

# 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*

Daniel LaPolla, *Seminarian Intern*

Marcy Fessler  
*Pastoral Associate*

Katherine Garchar  
*Director of Music*

Maxine Gordon  
*Administrative Assistant*

Stephanie Howley  
*Business Manager*

Audrey Geskey  
*Facilities Manager*

Joe Serenko  
*Maintenance*

## 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](mailto:info@saintmichaelparish.net)  
Web Page: [www.stmichaelcanfield.org](http://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, March 9**  
**Saint Frances of Rome**

11:30am – Mark Taylor

**Tuesday, March 10**

8:00am – Frank Hripka

**Wednesday, March 11**

8:00am – Loren Less

**Thursday, March 12**

8:00am – Ben Mangapora

**Friday, March 13**

8:00am – Mass

8:30am – Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 14**

**Vigil – The Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**Laetare Sunday**

4:00pm – Marie & Andy Skrobola

**Sunday, March 15**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday**

9:00am – Maureen Hall

11:30am – The People of the Parish



## **PALM SUNDAY PASTA DINNER**

**Sunday, March 29, 2026**

**12:30 – 3:00pm**

**Saint Michael Family Life Center**

Pasta w/choice of meatballs or sausage  
 Salad, Bread and Butter

Dessert, Coffee and Soft Drinks

All you can eat pasta for dine-in only  
 Wine (1 complimentary glass for adults)

Dinners - \$20

(\$10 for children 9 and under)

Carry Out - \$15 (no beverage)

**Tickets are available in the office**

## **FROM THE PASTOR . . .**

This weekend, we are privileged to journey closer with our brothers and sisters who have chosen to become one with us in the Easter Sacraments at the Easter Vigil in just four weeks.

On the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent, the newly named “Elect” participate in three successive rites called “the Scrutinies.” These rites, with roots dating back to the early Church, take place during the Sunday Mass, and each is thematically linked to the Gospel reading for that Mass. The three passages from St. John’s Gospel for these Sundays were selected around 500 AD as powerful depictions of the hidden transformation God effects in the Elect through each Scrutiny. Each proclamation emphasizes repentance and conversion as the Light of Christ comes to pierce the darkness of sin and to bring life where there is death.

The “Elect”, having been named so in a ceremony with Bishop Bonnar on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, along with their sponsors, stand before the celebrant and the assembly, who pray for them silently and with a series of intercessions. Culminating in a prayer of cleansing and protection with the laying-on-of-hands, each Scrutiny is a step in preparing the Elect for the celebration and initiation soon to come.

The Scrutinies are God’s way of taking a close, loving look at the Elect. God does not scrutinize the Catechumens in order to find everything that’s wrong with them, but to celebrate all that is beautiful and good and true in them. Jesus “scrutinizes” us with Divine Light, revealing all that is valuable within us. He also reveals to us the ways in which we are hurting, or sick, or sinful. This is not to reject us, but to call us to new life and to healing. These prayers are simply ways of calling on God and trusting in God’s power, not only to affirm what is good within us, but to dispel whatever holds us back or causes us to resist grace and goodness in our lives.

May these Scrutinies call both our Elect and all of us into the living waters of baptism, to the light of holiness, to a new life in Christ, through His Resurrection.

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

On the remaining Fridays of Lent (**March 13, 20, and 27**), Mass will be held at 8:00am followed by Stations of the Cross at 8:30. Please plan on making this part of your Lenten Journey.



## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### Monday, March 9

12:00pm – Young at Heart

### Tuesday, March 10

11:00am – Patriotic Rosary  
6:00pm - OCIA

### Wednesday, March 11

8:20 -9:00am – Adoration  
7:00pm – Lenten Devotion

### Thursday, March 12

8:30am – Bible Study  
10:00am – Scripture  
1:00pm – Monthly Bible Study  
7:00pm – Men’s Club

### Friday, March 13

**Parish Office Closed**  
7:30pm – AA Meeting

### Saturday, March 14

**K of C Selling Super Cash Bonanza Tickets**  
3:00pm – Reconciliation

### Sunday, March 15

**K of C Selling Super Cash Bonanza Tickets**  
9:00am – Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
3:00-5:00pm – Families of Grace



## LENTEN DEVOTIONS

### WEDNESDAY – 7:00pm

*A weekly opportunity for prayer and reflection.*

**March 11** – Holy Hour with a reflection on Almsgiving

**March 18** – Holy Hour with a reflection on Fasting

**March 25** – Annunciation/Stations of the Cross



For individual prayer during Lent the church will be available Monday through Thursday during regular office hours (8:30-4:00). Please use the door closest to the office, push the round silver button on the wall and wait for the door to open.

## EASTER FLOWERS

A reminder to please fill out your easter flower envelope with the names of loved ones to be prayed for during the Easter Season. A listing of all names in memoriam will appear in the Easter Bulletin, April 5.



**We must receive the envelopes by Thursday, March 26 to have the names included in the Easter Bulletin.**

Again, thank you for your kindness. May the season of Resurrection bring us the promise of eternal life.

### Readings for March 15, 2026

#### Fourth Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

## GARDEN GUILD

Saint Michael Garden Guild will meet **Tuesday evening, March 17** in the Parish Hall for a “Planting O’ the Green” program with Master Gardener, Barbara Kostelic. She will speak on caring for green plants and preparing for spring gardens. The Guild’s business meeting begins at 6:00pm with the speaker to follow at 7:00. Refreshments will be served before the speaker. Guests are welcome.

*Wear green, including your green thumbs!*

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will sell their super Cash Bonanza tickets after Mass on March 14/15 and March 21/22. Tickets are \$5.00 and all proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus charities.

*Thank you for your support!*

## 2025 TAX STATEMENTS

To obtain a 2025 statement, please call the parish office (330-533-6839) and it will be ready in two days. **Statements will not be done while you wait.**



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Dante DeAngelo	Dale Hynes	Shirley Morvay
James Dunn, Sr.	Bridget Dunn Leonard	Janice Rovnak
Jim Fisher	Patricia Lesho	Charles Slivkoff
Marilyn Fisher	Barbara Dunn Lowe	Caroline Zeigler
John Hahn		

If you are homebound or know someone who is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the Parish Office so they can be put on the schedule.

*Born to Eternal Life*

*Ron Carroll*



## CLEAN UP YOUR ACT FOR LENT

We are collecting personal hygiene and household cleaning items for those in need throughout our community. Any items may be placed in the bins located at the entrances of the Church. All items will then be distributed through Catholic Charities.



*Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.*

## VOCATIONS – March 8, 2026

### Third Sunday of Lent

*“Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst.” (John 4:14)*

Only Jesus can satisfy the deepest desires of our hearts. When we encounter Him, our lives overflow with the living water of grace. Could God be inviting you to share His living water with others?.

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451 or via email at [vocations@youngtowndiocese.org](mailto:vocations@youngtowndiocese.org).

## STEWARDSHIP – March 8, 2026

### Third Sunday of Lent

*Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again.” (John 4:13)*

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us over the long run. When we build our lives around material possessions we will always want more, and no amount will ever satisfy our desire. True joy and peace only come when we follow Jesus – when we become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered.”

### Parish Support

March 1, 2026

Amount Received	\$ 17,323.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$ 2,323.00
YTD Received	\$516,620.12
YTD Budget	\$495,000.00
YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 21,620.12



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

## CAN YOU GIVE GREEN EGGS AND HAM?



Can you add a can of yams?  
We would prefer you not bring Spam.  
We'll take green beans tho if you can!

Our local Soup Kitchens/Dining Halls are in need of some assistance for their Easter meals. We are hoping that once again, Saint Michael Parish would be in the forefront of this project.

Please bring packaged hams, colored eggs, etc. that would be a part of an Easter meal to the Parish Hall on Monday, March 30, 2026 between 5 & 7pm (use the back door close to the kitchen) and Tuesday, March 31, 2026 between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM.

We will be sorting and distributing the food to our traditional 3 Soup Kitchens. They will be serving Holy Thursday afternoon.

*If you have any questions, please call:*

*Mary Jo Lewis at 330-651-8500*

*Saint Michael Parish Office at 330-533-6839*

## Young at Heart

Young at Heart will meet this coming **Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**, with Mass at 11:30am and lunch and a program to follow. The program for this month is “The Church in America at 250.”

*Hope to see you on Monday!*



## BOURBON BASKET

Tickets are available in the office.

**Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25**

## MILITARY LIST



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

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**WHAT** – Ecumenical Seven Sorrows of Mary Devotional Prayer Service

**WHEN** – Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, from 7:00-8:00pm

**WHERE** – Saint Michael Parish

**WHY**- Three important reasons for consideration for any member of our parish on why one would participate in this particular prayer service.

1.) The time of this prayer service is in the middle of Holy Week, a time when Christians prayerfully ready themselves to celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ during the Holy Triduum. Through the prayer of the Seven Sorrows of Mary, Catholics will be better equipped, through the prayerful accompaniment of Mary's sympathetic suffering, to meditate on the infinite goodness of God's love for us, who willingly suffered so much for our redemption.

2.) Contemplating such perfect love produces in us great spiritual fruits such as profound gratitude toward God, deeper empathy and love toward our suffering neighbors, greater endurance and patience in our own sufferings & spiritual perfection of ourselves and our neighbor through our own willingness to offer up our sufferings as a prayer to the Father, through Jesus' Passion and Crucifixion.

3.) Lastly, your participation in this prayer service will make you a cooperater in the Church's work toward unity among all our Christian brothers and sisters, especially among other Christians who recognize the importance of our Blessed Mother as, Mother of God, defined in the Council of Ephesus in 431. How this will be realized is by inviting members of Eastern Orthodox parishes, as well as Christians from other Denominations, to join us in this time of Marian prayer.

**How**- What one can expect during this prayer service includes: Introductory remarks from the seminarian intern, praying the Seven Sorrows of Mary prayer & listening to two short reflections on the spiritual importance of Mary for the Christian disciple interleaved into the devotion.

I hope that I may be able to see you all there on that Wednesday evening to participate in a moment of prayer that will unite our hearts ever closer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to her Son's Most Sacred Heart, burning furnace of charity.

Daniel LaPolla



**Why the QR code?** As a seminarian intern, a part of my seminary formation this year includes receiving constructive feedback from the members of the parish community. Scanning the QR code takes you to my Percorso webpage, where I share homiletic reflections and pastoral experiences. While on my Percorso page, you can offer constructive feedback on my homiletic reflections. Feedback is welcome but not required. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you!

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