Behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

— Matthew 2:9
St. Michael Parish Mission Statement:
In the tradition of St. Michael the Archangel, Guardian of all, we are a Roman Catholic community called to bear witness to Christ through sacrament, stewardship, worship, and proclamation of the Gospel.

ST. MICHAEL PARISH STAFF

Rev. Carlos L. Melocoton Jr., Pastor
cmelocoton@dwc.org

Rev. Martin J. Smay, Associate Pastor
msmay@dwc.org

Wendy F. Hinerman, Business Manager
whinerman@stmikesparish.org

Kathleen Dieffenbaugher, Stewardship Director
kathleen@stmikesparish.org

Cindy R. Barone, Secretary/Admin
secretary@stmikesparish.org

Mark and Amy Phillips, Parish Catechesis Coordinators
mark.anthony.phillips@gmail.com

Chad Carter, Liturgical Music Director, Organist
ccarter@dwc.org

Jenny Imer, Youth Director
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

Kim Burge, Interim Principal mrsburge@smpswv.org
Shandi Nodurin, Advancement mrsnodurin@smpswv.org
Sis Richardson, Administrative Advisor
Michelle Patterson, SMPS Bookkeeper
mrs patterson@smpswv.org
Lisa Mullin, SMPS Secretary mrs mullin@smpswv.org
Michelle Koval, SMPS Receptionist mrs koval@smpswv.org

ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
Tami Magruder - President

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 - Janet Boyle, Chairperson
Buildings & Grounds - Denny Wilson, Chairperson
Finance Council - Tom Galinski, Chairperson
Personnel Council - John Moore, Chairperson

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

Eucharistic Adoration is held Monday 8am-5pm, 6pm-10pm; Tuesday, Thursday, Wednesday 10am-5pm; in the Adoration Chapel. Adoration on First Fridays of the month from 8am Friday until 7am Saturday in the main church. Please contact Cindy Barone at the Parish Office if you are interested in Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Christian Initiation of Adults, joining the parish, bulletin announcements, a pastoral visit for homebound or hospitalized parishioners, or Weddings (six months prior to the desired wedding date).

Your Parish Office is open 8am until 4pm Monday-Thursday and 8am until noon each Friday.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week
Monday: St. André Béssette
Tuesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; Julian Calendar Christmas

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 5, 2020

They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. — Matthew 2:11b

CANDLE OF PEACE

This candle burns in spirit with everyone whose trust was betrayed by the Church that we love. We pray for the grace to forgive and to act with justice. Grant that all who have been harmed may find peace.
I hope you enjoyed the front cover of our December 22, 2019 bulletin. In addition to the Fourth Sunday in Advent, it is the bulletin which was distributed to our parishioners and visitors on Christmas. We wanted to make the cover extra special and decided to use a photograph of our outdoor nativity. The project required an entire team.

On a Friday afternoon, Denny Wilson, John Carenbauer, Mike Rempe and Damion Saunders set up the stable and pounded stakes into the ground which would be used to support cut evergreen trees. On Saturday morning, another church steward picked up four trees at a local lot and delivered them to the front lawn of the church. Sunday morning our Catechesis Coordinator, Mark Phillips and our eighth grade PSR students set up the trees, scattered straw and added strings of white lights. On Tuesday, Joe Bourgo added the manger, Mary, Joseph, three kings and the animals.

The crèche was not going to be lighted until Lessons and Carols on December 16. Therefore, to meet the bulletin deadline, Chad Carter and his son, Joey, were on the property for a late night photo shoot. Joey’s snapped the photo and it was sent to our bulletin editor, Cindy Barone, who used it for the bulletin cover.

The team work involved with a single photograph is indicative of the spirit of cooperation and teamwork which makes our parish and parish school so special! I look forward to the New Year and a continuation of a community known for stewardship, collaboration, partnership and support of one other.

—Wendy F. Hinerman ♥
Multi-week Ministry Schedule is available on St. Mikes’ webpage.
Weekday Mass 7:30am Altar Servers:
January 6 - NEEDED
January 7 - NEEDED
January 9 - NEEDED
January 10 - Sam & Liam Shinn

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 one of the Bishop’s designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263

St. Michael Parish is grateful for the following contributions made in memory of our dearly departed:

Marcy & Jamie Hartzell, David & Launa Post, and Roberta & James Boucher in memory of Rosie Kluth

David and Launa Post in memory of Cathy Abraham

Frank and Donna Shalvis, The Von Gontard Family Foundation, and Corey and Mike Pietranton in memory of Jim Bordas

Eternal rest grant unto them Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them and all the souls of the faithfully departed.

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, before the First Reading.

Weekend Data for December 21/22, 2019

Attendance Data:
4:30pm — 207
9:00am — 236
7:30am — 127
11:30am — 247
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 817

Collection Data:
1st Collection: $7,929.00
2nd Collection: $2,312.98
Miscellaneous: $1,445.31
Online: $606.50
Total: $12,293.79

*Catholic Sharing Appeal this week: Not Available

*All money donated to the Catholic Sharing Appeal from now until January 31, 2020 will be returned back to the parish 100% - without any diocesan taxes. Simply put - every penny contributed to the Catholic Sharing Appeal will be used for St. Michael Parish! All end of the year donations to St. Michael Parish will be processed through the Catholic Sharing Appeal.
St. Michael Parish welcomed the following people to our parish in the year 2019:

Father Carlos L. Melocoton Jr.
The Carmalt Family
The Lowry Family
The Kovalski Family
The Sayre Family
The Forget Family
Ms. Marilyn Poulain
Ms. Nancy Morris
The George Family
Mr. Logan Young
Ms. Mary Lors Algeri
The Stetor Family
Mr. Larry Zani
The Kinnison/Bellano Family
The Rodak Family
The Patterson Family
Mrs. Pat Buch
The Oliver Family
The Anthony Family
Ms. Eileen Ridgely
The O’Brien Family
The Deluca-Merola Family
Miss Molly Gallagher
The Buch/Hand Family
Mrs. Donna Haney
Mr. Joseph Baker
The Kirby Family
Mrs. Eleanor Coen
Mrs. Ruth Miller
The Miller Family
Mr. Michael Bush
The Veltri Family

We are happy that you are part of our St. Michael Family!!

Consider enrolling your family in the CMA:
Commemorative Mass Association

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 (as seen above) 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.

St. Michael Parish extends sincere condolences to the friends and family of

Diana Antill

May she rest in peace Lord, and may Eternal Light shine upon her and all of the souls of the faithfully departed.
Wheeling's Corpus Christi Parish Mission

Finding God
Through Saints, Mary & Food!

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 14-16, 2020
(SAT, SUN, MON)

Father Leo Patalinghug, the cooking priest, that beat iron chef Bobby Flay in the show "Throwdown! With Bobby Flay" as our parish mission speaker.

For more information, contact Corpus Christi Parish their website at corpuschristiwheeling.org or call (304) 277-2911.

You can also email us at Office@CorpusChristiWheeling.org

Chillin’ with Carlos

Are you ready to kick back and relax after the seasons of Avent and Christmas? Father Carlos invites you to hang out with him and enjoy libations and light fare.

We will still be collecting money for our Catholic Sharing Appeal and your contribution to the “tip jar” will be greatly appreciated. All money in the tip jar will go directly to St. Michael Parish and School.

See you on Thursday, January 16th, 5pm until 7pm at the Angelus Center.

Please join us! RSVP to smikes@stmikesparish.org. or call the Parish Office at 304.242.1560, ext 0.

2019 Tax Statements

Please contact Cindy Barone at the Parish Office at 304.242.1560 or secretary@stmikesparish.org if you would like to receive a 2019 Tax Statement sent to you. The 2019 Tax Statements will be mailed in late January to everyone who donated $250.00 or more to St. Mikes during the year.

Please contact us if you are interested in joining me to start a community of young adults, ready and active to serve your Parish Community.

Please join us in the Parish Office, the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6pm, starting January 16th, 2020.

We will have a meal to share!

CONTACT ME - FR. CARLOS
304.242.1560
WE ARE ST. MIKES – AND WE NEED YOU!!

Our parish depends on you and your generous stewardship as you share your time, talent and treasure. Listed below are some of our ministries and programs. Please consider joining one or more. If each of us gives a little, all of us can receive a lot!

- Adult Bible Study
- Altar Servers
- Angel Tree
- Bakers
- Baptism Preparation
- Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts
- Bread Runs
- Buildings and Grounds Committee
- Catholic Charities Volunteers
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- Confraternity of Christian Mothers & Christian Women
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Festival Committee
- Finance Council
- Funeral Luncheons
- Greeters
- Holy Name Society
- Homebound Ministers
- Knights of Columbus
- Lectors
- Linen Fairies
- Liturgy Committee
- Music Ministry
- Parish School of Religion
- Pastoral Council
- Prayer Chain Ministry
- Pro-Life Committee
- Reception Workers
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
- Rosary Devotion
- Rummage Sale Committee
- Sacristans
- Stewardship Council
- Ushers
- Youth Group

Contact our Stewardship Director:
Kathleen Dieffenbaugher
(kathleen@stmikesparish.org) at the Parish Office or call 304.242.1560 for more information about any of our programs.
EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS
Submitted by Shandi Nodurft

Important Dates For The 2019-2020 School Year
♦ Jan. 17th: Noon dismissal
♦ Jan. 20th: No school; MLK Day
♦ Jan. 26– Feb. 1st: Catholic Schools Week
♦ Jan. 28th: Early Childhood Open House
♦ Jan. 30th: Dine to Donate; Quaker Steak & Lube
♦ April 4th - April 14th: Easter Break
♦ May 29, 2020: Last Day of School/Picnic

Wheeling Hospital’s Well-Doll Clinic
For over 36 years, Wheeling Hospital’s Family Medicine Program has provided an amazing program annually for nearly 200 preschool students from Ohio and Belmont counties. The Well Doll Clinic familiarizes children with physician and hospital environments so they are less anxious when they have to visit the doctor or are admitted to the hospital. Children are invited to bring their favorite doll or stuffed animal to the hospital.

TK travels to Sweden!
TK traveled to Sweden to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Lucia as part of our Christmas Around the World unit, and delivered Lucia buns to Mrs. Burge. The Swedish tradition is to have the oldest daughter of the family (Evelyn Folmar) put on a white robe with a red sash and wear a crown of evergreens and candles. She delivers coffee and Lucia buns to her parents accompanied by other children and star boys with pointed hats and star wands.

Merry Grinchmas!
Mrs. Dally and Mrs. Bowman, along with their kindergarteners, celebrated Grinchmas before we left for Christmas vacation. It was a GRINCHY good time!
5th-8th Grade Grandparent’s Day

Thank you to all of the grandparents that joined us for 5th-8th GPD on December 11th. Breakfast was prepared by our wonderful volunteers and served by the grandchildren! A special thank you to Jessica Galbraith and the Parent Association for providing the breakfast for our grandparents.

Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0359761, AmazonSmile donates to St. Michael Church and School?

Kroger Community Rewards Program allows shoppers to earn money for a designated organization every time you shop at Kroger using your Kroger Plus Card. Simply choose SMPS as your designated organization and quarterly Kroger will donate a percentage of your purchases to St. Michael Parish School!

Did You Know?
Did you know that our starting teacher salary at St. Michael Parish School is only 63.33% of a teacher working for Ohio County Public Schools? Did you know that we have a Teacher Fund that was established in 2012 to create an endowment to help supplement teacher salaries in the future. If you wish to contribute to the Teacher Fund please contact Advancement Coordinator, Shandi Nodurft at mrsnodurft@smpswv.org.

Save the Date!
Quaker Steak & Lube Dine to Donate Fundraiser
Thursday, January 30
Thank you so much to all of the families that participated in the Quaker Steak Fundraiser. We raised $440.00!

That’s debatable!
Mrs. Przybysz and the 8th-9th social studies had a heated debate on the practice of using animals for medical and cosmetics testing.
Join us for the MLK Walk

St. Michael Parish will once again participate in the walk Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, which begins at 2 pm Sunday, Jan. 19. We’ll meet at Windmill at the top of Wheeling Hill and process to the Fourth Street United Methodist Church at 1060 Chapline Street. It’s best to park near this church before the march – there will be buses to transport you to the top of the hill.

If you can’t join us for the walk, please come to the Interfaith Prayer Service that follows the march. It will begin at 3 p.m. at the Fourth Street United Methodist Church at 1060 Chapline St. It’s always an inspiring event.

And please make plans to stay for the Community Meal afterwards. It will be served at 4 p.m. at the YWCA Wheeling, which is just across the street from the church. Keynote speaker is Huntington Police Chief Ivin B. Lee, West Virginia’s first female police chief. A $5 donation is requested to help cover the cost of the meal.

If you have questions, please contact Janet Boyle at 304.242.3892, or janet.boyle@comcast.net.

New Year, New Church? Are you worn out watching from the pew as the Catholic Church in West Virginia reels from one scandal to another? Do you think our church leadership should be doing more to help heal and correct past actions?

ACT: A Church Together will host a meeting on Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 PM in the Recital Hall, located on the ground floor of the Center for Educational Technology building (the Challenger Center) at Wheeling University. This is your opportunity to hear what ACT has accomplished at St Michael’s Parish, as well as meet groups from Pittsburgh and Morgantown who are working daily to make the Catholic Church better and more accountable. Please join us for a discussion on what you can do to help renew, restore and rebuild your parish and our Church. For questions, please call Emma or Craig O’Leary at 304-242-6196.

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON
(1774-1821) January 4

Though her liturgical designation is “Religious,” Elizabeth Seton, her feast-day prayer reminds us, was also wife, mother, educator, foundress. Born into a wealthy Episcopalian family, Elizabeth married William Seton, whose untimely death in Italy where the young family sought healing for William’s tuberculosis, left her, at twenty-nine, a widow with five children. Inspired by the faith and charity of the Italian family with whom they stayed, Elizabeth embraced Catholicism despite her family’s disowning her and ceasing financial support. This woman of many firsts (and several vocations!) opened the first free Catholic school, beginning the American Catholic educational system, and founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. The tuberculosis that claimed her husband took also her oldest and youngest daughters and, finally, at just forty-seven, Elizabeth herself. Another first: in 1975 she was canonized the first native-born American saint. Once asked to summarize her spirituality, she replied: “Faith lifts the staggering soul on one side, hope supports it on the other, experience says it must be, and love says let it be!”

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

ILLNESS They are as sick, that surfeit with too much, as they that starve with nothing.
William Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice

FULFILL TODAY If what you did yesterday still looks big to you, surely you have not done much today. —Anonymous
January 2020
13 - Stewardship Council Meeting
15 - Pastoral Council Meeting
16 - Young Adults Meeting with Fr. Carlos
16 - Chillin’ with Carlos, Casual Cocktails
16 - ACT Meeting
20 - Parish Office Closed
23 - Finance Council Meeting

The Faith Sharing Group will begin the new year with a study of the book, Philippians, Colossians, Philimon.

These letters of Paul were written to encourage the faithful while Paul was imprisoned. The message of these letters still have meaning in the twenty-first century.

The group meets in the Parish Office on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:30. For more information please contact Janell Knorr at 304.242.0020 or janellknorr@gmail.com.

Check out FaithInWV.org

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has rolled out FaithInWV, and it is all presented online through a new website - FaithInWV.org.
It is an online pathway to stories, photos, and videos of how our people in West Virginia are following Christ by actions and choices.
FaithInWV is giving hope, rising above the odds, being a blessing, and leading by example. It is choosing to find the good in others, and letting others see Christ in you.
Ultimately it is having faith in God the Father above all. Learn how our brothers and sisters in Christ are doing His work. Let’s imitate their love, joy, strength, and resilience through the website.
Do you know an exceptional Catholic in West Virginia, someone or a group who is a shining example of FaithInWV? Email Bibey your feature idea to jbibe@dwc.org.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Epiphany can be understood as an extension of the Nativity of the Lord that we celebrate on December 25. While at Christmas we celebrate Jesus’ coming as the long-awaited king and Messiah of the Jewish people, on Epiphany we celebrate the revelation that Jesus is the Savior and Light of all nations—Jews, Gentiles, and all people.

The star shines so brightly that it attracts magi who come from far distant countries to worship Jesus. They are not Jews, yet they are drawn to the Light of the world. The letter to the Ephesians reveals that the Light of the world was for the Gentiles as well as the Jews—Christ gathers all people into the light of his love. The reading from Isaiah also describes a gathering of diverse peoples, but this time it is to the light that emanates from the people of God. 

HEROD AND THE EPIPHANY

Why impious Herod, vainly fear That Christ the Savior cometh here? He takes no earthly realms away Who gives the crown that lasts for aye.

—Crudelis Herodes Deum, Tr. by J. M. Neale

Pray for Vocations
O Mary, who raised your Divine Son with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, intercede for all young people, especially those clouded by doubt about their vocations. May the light of grace pierce their hearts so they may answer your Son’s call, especially those whom He is inviting to the priesthood and consecrated life. Amen.

Eucharistic Adoration Schedule

- We have 24 hour Adoration on the First Friday of the month beginning at 8am.

- Monday thru Friday Eucharistic Adoration will now be in the Adoration Chapel (except for the First Fridays).
City Passes Pro-Life Resolution Declaring ‘Every Human Being is Unique and Precious to God’

by Micaiah Bilger  https://www.lifenews.com/2019/12/12/

“An Indiana city just joined a growing list of communities that are taking a public stand for unborn babies.

WBTA 21 reports the city council of New Haven passed a pro-life resolution Tuesday, declaring that ‘the protection of all human life is important to the people of New Haven.’

The resolution states the scientific fact that human life begins at conception, and [it] recognizes that ‘every human life is unique and precious to God and humankind…”

“…The resolution also urges the community, schools and businesses to support pregnant and parenting mothers and fathers.

“…The town is believed to be the first in Indiana to pass a pro-life measure, but more than a dozen local governments in other states [including, Texas, New Mexico, New York, Utah] have passed similar resolutions and ordinances this year. An ordinance is a municipal government law or regulation. A resolution is a statement of support or opposition, but it is not legally enforceable…”

Please pray for these men and women currently serving and also those who have served our country in the military (not listed), and for their families:

♦ Petty Officer First Class Eric J Auber, US Navy
♦ Staff Sergeant Robert Michael Baker, US Marine Corps
♦ Major Jeremy Deguzman, US Air Force
♦ Sergeant Anthony DiBias, US Army
♦ Technical Sergeant Andrew G. Futey, US Air Force
♦ Specialist Matthew Graney, 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
♦ Warrant Officer 1 (WO1) Christopher Snyder
♦ Sergeant Major Stephen Spohn, US Army
♦ Sergeant First Class Wendy Spohn, US Army
♦ Lieutenant Colonel Aaron P Tillman, US Air Force
♦ Airman First Class Taylor Wilkinson, US Air Force
♦ Senior Airman Sierra E. McKenna, US Air Force
♦ PFC Jacob Ulevich, US Army

God Bless Our Military!

If it SNOWS...

Old Man Winter is here! In the event of snow, WE DO NOT CANCEL MASS. We do however, need help with our property to keep it safe for our parishioners.

In the event of a snowfall, we are deeply appreciative of anyone who arrives with shovel in hand! No special invitations are issued, but be assured that we are grateful for our snow stewards!

Also, we would ask that if you are able-bodied, please park at the Angelus Center when you come to the church during the week or weekends so that the infirmed and elderly can park closer to the church during these cold winter months.

Eucharistic Adoration Schedule in Inclement Weather

In the event that Ohio County Schools are cancelled, then Adoration is cancelled. School delays don’t affect Adoration hours.

Kindly note that the area of the parking lot beside the church alongside of the Blessed Mother statue is marked a RESTRICTED AREA AND A NO PARKING ZONE. Thank you for your cooperation.