



• FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT •

BLESSED ARE YOU.

©LPI



Mission Statement

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



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NOTE FROM FR. MARK

ANGEL TREE

I am so impressed with how all of you pitched in and bought all of the Thanksgiving Boxes for all those people. And we did most of it virtually. Great! Now you've done the same thing with the Angel Tree. What you did with the Angel Tree was incredible. The other day, I read in the newspaper about someone longing for good news. Come to OMOS and St. Michael's!! I don't have any stats yet, but you are helping many families with gifts and food. Wow! Image the eyes of those young children you will be helping on that Christmas morning when they see their new gifts under the tree.

CHRISTMAS IS UPON US!!

As we are about to enter the Christmas Season, I very much appreciate your participation in praying that we will be the welcoming community we all long to be. We need to become people of deep prayer in so many ways, and we are growing in that direction. One critical petition that is part of our prayer is that seekers of all kinds find a welcoming acceptance with us. And gratefully, you do that better than I do! We shouldn't ask, "Where have you been, or it's about time you got here." Just welcome; we are happy you are here.

My reading of all of this in the book Return, states that our acceptance of them regardless of what they choose must be unmistakable and without a condition. In that first Christmas story, everyone was welcome, from the "Riffraff" shepherds (the outcasts of that society.) to the magi; they were Gentiles, outsiders, the greatest searchers of truth. Interestingly enough, it was the priests and scribes who did not make the short seven-mile journey to Bethlehem to see the newborn King. Yikes!! Similarly, those who come to be with us this Christmas need to know that we, first of all, care for them just as they are. So, we are planning on putting out the "Welcome Mat" this Christmas in a big way.

For me, this Advent has caused me to think about the whole idea of welcoming and hospitality in a whole new way. I must admit that my welcoming can be "with conditions," which is unacceptable. I need to do better. So, as we unravel all the dimensions of welcoming, of accepting all who seek, we/I need to see all the ways I need to grow to be more like Jesus and learn what it really means to be a welcoming member of His Church!! Merry Christmas!!

CONFESSIONS

If you did not get to confession last Monday or Tuesday, **I will be hearing confessions on Monday evening, December 23.** I will begin at 7:00 pm and stay as long as you keep coming. Remember, it doesn't matter how long it has been or if you know the procedure. Just come, have a repentant heart, and let me worry about the details.

FOLLOW YOUR FAITH

We will continue working through Ronald Rolheiser's book "The Holy Longing." Given that we have been talking about the Incarnation and the consequences of God becoming a human being, we will discuss some specifics. Today, a spirituality of the Church, what is this Church we belong to, and why it is so very, very important.

Also, there will not be FYF on December 29. Merry Christmas!!

Christmas Eve Mass at OMOS—4 pm

Servers: Brendan Murphy, Madelyn Murphy, Elisyn Murphy, Brian Koch, James Smedberg
Lectors: Tom Polacek, Sabrina Mezyk
Euch. Min: David (2) & Estelle Milligan, Mark Voelker, Jerry & Mary Kay Clark, Pam Fisher, Matt DiFrancesco
Hosp: Pattie Porter, Rick Phillips, Ed, Julie & Natalie Sheehan, Anne & Matt DiFrancesco, Tami Buchan, Estelle & Dave Milligan, Denise & Rosie Mezyk

Christmas Eve Mass at St. Michael's—4 pm

Servers: Tim Burgess & Taylor Beneke
Lector: Kayla Stephenson

Christmas Eve Mass at OMOS—7 pm

Servers: Isabela Segear, Adriel, Arianna, Annaliese Manalang, Millie Kohut
Lectors: Rick Wess & Cathy Vigna
Euch. Min: Marilyn Billow (2), Vickie Wesner, Janet Bowser, Christine Manalang, Mike Garver, Evie Wess, Michelle Rivetti
Hosp: John Esch, Ann Mattie, Rich & Deb Cowan, Marianne Krizner, Gerri Isban, Michelle Rivetti, Keith Santee

Christmas Eve Mass at OMOS— 10pm

Servers: Domenick Lokesak, Mason Lokesak
Lectors: Jim Clark & Balkis Awan
Euch. Min: Joyce Dailey (2), Heather Lokesak, Kathy & Jim Ridella, Liz Petruska, Ralph DeMarco
Hosp: Kevin Evans, Amada Awan, Kathy Lepsch, Ralph & Maria DeMarco

Christmas Day Mass at St. Michael's—9 am

Servers: Tim Burgess & Stan Smith
Lector: Mary Ann Burgess

Christmas Day Mass at OMOS-10 am

Servers: James Smedberg
Lectors: John Skelley, John McGrath
Euch. Min: Mary Beth Cartwright (2), Carol Battaglia, Barb Flick, Maria Nesmith, Linda Geiser, Rick & Evie Wess.
Hosp: Diane & Denny Thomas, Joyce Nesmith, Karen Findish, Rick & Evie Wess, Michele Varner, Ally Zoldos



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.



Our parish family of OMOS and St. Michael's, as well as friends, have been exceptionally generous over the last few months. THANK YOU! Our latest project, the Angel Tree, has helped over 200 children! Can you imagine the delight on the faces of those who live a challenging life daily due to their family situation when they receive your kind contributions? Just take a moment to close your eyes and enjoy that scene. What joy you have brought to these young folks! God bless you all.

A special shout out to Ellen Shayesteh, who sets up, organizes, and arranges pick up for all of the donations received. Indeed, I am sure there is more done than any of us know about! Thank you, Ellen, for giving so much of your time and energy to share God's love with so many!

Thank you, too, to Jeanne Pastorek, who led the way from the office. We all appreciate your continued time and dedication to helping our special projects be successful! Thank you, too, to Jeanne Pastorek who led the way from the office. We all appreciate your continued time and dedication to helping our special projects be successful!

ASSISTANCE MINISTRY 2ND COLLECTION

December 28/29

Calls for financial assistance at the OMOS Assistance Ministry are met with care and concern through your monthly generosity. Through you, they can serve the people in need at our OMOS family table of assistance. The Assistance Ministry helps with utility bills, rent, and fuel costs. Through your generosity, the wonderful Assistance Ministry volunteers serve the needy and the Lord in your name. We thank you for your generosity and continue to pray for our spiritual family!



There will be a Night of Worship and Prayer on **Friday, January 3**. Everyone is welcome! Join us for an evening of praising and worshipping our amazing God. If you wish, you will have an opportunity to receive personal prayer from our Prayer Ministry Team for healing of spiritual, physical, emotional, or relational issues. Please bring a friend and prepare to be blessed by an evening of praise, prayer, community, and contemplation of the presence of God.

PLEASE JOIN US!



The Alpha Course at Our Mother of Sorrows Begins Soon!!

OMOS has been hosting the Alpha Course for ten years. We have yet to find a better program to help you get to know Jesus Christ better. The course is built around an evening sharing a dinner, a conversation, and a video.

Our in-person Alpha Course begins on Tuesday, January 14, at 6 PM and runs through April 1. If Tuesdays don't work for you, Alpha is also being offered on Sundays at Liberty Grace Church in Richland. The weekend away will be held on February 28 and March 1.

To learn more and to register, go to www.omostoday.com/alpha/ or call 814-535-7646

Invite a friend to join you.
Sign up today!

Help with Alpha

Those who have taken Alpha are encouraged to help. We are collecting our volunteer list now on www.omostoday.com/alpha. We need help with small groups, kitchen, set-up, clean-up, and hospitality.

A new volunteer opportunity this year is being part of the weekly prayer team. The prayer team entails praying for a specific intention related to the success of the Alpha course. You will receive an email weekly as to the intention of the week.

Please volunteer today!

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, December 23

6 a.m. – Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m. – Mass at OMOS
Lector: Julie Sheehan

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

Mass at St. Michael's—4 pm
Mass at OMOS—4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day

Mass at St. Michael's—9 am
Mass at OMOS—10 am

Thursday, December 26

6 a.m.— Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m.— Mass at OMOS
Lector: Michelle Petrell

Friday, December 27

6 a.m.— Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m.— Mass at OMOS
Lector: Michelle Petrell

Saturday, December 28—Vigil

3 p.m.— Confessions
4 p.m.— Mass at OMOS
Servers: Brendan & Ellyson Murphy
Lector: Jan Koval
Euch. Min: Marilyn Billow (2), Michelle Dugan, Vicki Wesner, Christine Manalang, Kathy & Jim Ridella, Joyce Dailey
Hosp.: Mary & George Kogut, Ann Mattie, Pattie Porter, Gerri Isban

Saturday, December 28-The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

6 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's
Servers: Tim Burgess & Taylor Beneke
Lector: Mary Ann Rizzuto

Sunday, December 29-The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:30 am— Mass at OMOS
Servers: Bella Segear & Joe Nibert
Lector: Michelle Petrell
Euch. Min: Carol Battaglia (2), David & Estelle Milligan, Ed & Julie Sheehan, Melinda Michalski, Rosemary Zenone
Hosp: Marjorie Lechene, Evie & Rick Wess, John Shima, Estelle & Dave Milligan, Janet Gleason, Jerry Unger

Sunday, December 29-The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

11 am—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Abby & Wynn Curtis
Lector: Monica Garver
Euch. Min: Mike Garver (2), Sabrian Mezyk, Brad Duca, Michele Varner, Richard & Barb Luckner, Taylor Beneke
Hosp: Joyce Radovanic, Annette KAmzik, Rick Phillips, Bill Ingram, Barb & Rich Luckner, Michele Varner, Lisa Shetler

THANK YOU BAKERS!

A huge thank you goes out to all our bakers who baked us so many delicious cookies for the Spark's Family Finding Christmas Concert, the Open House, and all our December events. They were delicious and greatly appreciated. Thanks!



SUNDAY REGULAR COLLECTION

December 8, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 8,416
Loose	2,423
Online	9,090
Total	\$ 19,929
St. Michael's	1,529

Due to early bulletin deadlines we have are behind on reporting our regular collection figures.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Wednesday: *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab,16bc and 17/Mt10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21-Vigil

4 pm Dolores Kadas (husband, Joe)

Saturday, December 21— Fourth Sunday of Advent

6 p.m. Raymond Cushman (Helen Oleksa & Family) & Bernice Stem (Bernie & Mary Ann Pentrack)

Sunday, December 22— Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Jean Hammer (Thomas & Barbara Kelly)

11:00 a.m. Marlene A. Kessler (husband)

Monday, December 23

8 a.m. Kathleen Parks (sister, Pattie)

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of St. Michael's Parishioners

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve @ OMOS

4 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of OMOS Parishioners

7 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of OMOS Parishioners

10 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of OMOS Parishioners

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day @ St. Michael's

9 a.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of St. Michael's Parishioners

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day @ OMOS

10 a.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Our Mother of Sorrows Parishioners

Thursday, December 26

8 a.m. Richard Hanechak (Carol Visnovsky)

Friday, December 27

8 a.m. Andrew & Mary Zoldos (Zoldos Family)

Saturday, December 28-Vigil

4 pm Dawn Mamula (husband, Chuck & family)

Saturday, December 28— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

6 p.m. Paulette Balog (M/M Joseph Sefcik) & Patricia Balog (Bud & Toni Gregorchik)

Sunday, December 29— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:30 a.m. Christopher Gleason (Aggie & Eileen Malysko)

11:00 a.m. Jack Wilson (wife, Helen)