St. Mary



St. Michael

15164 Juniper Dr., Marne MI 49435 616.677.3934 • www.saintmarysmarne.org 17150 88th Ave., Coopersville, MI 49404 616.384.4026 • www.saintmichaels.us





Pastor: Rev. Michael Hodges

frmhodges@grpriests.org • For emergencies please call: 616.745.1409

Saint Mary Parish Staff

St. Mary Parish Office Hours
Monday 9:00AM - 4:30PM
Tuesday 9:00AM - 4:30PM
Wednesday 9:00AM - 11:30AM
Thursday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
Friday Closed

Deacon

Tom Roberts troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

Business Manager

Todd Kline businessmanager@ saintmarysmarne.org

Parish Secretary

Cathie VanGessel secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of Faith Formation

Debbie Veneklase dre@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of O.C.I.A Adult Bible Study

Jill Brown

Maintenance

Jim Looks

Custodian

Marian Looks

Liturgical Minister

Gary Karr gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

Music Director

Dr. Bernie Stanko 616.490.3836 berniestanko@hotmail.com

St Mary Prayer Line

616.677.3934 or Linda at 677.3269 For evening requests call Darlene 616.453.0157 or email bfa1414@yahoo.com

Saint Michael Parish Staff

St. Michael Office Hours
Monday.......9:00AM - 4:00PM
Tuesday.....9:00AM - 4:00PM
Wednesday...9:00AM - 4:00PM
Thursday......Closed
Friday......9:00AM to 4:00PM

Deacon

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Maintenance

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Custodian

Carol Reens

Liturgical Minister

Kevin Kilpatrick liturgy@saintmichaels.us

Scrip Coordinator

Brenda Kilpatrick 616.837.6363

St Michael

Prayer Line

Chris Albrecht 616-403-7110

Judy Driedger 616-899-2470

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday6:00PM ● St Mary Sunday8:30AM ● St Michael Sunday10:30AM ● St Mary

Weekday Mass Schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday and
Thursday........... 12:30PM to 1:30PM ● St. Mary
Wednesday and

Friday...........12:30PM to 1:30PM ● St. Michael **Saturday**........3:00PM to 3:45PM ● St. Michael

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday April : 4:00PM	† Sherry Maslowski by Dave & Sharon Carlson
Sunday April 2 8:30AM 10:30AM	† Marie Johnson by Ted Johnson & Family MI Our First Communicants MA
Monday April 2	8 No Mass
Tuesday April 2	9
12:00M	† Leo Byrne by Knights of Columbus #11581MA Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Mary
Wednesday Ap	ril 30
12:00PM	† Charlie & Pat Sommers by the Kilpatrick Family MI Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael
Thursday May I	
12:00M	† Kathleen Sobie by M/M Leon BrechtingMA Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Mary
Friday May 2	
12:00PM	† Jack Riordan by Jeff & Denise ParishMI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael
Saturday May 3	
4:00PM	† Roger Hecksel by Joan Hecksel
Sunday May 4	
8:30AM 10:30AM	† John Laug by the Laug Family



MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's

Scripture Readings for the Week of April 27, 2025

Sunday Sur	nday of I	Divine	Mercv
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Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13,

17-19; Jn 20:19-31

Monday Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of

the Church

Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

 Wednesday
 Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21

 Thursday
 Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36

 Friday
 Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the

Church

Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles I Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Rev 5:11-14;

Jn 21:1-19 or Jn 21:1-14 I

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers					
	May 3—9:00PM	May 4—8:30AM			
Altar Servers	Dylan Ranney NEED ONE	Adalyn Taylor Clare Taylor			
Eucharistic Ministers	Sue Felicioni NEED ONE	Deacon Tom Debbie Veneklase Sean Roush Chris Albrecht Sharon Carlson Denise Nelson Greg Helsen			
Lector	Mark Phillips	Carol Reens			
Sacristan	Jane Vitunskas	Jane Vitunskas			
Ushers	NEED TWO	Calvin Lindberg Ed Irwin Curt DeVos Peter Niesen			
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley			

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers			
	May 4 —10:30AM		
Sacristan	Gary Karr		
Altar	Noah Davis		
Servers	Calvin Davis		
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Need Two		
	Becky Warners		
Precious	Margie Jirous		
Blood			
	Nettie Leale		
Hospitality	Leonard Horter		
	Need		
Lector	Robert Lothschutz		
Music	Bernie Stanko		

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 27

Divine Mercy Sunday is a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wideopened and Jesus offers us the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion, on that day.

Prayer for Divine Mercy Sunday

Lord our God, in this great sacrament we come into the presence of Jesus Christ, your Son, born of the Virgin Mary and crucial for our salvation. May we who declare our faith in this fountain of love and mercy drink from it the water of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Sunday

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Mass of Thanksgiving for All 2025 Graduates

Calling All Graduates:

Our Cluster Parish family wishes to congratulate you on your graduation and extend our prayerful best wishes to you and your future endeavors. This is a time for you to be thankful for all that God has helped you to achieve and to pray for His



continual guidance as you prepare for your future. To help you celebrate, we invite you to a Mass of Thanksgiving with a special Blessing for 2025 Graduates. May 17 - 4PM

Graduation Mass & Blessing at St Michael

Invitations with detailed instructions have been emailed to all of our registered 2025 High School Graduates.

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience.

If you did not receive your invitation, please contact your Parish Office

College & Trade School Graduates are also welcome to attend. Please call the parish office and let us know you will be joining us.

Bishop Walkowiak's statement on the death of Pope Francis

"We are saddened by the death of our Holy Father, yet it is fitting that his passing from this life occurred in the Jubilee Year of Hope, which he inaugurated. For our hope in eternal life springs from our faith in the risen Lord. May Pope Francis now rest in eternal peace. Please join me in praying for the repose of his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed. "Bishop David

Read More: https://grdiocese.org/pope-francis-dies/

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."



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Fr Mike's Musings

What a joy for the Apostles to be gathered on Easter Sunday evening to see Jesus risen from the dead. To be honest, we would all like to share this same joy by seeing the risen Jesus. But in fact, we already do have this joy because we can see Jesus with the eyes of faith. While we do not see Jesus as the Apostles on Easter Sunday evening, in our hearts we know that Jesus is with us; in our hearts we see Jesus. When we have the joy in our hearts of knowing that Jesus is with us and have faith in Him, what a difference it makes to our lives. Just notice the difference between the disciples and how grumpy Thomas was when he returned. What a contrast between the gathered Apostles and Thomas. The Apostles had faith in Jesus and received His peace—Jesus had said to them, "Peace be with you"—while Thomas did not have the peace of Jesus: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." What sadness it must have caused the other Apostles because Thomas refused to believe. They knew he was missing the greatest treasure of life: Jesus. But because Thomas was stubborn and insisted on seeing with his eyes, instead of believing in faith, he must have had a very sad week until Jesus came again on the following Sunday evening, that is, the evening of today. When we live life with Jesus, we are happy; when we shut Jesus out of our lives, we can never expect to be fully happy.

There is a very beautiful verse in the last book of the New Testament, Revelation. Jesus is talking, and He issues this beautiful invitation: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me." Jesus issues this invitation to each of us also. May we open the doors of our hearts to Jesus and let him in to dine with us. Who wants to be unhappy for a week like Thomas? Who wants to be unhappy for a whole lifetime? No one, yet how many are deluded by all the false attractions of this world. This dreaming does not bring happiness; only the peace of Jesus brings happiness. The Gospel passage today concluded with John telling us why he wrote his Gospel: "...that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." We can have life only in the name of Jesus. The Apostles, through faith in Jesus, learned to cope with His absence. Those who have faith are united very deeply, more deeply than by anything else. Faith in Jesus unites people like nothing else.

Since we do not want to be unhappy for a week like Thomas or for a lifetime, how can we find this peace of Jesus that the gathered Apostles had? We can see Jesus with the eyes of faith every time we celebrate the Eucharist. Remember what the two disciples said on the road to Emmaus after they realized they had just celebrated the Eucharist with Jesus, "Were not our hearts burning within us?" We meet Jesus in the Eucharist. Just as on the road to Emmaus, we listen to the Scriptures and their explanation, and then we receive the Body of Jesus. May our hearts burn within us each time we celebrate the Eucharist here. Just as Jesus met the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and uplifted them, Jesus comes to meet us in every Eucharist and uplifts us. Those who do not come do not have the Eucharist at home and miss out on this special meeting with the Lord. We do not want to be sad like Thomas during Easter week; we want to have the peace of lesus that the Apostles received on Easter Sunday evening. We can have it here and now in the Eucharist; we only need to gather at together Mass, receive the grace of His peace through the Scriptures, and partake of His eternal goodness in the Real Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. Belief in Christ is easy; we only make it difficult for ourselves by our stubborn insistence on proof and in the endless pursuit of false happiness.

Catholic Service Appeal - 2025

Next week, we begin our annual Catholic Services Appeal. Your support of CSA benefits both parish and diocesan ministries, including formation of our future priests, the ongoing education of teachers and faith formation staff, proclaiming Christ's message through the media, evangelizing our youth, and aiding members of our community struggling with family issues, hunger, and homelessness. Please prayerfully consider how sharing your gifts will benefit many – in our parish and beyond.

Please Pray for our Engaged Couple

Sam Felicioni and Lindsay Ebling June 14, 2025 (St Michael)
Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW): Pre-School thru 2nd Grade During 10:30 AM Mass.

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday originated when Our Lord appeared to Saint Faustina, a humble, Polish sister. During these visions, Jesus asked specifically that the Feast of Divine Mercy be established so that all people would turn to Our Lord and find refuge in him and in his unfathomable mercy. The Image of Mercy, during one of the visions, Jesus asked Sister Faustina to paint the image of Divine Mercy pouring forth from his heart.

Ist-7th Grade Faith Formation Classes - Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

8th Grade - Confirmation Classes - Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

Faith Formation classes will be on break until the fall. Thank you to all of the Catechist and helpers. Your help is greatly appreciated. Have a fun and safe summer. Keep your eye on the bulletin for next year's registration information.

Congratulations to our second graders, who received Jesus for the first time in the Sacrament of Eucharist on April 27, 2025. Let us pray that they will always know Jesus' love for them and go out and share that love with everyone they meet.



Best Wishes to Timothy, Lauren, Ellis and Jaysea.

Vacation Bible School July 6 -10, 2025
The Great Journey with Jesus . Watch for more details.

For more information or any questions on any of these programs

Please contact Debbie Veneklase at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616.677.3934

New Mass & Confession Schedule April 26/27

Effective the weekend of April 26-27 the 6:00 PM Saturday Mass at St. Mary and the 12:00 PM Sunday Confession at St Mary will be taken off the schedule.

New Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM • St Michael Sunday 8:30AM • St Michael Sunday 10:30AM • St Mary

New Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule

Tuesday and

Thursday......12:30PM to 1:30PM ● St. Mary Wednesday and

Friday........... 12:30PM to 1:30PM ● St. Michael Saturday 3:00PM to 3:45PM ● St. Michael



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

How to become a Knight: You can enroll in the Knights of Columbus immediately as an "Online Member" by scanning the QR Code. Once you complete and submit the form on that page a local council will contact you. For additional Information or to learn more about what the Knights do, Contact Grand Knight: Bruce Kamp b.kamp@charter.net / Phone 616-780-4941



Upcoming COR Dates: May 17, 31, Jun 14, 28 -7AM - Community Room

Upcoming Blood drives: June 8 & October 12, 2025.

Pre-Register here:

June 8 https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11598499

Oct 12 https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11598498





Proceeds to help fund our council's charitable giving









and more

Giving Back to Go		
Mass: Attendance 4/19–9:00PM:	63	
Mass: Attendance 4/20- 10:30AM:	326	
Adult Contributions	\$4446.00	
Children Contributions	\$191.75	
Loose Contributions	\$552.03	
Capital Improvement	\$100.00	
Online Giving	\$645.00	
Easter Contributions	\$3332.15	
Total	\$9266.93	
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$6344.00	
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual	\$-5837.50	

Thank you for your continued support and generosity! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions.



St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Scrip numbers will be updated next week.





St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Kathie Poelma, Ken Heflin, Marvin Hecksel, Payton Patterson, Pat Harlett, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Masses. Children 3 -9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint.



We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, the second Sunday of Easter, is a Catholic feast day focused on the love and mercy of God, particularly as revealed through Jesus's suffering and death. It's a good opportunity to teach children about mercy, forgiveness, and the love of God, and can be celebrated through prayer, reflection and it is encouraged it pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades I-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:00- 7:30 pm. Our program ended for this school year. We are on Summer break. Thank you catechist and helpers for your dedication in sharing our Catholic faith with the Faith Formation students! Your generosity of giving your time and talent is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

First Communion Mass Practice: For First Communicants and parents on Wednesday, April 30, from 6:00-7:30pm and Saturday, May 3, from9:00am - 11:00am in the church. Contact Debbie Veneklase with any questions 616-384-4026. **Sunday May 4, 2025,** the second graders will make their Sacrament of First Holy Communion during the 8:30 Mass.

Please continue to pray for our First Communicants as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Quincy, Jase, Annette, Johnathan, Jayden and Kenten.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 is on Summer Break. Thank you Catechists for helping to catechize the students. Class will resume in September.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Ron Raczkiewicz by Pam Raczkiewicz

Festival News

Save the Date for Festival:

August 24, 2025 Now is the time to begin thinking about how you can volunteer or contribute to



the festival! Stay tuned to the bulletin for more information in the coming months.



What is it? The PaperGator® is a fundraiser where St. Michael's is paid to collect paper products for recycling.

What CAN go in the bins?

Newsprint
Catalogs/Magazines
Junk Mail
Phone Books
Office/School paper
Hard and soft cover books

What CANNOT

go in the bins?
Paperboard
(Grocery Item boxes)
Plastic
Metal
Trash
Glass

Cardboard

Giving Back to God April 19/20 2025 Mass: Attendance 4/19-9:00PM: 86 330 Mass: Attendance 4/20 8:30AM: \$1,661.00 Adult Envelopes Loose Cash \$505.00 Children's Envelopes \$10.00 \$1,890.00 Easter Collection Total \$4,066.00 Easter Flower Memorials \$440.00 Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget \$4,403.31 Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual +\$6,648.19 Thank you for your continued support!

Online Giving — Now there's an even more convenient way to contribute to St. Michael's! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions.

Or text the word GIVE to: 616-384-5011.





Baptism Is a Sending

hen Jesus appeared to his disciples after the Resurrection, it was not just to show them he was alive; it was also to show them they were alive with a new life—and to teach them how to live it. Now that Jesus is risen, we are his risen Body on earth. Now we are the Savior, the Messiah, because he continues his saving presence and mission in us.

The "grace of our Lord Jesus Christ" is the favor of sharing in his own divine life by being incorporated into him. It is because we are "in Christ" as members of his Body, that we live by his life, that we are identified, one with him in everything he is as the incarnate Son of God. Because we are "in Christ" we share in his divine identity, life and mission.

This means that the titles which describe Jesus in his mission now describe us. Jesus is living in us to continue carrying out his mission on earth. Everything he is as Savior he is now in us. And everything he is as Savior, we are called to be "in him." This is the logical and awesome consequence of Jesus' words, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

So, we must be "Son of David" to the world. Jesus' first words to his disciples are "Peace be with you." He has done what the promised Messiah-King was to accomplish: He has brought God's peace to the world. It is not the kind of peace that is established through military power or which is dependent on control of the environment. It is the "peace of Christ"—that interior "tranquility of order" which the world cannot give and the world cannot take away.

When Jesus says, with the authority of the promised Son of David, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you," he is saying that we—or rather, he in us now—must be Son of David and Messiah to our world. It is through us, through Jesus Christ working in and through our own human actions, that all of God's promises are to be brought to fulfillment. It is we who are sent to bring the fullness of life and joy and peace to the world.

This is not the peace of the contented cow in the

APRIL 27, 2025

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 5:12-16; Revelation 1:9-11, 12-13, 17-19; John 20: 19-31

pasture who just rests in the satisfaction of all her felt desires. This is "God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding" (Philippians 4:7), and it is the fruit of the Holy Spirit poured out in our hearts (Galatians 5:22; Romans 14:7). What we are sent to bring to the world is not just some human contentment. Jesus was not the "Son of David" his people expected: just an earthly king bringing earthly prosperity. He was the "Son of God," bringing a divine destiny to the human race. And so we are sent, as Jesus was, to be more than human: to be the human presence of God himself in the world, and to bring the world to that divine fulfillment which is found only in union with Christ by grace. That is why Jesus breathed on his disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." This divine fulfillment presupposes deliverance from sin.

And so, Jesus says, "If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them." This refers to more than Baptism and sacramental absolution. Each one of us is named "Jesus," "God-saves," because each one of us is sent to "save his people from their sins" (see Matthew 1:22). We do this in many and varied ways, but it is always a characteristic of our mission.

Finally, we are sent, as Jesus was, to save the world through bodily presence, through physical, human contact. Jesus was called "Emmanuel," "God-with-us," because he was on earth for people to see and touch and interact with inhuman ways. And he still invites people, as he invited Thomas, to see and touch his



physical, risen Body. We are that Body, and it is only through experiencing Jesus made flesh in us, expressing his love in our human actions, that many people will be able to believe. As his risen Body on earth, we are "Emmanuel." We are the touchable Jesus.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Second Week of Easter

Pray daily: Lord, you have made me your risen body by Baptism and sent me to make you present to the world in my flesh. Help me to believe that I am your embodied presence on earth. Strengthen me to continue your mission.

Monday: John 3:1-8: Jesus answered Nicodemus, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." How were you born again? When you try to be "more religious," or to help others live their religion more actively, are you conscious that you are helping yourself and them to live life more fully? On a higher plane? Do you think and speak of it this way?

Tuesday: John 3:7-15: Nicodemus asked, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Do you consider yourself a teacher of the faith? Were you sent to "make disciples of all nations"? What are you doing to grow in understanding of Jesus' teachings yourself so that you can speak of the good news in a way that helps others understand?

Wednesday: John 3:16-21: "And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." In what ways do you make visible the light that came into the world with Christ? Does your lifestyle arouse controversy? Turn anyone off? Why?

Thursday: John 3:31-36: Jesus said, "He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure." When were you commissioned by God to announce the good news? When, where, to whom do

you speak the words of God? Do you consciously rely on the gift of the Holy Spirit given to you?

Friday: John 6:1-15: When Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" Do you see a large crowd of people who need to be fed with the word of God? Who is feeding them now? Is it enough? What can you do to feed them?

Saturday: John 6:16-21: When the disciples had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. If people saw Jesus walking toward them today, how would they react? Is Jesus in fact coming to them in you? Are they terrified? Why? Does the thought terrify you? How do you deal with it?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Kneel before Jesus and formally commit yourself to being his living, active presence in the world. Specifically, promise to give him an active part in everything you do. Think about how to do this in the concrete.

As Disciple: Before you start your day, get in your car or leave your house, think ahead to what this day is liable to be like. Then read a passage of Scripture, looking for something that will help.

As Prophet: Each day this week plan some perceptible "clue" to put into your appearance or behavior which will tell people, if they think about it, that you are trying to live on a level higher than the human.

As Priest: Go about conscious that you are sent as Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. Look for opportunities to have a healing effect on people wounded by their sins or the sins of others.

As King: Ask yourself—and perhaps a couple of other people—what changes you would most like to see take place in your family or social life, where you work or in the neighborhood where you live. Then ask if you might be able to do something to make one of them happen.

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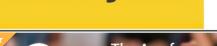
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