yourself, or thinking of yourself as inferior to others. True humility frees us from preoccupation with ourselves, whereas a low self-opinion tends to focus our attention on ourselves. Humility is truth in self-understanding and truth in action. Viewing ourselves truthfully, with sober judgment, means seeing ourselves the way God sees us (Psalm 139:1-4). A humble person makes a realistic assessment of oneself without illusion or pretense to be something one is not. A truly humble person regards oneself neither smaller nor larger than one truly is. True humility frees us to be ourselves as God sees us and to avoid despair and pride. A humble person does not want to wear a mask or put on a facade in order to look good to others. Such a person is not swayed by accidentals, such as fame, reputation, success, or failure. Do you know the joy of Christ-like humility and simplicity of heart?

Prayer: Look upon your family, Lord, that, through the chastening effects of bodily discipline, our minds may be radiant in your presence with the strength of our yearning for you. 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 Cyril: O God, who through the Bishop Saint Cyril of Jerusalem led your Church in a wonderful way to a deeper sense of the mysteries of salvation, grant us, through his intercession, that we may so acknowledge your Son as to have life ever more abundantly. 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: Notice how humility serves as the foundation of all the other virtues because humility enables us to see the way that God sees. Humility opens our minds and hearts so that each of us can acquire true knowledge, wisdom, and an honest view of reality. Humility directs our energy, zeal, and ambition to give ourselves to something greater than ourselves. Humility frees us to love and serve others selflessly, for their sake, rather than our own. Humility understands our need for help from God, as often as necessary, as part of our having a relationship with God. As Saint John Climacus wrote: "When one understands the need of God's help, he is driven to prayer and the force of that prayer makes for humility of heart. Anyone, in fact, who does not feel this need and does not ask for help, is not humble."

Wednesday, March 19 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent
Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Patron of the Universal Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a just man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to

name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

Meditation: Joseph's faith was put to the test when he discovered that his espoused wife was pregnant. Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, did not wish to embarrass or punish Mary. Joseph, no doubt took this troubling matter to God in prayer; he was not hasty to judge or to react with hurt and anger. God rewarded Joseph not only with guidance and consolation, but with the divine assurance that he had indeed called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and to assume a mission that would require the utmost faith, confidence, and trust in Almighty God. Joseph believed in the divine message to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah. Joseph was a worthy successor to the great patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He followed the call of God through the mysterious circumstances that surrounded the coming of Jesus. God entrusted this silent, humble man with the unique privilege of raising his only Son. Joseph is a faithful witness and servant of God's plan of redemption.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. 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.

Prayers to Saint Joseph: There are a number of prayers to Saint Joseph. Visit this web page to read, meditate and pray: <https://mycatholic.life/year-of-saint-joseph/#novena>

Contemplation: Ask yourself: Are you prepared to obey the Lord in everything? Everything?! Faith in God's word and obedience to his commands go hand in hand. Joseph, like Mary, is a model of faith and justice; he willingly obeyed the Lord in all things. Imitate Joseph, a human like you and I, and watch great things happen in your life as you live your life according to God's way instead of the way of the world.

About Saint Joseph: Saint Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man – an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary. The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of Holy Scripture. Of Saint Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. His was the most beautiful death that one could have, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. At present there are two major feasts in his honor. On March 19 our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption, while on May 1 we honor him as the patron of workmen throughout the world and as our guide in the difficult matter of establishing equitable norms regarding obligations and rights in the social order.

Thursday, March 20 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.' "

Meditation: The name "Lazarus" means "God is my help." Despite a life of misfortune and suffering, Lazarus did not lose hope in God. His eyes were set on a treasure stored up for him in heaven. The rich

man, however, could not see beyond his material wealth and possessions. He not only had every thing he needed, he selfishly spent all he had on himself. He was too absorbed in what he possessed to notice the needs of those around him. He lost sight of God and the treasure of heaven because he was preoccupied with seeking happiness in material things. He served wealth rather than God. In the end the rich man became a beggar! Remember, those who place their hope and trust in God will not be disappointed.

Prayer: O God, who delight in innocence and restore it, direct the hearts of your servants to yourself, that, caught up in the fire of your Spirit, we may be found steadfast in faith and effective in works. 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 parable, Jesus paints a dramatic scene of contrasts – riches and poverty, heaven and hell, compassion and indifference, inclusion and exclusion. We also see an abrupt and dramatic reversal of fortune. Lazarus was not only poor, but sick and unable to lift himself. He was “laid” at the gates of the rich man’s house. The dogs which licked his sores probably also stole the little bread he got for himself. Dogs in the ancient world symbolized contempt. Enduring the torment of these savage dogs only added to the poor man’s miseries and sufferings. The rich man treated the beggar with contempt and indifference, until he found his fortunes reversed at the end of his life! In God's economy, those who hold on possessively to what they have, lose it all in the end, while those who share generously receive back many times more than they gave away. This Lent (and beyond) let’s learn to share more with those who have little or nothing, generously helping those in need, and doing so with compassion and love.

Friday, March 21 ~ Second Week in the Season of Lent

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: “Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.’ They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes? They answered him, ‘He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times.’” Jesus said to them, Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes? Therefore, I say to you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they knew that he was speaking about them. And although they were attempting to arrest him, they feared the crowds, for they regarded him as a prophet.

Meditation: So why did Jesus' story about wicked tenants cause offense to the scribes and Pharisees? It contained both a prophetic message and a warning as it richly conveys some important truths about God and the way he deals with his people. First, it tells us of God's generosity and trust. The vineyard is well equipped with everything the tenants need. The owner went away and left the vineyard in the hands of the tenants. God, likewise trusts us enough to give us freedom to run life as we choose. This parable also tells us of God's patience and justice. Not once, but many times he forgives the tenants their debts.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, purifying us by the sacred practice of penance, you may lead us in sincerity of heart to attain the holy things to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus foretold both his death and his ultimate triumph. He knew he would be rejected and be killed, but he also knew that would not be the end. After rejection would come glory – the glory of resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father. The Lord blesses his people today with the gift of his kingdom. And he promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him (ref. John 15:1-11). He entrusts his gifts and grace to each of us and he gives us work to do in his vineyard – the body of Christ. He promises that our labor will not be in vain if we persevere with faith to the end (ref. 1 Corinthians 15:58). We can expect trials and even persecution, but in the end we will see triumph.

Antiphons and scripture passages courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from *Biblical Medications for Lent* 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.



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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!

Stations of the Cross at Saint Michael the Archangel



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

March 21: Stations with St. Alphonsus Liguori
March 28: Stations with Meditations on the Virtues
April 3: Stations with St. Francis of Assisi



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 adorers 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.

Respect Life Ministry

St. Michael Parish will be participating in the 40 Days for Life program this Lent. In Columbus, the program is sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life. This Spring, the vigil will be held at the Planned Parenthood Surgical Clinic (3255 E Main St). Sign up to cover an hour during St. Michael's adopted time.

Friday, March 28
8:00am to 1:00pm



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Questions? Contact Jake Asuncion
jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org



BWHS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is open for Bishop Watterson's summer art, sports, theatre and woodshop camps! Sports offered are baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, boys soccer, girls soccer, dance, softball, track & field, boys volleyball and girls volleyball. Go to bishopwatterson.com for dates, registration and other details.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE ETHICS CONFERENCE

Healthcare professionals are invited to the third **Converging Roads** Healthcare Ethics Conference on **April 5, 2025 from 8:45 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH.** This one-day conference will explore the theme of **Virtue in Medicine** and offers continuing education for healthcare professionals rooted in the Hippocratic and Catholic ethical tradition. Registration: \$75.00-\$159.00, based on CME/CNE inclusion. This conference is presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation, the Diocese of Columbus, the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio, and Ohio Dominican University. For more info, please visit convergingroads.com/columbus or email ellen@forlifeandfamily.org.

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