

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: 330-702-0432
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



Mass Schedule

Monday, August 18

8:00am – Sonja Erdell Maletsky

Tuesday, August 19

Saint John Eudes

8:00am – Mike Jennings

Wednesday, August 20

Saint Bernard

8:00am – Steve Pavlich

Thursday, August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

8:00am – In Thanksgiving

Friday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

No Daily Mass

Saturday, August 23

Vigil – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm – Deceased Members of the Wroblewski
and Schragal Families

Sunday, August 24

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am – The People of the Parish

11:30am – Vincent Mastromatteo

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

**THE DEADLINE FOR YFF REGISTRATION IS
MONDAY, AUGUST 25.**

Just a reminder that all
registrations for 2025-2026
Youth Faith Formation
classes are due this Monday,
August 25.



CATECHIST NEEDED

A catechist is needed for
grades 3 & 4 for this year as
well as a “Door Guardian
Angel”. Please call Marcy at
the parish office (330-533-
6839) if you are interested



Readings for August 24, 2025

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30

Back to SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



From now until August 31 we will be collecting school supplies to help students start the year with the tools they need to succeed! Your generous donations can make a huge impact on their education and future. Please place all donations in the bins at the entrances of the church. Donations will then be given to Catholic Charities for distribution to those in need.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Nate Ferguson, who has been a dedicated Altar Server for the past 6 years and a scout with Troop 9115, is working on his Eagle Project. Lord of Life Church approached him to tear down their playset and build another for the community to use.

It is a costly project and Nate's goal is to raise \$3000 with a stretch goal of \$4650 to supply rubber mulch. Let's help Nate reach his goal! Any amount is greatly appreciated. To donate you can see Nate after mass or mail a check to

Nathan Ferguson

159 Jade Circle

Canfield, Ohio 44406

Thank you in advance for your consideration in donating to this worthwhile cause and helping one of our dedicated altar servers.



BIBLE STUDY

The Parables of Jesus text written by Stephen Binz will be the focus of the monthly parish Bible study resuming **Thursday, September 11 at 1:00pm.** The group meets

monthly from September through May on the second Thursday of the month in the Family Life Center. Please contact Barbara Spencer, facilitator at 330-503-4756, for further information. Two texts are currently available for any new people joining. The cost for the text is \$13.00.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, August 18

No scheduled activities

Tuesday, August 19

11:00am – Patriotic Rosary

Wednesday, August 20

8:20 – 9:00am - Adoration

Thursday, August 21

8:30am – Bible Study

10:00am – Scripture Sharing

Friday, August 22

Parish Office Closed

6:00pm - Rehearsal

7:30pm – AA Meeting

Saturday, August 23

1:00pm - Wedding

3:00pm – Reconciliation

Sunday, August 24

No Events Scheduled



ADULT EDUCATION

A four consecutive Wednesday evening scripture program on interpreting the parables of Jesus and how to better grow more spiritually from them, will take place in the Parish Hall beginning **September 17 through October 8 from 6:30pm until 7:45pm.**

The program will be facilitated by Barb Spencer.

Please bring your Bible with you. Each evening is self contained to make it easier for those who could not attend all four.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Debbie Cancio	Jay Gettemy	Patricia Lesho
Mindy Cline	John Hahn	Shirley Morvay
Dante DeAngelo	Dale Hynes	Theresa Morvay
James Dunn, Sr.	Jim Jones	Bill Myers
Arlene Dyman	Jack LeBrun	Janice Rovnak
Jim Fisher	Bridget Dunn Leonard	Jack D. Slifka
Marilyn Fisher	Barbara Dunn Lowe	Caroline Zeigler
Dorothy Furden		

Prayer for the Sick

God of all goodness, look with mercy on all who suffer any kind of infirmity, sickness or injury, that they may be comforted. Let your hand of healing and protection be upon them. When they are fearful, ease their fear and anxieties. When they are afraid, give them strength and courage. Amen.

Eucharist to the Homebound

If you know of a parishioner who is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, please contact the Parish Office at 330-533-6839.

Parish Support

August 10, 2025

Amount Received	\$ 10,844.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$ 4,156.00)
YTD Received	\$ 83,905.50
YTD Budget	\$ 90,000.00
YTD Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 6,094.50)



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



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 at 10:00am during the week. The date will be announced in September.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

A group gathers in the pews near the Holy Family Statues for an oral recitation of the rosary on the first Saturday of the month. **The next gathering will be on Saturday, September 6 at 3:15pm.**

Patriotic Rosary

Please join us on **Tuesday mornings at 11:00am.** in the church to say *The Patriotic Rosary*. For more information call Kate Pavlich at 330-533-2432.



Just a Reminder

All bulletin items must be received in the office by 12:00 noon on Monday for the coming weekend bulletin.

From the Seminarian:

One of the projects that Father Lavelle has asked me to do is to share with our community about the life and charism of a saint for each month. I was happy to receive such a request of catechesis, but later on I found myself challenged by this project because there are MANY admirable saints that fill up our liturgical calendar. It was an important reminder for me that we are “surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses” (Heb 12:1) from whom we can learn how to live out our Christian faith.

Secondly, I pray that my sharing about the life of the saints may remind each of us that WE are called and empowered by God, to become saints, NO exceptions! No matter who we are, no matter what has occurred in our past, God actively assists and molds us (Jer 18:6), here and now, into the saints he predestined us to be. Therefore, let us be receptive to God’s grace and calling in our lives, following the example of Mother Mary (Lk 1:38) and all the saints, to live as devoted disciples of the Blessed and Most Holy Trinity.

For the month of August, I have chosen to share about the life and charism of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot and Doctor of the Church. Saint Bernard was born in 1090 AD in the French city of Fontaine. He had six other siblings, four of whom are Blessed’s of the Church. Bernard and his siblings were well taught in their youth. However, Bernard would be the only sibling to carry on in his formal education. While he grew in learning and understanding, Bernard grew more attentive to the inspirations God spoke to his heart. For example, on Christmas Eve, while waiting for his mother to go to church, Bernard fell asleep and saw the Christ-child in the manger. After this moment, Bernard would piously meditate on the love and mercy of God, shown through the humanity of the Son (Butler’s Lives of the Saints, 360).

“Bernard made his appearance in the world with all the advantages and talents which can make it attractive to a young man, or which could make him loved by it. His personal attractiveness and wit, his affability and sweetness of temper, endeared him to everybody; in these very advantages lay his chief danger, and for a time there was serious risk of his becoming lukewarm and indifferent”. (360). He was attracted to religious life, especially, the Cistercian Order, where religious men were called to live a severe and strict life following the Rule of St. Benedict. After a moment of great anxiety, he went into a church and prayed and left the church and determined, with a resolute will, to enter the Cistercian order. His friends tried to persuade him from becoming a monk, but Bernard remained firm; he even convinced his four brothers and his uncle’s (and 31 other men) to join the Cistercian order with

him. His ability to eloquently speak was so irresistible that “mothers feared for their sons, wives for their husbands, lest they came under the sway of that compelling voice” (361).

Though Saint Bernard desired to live a holy life, cloistered within the monastery walls, many came to him seeking his wisdom and spiritual guidance. So great were his words that he was nicknamed “the oracle of Christendom” (362). Around 1145 AD, Saint Bernard would travel to a town in Southern France, preaching against the Albigensian heresy. He convinced and persuaded many to return to the Catholic Faith. Later, on Palm Sunday of 1146 AD, Saint Bernard was commissioned by Pope Eugenius to preach a crusade. His preaching left those who heard him with hearts burning with the desire to serve and join the Crusade. So many people had wanted to join, that the supply of badges were running out, so Saint Bernard tore pieces off his habit and gave them to the Crusaders as badges (362). Toward the end of his life, Saint Bernard had fallen ill and on August 20th, 1153, Saint Bernard entered his heavenly home.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, Saint Bernard teaches us that our own privileges and gifts can be transformed and used to glorify God and better His Holy Church. God privileges each of us with many gifts, such as intelligence, education, natural talents, etc. Yet, we tend to forget these are God’s gifts to us. If we desire to grow into the saints God wants us to become, we must look to God for His inspiration and guidance on how the gifts we receive can be materially or spiritually beneficial to our neighbor. Saint Bernard had many advantages and privileges at his disposal. He was on a good track to live a very good life with status and comfort, yet the Lord was moving his heart and mind to a singular devotion and service to His Church. His gifts and privileges didn’t determine the path for him to follow, but elevated and enriched his vocation! By his physical appearance and good nature, he drew people into an encounter. Through his education and intelligence, he then conversated and moved hearts and mind to love God and the neighbor, whether as a monk or as a Crusader. Though many of us may not be called to priesthood or religious life, we are called by God here and now to use the gifts, talents and privileges we possess to better love God and neighbor. For example: the high school athlete can speak to his/her teammates about the life of Faith and its relation to the conditioning and training for their sport. The lawyer, who is well trained in argumentation and logic, could learn more of the Faith and speak to others about the Truth of the Catholic Faith. All our gifts, talents and privileges can be used for the glory of God! May we allow God to use every part of our lives for His Will to be done. *Daniel LaPolla*



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STEWARDSHIP – August 17, 2025 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." (Luke 12:51)

Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves with our family and friends, especially when it comes to politics and religion. We don't want to cause any turmoil. However, many times this is at the expense of the truth. The truth being Jesus Christ. Too many people are misguided because they rely on their own limited human ability to reason and are not allowing faith in God to guide them. Form your conscience; take a stance for life, marriage and religious liberty.

VOCATIONS – August 17, 2025 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" (Luke 12:49)

Christ's words about setting the earth on fire can inspire married couples to cultivate and enduring love for one another. The fire of love within marriage, when nurtured, grows into a flame that can bring light and warmth to the world. Our hearts should be ablaze with love for our spouse, reflecting God's love through your marital union.

MILITARY LIST



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

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The Ohio EdChoice Expansion Scholarship program offers ALL Ohio students a scholarship to attend a Catholic school!

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Visit ohiocathconf.org/edchoice to learn how EdChoice scholarships can help you send your child to a Catholic school near you.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION IN THE PARISH

The Parish is the central community of faith expressed and lived out by the believing and worshipping faithful. All Sacraments, especially Sacraments of Initiation rightfully are celebrated within the context of the parish. All persons whether enrolled in a parish faith formation process, a catholic school or a home-based catechetical process are expected to be prepared for and celebrate sacraments in the parish to which they belong and where they worship on weekends.

Please be aware of the parish of belonging and respect the expectations of the diocese and the particular parish.

JUST A REMINDER

The parish office hours are 8:30am – 4:00pm Monday through Thursday. The Parish Office is closed on Friday.

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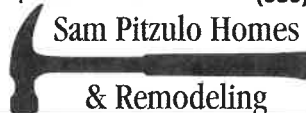
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