Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Baruch 5:5
The Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation is held 3pm-4pm on Saturday, 8am on First Saturday, or by appointment. Please contact the secretary, Cindy Barone at the Parish Office if you are interested in any of the following: Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Christian Initiation of Adults, joining the parish, bulletin ads or Weddings (six months prior to the desired wedding date). To arrange a pastoral visit for Homebound Parishioners please...

**PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION**

Our Parish Office is across the street from the church
Parish Office: 304.242.1560
Parish Fax: 304.243.5710
Clergy Residence: 304.243.5454
Website: www.stmikesparish.org
Email: stmikes@stmikesparish.org
Facebook: St. Michael Parish - Wheeling, "Almost Heaven" West Virginia

**ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL STAFF**

Kim Burge, Interim Principal mrsburge@smpswv.org
Sis Richardson, Administrative Advisor
Shandi Nodurō, Advancement mrsnodurō@smpswv.org
Michelle Patterson, SMPS Bookkeeper mrsappatterson@smpswv.org
Diane Fahey, SMPS Secretary mrsfahey@smpswv.org
Michelle Koval, SMPS Receptionist mrskoval@smpswv.org

**PARISH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION**

School Office: 304.242.3966 Fax: 304.214.6578

**PARISH COUNCILS & COMMITTEES**

Pastoral Council - Leslie Kosanovic, Chairperson
Stewardship Council - Janet Boyle, Chairperson
Buildings & Grounds - Denny Wilson, Chairperson
Finance Council - Tom Galinski, Chairperson

**ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD**

Danielle Doerr - President

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18
Our Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 8
7:30am ✱ Stan Wolen
4:30pm ✱ Joann Pappa

Sunday, December 9
7:30am ✱ Rudolf and Maria Pastur
9:00am ✱ Rosalie Young
11:30am People of the Parish

Monday, December 10
7:30am ✱ Carole Sacco
5:30pm ✱ The Deceased Members of the
   John and Donna Clark Families

Tuesday, December 11
7:30am ✱ Lena Kirchgessner

Wednesday, December 12
8:30am ✱ Margaret Bosold
5:30pm ✱ John R. Bellville

Thursday, December 13
7:30am ✱ Thomas Zoeckler (A)

Friday, December 14
7:30am ✱ Don and Angela Edelen

Saturday, December 15
7:30am ✱ Thomas Hoyt, Sr.
4:30pm People of the Parish

Sunday, December 16
7:30am ✱ Cindy Coyne
9:00am ✱ Chuck Evans (A)
11:30am ✱ Vicki Burns

✱ Signifies person is deceased.

There will be a Communal Advent
Penance Service on December 17th,
2018 at 7:00pm at St. Michael Church.
Please join us!

St. Michael Parish offers its deepest condolences to the
family of

Robert W. Allen

Eternal Rest grant unto him, and let perpetual light shine upon him and all the souls of the faithfully departed.

St. Michael Parish is grateful to our parishioner

Wanda Rusmisel

for her ministry to Peterson Rehabilitation for the past
30 years! Wanda has faithfully administered Holy
Eucharist to the long-term residents of Peterson on a
weekly basis! We cannot thank her enough for her
service and example of stewardship!
God’s Blessings to you!

PRAYERS AND UPLIFTING CARDS NEEDED!

Our dear friend and parishioner,
Jim Bordas, is again in the hospital in Houston, Texas.
His faith is strong and he needs our
prayers. Notes or cards would be
deply appreciated and will help to
keep his spirits up.

Please send your cards to:
Mr. Jim Bordas
5122 Morningside #507
Houston, TX 77005

RICHES
Riches are the instrument of all vices, because they render us capable of putting even our worst desires into execution.
—St. Ambrose

YET TO DO
One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.
—Marie Curie

The Sanctuary Candle beside the tabernacle burns this week
(December 9th - December 15th, 2018)
in memory of
Mary Flaherty
**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

*Multi-week Ministry Schedule is available on St. Mikes' webpage. **Weekday 7:30am December 10—14, 2018
Altar Servers: Jaelyn Vunderink and Levi Rine

**Saturday, December 15th, 4:30pm
Sacristan: Carole Kliner
Lectors: Joe Bourgo and David Post
Altar Servers: Faith and Sara Zende, Grady and Owen Mullin
EMOHCS: Charlene Kirkpatrick, Lucille Otte, Marianne Blair, Donna Clark, Rose Zende

**Sunday, December 16th, 7:30am
Sacristan: Mike Rempe
Lectors: Nathan Stryker and Amanda Castle
Altar Servers: Alex Tarr and Danielle Agcaoili
EMOHCS: Mary Kay Wensyel, Ed and Sally Bowie, Mark Sengewalt, Pat Plunkett

**Sunday, December 16th, 9:00am
Sacristan: Adriana Wolf
Lectors: Elizabeth Wolf and Anita Smith
Altar Servers: Adam Wolf, Grant McCabe, Paige Wurtzbacher and Levi Rine
EMOHCS: Adriana Wolf, Cameron McCabe, Isaac Smith, Jackie and Stan Kaniecki

**Sunday, December 16th, 11:30am
Sacristan: Kristy Riedel
Lectors: Melissa Michael and Doug Blanco
Altar Servers: The Blatt Family
EMOHCS: Robbie DiLorenzo, Barb Varlas, Ted and Margaret Erickson, Jay McLaughlin

Office of Safe Environment:

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word

is held each Sunday during 9am Mass. All 3 year olds through 1st graders are welcome to attend. The presider will call the children up to the front of the church after the opening prayer and before the First Reading.

To donate:
National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017-1194
Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.
Or give at your local parish.

Photo: Sister Clare Vandecoevering, SSMO, 88.
©2018 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.
Photographer: Jim Judkis.
Long before people wore step counters, our parishioners have been walking! I wonder how many steps would have been registered by Tim Lucey and George Gongola.

Have you ever walked the perimeter of the property at St. Michael Parish? It’s bigger than you imagine. Our slice of National Road starts at the church and stretches all the way beyond the Angelus Center to the parking lot next to the EL Villa apartments. The property across the street from the church and school includes the parking lot, the Parish Office and a large lawn behind the office.

I think the best way to appreciate the size of our property is to have a job description which includes lawn maintenance and snow removal! I extend my sincere appreciation to Joe Bourgo who is currently responsible for our parish property. We have Mass at 7:30am every day (8:30am on Wednesday). To have the sidewalks, stairs and parking lots treated by the morning Mass is a Herculean feat which sometimes necessitates a 4am start time.

As we head into the winter months, let’s take this opportunity to review how the weather affects our church and school.

* Adoration is cancelled if Ohio County Schools are cancelled.
* Wednesday morning Mass is at 8:30. The mass time is not changed if school is delayed or cancelled.
* We sprinkle salt to help melt the ice. Ironically, the salt can be slippery, too. Please watch your step.

If the roads are dangerous, please do not risk injury or accident by heading out of your home. The Diocese of Wheeling - Charleston has a Mass which can be watched live on Saturday at 6pm on their website [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org). The Mass is also broadcast on Sunday at 11am on WTRF, channel 804.

**If you’re a snow and ice warrior, we would welcome your stewardship and assistance with the shovel brigade!**

—Wendy Hinerman

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**BULLETIN DEADLINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

As the holiday season approaches, the following bulletin ad submission deadlines are in place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE DATE</th>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 16th, 2018</td>
<td>December 11th, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 23rd, 2018</td>
<td>December 11th, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 30th, 2018</td>
<td>December 18th, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 6th, 2019</td>
<td>December 18th, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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If your ad isn’t received by the deadline, it will not appear in the bulletin. **Keep in mind the December 23rd issue is our Christmas bulletin, due on December 11th!** Any questions, please call Cindy at the parish office, 304.242.1560, ext 0. Thanks!

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**Parish School of Religion (PSR)**

**PSR Updates**

After a great 2018, PSR will begin its winter break after our classes meet on December 16th. We will pick back up on January 6th!

January is a great time to enroll in PSR if you haven’t joined us yet. A reminder that PSR is for any student from age 4 through 8th grade who does not attend a Catholic elementary school. Contact Nick at nmayrand@dwc.org

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**DECEMBER 24**

4PM MASS
7PM MASS
10PM MASS

**DECEMBER 25**

10AM MASS
The parish is looking for families to volunteer to act as greeters for the Christmas masses. We are hoping to have smiling faces at every entrance to the church to welcome parishioners and visitors. There will be a worship aid to hand out to everyone.

In addition, we are also recruiting people that are willing to act as crossing guards for each of the Christmas masses. You will be provided with safety vests, light wands and stop signs. This has been a very well-received service to our parishioners when we have been able to provide it in the past. Please consider helping to make it safer to cross National Road!

We still need volunteers for the following Masses:
Dec. 24th at 7:00pm, and 10:00pm
Dec. 25th at 10:00am

Please contact Kathleen in the Parish Office if you can volunteer for either of these ministries! It is a great way to get involved with the parish community for the holidays!
The parish is seeking a person or persons that would be willing to schedule and organize the Journey of the Chalice program.

The chalice is currently traveling through each grade within our parish school as they pray for vocations; however, this journey will be complete at year’s end.

If you would like to volunteer to schedule individuals to receive the chalice into their homes for a week at a time, please contact Cindy in the Parish Office by calling 304.242.1560.

Thank you!

Your contact information is important to us!

Have you moved? Do you have a new cell phone number? Have you changed your email address? Help us improve our parish communications by emailing stmikes@stmikesparish.org with your new contact information, or call Cindy at 304.242.1560, EXT 0.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John’s birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke’s Gospel of the angel’s announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist’s birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ’s birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn’t big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God’s salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God’s salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can’t get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

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RICHES

Riches are the instrument of all vices, because they render us capable of putting even our worst desires into execution.

—St. Ambrose

YET TO DO

One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.
EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS
Submitted by Shandi Nodurft

- **December 9**: 11:30 Mustang Mass
- **December 12**: Mass led by 7th grade
- **December 13**: Christmas Play 9 am, 1 pm, and 7 pm
- **December 14**: Bake Sale
- **December 19**: Mass led by 6th grade

SMPS would like to thank our Parent Association and especially craft fair coordinator, Mrs. Lisa Mullin, for the hard work and dedication to another successful annual craft fair.
Important Dates For The 2018-2019 School Year

- **December 24th - January 2, 2019:** Christmas Break
- **April 15th - April 22nd:** Easter Break
- **May 24th:** Kindergarten Graduation
- **May 29th:** 8th Grade Graduation
- **May 31st:** Last Day of School/Picnic

Canned Food Drive: Feathers for Francis
Catholic Charities of West Virginia Neighborhood Center Food Pantry received 950 lbs. of canned food from St. Michael Parish School’s Student Council canned food drive. Thank you for your generous hearts and giving hands.

Awesome Authors
We once again had a successful outing at the Ohio County Public Library Awesome Author competition! Six SMPS students were chosen from the many applicants. Congratulations to 5th grade students Isabella Contraguerro and Grady Mullin and 6th grade students Emily Blatt, Gianna Cipriani, Ava Hanson, and Luke Tiu. A special congratulations to Luke Tiu for winning the 6th grade division. Great job everyone and thank you for representing St. Michael Parish School!

Fall Forensic Tournament
Our Forensic Team lead by Mr. Andrew Bellevage and Mrs. Marcy Hartzell had an impressive showing at this year’s first Forensic Tournament held at OLP! Congratulations to all!

TK/K Thanksgiving Program
The annual TK/K Thanksgiving Program went off without a hitch again this year. The students sang wonderful songs of thanksgiving to entertain the families in attendance. A big thank you to Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Dally, Ms. Murphy, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Patty and Mrs. Jeanie who made this program so wonderful!
We need vocalists, instrumentalists and Handbell ringers!!

If you can carry a tune and want to learn, come make music with us. Please contact Chad Carter if you are interested: 304.233.0880 or ccarter@dwc.org.

The Catholic Charities’ Neighborhood Center on 18th Street in Wheeling, WV needs volunteers, especially backup drivers to deliver meals. Through the meal delivery program, the Neighborhood Center feeds about 170 people each day. These individuals are shut in their homes for various reasons, and would otherwise struggle to get the nourishment they need. We are in dire need of volunteers willing to deliver meals to individuals in need of this service. Your support and help is greatly needed and will truly be appreciated.

For more information please contact Keith Miller at 304.242.2278 or Lucille Otte 304.242.3014.

Prayer for Healing within the Church

St. Peter, pray for the church that it may be rebuilt, healed, and made holy.

St. Monica, pray for the abused, survivors, and for justice.

St. Catherine of Siena, pray for reform and restoration of the clergy.

St. John Vianney, pray for the holiness of priests and bishops.

St. Benedict, pray that all evil be cast out of the church.

St. Anthony, pray for us to find a way forward.

St. Paul, pray for the bishops that they may be fearless in confronting other bishops.

St. Augustine, pray for true repentance and transparency.

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death, amen.

Youth Services System of Wheeling is in desperate need of men’s warm clothing. Donations will be accepted at their location on 15th Street downtown.

Attention Lectors!!
The 2019 Lector Workbooks are available for pick-up in the sacristy OR the Parish Office. Please take the time to pick one up! Thank you for your ministry!

St. Michael Parish is in need of volunteers at the 18th Street Center for the first and third Sundays of the month from November thru March. We need people to work 8-11am and 11am-2pm. We will be serving breakfast and lunch. If anyone is able to do this please contact Jacqueline Kaniecki at 304-242-9289. It is a rewarding way to serve our parish and help the community. Thank you!

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Have you experienced divorce and would like to know more about the annulment process? Are you divorced and remarried outside the Catholic Church? Would you like to know how to make your marriage valid in the Church so you can receive the Sacraments again? Please contact Fr. Smay: 304-242-1560, x5 or msmay@stmikesparish.org about the annulment process.

Unfortunately, a lot of people have erroneous ideas about the process. It is doable and Father Smay will help you throughout the process.
Pro Life Corner

Your Spiritually Adopted Baby

Well, your little baby is now 4 months old and weighs 6 ounces. He has fingernails and eyelashes. He has taste buds that are working. His sense of hearing is present at 14 weeks. There are no major bodily developments anymore. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well-formed, internally and externally. All he needs now is time to gain weight and grow strong.

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS:
Northern Panhandle Gabriel Project: 304-639-5039
Birthright International: Helpline: 1-800-550-4900
Aim Women’s Center (Steubenville, OH): (740) 283-3636
Wellspring Pregnancy Center (Moundsville, WV): (304) 810-0292
Post Abortion Support Rachel’s Vineyard: 877 HOPE 4 ME (877-467-3463)
Silent No More: 888-735-3448

WHO WANTS TO BE A "HEAVENLY" MILLIONAIRE?

December 9, 2018

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION In his papal bull “Ineffabilis Deus” Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin. In what year did Pope Pius IX release this papal bull?
A. 1654
B. 1754
C. 1854
D. 1954

Last week’s answer: November 27 is the earliest Sunday on which the Season of Advent can begin.

Please pray for these men and women serving our country in the military, and for their families:
◆ Petty Officer First Class Eric J Auber, US Navy
◆ Staff Sergeant Robert Michael Baker, US Marine Corps
◆ Sergeant Anthony DiBias, US Army
◆ Chief Warrant Officer 4 John DiBias, US Army
◆ Technical Sergeant Andrew G Futey, US Air Force
◆ Lieutenant Andrew Klug, US Navy
◆ Captain Zach Lehman, US Marine Corps
◆ Capt. Michael Neuman, US Army
◆ Major Christopher Nodurō, US Marine Corps
◆ Seaman First Class Cody Patterson, US Navy
◆ Specialist Seth Sleime, US Army
◆ Warrant Officer 1 (W01) Christopher Snyder
◆ Sergeant Major Stephen Spohn, US Army
◆ Sergeant First Class Wendy Spohn, US Army
◆ Lieutenant Colonel Aaron P Tillman, US Air Force
◆ Chief Master Sergeant Patrick Van Franken, US Air Force
◆ Airman First Class Taylor Wilkinson, US Air Force
◆ Airman First Class Sierra E. McKenna, US Air Force
◆ PVT Jacob Ulevich, US Army

Please contact the Parish Office with changes in rank or to add someone to the list. Thanks to ALL who have served or are currently serving!

God bless our military and their friends and families!

COMMEMORATIVE MASS ASSOCIATION (CMA)

The CMA is a special program which allows our parishioners and friends to remember their loved ones in a beautiful way. A total of 18 Masses will be celebrated for the repose of the souls of those inscribed in the Parish Commemorative Mass Association throughout the year of enrollment. The cost to enroll is $50. The bulletin will regularly list the names of those enrolled in the CMA.

At the time of enrollment, you will receive a beautiful leatherette-type folder describing the Commemorative Mass Association. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions or to enroll someone in the CMA.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them and All the Souls of the Faithfully Departed.
From the WLP Vault comes the Bible Story of Christmas featuring 8 Classic Christmas Carols and a reading of the Gospel of Luke 2: 4-20 by Bing Crosby!

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Visit WLPmusic.com to purchase your copy - CD $10.00

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