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Third Sunday of Advent

“THE LORD IS IN YOUR MIDST”

Both today’s reading from Zephaniah and the responsorial psalm exult that “the LORD is in your midst.” They proclaim the presence of God among the people of Israel and foretell the core of our faith in the Incarnation. God is not far off. God’s love was manifested in Jesus’ coming as a human person and is present here and now in us. John the Baptist also proclaims the coming of Christ into our midst and reminds us that our lives must change if we are to be ready to welcome the Messiah at his coming.

These scriptures are not unlike the bells that seem to surround us at this time of year. They call us to rejoice. They call us to worship. And they call us to change. One bell in particular, the Salvation Army bell, reminds us that not everyone has experienced God’s saving presence yet. There are many who suffer while others

wallow in abundance. “What should we do?” John the Baptist calls us to respond to their need. He calls us to change our ways so that Christ’s saving presence can truly be manifested “in our midst.”

“WHAT SHOULD WE DO?”

One way to discover what we should do this Advent is to pray the Our Father with extra sincerity and attentiveness. We pray, “Thy kingdom come; thy will be done.” We commit ourselves to a spirit of trust and forgiveness and ask to be kept from temptation. As we get ready for the coming of Christmas it is good to ask ourselves what God’s will is for us, whom we are called to forgive, and how we are tempted. What should we do so that God’s kingdom might come into our lives more fully this Christmas?

How would John the Baptist reply to us if we asked him, “What should we do?”

Today’s Readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Isaiah 12:2–6; Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 3:10–18

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 – 4:00 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	12/17	Mon		No Mass
St. FX	12/18	Tue		No Mass
St. M	12/19	Wed	4:30PM	Mass For the People of St. Michael & St. Francis Xavier
St. FX	12/20	Thurs	4:30PM	Mass
St. M	12/21	Friday	12:00PM	Mass
St. M	12/22	Sat	4:30PM	Emma Yount
St FX	12/23	Sun	9:00AM	Patrick Phillips
St. M			11:00AM	Jeffrey Hester
St. M			12:30PM	En Español

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

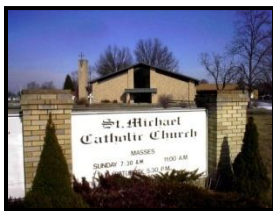
Faith Formation Classes are held on Sunday mornings for children three years of age through high school. If your child does not attend a Catholic School, he/she should be enrolled in the FF Program. Assistants are needed each week!

Special Thanks to last week's assistant Johanna Murphy!

**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 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: Leonard Eickholtz

Sunday 11:00 am: Flo Wessel

Gift Bearers for this week's Masses:

5:30pm: Tim Baltz Family

11:00am: Robert Mueller Family

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.

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

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 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

January 6-Session Sixteen



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.

St. Michael Ministries Schedule

Sat. December 22, 4:30pm– St. Michael

Eucharistic Ministers: G. Minnick, S. Seals

Servers: Volunteer

Gift Bearers: Adam Allgier Family

Musician: Carolyn Eickholtz

Cantor: J. Weyer

Lector: Steve Buit

Sun. December 23, 11:00 am – St. Michael

Eucharistic Ministers: S. Fouts, M. Edmonds, J. Dean

Servers: J. Worley

Gift Bearers: Adam Doherty Family

Musician: Nancy Kinder

Cantors: S/S Buit

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.



Collection

December 8 & 9

St. Michael \$ 3,282.00

St. Francis Xavier \$

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 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: Marvin Atkins & Charles Hunt

Gift Bearers for this week's Mass: Chad and Melissa Lyons Family

St. Francis Xavier Ministries Schedule

Sun. December 23, 9:00am

Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Haycraft, Emily Horine, Erin Horine

Servers: Aric Lyons, Amora Lyons, Aaron Banet

Ushers: Victor Jett, Cindy Murphy

Gift Bearers: Bill Martin, Jr. Family

Lectors: Joe Banet

St. Francis Faith Formation

December 16-Class

December 23- NO CLASS

December 30-NO CLASS

January 6- 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!

CYM Calendar

ABIDE is a night of Adoration, Reflection, Confession, and Praise at Mount St. Francis Chapel starting at 7 pm - 9 pm on Tuesday, December 18th. There will be childcare available at Catholic Youth Ministries office on location. Email Chris@nadyouth.org if you are interested in childcare help. All of our sitters are Safe Sitter trained.

Safe Sitter Training Catholic Youth Ministries will be holding a Childcare Ministry training, in conjunction with Safe Sitter on Saturday, January 12th from 9 am-3 pm at our Mt. St. Francis office. The training will be for any students 6-8 grades wishing to serve in our ministry. For more information and registration, email Chris Rodgers at chris@nadyouth.org or register at nadyouth.org. The cost for training materials is \$20 and lunch will be provided. Registration Deadline is January 3rd.

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**.

SEEK2019 Retreat for College and Young Adults Jan. 3 – 7 Indianapolis Conv. Ctr. Encounter Something More! SEEK 2019 is about discovery, a new perspective and becoming who you were always meant to be in Christ. Financing information is available. We want to help you attend! Email Philip@nadyouth.org.

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.

WRESTLING

We are looking for a volunteer Coaching staff for the K-4 grade Deanery wrestling program. Please email athletics@nadyouth.org if you are interested in assisting or call Justin Hanks at 812-923-8355.

Third 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: John baptized with water, but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

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: The main symbol of Baptism is -----, which is used to wash away our sins. a) water, b) fire, c) bread, d) a big party. Answer: a) The baptismal waters, wash us clean of original sin. For those baptized when older, all personal sins are also forgiven.

Youth & Adults: How can you live the promise of your Baptism each day? Question of the Week is from Our Sunday Visitor at osvcurriculum.com Click on Lifelong Catechesis and Question of the Week.

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.



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