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Second Sunday of Advent

IMPOSSIBLE DREAMS

Peace on earth. Good will toward all. An end to hunger, violence, and poverty. Freedom from overwork. Freedom to forgive and to love. Are these the dreams you have for Christmas this year? Today's scriptures tell us they are not impossible. It is Advent, a time when we remember that God can calm the violence of our world, heal our hurting hearts, and inspire the most courageous and generous of deeds—in short, God can make seemingly impossible dreams come true.

But God will not do it without us. The sooner we start cooperating with God, the sooner the “mountains” of self-righteousness, the “gorges” of despair and complacency, and the “rough ways” of anger will be “made smooth.” John the Baptist invites us to repent and “prepare the way of the Lord” within our hearts, in our families, our communities, our churches, and our world.

“PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD”

What gives us the courage to “prepare the way of the Lord” as John the Baptist did? How can we continue to work, watch, and wait for the reign of God in a world where progress seems impossible? We are energized by the confident hope that Christ will ultimately triumph over every mountain, gorge, and rough way. The Christ who came into human history once and comes to save each of us from sin day by day will indeed come again to establish his reign of justice over the whole universe so that “all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” We express the fullness of this Advent hope when we proclaim together in our Memorial Acclamation at Mass: “Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.”

Hope strengthens us to keep preparing the way of the Lord until he comes in glory.

Today's Readings: Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126:1-6; Philipians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Fr. Harry Tully, Pastor

frht@att.net Emergency #812-218-9219 or 502-931-1499

Website - www.stmichaelstfrancis.com E-Mail - michaelsecretary@mw.twcabc.com

St. Michael - 101 St. Michael Drive, Charlestown, In 47111 Ph. 812-256-3200

Office Hours – 9:30 am-2:00 pm Tues. Wed., & Fri.

St. Francis Xavier – 101 North Ferguson, Henryville, IN 47126, Ph. 812-294-4682

Office Hours – Thursday 10:30am-1:30pm

Reconciliation – 5:00 pm Saturday at St. Michael or call the Rectory

Marriage – Please contact the pastor a year in advance. Advent and Lent are not times for celebrations.

Baptisms of Infants or Adults Joining the Church – Must be a practicing/registered member for three months. Please contact the DRE: St. Michael–Juliann Eickholtz, St. Francis–Father Tully

New To The Parish: Please call the office to register. Please introduce yourself to Father Tully at mass.

Parishioners Who Are Ill: Please call Fr. Tully or the rectory if a relative or friend is sick.

Bulletin Announcements: Get all bulletin announcements to the office in writing by Tuesday evening.

Los Enfermos Es muy importante comunicarse con el Padre (*debido a las leyes privadas, los hospitales no se comunican con las iglesias*).

Doctrina Cristiana: Las clases de educación religiosa para niños son cada domingo de 9:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. en la escuela. Recuerden que la Arquidiócesis requiere que los que van a recibir los sacramentos estén inscritos en las clases de religión.

Monaguillos: Los niños que quieran ayudar como monaguillos en el altar tienen su ensayo el segundo domingo de cada mes después de la misa de 11:00 a.m. Estos niños y niñas tienen que haber hecho la Primera Comunión. Los interesados comunicarse con Pbro.

Mass Schedule

Mass Intentions

St M	12/10	Mon		No Mass
St. FX	12/11	Tue		No Mass
St. M	12/12	Wed	4:30PM	Mass For the People of St. Michael & St. Francis Xavier
St. FX	12/13	Thurs	4:30PM	Mass
St. M	12/14	Friday	12:00PM	Mass
St. M	12/15	Sat	4:30PM	Leonard Eickholtz
St FX	12/16	Sun	9:00AM	Marvin Atkins
St. M			11:00AM	Flo Wessel
St. M			12:30PM	En Español

Faith Formation News

If your child is absent from class on Sunday, please give the office a call at 812-256-3505.

Faith Formation Classes are held on Sunday mornings for children three years of age through high School. If your child does not attend a Catholic School, he/she should be enrolled in the FF Program. Assistants are needed each week!



Parish Christmas Program
Plans are in the making for a Parish Christmas Program at 4:00pm before the Christmas Eve 4:30pm Mass. Practice

time will be Sunday morning at 9:30am on December 9th and December 16th will be the dress rehearsal. Youth of the parish are invited regardless of the school they attend. Please let Nathan Fouts or Juliann know if your children will participate by Sunday, December 9th. We need readers, choir singers, shepherds & angels for the Christmas Program!



ST. MICHAEL CHARLESTOWN

Eucharist
Sat – 4:30 pm Time
Sun – 11:00 am
La Misa en Español
Domingo – 12:30 pm

Mass Intentions

Saturday Evening: Calvin & Florence DeVary
Sunday 11:00 am: William T Fouts

Gift Bearers for this week's Masses:
5:30pm: Ronnie Seals Family
11:00am: 3rd & 4th Grade Classes

With the holidays coming up The North Clark Outreach Center has expressed a need for non perishable food items. They are running short and need our help. There is a box for donations in the back of church. Thank you for your contribution.

Our Service Project each week is to collect non perishable canned goods for the North Clark Outreach Center!

The Rosary is said at St. Michael at 4:00pm before Saturday Evening Mass and at 10:30 before Sunday Mass.

Faith Formation Meeting Thursday, December 13th at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist Class
Please keep in your prayers the following students: Jonathan Carrillo, Drew Doherty, Jennifer Flores, Aaron Fouts, Marissa Garcia, Freddy Jimenez, Isaac Kinder, Adalyn Lathem, Itzel Lopez, Edwin Mendiola, Amber Nove, Allyson Pascual, Jackie (Angelica Pacheco), Maelyn Sarver, Gloria Spencer, Isabella Tolliver, and Yareli Trejo.

Calendar

- Classes
December 9 – Session Fourteen NCO Rosary & Music Practice
December 16 – Session Fifteen, Christmas Program Prep
December 24-Monday 4Pm Christmas Prelude Program
December 23 – NO CLASS Christmas Break
December 30-NO CLASS Christmas Break



St. Michael's Bible Study is going to be Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the Cry Room. We will be studying the Acts of Apostles. Note time change. For more information contact Steve Buit 812-820-7956.



Angel Tree

- 1) Thank you to everyone that took an ornament!
- 2) Return Angel Tree gifts to church unwrapped in a grocery/garbage bag, you may provide gift paper if you wish.

- 3) Please label the bag with the number on the ornament or attach the ornament (one Angel Tree Ornament per bag please)
- 4) Please return all gift by December 12th. Gifts will be given to families on 12/13/18. Drop off gifts during mass or within the school building before 6:00pm.

St. Michael Ministries Schedule

Sat. December 15, 4:30pm– St. Michael

Eucharistic Ministers: C. DeVary & B. Stoner

Servers: C. Ledbetter

Gift Bearers: Tim Baltz Family

Musician: Carolyn Eickholtz

Cantor: S/S Buit

Lector: Steve Buit

Sun. December 16, 11:00 am – St. Michael

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Kinder, C. Dunn & J. Worley

Servers: Volunteer

Gift Bearers: Robert Mueller Family

Musician: Nancy Kinder

Cantors: Jan Weyer

Lector: Michael Howard

St. Michael & St. Francis Xavier Sacrament

Preparation: The Faith Formation Commission, the Pastor, and the Archdiocese state that a child must be enrolled and attend classes the YEAR BEFORE and YEAR of receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation. Baptism of children under school age requires the parents to meet with the pastor before the sacrament is received.

YOU ARE BORN A MAN.

YOU BECOME A KNIGHT.



Join today. Visit KofC.org/JoinUs

Contact Jim Worley @ 812-725-6826 for more information.

Religious Retirement: provides support for thousands of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

Collection

December 1 & 2

St. Michael \$ 3,905.00

St. Francis Xavier \$ 1,530.00

ST.MICHAEL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

812-256-3503 Rita Poff Director

Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Infant & Toddler Care: starting at 6 weeks

Childcare: 6 weeks - 12 years old

Before & After Care and Summer Camp: KG - 5th grade

Preschool: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

8:15 am - 11:15 am & 12:15 pm - 3:15 pm

Pre-Kindergarten: Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 11:30 am & 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Upcoming Advent Penance Services in our Deanery.

St. Mary Navilleton December 12th 7:00pm.

Our Lady of Perp. Help December 12th @7:00pm

St. Mary Lanesville December 13th 7:00pm

Holy Family Parish December 15th 8:30am

St John Starlight December 16th 1:00pm

St. Mary New Albany December 16th 4:00pm

St John Paul II (St. Paul) December 19th 6:30pm

Sacred Heart December 20th 7:00pm

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Henryville

Eucharist

Sunday 9:00am



Mass Intention:

Sunday Mass: Sandy Banet

Gift Bearers for this week's

Mass: Karen Johnson Family

St. Francis Xavier Ministries Schedule

Sun. December 16, 9:00am

Eucharistic Ministers: Janice Furnish, Ann Harbeson & Mike Harbeson

Servers: Abby Banet, Madison Coomes & Aaron Ulrich

Ushers: Anthony Harbeson & Mike Harbeson

Gift Bearers: Chad & Melissa Lyons Family

Lectors: Jack Murphy

St. Francis Faith Formation

December 9 – Class

December 16-Class

December 23- NO CLASS

December 30-NO CLASS



Come out and enjoy St

Francis Xavier Fish Fry the first Friday of every month, 5-7pm. The menu includes fish, fries, slaw, fried biscuits, drinks & Desserts. Thank to everyone for your support!

March for Life – Attention High School Students! 2018 Deanery March for Life Pilgrimage is Jan. 17-20th to Washington, D.C.. Any high school student is encouraged to join us for this incredible opportunity to stand up for the gift of life. Email Chris Rodgers, chris@nadyouth.org, for more information and for registration materials. Call Chris at 812-923-8355 with questions or see your Youth Minister. Registrations and final payment are due **Dec 14, 2018**.

Retreat Team 2019 – An opportunity to accompany the young church on the path of discipleship. More and more, our young people need authentic examples of how to imitate Christ in their lives. Prayerfully consider how you can help mold our youth into imitators of *CHRIST*, into *SAINTS*!! Go to nadyouth.org to Pastors and Leaders to fill out the online form. Contact Chris Rodgers chris@nadyouth.org for more information.

Second Sunday of Advent

Advent-The twofold character of Advent calls us to prepare for the remembering of the Word make Flesh at Christmas and directs us to wait with alertness for Jesus' second coming.

Breaking open the Word-Suggested text for faith sharing; Today's Gospel

Theme: We are getting ready to welcome Christ into our hearts.

Step 1: Listen to the Word. As you hear this reading what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your mind, how do you respond?

Children: How do you share the Good News of Jesus with others?

Youth & Adults: Advent is the Church season when we prepare for Christ's birth at Christmas. Name one thing you can do to help "prepare the way of the Lord?"

Question of the Week is from Our Sunday Visitor at osvcurriculum.com Click on Lifelong Catechesis and Question of the Week.



Our Parish Christmas Party is next Saturday after the Evening Mass. We want to invite all parishioners of St. Michael and St. Francis Xavier to come and celebrate. The Knights of

Columbus will sponsor the event by furnishing the meat and drinks. Just bring your favorite covered dish to share.

2019 Calendars are at the Church doors. Help yourself to the calendars they were donated to us by Grayson Funeral Home!

Las Posadas-All are invited to join the Parish for the Las Posadas Dec. 16-Dec. 23 for a festive Mexican Christmas tradition, Las Posadas in which participants remember & accompany Mary & Joseph on their way to Bethlehem. The Spanish pray the Rosary in Spanish and the Rosary is offered in English as well. The Faith Formation Commission will participate on Monday, December 17th at 6:30pm in Church.

To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven a time to be born a time to love a time to heal a time to die and a time of peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALTH & STRENGTH:

Karen Anderson, Mary Barrett, Donald Barker, Dennis Bishop, Robin Bishop, Clarence Bottorff, Heather Bruning, Wyatt Burke, Lyn Carter, Glen Cole, Janice Collier, Gary Cooper, Liz Cooper, Fr. Curran, Jonathan Dean, Bernice Donahue, Paula Downs, Gordon Dagoon, Jeanette Drury, Fr. John Elmer, Donna Foster, Kenny Goode, Kathleen Hensley, Victor Howard, Maefiel James, Raymond Kopp, James Leach, Kay Ledbetter, Helen Little, Connor Martin, Kina McKinney, Herb Montgomery, Iliad Mullins, Esther Toby Nelson, Ian Newland, Mitch Newland, Cathy Peek, Katelyn Phillips, Denny Poff, Terri Poff, Nancy Rash, The Sanchez Family, Carroll Schafer, Bob Scherer, Dave Schlageter, Schoenbachler/Clark Family, Eugene Seals, Robert Sherer, Dorothy Smith, Bob Snyder and Family, Lynn Vogt, Logan Westerhouse, Kyle Wilson, Teresa Whitaker, Luke Wood, Lawrence & Barbara Yochum.

Names will remain on the list for 6 months unless you tell us to remove them or request that they be kept longer.

Potluck Young Adults Saturday, December 15th. Gather at 6 pm – 9 pm this month at the Eichhorn's. Open to all Young Adults in the Deanery. Check out our Facebook page [New Albany Catholic Youth Ministry](https://www.facebook.com/NewAlbanyCatholicYouthMinistry) for event information. Want to get alerts? Email Philip@nadyouth.org to get connected, or call 812-923-8355.

This Christmas

Let's Give a Little Jesus, a thoughtful word or deed, An act of generosity for someone who's in need.

Let's Give a Little Jesus to everyone we meet-The salesclerk or the server, the person on the street.

Let's Give a Little Jesus, that's what really counts-Not what's spent or brought, for whom, in what amounts.

Let's Give a Little Jesus to everyone, large or small...For Jesus, the Messiah, is the Greatest Gift of All!

Lisa O Engelhardt