

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### “BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB”

Luke’s infancy narratives are carefully written to reveal that the child Jesus who was born in Bethlehem is truly the Son of God, the long-awaited Messiah of the Jews, and the Savior of all people. In today’s Gospel Elizabeth proclaims the good news to Mary, and to us, that Mary’s child is divine. She says, “Blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Luke 1:43). As Luke tells it, John the Baptist recognized Jesus before either of them had been born, and announced Jesus’ identity as the anointed Son of God through Elizabeth’s words.

The first and second readings for this Sunday highlight Jesus’ identity as Savior of all people. In Micah we hear that “his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth” and in Hebrews we are reminded that his death was an offering “for all.” Today’s scriptures should reveal to us the full significance of the Incarnation, the coming of God in the form of a humble human infant.

### REAL PRESENCE

We may never fully grasp God’s real presence in the human form of the infant Jesus. Just so, we may never fully grasp the real presence of God in the humble form of the Eucharist. The one who came down from heaven and became human at Christmas comes down from heaven at every Eucharist and offers us his body and blood so that all might be consecrated—that is, share in his divine life. As we sing the Lamb of God litany and receive Communion this week, may we welcome the Son of God and Savior of all people, the Messiah and Lamb of God. May we recognize him not only in the infant Jesus and in the Eucharist, but in all of our sisters and brothers.

In every Eucharist the Incarnation continues; God takes on human form and dwells among us.

*Today’s Readings: Micah 5:1–4a; Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–45*

**Fr. Harry Tully, Pastor**

**[frht@att.net](mailto:frht@att.net) Emergency #812-218-9219 or 502-931-1499**

**Website - [www.stmichaelstfrancis.com](http://www.stmichaelstfrancis.com) E-Mail - [michaelsecretary@mw.twcbc.com](mailto:michaelsecretary@mw.twcbc.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	12/24	Mon	4:00PM	Christmas Program
St. FX			4:30PM	Christmas Eve Mass
			7:30PM	En Español Christmas Eve Mass
St. M	12/25	Tue	11:AM	Christmas Day Mass
St. M	12.26	Wed	4:30PM	No Mass
St. FX	12/27	Thurs	4:30PM	No Mass
St. M	12/28	Friday	12:00PM	No Mass
St. M	12/29	Sat	4:30PM	The Looney and Rash Family
St FX	12/30	Sun	9:00AM	Charles Hunt
St. M			11:00AM	Robert Schindler
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. Classes begin at 9:30a.m. please be on time. Give yourself 5 or 10 minutes to settle in before class starts.**

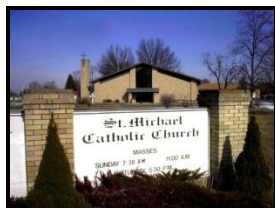
**Faith Formation Classes are held on Sunday mornings for children three years of age through high school. If your child does not attend a Catholic School, he/she should be enrolled in the FF Program. Registration forms are on our website [www.stmichaelstfrancis.com](http://www.stmichaelstfrancis.com) Assistants are needed each week!**

**Special Thanks to last week's assistant Cheryl Mann and Johanna Murphy!**

**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 24-Monday 4Pm Christmas Prelude Program**
- December 23 – NO CLASS Christmas Break**
- December 30-NO CLASS Christmas Break**
- January 6-Session Sixteen**
- January 13-Session Seventeen-Rosary & Music Practice, 11:00 Youth Mass, Gift Bearers Grades 7-8 & High School**



**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: Emma Yount**  
**Sunday 11:00 am: Jeffrey Hester**

**Gift Bearers for this week's Masses:**  
**5:30pm: Adam Allgeier Family**  
**11:00am: Adam Doherty 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.**



**St. Michael's Bible Study is on Sunday morning at 9:00am in the Cry Room. For more information contact Steve Buit 812-820-7956.**

**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*

## St. Michael Ministries Schedule

### **Mon December 24, 4:30**

Eucharistic Ministers: C. DeVary, J. Kinder  
Servers: Volunteer  
Gift Bearers: Steve Fouts Family  
Musician: Nancy Kinder  
Cantor: Youth Choir, Jessica Sarver  
Lector: Mary Pat Beach

### **Tues. December 25, 11:00**

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Worley  
Servers: Volunteer  
Gift Bearers: Volunteer  
Musician: Carolyn Eickholtz  
Cantor: Choir  
Lector: Chuck Ledbetter

### **Sat. December 29, 4:30pm**

Eucharistic Ministers: M.P. Beach, G. Minnick  
Servers: Volunteer  
Gift Bearers: Joe Wafford Family  
Musician: Carolyn Eickholtz  
Cantor: Tim & Ky Baltz  
Lector: Steve Buit

### **Sun. December 30, 11:00 am – St. Michael**

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Kinder, J. Dean, C. Dunn  
Servers: Volunteer  
Gift Bearers: Nathan Fouts Family  
Musician: Nancy Kinder  
Cantors: S/S Buit  
Lector: Michael Howard



### **Special Thanks!**

**To the Knights of Columbus for hosting a wonderful Christmas party.**

**It was enjoyed by many of the parishioners. It was a special time to visit with friends and enjoy a delicious meal!**

The door prizes were very nice and everyone that attended was given a book to enjoy.

### **Parish gift-Resisting Happiness by Matthew Kelly.**

If you didn't make the Christmas Party and would like a copy of this book, call the rectory and we can get you one. A Book Study is forming to discuss what we read and to share with each other on January 6<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00am Mass. We will meet in the school. Please call Marina Traub if you want to attend at 812-256-2623. If you want to, bring a snack to share.

**YOU ARE BORN A MAN.**

**YOU BECOME A KNIGHT.**

**Join today. Visit [KofC.org/JoinUs](http://KofC.org/JoinUs)  
Contact Jim Worley @ 812-725-6826 for more information.**

## **Collection**

December 15 & 16

St. Michael \$ 2,838.06

St. Francis Xavier \$ 2,243.00

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

**Henryville**

Eucharist  
Sunday 9:00am



**Mass Intention:  
Sunday Mass: Patrick Phillips**

**Gift Bearers for this week's**

**Mass: Bill Martin, Jr. Family**

## St. Francis Xavier Ministries Schedule

### **Mon. December 24, 9:30pm**

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Mayes, Kim Young, Dan Young

Servers: Kayla Martin, Ben Ulrich, Allison Banet

Ushers: Jack Murphy, Tom Nolot

Gift Bearers: Craig & Connie Mull Family

Lectors: Sara Becher

### **Sun. December 30, 9:00am**

Eucharistic Ministers: Gino Couch, Traci D'Angelo, Janice Furnish

Servers: Madison Coomes, Andrew Banet, Clayton Higdon

Ushers: Bill Short, Jacob Coomes

Gift Bearers: Jack & TJ Murphy Family

Lectors: Philip Carter

## **St. Francis Faith Formation**

**December 23- NO CLASS**

**December 30-NO CLASS**

**January 6- Class**

**January 13- Class**

**January 20-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!**

**2019 Calendars are at the Church doors. Please help Yourself to the calendars they were donated to us by Grayson Funeral Home!**

## St. Francis Xavier Parish Fall 2018 UCA Update

- Parish Goal \$6,028
- Amount Pledged \$5,236
- % of Goal 81%
- Total \$'s Received \$3,536
- Parish Households 81
- # of Pledges 32
- Parish Participation 40%

## St. Michael Parish Fall 2018 UCA Update

- Parish Goal \$12,512
- Amount Pledged \$7,659
- % of Goal 61%
- Total \$'s Received \$4,024
- Parish Households 182
- # of Pledges 50
- Parish Participation 27%



Make 2019 the year you begin your adoption journey!

Adoption Bridges of Kentuckiana, the adoption program of St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities, is accepting prospective adoptive parents beginning in January 2019.

Contact Julie at 502-585-4369 or [jbarkley@adoptionbridges.org](mailto:jbarkley@adoptionbridges.org) to learn more.

### CYM Calendar

**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](mailto:chris@nadyouth.org) or register at [nadyouth.org](http://nadyouth.org). The cost for training materials is \$20 and lunch will be provided. Registration Deadline is January 3rd.

**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, The Ben Bertram Family, Dennis Bishop, Robin Bishop, Clarence Bottorff, Heather Bruning, Wyatt Burke, Lyn Carter, Glen Cole, Janice Collier, Fr. Curran, Jonathan Dean, Bernice Donahue, Paula Downs, Gordon Dagoon, Jeanette Drury, Fr. John Elmer, Donna Foster, 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, 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.**

**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](http://nadyouth.org) to Pastors and Leaders to fill out the online form. Contact Chris Rodgers [chris@nadyouth.org](mailto:chris@nadyouth.org) for more information.

### Fourth 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: Jesus is identified as Lord before he is born. 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 does the Blessed Virgin Mary help you to follow Jesus? Listen to the gospel or reread it. **Youth & Adults:** Listen for these words in the "Hail Mary". "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." What role does Mary play in your own spirituality?

**Question of the Week is from Our Sunday Visitor at [osvcurriculum.com](http://osvcurriculum.com) Click on Lifelong Catechesis and Question of the Week.**

