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

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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 616-899-2470

Weekend Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday	. 12:00PM • St Mary
Adoration begins afte	r Mass until 3:30PM
Wednesday12	2:00PM • St Michael
Adoration begins afte	r Mass until 3:30PM
Thursday	. 12:00PM • St Mary
Friday12	2:00PM • St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday an	d
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 May 24 4:00PM	† Troy Spencer by St. Althea Spencer OSF MI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael
Sunday May 25 8:30AM 10:30AM	† Ron Raczkiewicz by Pam Raczkiewicz MI † Leo & Helen Byrne by M/M Rob RanderMA
Monday May 26 8:00AM	Memorial Day Mass - Cemetery Altar † All Military PersonnelMA
Tuesday May 27 12:00M	Our Parish Family
Wednesday May	28 NO MASS / NO ADORATION / NO CONFESSIONS
Thursday May 29 12:00M	Our Parish Family Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Mary
Friday May 30 12:00PM	† Michael Kromer by Joe Hitchings MI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 12:30-1:30PM - St. Michael
Saturday May 3 I 4:00PM	† Waldon & Nancy Phillips by Mark & Donna Phillips MI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael
Sunday June I 8:30AM 10:30AM	† Lucille O'Bradovich by the O'Bradovich Family
	MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's



Scripture Readings for the Week of May 25, 2025		
Sunday	Sixth Sunday of Easter	
	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rev 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn	
	14:23-29	
Monday	Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest	
	Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26-16:4a	
Tuesday	Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11	
Wednesday	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15	
Thursday	Acts 18:1-8, Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, John 16:16-20	
Friday	Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23	
Saturday	Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	Zeph 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; ls 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk 1:39-	
	56	
Sunday	Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28;	

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers		
	May 31—4:00PM	June I —8:30AM
Altar Servers	Kassidy Britt MaKaelyn Britt	Reid Lindberg Bryson Lindberg
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom Niki Schumaker	Sharon Carlson Kenny Harker Chris Albrecht Amber Nelson Debbie Veneklase Cindy Lindberg Greg Helsen
Lector	Kevin Schumaker	Carl Pohlman
Sacristan	Jane Vitunskas	Jane Vitunskas
Ushers	NEED TWO	Ed Irwin Curt DeVos Calvin Lindberg Joe Meerman
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers	
	June I —10:30AM
Sacristan	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Peter Lothschutz Casimir Lothschutz
Precious Body	Nettie Leale Geary Farrell Becky Warners
Precious Blood	Margie Jirous Jim Fritz Need two
Hospitality	Leonard Horter
Lector	Robert Lothschutz
Music	Bernie Stanko

Memorial Day Mass -Monday, May 26-8AM

Fr. Mike will be celebrating Mass outside at the St. Mary cemetery altar. (If weather is rainy, Mass will be moved indoors.) Please Bring a chair. Please join us to pray for our beloved dead, especially those who were killed in the line of duty.

Memorial Day Prayer: God of power and mercy, you destroy war and put down earthly pride. Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daugh-



ters. Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Catholic Service Appeal - 2025

Thank you for your gifts to 2025 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Every gift, regardless of the amount, is important in this effort. Our parish goal for 2025 is:

Thank you for your stewardship!

St Mary

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$50,516.00 Total Pledges Made: \$20,320.00 (41%)

Balance: \$30,196.00

Participation: 50 of 260 Active - Households (20%)

St Michae

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$52,297.00 Total Pledges Made: \$15,170.00 (29%)

Balance: \$37,127

Participation: 36 of 255 - Active Households (14%)

Totals as of May 20, 2025

Please keep in mind that any amount raised over our goal is returned 100% to the parish. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.

Congratulations & God Bless our 2025 Graduates!



Prayer for Our Graduates:

May you have WISDOM in heart and mind, SUCCESS in every challenge you find, COURAGE to seek life's purpose for you, BELIEF in yourself to make it come true, STRENGTH to do your best and endure, And the guiding light of FAITH to ensure that wherever you go, whatever you do, God's LOVE will always see you through. Amen

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week ARSULOWICZ BROTHERS MORTUARIES, INC.

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Fr Mike's Musings

Tomorrow is both the observed and traditional day for 'Memorial Day'. That only happens periodically now. Back in 1971 the observed day was changed from the traditional day of May 30 to the last Monday in May. But I suppose for most people Memorial Day has become simply a kickoff to the summer season of barbecues, picnics and



outdoor activity. Congress purposely moved it to a Monday so it would make a long holiday weekend. That has been good for business, both recreational enterprises, for obvious reasons and industrial concerns since it is less expensive for them to shut down at the start or end of the week rather than mid-week. Sadly, it would seem most people have forgotten the actual reason Memorial Day became a holiday.

Our national observance of 'Memorial Day' dates to 1868, when General John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (a Union veterans' organization) named May 30th as a special day to honor the graves of Union soldiers. General Logan's order was that the day was "designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion." Hence, it was also called 'Decoration Day'. The observance of was started in remembrance of those who died in the Civil War. Since that time, those who have sacrificed their lives in the service of our nation in any war have been added, and since '9/11', there has been more mention of those who have died in the line of duty in emergency services such as Fire, Police, Rescue and Medical personnel. From my own point of view, those additions have been good and in harmony with the original purpose of setting aside the day.

I have mentioned these details of history because, like the matters of our Catholic faith, it is up to us all to teach the next generation the meaning of the day. They need to learn our history and the sacrifices that have been made for the freedoms they enjoy — and all too often take for granted. The future of any nation demands that its citizens have a sense of history and their place in it. The reality behind our freedoms is that none of them are free—a hefty price was paid. Every citizen of the United States shares in a heritage for the 655,000+ who have died in battle, along with the 538,000+ who died from other causes while in service. This is the price paid in gaining and preserving our freedoms as well as protecting and liberating those in other nations. The failure to remember and honor the sacrifices by those who have gone before us will eventually lead to a failure to preserve the very things for which they died. Freedom is not free, and those who recognize its cost will continue to pay its price so that it is preserved while those who do not will lose it, for themselves and for all who heed their example of ignorance.

As a country we should always remember and be grateful for the precious freedoms we have enjoyed over the course of our country's history because there were so many who gave their all and paid the ultimate price to secure them. As a society we should always remember and be grateful for the lives we have been able to live in safety because of their sacrifice. As a nation we should always remember and be grateful for the harmony we have with other nations because of the many who have placed themselves in harm's way and those who have died in defeating evil doers and brought freedom to the peoples they were oppressing. As individuals we should always remember and honor family members, friends, loved ones and service "buddies" who have been killed in our country's military actions. We now also should remember and be grateful for those emergency responders — police, fire, rescue, and medical personnel who selflessly died in the line of duty. We should not forget them, and we should teach our progeny to honor them always.

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

Please Pray for our Engaged Couple

Sam Felicioni and Lindsay Ebling

Wedding date: 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 sixth Sunday of Easter. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that if they love him, they will keep his commands, and the Father will love them too.

He promises to come and make a home with those who love him. Jesus also reassures them that he is not abandoning them and that the Holy Spirit will come to teach them and guide them, just like he has taught them.



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.

For more information or any questions on any of these programs Please contact Debbie Veneklase at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616.677.3934

Vacation Bible School July 6 -10, 2025

The Great Journey with Jesus Watch for more details



CRS -Hunger Relief in the United States

Together, we changed lives this Lent through CRS Rice Bowl. . Your donation to CRS Rice Bowl helps provide lifesaving support to more than 200 million people in more than 120 countries. But did you know your support also helps your

local diocese? Twenty-five percent of every donation stays in your community to fight hunger and poverty, while 75% supports



Catholic Relief Services programming around the world. We raised \$245.30. THANK YOU for being a

part of this effort!

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. Meet-



ing will be held in the Church Community Room.

Parish Picnic will be Sept 7, 2025.

Adopt-A-Garden

We are looking for parishioners to "adopt" an outdoor area on our parish grounds to help keep that area looking 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. Sign up Sheets in the Narthex. For more info please call the parish office.



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 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



Giving Back to God

Mass: Attendance 5/18- 10:30AM:	198
Adult Contributions	\$1985.00
Children Contributions	\$33.00
Loose Contributions	\$59.00
Capital Improvement	\$50.00
Online Giving	\$340.00
Total	\$2467.00
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$7784.33
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual	\$-13,014.50

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 totals 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.

The Word Among Us magazines not only have the Mass prayers and readings but contain informative and interesting articles. Please take one and bring it home to keep and use daily.

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 are currently on Summer Break. We will see you in September. In today's Gospel lesus promises his disciples



that the Holy Spirit will be sent to them to help guide and teach them and to keep them connected to the Son and to the Father. Love, Peace and the Holy Spirit are his gifts to the disciples and to us.

Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:00- 7:30 pm. **Middle School Faith Formation:** Grades 6, 7 and 8 meet on Sundays from 9:45-11:15am. Our programs have ended for this school year. We are on Summer break. Class will resume in September. Please watch the bulletin for registration information.

St. Michael's Catholic Church 2025 Vacation Bible School

Date: Monday, July 28 - Thursday, July.31 Time: 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

2025 Vacation Bible School: Explore mountains of fun!

This year we will guide children through an engaging journey of faith, focusing on the theme of friendship with God amidst the beauty of Alaska's wilderness.



It's hard to find your way in a world gone wild. But we have Jesusour "True North"! Together, let's give kids a rock-solid foundation and point them to Jesus - their unmovable, unshakable friend forever!

Registration forms are in the narthex and on parish website. Many volunteers are needed! This is a great way to help our parish and get involved. If interested, please contact Debbie Veneklase with any questions. (616)384-4026



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.



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

11ay 17/10 2023		
Mass: Attendance 5/10-4:00PM:	114	
Mass: Attendance 5/11 8:30AM:	143	
Adult Envelopes	\$6,236.00	
Loose Cash	\$422.00	
Children's Envelopes	\$30.25	
Total	\$6,688.25	
Building Fund	\$25.00	
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$3,938.30	
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual	+\$4,526.44	
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 Commits Us to Christ's Driesthood

Tesus promises that if we love him and live by his word, he and the Father will come and dwell within us. What does this mean, and what response should it evoke from us?

God obviously does not dwell within us like inert matter in a box. God inhabits our hearts to communicate himself to us deeply and intimately—more than that, to identify us with himself, to make us the visible "dwelling place of God" on earth. If we combine this with the image Jesus uses of the vine and the branches, and with Saint Paul's teaching that we are the "Body of Christ," God's indwelling is explained as a union in one shared life. For God to abide in us means that we abide in him: that we now live "in Christ"; that we live by the divine life of Jesus shared with us. Jesus has become not only our way and our truth, but our life.

This could be for us nothing but an incomprehensible mystery lost in its own abstractness. But if we ask what this union with Christ calls us to, then it becomes a very practical reality. The mystery of God's dwelling within us gives a new direction to everything we do.

Because God dwells in us, we are mediators of his life to others. He does not dwell in us inertly; he is within us to communicate himself to us, and through us to communicate himself to others.

What God's indwelling calls us to is the acceptance and exercise of the priesthood that is ours through Baptism. Because we were baptized into Christ and into his life, we share in everything he is and was sent to do. Because Jesus is the "only Son of the Father," and we are "in him," we are *filii in Filio*, "sons in the Son." In the same way we share in his priesthood as "priests in the Priest." This makes us mediators.

What is priesthood? Priests offer sacrifices. But with the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, all other sacrifices were abolished, and all other priesthood. Now there is only one Priest offering one sacrifice: the sacrifice of himself. In the Mass Jesus still offers the sacrifice he made of himself on Calvary. But all the baptized exercise the priesthood of Jesus by offering themselves with him as the Body of Christ. Our flesh is the flesh of Christ being offered still MAY 25, 2025

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29

until the end of time.

How do we do this? Not physically on a cross. The death of Jesus is the only death needed to redeem the world. But there is another way to offer ourselves: that is to "offer our bodies as a living sacrifice"—our live bodies, which means ourselves, whole and entire. In practice to be offered means that in everything we do, wherever our live bodies are, we are sacrificed to the work, to the ministry of Jesus. This means that at every moment of our lives, no matter what we are doing or with whom we are dealing, we are given to give life to the world. We live only to give his life, his light, his love to others. To live for this is to "die" to self, so that, yes, we do redeem the world as Jesus did, by dying for others, but not through physical death. It is through physical actions that express the love of Christ and which are the medium through which he gives his life to the world.

This means that priesthood is essentially mediation. It is to mediate the life of God to others by letting the God who dwells within us express himself in and through our human actions. In the priesthood of Jesus mediation and sacrifice are the same reality. The sacrifice Jesus offered was himself. And no sacrifice is redemptive unless the "self" being offered is Jesus. But when we sacrifice ourselves, putting every desire aside except the desire to mediate the life of Christ to others in love, letting Jesus express himself through us as he chooses, the body that is offered in its human, physical actions is the Body of Christ. Our priesthood is to let Christ express himself in us: to be the Body of Christ offered and offering as both



Victim and Priest in every physical action of our lives. Our Baptism consecrates us to this.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Sixth Week of Easter

Pray daily: Lord, you have made me a sharer in your life, your mission, your priesthood. I unite myself in Eucharist with your offering on the cross. Fill me with your desire to give myself, my flesh for the life of the world. Amen.

Monday: John 15:26-16:4: Jesus said, "You also are to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning." With whom have you shared your experience of Jesus during your life? With whom have you not shared your experience of him? Who especially has a right to expect this of you?

Tuesday: John 16:5-11: Jesus said, "If I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment." How do you let the Holy Spirit within you give expression to the truth, the love that Jesus died to reveal? Why do spontaneous expressions of faith that come from the heart have so much impact on people?

Wednesday: John 16:12-15: "But when the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears..." What have you heard from the Holy Spirit in your heart? How can you recognize his voice? Do you "speak whatever you hear," or do you keep all your thoughts about God to yourself?

Thursday: John 16:16-20: Jesus said, "A little while and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me." Where is the risen Jesus seen today? How is he recognized? How has he been able to show himself visibly in you? To speak in you? To minister in you?

Friday: John 16:20-23: "When a woman is in labor, she has pain because her hour has come; but when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the

world." Do you find it difficult, even painful at times to give expression to your faith, your love? To sing at Mass? To pray out loud? To speak of your feelings about God? Have you ever experienced the joy of seeing others come to life when you share?

Saturday: John 16:23-28: Jesus said, "I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father." When Jesus returned to the Father, did he take his human presence completely out of the world? How is he present now? When are you most conscious of letting Jesus express himself in your human words and actions?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Kneel before Jesus and consciously, explicitly accept your Baptismal consecration as priest. Formally commit yourself to minister to others and to share the life of grace that is within you by giving expression to your faith, your hope, your love. Think of concrete ways to begin doing this.

As Disciple: Notice how many times the word "we" is used in the Mass. Be consciously aware during the Eucharist that the presiding priest is speaking in your name, and that you are praising, asking, thanking and offering together with him.

As Prophet: Ask if there is anything in your language or behavior that you would find inappropriate in an ordained priest. Is there any reason why it is not just as inappropriate in you who share in the priesthood of Jesus by Baptism?

As Priest: Ask God specifically to make you alert to the times you start to feel like expressing or sharing with others your faith or your devotion, but hold back because of embarrassment or fear. When this happens, ask yourself if you would have expected an ordained priest to express what you did not express. What is the difference?

As King: Ask your pastor how the priesthood of the baptized is expressed in your parish. Ask a few people for their reactions to lay ministers of the Eucharist and lectors. Judge whether something needs to be done to explain Baptismal priesthood to the parish.

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