

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.

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!

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

PARISH HALL & FAMILY LIFE CENTER RENTALS

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



Mass Schedule

Monday, January 12

8:00am – In Thanksgiving for Bishop Bonnar
11:30am – Communion Service

Tuesday, January 13

Saint Hilary

8:00am – Cletus Bedore

Wednesday, January 14

No Daily Mass

Thursday, January 15

8:00am – Thomas Bradford

Friday, January 16

No Daily Mass

Saturday, January 17

Vigil – The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm – Cummings & Abernethy Families

Sunday, January 18

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am – The People of the Parish

11:30am – Mary Ann & Andrew Robert Verostek

FROM THE PASTOR . . .

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we transition from our observance of the Christmas season into Ordinary Time. While the name simply means a “counting” of the weeks until Lent (and then resumes after Pentecost until Advent), the season does invite a certain sense of how we live out our daily lives in ordinary ways. Discipleship is not always the grand moments of Christmas and Easter, but more often, how we face each day, called by God, to share his gifts and graces with everyone we encounter. Two of the most essential tools needed in our present-day approach to discipleship is that first, we must **live in reality**, and second, we must be **open to change**. In our current Church, the two seem to go hand in hand. Over this past year up to January 1st, we have heard of many changes in our neighboring parishes. While the names of Church buildings remain for canonical reasons, former parishes of Saint Charles and Saint Luke; Saint Brendon, Saint Christine and Our Lady of Sorrow; Saint Joseph and Immaculate Heart of Mary; Saint Jude, Saint Patrick (Leetonia) and Our Lady of Lourdes; and Saint Mary and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, have given way to the new parishes of Saint Catherine of Siena, Saint Mary Magdalene, Saint Blaise, Saint Carlo Acutis, and Queen of Heaven. And in four of those former

parishes, the celebration of Sunday Mass has been discontinued. More such mergers have occurred in other parts of the diocese as well. I applaud the pastors and the people of those parishes who have had to face the reality of a shortage of clergy and a declining Catholic population in our area and embraced the changes necessary to continue to unite as a sacramental People of God. As for Saint Michael, we too must live in reality and accept necessary change. While we are not merged or a parish in a stated collaboration with others, we are all called to share in this endeavor. To that point, Bishop Bonnar recently appointed me Vicar for Clergy, Director of Seminarians, and Director of Vowed Religious for the Diocese of Youngstown. In these roles, I represent the bishop in working closely with the priests, deacons, seminarians and religious of our diocese. This is in addition to my existing roles as Vicar for Missionary Discipleship and Director of Development and Stewardship for the diocese. To accommodate this, I will no longer oversee the Communications efforts for the diocese. While this is a great deal of work, it is possible because of the ministry of many. First and foremost, our parish staff, who work tirelessly each and every day to navigate the course of ministry in our parish. And secondly, to all of you, who understand that like every other part of society, the Church can no longer be what it was forty, thirty, twenty, or even ten years ago. Like many of you, I may on occasion lament the Church of yesterday and even wish things could be as they were. But that would be quite futile, and even a little irrational. It's easy to romanticize the past with thoughts such as, “**they** never did it like that when I was in school”, or “**Father** _____ never did it like that”. The reality is, we have no idea how “they” or “Father _____” would have done things in 2026. This year, our nation will observe its 250th anniversary. There will be a great deal of looking back. But no matter what we recall from the past, we will still be living in 2026, not 1776. The same is true for the Church – the Church of 2026. A Church that must remain faithful and strong, but one that must live in reality and be open to change.

God bless you all, Father Lavelle

MASS FOR LIFE

A mass for Life is celebrated in the Diocese of Youngstown each year in January and October to promote respect for human life at every stage and in all circumstances.

Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown, will preside at a **Mass for Life on Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 10:30am at Saint Columba Cathedral, 159 West Rayen Avenue Youngstown.** All are welcome to attend.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, January 12
12:00pm – Young at Heart

Tuesday, January 13
11:00am – Patriotic Rosary
6:00 – 7:30pm - OCIA

Wednesday, January 14
8:20 – 9:00am – Adoration

Thursday, January 15
8:30am – Bible Study
10:00am - Scripture

Friday, January 16
Parish Office Closed
7:30pm – AA Meeting

Saturday, January 17
3:00pm – Reconciliation

Sunday, January 18
10:05 – 11:20am – Youth Faith Formation



VOCATIONS – January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)

God’s delight in His Son mirrors the joy He takes in those who follow His call. As a child of God, He desires what is best for you. Take time this week to pray and to listen for His guidance in how He wants you to serve Him. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Diocese of Youngstown Office of Church Vocations at vocations@youngstowndiocese.org.

STEWARDSHIP – January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

“John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?” (Matthew 3:14)

The Catholic Catechism states that “Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.” In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Dante DeAngelo	Stella Fryda	Barbara Dunn Lowe
James Dunn, Sr.	John Hahn	Shirley Morvay
Jim Fisher	Dale Hynes	Janice Rovnak
Marilyn Fisher	Jack LeBrun	Caroline Zeigler
	Bridget Dunn Leonard	

Please Note: If you would like to have a name on the list for 2026, please call the Parish Office at 330-533-6839. Thank you.

Born to Eternal Life

*Nancy Ryan
Elizabeth Jacobs
Dorothy Ristic
Tim Abernethy*



CALLED BY NAME

Is there someone in our parish you believe would make a good Priest or Religious Sister or Brother? Nominate them for the Diocese of Youngstown Called by Name Program and put them in touch with the Office of Church Vocations today!

You can help encourage someone to discern God’s call simply by writing down their name and praying that they may respond with joy. **Called By Name**, the Diocese of Youngstown’s vocation initiative will take place in our parish on **Saturday, January 24, and Sunday, January 25, 2026**. Please prayerfully consider whom you might nominate.

Readings for January 18, 2026

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
1 Corinthians 1:1-3
John 1:29-34



Young at Heart will meet on **Monday, January 12, 2026**, with a Communion Service at 11:30 and lunch and a presentation to follow by our Seminarian Daniel LaPolla.

Hope to see you on Monday!

2025 TAX STATEMENTS

We are in the process of posting the final contributions for 2025, including the many offertory gifts received for Christmas. As such, 2025 tax statements will be available beginning **Wednesday, January 28th**.



To obtain a statement, *please call* the office and it will be ready in two days (beginning on the 28th). **Statements will not be done while you wait.**

Parish Support

December 21, 2025

Amount Received \$ 15,053.00
 Amount Budgeted \$ 15,000.00
 Surplus/ (Deficit) \$ 53.00
 YTD Received \$358,072.32
 YTD Budget \$345,000.00
 YTD Surplus (Deficit) \$ 28,072.32



December 28, 2025

Amount Received \$ 13,033.00
 Amount Budgeted \$ 15,000.00
 Surplus/ (Deficit) (\$ 1,967.00)
 YTD Received \$371,105.32
 YTD Budget \$360,000.00
 YTD Surplus (Deficit) \$ 11,105.32

January 4, 2026

Amount Received \$ 18,166.00
 Amount Budgeted \$ 15,000.00
 Surplus/ (Deficit) \$ 3,166.00
 EFT December \$ 12,110.00
 YTD Received \$401,381.32
 YTD Budget \$375,000.00
 YTD Surplus (Deficit) \$ 26,381.32
 Christmas Offering \$ 41,940.00

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

CAN YOU HELP?

We are currently planning for our 3rd Annual "SHAKEN NOT STIRRED" event which will take place on Saturday, January 31, 2026. The Youngstown Cookie Table is always such a huge success, so we plan on doing it again! If you have a favorite cookie that you bake, please consider donating it for the event. Cookies can be brought to the Family Life Center the week of January 26 – 30.



We are also looking for gift card donations. Gift cards can be brought to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket and marked for SHAKEN NOT STIRRED.

Thank you in advance for your support!

I WILL BAKE COOKIES

Name _____

Please fill this out if you are baking and drop it off at the Parish Office or place it in the Collection basket.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Help us, O God, to fulfill all the duties which life brings to us.

Help us to honor our families, to be loyal to our friends, to be true to our loved ones.

Help us to be diligent in our studies, to be conscientious in our work, to be wise in our pleasure.

Help us to be brave in danger, to be strong in temptation, to be uncomplaining in pain, to be cheerful in disappointment.

Help us to remain humble in prosperity, to remain hopeful in adversity.

Help us at all times to live that our life and conduct may make it plain that we belong to you.

Give us the strength to bear lightly our joys and our sorrows.

Give us the strength to make our love fruitful in service.

Give us the strength never to disown the poor or bend our knees before insolent might.

Give us the strength to raise our minds high above daily trifles.

And give us the strength to surrender our strength to your will with love. Amen.

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.



THANK YOU

Thank you to those who assisted in removing the Christmas environment from the sanctuary and preparing us for Ordinary Time, as well as the many who "adopted" our Christmas poinsettias.



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**Saturday, January 31, 2026
In the Family Life Center**

Doors open at 5pm – Food Stations at 6pm

The event includes:

Live Music

Area Restaurant & Catering Stations

A variety of liquor stations and open bar.

50/50 Raffle, tickets for a bourbon basket and \$6,000 in cash drawings

and always the chance of a few more “twists”!

**Tickets are \$80 and are available
at the Parish Office. (330-533-6839)**

**Buy your tickets now and reserve a spot in one of our Mixology Classes that
will be held during the event. Space is limited.**

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No shaker – no problem. Just let us know!**

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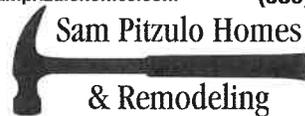
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