

ST. MICHAEL'S



**Mission Statement**

Compelled by the love of Christ,  
we love others,  
deepen our faith,  
and transform our world.



**PARISH OFFICE**

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**PRESBYTERY**

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By appointment

**ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**BISHOP McCORT ELEMENTARY—WEST**

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## NOTE FROM FR. MARK

### **FYF (Follow Your Faith)**

Thanks to everyone who watched us last Sunday as we shared our experience at the Alpha Collective in London. We barely scratched the surface, and there's so much more. We want to talk about the actual content of some of the talks. Nicky Gumbel said some remarkable things. There was a section on the youth where they rolled out the new Youth Alpha Series that we will be doing here in January. (Maybe we can show the trailer?) There was a section on prayer and how they saw the future of the Church. That part about the future was especially interesting because a priest from Chicago presented it, and we could all relate to it. So, join us as we dive deeper into the experience we want to share with you.

### **Vocations**

Our new Vocations Team met this past week. We talked about a lot of stuff. We want to share things about vocations with our youth, our parents, and the whole parish. You will notice that we have begun and will continue to pray for vocations, to the priesthood, religious life for both men and women, sacramental marriage, and committed single life. It was our first meeting, and we have much more to do, but I just wanted to alert all of you and, above all, ask you to pray for each of these vocations.

### **Prayer Ministry/Weekly Prayer Intentions**

I personally came away from London thinking that we, as a parish, need to pray more. First, with our prayer ministry, when we pray for one another in a particular way. Second, when we gather to do more intercessory prayer for the needs of the parish, diocese, Church, nation, and the many issues happening in the world. We do that at mass each week, but we need to do it more.

I want to begin by offering here a weekly prayer intention. This is something we should all include in our prayers for each week. We should pray for that intention each day of that week. **This week, I'd like you to pray for our Faith Formation programs for our young people, High School down to the Kindergarteners. Pray for their teachers and pray we continually seek to improve things for them so they may genuinely embrace Jesus and the life of the Church.**

### **Finding Christmas**

As you heard me say last week, we need to try our best to get to our Christmas Concert, **"Finding Christmas," on December 6 at 7:00 p.m.** And to invite someone who you think will enjoy it. Invite someone who maybe doesn't presently have a practice of the Faith. We've been talking about this idea of accompaniment lately. Perhaps you can invite someone and "accompany" them, and perhaps they and we will see Christmas and Jesus in a whole new way.

The Concert will take the place of our monthly Prayer and Praise Meeting. But, after the Concert, we will have some prayer ministers over in the Church for those who might want to seek prayer.





### IT'S COOKIE TIME!

It's that time of year when people start making all their favorite and incredible delicacies for family and friends over the holiday. We hope that you will share some of those wonderful cookies with the parish for our holiday gatherings. All donations are greatly appreciated and will be used for our special events over the holidays. Cookie donations may be dropped off at Holy Grounds Monday through Friday 9-3. We promise the staff will be kept away! Thanks for your help; it's always greatly appreciated. Happy baking!



### THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who helped spread some Christmas cheer to the residents of McCullough Place! Their hearts were filled! Now, it's almost time to prepare our church for the celebration of our dear Lord's birth! **We will decorate our church on Sun., 12/15, around 12:30 for Christmas.** We will need our "many parts" to accomplish this beautiful task in love for our heavenly Father and our brothers and sisters in Christ!

### SMALL JOB HELP AVAILABLE

The students from UPJ's Catholic Campus Ministries are looking to do God's will by giving back to those in our Johnstown community. If anyone is in need or has potential work that needs to be completed (yard work, painting, gutters cleaned, winterization, lights hung, etc.,) please get in touch with LaDonna McCary at (814)977-4277 or Lam220@pitt.edu.

### SAVE THE DATE—DECEMBER 6 SPARKS FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join us for an evening of music, fellowship, joy, and celebration of the coming of our Savior. Greg and Rebecca Sparks will entertain and help prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas.

### OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS FOR SALE

\$2/Pack (4 Wafers per pack)

Contact OMOS Parish Office (535-7646) to place your order while supplies last.

### SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ Sparks Family Christmas Concert—December 6
- ◆ Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—December 9
- ◆ Open House at Holy Grounds—December 11
- ◆ Serve Others Saturday—December 14
- ◆ Decorate OMOS Church—December 15
- ◆ Cookies with Santa—December 15
- ◆ Nights of Reconciliation—December 16/17
- ◆ Angel Tree—gifts due by December 15

### ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

**OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS, \$2/Pack** (4 Wafers per pack). Contact Maureen Puchko (814) 322-2035 to place your order while supplies last.

The **ANGEL TREE** is located in the back of the church. Please donate to help the community's needy and add your name to the tree.

**Calling All Singers!** St. Michael's Parish is looking for a cantor to lead the singing at the 9 am Mass on Christmas Day. If you have the gift of song and would like to share it with the parish community on this joyous occasion, please contact Emily Roy.

### DECORATE ST. MICHAEL'S FOR CHRISTMAS!

St. Michael's will decorate the church on Sunday, December 22 at 10 am. Please come and help make the church beautiful for the Christmas Season.



#iGIVECATHOLIC  
ON GIVING TUESDAY

**DECEMBER 3, 2024**

**ADVANCED GIVING STARTS NOVEMBER 18!**



Our Mother of Sorrows



St. Michael's

**younglife**  
Johnstown

# COOKIES WITH SANTA

*Youth Christmas Party*

Embrace the holiday spirit as our high schoolers host our younger parishioners to an afternoon of cookie decorating, games, crafts, holiday praise and worship, and of course a visit with Santa Claus!

**OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN PK - 5TH**

**DECEMBER 15TH 2024**  
**12:00-2:00**  
**OMOS CHURCH HALL**

There is no cost to attend this event, but consider bringing a non-perishable food item to donate to our friends at the St. Clement Food Pantry.

Contact Marianna Gollis at 814.341.8236 to RSVP ahead of time, or if you would like to help at the event.

### BISHOP McCORT HOCKEY SWEEPSTAKES

The Bishop McCort Hockey Team is selling 2025 Lotto Calendar Sweepstakes. Each calendar is \$25 and has two numbers per calendar. Daily prizes will be awarded for six months ranging from \$25 to \$100. (prizes awarded January 1 through June 30, 2025.) Winners will be determined by the Pennsylvania Pick 3 evening lottery number (straight). Contact your favorite Crusher Hockey Player or email [ADolgas287@gmail.com](mailto:ADolgas287@gmail.com) to purchase your calendar.

### NO NIGHT OF WORSHIP AND PRAYER FOR DECEMBER

Instead of our usual monthly Night of Worship and Prayer, we invite you to join your OMOS family in welcoming the Sparks Family Christmas back to our church.

We will resume with our Night of Worship and Prayer on Friday, January 3, 2025.



### ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree will be set up at the end of this week. Please stop by our tree and choose "angels" to purchase gifts. Attach your "angel" to your **unwrapped** present and drop it off in the Parish Office or the back of the church. Monetary donations will be accepted for grocery store scrip to give to the families.

If you want to donate money for grocery store scrip, please visit our parish website, [omostoday.com](http://omostoday.com). **All Angel Tree gifts are due back to the church or Parish Office by Sunday, December 15.** Thanks for your generosity!

If you have questions or would like to suggest a family in need, please contact Ellen @ (215) 880-8235.

Join us for an evening of music and worship with Award Winning Catholic Artist **Taylor Tripodi**



**Peace on Earth: An Advent Celebration**  
December 11, 2024 6:30 p.m.  
St. Clement Church

Corner of Goucher St. & Lindberg Ave., Johnstown

Sponsored in part by the Independent Catholic Foundation  
<https://www.independentcatholicfoundation.org/> 814) 201-2080

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

#### Christmas Eve:

- ◆ Tuesday, December 24— OMOS 4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm
- ◆ Tuesday, December 24—St. Michael's—4 pm

#### Christmas Day:

- ◆ Wednesday, December 25—OMOS—10 a.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, December 25—St. Michael's—9 a.m.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES

### Monday, December 2

6 a.m. —Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m. -Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** Cassidy Stephenson & Annaliese Manalang

**Lector:** Doug Puchko

### Tuesday, December 3

6 a.m. —Eucharistic Adoration

7:30 a.m. —Confessions

8 a.m.- Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** Millie Kohut & Jamison Gibson

**Lector:** Kim Hill

### Wednesday, December 4

7 a. m. Praise & Worship

6:00 p.m. —Mass at OMOS

**Server:** Tim Burgess

**Lector:** Rick Wess

### Thursday, December 5

6 a.m.— Eucharistic Adoration

9 a.m.— Mass with BMES-West

**Server:** Students

**Lector:** Students

### Friday, December 6

6 a.m. —Eucharistic Adoration at St. Michael's

6 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's

**Server:** Tim Burgess

**Lector:** Mary Ann Burgess

### **Sparks Family Concert @ OMOS**

### Saturday, December 7—Vigil

3 p.m.—Confessions

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** Arianna & Adriel Manalang

**Lector:** Andrea Criswell

**Euch. Min:** Diana Tyger (2), Christine Manalang, Pam Fisher, Marilyn Billow, Michelle Rivetti, Vicki Wesner, Haley Kessler

**Hosp.:** Val & Bill Deater, Aurora Gilmour, Helen Hromulak, Kevin Evans, Rich & Deb Cowan, Cathy Vigna

### Saturday, December 7-Second Sunday of

#### Advent

6 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's

**Servers:** Tim Burgess & Stanley Smith

**Lector:** Kayla Stephenson

### Sunday, December 8-Second Sunday of

#### Advent

8:30 am— Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** Cassidy Stephenson & Bella Segear

**Lector:** Linda Fleming

**Euch. Min:** Ed (2) & Julie Sheehan, Ron Golias, Denise Esch, Rick & Evie Wess, Janet Bowser

**Hosp:** Julie Fontana, Keith Santee, Jim & Joan Frischauf, Janet Gleason, Jerry Unger, Rick & Evie Wess

### Sunday, December 8-Second Sunday of

#### Advent

11 am—Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** Cullen Miller & James Smedberg

**Lector:** Balkis Awan

**Euch. Min:** Amy Bradley (2), Patty Falcone, Brad Duca, Mike Garver, Liz Petruska, Sabrina Mezyk, Mike Thomas

**Hosp:** Patty & Don Falcone, Tim DiGuiseppa. Joyce Nesmith, John Onufro, Diane & Denny Thomas, Michele Varner

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, November 30—Vigil

4 pm Linda Maurer (sister, Lena Omodio)

### Sunday, December 1-First Sunday of

#### Advent

9 a.m. Mark Garman (wife & children) & Bernice Stem (Bernie & Mary Ann Pentrack)

(Sanctuary Candle December 1-7— Schrum Family)

### Sunday, December 1— First Sunday of

#### Advent

8:30 a.m. Jim Brett (Richard & Denise Mezyk)

11:00 a.m. Tom & Joann Dailey (Family)

### Monday, December 2

8 a.m. Louis & Alice Esopa (Zoldos Family)

### Tuesday, December 3

8 a.m. Julie Maser (Gary & Kim Weakland)

### Wednesday, December 4

6 p.m. Christopher Gleason (Tim & Jackie Ayres)

### Thursday, December 5

9 a.m. Clara & Joseph Vranich (Larry & Dottie Giannone)

### Friday, December 6

6 p.m. John & Georgia Farabaugh (Family)

### Saturday, December 7-Vigil

4 pm Albert Hromulak (wife, Helen & son, Albert, Jr.)

### Saturday, December 7— Second Sunday of

#### Advent

6 p.m. Donna Schiffhauer (Cynthia Wyar) & Hilary & Lucille Schrum & Karen Pinkas (Spack & Hicks Families)

### Sunday, December 8— Second Sunday of

#### Advent

8:30 a.m. Carrie Berrich (Tony & Marianne Spada)

11:00 a.m. Judith Williams Jr. & William III Fornwalt (David Fornwalt) & Thomas Wolff (Family)

## WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6