

December 8, 2019

Second Sunday of Advent

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH



301 SPRUCE STREET, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Alan E. Thomas, VG, Pastor695-0912
Janet Klingbeil, Parish Secretary.....695-0912 or 207-1479
Sue Teske, Director of Religious Education.....695-0912 or 934-2180
Tim Baranik, Youth Group Director.....207-7008
Tom Kunkle, Music Coordinator.....312-3897

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rectory/Church Office.....(814) 695-0912
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Parish Email.....stmichaelhburg@dioceseaj.org
Parish Website.....www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org
Holy Trinity Catholic School - Hollidaysburg.....(814) 695-6112
Holy Trinity Catholic School - Altoona.....(814) 381-7011
Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School.....(814) 942-7835
H.T.C.S. Website.....www.holytrinitycatholic.school
Greenlawn Cemetery.....call Tom at (814) 695-2546

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ST. MICHAEL FAITH COMMUNITY

Extending a rich parish heritage built upon the pioneering traditions of the first settlers of the Southern Allegheny mountains, St. Michael the Archangel Parish embraces as its mission the use of all available resources, both spiritual and temporal, to minister to the needs of the people of Hollidaysburg and its surrounding areas. We do this in a fashion which reflects the teachings and example of Jesus Christ, while promoting a tradition of liturgical excellence, strong support for Catholic education in all its varieties, and enlightened social outreach to the community at large, in union with both the Diocesan and Universal Church.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Daily & Holy Days: *See inside the Bulletin*

CONFESSIONS

Regularly on Saturdays: 1:00 p.m. and Sundays: 7:30 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed: Weekends, Holy Days and Holidays

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Call the church office to schedule an appointment.
Nine month advance notice is normally required for marriage.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline to have information considered for publication in the bulletin is 4:00 p.m. Tuesday prior to the weekend of the announcement. Mail or email the information to the church office.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

If you would like to join the parish, please contact the rectory/church office. Please remember to notify us if you move or will be moving out of the parish. Registration, the practice of stewardship, and regular participation in the Sacraments indicate that a person is an active member of the parish and is eligible to act as a godparent or sponsor. As a Church community seeking to be faith-filled disciples and good stewards, the sacrifice of our time, talent and treasure is essential for the common good.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith? Please contact the parish office. Classes generally begin each Fall.

INTRODUCTION FOR TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-10 The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. Despite the political unrest of that period, he looked forward to a kingdom so wonderful that even nature is at peace. This perfect world would be ruled by a descendent of King David. (As you listen to this reading, it helps to know that "Jesse" is the name of David's father.)

Romans 15:4-9 In the early days of the Church, some Jewish converts to Christianity continued to practice their Jewish traditions. Many of them were members of the Church in Rome, along with others who were Gentiles. They sometimes found it hard to get along. As Paul nears the end of his letter to them, he encourages them to live in harmony by drawing upon Scriptures they had in common – what we have called the "Old Testament."

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10 & James 5: 7-10; Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS for December 8 - 15

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>TIME</u> | <u>INTENTION</u> | <u>REQUESTED BY</u> |
|--------------------|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday, Dec. 8 | 8:30 a.m. | + Raymond Brown (<i>Birthday Remembrance</i>) | by Elda Brown |
| | 10:00 a.m. | + Chris Weyant (<i>Anniv. Remembrance</i>) | by Helen & Christine Liebal |
| | 11:30 a.m. | + Bill McDonnell | by Don & Ginny Harrington |
| Monday, Dec. 9 | 7:45 a.m. | + Deceased Relatives & Friends | by Pat & Donna Gildea |
| Tuesday, Dec. 10 | 7:45 a.m. | + Mary Diveglia (<i>Anniv. Remembrance</i>) | by her brother Henry |
| Wednesday, Dec. 11 | 7:45 a.m. | + Frank Thalhauser (<i>Anniv. Remembrance</i>) | by the Thalhauser Family |
| | 6:00 p.m. | “Teaching” Mass (<i>See description below</i>) + Joe Burger | by Lois Dullinger |
| Thursday, Dec. 12 | 8:30 a.m. | Holy Trinity School Mass | |
| Friday, Dec. 13 | 7:45 a.m. | + Marie Thalhauser (<i>Anniv. Remembrance</i>) | by the Thalhauser Family |
| Saturday, Dec. 14 | 5:00 p.m. | + Karen Storm | by her mother; Martha |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 | 8:30 a.m. | + Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Smith | by Richard & Martha Smith |
| | 10:00 a.m. | + Jerome Lanzel, Jr. | by Dave & Mary Jo Lanzel & Family |
| | 11:30 a.m. | + Vincent Stoehr | by Jeannie Lutchko |

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING

Fr. Alan invites those who are interested in being a reader or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to attend a training session **TODAY, Dec. 8 at 3 PM for Readers and at 3:30 PM Extraordinary Ministers**. Current Readers and Extraordinary Ministers are invited to attend the sessions for a refresher. Those interested must be confirmed (for Extraordinary Ministers), in good standing with the church, and participating regularly in the Sacraments. We currently have a need for both ministries at all Masses. **We are thankful to all who answered Fr. Alan's request for weekend sacristans. If you volunteered but were not contacted and trained, or if you would like to be trained, kindly contact the parish office this week.**

OUR GIVING TREE

Gift Collection is next weekend!

There are still about 10 ornaments left from the Giving Tree, if you did not select one and would like to still participate, kindly call/text Kathy at: (585)730-0757 or email: kathybalconi1@gmail.com. Please note that all Giving Tree gift returns will be accepted **NEXT weekend (Dec. 14 & 15) before all Masses** in the Church Hall. A donation box will be available at that time if you would like to donate gift cards or make a monetary donations to help us help as many children and families as we can. Your support is greatly appreciated.



“TEACHING” MASS

On **Wednesday of this week (December 11) at 6:00 PM** we will be having a “teaching” Mass here at St. Michael Church. We will celebrate the Mass for Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent. During Mass, however, we will stop to explain briefly the meaning of the signs, symbols, words, and actions that are part of the liturgy of the Mass. Hopefully, this will lead us all into a deeper understanding of this action which is at the very center of our lives as Christians. Come join us!

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tomorrow, December 9th, we celebrate with the Patroness of the United States the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The feast commemorates that Mary who was to bear the Incarnate Word of God was immaculate herself from the first moment of her conception. America turns to Our Lady under the title of the Immaculate Conception asking her intercession to watch over us and guide us along the path of justice and peace. **Mass will be celebrated at 7:45 AM.**

LITURGY APPOINTMENTS

SACRISTAN (12/8/19 - 12/14/19): N. Levine

SCRIP (12/15/19): J. Hartkorn

COFFEE/DONUT SOCIAL (12/15/19): No donuts;
Giving Tree gift return day

ASSIGNMENTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday, December 14 - 5:00 PM - Third Sunday of Advent

Readers: 11th Grade Confirmation Students
Altar Servers: D. Kordish & W. Kordish
E. Min.: J. Burke, C. Storm & S. Teske
Gift Bearers: 11th Grade Confirmation Students
Weekend Sacristan: R. DeHaven

Sunday, December 15 - 8:30 AM - Third Sunday of Advent

Readers: P. Gildea (1) & M. Schlechter (2)
Altar Servers: B. Gervinski & L. Hanlon
E. Min.: K. Balconi, M. Icenroad & J. Klingbeil
Gift Bearers: The Vaniel Family
Weekend Sacristan: R & C. Burger-Leister & J. DeLozier

Sunday, December 15 - 10:00 AM - Third Sunday of Advent

Readers: M. Culp (1) & D. Culp (2)
Altar Servers: J. Lehman & L. Lehman
E. Min.: C. Brown, L. Craig & T. Wilt
Gift Bearers: The P. Fochler Family
Weekend Sacristan: R. Pompa

Sunday, December 15 - 11:30 AM - Third Sunday of Advent

Readers: D. Sault (1) & L. Georgiana (2)
Altar Servers: G. Hayes & J. Hayes
E. Min.: B. Codd, E. Pope & **available**
Gift Bearers: The B. Byrne Family
Weekend Sacristan: M. & C. Keller

~~~~~ OUR GIFTS TO GOD ~~~~~

Thank you for your generosity!

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Sunday Offering (12/1/19): | \$7,764.30 |
| Sunday Envelopes: | \$7329.00 |
| Sunday Loose Collection: | \$435.30 |
| 2019 Catholic Ministries Drive (C.M.D.) Goal: \$51,858.00 | |
| Received to date: (as of 12/5/19) | <u>\$53,798.00</u> |
| OVER Goal: (THANK YOU!) | \$1,940.00 |
| Catholic Charities Collection (rec'd to date) | \$1,791.00 |

PLEASE NOTE:

The Parish Office will be closed **TOMORROW, Mon. Dec. 9th**

ALL students in 7th - 12th Grade are invited to the:
**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS CAROLING
 & MINUTE-TO-WIN IT PARTY**



Mark your calendars and join us **Saturday, Dec. 21** (tentatively 6-9 PM) for Christmas Caroling at local nursing homes and then return to the Activity Building for a Christmas Party with food and fun and "Minute - to - Win - It" game challenges! Any questions or to let Tim know that your son or daughter will be attending, call or text him at 814-207-7008. Students must have signed permission form to attend. *Permission forms are available in the parish office and online at: stmichael-hldg-pa.org/permission-form*



CHURCH DECORATING



All are invited to help us decorate the Church, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, on **Sunday, Dec. 22 after the 11:30 AM Mass**. People who can carry boxes and assemble trees are greatly needed! We welcome allhelp!

MEAL TRAIN

Our Matthew 25 Ministry is comprised of a group of volunteers who try to reach out and help parishioners in time of need. One of the many ways they do this is to help provide meals to those who are dealing with surgeries, illnesses, etc... Currently they are looking at ways to help make sure Fr. Alan has some healthy meals. Recently the group discovered the Meal Train App. This program (or one similar) will make it easy for volunteers to see when a meal is needed and where. Currently the group would like to have a computer savvy volunteer to establish and maintain the Meal Train program. If you are interested, or would like more details, please contact the parish office soon so we can get this program started.

CATHOLIC CALENDARS

Catholic calendars, one from our diocesan Family Life Office and one depicting Religious Art, are available at our church entrances. Please help yourself to as many as you need.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL

Like John the Baptist, every parent "prepares the way of the Lord" in the hearts of their children. Advent is a good time to ask; "Do I help or hinder my children to know Jesus?"

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the players and coaches of the Bishop Guilfoyle Marauder PIAA Single A Football State Champion Runner-Ups. Great job team!

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 and ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

Regularly scheduled Confessions will be heard here at St. Michael Parish every Saturday in December at 1:00 PM, and every Sunday at 7:30 AM.

Penance Services in our area:

- TODAY - 5:00 PM** St. Joseph, Bellwood
- DEC. 9 - 7:00 PM** Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona
- DEC. 12- 5:30 PM** Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona
- DEC. 14 - 10 AM** St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Altoona
- DEC. 15 - 4:00 PM** Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg
- DEC. 16 - 7:00 PM** Saint Rose of Lima, Altoona
- DEC. 16 - 7:00 PM** St. Matthew, Tyrone
- DEC. 18 - 6:30 PM** Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona
- DEC. 19 - 5:30 PM** Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona

**ST. MICHAEL PARISH RELIGIOUS
 EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION**

"Stay with Us"

Any questions call our D.R.E., Sue Teske at 695-0912 or 934-2180 email: Steske@dioceseaj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

PRE K - 9TH GRADE

- TODAY** Religious Ed. Classes (pre K - 9th grade) **10:00 AM**
- Dec. 15** Religious Ed. Classes (pre K - 9th grade) **10:00 AM**
- Dec. 22** No class - Christmas break
- Dec. 29** No class - Christmas break
- Jan. 5** Religious Ed. Classes (pre K - 9th grade) **10:00 AM**

"YEAR OF INVITATION" (9th Grade)

- Jan. 11** Retreat – Baptism (Activity, Bldg - w/ Sponsors) **12:30 PM**
- Jan. 11** Rite of Blessing (Church - w/ Sponsors) **5:00 PM**

"YEAR OF FORMATION" (10th Grade)

- TODAY** Religious Ed. (for all but BGHS students; Activ. Bldg) **12:30 PM**
- Dec. 15** Session - Scripture (Activity, Bldg) *Please note date change **12:30 PM**

"YEAR OF REFLECTION" (11th Grade)

- TODAY** Religious Ed. (for all but BGHS students; Activ. Bldg) **12:30 PM**
- Dec. 14** Retreat – Discipleship & Mass (Activity, Bldg) **9:30 AM**



**HOLY TRINITY
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

All are invited to the Holy Trinity Catholic School Christmas concerts. All concerts will be held at the **Maria Parish Center (Middle School) in Altoona**. Come & experience the musical talents of our school students.

HTCS - Hollidaysburg Concert
 Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 PM

HTCS - Altoona Concert
 Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 PM

HTCS - Middle School Concert
 Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 PM



QUICK LOOK AT UPCOMING EVENTS

- Every Monday:** Prayer Group (in the Church) **1 PM**
- SCRIP:** sold after the 8:30 & 10 AM Sunday Masses in the Church Hall
- TODAY** Repeat Ministry Training Session for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Church) **3 and 3:30 PM**
- TODAY** Men's Club Meeting (Church hall) **7:00 PM**
- Dec. 9** Parish Office Closed
- Dec. 11** Christmas Memorials due (Parish Office) **before 4 PM**
- Dec. 11** "Teaching" Mass **6:00 PM**
- Dec. 14 & 15** Giving Tree gift return day (Church hall) **before all Masses**
- Dec. 15** HTCS - Hollidaysburg Campus's Christmas Concert (at the Middle School Campus) **2:00 PM**
- Dec. 15** Hollidaysburg Penance Service (at St. Mary Church) **4:00 PM**
- Dec. 21** Youth Group Christmas Caroling & Party tentatively **6:00 PM**
- Dec. 22** Christmas decorating (in the church) **12:30 PM**
- Dec. 24** **Christmas Eve Masses:** **4 PM, 6 PM (Children's Mass) & 10:00 PM (preceded by carols at 9:30 PM)**
- Dec. 25** **Christmas Day Mass** **8:30 AM & 10 AM**
- Dec. 31** **New Year's Eve Mass** **5:30 PM**
- Jan. 1** **New Year's Day Mass (HOLY DAY: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD)** **8:30 AM and 10:00 AM**

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PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
 Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
 May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world, seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Want to rehear Fr. Alan's Homily? Misplaced your bulletin? On vacation? Don't miss what's going on here at St. Michael!

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