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

Tom Roberts troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

Business Manager

Todd Kline bsmgr@saintmichaels.us

Parish Secretary

Beki Rotman secretary@saintmichaels.us

Director of Faith Formation

Debbie Veneklase childrensministry@saintmichaels.us

Director of O.C.I.A

Cliff Kozminski 616.437.5318

Maintenance

David Goosen

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

Judy Driedger 616-899-2470

Weekend Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday	12:00PM • St Mary
Adoration begins aft	er Mass until 3:30PM
Wednesday1	L2:00PM • St Michael
Adoration begins aft	er Mass until 3:30PM
Thursday	12:00PM • St Mary
Friday 1	L2:00PM • St Michael

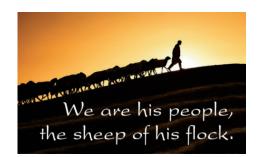
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday and			
Thursday	12:30PM to 1:30PM	•	St. Mary
Wednesday an	d		
Friday	12:30PM to 1:30PM •	St	. Michael

Saturday 3:00PM to 3:45PM ● St. Michael

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday May 19 4:00PM	† Art & Evelyn Schmidt by Joan Hecksel MI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael
Sunday May I I 8:30AM 10:30AM	† Jack Mahn by Chris Albrecht MI For All Mothers of Our Parish MA
Monday May 12	No Mass
Tuesday May 13 12:00M	Our Parish Family
Wednesday May 12:00PM	Our Parish Family
Thursday May I 12:00M	Our Parish Family
Friday May 16 12:00PM	† David Balkon by friends Roberta and Pat MI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael
Saturday May I' 4:00PM	† Marie Johnson by Joan Hecksel
Sunday May 18 8:30AM 10:30AM	† Jack Riordan by Joe HitchingsMI † Joy Willmott Rander by M/M Rob RanderMA



MI=St. Michael's

Scripture Readings for the Week of May 11, 2025

MA=St. Mary

J 501 1P	5 io i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter
	Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rev 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-
	30
Monday	Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3, 43:3,4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday	Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wedne	sday Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle
	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Jn 15:9-17
Thursda	Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27; Jn 13:16-20
Friday	Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturda	y Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
	Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Rev 21:1-5a; Jn
	13:31-33a, 34-35
1	

	May 17—4:00PM	May 18—8:30AM
Altar Servers	Dylan Ranney	Lauren Meerman Kenzie Harker
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom NEED ONE	Deacon Tom Kenny Harker Sharon Carlson Chris Albrecht Denise Nelson Debbie Veneklase Peter Nielsen
Lector	Rob Guilbault	Joe Meerman
Sacristan	Cindy Bleckley	Rosemary Weigel
Ushers	NEED TWO	Curt DeVos Calvin Lindberg Ed Irwin Duane Snowdin
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers		
	May 18 —10:30AM	
Sacristan	Gary Karr	
Altar Servers	Lauren LeMieux Madeline Serge	
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Margie Jirous Bruce Kamp	
Precious Blood	Christina Withers Need Three	
Hospitality	Nettie Leale Leonard Horter	
Lector	John Klein	
Music	Bernie Stanko	

World Day of Prayer

Also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday."

The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace



in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life) secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

Pray for Vocations: Workers for the Harvest God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that you inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, And your people are strengthened by the sacraments. Amen

Cluster News and Community News and Events

St Mary & St Michael Mother's Day/Father's Day Annual Baby Bottle Drive!

May II - June 15

Please take a Baby Bottle and fill it with your "extra change!" (dollar bills and checks are also welcome)
Supporting the drive will benefit HELP Pregnancy's ministry in so many ways: Keeping them supplied with some of the most needed baby essentials such as pack-n-plays, diapers, wipes, formula, bottles, baby wash, lotion etc. It will also help them provide walk-in hours for a free ultrasound with a qualified ultrasound technician for those who may be considering abortion.





Please return Father's Day Weekend. Thank You!

Catholic Service Appeal - 2025

If you have already turned in your CSA pledge card, thank you! If you haven't had the chance yet, please return your CSA pledge card this week to the parish office or make your pledge online at GRdiocese.org. Our participation in the CSA as individuals and as a parish enables us to unite with all Catholics in the Diocese of Grand Rapids. Through the blessings we've received, together we are able to fund important work that benefits our parish and diocesan programs that supports individuals, families, and communities throughout our I I counties. Every gift, regardless of the amount, is important in this effort.

Our parish goal for 2025 is:

St Mary

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$50,516.00

St Michael

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$52,297.00

and **100% participation**, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. Please join us in this important work!



Bulletin Sponsor of the Week THE PICKLE BACK

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!



Fr Mike's Musings

We are indebted to mothers who not only birthed us but lead us by word and example. Take a moment and reflect on your mother and thank God for the gift of life and love. Aside from our relationship with God, the relationship we have with our mother is likely the most important we'll ever have. It may well be the most powerful relationship we'll ever have on earth. Some of us may not have had a very good or very capable mother. Certainly, there are no perfect mothers; but hopefully someone filled that void. Hopefully a grandmother or other mother-figure stepped up and became a mentor. Say a little prayer in thanksgiving for mothers and mother-figures. We all need them.

Despite the pain of childbirth, a mother forgets much of that pain as she looks upon the face and into the eyes of her newborn son or daughter. The pain she had gone through becomes quite meaningless in the face of new life as she clutches her newborn. Childbirth is not the end but only the beginning. Now comes the tiring and thankless work of feeding and nursing and diaper changes and sleepless nights for years on end.

But there is a pain that some mothers endure and cannot forget. The loss of a child. One in four women in the United States experience miscarriage, stillbirth, or some other loss of an infant. Someone we know has walked this heartbreaking path of grief. In my brief time as pastor of St. Mary and St. Michael I have been witness and counsel to several such instances, more than I would have thought possible in our "advanced" technical age.

Questions about the afterlife for their child are always a part of the process. There is the need of comfort in the knowledge that the unborn/newborn are safe rather than condemned (an unfortunate legacy of former wrong-minded beliefs about Baptism). Yet despite the reassurances and prayers tendered by me and friends and family members of the bereaved, there still seemed to have been a void in the emotional state of these poor women. A lack of overall emotional, spiritual, and physical care from others outside of the family and pastoral realms. Someplace or something that could foster a healthy grieving process with others who have also trod on this journey of tears. A point where understanding and similar experience could fill the gaps that could not be filled by the sympathetic words, albeit sincere, of a pastor or counselor.

Recently I have been made aware of such a program called "Hope Mommies". A parishioner who had lost her child before birth told me about this organization and its efforts to alleviate the pain and sense of aloneness that accompanies this misfortune. Something that is provided through this organization is known as a "Hope Box". These gift boxes invite grieving mothers into a community where they can share their experience and emotions with others and to know that they are not alone. This gift reassures them that, even in the darkness of their loss, God is there and cares for them and their children.

In the boxes are items that may seem to be ordinary but are meant to provide physical comfort and emotional succor. In the gift box is a bible, a blank journal and pen, a personal note from the person who packed the box, and various items to "pamper" the recipient: teas, lotions, memory bracelet, scented candle, coffee/tea mug. The parishioner who is seeking to share this ministry in our parish best describes the effect her gift box had on her grieving process.

"A 'Hope Box' meant so much to me. I received one when our daughter was called home to Heaven before being born. This box brought me to a community of moms going through similar situations. Being able to express my feelings with people going through the exact same thing truly helped me heal and brought me closer to God and seeking Him in my life. The boxes are filled with very thoughtful comfort items, and a Bible study guide. I still use the coffee cup that came with it. It reminds me of my hope that my baby is in Heaven. I have been told that support changes stories and this changed mine and helped me make the best

out of a difficult situation. A 'Hope Box' can be given to a mom who loses a baby at any stage. I truly believe that having these boxes available to give to women going through a loss will truly help them find comfort in our Lord."

On this Mother's Day let us all consider making the desire for this ministry a reality in our parish families. Let us show all mothers; the rejoicing, the mother-figures, and those who grieve; that they are loved and are never alone—





in this world or the next.

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 Forth Sunday of Easter. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of a good shepherd to explain how he protects and cares for his followers (his sheep). Jesus says his sheep hear his voice. This means they listen to him, trust him, and follow his guidance. He also says he knows his sheep. This means he knows each of them individually and cares about them deeply.

CLW is on break until the fall. Thank you to Ms. Carmody and all of the helpers! Thank you for sharing your time and talent with the parish.

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



Adopt-A-Garden

We are looking for parishioners to "adopt" an outdoor area on our parish grounds to help keep that area look-

ing good and creating a great first impression for all who come to our parish. Sign-up for a small, specific area on the Parish grounds and keep your area cleaned-up on a regular



basis. For more info or to see what areas are still available, please call the parish office.

Parish Picnic Planning Meeting June 9 at 6PM



Please come and share your thoughts and comments on food, games, activities and help in the planning discussion for our annual parish picnic. Meeting will be held in the Church Community Room. Parish Picnic will be Sept 7, 2025.

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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

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

Charity Raffle- Just in Time for Summer. Win a Blackstone 1550 Tailgater Grill and Griddle Combo with 20lb filled Propane Tank.

Tickets \$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00 -

Maximum 300 tickets sold.

Tickets will be sold after all Masses beginning May.

Drawing will be June 5th at 7:30PM . License # X12847

Proceeds to help fund our council's charitable giving.

Knight Person of the Month- May Rob Rander for his continuing support of our council.

Knight Family of the Month- May Bret Petrauskas family for their positive contributions to our community

The Knight Person/Family is a way to recognize someone who has gone above and beyond for our community. Thank you for your commitment!

Monthly Donation- Special Olympics and Indian Trails Camp totaling over \$1000. We couldn't have done it without the support of our church community.



We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy. We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways. We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away. We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion. We remember mothers. grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.



KNIGHT

MONTH

Giving Back to G	
Mass: Attendance 4/27- 10:30AM: 216	
Adult Contributions	\$3570.00
Children Contributions	\$15.00
Loose Contributions	\$315.00
Capital Improvement	\$355.00
Online Giving	\$2939.00
Total	\$7194.00
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$6719.13
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual	\$-8576.50

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



Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Thank you to our 9 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$41.00. *Gift cards make great graduation gifts!*





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. In today's Gospel Jesus says his sheep listen to his voice, he knows them, and they follow him. He also states that he gives them eternal life, no one can take them away from him, and that he and the Father are one. Essentially, Jesus is saying that he is the Good Shepherd and that he will always protect and guide those who follow him. CLW will resume in September. Thank you Catechists and helpers for the dedication and talents you share with the children of our parish!

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 catechists 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! Congratulations to our First Communicants who made their Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Welcome to the Lord's table,



Quincy, Jase, Annette, Johnathan, Jayden and Kenten. May Jesus' gift of the Eucharist inspire your joyful hearts to serve God. We are very proud of you!

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 +Carl Goosen by Marcy Goosen

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.



Congratulations . . .



... to our 2nd graders who joined us at the Lord's Table on May 4: Quincy, Jase, Annette, Johnathan, Jayden and Kenten. May you continue to grow in your faith and feel the great love of Jesus.

Giving Back to God		
May 3/4 2025		
Mass: Attendance 5/3-4:00PM:	58	
Mass: Attendance 5/4 8:30AM:	247	
Adult Envelopes	\$5,169.00	
Loose Cash	\$476.00	
Children's Envelopes	\$18.00	
Total	\$5,663.00	
Building Fund	\$165.00	
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$4,264.25	
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual	+\$5,304.69	
Thank you for your continued support!		

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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.



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Baptism Commits Us to Discipleship

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." So, listening to Jesus goes with being one of his sheep. If we are not hearing his voice there is something wrong with our relationship.

Hearing Jesus' voice is not just a matter of receiving and recognizing his inspirations during the day, or in crucial moments of decision during our lives. Hearing the voice of Jesus can also come through systematic listening on our part. We can seek Jesus out to listen to him. And this is something that belongs to Christian life as such; it is something to which we are committed at Baptism. It is called discipleship.

Baptism is not just a washing away of sins. In fact, when Baptism is done by immersion, even the symbol of washing is swallowed up within the greater symbol of going down into the grave (under the water) and rising out of it again. Then Baptism is portrayed more clearly as a dying and rising, as a giving up of life on the level of this world's goals and guidelines in order to live life on a new level: a level of divine goals and divine guidelines.

When we see Baptism like this—as a commitment to live on a new level and walk by a new light—it is easy to understand how Baptism is a commitment to discipleship. Discipleship just means "committed learning," and for learning to be committed it has to be systematic. Unless we are listening systematically to Jesus then we are not his disciples. We are not sheep who listen to his voice as a regular part of life.

A "disciple" is a "student"—someone whose life is characterized by learning. We are not disciples just because we happen to learn something from the readings or homilies at Sunday Mass, any more than we are students because we happen to pick up some information once a week from the educational channel on television. The word "disciple," like the word "student," speaks of what we are. And for discipleship or study to characterize one's life, there must be a serious commitment to it.

MAY 11, 2025

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14-17; John 10:27-30

All human actions take place in time and space. We can only act at a particular time and in a particular place.

Therefore, if we are not committed to listening to Jesus at a particular time, or in a particular place, we are not really committed. When we say to Jesus, "Lord, I would like to know you better; I would like to talk to you," he answers: "When? Where? When are we going to talk? Where are we going to meet?" If we say, "Well, sometime, someplace," Jesus gets the message. He knows we are only pretending that we want to be his disciples—pretending to ourselves.

Discipleship is so important, so necessary for our own growth in grace, so needed in our world, that we really should stop for a moment to make sure it is a characteristic of our own lives. Each one of us needs to ask seriously, "When do I listen to Jesus each day? Where do I do this? For how long?"

If our answer is, "Well, I listen to Jesus all day long. I talk to him all day long," we are kidding ourselves. How many deep, intimate friendships are built up and maintained through nothing but casual conversation? How many marriages survive—or on what level do they survive—when spouses do not take time for deep, serious, loving communication? What can we learn from Jesus that is deep and serious if all we ever have with him is a running conversation while we are doing other things? It is true that we ought to pray always, but this does not mean that the kind of praying



we are always able to do, at every moment of the day, wherever we might happen to be, is enough for serious discipleship.

Our Baptism was a physical act as well as a spiritual reality. Our discipleship, in order to be a spiritual reality, must also be a physical fact. So when, where, and for how long each day or week will we listen to the voice of Jesus?

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Fourth Week of Easter

Pray daily: Lord, call me to be your disciple. Give me the grace to respond to your call, and to decide here and now when I will give time to learning from you. Help me persevere in learning and believing. I ask this of you who are Christ the Lord. Amen.

Monday: John 10:1-10: Jesus said, "I came so that they may have life and have it abundantly." Do you believe this? Where do you look for this abundance of life? How consistently? Does Jesus just give it, or do you need to keep interacting with him to grow into the fullness of life?

Tuesday: John 10:22-30: Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." When do you hear Jesus' voice? Where? How often? Has Scripture reading made you familiar with his voice, his way of speaking? Does it lead you to decisions? What is the last decision you made consciously as an act of following Jesus?

Wednesday: John 12:44-50: Jesus said, "Whoever rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge: on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge." Do you believe you will be judged by how well you kept the ten commandments, or by how authentically you lived by Christ's words? Are you letting his words be the "critic," the standard that determines your behavior now?

Thursday: John 13:16-20: Jesus said, "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them." Do you

know all the principles and values Jesus taught in the Gospels well enough to consciously live by them? Do you want to know everything he taught? Why?

Friday: John 14:1-6: Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Do you believe this? Do you constantly look at Jesus' example to find your way in family and social life, business and politics? Do you keep studying his words to find the truth that casts light on your life, your problems, your decisions? Do you believe that knowing his words and following his example will enrich your life?

Saturday: John 14:7-14: Jesus said, "If you know me, you will know my Father also." Is this an incentive to read the Scripture? How else can you get to know Jesus? Do you believe that by reading Scripture you can get to know God himself? How much does this mean to you?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Kneel before Jesus and formally commit yourself to discipleship, that is, to leading a life characterized by reflection on his message. Decide when and where and for how long each day you will read Scripture.

As Disciple: Put a copy of the Bible on your pillow. Never go to sleep without reading at least one line. Underline what strikes you.

As Prophet: In your daily reading of Scripture, pick out one teaching or example of Jesus and decide on a way to embody it in your life that day.

As Priest: As you read Scripture, pick out one truth each day that you can put into your own words and share with someone else. Ask how Jesus would explain this today to the people you live and work with.

As King: Make sure you have a copy of the Bible. Enthrone it in some visible place in your home. Give it the kind of place in your home that the Blessed Sacrament has in church.

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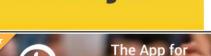
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