

Weekly Calendar

Weekday Masses and one Sunday Mass, are live-streamed on the parishes face book pages

Saturday, Dec. 18	7:00 am 9:00—11:00am 5:00 pm	Morning Prayer with Mike Reconciliation Mass– <i>Harley Pertner+, Rita Liskai+</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Mary Church Saint Michael Church
Sunday, Dec. 19	7:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>Pete Schalk+, Living and Deceased of the Jim and Barbara Haubert family</i> Mass– <i>For the People of Our Parishes</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Mary Church Saint Michael Church  Saint Michael-Gibsonburg
Monday, Dec. 20	7:00 am	Morning Prayer with Mike	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg
Tuesday, Dec. 21	7:00 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm 5:45-6:00pm	Morning Prayer with Mike Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament Mass– <i>Pam Herman+</i> Reconciliation	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Michael Church Saint Michael Church Saint Michael Church
Wednesday, Dec. 22	7:00 am 8:30 am	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>Increased Reverence for Life</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Mary Church
Thursday, Dec. 23	7:00 am 8:30 am	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>Toni Henline+</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Michael Church
Friday, Dec. 24	7:00 am 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 10:00 pm	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>Shannon Wellington+, Dan Mitchell+, Tony Hernandez+, Don Kirwen+</i> Mass– <i>Deceased of the Gerald & Mary Kay Mathias Family+</i> Mass– <i>Lawrence Putt Hoffman+, Fr. Justin DuVall+</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Michael Church Saint Mary Church Saint Mary Church
Saturday, Dec. 25	7:00 am 10:00 am	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>Pat Woods+, Carlos & Robert Mancha+</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Michael Church  Saint Michael-Gibsonburg
Sunday, Dec. 26	7:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Morning Prayer with Mike Mass– <i>For the People of Our Parishes</i> Mass– <i>Jake, Irma, and Roger Haubert+</i>	 Saint Michael-Gibsonburg Saint Mary Church  Saint Mary-Millersville Saint Michael Church

Financial Stewardship

Saint Mary Dec. 12, 2021

Sunday Offertory	\$3210.00
Loose Offering	\$79.00
Retired Religious	\$380.00
Immaculate Conception	\$55.00
Christmas	\$150.00

Saint Michael

At the printing of the bulletin Saint Michael numbers were not available. Amounts will be in week's bulletin

2022 Contribution envelopes are available at both parishes. If you do not have a box in your name, contact either parish office to get a box. If you prefer to donate online, go through our website stmaryandstmichael.org
Our parishes are very grateful for your support.

Contact information for Saint Mary (MV) and Saint Michael (GB)

Pastor: Father Scott Woods (MV,GB) swoods@stmaryandstmichael.org

Pastoral Associate: Deacon Mike Dazley (MV,GB) mdazley@stmaryandstmichael.org

Director of Faith Formation: Patti Wasserman (MV,GB)

pwasserman@stmaryandstmichael.org

Liturgical Coordinator: Kathy Otermat (MV, GB) kotermat@stmaryandstmichael.org

Administrative Assistant: Terri Reinhart (MV) treinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org

Parish Secretary: Maria Porteous (GB) mporteous@stmaryandstmichael.org

Bookkeeper: Nancy Patterson (GB) npatterson@stmaryandstmichael.org

Senior Status Deacons: Deacon George Miller, Deacon Rene Gonzalez

MV Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:30am-2:30pm

GB Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri., 9:30am-2:00pm



*May the glory of God
fill our hearts with
Joy and peace
for the coming of our
Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen*

December 19, 2021 + Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saint *Mary*
MILLERSVILLE



Saint *Michael*
GIBSONBURG

865 State Route 635, Helena, Ohio 43435
419-638-3042 treinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org
Facebook: Saint Mary - Millersville
stMaryandstMichael.org

312 East Yeasting Street, Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
419-637-2255 mporteous@stmaryandstmichael.org
Facebook: Saint Michael - Gibsonburg
stMaryandstMichael.org

Connected as the Body of Christ, we reverence the presence of God in each person and nurture disciples at every age, to live the Gospel with Christian charity and zeal.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With all four candles of the Advent wreath aglow, the Church has turned her attention to preparing to celebrate the mystery of God's love for the human family revealed in the first coming of Jesus at Christmas. This shift in focus occurred this past Friday, December 17, when the daily Scripture lessons and Mass orations (prayers) began to guide our hearts and minds from the Second Coming of the Lord to recalling the wonder of the Incarnation long ago.

You know that we have not sung "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" until now, preserving it since it is based upon the ancient "O Antiphons," the text recited before the praying of the Blessed Virgin Mary's *Magnificat* during Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours from December 17-23. Each day, the Church provides us with an image of the Lord to help focus our final preparation. Here are the antiphons for each day:

12/17: O Wisdom (*O Sapientia*)
12/18: O Sacred Lord (*O Adonai*)
12/19: O Root of Jesse (*O Radix Jesse*)
12/20: O Key of David (*O Clavis David*)
12/21: O Radiant Dawn (*O Oriens*)
12/22: O King of the Nations (*O Rex Gentium*)
12/23: O Emmanuel

I invite you to find a way to pray with these beautiful images. Our prayer could take the form of praying Vespers (Evening Prayer) from the Liturgy of the Hours, the official daily prayer of the Church, during these final days of Advent. We can pray together if you would like to join me at my Facebook page at 7:00 p.m. through December 23. Or we could pray by reading through or even singing the corresponding verse of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" each day and just pondering for a few moments. Or our prayer could take the form of journaling about each of these titles and images, considering how Wisdom is at work in our lives, what doors the Lord is unlocking for us, and how Christ is *Emmanuel*, which literally means "God with us."

As I have told you many times before, nothing is accidental or coincidental about the Church's worship. The "O Antiphons" are no exception. The first letter of each antiphon spells *ERO CRAS*, which in Latin means, "Tomorrow, I will come." May it be so, sisters and brothers, may he come anew to your heart and to mine, to our parishes, our communities, our nation, and our world. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Woods".

Very Reverend Scott S. Woods, V.F.
Pastor

Mass Assistants if you would like to serve in any of these ministries, please contact Kathy Otermat at kotermat@stmaryandstmichael.org

Saint Michael—Dec. 24, 4:00pm

Ambassadors Dave & Erin Estep
Servers Abby Williamson, Evie Estep
Lector Braysen Huff
EMOHC Hank Reineck

Saint Mary— Dec. 24, 6:00pm

Servers Garrett Moffett & Grant Scherger
Cantor Amber Hoffman
Lector Nate Moffett
Communion Anita Moffett
Ambassadors Terri Reinhart & Jeanine Van Der Laar

Saint Mary—Dec. 24, 10:00pm

Servers Cassidy Foos & Carlie Foos
Macey Kohler
Cantor Lucas Hammer
Lector Andy Rich
Communion June Rich, Patrick Hoepf
Ambassadors Jeff & Erin Foos

Saint Michael— Dec. 25, 10:00am

Ambassadors Gerry Williams
Server Chris Lau
Lector Sally Zeller
EMOHC Verna Konesky

Saint Mary— Sunday Dec. 26, 9:00 am

Rosary Bill Ochs
Server Chloe Foos
Cantor Amber Hoffman
Lector Lucas Hammer
Communion Mark Foos
Ambassadors Nick & Tracy Foos
Count Greg & Barb Lehmann
Dave & Mary Gutschalk
Clean Mary Gutschalk

Saint Michael Sunday Dec. 26, 11:00 am

Ambassadors Wellons Family
Server Annie Wellons
Lector Cindy Hammer
EMOHC Maria Porteous



Please remember in prayer: Paul Naderer, Michelle Schaser, Susie Bricker, Helen Reineck, Loren LaVoy, Sister Maria Miguel, Jim Steinmetz, Virginia, Larry and Mary Ann Elchert, Christi Holman, Linda Hoffman, Emma Wasserman, Steve Woods and all our loved ones in nursing homes, or staying at home and not able to safely leave.

If you have a prayer request for members of either of our parishes please email the name to be listed (make sure you have the consent of the person first) to mssparishoffice@gmail.com. Each name will be listed for one month. If you would like your name or the name of your loved one listed longer, kindly message the Saint Mary Parish Office each month.



Living Christ

Diocese of Toledo

LIVING CHRIST CAMPAIGN PRAYER

O God, our generous Father,
the saving Death and glorious Resurrection of your Son
renews your Church in every way for the work of the Gospel.

Ignite in the hearts of your people
the fire of love that burns in the Heart of your Son.
Inspire in us a lively generosity
for the selfless service of our brothers and sisters.
Invigorate our commitment to follow more closely Jesus,
our Shepherd and Savior.

May the Holy Spirit, who brings Christ to life in each of us,
prompt all our efforts for the success of our Living Christ Campaign.
May Mary, our Mother, and all the Saints, intercede for us
to be joyful witnesses to the Redeemer at work within us and
among us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Advent times for Reconciliation

Saturday, Dec. 18, 9:00-11:00 am at Saint Mary Church
Tuesday, Dec. 21, 5:45-6:15pm at Saint Michael Church

After several years of kindly and generously removing the snow from the Saint Michael parking lot, Jeff Reed has informed us that he will be unable to do so this year. Firstly, we want to publicly thank Jeff for faithfully undertaking this vital work for the good of our parish at no cost to us. Secondly, we would like to know if there is someone who is able and willing to pick up where Jeff has left off by performing this necessary service for the good of the parish. If so, please contact Fr. Scott by phone or email as soon as possible.

Both Parishes, along with the Diocese, are grateful for your generous support of the Living Christ Campaign. Please realize that any gifts received from now until the end of the year will not be processed in this calendar year. The Diocesan Offices along with CCS (the firm running the campaign) will be off from December 22nd through January 3rd. Your regular offering and end of the year gifts, directly to the parishes will be processed, those received by December 29th. Thank you for your support of the Parishes and the Diocese.



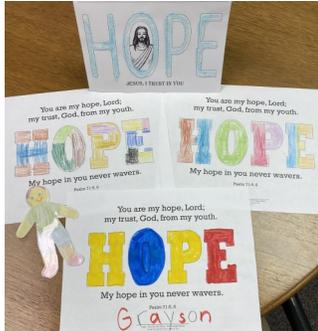
All High School students, Mark Your Calendar! You are invited to High School Youth Group, Sunday, January 23, 2022 , 5:00 pm at Saint Michael Parish Center. Come, bring a friend, eat, have fun and deepen your faith.



It's official! We have entered into the final stretch of the Christmas countdown period. Every day now we will see it in the newspapers and hear it on the radio and television, " 5 shopping days until Christmas," "4 shopping days until Christmas," " 3 shopping days until Christmas."... All around us there are signs that Christmas is coming, but 2000 years ago when Jesus was born, there were no big signs to announce that it was going to happen. There were no ads on the radio or TV saying "Coming soon! A Savior will be born in a stable near you!" When Jesus was born, many people were surprised, but as word of his birth spread, some people remembered that prophets had told them that God was going to send a Savior. They knew that this baby, born in a stable, was God keeping His promise

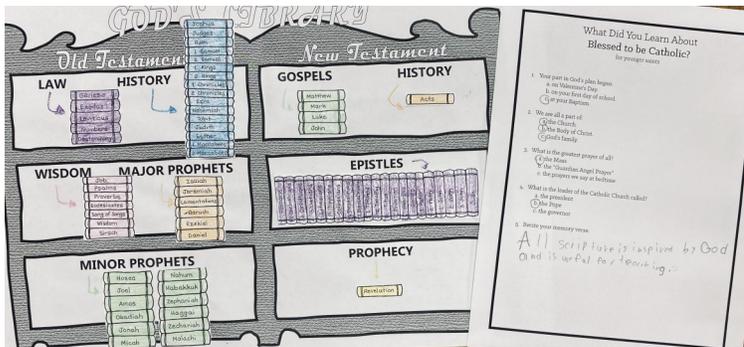
Christmas is a not only a wonderful time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It is also a time to remember that Jesus promised that he would come again. We don't read much about that in the newspapers and we don't hear much talk about it on the radio or television, but Jesus told us to be prepared and to watch for his return.

As we look forward to Christmas day, we also look forward to the day when Jesus will come again. Just as the people of Israel found hope in the promises of God, we find hope in Jesus' promise that he will come again.



Pictured here are a few colorful (if you check out the bulletin at www.stmaryandstmichael.org!) renditions of the bible verse the youth in Family Faith Formation memorized at the beginning of Advent. Thank you to the Scherger, Kelbley and Thatcher Families for sharing their artwork! You are very creative!

Above is Miss Brinley Mintz's Books of the Bible project



and the quiz that all families take at the end of each lesson. The youth are not graded on their quizzes, this is a tool that helps parents know that the lesson they taught to their children was understood. As a reminder, I use the returned quizzes as a way to keep class attendance on the weeks the families do not meet in person. Good job Brinley!

Saint Michael Parish Pennies from Heaven 2022
Tickets for next year are on sale now!
\$20 each or 3 for \$50.



These tickets make a great gift for that hard to buy for person on your list. They are great for birthday gift or a Christmas stocking stuffer too! Purchase tickets for yourself or take some with you to sell to family, friends or neighbors! If you are the seller of the winning ticket you receive a 10% kick-back of the prize amount! Each ticket gets you 15 chances throughout 2022 to win cash! Contact Danna Myerholtz at 419-307-3438 or call Maria at Saint Michael parish office, with questions or to purchase tickets.

Drawings are on the 15th Day of the Month for \$200
(January-December 2021)

Bonus Drawings for \$500
March 17th-Feast of Saint Patrick
September 29th-Feast of the Archangels
December 6th-Feast of Saint Nicholas

Congratulations to this months winner, Tab Bickford!
The seller of the winning ticket is his wife, Julie!
Next drawing is January 15, 2022, don't forget to purchase your tickets today!

FLOCKNOTE, Coming Soon to Our Parishes!



Keep in touch with us via email & text

Bring your cellphone to church on Christmas to find out how to sign up!

CAN YOU FIND THE HIDDEN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE?

Read the following paragraph and see if you can find the name of sixteen books of the Bible that are hidden in the text. Circle or highlight your answers, cut the section out, place in an envelope with your name and Attn. Patti on it and return in the collection basket by January 2, 2022. All correct answers will be put in a drawing for a prize, one for adults and one for youth!

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a fluke). It kept people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now. There really are sixteen names of books in this story.