

WEEKLY CALENDAR MV=Saint Mary GB=Saint MichaelSATURDAY, Dec. 14

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

4:00 pm- Reconciliation @ GB church

5:00pm- Mass *Jim & Tim Reed+, Tom and Rita Haley+* @ GB Church

SUNDAY, Dec. 15

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

8:00 am- Reconciliation @ MV Church

9:00 am- Mass *Bill and Lola Reinhart+* @ MV Church

11:00 am- Mass *the People of our Parishes* @ GB Church*

2:00pm- 5:00pm Middle School Youth Group @ GB Parish Center

MONDAY, Dec. 16

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

TUESDAY, Dec. 17

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

5:00pm- Mass *Marcella Kirwen+* @ GB Church

5:30 pm Reconciliation @ GB Church

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

8:30 am- Mass *Francis & Betty Ochs +* @ MV Church

6:00pm- Adoration for Priests @ Saint Michael Church

7:00 pm- Young Adult Lectio Mark study @ MV office building

THURSDAY, Dec. 19

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

8:30 am- Mass *Sgt. Thomas J. Wonderly+* @ GB Church

FRIDAY, Dec. 20

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

8:30 am- Mass *Living and Deceased Members of the Vernon and Helen Durst Family* @ MV Church

SATURDAY, Dec. 21

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

9-11am- Reconciliation @ GB church

4:00 pm- Reconciliation @ GB church

5:00pm- Mass *for the People of Our Parishes* @ GB Church

SUNDAY, Dec. 22

7:00 am- Morning Prayer with Dcn Mike *

8:00 am- Reconciliation @ MV Church

9:00 am- Mass *Gus Miller+, Deceased of the Jim and Barbara Haubert Family+* @ MV Church*

11:00 am- Mass *Jim & Loyola Zeller+* @ GB Church

* = when on Facebook live

Facebook: Saint Mary and Saint Michael Catholic Parishes

Financial StewardshipSaint Mary Dec. 8, 2024

Sunday	\$3135.00
Loose	\$161.00
Prop. Of Faith	\$20.00
Immaculate Concep.	\$270.00
Retired Religious	\$170.00

Saint Michael Dec 7-8, 2024

Sunday	\$3254.00
Loose	\$208.99
Special Improv.	\$325.00
Food Pantry	\$75.00
Immaculate Concep.	\$598.00
Human Develop.	\$5.00
Retired Religious	\$25.00
Cemetery	\$95.00
Religious Ed.	\$45.00
All Saints/Christmas	\$200.00

**FORMED Pick for the Week
Advent with Tim Gray**

This Advent season, walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ. Each day of Advent, Dr. Gray will unpack the meaning of this season and its rich traditions, as

well as offer practical advice for making this Advent your best yet.

It has been noted that some people are having trouble getting back into Formed. If that is the case, get out of formed, do not use your app, just go to formed.org look for sign in and sign in through a parish. Put in your email and zip code 43431 to find St. Mary/St. Michael and a code will get sent to your email and then you can get back into Formed.

Haven't subscribed to FORMED yet? There is no cost to you! Visit formed.org/signup, put 43431 as your zip code, find St. Mary and St. Michael, and register with your name and an email address, then check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED today!



Baptismal Prep Baptismal Prep classes will be held monthly for parents and godparents as they prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism for their children. Classes will begin at 12:30 PM and should last about an hour. This class is required for those parents asking the Church to Baptize their child. *Please call either Parish office and register for this class. The next class will be: December 15, at Saint Michael's.*



"Grieving with Great Hope" a 5-part video series exploring the grief journey from a Catholic perspective, will be held at Saint Mary's on consecutive Sundays starting at 5 pm from January 26 - February 23 in the parish office building. Each session will begin with supper

(provided), a video, and then some time to discuss the video. Transportation to/from each session will be provided, if desired. To sign up or for further information, please contact Kathy Otermat or Deacon Mike. Thank you.

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

Pastor: Monsignor Tad Oxley (MV,GB) woxley@toledodiocese.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

Parish Manager: Terri Reinhart (MV) treinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org

Parish Secretary: Angela Reinhart (GB) areinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org

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

Prayer Chain: Eileen Foos 419-638-4244

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.9:00am-2:00pm, Wed., Fri. 9:00am-12:00pm 419-637-2255

Saint *Mary* Saint *Michael*
MILLERSVILLE GIBSONBURG

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

Saint Michael Catholic Church
317 East Madison Street, Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
Mailing Address: 312 East Yeasting Street, Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
419-637-2255 areinhart@stmaryandstmichael.org

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

December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

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 Friends,

I hope this article finds you having a blessed Advent Season!! It is the season to be more spiritual and less material. Spiritual growth is what we all need as we seek holiness together. During the first week of Advent, I was blessed to take a week of vacation in Florida in a simple rental on the beach with a Catholic couple who have become close friends of mine from my days serving at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH. The husband is the leader of a small medical practice that treats autistic children. A couple of years back, he was awarded the Catholic Man of the Year award in the Diocese of Columbus. I had Thanksgiving dinner with them as well, as my parents were out in Omaha with my brother and his family. I look forward to having Christmas dinner with my parents in Fremont later in the afternoon on Christmas Day, as I told my mom, not before 2 p.m. Christmas Day because I will need a long nap after Christmas Masses!

At this reading, I will have celebrated the Sacrament of Penance for two hours at Saint Mary's on Saturday, December 14. On **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18th, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Saint Michael's Church, I will be celebrating a LEAVE THE LIGHT ON CONFESSION SCHEDULE.** This means that every hour on the hour, I will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation!

If you cannot make it for one of those hours to the holy sacrament of God's loving mercy, I will be available for the Sacrament of Confession again on **Saturday morning, December 21st, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Saint Michael's.** These two above times are, of course, above and beyond our regularly scheduled times for the Sacrament. Recently, I was invited to preach a men's retreat at Immaculate Conception in Port Clinton. I spoke on spiritual fatherhood, in particular the virtues of Saint Joseph. There were five priests on that Saturday morning available for confession. Before I gave my talk, I went to Confession and told the men that I need the Sacrament of God's mercy regularly, and so benefited from the Father's unconditional mercy for me that morning—praise God!

Some things to consider: Have I kept Sunday Mass and Holy Days of obligation? Have I used the Lord's name in vain? Have I been gentle, loving, and patient with my spouse? Have I given myself in acts of service to others? Has my Advent been more prayerful so as to prepare my heart for Jesus? Just some things to consider as we continue together to strive for deeper conversion into the arms of our loving Jesus and Father with Mary.

Blessed Advent Days,
Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Oxley
Pastor

Join us with your family to watch this inspirational movie

Saint *MARY* Saint *MICHAEL*
MILLERSVILLE GIBSONBURG

Presents

JESUS THIRSTS

THE MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST



★★★★★
"5 STARS!"
"Life changing"
"An absolute must see!"

SHOW TIMES and TICKET PRICES

Sunday, January 5, at 3:00pm or Friday, January 17, at 6:30pm

\$5 for Adults / \$3 for Senior Citizens and Teens / \$3 for ages 8-12

Admittance is FREE for ages 7 and under, but you must call the office.
To purchase tickets, follow the link at www.stmaryandstmichael.org,
use the QR Code, or go to <https://brushfire.com/faithcontentnetwork/jesusthirsts-themiracleoftheeucharist/592386>

For help, call either parish office at 419-638-3042 or 419-637-2255

Hosted at Fremont Ross Performing Arts Center 1100 North St. Fremont, Ohio 43420



Purchase Tickets Here

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

Saint Michael– Saturday, Dec. 21, 5:00 pm

Ambassadors	Gerry Williams, Paul Makulinski
Servers	Volunteer
Lector	Deb Dazley
EMOHC	Hank Reineck, Norma Vela Sue Kaemming

Saint Mary– Sunday, Dec. , 9:00 am

Rosary	Terri Parks and Dave Wonderly
Servers	Garrett Moffett, Ulrick Gutschalk
Lector	Sally Wilhelm
Commun.	Connie & Ron Hiser Larry and Sue Kosakowski Amber Hoffman
Ambassadors	Terri Reinhart, Jeanine Van Der Laar
Count	Roger and Barb Wasserman
Clean	Volunteer

Saint Michael– Sunday, Dec. , 22, 11:00 am

Ambassadors	Tom Marsh Tom Liskai
Servers	Evie Estep Anna Estep
Lector	Erin Estep
EMOHC	Marla Marsh, Mary Kern Natalie Liskai

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

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 - A priest is available after Tuesday Mass at Saint Michael and after Friday Mass at Saint Mary. Saturdays at 4:00pm at Saint Michael, and Sundays at 8:00am at Saint Mary.

Anointing of the Sick - Please contact Fr. Tad 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. This sacrament can be received many times throughout one's life, and is not reserved for end of life only.

Matrimony - Please contact either parish office at least six months before you hope to marry, and know that a wedding date cannot be set until a couple's freedom to marry has been determined in consultation with Fr. Tad or Dcn. Mike. Annulments, when necessary, may require 18-36 months to resolve.

Holy Orders - Please contact Fr. Tad, or Dcn. Mike if you feel the Lord may be inviting you to a vocation to the priesthood, the diaconate, or religious life.

Holy Communion for the Homebound - Please contact either parish office if you are unable to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion in your home or care facility.

Sick & Shut-in Please remember in prayer:



Mary Smith, Patti Wasserman, Emma Holman, Patti Kreilick, Verna Konesky, Nate Liskai, Rene Gonzales Jr., Dee Herman, Maverick Campbell, Rae Lyn Hoepf, Theresa Aldrich, Kaleb Williamson, Diane Schuh, Andy Rich,

Eileen Foos, Diane Goebel, Rene and Mary Lou Gonzales, Jean Obenauer, Rosie Neeb, Christi Holman, and all our loved ones in care facilities, or staying at home. 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.

Next potluck meeting will be on Sunday, December 15 after the 11 :00 Mass in Saint Michael's hall. The next potluck will be January 5 with a re-gifting exchange. So if you receive something this season that you prefer to pass on, have your item wrapped and bring along with you.



Raider Basketball Shoe Drive

The Lakota Basketball program is hosting a shoe drive! Bring your gently used pairs of shoes to the drop bins in the Elementary/Middle and High School Offices to donate today! Bring in sneakers, boots, sandals, only pairs of shoes, no single shoes permitted. Donations will be accepted until January 1st.



RETRouvaille
 A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

A weekend has been Scheduled! January 24-26, 2025 Register at: <https://helpourmarriage.org> or call 419-481-1116 or email:

NWOHio@helpourmarriage.org the Retrouvaille program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationships.



The December 6th Bonus drawing for Pennies From Heaven, winner was James Hostottle. Congratulations James!

Christmas Mass Schedule:

December 24: 4:00pm at Saint Michael
 6:00pm at Saint Mary
 December 25: 12:00am at Saint Mary
 10:00am at Saint Michael



The organ choir at Saint Mary's will be caroling this Friday, December 20th. If you're interested in joining us, we'll be meeting at Saint Mary's, leaving at 6pm. Thanks.



Up Coming Times for Eucharistic Adoration

Wed. Dec 18, 6:00pm @ Saint Michael Church
 Holy Hour for Fr. Tad and all Priests
 Fri. Dec. 20, 9:00am @ Saint Mary Church



Family Catechesis



Saint Michael Parish
Preschool–8th Grade
Wednesday, December 18th
Reconciliation for grades 3–8
6:30–7:45pm

Saint Mary Parish
Preschool –8th Grade
Sunday, December 15th
10:00–11:15am



Middle School Youth Group **December 15th 2pm–5pm** **Saint Michael Parish Center**

Come frost cookies and make plates of goodies to deliver to throughout our community while singing Christmas Carols. Bring a bag of Christmas candy to share on the plates of goodies.



Next High School Youth Gathering **January 12th 6:30–8:00pm** **Saint Mary Parish Hall**



The winners of the first ever Knights of Columbus, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest are:

Kindergarten-Kolten Hoffman
 1st and 2nd Grade-Oliver Fought
 3rd and 4th Grade- Alice Fought
 5th and 6th Grade-Lillian Wauford
 7th and 8th Grade-Grayson Thatcher

Congratulations to all the winners! Each winner received a Certificate and a \$25 Walmart gift card, courtesy of the Knights of Columbus Council #2280. I was told the Knights had a hard time judging all the entries, as many posters were worthy of being the winners. These five winning poster will go on to the District Level where they could win additional prizes.

My you always **"Keep Christ in Christmas"**, when the secular world seeks to keep Him out of everything!



Advent Week Three

Rejoice, the Lord is near! Rejoice!



I can look at the world through rose-colored glasses all day long! Today is Gaudete Sunday, which is Latin for rejoice! And while Advent's a time of waiting, we're not waiting blindly; we know what all our waiting is for...Jesus! The source of all our joy! The Church reminds us that Advent ends in rejoicing. But it's not always easy to be joyful. It's like being told, "Be happy!" That doesn't really work. It has to be authentic joy from the heart. That will only come when

we *really* wait and long (**thirst**) for Jesus. It's like when you're starving for food. Eventually, the hunger makes you focus all your energy on finding food. And once you finally eat, it tastes so good. It's gotta be the same way for Jesus. We need to long (**thirst**) and look for Jesus. All our energy has to be focused on Him. There's no room for distractions...Christmas is only 10 days away! So, starting now, let's spend each day thinking about and longing (**thirsting**) for Jesus. Make room for Him in your heart. Then, we'll truly be rejoicing when He comes! Rose colored glasses or not!

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Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them a love for the Most Blessed Sacrament. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth with a Eucharistic reign.

AMEN.

JESUS THIRSTS
THE MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST

JesusThirstsFilm.com



The film JESUS THIRSTS: The Miracle of the Eucharist is hitting Ross High School's Performing Art Center, January 5th and 17th. This film seeks to set hearts on fire by inviting viewers to encounter Jesus Christ in the holy Eucharist. (Ticket info on front page). *"As you grow in relationship with the Eucharist...as the film makes clear...you start to understand that the Eucharist isn't just a simple encounter, but it's a dynamic encounter. It means that Jesus doesn't want to just come to me in the Eucharist, he actually wants to change me. He wants to change me into someone who loves like him. I hope the one thing [viewers] understand is the ultimate goal of the Eucharist, which is that Jesus longs to be in communion with them in this life and forever."* ~ Bishop Cozzens of Crookston, MN