



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

Saturday Vigil	4:00pm
Sunday	8:30am
	10:30am
	12:30pm
	5:00pm

Daily

Monday-Friday	6:30am
Monday-Saturday	8:15am
Wednesday	6:00pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2:00pm on first and third Sundays.
Pre-Baptism class is at 2:00pm on second Sunday. All by appointment.
Sponsors need letter from their pastor.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

2:30-3:30pm every Saturday;
Weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30pm every Wednesday.
Anytime upon request.
(Call for appointment.)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

No date should be set prior to seeing a priest or deacon six months before desired date.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish office.

614.885.7814

SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG
5750 NORTH HIGH STREET
WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



FIND US ON
facebook
facebook.com/stmichaelworthinton

SAINT MICHAEL STAFF DIRECTORY

Website: saintmichael-cd.org

Parish Office: 614-885-7814

MINISTERS TO THE PARISH

Pastor: Fr. Michael J. Lumpe

Parochial Vicar: Fr. David Johnstone

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Transitional Deacon: Dcn. Sam Severance

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Dcn. Klaus Fricke (Retired)

Pastoral Minister: Sr. Riya Mary

srriya@saintmichael-cd.org

Youth Minister: Jake Asuncion

jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org

Director of RCIA: Jake Neal

jneal@sjhcc.org

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Kris Jesse

kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org

Office Manager: Kathy Trafford

ktrafford@saintmichael-cd.org

Receptionist/Secretary: Rhonda Marinelli

rmarinelli@saintmichael-cd.org

Marketing & Communications: Rebecca Lund

rlund@saintmichael-cd.org

Campus Facility and Safety Director:

Steve Moore

smoore@saintmichael-cd.org

Safe Environment Coordinator: Bethany Cook

bcook@saintmichael-cd.org

Choir Director/Organist: Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL

Website: stmichaelworthington.org

School Office: 614-885-3149

Principal: Sr. Mary Regina, O.P.

principal@stmichaelworthington.org

Preschool Director: Laura Wells

lwells@stmichaelworthington.org

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Athletic Association Representative: Liz Trolli

smaa@saintmichael-cd.org

Knights of Columbus Representative:

Mike LaMorte

grandknight@kofc11445.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

svdps@saintmichael-cd.org

SAINT MICHAEL INFORMATION CENTER



LOW-GLUTEN HOST

If you are in need of a low-gluten host, please scan this QR code for full details.



NEW MEMBERS

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. We are often asked to provide affidavits for parishioner standing. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. You can register by scanning the QR code above or by visiting our website at www.saintmichael-cd.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

To submit a bulletin request, the request must be made no later than 12:00 p.m., Monday. Send bulletin requests to rlund@saintmichael-cd.org with "BULLETIN REQUEST" in the subject line with all details and contact person for questions. Early submission deadlines may be required surrounding holidays. All bulletin requests are subject to approval.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

St. Michael's Homebound Ministry is available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound. If you or a loved one within St. Michael Parish boundaries would like someone to bring the Eucharist to you, please reach out to Sr. Riya Mary to coordinate. She can be reached by calling the Parish Office or by emailing srriya@stmichael-cd.org.



ONLINE GIVING

St. Michael offers online giving as a convenient tool for you to use. Scan the QR code to learn more or to set up online contributions.

ADORATION CHAPEL

There is no better way to spend an hour of your week than in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider signing up for Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m., Thursday morning through 9:00 p.m., Friday evening. Adoration is available at all other times with the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle. Registration is easy to do from your phone. Visit StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com to sign up. You can also visit the Church on Wednesdays for our weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30 p.m. each week.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 7, 2024

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 6

4:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Sunday, July 7

8:30 a.m. Special Intention of Anthony Masic (Michael Fry Family)
10:30 a.m. Special Intention of Stan Bradham (Rosemary & Mark Pomeroy)
12:30 p.m. + Deacon Mickey Hawkins (Deacon Klaus & Sharon Fricke)
5:00 p.m. + Msgr. Paul Langsfeld

Monday, July 8

6:30 a.m. + David Rocchi (The Lund Family)
8:15 a.m. + Anne Crerand (Deacon John Crerand)

Tuesday, July 9

6:30 a.m. + Lily Schuldheis (Joe Fiala)
8:15 a.m. + Pasquale Pizzuti (The Pizzuti Family)

Wednesday, July 10

6:30 a.m. Needs of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm
8:15 a.m. Needs of the Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist
6:00 p.m. + Jody Munhall

Thursday, July 11

6:30 a.m. + Ordination Class of 2004
8:15 a.m. + The Spiritual and Tangible Needs of our Parish

Friday, July 12

6:30 a.m. + Fr. Vinny McKiernan, CSP
8:15 a.m. + Ed Ferkany (Jeanne Ferkany)

Saturday, July 13

8:15 a.m. + Harold Ridenour
4:00 p.m. + Teresamae Faricy (Kathleen Faricy-Eide)

Sunday, July 14

8:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
10:30 a.m. + Patricia Scott
12:30 p.m. + Fr. Ronald Schmelzer
5:00 p.m. + Jerry Freewalt

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

JUNE 30, 2024:

Envelopes \$ 10,260.05
Online Giving \$ 11,004.00
Total: \$ 21,264.05



BAPTISMS
*CONGRATULATIONS ON
THE BAPTISMS OF*
**ZELIE FELICITY LADUKE
&
CORNELIUS GEORGE
WALDMILLER**

PARISH CALENDAR JULY

SUNDAY July 7	Friendship Sunday after all Masses 2:00 p.m. Baptism (C)	Thursday, July 11	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 6:00 p.m. Festival Planning Meeting (MH) 6:00 p.m. Respect Life Ministry Meeting (UMR)
Monday, July 8	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U) 6:30 p.m. K of C 4th Degree Meeting (LMR) 7:30 p.m. K of C Meeting (LMR)	Friday, July 12	Eucharistic Exposition (AC)
Tuesday, July 9	11:30 a.m. Live Wires (Villa Nova) 6:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Outside)	Saturday, July 13	9:30 a.m. SVDP Meeting (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C) SVDP Truck from 12:00-6:00 p.m. (Parking Lot)
Wednesday, July 10	6:00 p.m. Mass followed by Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY July 14	SVDP Truck from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Parking Lot) 2:00 p.m. Baptism Class (UMR) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (UMR)

(U) = Undercroft/Cafeteria, (S) = School, (C) = Church, (G) = Gym, (MH) = Marian Hall, (SL) = School Library, (UMR) = Meeting room on the first floor of the Parish Ministry Center, (LMR) = Meeting room in the basement of the Parish Ministry Center, (AC) = Adoration Chapel

FROM THE PASTOR

ON THIS FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Jesus goes home and encounters a people who basically choose not to believe His teachings nor in Him as Lord and Savior because they claimed to “know Him” – know Him from way back when: *“Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?”* And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, *‘A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.’* So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.” (Mark 6:2-6)

Folks, we are constantly faced with a choice – and our choices have consequences. Either we believe in Jesus Christ, or we don't. Either we choose to live our lives in witness to Jesus Christ, or we don't. We can make up our own version of Christianity and Christian living, but we would be fools to do so, for in doing so we are putting words in Christ's mouth and making Him in our image and likeness, rather than humbly submit to His ways, and lovingly embrace His teachings which are the words of everlasting life. Of course, this “choice” – follow the way of God and His Son, Jesus Christ, or follow the thoughts of humanity – has been going on for eons, and by studying history, we know the outcomes. Without realizing it, people often begin to change their faith from one of faithful and loving obedience to the divine and loving God to one of compliance with civil laws and jurisprudence, preferring opinions and beliefs of human origin. We forget that “we must obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29) And thus my concern as a priest and as your pastor – one who is genuinely concerned about the welfare and salvation of the souls entrusted to me – is twofold: humanity's relentless chipping away at the covenant that God established with His people, and the fate of souls who choose to obey men rather than God. To remind everyone of God's loving covenant in the Old Testament, an agreement was established between God and Israel in which God promised protection to the Chosen People in return for exclusive loyalty. “If you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all nations will be my very own.” (Exodus 19:5) Moses presented Yahweh's offer to his people, who promptly “answered as one, ‘All that Yahweh has said we will do.’” (Exodus 19:8) The compact was sealed. Many years later, Jeremiah prophesied that a new covenant would be offered. “Deep within them,” Yahweh promised, “I will plant my law, writing it on their hearts.” (Jeremiah 31:31-34) Ezekiel foresaw that God would “make a covenant of peace with them an eternal covenant.” (Ezekiel 37:26) Its universal character was foreshadowed by Isaiah, to whom it was revealed by Yahweh, “so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.” (Isaiah 49:6) In the New Testament, when Saint Paul was explaining to the Corinthians the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, he repeated Christ's words: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.” (1 Corinthians 11:25) This master idea of the New Testament is reinforced in the Letter to the Hebrews: “It follows that it is a greater covenant for which Jesus has become our guarantee.” (Hebrews 7:22) Christ Himself is the new covenant between God and His people. So today, each of us might ask ourselves: where is our loyalty, where is our faith, where is our love for God as our part of the covenant if we choose to follow civil laws and judicial rulings versus the way of God? When we freely choose man over God, we break the covenant. The result is we place our souls in jeopardy, as occurs any time we freely choose to turn away from God. By turning away from God, we demonstrate by our actions that we are choosing something – anyone and anything – over Him, His divine truths, His teachings, His do's and don'ts. When we choose this, we are not showing our love for God – our loyalty to Him as our part of the covenant – but just the opposite. Thus, we need to be more attentive to our covenantal relationship with God, nourishing ourselves spiritually with the timeless truths of Scripture and with the Blessed Sacrament. We also need to pray for all who stray from God and from Jesus Christ, that they will return to following them and their ways. We must also pray constantly that, despite the temptations of the world, we will live up to our end of the bargain – God's loving covenant with His people – by doing His will. A prayer by Saint Francis of Assisi can be most helpful: “Most High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my mind, give me right faith, a firm hope and perfect charity, so that I may always and in all things act according to Your Holy Will.”

JOIN ME IN WELCOMING FR. DAVID JOHNSTONE, our new Parochial Vicar (Associate Pastor) who moves into the parish on July 9. Fr. Johnstone will have a few words to say as an introduction at all of the Masses next weekend.

JOIN ME IN WELCOMING ALSO FR. SUNDER ERY from the Diocese of Cuddapah, India, who is making a Mission Appeal to our Parish at all of the Masses next weekend. Fr. Sunder has been serving in the Diocese of Columbus since August, 2023, as Parochial Vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Pickerington. Ninety percent of the Catholics served in the Diocese of Cuddapah are below the poverty line. Fr. Sunder seeks our financial support and prayers for his Diocese, so please be generous in our second collection to support the mission and good works of the Diocese of Cuddapah. Make your checks payable to Saint Michael. In the memo section, write “Mission Appeal.”

REFRESHMENTS will be served after all the Masses next weekend, so that you can meet both Fr. Johnstone and Fr. Sunder.

– Fr. Mike

AROUND THE PARISH

As of June 26, we have raised 80% of our goal. Please prayerfully consider how you are called to help this year. You can donate online using the QR code or by using the envelopes which are available in Marian Hall.



**MAKE YOUR
GIFT NOW!**



The Appeal

Supporting Catholic Ministries

2024

GOAL: \$500,000

Total Raised
as of
June 26:
\$401,820.33



EXPERIENCE PIETRA ...

A whole-person fitness class that stretches and strengthens the body, while refreshing the soul with prayer and meditation. In one hour, you will feel calmer, stronger, and renewed! Join our **Pietra classes!** Saturdays this summer, from 7:00-8:00 a.m. at St. Michael Church. Contact Maria Elliott at maria@viribuswellness.com for more information or by using the QR code.



**JOIN US AT ALL MASSES JULY 13 & 14
TO WELCOME FATHER JOHNSTONE AS OUR NEW PAROCHIAL VICAR,
AND FATHER SUNDER ERY FOR OUR ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL WEEKEND!
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER ALL MASSES.**

Sign Up Now!

40 Hours of Adoration

9:00am Saturday, July 20 – 6:00am Monday, July 22

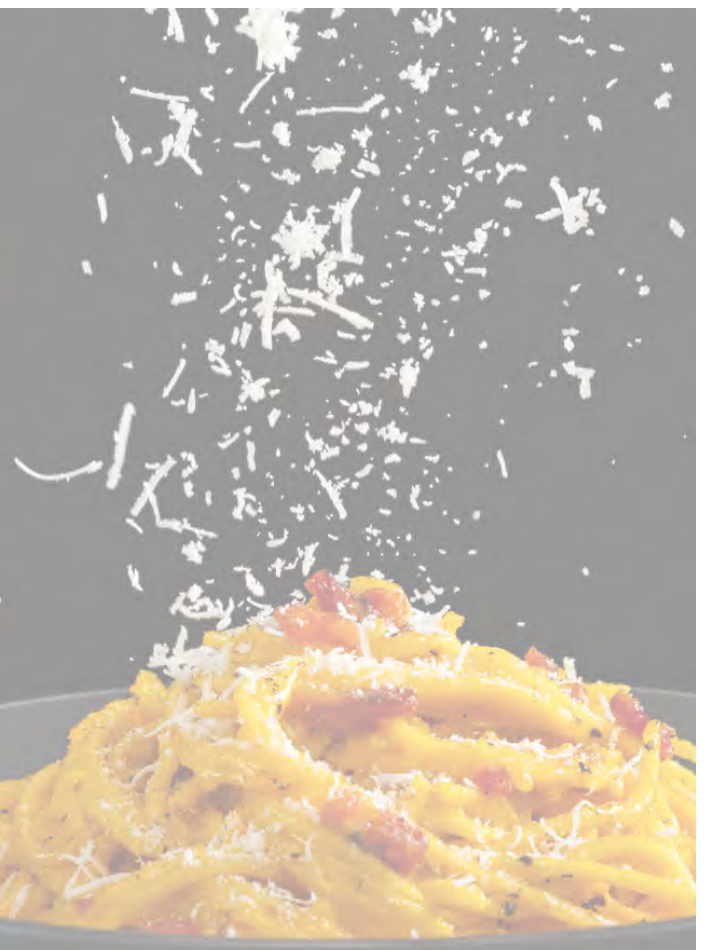
All those who are unable to attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis are invited to unite our prayers with them as we pray for an increased awareness of the true presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

**SIGN UP NOW &
HELP ENSURE
EVERY HOUR IS
FULL!**



**LIVE WIRES
SUMMER MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 9TH
11:30AM
AT VILLA NOVA**

**ENJOY SOME ITALIAN FOOD AT
VILLA NOVA WITH US! PLEASE
RSVP TO JOHN PROVANZANA
AT 614-397-3125 BY 10:00AM
ON JULY 8TH.
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



OUR PRAYER LIFE

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL • 5750 N. HIGH STREET

WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085 • (614) 885-7814

Turn to Mary in Times of Desolation

By Fr. Ed Broom, OMV

He was going through a terrible interior storm. There seemed to be no light at the end of the tunnel. It seemed hopeless; no way out! Loss of appetite, loss of sleep, loss of desire for anyone and anything. Life seemed to be insupportable. As if he was hanging from a steep precipice, his life seemed precarious to say the least!

This was the interior state of one of the most known, most loved, and most admired saints in the Catholic Church. Yes! This was the interior state of a near-despair experienced by the great Saint Francis de Sales!

A Helping Hand

When all seemed bleak, dark, obscure, almost beyond hope, the young man, Francis de Sales, entered a Church. One of his prayers was: "*Lord, even if my destiny is hell, at least grant me the grace to love you even there!*" Such was his interior condition!

However, neither God nor the Blessed Virgin Mary ever abandon their children, especially in the most dark and bleak of conditions. Dawn swells and the sun breaks through in souls that entrust themselves to Jesus through Mary.

Although he had entered a Church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Notre Dame de la Victoire*—Our Lady of Victory, it all seemed lost on the young Francis. However, there in this beautiful Church that was dedicated to Our Lady who won victories, especially in the souls of her beloved children, there was a statue of Mary and a prayer dedicated to her.

Memorare

The prayer dedicated to Mary was titled the *Memorare*. According to tradition, it is attributed to Saint Bernard. Kneeling down in front of the statue of Mary and the prayer of Saint Bernard, young Saint Francis de Sales opened up his mind and heart and prayed with all the fervor of his soul the *Memorare*:

*"Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known,
that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession,
was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen."*

Freedom: Liberation Through the Blessed Virgin Mary

After reciting this Marian prayer attributed to Saint Bernard, Francis experienced what seemed to be a miracle in his life. That dense, impervious, gloomy and dark cloud that totally enveloped him, immersed him, and submerged him in hopelessness, suddenly dissipated. The sun broke through the clouds; light beamed at the end of the tunnel; his gloom and depression were transformed into peace and joy. He could hear the chirping of the birds and smell the fragrant scent of the flowers. God had finally lifted Francis out of what seemed to be a sinking quicksand of hopelessness!

But how? Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

God's plans are not our plans, and God's designs are very mysterious. The Lord willed to rescue the young Francis through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the prayer of the *Memorare*—the Marian prayer attributed to Saint Bernard.

Trials Come Before Victory

God was preparing young Francis for an extremely important role in the Church, as well as the world at large. Priest, Bishop, Founder, writer and author, missionary, Spiritual Director, admired by all—these were the roles that Saint Francis de Sales would assume and occupy in the Heart of the Catholic Church. However, first he had to conquer the powerful enemy that tempted him to discouragement and almost despair.

A Tool to Conquer Desolation

Therefore, when tempted to discouragement, Francis de Sales would pray the *Memorare*. The devil, the enemy of our salvation, cannot conquer the power, the presence, and the prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Even the Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary causes the enemy mortal fear and panic, and he takes to flight.

"Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection was left unaided..."

Having reflected briefly upon an episode in the life of one great saint, Saint Francis de Sales, who was truly rescued through the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of Victory, and the praying of the *Memorare*, let us strive to walk in the footsteps of the saints, the true friends of Jesus and Mary.

What to Do in Desolation

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, in his *Rules for Discernment of Spirits* (visit this web page for the Rules: <https://sacred-texts.com/chr/seil/seil79.htm>), mentions the state of desolation, what we should do in desolation, as well as what we should avoid. Saint Francis de Sales went through a very powerful state of desolation. What is desolation? It is when we have a lack of faith, lack of hope, lack of love—we feel this! It is when we feel sad, depressed, discouraged, drawn to lowly things and sensuality.

In other words, we want to simply throw in the towel and give up! We want to proclaim, *"Life is useless! What is the meaning and purpose of it all!"*

Also, having learned in one short lesson the reality and meaning of desolation, we must counter it and conquer it through fervent prayer. We suggest and encourage praying to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We recommend the prayer of Saint Bernard that pulled Saint Francis de Sales out of the near pit of despair—the *Memorare*.

Desolation Can Come to Anyone

Therefore, prepare yourself for spiritual battle. We are all called to be soldiers of both Jesus and Mary in this very short life that God has given to us, so as to attain eternal happiness in heaven.

When all seems gray, dark, bleak, obscure, and meaningless, without any real hope, then lift up your mind, heart, and soul to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and she will never fail you! She will stretch out her gentle but firm hand and pull you out of the quicksand of your own helplessness!

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided...

Like Saint Francis de Sales, God is calling you out of darkness into His wonderful light through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary! Entrust your whole being to her; she will never fail you in life or in death!

This article is made available courtesy of The Catholic Exchange.



Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus.

“A truly prayerful person will often approach Christ to ascertain whether they are pleasing or displeasing to Him.” +SAINT ANTHONY ZACCARIA

**Monday, July 1 ~ Thirteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Saint Junípero Serra, Priest**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 8:18-22 When Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other shore. A scribe approached and said to him, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus answered him, “Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.” Another of his disciples said to him, “Lord, let me go first and bury my father.” But Jesus answered him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their dead.”

Meditation: When the Lord Jesus calls us to follow him, he invites us into a personal relationship of love and friendship. That relationship also involves the commitment of our entire lives to Jesus as Lord and Master, Teacher and Healer, Messiah and Savior. To follow Jesus is the greatest of all calls. What an awesome privilege and an awesome responsibility to be a disciple of Jesus Christ! What does it cost to be a disciple? For the first disciples, they paid the ultimate price for being a follower of Jesus by not renouncing Christ as Lord, Savior, Messiah; by not renouncing Christ’s teachings; by being steadfast disciples of Christ. A disciple must be willing to make sacrifices, even the sacrifice of his own life to follow Jesus as his Master and Lord. Notice how another would-be disciple responded by saying that he must first bury his father, that is go back home and take care of his father until he died. Jesus appealed to the man’s heart and told him to detach himself from whatever might keep him from following as his disciple.

Prayer: O God, who by your ineffable mercy have been pleased through the labors of your priest Saint Junípero Serra to count many American peoples within your Church, grant by his intercession that we may so join our hearts to you in love, as to carry always and everywhere before all people the image of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What can keep us from giving our all to God? Fear, anxiety, self-concern, pre-occupation and attachment to other things, to name a few. Even spiritual things can get in the way of having God alone as our Treasure if we put them first. Detachment is a necessary step if we want to make the Lord our Treasure and Joy. It frees us to give ourselves without reserve to the Lord and to his service. There is nothing greater we can do with our lives than to place them at the service of the Lord and Master of the universe. We cannot out give God in generosity. Jesus promises that those who are willing to part with what is most dear to them for his sake “will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life” (Matthew 19:29). Is there anything holding you back from giving your all to the Lord?

Prayer for Vocations: O God, Who will not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, St. Junípero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Tuesday, July 2 ~ Thirteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Matthew 8:23-27 As Jesus got into a boat, his disciples followed him. Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by waves; but he was asleep. They came and woke him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” He said to them, “Why are you terrified, O you

of little faith?" Then he got up, rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm. The men were amazed and said, "What sort of man is this, whom even the winds and the sea obey?"

Meditation: What is stronger than fear, even the fear of death? Scripture gives an answer: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18). The Wisdom of Solomon tells us that "love is stronger than death" (Song of Songs 8:6). Jesus' sleeping presence on the storm-tossed sea reveals the sleeping faith of his disciples. They feared for their lives even though their Lord and Master was with them in the boat. They were asleep to Christ while he was present to them in their hour of need.

Prayer: O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Wherever the Good News of Jesus was preached, it met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his suffering and death. But no human force could stop the power of the Spirit unleashed upon the world. The blood of martyrs has always been, and will always be, the seed of Christians. Jesus is always present to us in our hour of need – especially in times of challenge, fear, and anxiety. Jesus was there for the first martyrs of Rome in their persecution in living out the teachings of Christ, just as he is present to us as we bring the teachings of Christ into our world – into our homes, our places of work, our schools, in our neighborhoods. The truth of Christ always prevails and flourishes, while dictators, fads, people and activist groups with their own personal agenda and other secular things wither like a dead tree limb. Never be afraid to promote the truth of Christ, and to live it to the fullest, no matter what opposition you may experience in life. Remember this simple prayer: "Jesus my Lord, my God, my all, you are the only foundation that can hold us up when trials and disaster threaten us. Give me the wisdom, foresight, and strength of character I need to do what is right and good and to reject whatever is false and contrary to your will. May I always meet the challenges and trials of life head on, knowing you are at my side. May I be a doer of your word and not a hearer only."

Wednesday, July 3 ~ Thirteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle

Holy Gospel: John 20:24-29 Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Meditation: What gives us unshakeable hope and confidence in the face of death and defeat? The apostles abandoned Jesus in his hour of trial and lost hope when Jesus was handed over to the Romans for execution. They saw the cross as defeat rather than victory. They were slow to believe the reports of the resurrection until the Risen Lord appeared to them and reassured them of his presence and love. The last apostle to meet the resurrected Lord was the first to go with him to Jerusalem at Passover time. The apostle Thomas was a natural pessimist. When Jesus proposed that they visit Lazarus after receiving news of his illness, Thomas said to the disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (John 11:16). While Thomas deeply loved the Lord, he lacked the courage to stand with Jesus in his passion and crucifixion. After Jesus' death, Thomas made the mistake of withdrawing from the other apostles. He sought loneliness rather than fellowship in his time of adversity. He doubted the women who saw the resurrected Jesus and he doubted his own fellow apostles. When Thomas finally had the courage to rejoin the other apostles, the Lord Jesus made his presence known to him and reassured him that he had indeed overcome death and risen again. When Thomas recognized his Master, he believed and exclaimed that Jesus was truly Lord and truly God!

Prayer: Grant, almighty God, that we may glory in the Feast of the blessed Apostle Thomas, so that we may always be sustained by his intercession and, believing, may have life in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, whom Thomas acknowledged as the Lord. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: It is through the gift of faith that we, too, are able to recognize the presence of the risen Lord in our personal lives. The Holy Spirit reveals the Lord Jesus to us and helps us to grow in knowledge and understanding of God and his ways. Through the gift of faith we are able to proclaim that Jesus is our personal Lord and our God. He died and rose that we, too, might have new life in him. The Lord offers each of us new life in his Holy Spirit that we may know him personally and walk in this new way of life through the power of his resurrection. Do you believe in God's word and in the power of the Holy Spirit?

**Thursday, July 4 ~ Thirteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
+ Independence Day +**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8 After entering a boat, Jesus made the crossing, and came into his own town. And there people brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Courage, child, your sins are forgiven." At that, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." Jesus knew what they were thinking, and said: "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"— he then said to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." He rose and went home. When the crowds saw this they were struck with awe and glorified God who had given such authority to men.

Meditation: *Question:* What cripples the mind and heart and stifles the healing power of love? *Answer:* Sin and an unforgiving mind and heart! You should not be amazed at the fact that sin cripples us more than any physical ailment can. Sin is the work of the kingdom of darkness and it holds us in eternal bondage. There is only one solution to sin – the healing, cleansing power of Jesus' forgiveness. Jesus' treatment of sinners upset the religious teachers of the day. When a cripple was brought to Jesus because of the faith of his friends, Jesus did the unthinkable. He first forgave the man his sins. The scribes regarded this as blasphemy because they understood that only God had authority to forgive sins and to unbind a man or woman from their burden of guilt. Jesus claimed an authority which only God could rightfully give. Jesus not only proved that his authority came from God, he showed the great power of God's redeeming love and mercy by healing the cripple of his physical ailment.

Prayer: God of justice, Father of truth, who guide creation in wisdom and goodness to fulfillment in Christ your Son, open our hearts to the truth of his Gospel, that your peace may rule in our hearts and your justice guide our lives. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The crippled man in today's Gospel had been crippled not only physically, but spiritually as well. Jesus freed him from his burden of guilt and restored his body. It would be time well spent for each of us to look deeply and honestly at how we, too, may be crippled by our own sinfulness, and where we turn to for healing. It is all too easy to fall into the habit of letting society redefine what sin is and is not. Truth is truth, and sin is sin, as defined by God the Father (not civil or secular laws [e.g. abortion, same-sex marriage, etc.]), the timeless teachings of Jesus Christ (not talk show hosts, newspaper columnists, blogs, Supreme Court justices or government officials) and the one, true church – the Catholic Church – founded by Jesus Christ. Yes, we are sinners. And yes, all are welcome in the Catholic Church. But all are called to convert from sin – not to be affirmed on our sinfulness – and to submit ourselves to God, and to live our lives according to the will of God – not have God submit to us or to impose our will upon God. In this topsy-turvy world, there are many who place themselves and their wants, desires, lifestyle, et cetera, above God and, in doing so, recreate and relive the sin of Adam and Eve. It was our first parents who, tempted by Satan, determined what they thought was right and wrong and, in doing so, placed themselves before and above God. When we search for the truth, when we search for answers, for guidance and direction, for healing and reconciliation, for it is the Lord in his infinite love and mercy who is ever-ready to bring us healing of mind, body, and soul. His grace brings us freedom from the power of sin and from bondage to harmful desires and addictions. A first step – primary action – is receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation with a priest, who has the power to absolve you of your sins and to get you back on the road to follow Jesus Christ.

On this Independence Day: We would do well to recall and reflect upon the words of Pope Saint John Paul II: "For the Christian people of America conversion to the Gospel means to revise all the different areas and aspects of life, especially those related to the social order and the pursuit of the common good. It will be especially necessary to nurture the growing awareness in society of the dignity of every person and, therefore, to promote in the community a sense of the duty to participate in political life in harmony with the Gospel."

Friday, July 5 ~ Thirteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Saint Anthony Zaccaria, Priest

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13 As Jesus passed by, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. While he was at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat with Jesus and his disciples. The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" He heard this and said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Meditation: We live in a world where Jesus constantly invites each of us to follow him. And yet, as we celebrate our country's birth this week, there are many reasons to celebrate the blessings that God has bestowed on our country, and causes for concern about the freedoms that some choose to exercise. During this week when we celebrate the birth of the United States of America, let's not declare our independence from God, but rather independence from those things (definition of a noun: any person place or thing) that lead us to sin, praying that our fellow citizens – men and women of all ages, walks of life, and religious faiths – will turn away from all that separates us from the love of God, and in doing so simply take up Jesus Christ on his personal invitation to each and every one of us when he says: "follow me."

Prayer: Grant, O Lord, that in the spirit of the Apostle Paul we may pursue the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ, for, having learned it, Saint Anthony Zaccaria constantly preached your saving word in the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What is God's call on your life? When Jesus saw Matthew sitting at his tax office – no doubt counting his day's profit – Jesus spoke only two words – "follow me." Those two words changed Matthew's life forever, from a self-serving profiteer to a God-serving apostle who would bring the treasures of God's kingdom to the poor and needy. Jesus says "follow me" to every man and woman on this earth. How do you respond to Jesus' invitation to follow him? Take Christ up on his personal invitation to "follow me," and in doing so let your life be forever changed.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2024



Prayer offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Edward G. Latch
July 3, 1974 in the U.S. House of Representatives

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord (Psalms 33:12).

Eternal God, stir thou our minds and stimulate our hearts with a high sense of patriotism as we approach the Fourth of July. May all that this day symbolizes renew our faith in freedom, our devotion to democracy, and redouble our efforts to keep a government of the people, by the people, and for the people truly alive in our world. Grant that we may highly resolve on this great day to dedicate ourselves anew to the task of ushering in an era when good will shall live in the hearts of a free people, justice shall be the light to guide their feet, and peace shall be the goal of humankind: to the glory of Thy Holy Name and the good of our nation and of all mankind. Amen.

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40 Hours Adoration: Spending Personal Time with the Lord

By Phillip Kosloski

*People around the world have practiced
this intimate devotion since the 16th century.*

Starting around the 16th century, there arose a custom of exposing a consecrated Host on the altar in a monstrance for all to adore for a period of 40 hours. Parishioners would take turns adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, dividing it up in individual hours. It began as a response to the many sins of the people during the time period and as a way to make reparation for the numerous offenses against God.

St. Philip Neri introduced the devotion in Rome around 1550 and did all that he could to promote it. St. Ignatius of Loyola also promoted the practice and the Jesuits brought it to Germany. In a letter, Pope Clement VIII encouraged the spread of this devotion, writing: "We have determined to establish publicly in this Mother City of Rome an uninterrupted course of prayer in such ways that in the different churches, on appointed days, there be observed the pious and salutary devotion of the Forty Hours, with such an arrangement of churches and times that at every hour of the day and night, the whole year round the incense of prayer shall ascend without intermission before the face of the Lord."

The practice spread rapidly and eventually reached the US. Among its chief promoters was St. John Neumann, who struggled with much opposition from both those outside and inside the Church. It took a miraculous event to convince him to start the devotion in his diocese.

The event is narrated by Linda O'Brien in an article on *Catholic Exchange.com*:

One night, he was working very late at his desk and fell asleep in his chair. The candle on the desk burnt down and charred some of the papers, but they were still readable. He awoke, surprised and thankful that a fire had not ignited. He fell on his knees to give thanks to God for protection, and heard His voice saying, "As the flames are burning here without consuming or injuring the writing, so shall I pour out my grace in the Blessed Sacrament without prejudice to my honor. Fear no profanation, therefore; hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my glory."

The event reassured Neumann and as a result he instituted the 40 Hours Devotion in his diocese and asked that each parish host the practice every year. After the success of St. John Neumann's, the 40 Hours Devotion became popular and spread to other dioceses in the US. It was formally approved in the US at the Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1866.

The 40 Hours Devotion is an experience centered on exposing parishioners to "face-to-face" time with Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a worthy devotion, one that helps the faithful encounter the Risen Lord in a personal way, nurturing their relationship with him. As St. Alphonsus Liguori once wrote: "Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us."

This article is made available courtesy of Aleteia.

Sign Up for 40 Hours of Adoration at Saint Michael's

9:00 a.m. Saturday, July 20, through 6:00 a.m. Monday, July 22

Paper sign-up list available in Marian Hall; Electronic sign-up via QR Code



The St. Vincent de Paul Society invites you to **FILL THE TRUCK!**

Our donation weekend for the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is next week! Have you been cleaning out your closets and cupboards and storage areas getting your "preloved" used items ready to share so someone else can use them? Let's keep those items out of the landfills and fill up the shelves and racks at the Thrift store. By sharing your items with others, you will help St. Vincent de Paul raise money for the work it does in our community, and it will provide others with an opportunity to purchase affordable items to help make their house a home.

The trailer will be in our church parking lot beginning Saturday, July 13 from 12:00pm-6:00pm and Sunday, July 14 from 8:00am-2:00pm.



Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be on hand to help you unload your car. We will accept all clothing, shoes, home decor, household items, toys, puzzles in good condition. If you have large furniture pieces to donate, the Thrift Store will make arrangements to pick those up from your home. Thanks for your generosity!

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SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you planning for a scheduled medical procedure, or are you being admitted to a hospital or other outpatient facility for surgery or for medical treatment? If so, please see one of the priests before or after any of our parish Masses, so that he can provide you with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick **BEFORE** you have your procedure, treatment or surgery. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the priest anoints the seriously ill, injured, or the elderly with the "Oil of the Infirm," which is a special oil, blessed by the Bishop, used for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Obviously, there are emergency situations, but anything that you can do in advance to receive the sacramental graces of the Anointing of the Sick – physical, spiritual and emotional healing – is helpful to you, your family, and to the priests.



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- Volleyball (Boys & Girls 4-8th grade, registration closes July 15)
- Cheerleading (Girls 4-8th grade, registration closes July 15)
- Football (Boys 4-8th grade, registration closes July 15)
- Cross Country (Boys & Girls 4-8th grade, registration closes July 15)
- K-3 Soccer (Boys & Girls K-3rd grade, registration closes August 25)



**DON'T DELAY!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER! NOW!**

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Consider helping Boy Scout Isaac Dryfuse with his Eagle Scout Service Project to **Renovate the St. Michael Preschool Garden and Play Area**. Isaac will be working to build plant beds, install a rain barrel, sandbox covers, rubber flooring and add a musical play area. This project will cost approximately \$2,200.00 to complete, and any donations are welcome! To donate, please drop off cash or checks in an envelope labeled "Eagle Scout Project" to the Parish Office or in the Sunday offertory. Thank you for your support!

SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL PRE-KINDERGARTEN OPENINGS

St. Michael Pre-Kindergarten has a few full- and part-time spots left for the 2024-2025 school year. We have small class sizes of 14 with a ratio of 1:7! We teach Phonics, Math, and all subjects. We also have play centers and a play garden. Every student attends Religion class and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

For more information, visit www.stmichaelworthington.org/pre-Kindergarten/. To schedule a tour or register, please contact director Laura Wells at lwells@stmichaelworthington.org.



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For admissions questions, please contact our Admissions Lead, Suzann Freytag:
sfreytag@stmichaelworthington.org
614-885-3149 option 9

OR Contact our PreKindergarten Director, Laura Wells:
lwells@stmichaelworthington.org
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Learn more about St. Michael School!
Visit: stmichaelworthington.org or call 614.885.3149

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