

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1- First Saturday

7:00 am-Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

9:00 am- Mass *Zeno Wasserman+*

Saint Mary Church

10:00 am- Reconciliation

Saint Mary Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

9:00 am- Mass *Marvis Wells+*

Saint Mary Church

11:00 am- Mass *For the People of Our Parishes*

Saint Michael Church 

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

No Mass

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

No Mass

7:00 pm- Rosary for Our Nation

Saint Mary Church

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

No Mass

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

No Mass

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7-

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

No Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

4:00 pm- Eucharistic Holy Hour

5:00 pm- Mass *For the People of Our Parishes*

Saint Michael Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike 

9:00 am- Mass *Nancy Hiser+*

Saint Mary Church 

11:00am- Mass *Jacob Lewandowski+*

Saint Michael Church

Facebook page:

Saint Mary and Saint Michael Catholic Parishes

Flocknote: text MVGB to 84576

Financial Stewardship

Saint Mary Dec. 24, 2021

Christmas \$8809.00

Loose \$333.00

Sunday \$150.00

Retired Religious \$10.00

Saint Mary Dec. 26, 2021

Sunday \$2535.00

Loose \$120.00

Sol. Of Mary \$100.00

Saint Michael Dec. 24-25, 2021

Christmas \$6916.00

Loose \$501.00

Saint Michael Dec. 26, 2021

Sunday \$1605.00

Loose \$232.00

Initial Offering \$5.00

Imm. Conception \$20.00

Sol. Of Mary \$20.00

Retired Religious \$20.00

Cemetery \$20.00



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.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Diocese of Toledo's Living Christ Campaign. Because of your gracious generosity, Saint Michael has pledged a total of \$236,500, which is 105% of our \$225,00 goal, Saint Mary has pledged a total of \$259,500, which is 121% of our \$215,000 goal. Please stay tuned if you have not yet received information about Living Christ, and remember that up to goal, our parishes received 35% of whatever was pledged. Now that both parishes have surpassed our set goals, they will receive 50% of whatever is pledged going forward. Thank you for your openness and generosity!

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 419-638-3042

GB Office Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri., 9:30am-2:00pm 419-637-2255

Saint *Mary*
MILLERSVILLE



Saint *Michael*
GIBSONBURG

Saint Mary Catholic Church
865 State Route 635, Helena, Ohio 43435
419-638-3042 treinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org

Saint Michael Catholic Church
312 East Yeasting Street, Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
419-637-2255 mporteous@stmaryandstmichael.org

stMaryandstMicheal.org
Facebook: Saint Mary and Saint Michael Catholic Parishes

January 2, 2022 Epiphany of the Lord

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,

If you've been to daily Mass, prayed with the assistance of the *Give Us This Day* booklet, or looked at a Catholic calendar, you've noticed that these days immediately following Christmas have been filled with saints to be honored. Although suppressed this year because it fell on a Sunday, December 26 is the Feast of Saint Stephen, one of the first deacons and the first martyr. The next day, December 27, is the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist. December 28 is the Feast of the Holy Innocents, honoring all the boys at or near the age of two, in the vicinity of Bethlehem, who were massacred at King Herod's order in a futile attempt to kill the Christ Child. December 29 is the Memorial of Saint Thomas Beckett, the 12th century archbishop of Canterbury, England. December 31 is the Memorial of Pope Saint Sylvester I.

And that was just last week! This coming week, the Church honors many more saints, including: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native born American to be canonized, on January 4; Saint John Neumann, who ministered in our own Diocese, on January 5; Saint André Bessette, the "Miracle Man of Montréal," on January 6; and Saint Raymond Penyafort, on January 7. I invite you to learn more about these holy companions on the Way this coming week, especially Saint John Neumann, whose apostolic zeal brought him to Saint Alphonsus Parish in Peru, the oldest parish in the Diocese of Toledo, which he served in the Summer and Fall of 1841! Isn't that amazing? I would recommend Franciscan Media's "Saint of the Day" feature, which you can find online and use daily to learn about each of these holy women and men and more.

Speaking of all these wonderful saints – who are among the more than 10,000 saints whom the Catholic Church venerates – at the beginning of 2021, I used the "Patron Saint Generator" to help me identify a patron saint for this past year. The website randomly selected Saint Valentine of Rome for me, whose image I displayed in my prayer space in the Rectory. I invite you to consider identifying a patron saint for 2022 to be your companion on the way to greater holiness this new year. You can search online for the Patron Saint Generator to help you become better acquainted with a saint you may or may not know, or maybe consider being more deliberate about venerating and asking the prayerful intercession of a patron you are already blessed to have, maybe your Confirmation saint or the patron of your profession or state in life, for instance.

I will be away from our parishes this week for some rest and relaxation following a busy Autumn, Advent and Christmas. As such, there will be no weekday Masses this coming week at either of our churches. I apologize to daily Mass goers for the inconvenience, though I invite you to visit a neighboring parish in Fostoria, Fremont, or Genoa this week, if you wish to participate in the daily Eucharist. In the meantime, please pray for me as I will be praying for you.

May Holy Mary keep us under the mantle of her protection this new year, and may the Archangel Michael be our protection from whatever seeks to lead us astray.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

P.S. Many thanks to all of you who showed me such kindness this Christmas with a card, a promise of prayers, and other gifts. Though unnecessary, I am so very grateful that you remembered me at this special time of year.

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

Saint Michael– Jan. 8, 5:00pm

Ambassadors	Gerry Williams Paul Makulinski
Server	Volunteer
Lector	Patti Wasserman
EMOHC	Dee Jones

Saint Mary– Sunday Jan. 9, 9:00 am

Rosary	Harold and Eileen Foos
Server	Cassidy Foos
Cantor	Amber Hoffman
Lector	Harold Foos
Communion	Angie Smith
Ambassadors	Jeff Foos Erin Foos
Count	Neil and Wanda Hoffman
Clean	Anita Moffett

Saint Michael Sunday Jan. 2, 11:00 am

Ambassadors	Wellons Family
Server	Annie Wellons
Lector	Pam Mendoza
EMOHC	Natalie Liskai

SACRAMENTS

Baptism - Please contact Dcn. Mike for information and to schedule, which for first-time parents includes an orientation to the Sacrament.

Confirmation - The normative time for Confirmation in the Diocese of Toledo is eighth grade. Please contact Patti Wasserman for more information.

Reconciliation - Fr. Scott is available after Masses on Tuesdays and Fridays, as well as following the morning Mass on First Saturdays, or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick - Please contact Fr. Scott if you or a family member are critically ill, preparing for surgery, or are of advanced age and in need of this Sacrament. In case of an emergency outside of office hours, please press '8' when prompted by the automated phone system.

Matrimony - The Church requires couples to contact their parish at least six months before they hope to marry. Please be aware that we cannot set a wedding date until a couple's freedom to marry has been determined. Annulments, when necessary, may require up to 18 months to resolve.

Holy Orders - Anyone interested in a vocation to priesthood, the diaconate, or religious life should speak with Fr. Scott or Dcn. Mike.

Eucharist - If you are not able to get to Mass and would like to receive Communion please contact either parish office so, we can work something out to get Communion to you.



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 msmparishoffice@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.

The profit from the September 2021 Chicken BBQ was \$10,940 and the first Pennies from Heaven profit was \$4,140. We would like to thank all those who helped make these two events a success.



We will be offering a Eucharistic Holy Hour on the second Sunday of each month before one of the Lord's Day Masses. Please join us this Saturday,

January 8, from 4:00-4:45 p.m. at Saint Michael's. Benediction with the Most Blessed Sacrament will be offered at 4:45 p.m., just before the start of the 5:00 Mass.

**Knights of Columbus
Basketball Free
Throw Championship
January 9, Registration**

is at 1:00pm, at Gibsonburg High School Gym. The contest is open to all boys and girls ages 9-14 as of January 1, 2022. If you have questions call any of the following: Dave Spieldenner 419-377-6693, Christ Lau 248-563-7013 or Dave Gutschalk 419-307-5103



**Bakery Bingo
Sunday January 16, 6:30 pm** in Saint Mary Church Hall

Bingo will be \$1 per card for all night play, buy pizza by the slice and pop, to raise more funds. Baked goods are prizes, everyone is welcome to bring baked goods, We play bingo until the baked goods run out. Proceeds go to "Water for Life" program, helping communities get safe drinking water. Bakery Bingo is sponsored by Rosary Altar Society.

*May God unite people of every race and nation
in adoration and love of Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen*

From the desk of Patti Wasserman...

Family Catechesis



Family Faith Formation

Pre K-8th Grade

Wednesday January 5th
@ Saint Michael 6:30-7:45pm
Sunday January 9th
@ Saint Mary 10:15-11:30am

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SAVE THE DATES

First Reconciliation
&
First Communion



A meeting for both students and parents will take place Wednesday January 19th at 6:30pm in Saint Michael Parish Center.

DRAGON SLAYER RETREAT
with Dr. John Wood and Family
for parents and students
February 12th 9:00am-Noon
at Saint Wendelin in Fostoria



A meeting with parents and students in 7th & 8th grade will take place Sunday January 23rd at 6:00pm in Saint Mary Hall/Basement



High School Youth Ministry Mark Your Calendar!

You are invited to High School Youth Group,
Sunday, January 23, 2022, 5:00 pm
at Saint Michael Parish Center
Bring a friend, eat, have fun & deepen your faith.



Saint Mary and Saint Michael Catholic Parishes

Beginning January 1, we will be combining our Facebook pages. The new Facebook page will be Saint Mary and Saint Michael Catholic Parishes. The existing pages will not be deleted, but there will be no new posts after the first of the year.

FLOCKNOTE-A new way to communicate and keep our faith family connected. Sign-up today!

Keep in touch with us!

TEXT MVGB TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

mvstmaryandgbstmichael.flocknote.com



Epiphany Blessing for Your Home



"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

Matthew 2:2

After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, the Holy Family was visited by three Magi from the east. They came to worship Christ and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Feast of Epiphany is celebrated on the 12th Day of Christmas, January 6th, but in the United States is moved to the Sunday between January 2nd-8th. On Epiphany, it is traditional for families to bless their homes, remembering the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Wise Men and asking for protection and blessing on the home and all who enter.

The home blessing is done by writing on the door or door frame with chalk the symbols 20+C+M+B+22. The 20 and 22 represent the current year. The + reminds us of the cross on which our Savior died. The C, M, and B stand for the traditional names of the Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, as well as an abbreviation for the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "May Christ bless this house." Writing on the door also brings to mind the Passover of the Jews during the final plague in Exodus, when the blood of the lamb protected those living inside.

As you leave church today, please take a bag with a piece of chalk and the blessing prayer home with you. After you have blessed your home, share with other family members and friends. As the old saying goes...the family that prays together, stays together! Let our Epiphany Blessing be an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our hearts and in our homes.

You will Bless a child in Chile!

Located in South America, Chile is the world's longest country with nearly 4,000 miles of coastline stretching from north to south. Samaritan's Purse has been delivering Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts to children in Chile since 2003. Our filled shoeboxes were put on a ship December 18, 2021 and are headed to Chile right now! Please keep the children who will receive our shoeboxes in your prayers.



May their hearts be open to learning about and receiving the gift of Jesus Christ

Adopt a Seminarian This month during the Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Tea, our parishes adopted Evan Sekerak, a fourth-year seminarian for the



Diocese of Toledo attending Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit as part of our new Vocation Ministry. Evan says, "The seminary is one of the best ways to get to know Jesus Christ himself. That is what we are here for; we are here to grow in virtue and to grow closer to him, and I don't think there is any better way to do that." Some of you may recognize Evan as he worked the Y.E.S. Program with us for many years. Please keep Evan in your daily prayers!