28 January 2018: St. Michael Parish and School
Celebrating SMPS and Catholic Schools Week 2018
**ST. MICHAEL PARISH STAFF**

Rev. Msgr. Joseph L. Peterson, Pastor  
stmikes@stmikesparish.org

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carter@dwc.org

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mayrand.nick@outlook.com

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jimer@stmikesparish.org

**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**

Jamie Kovalski, SMPS Principal  
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**PARISH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION**

School Office: 304.242.3966  
Fax: 304.214.6578
Website: www.smpswv.org  
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/The.Official.Site.of.SMPS

**PARISH COUNCILS & COMMITTEES**

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

**ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD**

Danielle Doerr - President

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**WEEKLY READINGS**

**Monday:** 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7;  
Mk 5:1-20

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 — 19:3;  
Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12;  
Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;  
Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19,  
22-23; Mk 1:29-39

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**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week

**Wednesday:** St. John Bosco

**Friday:** The Presentation of the Lord; Groundhog Day; First Friday

**Saturday:** St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; First Saturday; Blessing of Throats; Blessed Virgin Mary

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The **Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation** is held 3pm-4pm on Saturday, 8am on First Saturday, or by appointment.

Please contact the secretary at the Parish Office if you are interested in any of the following: Baptism, Matrimony (six months prior to the desired wedding date), Anointing of the Sick, Christian Initiation of Adults, or joining the parish.

To arrange a pastoral visit for Homebound Parishioners please contact Kathleen Dieffenbaugher at the Parish Office.

**Eucharistic Adoration** is held Monday 8am-5pm, 6pm-10pm; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8am-5pm; Wednesday 10am-5pm; Saturday 8am-noon.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection &amp; Attendance Data: Jan. 20/21, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30pm—232</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30am —118</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am—222</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30am —235</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ATTENDANCE:</strong> 807</td>
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1st Collection: $11,929.10  
2nd Collection (Utilities): $1,984.50  
Miscellaneous: $669.00  
**TOTAL: $14,582.60**
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday, January 27
7:30am  Irene Heffner (A)
4:30pm  William Mueller

Sunday, January 28
7:30am  Leona Miller
9:00am  People of the Parish
11:30am Joseph Makee

Monday, January 29
7:30am  Eden Murray
5:30pm  Paul T. Schubert

Tuesday, January 30
7:30am  James T. Greene

Wednesday, January 31
8:30am  Donald William Kiszka
5:30pm  JoAnn Smith

Thursday, February 1
7:30am  Dorothy Fitzsimmons

Friday, February 2
7:30am  Commemorative Mass Association

Saturday, February 3
7:30am  Harold Sleime
4:30pm  Sam & Pasqualina Magnone

Sunday, February 4
7:30am  Undo Sparachane
9:00am  Sr. Carol Hannig, CSJ
11:30am People of the Parish

The Sanctuary Candle beside the tabernacle burns this week (Jan. 28—Feb. 4) in memory of:

The Victims of Opioid Addiction

St. Michael Parish welcomes:
Braden Eric Belancic
son of Eric Joseph Belancic and
Aslynn Shay Reisinger
who was baptized at St. Michael’s
on January 20, 2018

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION
This is the year of St. Paul, and so one of the most visited churches of Rome is also one of the most beautiful: the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. Like so many other churches, it was founded by the master-builder (or financier) Emperor Constantine about the year 315. Paul was martyred outside the walls of the City of Rome at a place called Tre Fontaine, probably on June 29, in the year 65, perhaps the first anniversary of St. Peter’s crucifixion. Christians buried him in a quiet place about two miles away, and visited to pray. Constantine was running low on bricks, apparently, because the first church was tiny. In 386 it was demolished and today’s basilica begun. This vast and towering space looks much the same today as it did in the fourth century.

The centuries have not been kind to ancient Rome, but until the early 1800s St. Paul Outside the Walls survived beautifully, perhaps because it has been assigned for nearly a thousand years to Benedictine monks. It was therefore a vibrant place of daily prayer even through the centuries when Rome was a poor and nearly abandoned city. In 1823 a great fire resulted from a botched repair job to lead on the roof, and St. Paul’s was destroyed. It is said that the whole world contributed to its restoration. Even the Russian czar and the viceroy of Egypt gave alabaster, malachite, and lapis lazuli for the pillars and the tabernacle. Several of the precious mosaics were able to be restored, bringing the ancient basilica back to life. One of the great treasures of the basilica is a set of prison chains, said to have been worn by the Apostle in the last days before his martyrdom. Unlike other Roman churches, St. Paul’s stands in a garden-like suburban neighborhood, surrounded by stately palm trees, gardens, and parks.

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

The community of St. Michael Parish offers our sympathy and prayers for the repose of the soul of…

† JoAnn Smith

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, continue their journey to new life in the presence of God in the heavenly kingdom.
**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

*Multi-week Ministry Schedule is available on St. Mikes’ webpage.*

**Jan. 29—Feb. 2 Weekday 7:30am Altar Servers:**
Grady and Owen Mullin

**Saturday, February 3, 4:30pm**
Sacristan: Joe Bourgo
Lector: AJ Bucon
Altar Servers: T. Komorowski, Laken/Ryan Costanzo, Daniel Goodson
EMOHCS: Joe Bourgo, A. Komorowski, Nathan Blair, Paul Litvak, Charlene Kirkpatrick

**Sunday, February 4, 7:30am**
Sacristan: Mike Rempe
Lector: Benjamin Beckett
Altar Servers: Liam Shinn, Noah Blair
EMOHCS: Carrie Beckett, Tony Miesel, Ed Bowie, Sally Bowie, Mark Sengewalt

**Sunday, February 4, 9:00am**
Sacristan: Maureen McNabb
Lector: Maddie Tiu
Altar Servers: Andrew/Kate Tiu, Jack Adams, Ava Hanson
EMOHCS: Maureen McNabb, Kerry Przybysz, John Moore, Rob Krall, Jennifer Decker

**Sunday, February 4, 11:30am**
Sacristan: Jen Keane
Lector: Tom Conti
Altar Servers: Sarah Keane, Liam White, Amelia Mandel, Isaac Smith
EMOHCS: Jen Keane, Claire Dieffenbaugher, Barb Varlas, Ted Erickson, Margaret Erickson

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Contribution Statements for the 2017 calendar year will automatically be mailed, by January 31, to all families who have contributed a total of $250 or more. Others who may wish to receive a statement should contact the Parish Office, 304.242.1560, x0 or secretary@stmikesparish.org.

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**Journey of the Chalice schedule:**

1/28: Laura & Scott Reed
The purpose of the Journey of the Chalice program is to encourage families to pray and promote vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Praying for vocations is the most powerful way to support vocations. When we pray for vocations, we lift up to our Father those men and women whom He is calling to follow Him in a special way.

**TRUE PROPHETS**

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God’s very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God’s mouth. In Mark’s Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God’s own voice. The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. Some false prophets were extremely popular and quite well-versed in scripture, and even held positions of authority. But in today’s Gospel we learn that Jesus’ fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn’t an authority because he was popular or famous. Elsewhere, we also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God’s purposes. Today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God’s very words filling our mouths.

**SUNDAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: “A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you” (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

**Psalm** — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

**Second Reading** — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

**Gospel** — The people were astonished at Jesus’ teaching (Mark 1:21-28).
**Upcoming Events**

*February 1: Mass @ 7pm to Pray for Opioid Epidemic

*February 11: Scout Sunday @ 9am Mass

*February 14: Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins); Masses at 7:30am, 8:45am, 12noon, 7pm

*February 19: Parish Office will be closed for Presidents Day holiday

** MASS OF REMEMBRANCE & HEALING**

To Pray for all impacted by the Opioid Epidemic

On February 1, 2018 at 7pm, all are invited to a special Mass at St. Michael Church to pray for healing and an end to the overwhelming opioid epidemic that is plaguing our area, our state and our country. As well, we will remember in a special way all whose lives have been impacted by drug abuse and those who have lost their lives due to the effects of drugs. Please come and pray for God’s mercy and healing.

*This Mass is a joint project of St. Michael Parish of Wheeling & St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Elm Grove.*

**PURSUIT Youth Event:** On January 28 in the St. Vincent Parish Hall from 12:30-2:30pm, the Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will be offering a program entitled Pursuit. This FREE event will be an inspiring, fun and faith filled time for teens and parents that includes praise and worship music, prayer and a message of Christ’s presence with us. It will be a great opportunity for parents and teenagers (6th-12th grade) to have a fun and spiritually enriching evening together. St. Vincent’s will provide a light lunch at the beginning of the event.

**Please Note!**

PSR families, please make a note on your calendars of a schedule change for later this spring. We will NOT meet for PSR on Palm Sunday (March 25th). Instead, PSR students will be offered the opportunity to help lead a unique version of Stations of the Cross in the Angelus Center that afternoon at 1pm. Stay tuned for more details!

As usual, please direct any questions about PSR to Nick Mayrand at nmayrand@dwc.org.

**St. Michael Parish received an anonymous gift of $1,000 from a generous parishioner via the American Funds Company. To this parishioner, we say “Thank You!” If you need a record of this generous contribution for tax purposes, please contact the Parish Office.**

**Lent starts on February 14, 2018…**

**PALM BRANCHES:** Lent begins with the solemn celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 14. The ashes that will be imposed on our foreheads come from the palm branches from the previous Lent. Please bring in your palm branches to the church vestibule so we can burn them for Ash Wednesday 2019. Thank you!

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Begin on Friday, February 16. Please contact Fr. Bill if you would like to read for the stations: wmatheny@dwc.org or 304-242-1560, ext 7.

**EXTRA WEEKDAY Masses:** During the season of Lent, we will have 5:30pm Masses each day, Monday through Thursday, starting the week of Feb. 19. Please contact Fr. Bill if you would like to lector for the additional evening Masses.
Until last year, my many years of education experience were in the public school system. I was a teacher, district coordinator, and assistant superintendent. I had built a great career, but in my heart, something was missing! My son was in school and my daughter was in Lil’ Cherub’s here at St. Michael Parish School. I had the opportunity to bring my daughter to class one day, as normally she came with my mom or babysitter. It hit me, that THIS place was what was missing for me and my family. It was God’s plan that the principal position was vacated, and I was able to interview for the job.

As the 2018 Catholic Schools Week approaches I want to personally thank all of our school families and St. Michael Parish members who have supported us this year. We have had a very busy school year which seems to move with greater speed every year. The students have been working very hard learning many new skills, extending their faith formation, and creating everlasting friendships. This year we have welcomed Mrs. Kathleen Yelenic to Preschool 4, Ms. Shawna Murphy and Mrs. Rose Zende to Transitional Kindergarten, Mrs. Chelsea LaRue to 3rd Grade, Mrs. Jessica Zwack in 4th Grade, Mrs. Arianne Goneau in middle school Social Studies, Mrs. Jenn Byrum and Miss Kristin Cooper to our middle school math program, and most recently, Mr. Ryan Wolf as our school wide music teacher.

Some new curriculum has been introduced this school year, and we have ongoing professional development to continue to provide our students and families with the first class instruction that St. Michael Parish School is known for. I am very excited to see how our students and staff will continue to grow over this school year and in years to follow.

One of this year’s Religion goals is to implement whole school prayer and religious projects. We have been implementing school wide prayer devotionals that are done during our homerooms and can be see throughout our school walls. Each grade is now creating a religious piece of artwork that will be framed and hung in the halls of the school. Students will be able to look at these throughout the years and, when they come back after graduation, they will be able to see a piece of their own work that will be used to inspire students and teachers for years to come.

Finally, I want to applaud all of our parents and parishioners who have helped out with our fundraisers and fellowship events. The money which was raised has exceeded what we could have ever thought. This generosity is what has helped us to continue to implement strong academic and faith filled programs. Even better, the sense of community that is generated is priceless!

I am forever grateful that I listened to my calling and came to SMPS. With every new journey there are bumps in the road. This adventure is no different. However, we have a wonderful family consisting of faculty, staff, students, parents, and parishioners that have banded together to continue to make our school the best it can possibly be. At St. Michael Parish School, we like to think of ourselves as a family and “together we can do great things.” The doors are always open. At any time, please come in and visit our students and see what great things are happening!!

Love and Prayers,

Jamie Wilson Kovalski
St. Michael Parish School Principal
WHO WANTS TO BE A “HEAVENLY” MILLIONAIRE?

PRAYERS AND DEVOTIONS

The Divine Mercy devotion was revealed to Saint Faustina who lived in this country:
A. Czech Republic
B. Germany
C. Lithuania
D. Poland

Last week’s answer: The name of Moses means “I drew him out of the water”

PRO-LIFE CORNER

A Prayer for Life

O Most Holy Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, from your gentle hand flows the gift of life.

To your sons and daughters
You have given the role of stewards to care for all of your creation from womb to tomb.

Hear us as we pray for a greater respect for all of life throughout our world:
- that the unborn may be born.
- that the child may be safe.
- that the teen may be prepared.
- that the young adult may be other-centered.
- that the adult may be selfless.
- that the aged may be revered.
- that the dying may have dignity.
- that the deceased may rest in peace.
- that the resources of creation may be used well.
- that all your creation may be blessed.

Having served you loyally on earth, may we obtain the rewards of everlasting life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

AOH Scholarship

The Bishop Whelan Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Wheeling, WV is offering three $1000 scholarships.

Applicants must be seniors and attending a high school in Ohio County or Marshall County in West Virginia or Belmont County in Ohio. Scholarships are to be used for tuition or school expenses only and to be used to pursue post-secondary school education, such as a two year college degree, a four year college degree, a trade school or other acceptable post-secondary education or training. All applicants must have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Each person will be judged on his or her grades, reference letter, extracurricular school activities, knowledge of Ireland and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, civic and religious activities and the required essay.

The deadline for submission of an application is: March 17, 2018. Application and details can be found at https://aohwheeling.shutterfly.com/scholarship

TRIVIA NIGHT

Who will go home with bragging rights for being the “brightest bulb” in the parish?

Come out for the SMPS Trivia Night on March 3 @ 7pm! It’s an evening of fun and a good fundraiser for our parish school.

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
- Lieutenant Andrew Klug, US Navy
- Captain Zach Lehman, US Marine Corps
- Capt. Michael Neuman, US Army
- Major Christopher Nodurft, US Marine Corps
- Seaman First Class Cody Patterson, US Navy
- Specialist Seth Sleime, US Army
- Sgt. Christopher Snyder, US Army
- Sergeant First Stephen Spohn, US Army
- First Sergeant Stephen Spohn, US Army
- Lieutenant Colonel Aaron P Tillman, US Air Force
- Chief Master Sergeant Patrick Van Vranken, US Air Force
- Airman First Class Taylor Wilkinson, US Air Force
- Airman First Class Sierra E. McKenna, US Air Force

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!
Catholic School’s Week Agenda
January 28- February 3, 2018

Sunday-- Celebrate the Parish
• SMPS Masses (9:00 and 11:30)
• Students will lead Masses & wear uniforms

Monday-- Celebrate the Community
• Penny Drop-Classroom Competition & Canned Food Drive-Grade Level Competition Monday—Friday. Please try to bring in pennies and non-perishable food items all week.
• Wear Your Wings Day (with dress down)
• Class selected service projects

Tuesday-- Celebrate the Nation
• Red, white, blue dress down
• Bomb Popsicles provided by Ziegenfelder Company

Wednesday-- Celebrate Families
• Penny Drop & Canned Food Drive
• “Souper Bowl” soup collection

Thursday-- Celebrate Academics
• Blue and Gold Dress Down Day
• Penny Drop & Canned Food Drive
• Academic games
• No homework
• Dine to Donate at Texas Roadhouse
• 7/8 St. Michael vs St. Michael basketball game
• Free admission with SMPS gear
• 50/50 Raffle

Friday-- Celebrate Students
• Penny Drop & Canned Food Drive
• No tests
• NFL team color dress down
• Movie and popcorn
• Pep rally & team recognition
• Students vs. Faculty game
Dear Parents,

Thank you for participating in the Texas Roadhouse (THH) Gift Card FUNdraise (GFPR). This is an amazing opportunity to help raise funds for our teachers. Your efforts will help us purchase needed classroom materials on our TEACHER WISH LIST.

Please consider purchasing a $15, $25 or $50 gift card to use for the DINE TO DONATE evening on February 1st to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Families buying a gift card that is approximately what they would spend for their family to have dinner will support this fundraiser with a 20% return instead of 10%.

All money and order sheets must be turned in to the school office by Friday, January 26th. This is a provider arrangement as the Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards will sport the SHPS logo. They will be distributed students no later than Feb 1st.

Gift cards and an invitation to our Dine to Donate night will be sent home on or before Thursday, February 1st.

Please don’t forget to make checks payable to “St. Michael Parish School or SHPS.”

Thank you in advance for your support. The combined efforts of all the students and teachers are going to really add up!

Blessings,
Shandi Nodurft
Advancement Coordinator

JANUARY

January 28th-February 3rd:
Catholic Schools Week

February 1st: Texas Roadhouse Dine to Donate 4-8 pm

The Box Top Committee would like to give a big shout out to Koda Nizami and Nathan Dieffenbaugher for being our top Box Top collectors on our January 11th shopping day. They both brought in over $25.00 in Box Tops!

Using your Box Top App, please look at the items and see if you need 5 of the 50 offered in the in-store bonus offered from 1/1/18-1/31/18. It will earn 50 bonus Box Tops for each 5 purchased. If you need help with the app please stop by my office and I’ll be happy to help you!

Mrs. Nodurft 304.242.3966 ext. 4

A special thank you to this week’s hot lunch volunteers:
Missy Tiu, Julie Blake, Kathleen Dieffenbaugher, Beth Schmidt, Dana Tiu, Jennie Adams, Brenda Steiniger, Susie Nau, Nora McGee and McKenzie Keane!

Sponsor a Student

Have you ever considered sponsoring a student for tuition assistance for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year? We have several school families in need of tuition assistance. If you are willing and financially able, please consider this tax-deductible donation. Tuition for one child is $3480, for two children $6000, and for three or more children $8110. If you are able to provide assistance or have questions regarding this program, please call Shandi Nodurft for further information at 304.242.3966. If your child has benefited from a quality Catholic education at St. Michael Parish School, perhaps you would consider offering that gift to another child. Many families are struggling in our present economy and could truly use some help. Thank you for your consideration!

St. Michael Parish School would like to thank the Paul W. and Virginia Blake Foundation for their very generous gift of $20,000 in support of tuition assistance for our school. We are blessed by such generosity. Thank you!

A special thank you to this week’s hot lunch volunteers:
Missy Tiu, Julie Blake, Kathleen Dieffenbaugher, Beth Schmidt, Dana Tiu, Jennie Adams, Brenda Steiniger, Susie Nau, Nora McGee and McKenzie Keane!
Small Group Lenten Bible Study

“THE MISSION OF JESUS”

In an effort to build small Christian community and fellowship within the larger parish community, **St. Michael Parish will offer a Bible Study Program during Lent.** This will be a five-part video/discussion series called “The Mission of Jesus.” We invite as many parishioners as possible to join small study groups which will be held at the homes of individual parishioners or in the parish office conference room during the first five weeks of Lent. You can sign-up with any discussion leader(s) you prefer; the list of discussion leaders will be published in next-week’s bulletin and will continue until the program begins on Sunday, February 18th. We encourage as many parishioners as possible to sign up (no cost and no homework!) and get to know their fellow parishioners and Jesus Christ a little better. You can sign up with Cindy Barone, Parish Secretary (304-242-1560, x0), secretary@stmikesparish.org.

For questions and information, call either Bill Bryson (304-242-0303) or Lou Volpe (304-277-5211).

The Stewardship Council of St. Michael Parish will be joining with St. Michael Parish School to do a parish-wide canned food drive for the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center during the annual celebration of Catholic Schools’ Week.

The parish will collect canned goods at all Masses to kick off and to end Catholic Schools’ Week. The school will then do a daily collection and compete with other grade levels to see which grade can bring in the most! The canned goods will be weighed on a daily basis, with the help of Staci Spry’s Mail Center Plus — the grade level that donates the most pounds of food at the end of the week will be rewarded! The greater reward; however, will be for our friends at the Neighborhood Center who are in need of some extra help during the cold winter months!

Please plan to bring non-expired, dry and canned goods for donation to any mass on the weekends of Jan. 27/28 and Feb. 3/4.

Troop 5 Boy Scouts are having their annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, 11 February from 8:30 to 11:30 am in the school cafeteria. Please join the Boy Scouts for pancakes and sausage. Thank you for your support of Scouting. Donations accepted.

**AN ANGEL TREE THANK-YOU**

You have helped make this Christmas season wonderful for our boys here at The Children’s Home of Wheeling by your generous donation. Knowing that people like you care about our boys and want to make this a special time helps to brighten the spirits of the children.

Often the boys who are with us have never experienced the joy and festivities of the Christmas season. Thanks to your generosity, Christmas was delightful and brighter here at The Children’s Home this year.

Your donation is appreciated and thank you again for thinking of the boys at The Children’s Home of Wheeling.

*Louise M. Paree, Executive Director*
**UPDATE ON SACRED HEART PARISH:**  
*Rockport, Texas*  (see pictures to the right)

I want to thank everyone for your financial support and prayers for the good people of Sacred Heart Parish in Rockport, Texas, after they suffered major damage from Hurricane Harvey. Fr. Ray Yrlas, the pastor, will be sending the parish a thank you letter soon. He has been swamped with a lot of work to get the parish and school back into operation and working with the representatives from FEMA and the Diocese.

The grade school building was condemned. It suffered too much damage to be repaired. Equipment was destroyed. After having no school the first semester, the staff, faculty, and students finally returned to school on January 4 in modular buildings.

Likewise, the parish office, gym, and parish hall suffered major damage and will not be repaired. The winds ripped off the roof of the parish office. The parish office now operates out of a trailer. In the other two buildings, portions of walls and roofs were blown off.

Because the church building is a solidly built brick and stucco structure, it received minimal damage. The rectory likewise experienced minor damage because it is adjacent to the rear of the church and was protected from the worst winds.

Once again, thank you.  
Fr. Bill

**YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS:**

*Sunday, January 28:  At 12:15pm, Mrs. Imer will meet any interested youth group members at the Angelus Center and she will transport them to St. Vincent Church for the Pursuit Program which will last until 2:30pm. Parents are asked to pick up their students at St. Vincent’s Parish Center at 2:30pm. This gathering is a fun, faith-based event. Last year, St. Michael Parish hosted Pursuit and it was a huge success as we had approximately 50 students who attended. Mrs. Imer is hopeful that a large group of youth turn out again this year — please contact her to let her know if you are planning to attend!*

*Sunday, January 28:  High School Youth Group  6-7:30pm in the Angelus Center*
The Fish Fry is returning to St. Michael Parish.

Plan to join us on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday) for great food and fellowship! Food will be served from 4-7pm with take-out available.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, FRANCE

Fr. John Beckley, SM, the chaplain at Good Shepherd Nursing Home, Wheeling, will be participating in a pilgrimage to Lourdes from July 2-11, 2018. It is sponsored by the National Rosary Pilgrimage and the Lourdes Bureau of the Marist Fathers in Boston. If you would like to consider making this pilgrimage, an itinerary is available at the parish office or by contacting Fr. Beckley (johnbmarist@aol.com).

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.

World Marriage Day:
Join us Saturday, February 10, 2018, for an evening of celebrating your love and the blessing of your marriage together at St. Vincent de Paul Marist Center.
Cost of the evening is $45 per couple. Reservations are required and must be made no later than Feb. 7. For more information, contact the Beiter’s at 304-238-4904 or the Reed’s at 304-242-8156.

Marriage Preparation for Engaged Couples
A New One-Day Retreat
February 24th or March 17th
8:30am.-8:00pm.
St. Michael Parish
1225 National Rd.
Wheeling, WV
$40 per person
(includes materials and 3 meals)
Register and pay online at: WVMarriage.org/RegisterPFCM
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Department of Formation and Mission

MONTHLY FIRST FRIDAY MASS:
Mount Calvary Cemetery: Bishops’ Chapel
All are welcome as we celebrate this Mass in honor of our beloved family members and friends and all buried in this cemetery who have gone before us in faith.
February 2, 2018 @ 5:30pm
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Please Contact Our Recruiter at: 800-621-5197, Ext. 2823

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