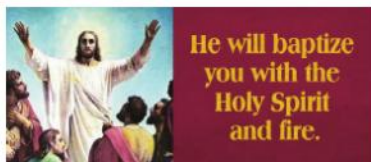




Advent
THIRD WEEK

Christmas is only nine days away now. Children—and the young at heart—can feel the excitement building. Gifts will soon be under the tree. We have been preparing for Christ's coming for two weeks. Retailers and radio stations have been preparing for Christmas for over a month. The nearness of the holy day is palpable and so today—**Gaudete Sunday**—we rejoice. We rejoice in God's gift to us, not to be found under a tree, but in a manger and in our hearts.



Readings for the Week of December 16, 2018

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Sunday | Third Sunday of Advent Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18 |
| Monday | Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17 |
| Tuesday | Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25 |
| Wednesday | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25 |
| Thursday | Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38 |
| Friday | Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45 |
| Saturday | 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56 |
| Sunday | Fourth Sunday of Advent Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45 |



The Thursday morning **Women's Bible Study group** will resume on January 10. The Study begins at 9:30 until 10:30 a.m. with social time beginning at 9:15. We will be studying the *Ignatius Catholic Study Bible – The Gospel of Mark*, with commentary, notes & study questions. This book can be ordered online. If you have questions please contact Charla Behr at 979-417-1015.

God is faithful and our hope in Him is like a fixed anchor in heaven. ~ Pope Francis

Area Advent Penance Services

December 17: St. Michael the Archangel
December 19: Most Holy Trinity, Angleton
December 20: St. John the Apostle, West Columbia

All services are at 7 pm.



Mass Schedule and Liturgy Intentions December 15-December 23, 2018

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| SATURDAY | 5:30 PM | +Drew Muhl +Mary Kubesch +Mary Pelliccia Lucilla Henderson +Bettie Carmody +Lawrence Seymour +Dorothea Wedelich Lisa Longoria McMillan |
| SUNDAY | 8:00 AM | +Shirley Broussard +Brenda Dellamea +George Sykora +Mario Cruz +Stella Girouard +Dorothy & Earl Ellenbrook +Stephanie Black St. Michael Staff +Sue Arnold +Bob Cobb Dean Price-Knight of Mo. Boots & Ruth Ermis-KC Fam. Of Mo. |
| | 9:30 AM | +Matthew Haluska +Ed & Dorothy Jurecka +Donna Schwertner +Christen/Mensik Families |
| | 11:00 AM | |
| TUESDAY | 5:30 PM | |
| WEDNESDAY | 8:30 AM | |
| THURSDAY | 5:30 PM | |
| FRIDAY | 8:30 AM | |
| SATURDAY | 5:30 PM | |
| SUNDAY | 8:00 AM | |
| | 9:30 AM | |
| | 11:00 AM | |



Ruth Cleaver, Frank Drabek, Doris Follett, Paul Garcia, Bobbie Jasek, Sarah Langston, Tom Loftus, Eileen McDonald, Bubba Moore, Paul Perdue, Doris Rutkowski, Lori Sipple, Sarah Sterzinger, Dorothy Vitek, Eddie Wleczyk, Jack & Barbara Yonge, "Boots" Ermis, Jenna Dubec, David & Pat Gifford, Fred Weatherly, Paula Price, Vera Bennett, Ray Villarreal, Judy & Nolan Link, Wilhelmina Muniza, Edith Hall, Mirella Sherman, Kate Shaw, Peyton & Tyler Boaz, Scott Kanski, Belia Hue, Shirley Gillman



If you would like to make a donation towards the **Christmas flowers for the church**, please contact the Parish Office at 979-297-3041. The requested donation is \$15.00 per poinsettia and donations may be specified "in honor" or "in memory" of a loved one.

.....
Discernment for 2019 Pastoral Council will be **Sunday, December 16th at 2:00 PM** in the Library. Parishioners are encouraged to be part of this process, either by discerning to serve a term on Council or by participating during the facilitated discernment process as a member of the parish. The Pastoral Council focuses on our St. Michael's parish community as a whole, working as a consultative body for the Pastor. They respond to the calls and questions of the Pastor, our ministries, and our parish members. Please join us for this opportunity to prayerfully consider our Pastoral Council membership. During this discernment we will, as a parish family, ask the Holy Spirit for new Pastoral Council Members. **Is it YOUR TURN to serve?** Contact Daniel Caraballo at 352-446-8458.

HOLIDAY LITURGICAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

Christmas Eve:

4:00 pm
6:00 pm
9:00 pm

Christmas Day:

10:00 am

Mary, Mother of God: (Holy Day of Obligation)

December 31 Vigil: 5:30 pm
January 1: 10:00 am

ALL MASSES ARE IN THE CHURCH

All parish offices will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve beginning at noon and New Year's Day.

The Adoration Chapel will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.

Holiday bulletin deadlines:

December 30 bulletin deadline: Friday, December 21 at 11 am.
January 6 bulletin deadline: Friday, December 28 at 11 am.



BAKE SALE!

Let the elves (Catholic Daughters) do your holiday baking
Stop by the FLC after all masses **THIS Sunday, December 16th**

Formation Toward Christian Ministry (FTCM) for the Spring 2019 Semester will be starting up soon. If you are a catechist for children, youth or adults (or just want to deepen your commitment to your faith as a mature disciple) the Archdiocese strongly encourages you to work toward this certification. Many of the courses are offered online. Check out the website for further information: <http://archgh.org/oec/ftcm/>



St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

100 Oak Drive, South Lake Jackson, Texas 77566
www.smlj.org www.facebook.com/smljtx

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday – Friday

Pastor—Rev. Msgr. Leo Wleczyk

Parochial Vicar—Rev. Loc Phan

Deacon—Gary Forse

Parish Office: 979- 297-3041

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Office: 979- 297-3043

Spiritual Learning Center: 979-299-3500

Weekend Liturgies

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Tuesday 5:00–5:25 p.m. & Saturday 4:00–5:00 pm

Rosary

Every Monday at 7:00 pm in the Church

Nursery

**Available in the Family Life Center during the
9:30 am and 11:00 am Masses**

Adoration Chapel

Every day 9:00 am–10:00 pm

Baptism Preparation

Melanie Viktorin: 979-297-3041/melanie@smlj.org

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Ministry invites St. Michael parishioners to welcome a blessed statue of Our Lady of Fatima into your home. Our Lady will travel from home to home, stay for a week (Sunday to Sunday), and the host family will pray the rosary daily in her presence. Our Blessed Mother will be brought to your home on Sunday and before leaving her, the rosary will be recited with your family. The following Sunday, the statue will be picked up and taken to the next host family. Please contact **Diane 979-709-6956** or **Pam 979-297-9011** to schedule a week.



Please consider adding this wonderful blessing to your family's spiritual life! There are lots of weeks available and it's very simple to sign up. Just give Diane Vu a call or email her at thuandiep@sbcglobal.net and she will send you the sign-up link.



Women's A.C.T.S. Retreat
Hosted by Our Lady of Lourdes, Hitchcock
February 14-17, 2019
Christian Renewal Center, Dickinson
For more information contact Melanie at St. Michael
979-297-3041
melanie@smlj.org



ACTS is a wonderful way to increase your faith life. Please come and join us!

Planning to be married in the Church?



Please contact Fr. Leo, Fr. Loc or Dcn. Gary at least 6 months in advance. *It is imperative to meet with clergy before setting a wedding date or reserving a reception venue.* Call the office for an appointment.



Join us for the Rosary every Monday at 7:00 pm in the Church. Everyone is welcome.

Visit our NEW and improved website: www.smlj.org
AND

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/smljtx



CDA Prayer Blanket Ministry

4-ply acrylic washable yarn needed. Please drop off in the youth office. Thank you!



KEEP the GLASSES COMING! Please donate prescription eye glasses you no longer use to the Crystal Crafters. A collection basket is located outside the library. Thank you for helping us help others.

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FORMED

St Michael Faith Formation is happy to provide you with FREE access to **FORMED.org**, a Catholic website bringing you resources to watch, read, listen and study your Catholic faith. You can also download the free FORMED app to get this information at your fingertips. To get started, visit smlj.formed.org. Simply fill in your info and you will be ready to explore all that Formed.org has to offer. If needed, our parish code is **HJPFYH**. See our website for the **Pick of the Week**.



St. Michael Catholic Church is looking for a few dedicated prayer warriors to join our **1 CHURCH / 1 DAY** prayer initiative. The **1 CHURCH / 1 DAY** model of strategic, sustainable 24/7 prayer unites churches without having to physically come together. Each church takes one day every month to pray for 24 hours. This creates a church-led, year-round prayer covering for the community. St. Michael Catholic Community has committed to the **last Thursday of each month** to pray for the needs of our parish and the community. The committed prayers can pray from home or wherever it is convenient. Please contact Dan or Bunny Swist to volunteer for one hour on the last Thursday of each month to join this effort. Email danann@sbcglobal.net or call 979 297-0736.

FOOD+FRIENDS+FAITH FORMATION

There will be no Family Meal Night from Dec. 19 through Jan. 9. We will resume the Family Meal on January 16, 2019. Please make plans to join your fellow parishioners in the New Year for Food+Friends+Faith Formation.

The Family Meal Nights are free to all thanks to your generous donations to the Archdiocesan Ignite Campaign.

Attention ALL organizations, ministries, Bible studies and other groups: It is time to make sure your recurring meetings are on the 2019 Facilities Calendar. We want to be sure the correct rooms are reserved for the correct dates and times for the next year and ahead. As you know, we use an electronic calendar which is updated daily. The calendar may be viewed on our website www.smlj.org under the *News & Events* tab. There are also hard copies outside the main office and Angelina room. Please contact Melanie at 979-297-3041 or melanie@smlj.org with your meeting plans for 2019. Your room will NOT be reserved if you do not update your information. Thank you in advance.

'TIS (almost) THE SEASON

Join our parish for BEST ADVENT EVER, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you'll receive an email with . . .

- Short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt, Matthew Kelly, and the Dynamic Catholic team.
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey

To sign up, visit

BestAdventEver.com/Christmas18

BEST **Advent** EVER



IGNITE UPDATE

Amount paid so far: **\$715,710** from **252** families. Please write all checks to **IGNITE** and mail directly to the Archdiocese.



Already contributed to this year's DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND? We thank you for your generosity and support of more than 60 ministries within our Archdiocese! If you have not had the opportunity to donate to **DSF** this year, please visit: www.archgh.org/dsf. Let us all join in prayer that our faith and commitment will be *Instruments of God's Mercy*.

SAVE THE DATE



**SECOND ANNUAL
HEART OF WORSHIP:**
REKINDLE THE FIRE IN OUR HEARTS
Saturday, February 9, 2019
Wleczyk Hall
8:30 am — 6:30 pm
Registration coming in January

Join the St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Community for a day of fellowship, inspiring talks, praise and worship, prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. Experience the Holy Spirit and the richness of our Catholic Faith.

Featured Speaker: Brother Herman Johnson, O.P.

Childcare/program will be provided by the Boys and Girls Club for ages 5—11 years old.

WYD

World Youth Day Houston and Eucharistic Vigil

We invite you to join us in our local World Youth Day celebration concurrent with the gathering in Panama on January 26-27. Houston is one of five cities in USA that will be hosting a regional celebration at St. Jerome Catholic Church 8825 Kempwood Dr, Houston. The WYD event is on Saturday January 26 from 1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Come for all or part of the afternoon. Young adults ages 18 and above. Check the list of talks and speakers at www.archgh.org/yacm. Registrations by January 16 at www.archgh.org/yacm. \$20 per person and includes dinner.



ADORATION CHAPEL

We currently have **MANY empty hours** in our schedule that we need to fill in order to be in compliance with Vatican guidelines. Please consider adding this valuable ministry to your spiritual life. To volunteer contact Jody Epps 979-297-8804/jaepps@mac.com.

The Chapel will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.

Please send or update your **email address** by emailing dee@smlj.org. We will be emailing your contribution statements for tax purposes in mid-January and need to assure we have your correct information.

Attention current college students. The Women of St. Michael is pleased to offer one \$500 scholarship to a current college student seeking either an undergraduate or graduate degree. It is our hope that the foundation in your Catholic faith at St. Michael has continued to grow. The qualifications for the scholarship is currently maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher and be actively involved in your church at college or a Catholic ministry. If interested please contact Patti Trahan at plt1978@comcast.net for an application and needed supporting documentation. Deadline is March 31, 2019. No late application will be considered.

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