



May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter
ST. MICHAEL
THE ARCHANGEL
PARISH

301 SPRUCE STREET, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648

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



PARISH STAFF

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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

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2: 14, 36-41 In last Sunday's reading from the Act of the Apostles, we heard a portion of Peter's sermon at the first Pentecost. Today's passage gives the last part of that sermon and the reaction of those who heard it.

1 Peter 2: 20-25 Today's passage from the First Letter of Peter was addressed to Christian slaves who were being treated harshly by their pagan masters. The author reminds them that they are members of the flock whose shepherd walked ahead of them in the face of insults and unjust treatment.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 6: 1-7 and 1 Peter 2: 4-9; Gospel: John 14:1-12

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

May 2 - May 10

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 5/2	+ Most Rev. Bishop Adamec	<i>by the K of C #425</i>
	+ Lori A. Ray (<i>Anniversary Rem.</i>)	<i>by Jeanne Evans and family</i>
Sunday 5/3	+ Matthew Clingerman	<i>by Leon & Doris Wagner</i>
	+ Bobbi Murray (<i>Birthdays Rem.</i>)	<i>by Joan Luciano</i>
	+ Andrew Edelblute	<i>by Mom & Dad</i>
	+ Henry Mangiacarne	<i>by daughter Joan Conroy & family</i>
For the people of St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes		
Monday 5/4	+ Ann Fanelli (<i>Anniversary Rem.</i>)	<i>by her daughter Patti Geesey</i>
Tuesday 5/5	+ Carmen Pequignot (<i>Anniv. Rem.</i>)	<i>by Mark & Jo DeLozier</i>
Wednesday 5/6	For Vocations	<i>by Jerry & Rita Kibler</i>
Thursday 5/7	+ John Owens (<i>Anniversary Rem.</i>)	<i>by his wife Martha</i>
Friday 5/8	+ Michael McClain, Jr (<i>Anniv. Rem.</i>)	
	And Bernadette Melville	<i>by their family</i>
Saturday 5/9	For all mothers, living and deceased	
Sunday 5/10	For all mothers, living and deceased	

Pope Francis recently encouraged Catholics to pray the rosary throughout May. He also shared two new prayers to implore the help of the Virgin Mary during the coronavirus pandemic.

“Contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial,” Pope Francis said in a letter April 25.

He urged families and individuals to “rediscover the beauty of praying the rosary at home in the month of May,” which is traditionally a time of increased devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

With his letter, the pope included two prayers to Our Lady to recite at the end of the rosary, which he said he would also pray throughout May “in spiritual union with all of you.” (see insert in today’s bulletin)

In his letter, Francis said people can pray the rosary as a group or individually, whatever fits their situation best. “The key to doing this is always simplicity.”

During May, it is a tradition to pray the rosary “at home within the family,” he said, noting that the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic “have made us come to appreciate all the more this ‘family’ aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.”

Pope Francis concluded his letter by saying “I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me.”



WILL THE CHURCH REOPEN SOON?

As our state begins the transition to reopen, county by county, we will soon be able to reopen the church. At this point we don’t really know what “opening” means. Meetings are being held daily to discuss this and to explore all options that will meet both your safety and spiritual needs. Decisions will be made following the guidelines issued by the governor, the CDC and under the guidance of Bishop Mark. We will announce any changes, as they happen, to our current situation on our Website and Facebook page. In the meantime, Fr. Alan will continue say Mass privately daily and video record the weekend Mass.

≈≈≈ OUR GIFTS TO GOD ≈≈≈

Thank you for your generosity!

Sunday Offering (4/26/2020): **\$8,433.00***
* total includes a generous one time donation of \$5,000.00

On-Line Giving not available at time of publishing

Easter Offering (4/26/2020): **\$90.00**

Minority Groups (4/26/2020): **\$5.00**

Catholic Home Mission (4/26/2020): **\$215.00**

Holy Land/Good Friday (4/26/2020): **\$15.00**

Holy Thursday (4/26/2020): **\$10.00**

Twin Parish in Jamaica (4/26/2020): **\$30.00**

Maintenance (4/26/2020): **\$215.00**

Catholic Ministries Drive (as of 3/31/2020)
Target Goal: \$48,361.00
Received to Date \$18,020.00
Under Goal by \$30,341.00

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, donate through on-line giving, or place your donation in the mail slot at St. Mary Rectory (312 Clark St. - just be sure to mark that it is for St. Michael Parish).

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 information in their 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.

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.

Have you called a fellow parishioner this week, see how they are, shared your feelings (*we are all in this together*) and prayed together?

This week we ask that you remember all children of our parish Please pray for them, and for those who are taking care of them.

Would you like a bulletin mailed to you? Please let us know.

STAY CONNECTED

The Diocese has launched a new way to communicate with the faithful. If you are able to receive text messages, you can sign-up to receive messages and alerts from them.

To register, text the word “DAJ” to 84576. Sign-up today!

Two prayers to Our Lady to recite at the end of the rosary

First Prayer to Mary

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

Second Prayer to Mary

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God."

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers, and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity, and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude, and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary.
Amen.



FREE FAITH RESOURCES AVAILBALE TO YOU

The Word Among Us

A Catholic Devotional Magazine based on the Daily Mass Readings. Currently this is also available online at: <https://wau.org/>

The Little White Book

The Six-minute daily reflection book based on the Sunday Gospel is designed to help you in prayer each day during the Easter season.

Today's Missal

Several parishioners have asked to have a copy of the Missal that is normally in the church pews to aid them in following along with the Mass online or on the t.v. We have several extra copies of these available.

If you would like copies of any of the items listed above, please contact the church office to arrange to pick them up or have them delivered to you.

FREE ONLINE RESOURCES

We recently added some links to some great online resources for families, children, teens, young adults and individuals to our parish webpage:

<https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/faith-resources>

If you are using another online resource that you think others would like, email a link to the parish office so we can add it to our website.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL

John 10:1-10 In today's gospel Jesus tells us, HE IS THE WAY and warns anyone who offers "another way" to happiness is "a thief and a bandit." Strong words! Don't listen to the sales pitch of society for happiness. Look to yourself where God is present and "calls you by name and leads you to abundant life."

TALENTS AND GIFTS IN THE FAMILY

Respect for self and others.

When we concentrate on the wonderful gifts our children bring to the family, rather than on "problems," we are apt to be better parents. Helping our children view themselves in positive ways boosts their self-esteem. Children (and adults) who value themselves value other people. They have much more potential to be peacemakers in our troubled world. Below is a suggestion of an activity you can do with your family this week to help direct focus for each family member's gift to the family.

- Everyone can do some things well. We call them gifts. Make a family talent/gifts chain. Cut strips of colored construction paper, the same number for each member of the family. Choose a different color for each family member.

Discuss things each member of the family does well. Include ways they contribute to life of the family, such as a good sense of humor to taking out the garbage willingly. Write one of these talents or contributions on each strip of construction paper. Be sincere about the compliments represented.

Form one of the strips of paper into a circle and staple or tape the ends together. Form a circle with a strip from another member of the family and "thread" it through the first circle, forming a new "link". Tape or staple it together. Continue until all the strips you have written on are included.

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SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Since we are unable to receive communion physically at this time, here is a prayer for spiritual communion. It was written by Pope Francis:

I prostrate myself at your feet, O my Jesus, and I offer you the repentance of my contrite heart, which abases itself in its nothingness in Your Holy Presence. I adore you in the Sacrament of Your Love; I desire to receive You in the poor abode that my heart offers You. While waiting for the happiness of a Sacramental Communion, I want to possess You in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, that I may come to You. May Your Love inflame my whole being, in life and in death. I believe in You, I hope in You, I love You. Amen.

MASSES ONLINE and ON TELEVISION

With much gratitude to Fr. Alan, Deacon Chuck Ahearn, Deacon Allan Duman, seminarian Brian Norris, and parishioners Harold & Kathy DeLozier, **we will continue to have video recordings of the Sunday Mass EVERY SUNDAY on our parish website and the parish facebook page. Fr. Alan will also continue to record the Gospel and his daily Homily.**

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>

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS

stmichaelhburg@dioceseaj.org

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 9:00 a.m. on Atlantic Broadband Channel 9 and at 11:00 a.m. on WATM ABC 23 and 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.

**As per Bishop Mark's directive,
the church building is
closed at this time.**

**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 available on our parish website.

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 wander through the world,
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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 On vacation? Don't miss what's
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