

# Saint Michael Parish •



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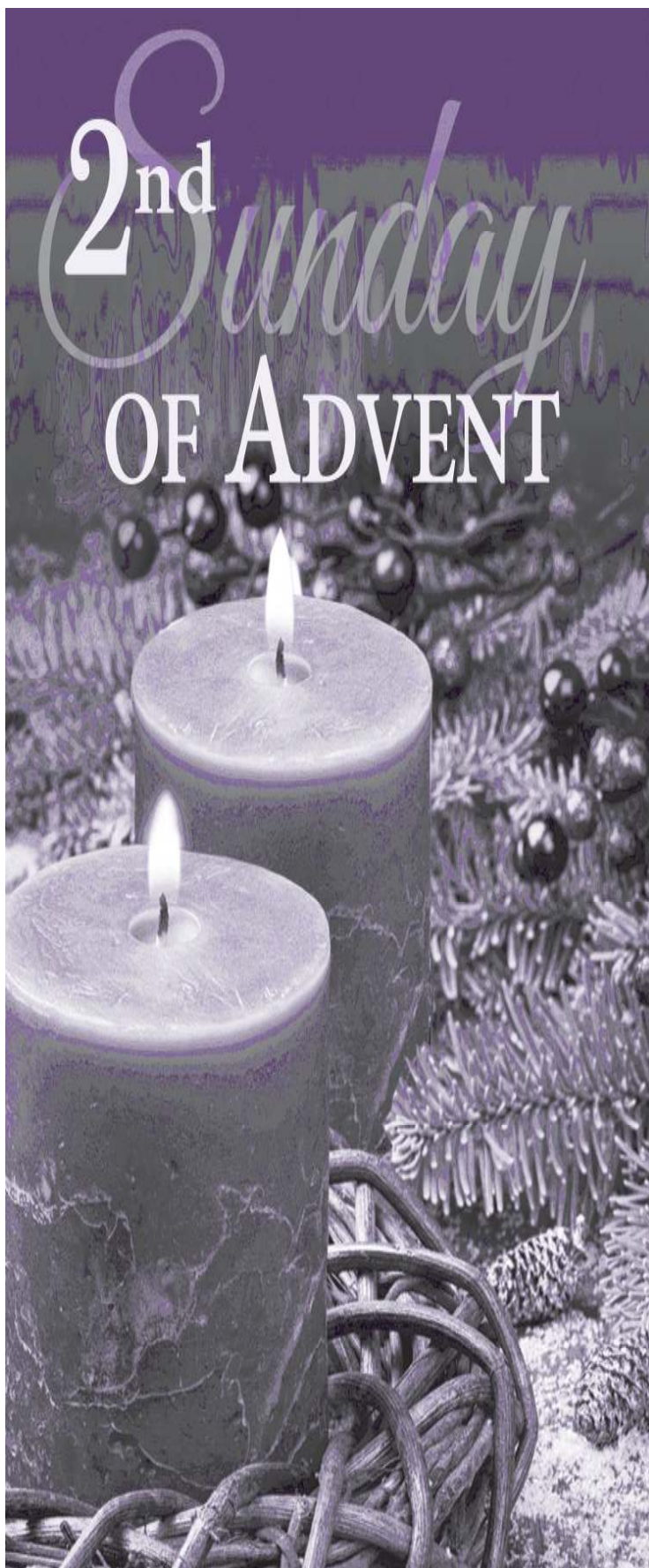
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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 5</b>
9:00am	Frank E. Kelley
4:00pm	Christopher Eastman
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 6</b>
7:30am	Jose P. & Maria Monteiro
9:00am	Jose M. Figueiredo
10:30am	Mary Joe Chaves & D.R.
10:30am	Mensagero de Fatima
<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Brazilian Mass</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 7</b>
9:00am	Israelita Tavares
7:00 pm	Maria & Jose Nardelo
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 8</b>
7:00am	Richard Durand
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 9</b>
9:00am	Edward Berthiaume
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 10</b>
8:00am	Souls in Purgatory
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 11</b>
9:00am	Manuel F. Jantos
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 12</b>
9:00am	Jose L. Chaves
4:00pm	Cheryl Guidotti
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 13</b>
7:30am	Manuel da Silva Melo
9:00am	Jose Maria Chaves
10:30am	Lawrence Leary
10:30am	Mario Melo

**Mass Schedule**  
**Daily Mass**

9:00am - Mon, Wed, Friday and Saturday – *lower church*  
7:00am - Tuesday and Thursday – *lower church*

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

4:00pm – Saturday – upper church  
7:30am – Sunday – upper church  
9:00am – Sunday – upper church  
10:30am – Sunday – lower church  
10:30am – Sunday – upper church/Portuguese Mass  
12 noon – Sunday – lower church/Brazilian Mass

*Confessions are 2:30 – 3:30 pm on Saturdays*

**DECEMBER**

If you have requested a Mass intention and would like to have a family member present the gifts, please see a Eucharistic Minister before the start of the Mass.

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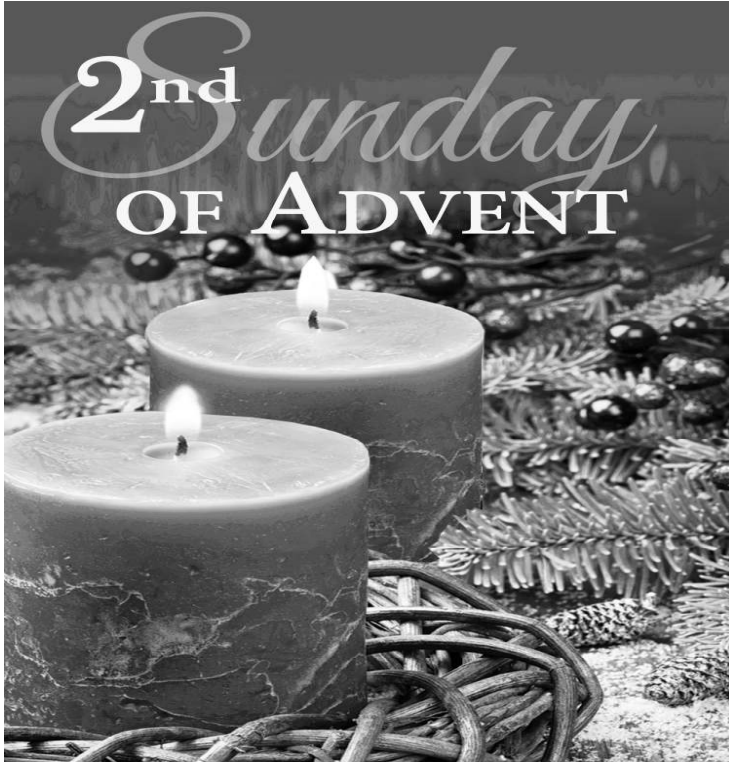
**Collection: \$ 6,927.29**

**Grand Annual \$34,491.00**

**Second Collections:**

"Every valley shall be filled  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.  
The winding roads shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."  
- Lk 3:5-6

Excerpts from the Lectorary for Mass ©2001, 1998,  
1970 CCD.



*Fr. Ron's Ramblings*

As I begin these few days of retreat in Ashland, New Hampshire, the morning is cold and crisp, but as clear as a bell. It is calm and quiet looking out to the mountains and the wintry landscape. As we arrived late Sunday afternoon, the sky was sprinkling us with a few snow flurries!

Easing into this gentle rhythm it is all so characteristic of the Advent Season. The beautiful liturgies over last weekend certainly set the tone. Our Advent wreath, the giving tree, and the familiar Advent hymns welcomed us into this time of peaceful reflection.

During the next three weeks in our scripture readings we will meet all the important people who characterize Advent. From Isaiah the Prophet to John the Baptist, Elizabeth and Mary, Joseph and Jesus Himself. All of them lead us closer to the Father and God's loving gift of salvation.

This coming week with the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, we are reminded how God's plan for salvation unfolded through the centuries with the cooperation of faith filled people like Mary. From the beginning He chose her and selected her to be the mother of His Son. Mary's yes encourages us all to give our assent to God in our lives and to allow Him to use us to further His kingdom here on earth.

May this advent Season bring some quiet and peace into our hearts and allow us to make room for the Savior to be born anew for all humanity.

**Readings for the Week of December 6, 2015**

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/ Ps 85:9-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18-19/  
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Ao iniciar estes dias de retiro em Ashland, New Hampshire, a manhã é fria e arrepiante, mas clara como o som de um sino. É calma e silenciosa ao olhar para fora pra invernos paisagem das montanhas. Ao chegar-mos na tarde de Domingo passado, estava orvalhando flocos de neve!

Ao aconchegar-mo-nos gentilmente ao ritmo, tudo é bem característico à estação do Advento. As bonitas liturgias da semana passada certamente acertam com o tom. A nossa corôa do Advento, a árvore dos presentes e os familiares cânticos do Advento nos dão as boas vindas a este tempo de paz e reflexão.

Durante as próximas três semanas nas leituras das escrituras nos encontraremos com as pessoas importantes que caracterizam o Advento. Desde o profeta Izaías a João Baptista, Isabel e Maria, São José e o próprio Jesus. Todos eles nos conduzem ao Pai e ao amor de Deus na oferta da salvação.

Na próxima semana com a celebração da Solenidade da Imaculada Conceição, nos relembra como o plano de Deus para a salvação nos revela através dos séculos com a cooperação do povo cheio de fé como Maria. Desde o principio Deus A escolheu para ser a mãe do Seu Filho. Maria todavia nos encoraja a entragar-mos a Deus o consentimento das nossas vidas e a permitir que Ele nos use para construir o Seu reino aqui na terra.

Que esta época do Advento nos traga paz e sossego aos nossos corações e nos permita a fazer lugar para o Salvador nascer de novo em toda a humanidade.

Que continuem a ter um santo Advento. Que Deus vos abençoe. Assim seja!!!

**\*\*PARISH CENTER HOURS\*\***



Monday/Tues 9:00am - 3:00pm  
Thursday/Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm





## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Christmas Pageant plans and rehearsals are running smoothly, we still need a king or two, an innkeeper and a few others! Come on kids, join in the fun! The pageant is being held following the **4:00pm Mass on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December!** On December 20<sup>th</sup> we celebrate with Saint Nick following the 9:00am Mass! Breakfast goodies will be available, come to the Parish Center and welcome St. Nick. God Bless!

### **THE LITTLE BLUE BOOKS FOR ADVENT**

November 29<sup>th</sup> begins the season of Advent. That day, we will have our "Little Blue Books" available for you at the back of the church! Be sure to pick up your copy with the daily readings and meditation. Bring your bulletin home with you so you will know what is happening in our community during the season!

### **Adult Bible Study**

Starting on December 3, 2015 the Thursday Adult Bible Study Group will begin their meeting at 6:00pm in the Parish Center. Notice the time difference from the original time 6:30pm. We will be discussing the infancy narratives and focusing on a discussion of the Virginal Conception of Mary. Please consider attending. Contact Andrew Genovese at [andrew@stmikes.org](mailto:andrew@stmikes.org)



### **Christmas Wreath Sale**

**The annual Christmas Wreath sale will begin after masses December 6 and 13!** Long lasting scented, double-faced Balsam Fir wreaths with large red ribbon will be available in the lot between garage and Parish Center! \$15 each! \$10 each with out the ribbon.

All proceeds to benefit the Parish.



### **CHRISTMAS JOY CD**

St. Michael Parish Family Music Ministry Presents Christmas Joy. CDs will be on sale by the Organ, after all Masses Starting November 28<sup>th</sup> for \$15.00 each. Great for Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers! Proceeds go to benefit our Music Ministry

### **Pieta Annual Memorial Mass**

*The Pieta Bereavement Ministry will celebrate the Annual Memorial Mass December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.* Family and friend of anyone who have lost a child, regardless of age are encourage to attend the Pieta support reception. You do not need to attend the Pieta support group, all are welcome to honor their child at this special service.

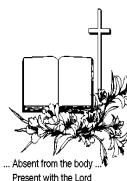
Candles will be lit for each child and a carnation will be given as a token of remembrance. A gathering reception will follow at the parish center and all are in-

### **Christmas Pageant Time!**

St. Michael Parish Annual Christmas Pageant is being planned for December 19 following the 4:00pm Mass! We are signing up the students now so if any child, grade K-5 wishes to be in the pageant please see Pat when you bring your child to Faith Formation. We want all the students and their families to attend! What a beautiful way to begin the Christmas Holiday! See you there!

### **Children of God to be Remembered in December**

*Timothy Small  
Coleen Sullivan and Edward Mancuso  
Donna Cincotta  
Thomas "Tom" Jordan  
Babies Mary and Michael Moran  
Robert Robbin Sr.,  
Maureen Duffy Russo*



**HEALTH NOTICE TO ALL  
PARISHIONERS!!!!!!!!!!**

The cold and flu season is once again upon us. I encourage you all to get your flu shots first and foremost. This is such an important part of maintaining your physical health. Next I plead with you to please stay home from church if you have a fever, cold, upper respiratory infection or the like. God does not expect you to be coming to Mass under any of these circumstances. Please be respectful of your fellow parishioners during an illness. Coming to church and coughing and sneezing on others when you are ill is not healthy for any of us. Our children are taught now in health classes to cough and sneeze into their elbows so as to protect others from germs. I encourage each of us to learn to do the same. One last note of interest, if I may. At the Sign of Peace during Mass please refrain from shaking another's hand if you are sick. Simply nod and acknowledge their presence, it means the same thing. Stay well and please take care of yourself and be mindful of others. Mary Ellen

**St. Vincent de Paul Ministry**

*The Giving Tree* will be located at the back entrance of the church this weekend. Please take a tag, the tag will have suggestions of gifts, age of the child and in some cases clothing size. Please wrap gift and attach the original giving tree tag and return it to the church by December 13. Our goal this year is to help 250 children. Thank you for your generosity and may you have a blessed and joyful Christmas season.

**Ladies Sodality for Father's Table**

*Our Father's Table is asking for your generosity once again. Gloves and Mittens* for men, women and children.. A container will be provided at both up and down stairs entrances. They will be there until December 20th. The Christmas party for OFT is December 21st at New Hope Church. Any help you can give is truly appreciated. Any questions call 978-562-2705, Martha Berry. God Bless

**There will be No Shawl Meetings for December**

**DECEMBER IS NATIONAL FAMILY  
CARE GIVERS MONTH**

**TIPS FOR BEATING HOLIDAY STRESS**

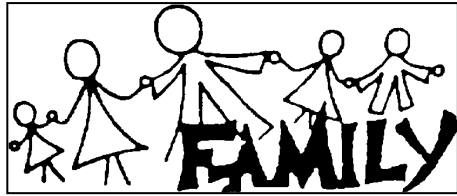
1. Create a plan for the season. This will help with the fear, anxiety, rushing around and overspending. Make a list of everything that needs to be accomplished. Mark off social events on a calendar. Set a budget in advance. And most of all BE PREPARED for things to change and accept that with grace.
2. Don't take on too much. It is important to learn to say NO.
3. Give time to thinking about keeping your eating on track. Mental preparation is important to avoid holiday pitfalls you may encounter.
4. Avoid overspending. Remind yourself that spending is not what the holidays are all about. Let your heart be your guide. Make a gift list ahead of time. Think about each person for a minute before you buy. A gift that's personal and comes from your heart will be more meaningful and may be the most memorable gift of all. Gifts from the heart increase feelings of joy in you as well as the person you are giving to.
5. Avoid Holiday Entertaining Stress. Don't feel like you have to be "Martha Stewart". Be yourself and prepare traditional meals and ask family members and friends to bring something to contribute.
6. Plan your holiday traveling wisely. Avoid traveling immediately before or after the holiday. Book early if flying and plan on staying a few days after the holiday.
7. Remember the goal of the season. Feel and exchange joy, love and peace. Create peace by being fully present, show love by accepting others and giving with a positive attitude and experience joy by listening to your heart.
8. Handle your emotions physically and constructively. Allow yourself to cry if you are sad, if you are angry find a private place to work that anger out. Attending to your emotions rather than ignoring them will help you enjoy the holidays more.
9. Take time for yourself. When things are hectic, sometimes you need a break to just be alone and relax. If you feel the warning signs of holiday stress----anxiety, dread, denial and grumpiness----stop and catch your breath and spend a few minutes relaxing to calm yourself down.

**Suggested Holiday To Do List**

Instead of buying presents.....BE PRESENT  
 Instead of wrapping gifts.....WRAP SOMEONE  
 IN A HUG  
 Instead of sending gifts.....SEND PEACE  
 Instead of making cookies.....MAKE A  
 LOVING GESTURE  
 Instead of seeing the lights.....BE THE  
 LIGHT

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.....Mary Ellen

# Sunday Throughout the Week:



## Sharing the Gospel

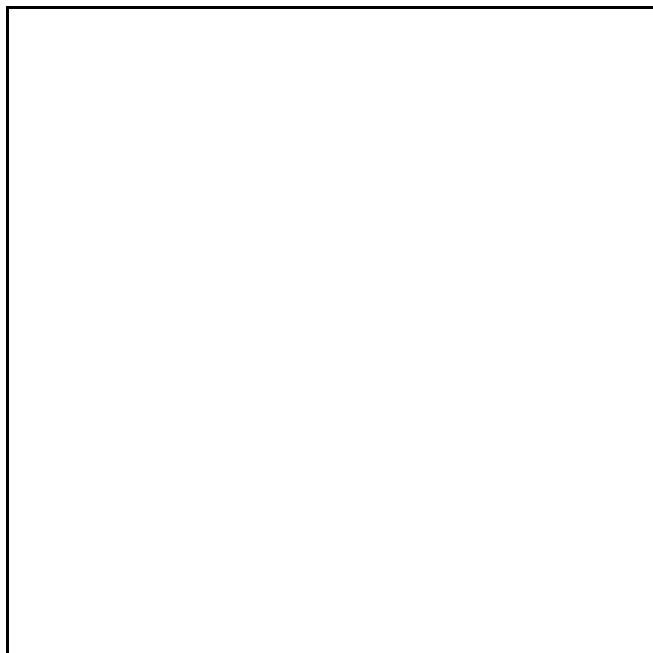
Have you ever played a game where you asked for a "do-over" so you could try again? When John told his neighbors to be baptized, he wanted them to have a second chance. A "do-over." He wanted to give them a fresh, clean start with God.

## Prayer

Dear God, when I find myself doing or saying things that you would not like, help me to stop and start over.

## Something to Draw

Draw John washing someone in a river.



## Mission for the Week

When you catch yourself being selfish, not following directions, or using hurtful words, stop. Say you're sorry, ask for forgiveness, and then try again.

## Read the Gospel and Color



## Puzzle

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

BAPTIZED  
FORGIVEN  
ISAIAH

JOHN  
DESERT  
STRAIGHT

CROOKED  
SMOOTH  
ROUGH

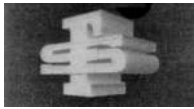
C	I	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N
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E	Y	T	O	U	M	Y	A	S	O
D	U	I	L	I	S	A	I	A	H
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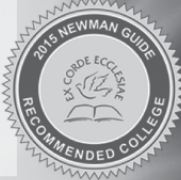
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