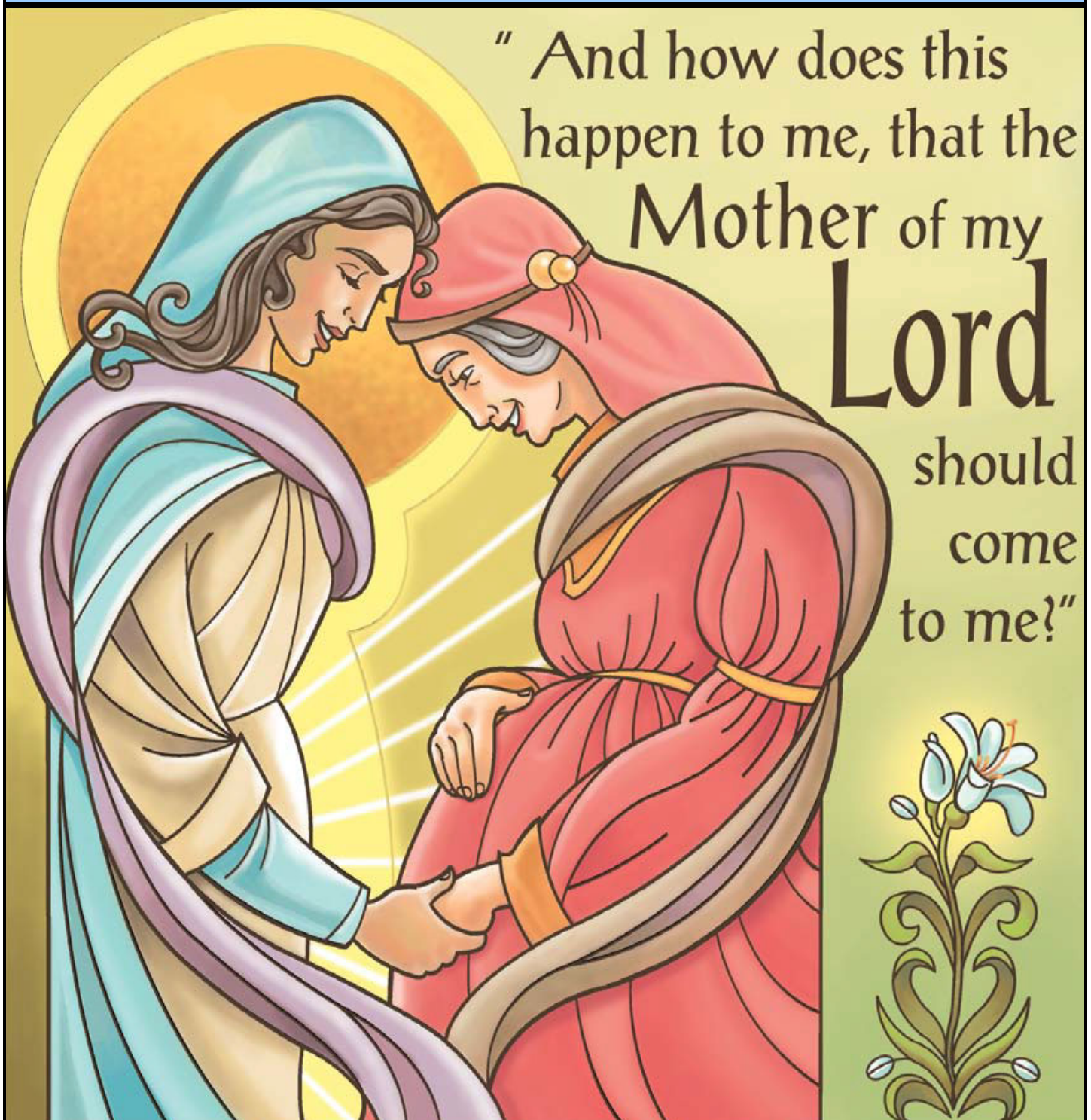
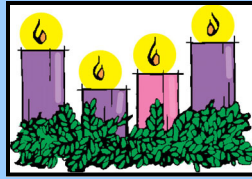


ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH



***P.O. Box 6310 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035 corner of North Fourth & Broome Streets
904-261-3472***



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 20, 2015
A NEW ORDER**

“O, Little Town of Bethlehem.” A Philadelphia clergyman named Phillips Brooks penned these popular words back in the mid-1800s, but the prophet Micah could have used them first. Micah knew that from small packages great treasures come. In today’s first reading, he knew that from tiny Bethlehem would come the Lord.

The writer in Hebrews explains that Christ came to us to do the will of God by establishing a new order and by becoming our perfect sacrifice. And Luke tells us that Elizabeth and John, the infant in her womb, understand that great and wondrous things are at hand with the coming of the Lord.

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Soon we celebrate anew the fruit of Mary’s womb. As we are told in Hebrews, Jesus’ new order is being established even today. And as Micah proclaims, his greatness is reaching even now to the ends of the earth.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — From you, Bethlehem, shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel. **(Micah 5:1-4a).**

Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved **(Psalm 80).**

Second Reading — By Christ doing the will of God, we have been consecrated **(Hebrews 10:5-10).**

Gospel — **“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:39-45).**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES**

Thursday, December 24, 2015

4:00 p.m.—Church

4:00 p.m.—Hall

6:00 p.m.—Church

11:00 p.m.—Church

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Friday, December 25, 2015

8:00 a.m.—Church

10:00 a.m.—Church

12:00 noon—Church

NEW YEAR’S EVE

VIGIL OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31, 2015

6:00 p.m.—Church

NEW YEAR’S DAY

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Friday, January 1, 2016

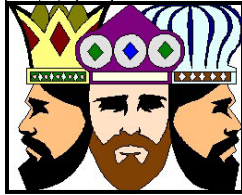
8:30 a.m.—Church



**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED DECEMBER 24TH AND
25TH. FR. JOSE AND ST.
MICHAEL STAFF WISH YOU A
VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED
CHRISTMAS.**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. JOSE
KALLUKALAM, ON HIS ORDINATION
ANNIVERSARY DECEMBER 23rd. MAY GOD
CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AS YOU
SHEPHERD ST. MICHAEL.**



Lord, every nation on earth will
adore you...

**Christmas Epiphany Pageant
and Festival of Nations
International Pot Luck**
January 3, 2016—5:00pm

Come and join us as we reenact the Nativity through music and pageantry. Celebrate Epiphany with all the cherished customs from the cultures that make up our parish family.

We welcome your participation! Here are ways you can share your heritage with us:

FOR THE PAGEANT IN THE CHURCH:

Procession of Gifts: We need Gift bearers (singles, families, children) to bring up a symbolic gift during the pageant that represents your families cultural Christmas traditions.

call/email: Denise Ziegler
904-654-3855 musicatmichaels@gmail.com

**FOR THE FESTIVAL OF NATIONS AND
INTERNATIONAL POT LUCK IN THE HALL:**

Admission: 1 small dish to share

Dinner: Everyone is invited to bring a food dish reflecting his/her cultural background to share at the festival.

Showcase your heritage: Create a booth on your heritage. We would love to have a variety of countries represented. Families, friends, & ministries can work together on a booth. Booth items can be pictures, music, clothing, books, etc.

Children: We will have a flag decorating contest and are looking for children who would like to dance, sing, or play a musical Instrument reflecting different ethnic groups.



Sign up sheets for food, booths, and performers will be at the back of the church, Dec. 12-13 & 19-20, or on our website,
www.stmichaelscatholic.com.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



STAINED GLASS WINDOW DECORATIONS

A 3ft artificial window garland of mixed greenery with gold ribbon and natural decor accents will be placed on each of the stained glass window sills in the church during the Christmas season.

The pieces have been designed by Artistic Florist and include hidden water tubes so you can add fresh blooms as you continue to celebrate your special someone after the holidays.

Pieces will be displayed in the church from 12/24/15 to 1/10/16. Each piece will include a 3x5 decorative card on holder displaying the name of your special someone. Pieces will be available for you to pick up on Monday, 1/11/16

Strictly Limited to 16 Pieces.

Specific window placement requests on a first come basis.

Donation \$200.00

To Reserve Your Window and Garland, **contact Jeanne in the Parish Office at 261-3472**

**FESTIVAL OF NATONS
INTERNATIONAL POT LUCK**

Please stop by the sign up table after Mass to choose how you would like to participate in our International Festival immediately following the Epiphany Pageant on January 3, 2016.

END OF THE YEAR GIVING

As another year has almost concluded and as the Christmas holidays approach we begin to reflect on the many blessings that God has bestowed on us and our families. The end of the year also provides an opportunity to thank God for these blessings by bestowing a major gift to St. Michael Catholic Church. Besides thanking God for His generosity towards us, some people do this in order to take advantage of income tax deductions, capital gains savings or other financial benefits. There are many ways to make such a contribution. The two easiest ways are a donation of cash (usually in the form of a check) or of appreciated stock or other investments.



**GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROUS OFFERING!**

Registered Families 1750 December 13, 2015
Offertory \$17,014.67
Children's Collection 61.72



**ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE
OF ELECTRONIC GIVING**

St. Michael Catholic Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate

your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Online Giving lets you go to www.stmichaelscatholic.com at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many of our most treasured traditions link the liturgy of the church with the hearth of the home. The food on the table at certain feasts and fasts helps to extend the mystery into everyday life. Tonight, for example, many families of Italian heritage, especially those with links to the south of Italy, will settle down to the "Feast of the Seven Fishes," or *La Vigilia*. It is a command performance for the whole family, as the saying goes: *Natale con I tuoi, Pasqua con chi vuoi*, or "Christmas with your family, Easter with whomever you wish." Seven different fish, some say one for each day of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, others say one for each sacrament, or one for each day of creation, are served. Eel and shrimp, lobster and crab, calamari, pasta with clam sauce, flounder and hake all abound, but most especially baccala, dried salted cod. Why? Many say that it is a way to pay homage to the beasts of the stable who witnessed the holy birth and relinquished their manger to make way for God. Tonight, if someone asks you to "pass the shrimp," you'll be able to shed a little light on the menu that is a delicious treasure in our tradition!

**Masses for
the Week**



- Sat. Dec. 19 (5pm) Jack Flynn by Tom & Mary Atkinson
 Sat. Dec. 19 (7pm) Spanish Mass
 Sun. Dec. 20 (8am) SPECIAL INTENTION of Lori Kennedy by Katie Rewa
 Sun. Dec. 20 (10am) Anne Hammer by Tom & Vicki Paisley
 Sun. Dec. 20 (12noon) Parishioners of St. Michael's
 Mon. Dec. 21 (8:30am) Florence Mayer by Tom Moody
 Tues. Dec. 22 (6pm) SPECIAL INTENTION for Coral Brooke Skipper by Linda Bader
 Wed. Dec. 23 (8:30am) Michael Tuttle by Alice Weiss
 Thurs. Dec. 24 (4pm) Stacie Oppert by Joe & Joan Raineri (in the church)
 Thurs. Dec. 24 (4pm) Robert & Harriott Hurley by the Hurley family (in the hall)
 Thurs. Dec. 24 (6pm) Lily, Grace & Sarah Badger by Mary Foster
 Thurs. Dec. 24 (11pm) Venita Newsome by the family
 Fri. Dec. 25 (8am) Gary Lee Watson by Charles & Jackie Wason
 Fri. Dec. 25 (10am) Tom Schultz by Rich & Marie Billings
 Fri. Dec. 25 (12noon) Carmine & Rose DeFillipo by Charles & Mary DeFilippo
 Sat. Dec. 26 (5pm) Bader family by Linda Bader
 Sat. Dec. 26 (7pm) Spanish Mass
 Sun. Dec. 27 (8am) Parishioners of St. Michael
 Sun. Dec. 27 (10am) SPECIAL INTENTION of Jonathan & Carina Tomassetti
 Sun. Dec. 27 (12noon) Andrew & Mary Pollak by Jim & Barbara Lauerma

Please pray for the sick and all requests in our Prayer Request Book.

ADVENT TAIZE' PRAYER SERVICE

What is your gift to Jesus? The St. Michael Taize' ensemble is celebrating our 7th year of service and we invite you to attend a 30 minute musical service that includes simple chants sung repeatedly, a time of blessed silent and reflection, a scripture reading and prayers of praise and intercessions. Amidst the rush to prepare for Christmas, don't forget to prepare your heart for the birth of Jesus; the true gift and spirit of Christmas. Feel free to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the season and meet our Lord and feel the power of His Love in communal song and prayer.

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Corner of North Fourth & Broome Streets P.O. Box 6310 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

Parish Office - 505 Broome Street - Phone - 904-261-3472

Fax - 321-1901 Email: smjdean@bellsouth.net

ALL EMERGENCIES: 904-277-6566

Website: www.stmichaelscatholic.com



Rev. Jose Kallukalam, Pastor
Visiting Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Shea
Deacon Art Treadwell

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Masses: 5:00 pm
7:00 pm (Spanish Mass)

Sunday Masses- 8:00 am—10:00 am—12:00 noon

Confessions:
Saturday: 4:00-4:45 pm or by appointment

Daily Masses: 8:30 am Mon., Wed., Thurs., & Fri.
6:00 pm Tues.

Holy Days Vigil: 6:00 pm
Holy Day 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

MINISTRY TO SICK & HOMEBOUND

Weekly visits and monthly Communion Services are held at Savannah Grand, Quality Health Care and Jane Adams House. Visits by Priest or Extraordinary Minister can be arranged by calling 261-3472.

MATRIMONY

Marriage preparation for couples who wish to be married in a Catholic ceremony must meet with their parish priest at least eight months prior to the wedding date.

R.C.I.A.

For those seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith, call 261-3472.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Classes are available for grades 1—8. Sacrament preparation is available for Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Call the parish office, 261-3472.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Walt Edwards: 491-0180

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Denise Ziegler: 654-3855

ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY

Pre-K—Grade 8 Principal—Jackie Stewart
Call 321-2102 for information
Email: smacad@smacad.org
Website: www.stmichaels-academy.org



St. Michael Catholic Church Mission Statement

We are the body of Christ at St. Michael's Parish, called to: Gather for Worship, Celebrate the Paschal Mysteries, Preach the Gospel, Minister to Others, Be Witnesses to the World.