

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 14****The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

11:30am – Trudy Mytinger

Tuesday, September 15**Our Lady of Sorrows**

8:00am – Vocations to the Priesthood

Wednesday, September 16**Saint Cornelius****Saint Cyprian**

8:00am – Rudy Noday

Thursday, September 17**Saint Robert Bellarmine****Saint Hildegard of Bingen**

8:00am – Anthony Izzo

Friday, September 18

No Daily Mass

Saturday, September 19**Vigil – The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00pm – Deceased Members of the Tomko Family

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

9:00am – Marc Silvestri

11:30am – Sally Pauline Grabovec

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, celebrated on **Monday, September 14**, commemorates three historical events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628. Nowadays, this feast also celebrates the boundless impact of Christ's Cross upon all of creation.

As we commemorate the triumph of Christ's Cross, call to mind the crosses you bear each day. More often than not, when faced with crosses, we seek a way out, succumb to self-pity, and are often tempted by anger and despair. Instead, try to allow Jesus to enter those crosses, transform them, and use them for His glory, your good, and the good of others. Crosses in life should not be avoided; they must be transformed. Although the suffering may remain, it must become redeemed suffering, thus bearing an abundance of good fruit in the ways that only God can accomplish.

FROM THE PASTOR...

This weekend we welcome back all our young people as we begin a new and exciting year of Youth Faith Formation here at Saint Michael Parish. While we are very happy to have a few of our families enrolled in our neighboring Catholic Schools (and we hope the new school year has been a great experience for them so far), the vast majority of anyone who grew up at Saint Michael has been participation in a faith formation program here. Over the sixty-plus-year history of our parish, the model of the program has changed several times. However, the constant has been a deep and abiding desire to pass on the gift of faith from one generation of baptized Catholics to the next.

Our Pastoral Associate, Marcy Fessler, and all of our catechists have not just shown up today for the first session. They met during the summer, planning and preparing for a wonderful year. I thank each of them for their dedication and commitment. I also want to thank our parents. While we as a Church place a primary focus on the formation of our young people in the practices of our faith, I know there are many other outside factors that fight for attention and prominence in your children's lives. I thank all of you who have made the decision to honor the commitment you made when your children were baptized – *"accepting the responsibility of training them in the practices of the faith."* Thank you also to the parish community. Your example of active participation not only in the sacramental life of the Church, but in our duty as missionary disciples – to witness to our faith in word and deed, is essential. Finally, thank you to our young people. While there may be times when you are tired, and would rather stay in bed, or whatever else may be going on – thank you for being present and open to celebrating Mass and for being attentive in YFF.

Thank you to everyone – God bless our young people, their families, and all of us as we begin a new and exciting year! Father Lavelle

**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 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.

VOCATIONS – September 13, 2026
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."
(Matthew 18:35)

Priests bring Christ's mercy to the world through their ministry, comforting families at funerals, anointing the sick, and offering guidance and forgiveness through the sacraments. How is God calling you to share His mercy in your life, and could He be inviting you to serve His people as a priest?

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 13, 2026
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." (Romans 14:8)

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.

Readings for September 20, 2026
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a



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 from 6:00 – 8:00pm beginning on Tuesday, September 15. A morning option is available.**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, September 14

12:00pm – Young at Heart

Tuesday, September 15

11:00am – Patriotic Rosary

6:00pm – OCIA

6:00pm – Garden Guild

Wednesday, September 16

8:20am – Adoration

10:00am – OCIA

Thursday, September 17

8:30am – Bible Study

10:00am – Scripture

Friday, September 18

Parish Office Closed

7:30pm – AA Meeting

Saturday, September 19

Catechetical Sunday

3:00pm – Reconciliation

Sunday, September 20

Catechetical Sunday

9:00am – Children's Liturgy

10:05 – 11:20am – Youth Faith Formation (YFF)

2:00 – 3:30pm – Confirmation Parent Meeting



**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 (age 18 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.

GARDEN GUILD

Saint Michael Garden Guild will meet on **Tuesday, September 15th at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall** for their business meeting followed at 7:00pm for their creation of a pumpkin-shaped fall wreath.

Don't forget to bring your own artificial fall flowers, \$1.50 for the frame and a glue gun to share if you have one.





Our first Young at Heart of the new season is this coming **Monday, September 14**. We will meet at 11:30am for Mass, followed by lunch and a presentation. The cost for the lunch is still just \$5.00.

Please plan on joining us!!!

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

Parish Support

September 6, 2026

Amount Received	\$ 11,128.50
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$ 3,871.50)
EFT August	\$ 11,465.00
YTD Received	\$ 155,731.00
YTD Budget	\$ 150,000.00
YTD Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 5,731.00



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	Charles Slivkoff
Marilyn Fisher	Barbara Dunn Lowe	Katherine Smith
John Hahn	Sharon Mangapora	Caroline Zeigler
Betty Hawco	JoAnn Mortimer	

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.

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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