

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN THE DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:00pm
Sunday Mass	9:00am & 11:30am
Weekday Mass	8:00am (Monday – Thursday)
Holy Day Mass	12:15pm & 6:00pm
Reconciliation	3:00pm (Saturday)

PARISH STAFF

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

Marcy Fessler
Pastoral Associate

Katherine Garchar
Director of Music

Maxine Gordon
Administrative Assistant

Stephanie Howley
Business Manager

Audrey Geskey
Facilities Manager

Dan Procopio
Youth Minister

SACRAMENTS AND CATECHESIS

To register your child(ren) for Youth Faith Formation (YFF), to inquire about the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), to begin the Annulment process, schedule a Baptism Prep session, or discuss the preparation and celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Eucharist (and Reconciliation), and Confirmation, please contact Marcy Fessler, our Pastoral Associate at 330-533-6839. Thank you.

PARISH INFORMATION

To register in the parish, begin planning for the Sacrament of Marriage, discuss a Mass of Christian Burial, request Letters of Suitability to serve as Godparents or Sponsors, or seek any other parish-related information, contact Maxine Gordon, our Administrative Assistant at 330-533-6839. Thank you.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 8:30am – 4:00pm
Closed on Friday

CONTACT US

300 North Broad Street, Canfield, OH 44406

Tele: 330-533-6839 Fax: 330-702-1504

Email: info@saintmichaelparish.net

Web Page: www.stmichaelcanfield.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith community of Roman Catholic Christians dedicated to lovingly extending the mission and ministry of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, through Word, Sacrament, and Christian Service to the People of God, both in our parish and the surrounding areas, all to the Glory of God!

PARISH HALL & FAMILY LIFE CENTER RENTALS

Parishioners: please call Audrey Geskey at 330-533-3181

**Monday, September 21****Saint Matthew**

8:00am – Deceased Members of the
Calvaruso Family

Tuesday, September 22

8:00am – Ben Mangapora

Wednesday, September 23**Saint Pius of Pietrelcina**

8:00am – Tony Peluso

Thursday, September 24

8:00am – Joseph Maxin

Friday, September 25

No Daily Mass

Saturday, September 26**Vigil – The Feast of Saint Michael**

4:00pm – The People of the Parish

Sunday, September 27**The Feast of Saint Michael**

9:00am – The People of the Parish

11:30am – The People of the Parish

**Faith Formation**

We need a few more people to lead **Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 Mass**. You will be given training and resources to help you. We work in teams of two or three leaders at each Mass. This is a great opportunity to help our littlest parishioners learn to appreciate the Word of God at their level. Please call Marcy at the Parish Office (330-533-6839) for more information. All volunteers are required to be in compliance with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy.

ANNUAL RED MASS

The Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown, will preside at the **Annual Red Mass on Thursday, October 1, at 12:10pm at Saint Columba Cathedral** for all men and women involved in legal and judicial professions in the six counties of the Diocese of Youngstown. A luncheon and program will follow. The cost of the luncheon is \$30.

For additional information and to RSVP contact Mary Fioramonti at 330-744-8451, ext. 225.

FROM THE PASTOR...

The U.S. Bishops have designated the third weekend in September as Catechetical Sunday to honor all those who share in the evangelizing and teaching mission of the Church.

Catechetical Sunday invites us to reflect on our shared mission of handing on the faith to others. This year's theme focuses our attention on the words of Jesus at the beginning of His public ministry: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor."* These words reveal not only who Jesus is, but also what He calls His disciples to become.

Jesus announces a mission of hope, healing, mercy, and liberation. He reaches out to those who are forgotten, wounded, and burdened. As catechists, parents, teachers, and members of the Church, we are called to continue that same mission. Faith formation is not simply about teaching doctrines or preparing students for sacraments. It is about helping others encounter the living Christ who transforms lives with His love.

This year's theme also challenges us to examine our own hearts. Before we can bring the Good News to others, we must first receive it ourselves. We are all poor in some way, in need of God's grace, forgiveness, and strength. The Holy Spirit anoints us, just as He anointed Jesus, to become instruments of God's compassion in our families, parishes, schools and communities.

Catechetical Sunday reminds us that the responsibility for sharing the faith belongs to the entire Church. Every baptized person is called to be a witness to the Gospel through words and actions. When we teach, serve, encourage, and pray with others, we participate in Christ's mission of bringing hope to the world.

As we celebrate Catechetical Sunday here at Saint Michael Parish, let us pray for all catechists and faith formation leaders. We are so grateful for the dedicated ministry of these people who have accepted the call to catechize our youth and children. May the Holy Spirit guide their ministry, strengthen their commitment, and fill them with joy. And may all of us respond generously to Christ's call, bringing His Good News especially to those most in need of hope, love and mercy.

On Wings, We Rise – Father Lavelle

Readings for September 27, 2026**The Feast of Saint Michael**

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Revelation 12:7-12ab

John 1:47-51

VOCATIONS – September 20, 2026 **The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*The last will be first, and the first will be last.”
(Matthew 20:16)*

God's kingdom values humility and self-giving. Those in consecrated life embrace poverty, offering their lives in service to others, just as Mother Teresa of Calcutta did. Pray about how God might be inviting you to live generously for His people and consider learning more about this vocation.

If you feel God is stirring a holy desire for the priesthood or consecrated life, talk to your priest or contact the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451 or vocations@youngtowndiocese.org.

STEWARDSHIP – September 20, 2026 **The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” (Matthew 20:16)

You've heard the saying *“it's not where you start, but how you finish.”* This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live *“God-centered”* lives and not *“self-centered”* lives.



Have you been thinking about becoming Catholic but aren't sure where to start? Do you have questions about the Catholic faith but aren't sure if you are ready to become Catholic? Have you been baptized in another faith tradition but attend Saint Michael with your spouse and are feeling called to explore becoming Catholic. Now is a great time to inquire about becoming Catholic.

Call Marcy at the parish office (330-533-6839) to begin the conversation and see if this is the right time for you. **We will be meeting at Saint Michael Parish on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00pm. A morning option is available.**

BLESSING OF PETS

On October 4, The Feast Day of Saint Francis, the statue of Saint Francis will be blessed at the conclusion of the 11:30 Mass. The Annual Blessing of Pets will follow at 1:15pm.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, September 21

No Events Scheduled

Tuesday, September 22

11:00am – Patriotic Rosary

6:00pm – OCIA

Wednesday, September 23

8:20am – Adoration

10:00am – OCIA

6:00pm – Baptism Prep

Thursday, September 24

8:30am – Bible Study

10:00am – Scripture

Friday, September 25

Parish Office Closed

7:30pm – AA Meeting

Saturday, September 26

3:00pm – Reconciliation

Sunday, September 27

9:00am – Children's Liturgy

12:30pm – Parish Picnic



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for adults will be held **on Sunday, November 22, at 5:00pm at Saint Columba Cathedral**. This is a special opportunity for anyone (18 years or older) who has not received the sacrament to join with other adults of the diocese.



Candidates must register with our parish and be eligible to receive the sacrament by verifying baptism and marital status. A preparation program will be held at our parish. Sponsors must be a baptized, confirmed, practicing Catholic and may not be the candidate's parent.

Please contact the parish office (330-533-6839) no later than October 1, 2026, to register and verify eligibility to receive the sacrament.



Save the Date Boozy Bingo

Saturday, October 24 after the 4:00 Mass
Tickets go on sale at the Parish Potluck and are available in the Parish Office during regular office hours. Tickets are \$50.00.

Pope Leo XIII

Pope Leo XIII (1810–1903) was the head of the Catholic Church from 1878 to 1903, serving the fourth-longest papacy in history. His leadership marked a turning point in the Church's engagement with modern society.

“Social Pope” and *Rerum Novarum*

Leo XIII is best known for his 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, the first Catholic social encyclical. It addressed the injustices of industrialization, affirming workers' rights to fair wages, safe conditions, and trade unions, while opposing both atheistic socialism and laissez-faire capitalism. This laid the foundation for modern Catholic social teaching.



Modernization of the Papacy

He brought a more conciliatory tone toward civil governments, encouraged dialogue with science, and promoted Thomistic theology. His papacy was marked by intellectualism and a willingness to engage with contemporary thought, rather than retreating from it.

Missionary Vision

Leo XIII redefined Catholic mission work beyond territorial expansion, emphasizing evangelization, human dignity, and global responsibility. He integrated education, moral formation, and pastoral care into mission, shaping the Church's modern missionary identity.

Promotion of Marian Devotion

He was a strong advocate for the Rosary and the Scapular, encouraging widespread devotion to the Virgin Mary as a means of spiritual growth and intercession.

Diplomatic and Pastoral Leadership

Before becoming pope, Leo XIII served as a papal diplomat, notably in Belgium, where he improved Church-state relations. As pope, he maintained diplomatic ties with secular governments and focused on pastoral outreach, ensuring the Church's relevance in a rapidly changing world.

Reflection Questions (more than yes and no – what can I do with this information)

What is my understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, and do I work to live some of the basic tenants of CST in my daily life?

Do I have a particular devotion to the Blessed Mother? How is that shared with others in prayer?

How am I living the life of a “missionary disciple” seeking to share the Good News in word and deed?

Pope Pius X

Pope Pius X (1835-1914) was head of the Catholic Church from 1903-1914. He is known for many ecclesial and liturgical reforms. Canonized in 1954, he remains a model of holiness and dedication in the Catholic Church



Liturgical Reforms and Eucharistic Emphasis

Pope Pius X advanced the Liturgical Movement by emphasizing the active participation of the faithful in the Mass, formalized in his motu proprio *Tra le sollecitudini* (1903) and restoring the ancient Gregorian chant in liturgy.

He strongly encouraged frequent reception of Holy

Communion and lowered the age for First Communion to seven, fostering a deeper spiritual engagement among children and adults alike. His dedication to the Eucharist earned him the title "Pope of the Eucharist".

Defense of Catholic Doctrine

Pius X opposed modernist interpretations of Catholic teaching, which he viewed as a synthesis of heresies. He issued the decree *Lamentabili Sane Exitu* and the encyclical *Pascendi Dominici Gregis* (1907) to combat Modernism, placing several books on the Index of Forbidden Books and enforcing strict doctrinal compliance. He also promoted Thomist scholastic theology as the principal philosophical method in Catholic education.

Code of Canon Law

He initiated the preparation of the 1917 Code of Canon Law, the first comprehensive codification of Church law, which was completed by his successor. (updated again in 1983).

Catechism and Religious Education

He compiled the Catechism of Saint Pius X, providing clear and accessible instruction in Catholic doctrine. He emphasized proper catechesis, reformed religious education, a life of prayer, confession, and devotion, aiming to renew the spiritual life of the faithful. (updated by Pope John Paul II).

Personal Virtues and Legacy

Born into a humble family, Pius X was known for his personal poverty, humility, and pastoral care. His papal motto, "*To Renew All Things in Christ*," reflected his mission to rejuvenate the Church spiritually.

Reflection Questions (more than yes and no – what can I do with this information)

Do I have a reverent understanding of the Eucharist? Do I seek to become the Body of Christ for others?

Do I continue to learn about my faith beyond what I was taught in formal religious education class?

Have I ever read parts of canon law, especially the rights and obligations of the lay faithful?

25th, 40th, 50th, 55th, 60th and over Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Diocese of Youngstown is sponsoring a Wedding Anniversary Celebration on **Sunday, October 25th, at 2:00pm at the Basilica of Saint John the Baptist in Canton**, honoring couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th, 55th, 60th, and over wedding anniversaries in 2026.

The Wedding Anniversary Celebration will include Mass with the Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown, with the blessing of couples celebrating significant anniversaries. Each couple will receive a personalized certificate. Following the Mass, there will be a reception for the couples and their families in the parish hall.

You must make a reservation by September 25 by contacting the parish office and obtaining Father Lavelle's signature.

MARRIAGE VALIDATION

As Catholics, we believe that marriage is a sacrament. In recent years, more people are choosing to be married at venues or special destinations. Civilly this is a marriage. However, it is not a valid sacramental marriage. On **Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall** we will hold a class for any parishioners who were not married in the Catholic Church and would like to explore having their marriage convalidated, that is made sacramentally valid in the Catholic Church. We will discuss the process, documents needed, preparation class, and address previous marriages, if necessary. This is open to everyone, regardless of length of marriage.

To register for this class or if you have any questions, please call the parish office at 330-533-6839.

MILITARY LIST



Abby Cruz – Navy Pilot
Ryan Cruz – Captain, Marine Corp.
Colonel Gerald Nunziato
Lt. William "Bill" Sweeney, Battalion Surgeon, 6 th Marines, US Navy
Capt. Lisa Sukenaga - Army

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



Parish Support

September 13, 2026

Amount Received	\$ 16,397.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 1,397.00
YTD Received	\$172,128.00
YTD Budget	\$ 165,000.00
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 7,128.00



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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Dante DeAngelo	Dale Hynes	Shirley Morvay
Milton Deichman	Bridget Dunn Leonard	Janice Rovnak
Jim Fisher	Patricia Lesho	Nick Rubbo
Marilyn Fisher	Barbara Dunn Lowe	Charles Slivkoff
John Hahn	Sharon Mangapora	Katherine Smith
Betty Hawco	JoAnn Mortimer	Caroline Zeigler

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will sell their Football Crazz tickets at all Masses the weekends of **September 19/20 and 26/27. Tickets are \$20 each** and proceeds support the Knights of Columbus charities.

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Patron Saint of Ecology and Animals

As we prepare to celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the death of Saint Francis in the Jubilee Year of Saint Francis, our parish is erecting an outdoor statue of Saint Francis. Placed underneath the statue will be a box containing names of all of the pets, both past and present, that you would like to submit.



To submit a pet's name, please fill out the form below and return it to the parish office before September 30.

PET'S NAME

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



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Potluck Dinner



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
AFTER THE 11:30AM MASS

Our Parish Potluck Dinner will be
held in the
Family Life Center.

We are asking families to bring either a side dish or a dessert, based on the first letter of your last name: **A - K – side dishes L - Z – desserts** (with enough for at least 12 servings).

The parish will provide the main entrée and beverages, along with place settings.

We will kick off our **2026-2027 Raffle Season** with the first drawing of **\$1,000** drawn that day! Make sure your tickets are in for the first drawing! Your 2026-2027 raffle packet will provide chances throughout the year for **\$10,000 in prize money**.

Please complete the portion below to make your reservation for the picnic.

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH POTLUCK RSVP

Family Name _____ Phone _____

Number of Adults _____ Number of children 12 and under _____

Side Dish or Dessert you are bringing _____

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