From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

Mark 10:6-8
ST. MICHAEL PARISH STAFF

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

Rev. William K. Matheny, Jr., Associate Pastor
wmatheny@dwc.org

Rev. Martin J. Smay, Associate Pastor
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Wendy Hinerman, Business Manager
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secretary@stmikesparish.org

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

Nick Mayrand, Director of Religious Education
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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
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Shandi Nodurft, Advancement mrsnodurft@smpswv.org
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Michelle Koval, SMPS Receptionist mrskoval@smpswv.org

PARISH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

School Office: 304.242.3966 Fax: 304.214.6578
Website: www.smpswv.org
Facebook: 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

ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
Danielle Doerr - President

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c;
Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15;
Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13;
Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Respect Life Sunday
Monday: Columbus Day;
Canadian Thanksgiving Day
Tuesday: St. Denis and Companions;
St. John Leonard
Thursday: St. John XXIII
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

bury your troubles

When I dig others out of trouble, I find a place to bury
my own.
—Anonymous

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 contact Kathleen Dieffenbaugher at the Parish Office,
Ext 9. Please contact Cindy at the Parish Office to arrange a pastoral visit for a hospitalized parishioner.

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

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

Collection & Attendance Data: Sep 29/30, 2018

4:30pm — 214 7:30am — 122
9:00am — 207 11:30am — 207

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 718

1st Collection: $9,992.85
2nd Collection: $1,664.00
Connect Now; Online Giving: $2,151.00
Miscellaneous: $426.50
TOTAL: $14,234.35

Building on Our Legacy to Date - $33,835.00
Our Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday, October 6
7:30am  John Fragale
4:30pm  Steve Carter (A)

Sunday, October 7
7:30am  Sandy Pell
9:00am  People of the Parish
11:30am Kimberly Diane Shockey

Monday, October 8
7:30am  Pauline Allison
5:30pm  Doris Petri (A)

Tuesday, October 9
7:30am  Nicholas and Elizabeth Goble
6:30pm  NAMI Mental Health Awareness Prayer Service

Wednesday, October 10
8:30am  Rosemary Villanova
5:30pm  Knights of Columbus

Thursday, October 11
7:30am  Elizabeth Yurkovac

Friday, October 12
7:30am  Dorothy Kerwood

Saturday, October 13
7:30am  Albert Cinque
4:30pm  Alice Rovnak

Sunday, October 14
7:30am  John and Mary McFadden
9:00am  Susie Saseen
11:30am People of the Parish

Memorial contributions have been made for our brother and sister who have gone before us in the hope of rising again...

In memory of
Kathy Burgoyne
From
James and Janet Warsinskey
Vincent Gallagher
Denny and Gretchen Wilson
Dr. Donald Hofreuter

In memory of
Ronald High
From
Louis and Amy Petrini

Eternal rest grant unto them Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them

Baptism

St. Michael Parish extends a warm and happy welcome to the newest members of our Catholic Church!

We welcome Elizabeth Lee Szeligo, parents Richard Lee Jr., and Ashley Szeligo, baptized on September 22, 2018.

We also welcome Mila Capri Moray, parents Nicholas and Lauren Moray, baptized on September 29, 2018.

The Sanctuary Candle beside the tabernacle burns this week (October 7th - October 13th) in memory of
Jack McNabb

BANNES OF MARRIAGE
Second Banns: Nathan Stiffler and Meghan Billick, both of Prince of Peace Parish in Sun City Center, Florida.
First Banns: Brad Becca, non-Catholic, and Olivia Tarr, Saint Michael Parish.
LITURGICAL MINISTERS

*Multi-week Ministry Schedule is available on St. Mikes’ webpage.*  **Weekday 7:30am October 8-12, 2018

Altar Servers: Owen and Grady Mullin

Saturday, October 13th, 4:30pm
Sacristan: Carole Kliner
Lectors: Brann Altmeyer and Sharon Bourgo
Altar Servers: Thomas Komorowski, Noah and Ryan Blair, Ava Hanson
EMOHCS: Staci Spry, Linda McCabe, Andrew Komorowski, Paul Litvak, Charlene Kirkpatrick

Sunday, October 14th, 7:30am
Sacristan: Mike Rempe
Lectors: Benjamin Beckett and Jeep Naum
Altar Servers: Dawson Zwack, Benjamin Halicki
EMOHCS: Joe Roxby, Bob Fanning, Carrie Beckett, Tony Miesel, Mary Kay Wensyel

Sunday, October 14th, 9:00am
Sacristan: Maureen McNabb
Lectors: Marcy Hartzell and Jacob Dailer
Altar Servers: Andrew Hartzell, Olen Ames, Will Medovic, Paige Wurtzbacher
EMOHCS: Maureen McNabb, Camille Basinger, Isaac Smith, Jackie and Stan Kaniecki

Sunday, October 14th, 11:30am
Sacristan: Kristy Riedel
Lectors: Tom Conti and Melissa Michael
Altar Servers: Kelly and Abie Riedel, Ryan and Laken Costanzo
EMOHCS: Kristy and Madie Riedel, Adrienne Michaud, Robbie DiLorenzo, Barb Varlas

Children’s Liturgy of the Word is held each Sunday during 9:00am 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.

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.

The 11:30am mass is in need of people that are willing to be trained as sacristans. Please contact Kathleen in the Parish Office if this is something that you would be interested in learning! What a great way to step up for our parish! kathleen@stmikesparish.org OR 304-242-1560 ext. 9.

Invitation to Public Lecture:
“Believing in a Sinful Church”
Consider joining us for a timely public lecture and book signing with Dr. Brian Flanagan, author of Stumbling in Holiness: Sin and Sanctity in the Church. Dr. Flanagan will deliver this lecture on Tuesday, October 23rd at 7:30pm in Wheeling Jesuit University’s CET Recital Hall. This event is co-sponsored by WJU and the Diocesan Department of Formation and Mission, and is open to both students and the broader Wheeling community. Contact Dr. Andrew Staron at astaron@wju.edu or Nick Mayrand at nmayrand@dwc.org
I’m convinced that a Mansuetto Meatball food booth would be a big hit at our summertime parish festival. Kathleen Dieffenbaugher and Matt Mansuetto are the keepers of their mother’s recipe for traditional Italian meatballs. They’re absolutely delicious! It’s a family recipe and a well-kept secret.

It’s fun to keep some secrets; a surprise birthday party, a high school crush, or a meatball recipe. Something which doesn’t need to be kept a secret is mental illness. Last year I wrote a reflection for our bulletin and I shared the fact that my father was diagnosed with bipolar disorder when he was a young man. For six decades he struggled with his mental instability and the fear that people would think less of him if they knew he had a mental illness. He was my dad and I dearly loved him. His mental illness was a challenge, but it was never a source of shame.

We have come a long way in the way we treat people who struggle with mental illness. Gone are the days when people were institutionalized or hidden away from society. And, the days of keeping mental illness a family secret are distant memories.

On Tuesday, October 9, please join me for our annual Prayer Service on Mental Illness. At the close of the evening, all are invited to light a prayer candle in honor of a friend or loved one who suffers with mental illness. I’ll be lighting a candle in memory of my father, William A. Fluty.

---Wendy Hinerman

St. Michael Parish and NAMI Wheeling to Host Interfaith Prayer Service on Mental Illness

St. Michael Parish will again join NAMI Wheeling in hosting an interfaith service to pray for families struggling with mental illness at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9th. The event, which will take place at St. Michael Church at 1225 National Road in Wheeling, has been held every year for more than a decade as part of National Mental Illness Awareness Week.

The prayer service, which will be led by Rev. William Matheny, and is part of St. Michael Parish’s stewardship activities.

This year’s speaker will be Jacqui Hores, who will share her courageous battle against anxiety and depression. NAMI Wheeling Executive Director Amy Gamble, a nationally known advocate, will speak briefly about NAMI’s efforts to educate the public and fight the stigma of mental illness. Everyone who attends the vigil will have the opportunity to light a prayer candle in honor of a friend or loved one who suffers with mental illness. Refreshments will be served at an informal social gathering following the service.

---For information, call Kathleen Dieffenbaugher, St. Michael Parish stewardship director 304.242.1560 or email her at kathleen@stmikesparish.org.

St. Michael Parish has an opening for the position of Rectory Housekeeper. Duties include:
- Dusting and polishing furniture and fixtures
- Cleaning and sanitizing bathrooms
- Making beds and changing linens
- Vacuuming and cleaning carpets and rugs
- Laundry and ironing

The candidate must be reliable, trustworthy and respectful of confidentiality. The position is part-time, approximately 8-12 hours per week. If you are interested, please contact Wendy Hinerman at whinerman@stmikesparish.org

October 14th - 7th and 8th Grade Youth Group Meeting 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Angelus Center

October 15th - 3rd and 4th Grade Youth Group Meeting 3:15pm to 4:30pm at Angelus Center

October 21st - Youth Group will sponsor a car for Trunk or Treat

October 28th - 5th Grade thru High School - Mass and Bonfire at St. Vincent Parish

On Thursday, Oct. 11, at 6:30 p.m., Wheeling Jesuit University's Appalachian Institute will host an interactive panel discussion on the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights and how these rights apply in Appalachia.

The panel will include WJU professors of history, philosophy, and criminal justice and an expert on the experience of rural blacks in Appalachia from WV Wesleyan. The event, which is co-sponsored by the City of Wheeling Human Rights Commission and Catholic Charities West Virginia, will be held in the Erickson Alumni Center in the Center for Educational Technologies at WJU and is free and open to the public.

CCHS Hockey Steak Fry will be held on Saturday, October 13 at Sonneborn Shelter.

Tickets are $25 and can be purchased in the main office, at the Hair Loft in Fulton or by calling 304-232-5340.

Central Catholic High School OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY OCTOBER 21 12:30-3:30 It’s Always Right Time at CCHS www.CCHSKnights.org
THANK YOU, ALTAR SERVERS, FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SERVICE!

EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE
Lillian Bischof
Isaac Smith

SIX YEARS OF SERVICE
Danielle Agcaoili
Emma Nodurft
Alexandria Tarr
Noah Blair
Kelly Riedel
Elizabeth Wolf

FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE
Andrew Hartzell
Adam Wolf
Abigail Riedel

THREE YEARS OF SERVICE
Jimmy Brogan
Ryan Linder
Isaac Schmitt
Thomas Komorowski
Grant McCabe
Kate Tiu
Faith Zende

TWO YEARS OF SERVICE
Ryan Blair
Laken Costanzo
Sarina Dieffenbaugher
Ben Halicki
Mason Schmitt

ONE YEAR OF SERVICE
Jack Adams
Dominic Brogan
Jocelyn Dally
Sarah Keane
Will Medovic
Owen Mullin
Levi Rine
Liam Shinn
Jaelyn Vunderink
Paige Wurtzbacher
Olen Ames
Ryan Costanzo
Parker Jasko
Amelia Mandel
Grady Mullin
Joseph Nodurft
Kendall Schmitt
Luca Swartz
Liam White
Sara Zende
Dawson Zwack

NEWLY TRAINED – SUMMER 2018
Luca Benson
Emily Blatt
Lauren Blatt
Ashlyn Combs
Brodie Kovalski
Eli Sancomb
Sam Shinn
Karli Yocum
Annabella Blatt
Kaila Blatt
Olivia Blatt
Matthew Criniti
Seth Mandel
Luke Sancomb
Arianna Swartz

I WILL BRING YOU HOME
SONGS OF PRAYER, STORIES OF FAITH
CONCERT AND BOOK TOUR

Join David Haas for this extraordinary event. David will take you on a musical journey of song and reflection born from over 40 years of liturgical composition. Visit www.davidhaas.org/calendar to see when David will be near you!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 7:00 PM
ST. MICHAEL PARISH
1225 NATIONAL ROAD
WHEELING, WV 26003
A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.
CONTACT: CHAD CARTER (304) 242-1560
CHURCH WEBSITE: WWW.STMIKESPARISH.ORG

This concert is generously sponsored by the Congregation of St. Joseph.
The Serra Club of Wheeling and The Knights of Columbus Carroll Council #304

David’s books and CDs will be available for sale before and after the concert. Please bring cash or check as we cannot accept credit or debit cards. Thank you!

Parish School of Religion (PSR)

Our PSR continues to meet each Sunday morning from 10:15am -11:15am. Last week, the students enjoyed a surprise visit from Fr. Bill! He stopped into each classroom and spent some extended time with our 8th graders as they prepare for Confirmation.

Did you know that we are offering a Sunday School class for Kindergarten and four-year old children? Dee Dean, a former pre-school teacher at Saint Michael Parish School, is teaching the class. Currently, we have two Kindergarten students and one four year old. We can take more children!

Questions about PSR? Contact Nick Mayrand at nmayrand@dwc.org
Continuing the Conversation in Prayer

To continue our parish community’s response to the abuse crisis, we invite you to join us for a Mass on October 16th at 6:30pm in the church. To follow the Mass, we will gather in the school cafeteria for conversation and reflection through a creative communal prayer flag project.

Please direct any questions about this event to Stewardship Director, Kathleen Dieffenbaugher at 304-242-1560 OR kathleen@stmikesparish.org.
Our Eighth Annual Angel Walk will be held on Friday, Oct. 12th at the Wheeling Jesuit University track.

We thank Wheeling Jesuit University for once again sponsoring this annual event and for serving as the host site for this special event!

If you wish to join our partners in becoming an Angel Walk Corporate Sponsor please contact Shandi Nodurft, Angel Walk Coordinator at mrsnodurft@smpswv.org or 304.242.3966.

Parishioners wishing to give a donation to the Angel Walk may donate online at www.smpswhv.org or pick up a form in the back of church.

Opening ceremonies begin at 9:30! Come out for fun, fitness and fellowship!

Angel Walk Corporate Sponsorship

PLATINUM PLUS ($1000 TO $1249)
- Everything listed under Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze
- Corporate name/logo on PERSONALIZED THANK YOU SIGN AT THE WJU TRACK DURING THE ANGEL WALK

PLATINUM ($750 TO $999)
- Everything listed under Gold, Silver and Bronze
- Corporate name/logo on ANGEL WALK T-SHIRTS

GOLD ($500 TO $749)
- Everything listed below Bronze
- Corporate name listed on SCHOOL WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

SILVER ($250 TO $499)
- Everything listed below Bronze
- Corporate name listed on PRESS RELEASE

BRONZE ($100 TO $249)
- Corporate name listed in ST. MICHAEL PARISH CHURCH BULLETIN (Potential exposure to 1,200 parishioners)
- Corporate name included in our PRESS RELEASE.
- Corporate name listed in the ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL BI-WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER. (Potential exposure to 700+ readers)
- Public recognition at the Angel Walk event on October 12, 2018

Introducing the legacy art wall! This project began in 2017. All students were asked to create an individual work of art to then be compiled into a grade level piece. These beautiful works will remain on the walls for our students and those visiting our school to enjoy. Our hope is that in years to come SMPS alumni will come back to visit us and to see their artwork from years gone by. A special thank you to Quenton and Cathy Northcraft for their financial support, the time they spent putting the pictures in the frames and design planning for hanging the pictures. We would also like to thank Doug Allen for the hours he and Quenton spent hanging the pieces in the school hallway. The project is more beautiful then anyone could have imagined!

Thank you so much!
Craft Fair 2018
The annual SMPS Craft Fair will be held on December 1, 2018 in the Angelus Center. The table fee is $50 for one 8 ft table or 2 tables for $65. Table reservations are due by October 30, 2018. If you would like more information, please contact Lisa Mullin by sending an email to smpscraftfair@gmail.com or calling 304.231.7648.

Our Angel Walk Corporate Sponsors

Platinum Plus
Dr. Douglas Robertson, PLLC
Fitzsimmons Law Firm

Gold
West Virginia Catholic Foundation
Rebecca L. Bench Law Office
Przybysz Family Practice
Paree Insurance Centers
In Memory of Dick Hohman
Fort Henry Capital
Mansuetto Roofing & Sheet Metal
Mandel and Tatch DDS, PC
Dr. Jeremy J. Tiu, MD

Silver
Myers & White, LLC
Wheeling Jesuit University
Central Catholic High School
Zigenfelders Inc.
Lou W. Nau, Inc.
Matt Jones Preowned Auto

Bronze
Richardson Copy Concepts
Sport Your Colors, LLC
Riesbeck's Food Market

Our first Grandparent’s Day of the school year is on Wednesday, October 17th. Invitations went home with your grandchild last Wednesday for grades TK-2. Please complete the form and send it into your grandchild’s teacher. Grandparents are invited to visit their grandchild’s classroom at 8:15 and then to proceed to church for 8:30 Mass. Following Mass, students and their grandparent will proceed to the Angelus Center for entertainment, a craft and some sweet treats. We will conclude by 10:30.

TRUNK OR TREAT IS ALMOST HERE!!
The fall weather is making brief appearances, and maybe you’re ready to start thinking Halloween?! “TRUNK OR TREAT!” will be here before we know it! Here is what you need to know to get involved in this fun, family friendly activity at SMPS.

What is it?: “TRUNK OR TREATING” is a new spin on trick-or-treat. Families host a treat station out of the back of their cars (that’s the TRUNK part). Kids then trick-or-treat in a safe environment around a parking lot. In our case, it will be held in the Angelus Center lot. Hot dogs, popcorn, and drinks are also available!

When is it?: Our event is Sunday, October 21st from 5:30-7:30 pm. If you are a participating trunk, you should expect to arrive at the Angelus Center lot between 4:45-5:15.

What do I have to do?: This is the fun part! You decorate your trunk (it doesn’t have to be elaborate, but often families go all out) in a Halloween theme. Dress up if you want also! Purchase candy for our little monsters (300-400 pieces should be good). Also, please do not use any fire in your display. We don’t want our little goblins to get hurt!

What does it cost me?: NOTHING to set up a trunk except the cost of decorations and candy. We do not charge you to set up your trunk. That is your donation to the community. We charge $5 per child to trunk-or-treat.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...and use the signup.com link here to find out a little bit more and help with this fun event!

http://signup.com/go/EKaVKvJ

The more trunks we have the better experience for our kids!!! Please consider registering a car in October.

Submitted by: Jacob & Adrianne Manning

St. Michael Parish Church and School requests your presence at our

WINNER, WINNER CHICKEN DINNER!

Date: Saturday, October 27, 2018

Celebrity Servers
Time: 5:30-7 pm
Take-Out Available
Place: St. Michael Angelus Center

Entertainment: Students grades 1-8 singing every 15 minutes!

Cost: $8.00 Adults, $5 Children, 3 & under free
△ 50/50 Raffle
Raffle tickets: 1 for $1.00 or 6 for $5.00
△ Hoop Hop Showdown

Special thanks to our hot lunch volunteers: Jen Decker, Nicole McConnaughty, Tina Greer, Julie Blake, Chrissy Andrews, Paula Magruder and Sue Simpson!
ANOTHER LOOK AT ABORTION

By 18 weeks in your mother’s womb, you could swim, somersault, suck your thumb, and even cover your ears if you heard loud music.

Uniquely You

From your first moments of existence, you had all the DNA that would determine your sex, facial features, physique, and the color of your skin, hair, and eyes. At 24 days, your heart began beating. By 8 weeks, all your organs were present, and your unique fingerprints were forming. Ultrasounds show that by 18 weeks, you could swim, somersault, suck your thumb, and even cover your ears if you heard loud music. If you’d been born just 23 weeks after conception, your chance of survival would be 50-80 percent; by 25 weeks, it’s over 90 percent, and that’s still months before full-term birth.

Now, if someone takes an innocent person’s life after he or she is born, it’s against the law just minutes before birth, it’s legal in most states and called abortion. The only real difference is a declaration by the United States Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade (1973).

Abortion Is Permitted Up to Full-Term Birth

Many people don’t realize how unrestricted legal abortion is, misled by Roe’s claim that states may ban abortions after viability “except: when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother.” (“Viability” is when the baby has a reasonable chance of survival outside the womb.) But in Roe’s companion case, Doe v. Bolton, the Court defined “health” to include “all factors—physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman’s age—relevant to the wellbeing” of the mother. That seems broad enough to permit virtually any abortion post-viability.

The Supreme Court, however, has yet to be confronted with a challenge to a post-viability ban that will test Roe’s breadth. Indeed, 20 states currently ban late-term abortions subject to a narrow exception for the mother’s life or health (not for emotional, psychological, familial, or age-related reasons). Most of these laws have gone unchallenged, but they are hard to enforce even if they are constitutionally permissible.

Effects of Abortion

Abortion results in the death of a child. For many mothers, abortion causes severe and long-lasting emotional, psychological, and spiritual trauma. Many women experience overwhelming guilt, shame, and grief. Other effects have also been documented: depression, withdrawal from others, eating disorders, self-punishing behaviors like “cutting,” sexual dysfunction and problems with intimacy, alcohol and drug dependency, problems bonding with other or subsequent children, abortion-related nightmares, and other sleep problems.

Family relationships may suffer as the aborted child’s father, grandparents, or other family members experience their own guilt, grief, or loss. Even if the mother keeps her abortion secret, family members can be distressed by changes in the mother’s behavior and mental or emotional health.
What the Church Teaches

The Church has consistently taught that every human life is precious and worthy of protection. Every intentional abortion is gravely wrong. In April 2018, Pope Francis wrote: “Our defence of the innocent unborn … needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development.”

The Church does not approach difficult pregnancy decisions with a false “either/or” mentality, pitting mother against child. For example, a baby conceived in rape is not an aggressor deserving death by abortion. She is innocent, like her mother. They both deserve compassionate care and support, not more violence. Abortion doesn’t bring healing or peace, but both can be found in the courageous decision to give birth to the baby.

Today, many babies diagnosed prenatally with a disability are aborted. Frightened parents, unsure of their ability to care for such a child, can trust that God gave them this child for a reason. Parents raising children with disabilities often write about the unexpected joys and transformative effect on their families.

Even when the disabilities are so severe that the baby is likely to die before or soon after birth, “many parents who carried their children to term say that protecting their baby and honoring his or her natural life, no matter how brief, was profoundly healing.”

Very rarely, continuing a pregnancy may put a mother’s life at risk—for example, because of a tubal pregnancy or aggressive uterine cancer. It is morally licit to remove the threat to the mother’s life by removing the cancerous uterus or the fallopian tube where the child implanted, even though it is foreseeable that the child will die as an indirect and unintended result of such surgery. But abortion—a direct and intentional taking of a child’s life—is never morally permissible.

What Are We to Do?

Love them both! Support women who need help during and after difficult pregnancies through the work of your diocesan Respect Life office and local pregnancy care centers.

Educate yourself and others about struggles some experience after abortion, and find out where to refer those seeking help at www.hopeafterabortion.org. If you feel called to support your local ministry, contact your diocesan Project Rachel Ministry office for ways you might help.

Stay informed about key federal legislation and the voting records of your elected representatives by visiting www.humanlifeaction.org and www.usccb.org/prolife. Stay updated on state issues by signing up to receive information from your state Catholic conference or diocesan pro-life office.

Most importantly, pray daily for the end to abortion, that all mothers and children experience the loving support of the Church community, and that all who suffer after abortion find healing and peace.
**WHO WANTS TO BE A 'HEAVENLY' MILLIONAIRE?**

**SAINTS** This bishop was arrested for praying; convinced a wolf to return a woman’s stolen pig; most famous for healing a boy choking on a fish bone; martyr; patron saint of throat ailments; feast day is February 3:

A. Benedict  
B. Blaise  
C. Boniface  
D. Stanislaus

*Last week’s answer: Genevieve is the patron saint of Paris.*

The West Virginia “Hunters Helping the Hungry” respectfully requests your monetary assistance in helping feed our WV brothers and sisters who need it the most. This organization teams with the WV Division of Natural Resources in ensuring our needy are fed. Please call Tyler Evans at 304.924.6211 or email him at tyler.s.evans@wv.gov for more information. Thank you!

**Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner**

Bring your friends, family and your big fat Italian appetite! Don’t miss this *delizioso* event!

When: October 7th, 2018  
Time: Noon until 6pm  
Where: Angelus Center  
Why: Fundraiser for Youth Group  
Cost: $7.00 adults  
$4.00 kids 10 and under

Take-Out Orders are Available!

St. Michael CM/CW would like to thank everyone who donated items, worked or supported our sale in any way. We raised over $1,000 for the St. Michael School field trip fund. The leftover toys, baby items and clothes were donated to the Gabriel Project and Youth Service Systems. Both organizations were grateful for our donations. Thank you for your support!

**The annual “Enjoy Books” are going on sale October 10th! These make great gifts! The books have many new coupons this year. Pre-order is available! For more info call Donna Clark at 304.243.1659 or dlclark51@gmail.com.**

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  
- Warrant Officer 1 (W01) Christopher Snyder  
- Sergeant Major Stephen Sphon, US Army  
- Sergeant First Class Wendy Sphon, 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  
- 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!**
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