SECOND SUNDAY OF Lent

ST. MICHAEL IN OLD TOWN

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

From the cloud came a voice: “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”

Mark 9:7
Parish Directory...

Pastor
Rev. Larry Sanders, C.Ss.R.
lsanders@st-mikes.org

Associate Pastor
Rev. Ramon Dompke C.Ss.R.

In Residence
Rev. John Fahey-Guerra, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Robert Fenili, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Jim Keena, C.Ss.R.
Br. Larry Lujan, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Greg May, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.
Rev. John Steingraeber, C.Ss.R.

Attached - Not In Residence
Rev. Joe Dorcey, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

Parish Operations Manager
Patricia Krier
(312) 642-2498, ext. 215

Office Coordinator
Sr. Maryann McKeogh, CSFN
(312) 642-2498, ext. 210

Director of Liturgy and Music
Daniel Stucker
312-642-2498, ext. 213

Music Minister
Steve Carson
312-642-2498

Director Religious Education
Kim Rak
krak@st-mikes.org

Sacristan
Elizabeth Prendergast

Support Staff
John Steigerwald

Support Staff
Maria Santana

Wedding Coordinator
Kathryn Trnka

Bulletin, Newsletter, Baptism and Marriage Scheduling
Toni Dunning
tdunning@st-mikes.org

Church Tours
information@st-mikes.org

Finance Council
Council Chair: Robert Graham

Parish Pastoral Council
Council Chair: Annie Pecoraro

Human Concerns and Needs Commission
Commission Head: Barbara Pope

Worship Commission
Commission Head:
Diane Kelley-Thompson

Email
information@st-mikes.org
at any time for details and further help.

Connect with us!
Facebook:
St. Michael’s Moms Group
St. Michael in Old Town
Young Adults of St. Michael in Old Town (Public group)
St. Michael in Old Town Young Adults

Youtube:
St. Michael in Old Town Chicago

Website:
St-mikes.org

Twitter:@StMichaelOT

Instagram: St Michael in Old Town

Pinterest: St. Michael in Old Town

This Week’s Readings

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10;
Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20;
Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;
Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20;
Psa 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10;
Psa 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a;
Psa 105:16-21;
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20;
Psa 103:1-4, 9-12;
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17];
Psa 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25;
Jn 2:13-25

Mass Intentions of the Day

Sunday, February 28
† Anne Mather
Madeleine McMullan
Parishioners of St. Michael’s

Monday, March 1
† Sheamus Fergus

Tuesday, March 2
Family of Sheamus Fergus
Foundation Fund Members

Wednesday, March 3
† Mary Lou Dunning

Thursday, March 4
† Emmett Steele (Anniversary)

Friday, March 5
† Theresa M. Petrone

Saturday, March 6
† Ned Bifano and Carl Fuda

Sunday, March 7
† Letita Jordan
Angela D’Agostino
Parishioners of St. Michael’s
For Health and Healing:
All those suffering for the effects of the Covid virus, Justine Price

The journey of #Lent began with #AshWednesday. The Magnificat Lenten Companion app or eBook is still available. Walk side-by-side with Jesus through Calvary to the promised new life at Easter.
https://bookstore.magnificat.net/ebooks/lenten.html

Anointing of the Sick
Call the church office at (312) 642-2498.

Confessions
In the Church:
Tuesday 8:30 - 8:45am
Saturday 11:00 - 11:30am
By appointment, please call 312-642-2498

Baptisms
Please see our website, st-mikes.org to register and you will be contacted to confirm a date and time for the Baptism.

Weddings
Fridays: 3:00 pm
Saturdays: 12:30, 3:00 and 6:30pm
Contact Toni Dunning at tdunning@st-mikes.org

Parish Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:00am - 3:00pm
Thursday - 9:00am—Noon

Emergency?
Please call 773-844-8676 and leave a message. A priest will return your call as soon as he can.

Make Your Reservation NOW!

Public Masses at St. Michael's are held on Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00am and daily Mass on Tuesday at 8:00am with the devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help and confessions afterwards.

Thank you!

8:00am Daily Mass Schedule:

Daily Mass is offered at each of our local Renew My Church parishes one morning a week. Register in advance at the parish where the Mass is being offered.

Monday St. Joseph Church Tuesday St. Michael’s Wednesday St. Teresa of Avila Church
Thursday St. Vincent DePaul Church Friday St. Josaphat Church
Lent is a Time of Forgiveness

Forgiveness is one of those things we need to give before we can receive. In the Our Father prayer, we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others. So, if we do not forgive others we will not receive forgiveness ourselves.

How can we forgive others if we don’t know what forgiveness is? Forgiveness does not ignore the hurt that has been caused and it does not approve the action that was taken. It is a matter of letting go of all the pain, humiliation, and burdens of being wronged and going on with life. It is not forgetting it or even ignoring the pain, but of remembering without holding on to it. When someone wrongs us, we are hurt and that pain lets us know that this is something we don’t want to experience again. If we totally forget the experience then we set ourselves up to be hurt again. So when we forgive something we don’t forget it. When a person does something that is wrong, forgiveness does not approve the action or ignore it as if it never happened. Forgiveness allows us to continue to love the person but not the action that was done.

When someone sins against us, it creates a burden on us. We feel anger, hate, pain, humility, and so on... and all these things are loaded on us by ourselves and the other person. Forgiveness allows us to put down this burden and go on. The offender does not have to accept our forgiveness or even know that we have forgiven them, we need the forgiveness so that we are unburdened. They may not even know that they need forgiveness or even care that they hurt us. In this way, forgiveness is more for ourselves than it is for the other person.

Let’s ask God to help us this Lenten season to forgive the sins of those who have hurt us so that we can receive the forgiveness that we need.

Peace,
Fr. Larry

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Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 5:00 PM

Confessions

Fridays at 4:30 PM

February 19
February 26
March 5
March 12
March 19
March 26
April 2
FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Jesus was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Mark 9:2-3

THE BELOVED SON

Today’s first reading, known as “the Binding of Isaac,” refers to the way Isaac is bound and laid upon the wood of the altar of sacrifice. God directs Abraham to offer his son in sacrifice, killing the beloved son that had been a special gift to him and Sarah in their old age. How could God ask Abraham to do such a thing? Abraham offers no resistance, but in preparing for the sacrifice, Abraham may have agreed with the psalmist that he was “greatly afflicted.” Saint Paul’s letter to the Romans refers to Jesus as God’s beloved Son, which is also how God identifies Jesus to Peter, James, and John at the Transfiguration. Afterward, Jesus tells those disciples not to mention the event to anyone until after his resurrection from the dead. The event, together with Jesus’ comments, leaves the disciples thoroughly confused.

HOW COULD GOD ASK ABRAHAM TO DO THAT?

Through the centuries, Christians and Jews alike have found the Binding of Isaac one of the most difficult passages in the Bible. Even though God intervenes to save Isaac, the whole episode strikes some readers as cruel. However, Abraham, the ultimate man of faith, raises no objection, offers no resistance as he simply goes about preparing for the trip and the sacrifice.

Today’s other readings might help us see that text differently. In Mark’s description of the Transfiguration, Jesus’ clothes become white and shining, and Moses and Elijah appear with him. Moses was the great liberator and lawgiver who led the Jews out of bondage in Egypt and into the wilderness, forming them into the people of Israel by giving them the Law he received from God. Elijah was among Israel’s greatest prophets, so close to God that, at the end of his life, he was taken up into heaven by a fiery chariot. Together, Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, the ultimate authority for the Jews in the conduct of their daily lives.

LOVE AND GENEROSITY

The Law, the Prophets—and Jesus. For Paul, Jesus is someone quite different from the other two. The reading from his letter to the Romans is short, but rich in meaning. When Paul declares that God “did not spare his own Son,” and when God praises Abraham “who did not withhold from me your own beloved son,” it is the same Greek word for “spare” and “withhold.” God’s voice at the Transfiguration identifies Jesus as his “beloved Son”—the same way God refers to Isaac as Abraham’s beloved son. Ultimately, God spares Isaac but not his own Son, whom he “handed over for us.” Even if we are disturbed that God tested Abraham like this, Paul says we should be overwhelmingly grateful that God did for us what, in the end, he did not require of Abraham. Jesus, God’s Son “handed over to us” in love and generosity, is already a sacrificial gift, signifying that God wants to give us “everything else along with him.”

TODAY’S READINGS

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19
Romans 8:31b–34
Mark 9:2–10
Rebates benefit St. Michael in Old Town!

You buy gift cards from the list of 1000’s of companies and St. Michael’s receives a rebate! It is THAT easy!

Enrollment Code: E3EEC8AF3969L

Questions: Call Barbara at 312-266-0406

Knights of Columbus News

The Knights of Columbus are holding a Novena for the Pandemic every Wednesday through April 21st. The prayer service will be held on Zoom, and will begin at 7:00 pm each Wednesday night.

The Zoom meeting information is:
Meeting ID: 164 170 590 Password: 15771

Here is a link to the prayer:

We need your expertise! Places you can volunteer!

Are you a videographer? Do you have a newer, gently used computer you can donate? Camera system for our livestreaming just sitting around? We can use your expertise as we look to upgrade our current streaming equipment!

Do you see a hole, a need at St. Michael’s and believe you have the skills we need to fill that hole?

Please email information@st-mikes.org or call Pat Krier in the Parish Office!

Please consider volunteering for our Re-Opening Team for the Greeting Team or the Cleaning (Disinfecting) Team! You can choose when you volunteer and for how long! Call Daniel Stucker at 312-642-2498 or email him at dstucker@st-mikes.org for information and to volunteer. Training will take only 15 minutes and the donation of your time is priceless!
LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

St. Michael’s Annual Lenten Food Drive, sponsored by the Human Needs & Concerns Commission, is now under way. The goal is to stock the shelves of the Catholic Charities Food Pantry with food to help the hungry among us. (Thank you for the pasta, sauce and macaroni and cheese you’ve donated this past week!) Although you are invited to donate any and all types of non-perishable packaged food items for the Pantry, this year’s Drive targets a specific food item for each week of Lent:

**3rd Sunday, March 7 – cereal, oatmeal, and canned vegetables**

**4th Sunday, March 14 – canned fruit, granola bars and dried fruits**

**5th Sunday, March 21 – rice, beans and peanut butter**

**Palm Sunday March 28 – your choice from the categories above**

Participating is easy.
1. Bring your items to church with you. Place your donations in the labeled basket at the back of the church.
2. Deliver or ship food to the Parish Office at 1633 N. Cleveland.

Please arrange to have the items delivered before 3:00 p.m. (noon on Thursdays).

Your contributions help to make a difference! If it’s easier for you, cash contributions can be made online at [www.st-mikes.org](http://www.st-mikes.org) or placed in an envelope marked “Lenten Food Drive” and dropped in the Offertory collection box or at the office. All cash will go to Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

Thank you for your support and help.

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2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection: It is a pledged commitment to make a gift over time. Your pledge can be made payable in installments. Each pledge makes a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services to answer the call of Jesus to “Come, follow me … and bring hope to the world.” If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. This year, we also encourage our parishioners to make their Annual Catholic Appeal gifts online or via text message: [annualcatholicappeal.com](http://annualcatholicappeal.com)

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Archdiocese of Chicago

**Adult Virtual Confirmation**  
**SPRING 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Lady of Charity</th>
<th>Virtual Zoom Platform</th>
<th>Wednesdays:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3600 South 57th Court, Cicero, IL 60804</td>
<td>(English)</td>
<td>March 10, 17, 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehearsal: Friday, May 21, 2021 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Link will be provided by the presenter once you are registered.</td>
<td>April 7, 14, 21, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilingual Mass: Friday, May 21, 2021 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Patricia Malinowski</td>
<td>May 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[312] 534-8793</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pmalinowski@archchicago.org">pmalinowski@archchicago.org</a></td>
<td>6 p.m. to 8 p.m.</td>
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Register in English

**Retreat:**
Saturday, May 8  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
2. **Hope as “living water” enabling us to continue our journey.**

The Samaritan woman at the well, whom Jesus asks for a drink, does not understand what he means when he says that he can offer her “living water” (Jn 4:10). Naturally, she thinks that he is referring to material water, but Jesus is speaking of the Holy Spirit whom he will give in abundance through the paschal mystery, bestowing a hope that does not disappoint. Jesus had already spoken of this hope when, in telling of his passion and death, he said that he would “be raised on the third day” (Mt 20:19). Jesus was speaking of the future opened up by the Father's mercy. Hoping with him and because of him means believing that history does not end with our mistakes, our violence and injustice, or the sin that crucifies love. It means receiving from his open heart the Father's forgiveness.

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation which we have often mistreated (cf. *Laudato Si*, 32-33; 43-44). Saint Paul urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: “Be reconciled to God” (2 Cor 5:20). By receiving forgiveness in the sacrament that lies at the heart of our process of conversion, we in turn can spread forgiveness to others. Having received forgiveness ourselves, we can offer it through our willingness to enter into attentive dialogue with others and to give comfort to those experiencing sorrow and pain. God’s forgiveness, offered also through our words and actions, enables us to experience an Easter of fraternity.

In Lent, may we be increasingly concerned with “speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demeau, sadden, anger or show scorn” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 223). In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind, to be “willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference” (ibid., 224).

Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray (cf. Mt 6:6) and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love.

To experience Lent in hope entails growing in the realization that, in Jesus Christ, we are witnesses of new times, in which God is “making all things new” (cf. Rev 21:1-6). It means receiving the hope of Christ, who gave his life on the cross and was raised by God on the third day, and always being “prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls [us] to account for the hope that is in [us]” (1 Pet 3:15).
Food Drive
for the ICSJ Food Pantry

sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Please Help Restock The Shelves!

Our Knights of Columbus Council will be holding a food drive on two Saturdays, March 6th and 13th, to restock the shelves of the ICSJ Food Pantry. The Food Pantry has continued to help many people throughout the Covid crisis and their stocks are running low!

What’s Needed The Most?

Although any non-perishable items are appreciated, the following are in critical short supply:

1) Peanut Butter (and Jelly), 2) Breakfast Foods (Cereal and Oatmeal),
3) Canned Fruit and Veggies, 4) Snacks (Granola Bars, Microwave Popcorn, Crackers, etc.),
and 5) Canned Meats/Non Perishable Entrees (Chili, Spam, etc.).

This Is A Safe, No-Contact Event!

Just load your items into your vehicle’s trunk or cargo area and drive into the Immaculate Conception parking lot where Knights of Columbus members will be waiting to unload the items while you remain in your vehicle! No physical contact is required!

Two Opportunities to Donate:

Saturday, March 6th
Saturday, March 13th
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon both days

Immaculate Conception Parking Lot
1431 N. North Park Avenue, Chicago
New Parishioner Registration

Name #1 (___Mr. ___Mrs. ___Ms.) ____________________________________________ Birth date ___________________

Name #1 (___Mr. ___Mrs. ___Ms.) ____________________________________________ Birth date ___________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________ Unit # ______________________

City/State/Zip Code __________________________________________________________________________________________________

Home Telephone ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Cell phone #1 ______________________________________ Cell phone #2 ______________________________

Email address #1 ___________________________________ Email address #2 ______________________________

Would you like to use our online giving system?  Yes  Or have envelopes mailed to you?  Yes

Would you like to receive our email Newsletter?  Yes

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Ways to Give at St. Michael’s!

In this time of separation, the contributions to St. Michael’s have decreased significantly! These times are difficult for everyone, and we understand that. If you are able, please continue to contribute in any of the payment methods listed below. Just like a household, the church has utilities and insurance and other monthly bills it must pay. The Parish Office staff have returned to the office, salary reductions, layoffs and reduced hours for other employees have been implemented. Please consider signing up for a recurring online donation so your giving comes in even if you aren’t able to come to Mass.

We strive to make giving convenient and current with modern technology choices and online giving. Consider setting your donation up online so even though we are apart, your donation won’t be! Below you will find options for you when you find yourself wanting to donate.

1. **Online** From the St. Michael’s home page, you can view our website for information or gain access to our **Online Giving System**. You can create a regular donation plan and donate to all the various projects at St. Michael’s. If are unable to use a computer, please call Pat Krier in the office for assistance. (312-642-2498).

2. **We accept donations** of checks mailed to the Parish Office at 1633 N. Cleveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614.

3. **Venmo!** Enter this link to signup, [https://venmo.com/signup](https://venmo.com/signup).

4. **Estate (planned giving) or stock donations** are accepted also. To donate the value of stock, go to [http://legacy.archchicago.org/departments/financial_services/stock-donations.aspx](http://legacy.archchicago.org/departments/financial_services/stock-donations.aspx).

These donations are handled by the Archdiocese of Chicago and the monies then transferred to St Michael’s. For planned giving options, call 312-642-2498.

We appreciate each donation no matter the method, frequency or amount. Each gift allows St. Michael’s to continue its mission and pay our utility bills, salaries and more. If you have any questions about giving options, call Pat Krier at 312-642-2498 or email pkrier@st-mikes.org.

Donate to St. Michael’s!

“If you want God to listen to you when you pray, shouldn’t you listen to God when God speaks to you?” —Anonymous