

St. Mary St. Michael

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616.384.4026 • www.saintmichaels.us



Pastor: Rev. Michael Hodges

frmhodes@grpriests.org • For emergencies please call: 616.745.1409

Saint Mary Parish Staff

St. Mary Parish Office Hours
Monday9:00AM - 4:30PM
Tuesday9:00AM - 4:30PM
Wednesday 9:00AM - 11:30AM
Thursday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
Friday Closed

Deacon
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Custodian
Marian Looks

Liturgical Minister
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berniestanko@hotmail.com

St Mary Prayer Line
616.677.3934 or
Linda at 677.3269
For evening requests call
Darlene 616.453.0157 or
email bfa1414@yahoo.com

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Friday 9:00AM to 4:00PM

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St Michael Prayer Line
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616-403-7110
Judy Driedger
616-899-2470

Director of O.C.I.A
Cliff Kozminski
616.437.5318

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM • St Michael
Sunday 8:30AM • St Michael
Sunday 10:30AM • St Mary

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday 12:00PM • St Mary
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Wednesday 12:00PM • St Michael
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Thursday 12:00PM • St Mary
Friday 12:00PM • St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday and
Thursday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Mary
Wednesday and
Friday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Michael
Saturday 3:00PM to 3:45PM • St. Michael

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday November 1

4:00PM † Marie Barkel by K of C #9909.....MI
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael

Sunday November 2 *The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)*

8:30AM † Sherry Maslowski by Jeff & Denise Parish.....MI
 10:30AM † All Deceased Loved Ones of the Parish.....MA

Monday November 3 No Mass

Tuesday November 4

11:00AM † Wayne Kensil by Pat KensilMA

Wednesday November 5

12:00PM † Frances Holmes by Paul & the late Becky Schmidt.....MI
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30pm
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael

Thursday November 6

12:00PM † Jim Potts by M/M Arlyn Doornbos.....MA
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Mary

Friday November 7

12:00PM † Betty Knauf by Curt & Joan Kutchin.....MI
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael

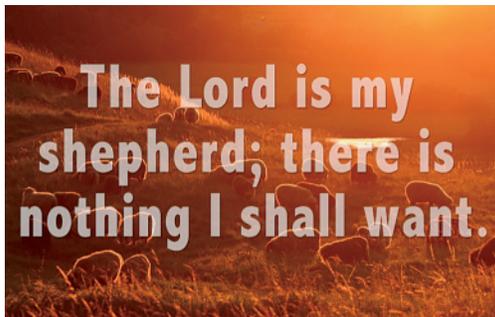
Saturday November 8

4:00PM † Dave Degenhardt by Mike & MaryBeth Fochtman.....MI
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael

Sunday November 9

8:30AM † Marie Johnson by Ted Johnson & Family.....MI
 10:30AM † Floyd & Mary Bradley by Lisa Bradley.....MA

MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's



Scripture Readings for the Week of November 2, 2025

Sunday	The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40
Monday	Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday	Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop Rom 12:5-16ab; Ps 131:1bcde, 2,3; Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday	Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112: 1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
Thursday	Rom 14:7-12; Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14; Lk 15:1-10
Friday	Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Lk 16:1-8
Saturday	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15
Sunday	Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

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St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Nov 8—4:00PM	Nov 9 —8:30AM
Altar Servers	Dylan Ranney NEED ONE	Kenzie Harker Melena Lindberg
Eucharistic Ministers	Veronica Schumaker NEED TWO	Jennifer DeMull Sharon Carlson Zack Nelson Rosemary Weigel Kenny Harker Cindy Lindberg Jennie Taylor
Lector	Kevin Schumaker	Jeff Johnson
Sacristan	Sue DeVos	Chris Albrecht
Ushers	Duane Snowdin NEED ONE	Mary Bueche Curt DeVos Greg Helsen Peter Nielsen
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	November 9 —10:30AM
Sacristan	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Ty Ricord Sela Ricord Peter Lothschutz
Precious Body	Mary Kirkwood Bruce Kamp Need One
Precious Blood	Becky Warners Christina Withers Geary Farrell Need One
Hospitality	Leonard Horter
Lector	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko

All Souls Day ~ November 2

also known as "The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed" is observed on Sunday, Nov. 2 this year. This is when we remember people who were more like us – the souls of the faithful departed in purgatory or in process. The faithful on earth can assist these purgatorial souls in attaining heaven through prayer, good work and the offering of Mass. At Mass on All Souls' Day, we pray that through Christ's loving mercy, God's "departed servants...may be granted pardon and peace, and be brought to the joy of God's eternal home.

Did you know? An indulgence for the souls in purgatory is granted to the faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the departed. Find out more:

<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2017-11-02>



Cluster News and Community News and Events

Advent by Candlelight

Sunday, November 30 - 6:30PM— St Mary Parish Hall

An evening of fellowship for woman.

Hosted by: The St Mary's Our Lady of Fatima Guild

All ladies of the community and their Middle School or older daughters are invited to come and start the Advent season with a beautiful candlelit evening.

Music of the season be provided by a talented hand bell choir. If you are interested in reserving & decorating a table, or would like more Information please contact: Lori Rander, lrander81@gmail.com or 616-215-6524.

Tickets are \$5.00 each.

(guests are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share)

All proceeds raised will be donated to the church ministries and local charities supported by the Guild. Donations are being accepted for the raffle.

Watch for Ticket Sale Information.



Catholic Service Appeal - 2025

St Mary

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$50,516.00

Total Pledges Made: \$55,055.00 (109%)

Balance: \$4,539.00 OVER- THANK YOU!

Participation: 107 of 260 Active - Households (42%)

St Michael

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$52,297.00

Total Pledges Made: \$42,380.00 (81%)

Balance: \$9,917.00

Participation: 100 of 255 - Active Households (39%)

Totals as of October 21, 2025

Thank you for your stewardship!

Please keep in mind that any amount raised over our goal is returned 100% to the parish. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.



Bulletin Sponsor of the Week



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Fr Mike's Musings



Humans by nature are a talkative species. It is not a bad thing to keep touch with family and friends, but sometimes openly engaging in friendly conversation is inappropriate and disruptive. One such instance is in the sanctuary of the church, both before and after a liturgy or other service—Stations of the Cross, funeral, wedding, etc. Why should there be silence in church? Aren't we gathering to commune with God and one another?

Paragraph 45 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) states:

“Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner.”

Common conversation in church is disrespectful of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We are in the 'House of God', in the presence of God Himself in the tabernacle, not in a coffee shop or the local tavern. Any and all of our thoughts should be directed to Him.

Such irreverent behavior teaches disrespect. When children see adults talking, giggling and laughing in church, especially before, during and after Mass, instead of engaging in prayer or silent meditation. This mindset teaches them that its OK to treat the sanctuary as if it were a common meeting hall, thus further eroding respect for, even belief in, the Blessed Sacrament in the coming generations.

It is the 'Lord's House', which Jesus taught is "a house of prayer" (Matthew 21:13) and thus should be used according to its purpose. It is unholy to turn the Holy House of God into a man-made place of socializing chit-chat. Herein dwells the Real Presence of Christ, whom must be treated with never-ending reverence. Talking in church is a violation of justice against God, for whom we should come before in dignity and respect.

Before Mass we should arrive early to prepare our hearts for the holy sacrifice in prayer. After Mass we have the opportunity to stay for 5-10 minutes in silence and prayer to give thanks to God and to praise Him in our hearts for the great gift of the Eucharist. And the environment in which this prayerful attitude is fostered is one of silence.

Silence is one of the ways that we set aside the space in our church to make it holy and will change the way that we approach the Eucharist. Not only ourselves but also visitors to our spiritual home will notice that this is a special and hallowed place. Through silence in the church, especially before and after Mass, we recognize in our hearts in a physical way the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and we give Him the freedom to communicate freely and lovingly with us. This is difficult to accomplish if we are too busy catching-up with our buddies to take the opportunity to listen to our friend.

(Thanks to Kevin Kilpatrick who assisted in the authoring of this article.)

St Mary & St Michael Parish Cluster Advent 2025 Schedule

- **Advent Lecture Series** with Fr. Michael Hodges
 - **Scripture Roots of the Sacraments**
 - Mondays- December 1, 8, 15 - 7-8:30PM—St Mary Community Room
 - All are Welcome. (no registration needed)
- **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day**
 - Monday, December 8 - 12:00PM Mass~ St. Michael
 - Monday, December 8 - 6:00PM Mass ~ St. Mary
- **Christmas Hymn Sing Along with organ, piano, over 20 flutes & your voices**
 - Sunday, December 14, 2025-3PM - St Mary
- **Additional Advent Resources Available at NO COST to you in the Narthex.**
 - "Little BLUE Books" will enrich your Advent season with daily prayer & reflections.
 - "The Word Among Us" includes Daily Scripture readings and prayers from the Liturgy. Free Mass Supplement, Daily meditations based on the Mass. Practical featured articles on Advent and the saints.

November 2, 2025 ~ All Souls' Day

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW):

Pre-School thru 2nd Grade During 10:30 AM Mass.

1st-7th Grade Faith Formation Classes -

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

8th Grade - Confirmation Classes -

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

For more information or any questions on any of these programs Please contact Debbie Veneklas at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616.677.3934

Prayers for Debbie

Continued prayers of healing, peace and strength for Debbie (our friend and Religious Education Director) as she begins treatment for CML- Chronic Myeloid Leukemia.

Heavenly Father, we commend our friend Debbie to your loving care. Please touch her with your healing hand to restore her strength, comfort her heart, and bring her peace. May she feel your presence and know your love as she recovers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



In Memory of our Loved Ones

During the month of November we take the time to remember our deceased loved ones. Everyone is invited to bring in a **framed picture** of your deceased loved ones to be on display in church through out the month of November. Please drop off pictures to the parish office or leave in the designated area in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.



Looking Ahead-Save the Dates

Nov 2	Cookies After Mass
Nov 11	Our Lady of Fatima Guild Meeting 7PM Community Room
Nov 22	COR- 7AM Community Room
Nov 26	Thanksgiving Eve Mass-Grocery Collection, Annual Slide Show 6PM St Mary
Nov 30	Advent by Candlelight 6:30 Parish Hall
Dec 1	Fr Mike Lecture Series- Scripture Roots of the Sacraments. 7PM- Community Room
Dec 6	Cookies After Mass - Volunteers needed
Dec 7	COR- 7AM Community Room
Dec 8	Fr Mike Lecture Series- Scripture Roots of the Sacraments. 7PM- Community Room

Knights of Columbus #11581 News



How to become a Knight: You can enroll in the Knights of Columbus immediately as an "Online Member" by scanning the QR Code. Once you complete and submit the form on that page a local council will contact you. For additional information or to learn more about what the Knights do, Contact Grand Knight: Bruce Kamp b.kamp@charter.net / Phone 616-780-4941

Next Blood Drive & Breakfast will be Feb 1, 2026



The Knights of Columbus #11581 and Saint Mary will be collecting grocery items at the

Thanksgiving Liturgy on Wed. November 26 at 6PM

You are encouraged to bring: canned meats, paper products, person hygiene items, laundry soap, etc.

Baby food and baby necessities are also in need!

Grocery Bags will be collected during the offertory.

Groceries will be distributed to local families in need by Coopersville Cares. **THANK YOU!**



Fr Mike will be celebrating Mass and we will be collecting much needed items for our annual Grocery Collection (hosted by the Knights of Columbus #11581) We will also watch a short slideshow from the past year's activities here at St. Mary's Parish.

Thank you St Mary's Parish Family

The family and friends of James Perks want to thank Father Hodges, Deacon Robert's, Gary Karr and the ever so helpful, Cathie VanGessel for their help in planning the beautiful funeral for James (D. Jim Perks) ! God bless you all!!



Giving Back to God

Mass: Attendance 10/26	185
Adult Contributions	\$3555.00
Children Contributions	\$11.00
Loose Contributions	\$154.00
Capital Improvement	
Online Giving	\$1160.00
Total	\$4880.00
<i>Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget</i>	<i>\$5584.64</i>
<i>Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual</i>	<i>+4096.71</i>

Thank you for your continued support and generosity! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions.



Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Thank you to the families that purchased Scrip this week. Scrip totals will be updated next week.



St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Debbie Venekase, Ken Heflin, Marvin Hecksel, Payton Patterson, Pat Harlett, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration for the 2025-2026 school year: **Classes have started. It is not too late to join us.**

Children's Liturgy of the Word: CLW program is offered on Sunday

during 8:30 Masses. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading.



Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:00- 7:30 pm in the parish school. Registration forms are in the back of church and on the parish website.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 meet on Sundays from 9:45-11:15am in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation.



What is it? The PaperGator® is a fundraiser where St. Michael's is paid to collect paper products for recycling.

What CAN go in the bins?

Newsprint
Catalogs/Magazines
Junk Mail
Phone Books
Office/School paper
Hard and soft cover books

What CANNOT go in the bins?

Paperboard (Grocery Item boxes)
Plastic
Metal
Trash
Glass
Cardboard

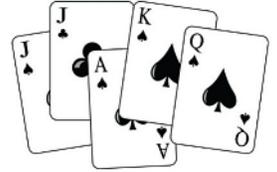


St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Sherry Maslowski
by Frank Maslowski & Family

Euchre

Andrea Steffes at **Fountain View** invites any interested persons to a **EUCHRE Fundraiser, Sat., Nov. 8 from 1:00-3:30!** (Building #2 Chapel and dining area.) Any donation is welcomed but a minimum \$10 donation is asked to play 5 games.



Come alone or bring a friend. A few of the residents plan to play as well! RSVP With a text: (616) 477-3645 include your name & if anyone's joining you.

If you can't make it, but would like to make a monetary donation, contact Andrea. Thank you!

Cemetery News

Summer Decorations — if you have summer flowers and other decorations out in the cemetery, please remove them by Wednesday, November 12. Flags will be removed by maintenance at that time as well. Christmas decorations may be placed after November 15 and must be removed after January 1. Thank you for your help in keeping up our cemetery!

Giving Back to God

October 25/26

Mass Attendance: 10/25- 4:00 PM:	97
Mass Attendance: 10/26: 8:30 AM	131
Adult Envelopes	\$6,600.00
Loose Cash	\$235.00
Children's Envelopes	\$11.00
Total	\$6,846.00
World Mission Sunday	\$161.00
Building Fund	\$2,000.00
<i>Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget</i>	\$5,441.37
<i>Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual</i>	+\$3210.31

Thank you for your continued support!

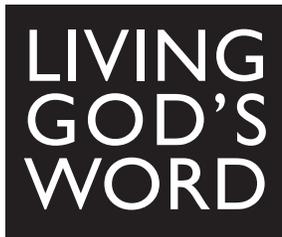
Online Giving —

Now there's an even more convenient way to contribute to St. Michael's! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions. Or text the word GIVE to: 616-384-5011.



November 2, 2025 ~ All Souls' Day

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



DAVID M.
KNIGHT

We Are All Saints

The word saint comes from the Latin word for “holy” (*sanctus*), but it doesn’t mean what we may take it to mean. We think that a “holy” person is a virtuous person, someone who seldom if ever sins. But the real meaning of holy is “consecrated, set aside, separated from the ordinary.”

God is the “holy of holies,” the absolutely Holy One, because God is by nature separate, apart, different from everyone and everything—while at the same time close to and most intimately involved with everyone and everything. God is in a category all his own—or more accurately, God is not in any category; God just is. There is God and, on a completely different level, there is everything else.

The Jews were holy because God chose them and set them apart to be his special people: “For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God; you shall be holy, for I am holy” (Leviticus 11:45). The sabbath observance was a reminder of this: “You shall keep my sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, given in order that you may know that I, the LORD, sanctify you” (Exodus 31:13).

Because the Church is the continuation of the chosen people, Saint Peter calls us “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation” (see 1 Peter 2:9). We are holy as a Church, however, not only because God has set us apart for special relationship, but also because this relationship is a sharing in God’s own divine life by grace. God has joined us to the divine self by making us members of the Body of Christ, “the high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens” (see Hebrews 7:26). By Baptism we have “become Christ.” And so, we are holy-different, set apart, consecrated-as he is holy.

Jesus came down to earth to be one of us, like us in every way except sin. Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as

NOVEMBER 2, 2025

ALL SOULS

Wisdom 3:1-9; Romans 5:5-11;
Matthew 5:1-12a

something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself, and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:6-11).

We proclaim in the Gloria of the Mass, “For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ...” But now God has made us holy in Christ. By Baptism we were “separated” from this world; we died to it in Christ and we came back into it as his risen Body to continue what he came to do—or, better, to let him continue it in us. Saint Peter constantly calls the members of the Church “the holy ones” and urges, “as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy’”(1 Peter 1:15).

That is what we are. We have been set apart and consecrated through union with Jesus Christ to do his work in the world. That is why we must live his life in the world; live it as he lived it. Those whom we celebrate as “saints” are simply those who have shown us



in every age—in every walk of life, and under every set of circumstances—how to do this.

In the Beatitudes Jesus gives us a thumbnail sketch of the mindset we need to live as Christ. The only way to understand the Beatitudes is to see them as the attitudes and values of those who are holy—set apart and consecrated to be different from what is considered normal on earth. For people who take life on earth at face value, it is definitely not a blessing to be poor, sorrowing or persecuted. The meek don't inherit the earth; they lose it to the strong and ruthless. And those who go to work every day hungering and thirsting above all for uprightness, seeking purely the kingdom of God, will probably not have their pockets filled at the end of the day.

But they are being filled—with all the fullness of God. They are receiving what they have been set apart to receive, because they are giving what they have been set apart to give. And it is one and the same thing: the life of God, life in abundance, life to the full. That is what Jesus came into this world to give.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Thirty-First Week of the Year

***Pray daily:** Lord, you said, "This is eternal life, to know you, the only true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ." Teach me to respond to you so radically that I will know that I know you. Amen.*

Monday: Luke 14:12-14: "When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind." What do you do that is so different from what is taken for granted that you experience it as the grace of Christ in you?

Tuesday: Luke 14:15-24: "A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many... But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves." How much of Jesus' invitation have you accepted? What have you declined?

Wednesday: Luke 14:25-33: "Any one of you who does not renounce all your possessions cannot be my dis-

ciple." How does the proverb, "You get what you pay for" apply here?

Thursday: Luke 15:1-10: "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance." Why do converts often seem to appreciate the faith more than those baptized as infants? When did you discover your faith anew, or begin to live it on a deeper, higher level?

Friday: Luke 16:1-8: "The children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light." What do businesses and advertisers do to keep people aware of how good their products are? What do you do to keep yourself aware of the Good News?

Saturday: Luke 16:9-15: "The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones." How much use do you make of what is available in the Church to help you grow in knowledge and love of God—Scripture, sacraments, daily Mass, talks, retreats? What more might God give you if you used these more?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Tell one person how you encountered or discovered Jesus Christ.

As Disciple: Write down the verse of Scripture that means the most to you.

As Prophet: Choose, find or make one symbol which to you expresses your own particular way of appreciating or living the Gospel (what could they use to identify your statue if you were declared a saint?).

As Priest: Each day consciously offer up one action, person, prayer, or intention to God as sharing in the priesthood of Jesus.

As King: If you were told to mark with a cross everything you have brought under the reign of Christ, what could you mark? (For example, a recovering alcoholic could mark a cross on a bottle.)

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