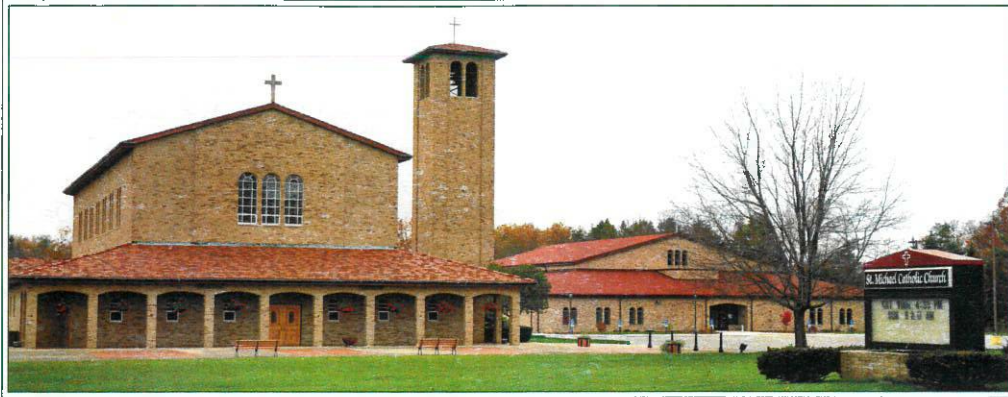


# Saint Michael Parish

300 North Broad Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406



#### Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

#### Holiday Masses:

12:15 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:00 p.m.

**Office Hours** ..... Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Parish Office**..... 330-533-6839

**Fax**..... 330-702-0432

**Family Life Center**..... 330-533-3181

*Saint Michael Parish is a welcoming Roman Catholic Community united by faith in Jesus Christ. Called to the mission of Jesus by Baptism, nourished by God's Word and Sacraments, we join to celebrate our faith and to continue Christ's mission of love, justice and service. As good stewards, guided by the Holy Spirit, we believe we are called to be Christ to one another, sharing our time, talent, and treasure with our community and the world, especially with those less fortunate.*

#### PARISH STAFF:

**Pastor** ..... Very Reverend John-Michael Lavelle, D. Min.

**Pastoral Associate for Adult Faith Formation**..... Maureen Hall

**Pastoral Associate for Youth Faith Formation**..... Marcy Fessler

**Music Ministry Director**..... Laura Kunkel

**Business Manager**..... Stephanie Howley

**Administrative Assistant**..... Maxine Gordon

**Family Life Center Manager**..... Audrey Geskey

**Maintenance**..... Joe Serenko

#### Registration

Arrangements for registration can be made by calling the parish office.

#### Adult Inquiry/Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Adults who have questions about the Catholic faith, or who would like to become members of the Catholic Church are invited to contact a member of the Pastoral Staff.

#### Baptism

Baptisms are done during any weekend Mass. Expectant or new parents must be registered parishioners. Please call the parish office 3-4 months prior to the preferred Baptism date to schedule Baptism preparation.

**Bulletin Deadline: Monday at Noon.**

See bulletin for holiday schedule/adjustments.

#### Confirmation

Celebrated for students in the 8th grade. Please call the parish office.

#### Marriage

Couples are asked to call the Parish Office prior to making other arrangements. A minimum of 6 months is required.

#### Liturgy

Persons interested in becoming a liturgical minister are asked to contact a member of the Pastoral Staff.

#### Youth Faith Formation

Catechetical program for students in grades K - 8.

#### Adult Faith Formation

Please contact a member of the Pastoral Staff for information about adult opportunities for education and spiritual growth.

#### Hospital

Please call the church office if a family member is in the hospital and would like to be visited.

#### Homebound/Nursing Home

If parishioner is homebound or in a nursing home and would like to receive Communion, please contact the church office.

#### Social Justice

Persons interested in becoming involved in ministries to the poor or oppressed are asked to contact a member of the Pastoral Staff.

**Catholic Charities Regional Agency Mahoning County (330) 744-3320**

**E-Mail** ..... [info@saintmichaelparish.net](mailto:info@saintmichaelparish.net)

**Web Page** ..... [www.stmichaelcanfield.org](http://www.stmichaelcanfield.org)

**Facebook**..... [www.facebook.com/stmichaelcanfield](http://www.facebook.com/stmichaelcanfield)



## Mass Schedule

**Monday, December 11**

**Saint John Damasus**

8:00am – Delores Otte

**Tuesday, December 12**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

11:00am – James Leugers

**Wednesday, December 13**

**Saint Lucy**

8:00am – George Smith

**Thursday, December 14**

**Saint John of the Cross**

8:00am – Robert Palma

**Friday, December 15**

No Daily Mass

**Saturday, December 16**

**Vigil – Third Sunday of Advent**

3:00pm - Reconciliation

4:00pm – Rose & George Flask

Jean & Emil Kniska

**Sunday, December 17**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

9:00am – The People of the Parish

11:30am – Helen Camuso

## FROM THE PASTOR . . .



The word of God proclaimed today is like the shoot that sprouts from the stump of Jesse. God's living word blossoms in this place and shows us the ways of justice and peace. John the Baptizer announces the coming of the Word-made-flesh, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord. Each of us is called to work toward the day of the Lord, when there will be no more war, no more violence. It will be a day when peace blossoms in our hearts and around the world. May we work for peace in our time. *Come, Lord Jesus, Come!*

## BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI

This Advent, we will continue with the beautiful tradition of the *Blessing of the Bambinelli* (the baby Jesus statues). This blessing will take place at all the Masses next weekend, December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> - *Gaudete Sunday (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)*. Please bring the baby Jesus figurine from your family nativity scene to Mass. At the time of the blessing, Father will ask everyone to lift up their statue for the blessing. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share in the one Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in all our homes during the coming season of Christmas. May God continue to pour forth the blessing of his Son into our hearts & homes this Christmas.

We are also asking that we extend the care for the baby Jesus by bringing donations of diapers, formula and other infant needs to Mass next weekend. They may be placed in the blue bins at the doors of the church or in the Sacred Heart Chapel (the bell tower). The items will be distributed through Catholic Charities and other agencies to those in need.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAM

THANK YOU to everyone who so generously and lovingly supported our annual Christmas Giving Program. The outreach made possible this Christmas is a true testament to the core value of loving one another. We are grateful to those who prepared the ornaments, replenished the wreaths, and who will be assisting in forwarding the funds provided to the various agencies – who, in turn, will provide the gifts and food necessary to provide a glorious Christmas for so many. While the vast majority of the contributions have been received, there are always some last minute needs with which your gift could assist. Given this continuing need, we will keep the wreaths up through Christmas so we may provide for those who come to us even in the days following Christmas. As of this past Tuesday, we were at \$29,000 in donations, which is about \$7,000 less than the total last year (but we still have time). Thank you, and as we prepare for our Christmas celebration, let us keep in prayer all served by this year's Christmas Giving Program. God bless you all!



## YOUNG AT HEART

A reminder if you signed up for the Young at Heart excursion to the **Arms Museum this Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** – we will gather for Mass at 11:00am, followed by a luncheon in the parish hall, and then board the bus for the museum. Due to the limited seating and tour space – we cannot add anyone else at this time – this is just a friendly reminder to all who signed up.

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service will be celebrated on **Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** in the Church. We also welcome our First Reconciliation children to the celebration of the sacrament for the first time that evening. Please plan to attend.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This year, we have the shortest Advent season possible. While many think of the season as having four weeks, there are actually only four Sundays, with the last Sunday, as it is this year, possibly being Christmas Eve as well. As each Sunday is a day of obligation, we will not be altering the Sunday Mass schedule for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. However, to allow for the Church to be prepared for Christmas, and still allow Advent to be Advent, the Masses for the Sunday (4pm Saturday, 9:00 & 11:30am Sunday) will be in the Family Life Center (FLC), along with the morning Masses on Wednesday and Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The Church will be open for Christmas Masses beginning at 2:30pm on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. **A reminder that the Christmas Mass schedule is 4pm and 6pm on December 24<sup>th</sup> and 12am and 10am on December 25<sup>th</sup>.** And yes – Midnight Mass starts at Midnight. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Margaret Belcik	John Hahn	Jayme Lynn Lowe
Michael Belcik	Pat Hoyle	Mary Lou Mack
Bruce Brunner	Dale Hynes	Linda Miller
Mary Louise H. Buck	Steven Kaczmar	Cindy Morrissey
Dante DeAngelo	Mary Jo Latera	David Morrissey
Dorothy DeChicco	Patty Sweeney Lavolpa	Janice Rovnak
John Deley	Jack LeBrun	Scott Schulte
James Dunn, Sr.	Bridget Dunn Leonard	Joseph Slifka
Jay Gettemy	Patricia Lesho	Jay Smith
Richard R. Gregg	Barbara Dunn Lowe	

**Please Note:** Beginning in January the current Prayer List will be removed, and a new Prayer List started. If you would like to have a name on the new list, please call the Parish Office at 330-533-6839. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

A reminder to please fill out your Christmas flower envelope with the names of loved ones to be prayed for during the Christmas season. A listing of all names in memoriam will appear in the Christmas Bulletin, December 24.



In order to have names listed in the bulletin (and posted on our parish website as well), we must receive the envelopes by **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Again, thank you for your kindness. May God bless us all with joyful hearts and loving remembrance during this coming Christmas Season.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### Saturday, December 16 – 4:00 PM

**Lector:** Dominic Rich  
**Server:** Lauren Smallwood  
**Euch. Min:** Maxine Gordon (X)  
 Bill Petro (HF)  
 Jeanne Neville (T)

**Ushers:** Dan Stout

### Sunday, December 17 – 9:00 AM

**Lector:** Juanita Sherba  
**Servers:** Sarah, Ryan, & Zach Hlywa  
**Euch. Min:** Karen Kalosky (X)  
 Mark Curtis (HF)  
 Karen Curtis (T)

**Ushers:** Jim Naples, Jerry Laska, Marty Repasky  
 Kevin Henchar

### Sunday, December 17 – 11:30 AM

**Lector:** Brian Berlin  
**Server:** Nate Ferguson  
**Euch. Min:** Steve DeCapua (X)  
 Kay McCarthy (HF)  
 Leslie Lewis (T)

**Ushers:** Tom Wainio, Chuck Wirtz

## Parish Support

December 3, 2023

Amount Received	\$ 13,813.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$ 1,187.00)
EFT November	\$ 11,838.00
YTD Received	\$355,023.26
YTD Budget	\$345,000.00
YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 10,023.26



Thank you for your continued support of our parish and all our ministries! God Bless

## ABOUT ADVENT WREATHS

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.



The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears a rose vestment at Mass. Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectations and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

## HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR THE MESSIAH

*We wait in joyful hope for the coming Messiah, God of the Universe incarnate, who was, and is, and is to come. Oh come, let us adore Him!*

"One can be joyful in hope because of God's infinite love that extends to all. If we pause for a moment, we can behold this joyful hope in a child who joyfully hopes for Christmas or his or her birthday. I think that when Jesus says we need to become like a child to enter the Kingdom of God what he is saying, in addition to trust, is that we need to manifest continuously a joyful hope even in the face of the cynicism, sarcasm, and pessimism of the world."

Bishop David J. Bonnar - *Practicing Faith, Hope and Love: Living the Virtues Together in Tough Times.*

## STEWARDSHIP

*"Prepare the way of the Lord..." Mark 1:3*

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

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### Monday, December 11

9:00am – Fitness Fun

7:00pm – First Reconciliation and Penance Service

### Tuesday, December 12

11:30am – Young at Heart

7:00pm - Scouts

### Wednesday, December 13

9:00am – Fitness Fun

6:30pm – Advent Faith Formation

### Thursday, December 14

8:30am – Bible Study

10:30am – Scripture Sharing

### Friday, December 15

9:00am – Fitness Fun

5:00pm – AA Meeting

### Saturday, December 16

3:00pm – Reconciliation

### Sunday, December 17

10:05 – 11:20am – Youth Faith Formation



## CHOIR PRACTICE

The Choir will be practicing after the 11:30 mass on Sunday. The choir will sing at the Midnight Mass on Christmas.



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION IN THE PARISH

The Parish is the central community of faith expressed and lived out by the believing and worshipping faithful. All sacraments, especially Sacraments of Initiation rightfully are celebrated within the context of the parish. All persons whether enrolled in a parish faith formation process, a catholic school or a home-based catechetical process are expected to be prepared for and celebrate sacraments in the parish to which they belong and where they worship on weekends. Please be aware of the parish of belonging and respect the expectations of the diocese and the particular parish.



*If you are interested in bringing up the gifts in the Offertory Procession, please see the ushers before Mass begins.*



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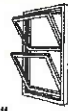
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## 2024 MASS INTENTIONS

We are accepting additional Mass Intention requests. We will accept three additional Masses on a first received basis. We are still in the process of scheduling the Masses on particular days, based on what we know to the be calendar to date. We regret that there are always changes that happen and we appreciate your understanding when Masses need to be rescheduled. Thank you!

### 2024 Mass Intention Request Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Mass Intention*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of person requesting the intention*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Requested date – Not guaranteed*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Telephone Number*

## MILITARY LIST



Abby Cruz – Navy Pilot
Ryan Cruz – Captain, Marine Corp.
Colonel Gerald A. Nunziato, Jr.
Jacob Samson - Airforce
Philip McLaughlin - USMC
Jonathan Kelly – Captain, USMC
Brian Litwin – Spec. Army Nat. Guard
Dr. Wm. M Sweeney – Lieutenant, Navy Med. Core

## MASS CANCELLATION POLICY

Saint Michael Parish will follow the Canfield Schools cancellation schedule for snow and cold. If the Canfield Schools are closed or on a two-hour delay due to the weather, the 8:00am Mass will be cancelled, and the intention rescheduled. The office and any other activities will also be cancelled or delayed, depending on the timing. Thank you.

The Office of Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Youngstown invites you to **Las Posada**, which is a Hispanic tradition of praying as a parish community during the 9 days leading up to Christ's birth, on Saturday, December 16, from 6:00 – 9:00pm at Saint Dominic Church, 77 East Lucius Avenue, Youngstown

## HANDICAPPED PARKING



In consideration of those members of our parish family who are physically challenged, we respectfully ask that you not use the parking spaces reserved for the handicapped unless you have an official sticker or placard that allows you to use that space.

*Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.*

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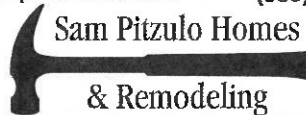


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