



## *St. Michael Catholic Church*

*100 Antwerp Drive,*

*Hicksville, OH 43526*

*Mailing/Billing Address:*

*311 West High Street*

*419-542-8202*

[\*saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com\*](mailto:saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com)

A member of the Our Lady, Queen of Peace, Deanery

Facebook Page: **St. Michael Catholic Church-Hicksville** YouTube Channel: **St. Michael Hicksville**

## *December 13, 2020*

### **Office Hours:**

9:30-12 noon, Wed & Fri

**Parish Office/House** - 419-542-8202

**Office Fax** - 419-542-9513

**Church/Hall** - 419-542-8714

### ***St. Michael's Mass Times:***

Sunday	10:30am
Wednesday	8:30am
Friday	8:30am

### ***St. Mary's Mass Times :***

Sunday	8:30am
Saturday	4:00pm
Thursday	8:30am

### ***St. Joseph's Mass Times:***

Saturday	6:00pm
Monday	8:30am

**Reconciliation:** 7:30am Wednesdays & Fridays. (Sun. & Thurs. 7:30am & Tues. 5:30pm at St. Mary's. Monday 7:30am at St. Joseph's.)

**Hospitalizations:** Due to federal confidentiality laws, hospitals will no longer share patient information. Families must contact Fr. Borgelt or the office to inform him if someone is hospitalized.

**Baptisms:** Call Office at 419-542-8202.

**Weddings:** All weddings must be arranged through the pastor at least six months before the planned wedding in order to allow time for marriage preparation.

**R.C.I.A.** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): Those interested in learning about the church or joining the church contact the office.

### **Church Directory:**

**Very Reverend Daniel E. Borgelt, V.F.**

Edgerton Office

419-298-2540

Deacon Joe Timbrook

419-542-6500

[deacon\\_joe@hotmail.com](mailto:deacon_joe@hotmail.com)

Deacon Rod Conkle

419-542-6473

[rodconkle@live.com](mailto:rodconkle@live.com)

Deacon John Kromer, Senior Status

419-670-1855

[ydnimt822@gmail.com](mailto:ydnimt822@gmail.com)

Office Manager/Bookkeeper / Susie Smalley

[saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com)

419-542-8202

Pastoral Council Pres/Russ Pierce

419-506-0061

Finance Council Chair/Gabe Inkrott

260-908-3177

Maintenance Committee: Jeff Vetter

419-487-2773

Russell Pierce

419-506-0061

Custodian/ Bob Meyer

419-487-1179

CCD Coordinator / Deano Smalley

419-487-2658

[stmikehiCCD@gmail.com](mailto:stmikehiCCD@gmail.com)

Bulletin Editor/ Mary Wermer

419-769-6750

[Jmmecc2007@yahoo.com](mailto:Jmmecc2007@yahoo.com) (Deadline: Tuesday @ 5pm)

Altar Rosary Society Pres / Alice Breidenbaugh

419-542-7185

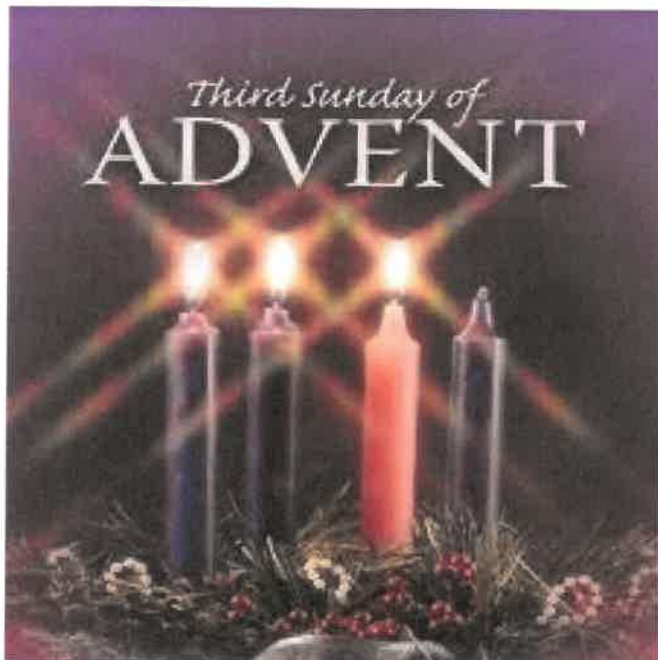
Knights of Columbus Grand Knight / Marlin Eicher

419-487-0949

Music Director / Joy Martin

419-542-8266

## Liturgies & Calendar



**December 13, 2020**

E B	Sat	Dec 12	4:00pm 6:00pm	Conrad & Grace Cape Mary Livensparger
E H	Sun	Dec 13	8:30am 10:30am	Denver Davis <i>Kate Rogers</i>
B	Mon	Dec 14		NO MASS
E	Tues	Dec 15	6:30pm	Grace Cape
H	Wed	Dec 16	8:30am	<i>Ludwig Hoffelder</i>
E	Thurs	Dec 17	8:30am	** The Parish
H	Fri	Dec 18	8:30am	<i>Mike Dubree</i>
E B	Sat	Dec 19	4:00pm 6:00pm	Darrel Thiel Joseph Shankster
E H	Sun	Dec 20	8:30am 10:30am	Tom Wickerham <i>Living &amp; Deceased Members of the Francis &amp; Madonna Meyer Family</i>

H = Hicksville; E = Edgerton; B = Blakeslee  
\*\*Prayers for the living

**A Family Perspective ~ December 13<sup>th</sup> –Third Sunday of Advent-** Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact.

### Ministries Schedule for Sunday, December 20, 2020 @ 10:30am

**Servers:** Reyna Mazur, Mika Inkrott  
**Usher:** Dan Vetter  
**Lector:** Steph Mazur  
**Ordinary Minister:** Deacon Rod Conkle  
**Extraordinary Minister:** Brian Amstutz  
**Greeters:** Bob & Roxie Timbrook

### Ministries Schedule for Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2020 @ 4:00pm

**Servers:** Curtis Wonderly, Seth Firestine  
**Usher:** Mike Firestine  
**Lector:** Christine Wonderly  
**Ordinary Minister:** Deacon Rod Conkle  
**Extraordinary Minister:** Bob Crites  
**Greeters:** The Franciscans

### Ministries Schedule for Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2020 @ 10:30am

**Servers:** Macie & Luke Eicher  
**Usher:** Duane Bassett  
**Lector:** Geoff Parker  
**Extraordinary Ministers:** Ed & Beth Mendez  
**Greeters:** Eric & Vicki Art

**If you cannot fulfill your scheduled ministry,  
It is YOUR responsibility to get a replacement!  
Call or Text Lisa Firestine for scheduling changes  
at 260-715-0439**

**DECEMBER MONEY COUNTERS:**  
Carolyn Gallup

### Weekly Calendar – Dec 13, 2020 – Dec 20, 2020

SUN	Dec 13	8:30am	Confirmation Class
		8:30am	First Communion Class
		10:30am	Bambinelli Mass
		2:00pm	Mini-Aces Basketball
		6:30pm	RCIA
MON	Dec 14	6:30pm	Deacon Rod Prayer Group
		<b>10a, 12p, 2p, 5p</b>	<b>Day of Grace (Blakeslee)</b>
TUES	Dec 15	5:00pm	Mini-Aces Basketball
WED	Dec 16	8:30am	Mass
		6:30pm	CCD Families of Faith
THUR	Dec 17	8am - 7pm	Adoration
		7:00pm	Holy Hour
FRI	Dec 18	8:30am	Mass
		<b>10a, 12p, 2p, 4p, 6p</b>	<b>Day of Grace (Hicksville)</b>
		4:00pm	Mini-Aces Basketball
SUN	Dec 20	8:30am	Confirmation Class – Parent
			Required to accompany students
		8:30am	First Communion Class
		10:30am	Mass
		6:30pm	RCIA

**\*\*We will be livestreaming Mass from our Facebook Page and up on YouTube**

**INCOME:**

Sunday (mailed and Online)	\$ 4,398.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 200.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 110.00
Parish Assistance	\$ 110.00
Christmas	\$ 50.00
Memorial for Christmas Flowers for Hal & Marilyn Smith	\$ 25.00
Candle	\$ 10.00
Landscaping	\$ 20.00
Restroom Renovation	\$ 50.00
Community Meals	\$ 50.00
Retired Religious	\$ 20.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 20.00

**Thank you to those who are mailing in their donations and/or using ONLINE GIVING. Please consider making a donation to our St. Michael ONLINE GIVING. It's easy! If you need help, we'll be glad to help you get your account set up. <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/St9999438>.**

**NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL**

- > **Penance Service** at St. Mary, Edgerton this Sunday at 2pm. **Days of Grace** are listed in the calendar (Monday at Blakeslee, Friday here).
- > **Youth Group Christmas Party has been cancelled at this time. Please have a Blessed Christmas Season!**
- > **ANGEL TREE ORNAMENTS:** Ornaments are available across from the elevator. They are \$3 each, with proceeds going to our youth.
- > **PACK-N-PLAY DONATIONS:** Rosary Altar is asking for your help to fill the crib for the Women's Health Center.
- > **Notice ~ We are starting to distribute the Eucharist to the Homebound.** If you are sick and unable to make it to Mass and want to be put on the list, please contact Deacon Rod. All guidelines set forth by the Diocese for Covid will be followed. God Bless, All, and a big Thank You to all the distributors willing to make this happen.
- > **Do you want to enrich your Christian walk with Jesus and enlighten your relationship with God?** Come join us every Thursday evening at 7:00pm for Holy Hour with Exposition, Adoration, Benediction, the Holy Rosary, and Benediction. This hour is dedicated to honor the True Presence of Jesus Christ. If you cannot make it in person, you

Since the fire on January 15, 2020, the CCD House has been a work in progress. Although a few minor things still needed done, it was ready for use when the CCD classes started back up this Fall. The Maintenance Committee also replaced the front door.

**An Open House for viewing the newly renovated CCD House will be after Masses one weekend**

**after the first of the year. Watch the bulletin for more info!**



Please keep those who are sick or those in need in our prayers:

- |                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Aiden Slattery</b>  | <b>Jill Nussel</b>            |
| <b>Austin Ortiz</b>    | <b>Jim Reinhart</b>           |
| <b>Beth Reinhart</b>   | <b>Joshua Zollinger</b>       |
| <b>Betty Doeden</b>    | <b>Koralyn Tuomi</b>          |
| <b>Betty Meyer</b>     | <b>Lamberto Castillo</b>      |
| <b>Greg Langham</b>    | <b>Larry Adams</b>            |
| <b>Bill Hablawetz</b>  | <b>Leah Meyer</b>             |
| <b>Bill Welly</b>      | <b>Lindsay Starbuck</b>       |
| <b>Carmen Lanum</b>    | <b>Lindsey Thiel</b>          |
| <b>Cody Davis</b>      | <b>Corey Schapert</b>         |
| <b>Cory Lemley</b>     | <b>Marney Schaffer</b>        |
| <b>Dan Smith</b>       | <b>** Special Intention</b>   |
| <b>David Grimes</b>    | <b>Dr. Laverne Miller</b>     |
| <b>Dave Kenner</b>     | <b>Mary Margaret Welly</b>    |
| <b>Deb Rogers</b>      | <b>Mary Ortiz</b>             |
| <b>Donia Anderson</b>  | <b>Martha Arend</b>           |
| <b>Doug Reinhart</b>   | <b>Marj Vetter</b>            |
| <b>Ed Breidenbaugh</b> | <b>Michael Bell</b>           |
| <b>Erica Reineck</b>   | <b>Mike Kenner</b>            |
| <b>Floyd Esquivel</b>  | <b>Neville Holbrook</b>       |
| <b>Frances Brachma</b> | <b>Alvin Chapman</b>          |
| <b>Gloria Jasso</b>    | <b>Nick Bostelman</b>         |
| <b>Hayden Anderson</b> | <b>Randy Miller</b>           |
| <b>Holly Niese</b>     | <b>Jerry Piasecki</b>         |
| <b>Hope Castillo</b>   | <b>Rochelle Reinhart</b>      |
| <b>Iris Hulkill</b>    | <b>Roseanna Husted</b>        |
| <b>Ryan Murphy</b>     | <b>Sister Alice Schmersal</b> |

If you would like a loved one added to this list, a family member must contact the office (419-542-8202). Those added will remain on the list for one month, at which time the family can contact us to add them again as many times as needed.

Please keep all military personnel in your Prayers:

- |                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Levi Guilford</b>   | <b>Monique Jasso</b>        |
| <b>Sarah Frederick</b> | <b>Paul Vaz de Carvalho</b> |
| <b>Cole Reeb</b>       |                             |

If your family has a member in the military please contact the office and we will add their name as well.

may view it on livestream. This would be a great way to ready yourselves for the coming of the Lord. Besides the Mass, the Holy Hour is one of the most powerful prayer services there is.

> **Community Meal Delivery**--Are you a St. Michael parishioner who would like to have a meal delivered to your home on the 2nd Thursday of each month? There is no charge; simply say a prayer for those who are homeless, hungry, shut-in, or need someone to talk to. Call the office at 419-542-8202 or Dale Gallup at 419-670-5035 to sign up for monthly meals.

➤ **End of Year Donations**--If you would like to make a donation before the end of the year, please have it in the collection by Sunday, December 27, or to the office by Wednesday, December 30, as the office will be closed on December 31. Thank you for generously supporting St. Michael by your talents and treasure!

➤ **Welcome!! "Come all that are thirsty, hungry, and lonely."** The Lord is calling let us all answer and follow Christ. The welcome Retreat Team is needing many more men and woman to plan for Welcome Retreat weekend. If you have ever attended any kind of Retreat please discern in the Spirit to join the team. We will be meeting this Sunday at St. Michaels John Paul Room after mass at 11:30. Any Questions call Deacon Rod 419-5542-6473 or Victor Juarez 419-298-2618.

➤ **Perpetuate The Gift: (Priest Retirement Fund)** began the campaign September 19 – 20. You can donate to a special fund online, mark an envelope and drop in the collection, or mail directly to the Diocese of Toledo. **Current donations total is \$702.00.** Your gift directly assists our retired diocesan priests. After a priest retires, typically in his 70s, he is responsible for his personal expenses: medical, housing, car, clothing and food. All funds contributed between Sept. 19-Dec. 31, 2020 assists our assessed parish contribution to the fund. A gift of cash or check can be sent to Perpetuate The Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH 43697 or placed in the parish collection. A gift

~~ DAILY READINGS ~~

**MONDAY, DEC 14, 2020:**

NM 24:2-7, 15-17A  
MT 21:23-27

**TUESDAY, DEC 15, 2020:**

ZEP 3:1-2, 9-13  
MT 21:28-32

**WED, DEC 16, 2020:**

IS 45:6C-8, 18, 21C-25  
LK 7:18B-23

**THURSDAY, DEC 17, 2020:**

GN 49:2, 8-10  
MT 1:1-17

**FRIDAY, DEC 18, 2020:**

JER 23:5-8  
MT 1:18-25

**SATURDAY, DEC 19, 2020:**

JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A  
LK 1:5-25

**SUNDAY, DEC 20, 2020:**

2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16  
ROM 16:25-27  
LK 1:26-38

may also be made online by selecting the Give tab at [www.toledodiocese.org](http://www.toledodiocese.org). If you would like to give a gift of stock or designate a bequest to help our retired priests, please contact Brian Doyle at 419-214-4951 or [bdoyle@toledodiocese.org](mailto:bdoyle@toledodiocese.org) **THANK YOU!**

➤ **INTRODUCING: FORMED**

**Program: THE SEARCH.** The Search is a 7-week program which would be great for Catholics or Non-Catholics. Quote from a Parishioner's Non-Catholic Girlfriend: "Hey! So I got through four episodes of The Search. I love this app!! I definitely recommend it. I think I'm gonna keep watching The Search too! (insert smiley face)" **WANTED:** Parishioners to host small groups to watch and discuss THE SEARCH on FORMED in concert with the Diocesan-wide promotion of this program. Each host will decide how to facilitate your small group. Suggestions: 1) small group meets in your home or the church, views FORMED The Search episode for the week together, and discuss questions provided for that episode; 2) have each member watch the episode of the week separately, then facilitate a Zoom or other online discussion panel; 3) Facebook Livestream a viewing and discussion from your home or the church (these can be

uploaded to YouTube later). If you're interested in hosting or just participating in a The Search small group, please contact Deacon Rod, Diane Collins, Dale Gallup, or Susie Smalley in the Office.

➤ **Monday Prayer Warriors!**

**6:30pm** Walk and pray with Deacon Rod! **7:00pm** Right-to-Life Prayer Group (1<sup>st</sup> week of mth) **God Bless All the Babies!!**

**7:00pm** Weekly Prayer Group.

➤ **If you're interested being on the team for the upcoming Welcome Retreats, which is Christ Renews His Parish 2.0**, contact Deacon Rod Conkle.

➤ **Come and visit Jesus**—The Diocese has suggested that we keep the church open at certain times for people to come in and sit with Jesus. Adoration Thursdays 8am-7pm.

➤ **Fill out your survey –SURVEY CLOSES DEC. 15!** We've been working with the Diocese on helping discover the needs of those parishioners who've come back to Mass as well as the parishioners who are still watching from home.

➤ **BORED? Great time to break open that Catechism you took home. We are inviting and urging all to read the Catholic Catechism of the Catholic Church.** The ISBN number for it is 1-57455-110-8. If you cannot afford one & need help or need help with anything you may read, contact Deacon Joe (email & phone number on the front of bulletin).

➤ **Countless lives are touched by every contribution to the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal.** Saint Michael's parish goal this year is \$12,000. Current contribution donations/pledges \$11,037 leaving balance of \$963.

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

By St. Alphonsus de Liguori

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and  
unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

➤ **WE HAVE A DATE!!!** *St. Michael Parish is celebrating* 140 years since the origin of the Parish & 100 years since the laying of the cornerstone of this building. **We have a date! Mark your calendars! The Bishop will come to celebrate with us on Sat., August 28, 2021. In the meantime, be thinking of stories about our parish** that you may have hear from your parents or grandparents. You can email us at [saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelhicksville@gmail.com).

➤ **Right-to-Life Prayer Group** I hear babies crying in the wombs, "Come save me . Come pray for me." Let us all unite in the fight against abortion & contraception & pray the Rosary for the fight against abortion with a few added prayers after the Rosary. Bring any prayers you may want God to hear. We will meet the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm in the Church. Families are welcome: education is a key to prevention. ***God Bless All the Babies!***

### ***NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS***

➤ **Christ's Cupboard Ministries (CCM)** has been busy during this past year with the COVID-19, needs each family has faced, and nor we are preparing for Christmas and the year beyond. Monetary donations can be sent to (CCM) at Farmers and Merchants Bank, OR, P.O. Box 323, Hicksville, OH, 43526. CCM greatly appreciates the generous support of the community each year in making the Christmas Project not only possible, but also a huge success. This year we will also focus on the remodeling of the inside of the former Yoder's Restaurant, so we can move the pantry to that location. Donations for that project should be designated as "Yoder's". This year's distribution of food is **Friday, December 18th, from 1 - 3:30pm**, from the alley behind CCM. CCM thanks you for your donation of prayer, time, and money that makes a difference in the lives of those in need in our community. Serving Christ by Serving Others, Pastor Bob Knapp, 419-487-1324; P.O. Box 323, Hicksville, OH 43526.

➤ **No Common Ground On Abortion Question ~** We all have laws we must follow - even minors have specific laws. Minors need parental consent to have their ears pierced. Minors need parental consent before caregivers can give them an aspirin or their prescribed medicine. Minors need parental consent to go

into the military. Minors need parental consent to marry. Why then, is Planned Parenthood so against parental consent before they perform abortions on minor girls? I will tell you why – they will lose money! Planned Parenthood is big business. Good parents would never allow their daughter to have an abortion if they were aware of her situation! There is one law some people seem to have forgotten. It is one of God's Ten Commandments: 'Thou shalt not kill.' His laws were given to us all for all time. His laws remain unchanged, not subject to our whims or convenience. They supersede all earthly laws. God is our ultimate judge. There is no common ground here. You are either pro-life or pro-death. A baby is a gift from God to be loved and cherished - not to be thrown back in His Face. A baby has a right to life and a right to expect that we, our judges and our laws, will protect them.

***" Before I formed you in the womb I knew you."***


**Jeremiah 1:5**

**[liferunners.org](http://liferunners.org)  
another  
site: [priests for life.org](http://priestsforlife.org)**

***"To sin by silence when they should protest, makes cowards of men."***

**Pres.**

**Abraham Lincoln**



**Information about reserving seats for Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning Mass**

**Christmas Eve Mass  
4:00pm  
or  
Christmas Morning Mass  
10:30am**

Looking ahead—our Christmas Masses are usually pretty full. This year, of course, could be different. Our hope is that everyone makes it to Christmas Mass and brings family and friends with them. **Call 419-487-2652 to reserve your seats now – please include the number of people attending.** **Would you prefer seating in the Gym where there is more room to distance between families?**

A map of the Church's seating is ready for families to reserve their seats either down one pew or in front of and/or behind other family members. All others will be seated away from your family. **First call, first pick.**

**Because of large Christmas Eve crowds, would you consider Christmas Morning Mass instead?**

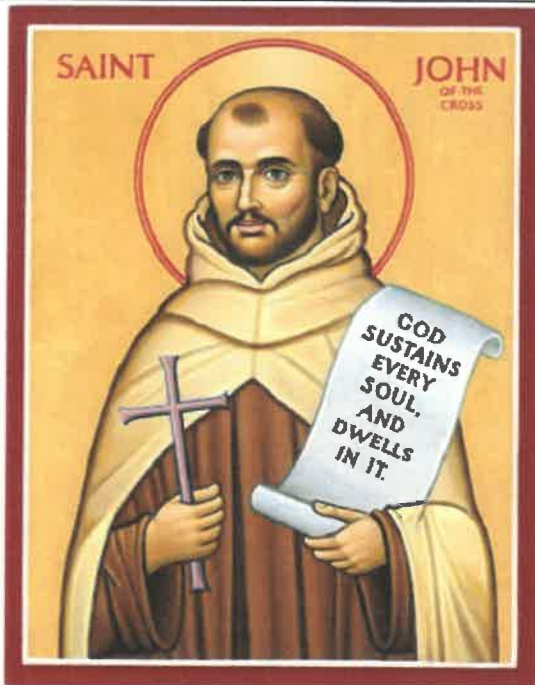
**Are you willing to help with Christmas Mass Ministries?**



➤ **The Crippled Childrens Association in Hicksville** is here to help local residents of Farmer, Mark, Milford, Hicksville & Hicksville township. The following items are available to borrow **FREE** of Charge:

wheelchairs, walkers, rollators, canes, crutches, commodes, bed tables, shower benches & other aids. Other services available dependent on needs. To inquire about borrowing any of the above listed items please call: Frank Hostetler 542-7870, Joe Stotler 260-479-7707, Carl Clark 542-8846, Rex Ford 551-1267, Allen

**Memorial of  
Saint John of the  
Cross,  
priest and doctor of the church  
December 14<sup>th</sup>**



Hilbert 542-6373, Bill Elwood 487-0265, Claren Osmun 658-2787, Mike Langham 899-2711, Hal Osmun 542-8654, Nancy Chapman 542-8785, Norman Byers 542-8775, Eric Crall 419 487-0165. Luci Hilbert, Treas. 542-7444 and Betty Pearson, Secy. 542-8552.

➤ **Support St. Francis Spirituality Center by purchasing a ticket for the 2021 Christmas 365 Raffle!** There will be raffle drawings for cash prizes on the **25<sup>th</sup>** day of every month in 2021. St. Francis Spirituality Center will be giving away **\$4500** in cash prizes with each contestant having the possibility of up to 13 chances to win, which includes an extra **\$500** drawing on Christmas Day 2021. Each winning ticket goes back into the drum for a chance to win on the next drawing. **Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50.** As an added incentive, due to the pandemic, if you purchase 6 tickets online you will receive 3 **FREE** entries, 12 tickets you will receive 6 **FREE** entries and 18 tickets you will receive 9 **FREE** entries. **Tickets can be purchased online by visiting <https://franciscanretreats.org/christmas-365-2021-affle/>.** Tickets are on sale through **September 30, 2021.** Winners will be notified by phone, and names will be posted on our Facebook page (St. Francis Spirituality Center) and website, **[www.franciscanretreat.org](http://www.franciscanretreat.org)**



**GOING LIVE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>!** We've put together an Online Survey to discover the needs of our Parishioners. Just a limited number of paper copy surveys will be available, so if you want help filling out your survey online, please contact the Parish office at 419-542-8202. Survey closes December 15. To use the QR CODE to **DO THE SURVEY NOW!**

1. Turn on the camera on your smartphone
2. Scan your camera over the QR Code on the right

3. Click it like you're taking a picture

4. Your phone will take you to the survey. Follow the directions.

**A Note From Fr. Dan:** *We all face many challenges these days. Now many people have grown accustomed to Zoom meetings, Livestreaming and other ways to connect virtually, but some have not. As a parish I worry about parishioners' spiritual lives. Technology offers us many ways to connect.*

*Many resources are available online that offer daily meditation and prayer as well as a great variety of videos and other media. I am grateful for the ways this helps people continue to focus on their faith even during this time of a pandemic. I have realized although there is a lot of technology available, this does not mean that everyone has access to it or knows how to use it. We at the Parish can keep offering a variety of ministries. But, if you are not able to connect with it, or it is not meeting your needs, we really are just wasting our time. Therefore, we came up with several questions that will provide information to help us better respond to your needs at this time. We urgently need your input! I ask you please to take a couple minutes to complete this survey and return it to the Parish. This really will help us work together in efforts to keep everyone connected to St. Michael Parish and their faith. Know of my continued love and prayers for all of you. God bless you, Fr. Dan*





# Feliz Navidad

*Merry Christmas in Spanish*



**Families of Faith IS our CCD Program this year.**

Confirmation & First Communion Classes meet Sunday mornings. Families of Faith meet twice a month in the church for Music, Prayer, Brief Presentation, then break out into classes for the different age groups.

## Domestic Church

**--Your Home and Family are a Domestic Church**

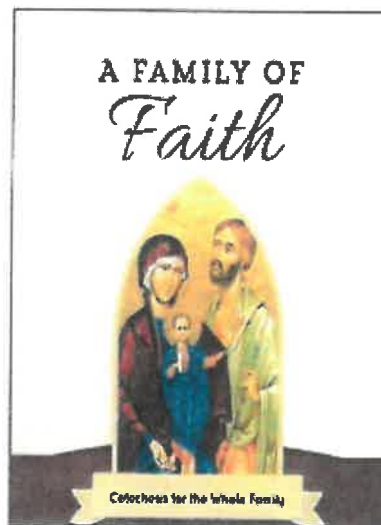
If we've learned anything from this year, it should be that God has given us opportunities while we are at home to provide for our own spiritual lives and the spiritual lives of our families. We are The Domestic Church – We are the first teachers and sometimes the only teachers of religion to our children and those in our home.

- Going to/watching Mass together
  - Meal Prayers
  - Family Night Prayers
  - Activities
  - FORMED programs
  - Praying the Rosary as a Family
- Would you like more information about things you can do at home to enhance your spiritual lives and your domestic church?

### PLANS FOR CCD THIS YEAR

(Open to ALL Parishioners)

#### Informative Monthly Topics



- Oct. 7 & 21 - Faith, Creed, the Nature of God, and Who is God the Father
- Nov. 4 & 18 - Imago Dei, Original Sin, and Salvation History
- Dec. 2 & 16 - The Annunciation, the Immaculate Conception, and the Incarnation
- Jan. 6 & 20 - Who is Jesus Christ
- Feb. 3 & 24 - Jesus' descent into Hell, and Judgement Day
- Mar. 3 & 17 - The Holy Spirit, the Church
- Apr. 7 & 21 - Marks of the Church, the Communion of Saints, review of Forgiveness of Sins, the Resurrection of the Body, and Life Everlasting
- May 5th - May Crowning

Join us for our:

### Full Family Faith Formation

CCD is not just for the kids anymore. It is time to integrate the faith of the whole Family. The Family is meant to be the "domestic Church" a small part of the universal Church we all attend. This new program opens out Catechism class to the whole of that "domestic Church". Have you ever wondered what your kids are learning? Is the best answer you can get, "we learned about God"? Now you can come and be a part of the program.

The series is structured around group meetings and family activities. Everyone attends the group meetings at the Church where the age groups learn about the topic in age-appropriate lessons. Then, the learning continues at home as the family discusses what they learned and work together to complete the activities in the book.

#### Who can participate?

- All members of the parish
  - o Even if you do not have children in CCD, come and join us for the adult sessions
- If you have a busy schedule and cannot attend,
  - o Your child is welcome to attend anyway
- If you are not comfortable leaving your home
  - o Join us online

#### How to participate?

- Meetings take place twice a month at the usual CCD time: **Wednesdays @ 6:30-7:45pm**
- Everyone gathers in the Church, and the groups will move to their areas later.
- The materials can be found at <https://sophiainstituteforteachers.org/previewfamilyoffaith>
  - o If you are interest in a physical copy of the materials, email [stmikeccd@gmail.com](mailto:stmikeccd@gmail.com) or call 419-542-8202. We will be putting in a large order.

**Bring the Baby  
Jesus from your  
home Nativity Scene  
to Mass on Sun.,  
Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, to have  
your Baby Jesus  
blessed!**

## ***BAMBINELLI SUNDAY***

*The third Sunday of Advent  
is known as the Gaudete Sunday,  
the Sunday of Joy.*

*On that day, every year in Rome,  
the Pope blesses the Bambinelli  
(figures of Baby Jesus)  
that people bring to St. Peter's Square.*



*This tradition has been going on for over 30 years. It helps  
"children and young people to prepare for Jesus." You bring the  
Christ Child from your Nativity or **precepe** scene, and the Pope blesses it **during the  
noon Angelus that day.***

*Although most of us will never make it to Vatican Square, especially on the third Sunday  
of Advent, we can bring our own Baby Jesus along with us to Mass here at St. Michael,  
and Father Dan will bless all the Christ Child figurines that the young children and  
"not so young" people bring.*

*It's an examination of what we're really waiting for as we spend our Advent struggling  
and wrangling. It's a look inside, at the place we're really clearing for Baby Jesus in our  
hearts.*

*Part of Pope Emeritus Benedict's text from 2009*

*The blessing of the "Bambinelli" [Baby Jesus figurines] as they are called in Rome, reminds us that  
the crib is a school of life where we can learn the secret of true joy. This does not consist in having  
many things but in feeling loved by the Lord, in giving oneself as a gift for others and in loving one  
another. Let us look at the crib. Our Lady and St Joseph do not seem to be a very fortunate family;  
their first child was born in the midst of great hardship; yet they are full of deep joy, because they love  
each other, they help each other and, especially, they are certain that God, Who made Himself present  
in the little Jesus, is at work in their story. And the shepherds? What did they have to rejoice about?*

*That Newborn Infant was not to change their condition of poverty and marginalization. But Faith  
helped them recognize the "Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger" as a "sign" of  
the fulfilment of God's promises for all human beings, "with whom He is pleased" (Lk 2: 12, 14).*

*This, dear friends, is what true joy consists in: it is feeling that our personal and  
community existence has been visited and filled by a great mystery, the mystery of God's  
love. In order to rejoice we do not need **things** alone, but love and truth: we need a close  
God Who warms our hearts and responds to our deepest expectations. This God is  
manifested in Jesus, born of  
that "Bambinello" which  
a grotto is the center  
Heart of the World.  
every person, like  
may accept as the  
her life the God  
Himself a Child, the*



*the Virgin Mary. Therefore  
we place in a stable or  
of all things, the*

*Let us pray that  
the Virgin Mary,  
center of his or  
Who made  
source of true joy!*