



ST. MICHAEL PARISH

14327 HIGHLAND AVE., ORLAND PARK, IL 60462 | 708.349.0903 | WWW.SAINTMIKE.COM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY



He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Father Frank's Fire

It seems like we were just here yesterday to celebrate the joy of Christmas! We gather today to celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Through the centuries artists have depicted the Holy Family as a perfect family that does not seem to have a care in the world. Jesus appears obedient, and Mary and Joseph are pictured in a state of prayer. Often times we have this image of the Holy Family as being “perfect” that we quickly dismiss it as unattainable, for we know that we are far from perfect.

I am not sure where we ever got the idea that the family of Jesus was perfect. If we carefully examine the scriptures we can conclude that the Holy Family struggled like any other family. When Mary and Joseph went to the temple to present Jesus, they offered a pair of turtledoves. This was not the customary offering, but this was the offering of a poor family. The Holy Family struggled financially just like many of us do. Joseph, Mary and Jesus had to flee to Egypt because Herod was looking to kill Jesus. They lived in exile away from their home, their family and their friends. They did not have an easy life and not much else is known about them, except that they loved each other and took care of each other. The key to making any family holy is love.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, let us remember that all families are different. They come in different shapes and sizes, and are not limited to biology. I count many of my good friends as family. I consider you, the people of St. Michael, as family. What is important to remember is that no family is perfect but that all families are holy.

In all families and communities there is often disagreement, disappointment and discouragement. We get angry, stubborn and sometimes vindictive. Sometimes we just want to prove we are right. Where love, compassion and forgiveness reign – God is present. Take time today to look at your own family. I urge you to ignore your family's imperfections and blemishes, and open your eyes to see its goodness and holiness.

Happy New Year

On Wednesday, Jan. 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God. **New Year's Day is a holy day of obligation.** We will have a vigil Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 4:30 p.m. On Wednesday, Jan. 1, we will have one Mass in English at 9:30 a.m. and one Mass in Spanish at 11:30 a.m. This should give everyone an opportunity to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

Pilgrimage to Poland and Prague

There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ministry Rooms for those who are interested in joining a pilgrimage to Poland and Prague. The dates for the pilgrimage are Sept. 14 - 25, 2025. Space on the pilgrimage is limited. I invite you to come and hear about this exciting pilgrimage.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy New Year,

Father Frank

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 2025

A Holy Day of Obligation

MASS TIMES

Tuesday, Dec. 31

Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m.—English

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025

9:30 a.m.—English

11:30 a.m.—Spanish



Please Pray For The Sick

We continue to remember the sick, the infirm, and all those recommended to our prayers; and especially the following, that they may experience the healing and power of Christ:

Carmen Aguirre, Jennifer Bailey, John Baker,
Dorothy Basta, John Basta, Bernie Bittner,
Donna Boddy, Keith Thraen Borowski,
Kathy Bruss, Kevin Bushnell, Vince Candelero,
Patricia Chuchla, Eileen Cocco, Aileen Collura,
Mary DiFilippo, James Dunne, Marge Duszynski,
John Dzielski, Robert Foster, Diane Gneda,
Carole Holding, Lisa Johnston, Rose Kessen,
Celeste Koszut, Joan Krasneck, Sylvia Krepton,
Robert Levinthal, Mark Lunn, Fr. Robert Mair,
Tom Mallon, Bill Marich, Lizette Masters,
Rich McCasland, Donna Micun, Patricia Minogue,
Art Morgan, Mary Anne Nievera,
Alice Prendergast, Debbie Rogers, AJ Rother,
Maria Rzonca, Cara Scanlon, Kevin Scanlon,
Joseph Skeen, Jennie Vaccarell, Mary Pat Walsh,
Aleksandra Waresiak, Donna Wilczek,
Lawrence Wojcik
and those injured in service to their country.

Please Pray For

Those who have died and their families

Eva Ricci, sister of Donna Connolly



Think of the people that matter the most in your life. Most people would think of their parents or guardians because these are the people that take care of us during our life. When we are sick, it is our parents or guardians who help us to get better. They take care of us because they love us and they feel it is part of their job to do so. Our parents and guardians are the people that help us make the right choices by giving us advice. They *help us* to make the best decisions for ourselves.

The job of a parent or guardian can be very hard because they have a lot of decisions to make when raising children. Every single decision they make is with thought and love. It's such an important job to be a parent or guardian that it is talked about many times in the bible and the 4th Commandment is about honoring our parents!

Even though Jesus was the Son of God, he was raised and taken care of by his earthly parents, Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family. We honor them today because they protected Jesus from the moment he was conceived. It was a very big responsibility because there were many dangers that surrounded Jesus. However, Joseph and Mary knew that Jesus had an important mission in his life and they wanted to fulfill God's will. Let us praise them for fulfilling God's will by caring for Jesus.

We must also remember to honor our own parents and caregivers. We honor God by honoring his commandment to respect those that care for us.

Let us pray: Father, we thank you for our parents and caregivers. May we learn to communicate and to respect one another. Amen.

Readings for the Week of Dec. 29, 2024

Sunday: *Feast of the Holy Family*
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;
Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: *Solemnity:*
Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Nm 6:22-27L; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: *Solemnity:*
The Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

If you want to add a name to the list of sick or recently deceased, there is a link on the parish web site at www.saintmike.com. You may also call the parish at 708-349-0903. Names are kept on the sick list for five weeks. Those who have died recently are listed for one week.

If you need a Mass card and/or someone to be prayed for at a specific Mass, please come to the parish office Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 pm. If you are unable to go out, you may call the parish office at 708-349-0903 with the request and to make arrangements for your donation and for a Mass card, if needed.

COMING UP THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL PARISH

Saturday, Dec. 28

- Men's Scripture Sharing-7:00 a.m.—Ministry Room West
- Feeding The Hungry Food Sorting-8:45 a.m.—Small Gym

Sunday, Dec. 29

- Young Peoples Liturgy of the Word (YPLW)-during 9:30 a.m. Mass—Church and Chapel

Tuesday, Dec. 31—New Year's Eve Parish Office Closed

- Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God-4:30 p.m.—Church

Wednesday, Jan. 1—New Year's Day Parish Office Closed

- Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God -9:30 a.m.—Church
- Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God -11:30 a.m.—Church

Friday, Jan. 3

- Hispanic Bible Study/Estudio Bíblico Hispano-7:00 p.m.—Ministry Room East

Saturday, Jan. 4

- Men's Scripture Sharing-7:00 a.m.—Ministry Room West
- Feeding The Hungry Food Sorting-8:45 a.m.—Small Gym

Sunday, Jan. 5

- Young Peoples Liturgy of the Word (YPLW)-during 9:30 a.m. Mass—Church and Chapel



Parish Office Hours for the New Year Holiday

In celebration of the New Year holiday, the **St. Michael Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024 and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025.** The Parish Office reopen at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 2.

THANK YOU FOR THE BLANKETS & GIFT BAGS

The 100 residents and patients of Harmony Nursing



Center in Palos Heights were overjoyed and so grateful to receive a blanket and a gift bag from our parishioners. **You put a smile on their faces and hope and joy in their hearts through the love of Christ you shared.** Thank you to our Religious Education students who created cards of prayer

and Christmas wishes for each gift, and to their parents who delivered all of the gifts to Harmony. May you all be as blessed as God blessed His elderly children through you.



Thank you for your very generous outpouring of donations for the residents of **Oak Forest Nursing Homes.** The residents greatly appreciate receiving these items. **Your generosity reminds them they are not forgotten and someone cares.** Thank you for caring.

**The St. Elizabeth of Hungary
St. Vincent de Paul Conference**
Coordinator of the collection for Oak Forest Nursing Homes



Mark Your Calendars For Our January Hospitality Hours Saturday, Jan. 18 & Sunday, Jan. 19

**All Are Welcome To Join Us In The MPR
For Fellowship & Refreshments Following All Masses**

We'd greatly appreciate your donations of baked goods, as well as other items such as cheese and crackers, veggies and dip, mini sandwiches and fruit. If you can contribute items for our Hospitality Weekend, please contact one of the Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs: Ellie Olson: ero1958@yahoo.com or 708-699-7224; and Sara O'Brien: sarajob1003@gmail.com or 585-414-5005. Thank you!



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organization for you.

What is a Knight?

By Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

A Knight lives by faith and leads by creative courage. Faith and courage compel us to be men of **charity**.

We feed hungry families, give coats to kids, protect the vulnerable from catastrophe and defend the unborn. We are servants of Christ who see his face in those we serve.

Faith and courage inspire us to be men of **unity**. Our fidelity to Christ is the source of our unity, and we seek him in his Church and the sacraments he's given us.

We strengthen and protect the family — the domestic church — helping men build strong marriages and raise faithful children, while providing them the opportunity to align their financial decisions with their Catholic faith. We strive to inspire men to embrace their vocation to heroic generosity and self-sacrifice.

Finally, faith and courage bind us together in **fraternity**.

At a time when men are increasingly isolated, we offer solidarity. At a time when men are searching, we offer meaning and mission. Fraternity amplifies all we do. It broadens our charity and deepens our unity.

So what does it mean to be a Knight? It means a life of faith in action, a life of boldness in brotherhood, a life of integrity. It means bringing every aspect of life in line with our principles.

Catholic men are looking for nothing less. In the Knights of Columbus, they will find it.



**JOIN
TODAY!**





St. Michael Co-Ed High School Volleyball

We are now forming a Co-Ed High School Volleyball Team. Freshman through seniors are invited to play from January to March. We play other parish teams in the area. **All are welcome so invite your friends to join with you.** All skill levels welcome.

To sign up, download and complete the permission form on the Youth Ministry website at <https://saintmike.com/high-school-sports/> or pick up a form in the Parish Office. Bring the completed permission form to the first game.

Games begin on Thursday, Jan. 9 at St. Michael (in the MPR).

Have questions or need information? Contact Youth Minister Rose Koch at 708-349-0903 ext.#650, or via e-mail at rkoch@saintmike.com.

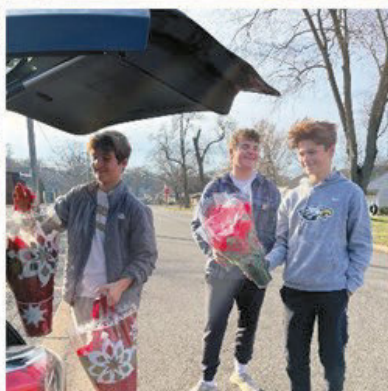


YOUTH MINISTRY COAT DRIVE

**For our sister parish
St. Basil/Visitation
Jan. 11 & 12 at all Masses**

**We will be accepting gently-used coats for men, women and children.
Bring them with you to Mass on Saturday, Jan. 11 and Sunday, Jan. 12.**

Thank you for your support.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUTH MINISTRY'S POINSETTIA SALE

Our annual poinsettia sale sponsored by St. Michael Youth Ministry was a great success. All proceeds from the sale support St. Michael Youth Ministry programs and events, and we are so grateful to all of our parishioners for their support. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.





Christ of the Breadlines by Fritz Eichenberg

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DAYBREAK CENTER SHEPHERD'S TABLE

On the first Saturday of every month a group of 8th graders & high school students from our parish prepare and serve lunch at the Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen in Joliet. We will be going on Saturday, Jan. 4 from 8:00am until 1:00pm. If you are a teen and would like to lend a hand, please email Therese Hansen to register at hansentherese12@gmail.com. You need to email your name and phone number; Therese will contact you.

We leave from St. Michael's parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Deadline for sign up is this Thursday, Jan. 2. Transportation will be provided.



CAN YOU HELP WITH SHEPHERD'S TABLE ?

Our teens will be making a BBQ chicken for lunch at the Soup Kitchen this month. Please donate russet potatoes, Sweet Baby Rays BBQ sauce, ranch dressing, rolls, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, cucumbers, balsamic vinegar, olive oil, Italian seasoning packets, butter, peanut butter, jelly, fresh fruit, homemade desserts and liters of pop. Monetary donations would be greatly appreciated.



Please place your donations in the Narthex kitchen on Thursday, Jan. 2 and Friday, Jan. 3 from 8:00am to 8:30pm.



THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

St. Michael Youth Ministry

**YOUNG ADULT
FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP**

Join Local Catholic Young Adults in Fellowship
Scan the QR code for meeting times and more info



VERSÒ L'ALTO!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!!!

Please follow St. Michael Parish and School on these Social Media Platforms:

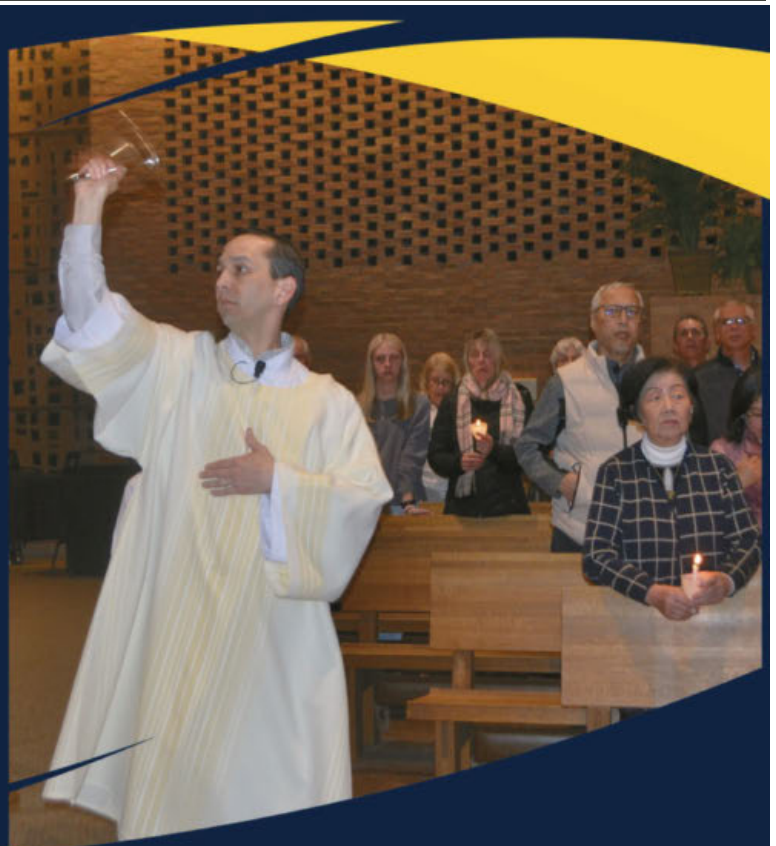
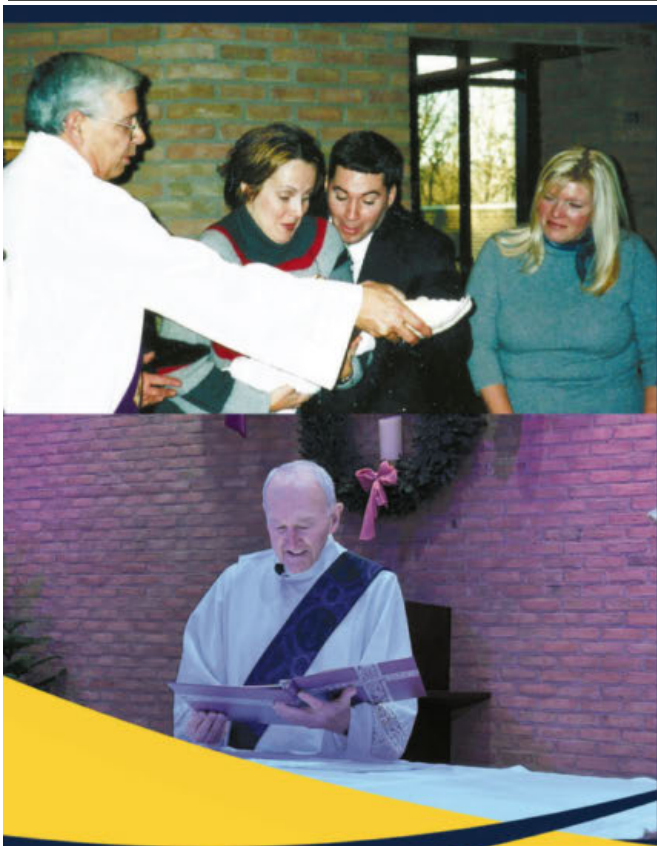
St. Michael Parish Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/saintmikeparish?mibextid=LQQJ4d>

St. Michael School Facebook Page: <https://m.facebook.com/smsorland?mibextid=LQQJ4>

St. Michael Moms Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/yEQfMPvV4pac82iC/?>

And introducing the **QUEST Instagram Page**
Scan the QR code





HOW IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

Join Us For Diaconate Inquiry Night

Monday, Jan. 27, 2025

7 p.m.

St. Michael Ministry Room East

Men ages 30 to 59 are invited to learn more about the Permanent Diaconate at a meeting **hosted by the St. Michael Diaconate couples**. Come to learn more about the important role of the deacon in the Catholic Church, what's involved in being ordained as a deacon and have all your questions answered. Wives are encouraged to attend!

For more information, please contact:

Michael and Donna McDonough -- 708-403-2122 or dkncpl@aol.com

or

Abel and Yolanda Trujillo -- 773-557-8340 or 773-552-9652

¿CÓMO TE LLAMA DIOS A SERVIR?

Únase a nosotros para la noche de consultas sobre el diaconado

Lunes, 27 de enero de 2025

7 p.m.

St. Michael Ministry Room East

Se invita a hombres de entre 30 y 59 años a aprender más sobre el Diaconado Permanente en una reunión organizada por los matrimonios del Diaconado de St. Michael. Venga a aprender más sobre el importante papel del diácono en la Iglesia Católica, lo que implica ser ordenado diácono y obtenga respuestas a todas sus preguntas. ¡Se anima a las esposas a asistir!

Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto:

Michael y Donna McDonough -- 708-403-2122 o dkncpl@aol.com o

Abel y Yolanda Trujillo -- 773-557-8340 o 773-552-9652





TRIVIA Night

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025

CHECK IN: 6:30PM

GAME ON: 7:00PM

Join us for our annual evening of fun and friendly competition! Trivia teams are arranged in tables that accommodate up to 12 people. Each table tries to outsmart each other by completing an answer sheet for every round of trivia questions. Test your knowledge of music, history, geography and current events while sharing fun, laughter and snacks with friends!

- Saturday, February 1, 2025 @ St. Michael School (MPR, Small Gym and Commons)
- Check In: 6:30pm / Game On: 7:00pm
- The price is \$35/person and 12 people/table (\$420 per table)
- Please bring your own food for your table. Beer, wine, water and pop will be available for purchase. **OUTSIDE BEVERAGES ARE NOT ALLOWED.** This event is for 21+ only.

Mark your calendar for our earlier sale date:

[Tickets go on sale at 8am on Wednesday, January 8th!](#)

All proceeds from this event will benefit St. Michael School.

El Espíritu del Padre Frank

Parece que estuvimos aquí ayer para celebrar la alegría de la Navidad. Nos reunimos hoy para celebrar la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José. A lo largo de los siglos, los artistas han representado a la Sagrada Familia como una familia perfecta que no parece tener ninguna preocupación en el mundo. Jesús parece obediente y María y José están retratados en estado de oración. A menudo, tenemos esta imagen de la Sagrada Familia como algo que rápidamente descartamos como inalcanzable, “perfecto” porque sabemos que estamos lejos de ser perfectos.

No estoy seguro de dónde sacamos la idea de que la familia de Jesús era perfecta. Si examinamos cuidadosamente las Escrituras, podemos concluir que la Sagrada Familia tuvo dificultades como cualquier otra familia. Cuando María y José fueron al templo para presentar a Jesús, ofrecieron un par de tórtolas. Esta no era la ofrenda habitual, pero era la ofrenda de una familia pobre. La Sagrada Familia tuvo dificultades económicas, como muchos de nosotros. José, María y Jesús tuvieron que huir a Egipto porque Herodes quería matar a Jesús. Vivieron en el exilio lejos de su hogar, su familia y sus amigos. No tuvieron una vida fácil y no se sabe mucho más sobre ellos, excepto que se amaban y se cuidaban mutuamente. La clave para hacer que cualquier familia sea santa es el amor.

Al celebrar la Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia, recordemos que todas las familias son diferentes. Tienen distintas formas y tamaños y no se limitan a la biología. Considero a muchos de mis buenos amigos como familia. Considero a ustedes, la gente de San Miguel, como familia. Lo que es importante recordar es que ninguna familia es perfecta, pero que todas las familias son santas.

En todas las familias y comunidades, a menudo hay desacuerdo, desilusión y desánimo. Nos enojamos, nos volvemos tercos y, a veces, vengativos. A veces, solo queremos demostrar que tenemos razón. Donde reinan el amor, la compasión y el perdón, Dios está presente. Tómense un tiempo hoy para observar a su propia familia. Los insto a que ignoren las imperfecciones y los defectos de su familia, abran los ojos y vean su bondad y santidad.

Feliz Año Nuevo

El miércoles 1 de enero celebramos la Solemnidad de María, la Santa Madre de Dios. El día de Año Nuevo es un día de precepto. Tendremos una Misa de vigilia el martes 31 de diciembre a las 4:30 p.m. Tendremos una Misa en inglés el miércoles 1 de enero a las 9:30 a.m. y una Misa en español a las 11:30 a.m. Esto debería permitir que todos celebren la Solemnidad de María, la Santa Madre de Dios.

Deseándole a usted y a sus seres queridos un Feliz Año Nuevo,

Padre Frank

LA SOLEMNIDAD DE MARIA, LA SANTA MADRE DE DIOS



MIÉRCOLES 1 DE ENERO, 2025

HORARIOS DE MISA

Martes 31 de diciembre
Misa de Vigilia a las 4:30 p.m.—en inglés

Miércoles 1 de enero, 2025
9:30 a.m.—en inglés
11:30 a.m. - en español

Ministerio Hispano St Michaels

Misa de Año Nuevo Miercoles Enero 1, 11:30 AM



La Santa Misa de la Solemnidad de la Virgen Maria Madre de Dios es una fiesta de guardar y todos estan cordialmente invitados a celebrar este comienzo de año junto a nuestra Madre del Cielo.

ORACION PARA EL AÑO NUEVO 2025

Te pedimos, Señor, que nos bendigas y protejas, que nos ayudes y cuides cada día, cada momento, y nos otorgues caminar por sendas buenas, llenas de paz, felicidad y justicia durante todo el año que comienza. Por Jesucristo nuestro Señor. Amen.

CATECISMO REGRESA
ENERO 9, 2025
Feliz descanso de Año nuevo.



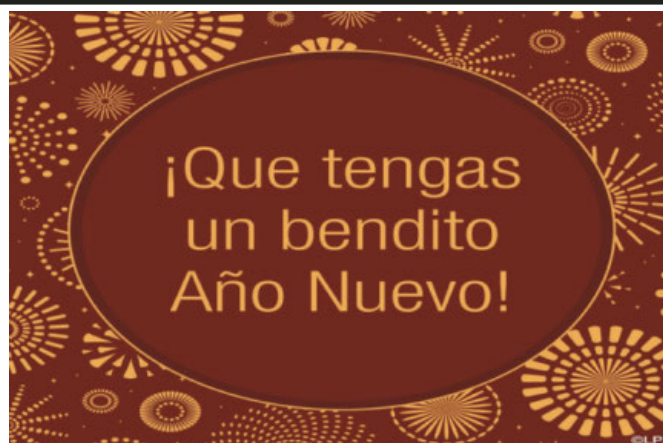
CENA - BAILE DE SAN VALENTIN

Guarda la fecha y compra tus boletos para esta gran fiesta de San Valentin. Cena, barra libre, rifas, música en vivo: grupo invitado Love Secreto. No te pierdas este baile para apoyar a la parroquia y pasar un tiempo agradable.

Sábado, 15 de Febrero 2025 - 6:30 pm
Orland Chateau.

Valor 120 por persona.

Invita el Ministerio Hispano St Michael.





Masses for the Week — December 28 to January 5

Saturday 12/28	8:30 AM	Fr. Paul Burak		
	4:30 PM	Michael Ahl	Tom Hawk	Pedro Velada
Sunday 12/29		Deceased members of Morman & Hudon Families		
	7:30 AM	Richard Marvak	Raymond Wagner	Nieves & Bayani Sanchez
	9:30 AM	Mary Beth Taylor	Patricia Davis	Joe, Jay & Nancy Lauricella
		Rita Beintum	Sarah Gross	George Kramski
	11:30 AM	Patrick O'Boye	Jack Skryd	Arlene Karsky
Spanish →	1:30 PM	Gente de St. Michael		
Monday 12/30	6:30 AM	Dale Stratton		
	8:00 AM	Debbie Burke		
Tuesday 12/31	6:30 AM	Sr. Marietta Umlor		
	8:00 AM	Bruce Miller		
	4:30 PM	Deacon Jim Janicek		
Wednesday 1/1	9:30 AM	Edgar Hield	Bobby Reece	Margie Gallagher
	11:30 AM	People of St. Michael Parish		
Thursday 1/2		No 6:30 AM Mass		
	8:00 AM	Fr. Bill Finnegan		
Friday 1/3	6:30 AM	Deacon Jim Janicek		
	8:00 AM	Jimmy Sabbia		
Saturday 1/4	8:30 AM	Fr. Paul Burak		
	4:30 PM	Gary Michael	Noreen Orr	Michael Ahl
		Marie Cilella	Michael Barabasz	
Sunday 1/5	7:30 AM	Debbie Grzybowski	Daniel J. Waterous	
		Nancy Ann (Cotter), Lauricella & Bud Cotter		
	9:30 AM	Helen Jane Cullinan	Rita Beintum	Sarah Gross
		Helen & Alvin Madess	Frank Komperda and Agnes, Stanley & Matthew	
	11:30 AM	Dolores, Robert & Billy Gorski	John Gillis	John Peter Gillis
Spanish →	1:30 PM	Jose Refugio Zepada		

IMPORTANT YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Due to IRS Regulations, all contributions received through Tuesday, Dec. 31 will be recorded as a 2024 contribution. Contributions made on or after Jan. 1, 2025 are required by law to be recorded as a 2025 contribution, regardless of the type of envelope used or the date written on the check.



If a contribution dated in December was mailed to the Parish Office and **postmarked** on or before Dec. 31, it will be recorded as a 2024 contribution. However, all contributions delivered to the Parish Office in person or postmarked on or after Jan. 1 must be recorded as a 2025 contribution. Therefore, if a check was dated in December 2024 but mailed or delivered to the Parish Office in January 2025, that contribution must be recorded as a 2025 contribution.

We thank you for your generosity and are truly grateful for all you do for St. Michael Parish.

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