

# Saint Michael Parish

85 North High Street, Greenville, PA 16125  
724-588-9800

*Saint Margaret, Parish's Mission Church*  
701 Denver Street, Jamestown, PA 16134

[www.stmichaelgreenville.com](http://www.stmichaelgreenville.com)  
[st.michaelchurch@neohio.twcbc.com](mailto:st.michaelchurch@neohio.twcbc.com)

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER  
3  
2023**

**FIRST  
SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT**

**Fr. Brandon Kleckner**  
Pastor  
[BKleckner@ERIErcd.org](mailto:BKleckner@ERIErcd.org)

**Ms. Patty Meehan:**  
Office Manager  
Phone x133

**Mrs. Teia Barger**  
Facilitator of Faith Formation

**Deacon Frank Luciani:**  
Phone x139

**Mrs. Susan Swartzbeck:**  
Business Manager  
Phone x135

**Mrs. Judy Seman:**  
Assistant of Faith Formation  
Phone X 136

**Deacon Marty Aubel:**  
Phone x 138

**Mr. Nick Hoovler**  
Maintenance Supervisor

**Miss Emily Zgonc:**  
Principal  
724-588-7050  
[stmikes@neo.rr.com](mailto:stmikes@neo.rr.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 5      Divine Mercy Chaplet 3 PM.  
Dec. 8      Holyday of Obligation.  
Dec. 11     Young at Heart meets at 11:30.

Wednesdays   Confessions 8-8:30 PM.  
Saturdays      Confessions 3-4 PM.

## REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of James Micsky, Sr. and Basil Nottingham. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

## MASS TIME CHANGES

The Mass intentions that have been scheduled at St. Margarets for 2024 will not change except the Mass will begin at 8:00 AM beginning February 18, 2024. Please call the office if you have a question or want to inquire about moving the intention to a different date.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

You can help. "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

*Weekday Masses Tues–Fri 9AM / First Sat 9AM*  
*Saint Michael Church*

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Martha Loreno (Ed Loreno Family)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Deceased Members of the Moore, Moyer,  
McGoldrick, & Ramsey Family (M/M Robert Moore)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 SAINT AMBROSE

Lawrence Ehemann (Family)

### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 -VIGIL MASS

**6:30 PM** *Saint Margaret Mission*  
Florence Schwartz (Tom & Shirley Patton)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

**9:00 AM** *Saint Michael Church*  
Donna Carol (Family)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

**4:30 PM** *Saint Michael Church*  
Stephanie Romine (Bill)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

**7:00 AM** *Saint Michael Church*  
For the People of the Parish

**9:00 AM** *Saint Margaret Mission*  
Edward & Helen Novak (Holian Family)

**11:00 AM** *Saint Michael Church*  
Pam Cianci (LeeAnn & Mark Micsky)

## STEWARDSHIP

Thirty Third Sunday Ordinary Time  
\$8,454.13

### CSA

Pledged: \$135,375

Paid: \$125,595

*THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROSITY YOU SHOW  
TO OUR PARISH*

**St. Michael School Endowment:** In memory of  
Norma Langiotti (\$350); In memory of Josephine  
Fitch (\$50)

## 40 CLUB WINNERS-NOVEMBER 22

\$100– Sharon Richards; \$100– Doug McElhinny;  
\$50– Aimee Forsythe.

## SANCTUARY CANDLES

### INTENTION & DONOR

**Dec 1-15** Judy Kalchthaler (Uncle Benny &  
Aunt Bonnie)  
**Dec 1-15** James & Edith Barbarossa (Ben,  
Bonnie & Family)  
**Dec 1-15** John Potase, Sr. (Saulsbery Family)  
**St. Margaret**  
**Dec 16-31** Mike Prezioso (Sally Prezioso)  
**Dec 16-31** Darla Prezioso Hellyer (Sally)  
**Dec 16-31** John Potase, Sr. (Saulsbery Family)  
**St. Margaret**

Date / Mass	Lector	Cantor	Accompanist	Altar Servers
Dec 7 / 6:30 PM	TBD	Bruce Turcik	Lisa Demarest	None assigned
Dec 8/ 9:00 AM	Susan Wallace	Mary Smart	Lisa Demarest	Mason M., Krystal W.
Dec 9 / 4:30 PM	Sandy Ohl	Kloe Soros	Lisa Demarest	Mason , Krystal , Lily
Dec 10/ 7:00 AM	Joe Presto	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dec 10/ 9:00 AM	George Soros	Bob Hutchinson	Lisa Demarest	Avery & Waylon W, Duncan M.
Dec 10/11:00 AM	Joseph Yarzab	Susan Swartzbeck	Lisa Demarest	Callie, Tucker & Liza S.

## A WORD FROM FATHER BRANDON

Happy New Year! No, not that kind, but the liturgical kind! With this Sunday, we embark on our new Liturgical Year that will see us through, primarily, the Gospel of Mark with a significant selection of John's Gospel sprinkled throughout. This is the year, for instance, where we will contemplate, for five weeks this summer, John's *Bread of Life Discourse* in John 6. With Mark being the shortest of the Gospels, the Church gives us a selection from John's Gospel to add to the Sunday cycle. For those that may forget, the Church Years are divided into a three-year Sunday cycle: Year A, B, and C. Year A, which we just finished, was primarily devoted to Saint Matthew's Gospel, Year B, Saint Mark, and Year C, Saint Luke. Saint John, the Beloved Disciple, does not get his own year, rather, he is read heavily in the Easter Season and within Year B, alongside Saint Mark. The Weekday Cycle has a different philosophy than the Sunday Cycles. There are two years for the weekday lectionary readings: Year 1 and 2. The weekday cycle's primary goal is to get us reading as much of the Bible as possible. There is less of an obvious structure and game plan as the Sundays have, as the weekdays are there to expose us as much as possible to a liturgical reading of the Scriptures.

All together, the three year Sunday Cycle and the two year Weekday cycle allows the faithful to liturgically hear **13.5% of the Old Testament** (excluding the Psalms) and **71.5% of the New Testament!** In my opinion, the greatest fruit of the Second Vatican Council was a rediscovery and falling back in love with the Word of God! The Lectionary we have, for all its quirks like mercilessly chopping up passages and omitting some key lines, is a witness to the world that the Church is serious about the Word of God. If you scratch your head at that, look at the numbers from before the Council. Previously, the amount of Scripture in the Lectionary was abysmal and embarrassing. Before the Council, The Old Testament was not read on Sundays, but only certain seasons and feasts. So, pre-council, the Church read *just shy of 1%* of the OT (excluding the Psalms), compared to our 13.5% now. For the New Testament, even though the Church primarily read from it exclusively pre-council, She only managed to get in 16.5% of the New Testament, compared to our 71.5% ! For all the opining and romanticizing that often happens within Catholic circles about going back to 'how things used to be', I don't ever want to go back to a time where we were only given a liturgical reading and contemplation of just 5% of the Bible as compared to today's 30% ! I have said it before, but I believe the Church - and the world - are on the precipice of and in need of a revival of Biblical Proportions rooted in the Word of God. We read the Word, Worship the Word, and we *eat* the Word! Let us carry our hunger for The Word into this new Liturgical Year and make it our resolution to delve deeper into it this year. There are just so many ways, routes, avenues, apps, tools, studies, books, youtube channels, pedagogies, and programs to go deeper - just do *something* that works for you so that you may bear new fruit this coming year with The Word. Following the words of last week's Gospel, *when did we see you thirsty and give you water to drink, hungry and give you some food, naked and clothe you, imprisoned and visited you*, let the Word of God make us more sensitive and aware of the needs of the citizens of The Kingdom and love them and serve them because of our love, for not only God and His Church, but also His Word.

Now that we are in the Season of Advent - the shortest possible Advent we could have - let us be on guard to not waste it nor procrastinate in seizing the Grace of these very few short and fast days. One thing you could commit to is a daily devotional rooted in The Word. I have available for all of you this weekend a daily devotional from Magnificat and Little Books. Both are great little daily devotionals to get the heart and mind properly situated within the context of Advent for that day. Please take them and use them for your own spiritual fruit this Season.

*Love,*  
*Fr. Brandon*

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation Office hours 9:30AM to 2:30 PM

### Scheduled Faith Formation Classes

**December 3** Faith Formation Class- K-5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Edge (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) & Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade)/ Lesson 12 & 13 for K-5<sup>th</sup> (Reminder-Please return your family's Completed Advent Activity Packet for class credit for the 11-26 class).

**December 7** The in-person Class Make-up Day for Students in 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade has been **CANCELLED** due to the Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass at St. Margaret's Church at 6:30 P.M. on 12/7.

**December 17 Faith Formation Class-** K-5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Edge (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) & Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade) from 8:45 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents are asked to attend this Special Edge Session for Advent.

### Faith Formation Meetings or Events

**December 3** Good Shepherd Christmas Dinner Prep in McElhinny Hall following classes for 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade Church Service Hours. You must remember that this will be during 11:00 A.M. Mass, so students will still need to make their Sunday observance by attending Saturday evening Mass at 4:30 P.M. or Sunday morning 7:00 A.M. Mass if they attend this service!

**December 4** Good Shepherd Christmas Dinner at the Good Shepherd Center for all Faith Formation Families and St. Michael School Families! Students in 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade who help with this event will get credit for a church service opportunity, but a parent must attend with them!

## ST. MICHAEL PARISH MEN'S GROUP

The Men's fellowship group will take a pause for Thanksgiving and Advent. We will recommence the "Into-The-Breach" video series on Thursday January 4, 2024. Have a peaceful, joyful, and prayerful holiday season with your family and friends. If you have never attended a session, please feel welcome to join us next year

## SAINT MICHAEL SCHOOL NEWS



Registration is ALWAYS open for the 2023-2024 School Year! Call for information: 724-588-7050 or scan to visit our website.

### RAISERIGHT/SCRIP

Are you shopping this holiday season? Giving a gift card as a gift? Traveling via car or plane? Staying in a hotel? Buying groceries? If you said yes... then you can support Saint Michael School at no additional cost through the RaiseRight program! (formerly known as SCRIP.)

In 1 week, if you spend \$100 in Gas, \$200 on groceries, \$100 on Amazon, \$50 on Chewy.com dogfood and \$75 on dinner at Applebees you raised \$18.20 for the school doing your everyday spending in 1 week!

Sheetz \$100 - 3% back = \$3.00

Walmart \$200 - 2.5% back = \$5.00

Amazon \$100 - 1.7% back = \$1.70

Chewy \$50 - 5% = \$2.50

Applebees \$75 - 8% back = \$6.00

Gift Cards will be available after Masses during the Advent Season. Contact the school office or Trichelle Eddy to order cards [marketing@smike1.org](mailto:marketing@smike1.org) or register online at [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com) using code 8B4A28596285 to register and order cards (digital and physical).

### SMS Spirit Night

The SMS PTO is hosting a spiritwear shop night on Thursday Dec 14th from 2pm-7pm at Lateran Hall. St Michael School spiritwear including, shirts, sweatshirts, crew, long sleeve, bags, hats, ornaments and more will be available. They make great gifts! Alumni designs are also available. RaiseRight gift cards will be available also.

## ADVENT GIVING PROJECT

The time has arrived for the Annual Advent Giving project (formerly called the Giving Tree project). This is a wonderful time for us to focus on the empty manger and the coming of the Christ child, so let us fill the manger with our gifts to those who could use a hand this year as we prepare for Jesus' birth. We are once again asking for gift cards to Walmart of \$20 to give to the individuals we hope to serve. This has worked very well the past few years and is greatly appreciated by those on the receiving end. There are many people from infant to elderly who can use a little extra help. If you can participate this year, you can drop off your donation of Walmart gift cards to the church office or mail to: St. Michael Church at 85 North High St. Greenville, PA 16125, marked Advent Giving. **All donations should be delivered to the church by December 10<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you to all who make this parish activity a blessing for so many!