



March 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday in Lent

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH

301 SPRUCE STREET, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

Parish Website: www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org



PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Alan E. Thomas, VG, Pastor695-0912
Janet Klingbeil, Administrative Assistant.....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
Office Fax Number.....(814) 693-9820
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

No Public Masses at this time.

Please see inside the Bulletin for ways to view Mass online or on TV.

CONFESSIONS

Please call the parish office to schedule a time with Fr. Alan

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 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Ezekiel 37: 12-14 The prophet Ezekiel spoke to God's people during their exile in Babylon, 580 years before Christ. In today's passage, the prophet (using the image of death and resurrection) assures the people that God will one day bring them back to their homeland.

Romans 8: 8-11 Paul's letter to the Romans is his most detailed and important theological work. Throughout the letter, he teaches that Jesus overcame sin and the effects of sin. In today's passage, Paul stresses that through the Spirit, this saving power of Jesus is present and active in Christians of all times and places.

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11;

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50: 4-7 Chapters 40 – 55 and Philippians 2: 6-11

The Passion of the Lord: Matthew 26:14-27:66

PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday Fr. Alan will bless palms and have them in the church, and weather permitting outside the church for you to take home with you.

Read Matthew 26:14-27:66 as you pray and reflect on the Passion of the Lord.

Mass Intentions this week for St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes

March 28 - April 5

Fr. Alan will be saying Mass privately each day for the following Mass intentions.
Please remember them in your prayers as well.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Saturday, 3/28	+ Mike Varlotta	by Bill & Judy Ward
	+ Barb Michelone	by her children
Sunday, 3/29	+ Don Figurelli	by Greg & Shari Figurelli
	+ Joe Burger	by Joan Luciano
	+ Les Emery	by his wife, Patty
	+ Chris Weyant	by Kim & Gregg Olsavick
	For the people of St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes	
Monday, 3/30	+ Guy Luciano	by his daughter Anita
Tuesday, 3/31	+ Margie Kelley	by Joann & Ed Schlecht
Wednesday, 4/1	Special Intention	by the donor
Thursday, 4/2	+ Jim Seasoltz	by Pauline & Kathy Steinbugl
Friday, 4/3	+ Bob Cobler	by Mark & Jo DeLozier
Saturday, 4/4	+ Bob & Bo Domino	by Bruno & JoAn Felus
	+ Vince Wolf	by Ambrose Aquadro
Sunday, 4/5	+ Bernie Mikesic	by the Knights of Columbus Star of the Sea Council #4245
	+ Dorothy Werner	by Robin & Jerry Kurland
	+ Bob Stanek	by Richard & Shirley Books
	+ Fr. Anthony Legarski	by the St Michael Men's Club
	For the people of St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes	

Proclaim! will continue to air every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WATM ABC 23. The show will continue to be posted on the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Facebook and Twitter social media platforms as well.

Bishop Mark will celebrate Sunday Masses, which will air every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on WATM ABC 23 and at 9:00 p.m. on Atlantic Broadband Channel 9. The Masses will also be posted on the diocesan website and Facebook and Twitter social media platforms.

Audio of the Liturgies will air Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on WFBG AM 1290. Also during this time, daily Mass, celebrated by Father Matthew Baum at Prince of Peace Parish in Northern Cambria, will be streamed on their parish website and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Facebook page.

Our Parish Website: <https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/> will continue to be updated regularly. You will find the current bulletin and audio recordings of Fr. Alan reading the Gospel and his homily every day.

As of the writing of this bulletin, the church is open daily but no more than ten people are permitted in the church at a time and we ask that you space as far apart as possible. (Please note, that this may change at any time.)

Fr. Alan will still make every effort to hear your confessions as he can with some modifications. Please contact the parish office to schedule a confession time.

MAKING SENSE OF THE NEW DIRECTIVES

By Fr. Matthew Reese

Recently, we have all received the news that all public Masses are suspended in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. This comes as a great shock to many of us because we, as Catholic Christians, center our lives around the celebration of the Mass and the reception of the sacrament of Holy Communion. This also shocks many of us because we grew up being taught, rather vigorously, that we need to observe the commandment, "keep holy the Sabbath."

Someone asked me a few days ago, "how can we dispense from the commandment 'keep holy the Sabbath?'" The answer is that we cannot. The Church is dispensing from the obligation of gathering as a large community to pray together on the Sabbath so as to protect those who are vulnerable to a highly contagious disease. We are still expected as practicing Catholic Christians to observe the commandment "keep holy the Sabbath" at all times! We need to take this time in our lives and seriously review how we keep the Lord's day as His own, outside of the celebration of the Mass. This is not the time to lose our faith!

We have to see that keeping the Sabbath day holy is still possible, albeit on a more personal level for the time being. Take this opportunity as a Lenten/Easter challenge. These two seasons celebrate everything that makes us Christian believers. Are we going to allow these precious days slip by without acknowledgment? How can we do so in good conscience? We may be prevented from publicly participating in the highest form of prayer Jesus Christ gave to us at His Last Supper, but we can still pray and keep these sacred days holy. Perhaps through this challenging time when we are deprived of this most sacred gift Jesus could offer to us, the prayer of the Mass and the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, our appreciation for these great gifts may grow and in growing become for each of us an even greater inspiration for us to live our faith more fervently. Remember, Jesus is still here, even when He seems far away.

Father Matthew Reese is the Pastor of Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish in Lilly and Diocesan Director of Vocations. - Reprinted with permission from "Proclaim" <https://proclaim.dioceseaj.org/>

Currently there are no public Masses here at St. Michael.

Masses will continue to be celebrated privately every day by Fr. Alan.

Audio recordings of the daily & weekend Gospel and Fr. Alan's Homilies are on our parish website.

≈≈≈ OUR GIFTS TO GOD ≈≈≈

Thank you for your generosity!

Sunday Offering (3/22/2020): \$4,480.00*

Sunday Envelopes:	\$3,415.00
Sunday Loose Collection:	\$0
Sunday On-line Giving:	\$1,065.00

Catholic Relief Services (as of 3/22): \$610.00

Thank you for your weekly support to our parish, our mission collections and the Annual Catholic Appeal. Your financial support is vital and continues to be so especially during the COVID-19 crisis. You may continue to mail in your weekly offering, bring it to the parish office, or donate through on-line giving.

The diocese has recently set-up a parish on-line giving account for every parish in the diocese. If you would like to give this way just visit: <https://www.dioceseaj.org/giving/> to setup an account. Our parish will receive a report on all donations and money collected will be forwarded to us. The diocese will not be recording the gift or donor info in for their donor database. We and the diocese just want to be able to give you options for your giving. Just look for "St. Michael, Hollidaysburg (054)" under the "Select a parish to receive your gift." Contact the parish office if you have any questions.

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A (2020)
FR. ALAN'S REMOTE HOMILY

Below is Fr. Alan's Homily for this weekend. You may also hear an audio recording of it on our parish website... <https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/>

Three friends of Jesus. Three people whom he loved. Illness comes and then, seemingly before the Lord Jesus does anything about it, death. The lives of the three friends are turned topsy-turvy. In some ways, so is Jesus' life as well. Things are irreversibly changed for him and for his friends.

In the gospel passage we read today we have an account containing those tough questions that we human beings both ask and fear: "Why? Why did this have to happen?" And perhaps even more disturbing: "Where was God in all of this?" I think we're all probably asking those questions right now. Why did this coronavirus have to hit us? Perhaps we're looking for someone to blame. Maybe we've come to see the hand of God working in this in some way. Martha certainly takes that route: she finds some level of comfort in the thinking that developed only shortly before the time of Jesus and which was reinforced by the Book of Wisdom:

**For God formed us to be imperishable;
the image of his own nature he made us** (Wis 2:23).

She was convinced that there would be ongoing personal life for the just, and she uses this belief as a way of making sense of the tragedy that has occurred.

When it comes to the question about where God is in all of this, things become more difficult. She asks the Lord the question that we might be tempted to ask: where were you? ... "If you had been here." Her faith in the Lord is straining: "Aren't you one who worked miracles? Why didn't you work one for Lazarus?" Yet, something might still be possible. In any event, Martha reasons, things will be made right in the end. Jesus challenges Martha to grow in her faith. Faith in the resurrection of the dead means clinging to him who is the "resurrection and the life." Martha, however, is busy with her own conceptions about resurrection from the dead and what God is doing. This makes her, alas, a little less open to what Jesus is trying to tell her. She's pretty sure she's already done the work of a disciple of Jesus already. Unfortunately, she still has some ways to go.

Mary, Martha's sister, is another matter. She comes to the Lord Jesus only when he summons her through his word. She is one of Jesus' flock who immediately responds to her Shepherd's call. Unlike her sister, Mary falls at the feet of Jesus. She acknowledges him as her Lord before she says anything. Given these fundamental differences, her words to the Lord, though similar to her sister's, do not have the same import. For her, his presence with her is enough. He, in his very person, is resurrection and life. Mary holds to this faith, at least at first. But then she senses the crowd around her wailing and weeping, crying out in distress and hopelessness, and she joins them.

This leads to a reaction on Jesus' part that can be easily misunderstood. Jesus weeps but not for the reasons we might think. He weeps in anger and distress. In John's Gospel, distress or perturbation is something Jesus experiences when he is encountering evil. What is going on with Jesus? Jesus' weeping is not primarily because of the death of Lazarus nor because of the weeping of Mary and the crowd of good Jews around her. His weeping is, in the first place, because no one has come to deeper faith in him. Even the one with the most promise, Mary, has joined in with the crowd which fails to see Jesus for who he really is.

Yet, Jesus does not give up on any of them. Despite the fact that the crowd of somewhat-believing Jews wishes to take Jesus to Lazarus' tomb, he does not take them up on this. Rather, he comes to the tomb according to his own initiative. He is in charge, and he continues to invite Martha and Mary and the crowd—and even Lazarus—to deeper faith. It will be a struggle. Martha, even at the tomb, continues to insist that the way this world sees things is how they are. Jesus has to challenge her again. He brings his perfect relationship with his Father to this situation and what follows can be nothing except for life! Things are not yet perfect, but they are on their way. Lazarus must still be unbound by others. But the day will quickly come when One will rise from the dead who was never bound by it in the first place. On that (Easter) day the burial garments so carefully mentioned by John in the case of Lazarus will be effortlessly cast aside by the One who has life from his Father.

This is a time for us to consider our own discipleship and the depth of our own faith. We may be struggling as was Martha. We may have made considerable progress as did Mary. We may still need to be set free from grasp of death and its snare of hopelessness as did Lazarus. But Jesus is not about to give up on his sheep, any more than he would have given up on Mary, Martha, or Lazarus.

**Practice SOCIAL distancing,
NOT SPIRITUAL distancing.**

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE

www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

"St. Michael the Archangel Church Hollidaysburg"

DAILY & SUNDAY READINGS

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



**If you, or if you know of a parishioner who
needs some help or assistance,
PLEASE contact the parish office so we can
figure out a way to help them.**

ST. MICHAEL PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

PLEASE CHECK OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

Dear Families of Religious Ed Students,
In light of all the cancellations, I would like to suggest you take this opportunity to do the religious education classes at home with your children. Take time to do a family rosary each day to pray for those suffering from the COVID-19 virus and their care takers. Get to know where your child is on their spiritual journey and encourage them to build a personal relationship with our heavenly Father. - Sue

RE/MAX
Outstanding Agents.
Outstanding Results.



Contact Parishioner:
 Kathy Chabala, Owner
Re/Max Results Realty Group
 1001 Logan Blvd.
 Altoona, PA 16602
 946-9355
 kchabala@aol.com

Serving all of your Real Estate needs for 40 years!

The Finest in Fresh and Frozen Seafood!



Open to the Public
 Monday - Friday 8 - 5; Saturday 9 - 2

SHELCO
Seafood Co.
695-6427

Owners/Parishioners: John & Colleen Barozotto

821 Scotch Valley Rd, Hollidaysburg
 Next door to the Hollidaysburg Ambulance Co.

"If it swims, we have it!"

DOUGLAS V. STOEHR
INJURY LAWYER
 Parishioner

3600 Fifth Avenue
 Altoona, PA 16602

Office: 946-4100
 Fax: 946-4116



Email: dougstoehr@stoehrlaw.com

WWW.STOEHRLAW.COM

SORGE FUNERAL HOME
& CREMATORY INC.

Lloyd C. Sorge, Supervisor
 Ashley K & Aden R. Sorge Funeral Directors
 422 North Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
814-695-3960

WARNERS

Florist - Gifts - Greenhouses
179 S. Montgomery Street
Hollidaysburg, PA
 "Since 1950"

814-695-9431

PLANK, STITT & STEVENS
FUNERAL HOME

421 Montgomery Street
 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 (814) 695-1551
 David J. Mason, Supervisor

BRICK & STONE SUPPLY
OLLINGER BROS
 SINCE 1944
MASONRY WHOLESALER
 BRICK • STONE • BLOCK • HARDSCAPE • TILE
 OLLINGERBRICK.COM 814-943-0321

PETE MORINA CONSTRUCTION Building it better.
 new home construction
 remodeling * additions
814-695-3573
 fully insured * free estimate

Greenlawn Cemetery
 of St. Michael the Archangel Parish
 LOTS ARE AVAILABLE
Call Tom Baker: 695-2546

Certified by the American Board
 of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
 Specializing in Dental Implants
 and Wisdom Teeth
Oral Surgery of Central PA
 Christopher Lance, DMD
 Parishioner
 901 Logan Blvd. Hollidaysburg, PA
 814-944-2802
www.oralsofcentralpa.com

KARA LAWLER
 Available for
 Preorder Now
Everywhere Holy
 AMAZON, BARNES & NOBLE, TARGET
 AVAILABLE IN STORES
 DECEMBER 3RD
 EVERYWHERE BOOKS ARE SOLD
 KARA LAWLER,
 PARISHIONER
[HTTP://KARALAWLER.COM](http://KARALAWLER.COM)

UOC
Robert J. Singer, DO
 Providing Care in Hip, Knee, Shoulder, Sports Injuries, Elbow
 Replacement/Reconstruction, Hand and Wrist Surgery, and Fracture Care
William A. Tyndall, MD, PHD
 Providing Care in Arthroscopy of the Shoulder, Elbow, Hip and Knee,
 Sports Medicine, Shoulder and Knee Replacements, General Orthopedics
Jonathan P. Van Kleunen, MD
 Providing Care in Shoulder, Elbow, Hip, and Knee Arthroscopy
 and Replacements, Sports Medicine, and Fracture Care
University Orthopedics Center UOC.com 814.942.1166

ISB Investment Savings Bank
It's SIMPLY BETTER
Denise Baranik
 Parishioner
 All types of Loans ~ Special rates
 on CD's
www.investmentsb.bank
 814-695-7551 814-944-0843
 Member **FDIC** LOCAL HOUSING LENDER

Stultz REAL ESTATE
 501 Allegheny St.,
 Hollidaysburg PA 16648
 Office: 814-695-4463
 Cell: Call/Text: 814-414-8823
Mariskarealtor@hotmail.com
Mariska Eash
 UNLOCK YOUR HAPPINESS WITH ME

Want to rehear Fr. Alan's Homily?
 Misplaced your bulletin?
 On vacation? Don't miss what's
 going on here at St. Michael!
VISIT OUR WEBPAGE!
www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org
FIND US ON FACEBOOK TOO!
 "St. Michael the Archangel Church Hollidaysburg"

KMS
 INTERIOR DESIGN • HOME STAGING
 Kirsten Stratton, Parishioner
 814-932-5997
kmsinteriordesigns@gmail.com

THE ZANKER FUND
 Supporting Catholic Education
 Since 1898
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

For the **♥** Of Dogs 16635
 Dogs Walking & Dog Sitting Services


K of C Hall
 Rent for your socials.
 Call Jim Zimmerman
695-0707

Thank you to our bulletin advertisers.
 Please patronize our sponsors.
 If you have a business and would like to
 place an ad, contact the parish office for
 more information.

Julie Nelson - Parishioner
 814.934.7622 Text/Call
 Duncansville & Hollidaysburg Service Area
 Reliable * Insured * Bonded * Local References