

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

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
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, May 18
Saint John I, Pope
 8:00am – Tim Mikes

Tuesday, May 19
 8:00am – Stephen Kirtley

Wednesday, May 20
Saint Bernardine of Siena
 8:00am – Anton Bogyi

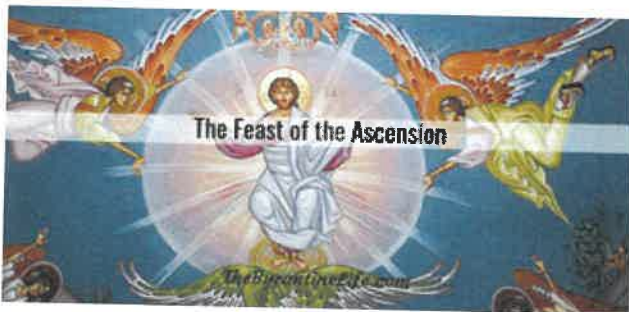
Thursday, May 21
Saint Christopher Magallanes
 8:00am – Joseph W. Kiraly

Friday, May 22
Saint Rita of Cascia
 No Daily Mass

Saturday, May 23
Vigil – Pentecost Sunday
 4:00pm – The People of the Parish

Sunday, May 24
Pentecost Sunday
 9:00am – Mario Silvestri
 11:30am – Nellie & Earl Greer

FROM THE PASTOR . . .



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Each year, forty days after Easter, the Church celebrates the Ascension of the Lord — a feast of hope, mission, and promise. Forty days after Easter, we lift our eyes with the apostles and witness the Lord’s return to the Father. It is a feast of triumph — and a call to live what has been entrusted to us. Yet the Ascension can feel like a feast of absence — Jesus is gone, and the disciples are left standing and looking up at the sky. But the Church invites us to see it differently. The Ascension is not an ending. It is the beginning of everything that comes next.

Jesus did not ascend to abandon us. He ascended to prepare a place for us — and to send us the gift he promised: the Holy Spirit.

The Ascension marks the completion of Christ’s earthly mission. He who became flesh, suffered, died, and rose from the dead now returns to the Father — but not without us. He takes our human nature with him into the heart of the Trinity. The Ascension is far more than a departure. It carries several layers of meaning that the Church invites us to contemplate:

Christ intercedes for us

In ascending to the Father, Jesus does not leave us alone — he enters into the heavenly sanctuary to intercede for us continuously. As the Letter to the Hebrews tells us, he lives forever to make intercession for those who approach God through him.

He prepares a place for us

At the Last Supper, Jesus told his disciples: *“In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. I go to prepare a place for you.”* (John 14:2) The Ascension is the fulfillment of that promise.

The Holy Spirit is given

Jesus told the disciples that it was better for them that he go — because only then would the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, come. The Ascension opens the door to Pentecost.

We receive a mission

Before ascending, Jesus gave his disciples the Great Commission: *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.”* (Matthew 28:19) The Ascension is the moment the Church receives her mission in the world.

Now here we stand just a week from the end of the Easter season and the celebration of Pentecost. We as disciples of the Lord must see the conclusion of the Easter season as the opportunity to recommit ourselves to the work of sharing Christ with others. Let us discover our own new beginnings that have us continuously witnessing to Christ in our world, as did the Apostles on the Ascension Day. May we continue the journey of Easter, not for this calendar year alone, but the journey that will lead us one day to live with him eternally in the Kingdom of Heaven.

On Wings We Rise
 Father Lavelle

WEAR RED ON PENTECOST

With the celebration of Pentecost next weekend, we are asking everyone to consider wearing red, as we symbolically clothe ourselves in the Holy Spirit. Thank you.





YEAR OF SAINT FRANCIS
May 17, 2026
Saint Anthony of Padua

*“Saint Anthony, Saint Anthony,
 come around. Something’s lost and
 must be found”*

Have you frantically prayed this when one of your belongings goes missing? Saint Anthony is the patron of lost things because he himself lost something he valued: his book of psalms containing his preaching notes. When the Franciscan priest prayed for the book’s return, the novice who stole it experienced a change of heart and returned it. How can you offer the talents that God has given you back to Him like Saint Anthony did?

Readings for May 24, 2026
Pentecost Sunday

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
 John 20:19-23

VOCATIONS – May 17, 2026
The Ascension of the Lord

*“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.”
 (Matthew 28:19)*

Jesus sends us to share His Gospel, requiring a bold response to this mission. Consider whether He is inviting you to a deeper discipleship, to live and share this mission through the priesthood, consecrated life, or holy matrimony, and seek guidance in prayer.

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451 or via email at vocations@youngstowndiocese.org.

STEWARDSHIP – May 17, 2026
The Ascension of the Lord

“I am praying for them...” (John 17:9)

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation – not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, and especially for those that don’t treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



- Monday, May 18**
No Events Scheduled
- Tuesday, May 19**
11:00am – Rosary
6:00pm – Garden Guild
- Wednesday, May 20**
8:20am - Adoration
- Thursday, May 21**
8:30am – Bible Study
- Friday, May 22**
Parish Office Closed
7:30pm – AA Meeting
- Saturday, May 23**
3:00pm – Reconciliation
- Sunday, May 24**
No Events Scheduled

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



The Diocese of Youngstown is sponsoring a Wedding Anniversary Celebration on **Sunday, June 28th at 2:00pm at the Cathedral of Saint Columba in Youngstown** 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 advanced reservations for this event by contacting your parish office and obtaining your pastor’s signature before May 22, 2026.

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
Philip McLaughlin - USMC



**POPE'S MAY PRAYER INTENTION:
 'That everyone might have food'**

Pope Leo XIV released his prayer intention for May and invites Catholics to pray that everyone might have food, as he highlights how millions of brothers and sisters continue to suffer from hunger while so much food is wasted.

In his prayer, the Pope recognized with sorrow that millions of brothers and sisters continue to suffer from hunger. Lamenting that so many goods are wasted at our tables, Pope Leo prayed that the Lord may *"awaken in us a new awareness: that we learn to give thanks for every food, to consume simply, to share with joy, and to care for the fruits of the earth as a gift from You, destined for all, not just a few."*

He prayed that Jesus will make us capable of *"transforming the logic of selfish consumption into a culture of solidarity,"* through our communities by promoting concrete gestures, including awareness campaigns, food banks, and a sober and responsible lifestyle.

Pope Leo concluded by praying, *"may no one be excluded from the common table, and may Your Spirit teach us to see bread not as an object of consumption but as a sign of communion and care. Amen."*

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Registration is under way for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation year. Returning families should have their registration packet. If you are new to the parish or have a child entering Kindergarten or First Grade call Marcy at the parish office for information about YFF and to request a registration packet.



First Grade is required in order to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in second grade. It is expected that grades three through seven are completed before entering eighth grade and Confirmation preparations.

Kindergarten is not required but highly encouraged. We limit the kindergarten class to 10 children. If you are considering registering your child for Kindergarten YFF, be sure to get your registration packet in early to ensure a spot for your child.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

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

**The Fourth Annual
 BISHOP'S GOLF CLASSIC**

Supporting the Seminarians of the Diocese of Youngstown and the Office of Church Vocations



THE LAKE CLUB
 1140 Paulin Road
 Poland, Ohio 44514

Monday, June 22, 2026

7:00am Registration
 Breakfast, Lunch,
 Dinner & Drinks

9:00am Shot Gun Start

\$200 Donation per golfer

\$800 per foursome/team

*** Register at doy.org/golf

Parish Support

May 10, 2026

Amount Received	\$ 13,260.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$ 1,740.00)
YTD Received	\$682,826.61
YTD Budget	\$645,000.00
YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 37,826.61
Easter to Date	\$ 27,756.00



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

HANDICAPPED SEATING

Recognizing that there is a greater need for handicapped seating particularly at the 4:00 Mass on Saturday, we have expanded the handicapped seating area. New chairs have been ordered.



We ask that it only be used by individuals who need it and perhaps 1 person to assist them if necessary.
Thank you.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK



Please contact the parish office if you would like Father Lavelle to administer the Sacrament of Anointing. Due to Father Lavelle's many responsibilities both at our

parish and the diocese, please allow time when scheduling the sacrament.

Thank you for understanding.



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MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

"Women in the New Testament" will be the topic of 2026-2027 monthly afternoon Bible Study Program beginning September 10, 2026, at 1:00pm in the Family Life Center. If interested, contact Barb Spencer (330-503-4756). A textbook is involved.

**SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB
 URSULINE CENTER**

Beginning September 14, but normally the first Monday of the month until May, at 1:00pm at the Ursuline Center, the Spiritual Book Group will start the book: "Desperately Seeking Spirituality" by Meredith Gould, facilitated by Barb Spencer (330-503-4756). The book is currently on sale for \$4.24 at Liturgical Press. Please contact Barb for further information.

URSULINE CENTER

You are invited to a Guided Labyrinth Walk on Sunday, May 17th at 2:00pm at the Ursuline Center, 4280 Shields Road, Canfield. Themes this year focus on expressions of the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, including compassion, mercy, and unconditional respect for every person. All people of faith are invited to these free, weather-permitting events, which last about 30 minutes.

This year's schedule can be found on social media and at ursulinesistersmission.org.

For more information call Sister Nancy Pawlen at 330-793-0434, ext. 351.

FUNERAL LUNCHEON MINISTRY



In an effort to care for our grieving Saint Michael family members, we offer funeral luncheons in the Parish Hall after funerals held at Saint Michael Parish.

We have about 30 funerals at Saint Michael per year. However, not all families wish to have their luncheon here. Each luncheon takes about 10-15 volunteers including one coordinator. Our goal is to ask each volunteer to serve only 4-5 times a year. In order to realize this goal, we will need many volunteers.

If you think you are called to this ministry, please fill out the form below and put it in the collection basket or return it to the office.,

I am interested in volunteering for the Funeral Luncheon Ministry. Please contact me with more information.

Name _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

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