



BASILICA OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL



"Proclaim Christ: Encounter Him in Word, Sacrament and Service."

First Foundation August 15, 1559 ~ Canonically Established May 10, 1781 ~
Basilica Elevation December 28, 2011



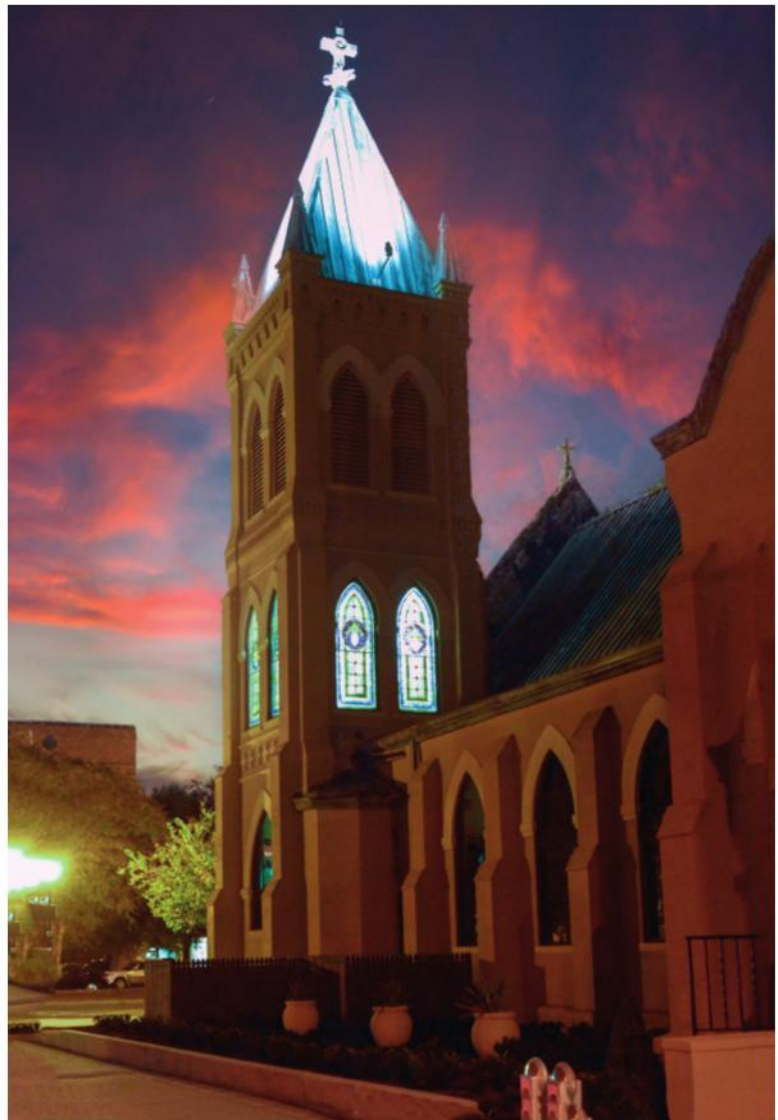
19 North Palafox Street
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12423
Pensacola, Florida 32591-2423
850-438-4985 (Office)

stmichaelbasilica.com

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024



MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays 9:00 am & 11:00 am

WEEKDAY MASS

Mon.—Fri. 12:10 pm

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

12:10 pm and 6:00 pm

Basilica Open For Visitation

Sat.—10:00 am– 1:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Mon.—Fri. 11:00 am—11:45 am

See usher for directions.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

Mon.—Fri. 11:00 am—12:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Mon.—Wed., Fri.

9:00 am—2:00 pm

Basilica Staff

Very Rev. T. Joseph Fowler, J.C.L.

Rector/Pastor

rector@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

Deacon Stephen Wulf

deacon@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

Dennis Wren

Administrative Assistant to the Rector

office@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

Mike McCracken

Director of Sacred Music

emem412@cox.net

Stephen Sexton

Facilities Manager

maintenance@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

Wedding Inquiries

weddings@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

THE DIOCESE OF PENSACOLA-TALLAHASSEE IS COMMITTED TO HEALING THE HURTING HEARTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS AND HAS ESTABLISHED VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COORDINATORS WHO ARE EXPERIENCED AND TRAINED COUNSELORS AND ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED BY A PRIEST, DEACON, OR OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL IN NORTHWEST FLORIDA. THE COORDINATOR FOR THE PROGRAM IN THE PENSACOLA/FT. WALTON BEACH AREA IS DR. LOUIS MAKAROWSKI; HE MAY BE REACHED AT 850-477-7181.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Liturgies & Mass Intentions for the Week of December 22, 2024

12/22 Sun.	Fourth Sunday of Advent
9am	For the People of the Basilica
11am	Fr. Richard Bowles (+)
12/23 Mon.	Gene Copeland (+)
12/24 Tue.	Christmas Eve
12:10pm	Deceased members of the Bauman & Hajcak families
4pm	Ken McDonald (+)
12/25 Wed.	The Nativity of the Lord
12 am	John Myrick (+)
10 am	For the People of the Basilica
12/26 Thur.	Carolyn Hinton (+) <i>St. Stephen, First Martyr</i>
12/27 Fri.	James Heigel (+) <i>St. John, Apostle</i>

☞ This Week at the Basilica

12/22 Sun.	◇ Coffee Hour, 10 a.m.
12/27 Fri.	◇ Holy Hour for Life, 11 a.m. ◇ Rosary for Life, 11:30 a.m.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve-Dec. 24
12:10 p.m. Weekday Mass
4 p.m. Christmas Vigil

Christmas Day-Dec. 25
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass
10 a.m. Mass during the Day

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 & Thursday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday. We will reopen on Friday, December 27 at 9 a.m.

CSA 2024

Updated as of December 13, 2024

Benchmark	\$140,000
Amount Given.....	\$140,942
Households Participating.....	164

Stewardship of Treasure for December 15, 2024

In-Church Offering	\$6,065.80
Online Offering	\$2,725.23
Total Offertory.....	\$8,791.03

"May the Lord reward your generosity with abundant blessings."

FROM FR. JOE

My dear friends, what a gift Christmas is to the world! On this fourth Sunday of Advent, just a few days before the celebration of Christ's birth, I am so glad to celebrate this mystery with all of you. What a joy! As I am writing this, the news reports today bring anything but joy! Fires in California, UFO's from who-knows-where over New Jersey, crime, corruption, greed... just a typical day in the US of A. But it is precisely into this milieu of sin, fear, and malice, that God chooses to intervene.

He comes, not to strike us down or destroy us, not to punish or to banish us. He comes to save us! Wow, do we need saving! He comes quietly and meekly, into the humble setting of a stable where animals are kept, with nothing but love. More than anything, it is Christ's saving *love that we* celebrate at Christmas. His love is undying; His love is sustaining, live-giving, redeeming. His love is true and real and steadfast. His love for us is never diminished, it is never faded or exhausted.

St Paul, writing to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 13:4-8) puts it this way: "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." Of course we are going to celebrate a love like this!

God's love gives us hope. We hope to be able to live this kind of love in our own lives. We strive to be the kind of people who bring this goodness to others. We long to receive love that is this authentic and true. It is the Incarnation, the fact that God takes on human flesh and becomes one of us, that demonstrates our capacity for this kind of love. We can live it! But will we? Will you?

Will you choose the manger instead of the palace? Will you choose your neighbor over yourself? Will you love your brother, sister, orphan, and stranger? Will you, as Christ commands us to do, even love your enemy? God loves you more than you can imagine; His love is not a sentiment or an emotion; it is a choice. He chooses you. He chooses to love you. His goodness, His power, His grace, His salvation are all communicated to us through His gift of love. Whatever our response, this is a gift that cannot be ignored.

I hope and pray that, as we celebrate the day on which the whole of humanity received this gift in such a decisive way at Bethlehem, that your lives will be transformed by so great a blessing. I pray that your hearts would be won over to becoming like Jesus to the full. I pray that, in spite of all that spurns us to do otherwise, you would live in this love always, without fear. Together, in the power of God's love, we sing out to the whole world: "Today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. Glory to God in the highest!"

God bless you all.

Fr. Joe Fowler
Rector & Pastor



Do You Have Questions About the Catholic Faith???

Please visit the Basilica's website at (stmichaelbasilica.com). There you will find "Becoming Catholic" under the "Membership" menu for additional information about Catholicism, or to sign-up for classes.

Basilica of St. Michael Veronica Guild**Bereavement Team**

The Bereavement Team is hosting Masses for our deceased loved ones on the 3rd Friday of the month. The names of loved ones who have died will be voiced aloud as we pray for them and the comfort of those who mourn their loss. If you know of someone from the Basilica of St. Michael who has passed away, please notify the office so we can pray for them. The next Bereavement Mass is Friday, January 17, at 12:10 p.m.

Honoring Life Team

Fridays for Life at the Basilica: Join us as we pray the Rosary at 11:30, the last Friday of each month for the protection and honoring of Life. Every Friday, Adoration and Confessions begin at 11 a.m. All are invited and welcome to "Fridays for Life."

Military Outreach Team

If you are or have been in military service, join us for cookouts and other activities for our military parishioners and friends. Make sure you pick up a **Welcome Aboard** letter in the church!

Outreach to the Poor Team

Please consider an offering to the Basilica's poor boxes or online. These funds are used to support local outreach to the poor including Catholic Charities, the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, the Alfred Washburn Center, the St. Joseph Medical Clinic and the Alpha Center.

Parishioners at Home Team

If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a phone call, card, or visit from one of the members of our Parishioners@Home team, please contact Mary Kay Bianchi (mkb2375@gmail.com).

Prison Ministry Team

The Prison Ministry Team is trained to provide in-person visits, video visits, letter writing, and spiritual retreats for inmates of local facilities. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, contact Bob Beargie (robertbeargie@yahoo.com) or Morgan Rosas (morganrosas@icloud.com).

December Coffee Hour Updates

During the Coffee Hour on December 22 only coffee will be served. Our parishioners are invited to bring your Christmas leftovers to share on Sunday, December 29, during the Coffee Hour.

Cardinal Christmas Tree

"When cardinals are here, angels are near."

The cardinal is a symbol of hope, joy, and remembrance. Stop by the Parish Hall during the 10 a.m. Coffee Hour beginning December 8 through December 22. Write a prayer request and place it on Our Lady's Sodality's Cardinal Tree. Fr. Fowler will bless the tree and all prayer requests. The petitions will also be placed on the altar to be part of our Christmas Masses.

IN OUR CHARITY WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Kay Andrews, Alexander Buchanan, Kenneth Burke, Margaret Burke, Candace Caprara, Mike Chuites, Brandon Del Castillo, Bob & Dennis DeVries, Greg Dziadon, Rene & Dion Edwards, Mary Jane Elliott, Scott Epley, Jane Felix, Ron Fromm, Michelle Garton, Catherine Hajcak, Diane Havard, Frank Hendrickson, Phyllis Hill, Jessica Hutchinson, Luke Karkheck, Kathy Kirk, Matthew Johnson, Tony & Brenda King, Kim LaFlamme, Jim Lee, Ron Livorno, Mary Ann Long, Karen Longhurst, Shaylee Lowery, Tom Marsh, Larry May, Christine McGowan, Dagen McVoy, Vann McVoy, Laurie Murdock, Martha Nealy, Tom & Donna Notaro, Denise Pfender, Casen Roberts, Morgan Rosser, Susan & Jay Sandlin, Mercedes See, Lori Shipman, Lurleyne Terry, Paul Ungerland, Joyce Vignolo, Pat Watkins.

Please contact Dennis Wren at 850-438-4985 to add or remove someone from the prayer list.

2025 Contribution Envelope Boxes

Please try to pick-up your 2025 contribution envelopes from the table in the vestibule of the Basilica. If you no longer want to use envelopes, **OR** if you want to be assigned contribution envelopes, please contact Dennis in the office.

2025 Mass Intentions

The 2025 Daily Mass Book is open for parishioners to request mass intentions for the new year. Please send your request(s) to Dennis Wren at office@stmichael.ptdiocese.org.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

12/22—Paul Meyer, Truc Ngo, Amber Straube;
12/24—Paul Merritt; 12/25—Jackson Donohue;
12/26—Bill Kulbacki; 12/27—Daniel Crowley
12/28—Mick Novota, Ging Prevatt.

**BASILICA ALTAR FLOWERS**

Envelopes are available in the Basilica for donations for Christmas flowers, or use the QR code for Vanco donations. Help us make the Basilica beautiful for the Christ Child.





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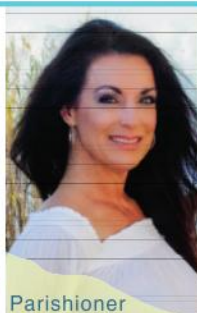
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