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St. Michael Catholic Church

Sunday Mass - 8 am

NO Wednesday Mass this week

Confessions -

Second Wednesday of the month after Mass

Fourth Sunday of the month after Mass

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

April 2, 2023

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. It's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

We still, though, simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

God bless,
Fr. Cory Rohlfing

Welcome to all those visiting us today. We invite everyone to continue to celebrate Mass with us at St. Michael's. Please let the parish office know if we can be of assistance to you.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

April 6 - Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm

Reader: Georgia Quamme
Ushers: Marv Donkers & Tim Donkers
Servers: Ryan LaCanne, Mark Mund,
Greyson Overholt, Serenity Overholt

April 7 - Good Friday Service 3:00 pm

Reader: Mike Chase
Ushers: Tom Coffman & Greg Dapper
Servers: Ryan LaCanne & Greyson Overholt

April 9 - Easter Mass 8:00 am

Reader: Donna Lexvold
Ushers: Tim Karl & Jason Hoaglund
Servers: Serenity Overholt & Greyson Overholt

April 16

Reader: Penelope Parrish
Ushers: Bruce & Laura Chmelik
Servers: Mark Mund & Ryan LaCanne

April money counters:

Marv Donkers & John Smith

Saints of the week

April 2 - St. Francis of Paola

April 4 - St. Isidore

April 5 - St. Vincent Ferrer

April 7 - St. John Baptist de la Salle

April 8 - St. Julie Billiart

CONTRIBUTIONS

March 26, 2023

Adult Envelopes: \$ 1290.00

Loose Plate: \$ 52.00

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

April 5 - NO Wednesday evening Mass

April 6 - Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm
Altar of Repose 8:00-10:00 pm

April 7 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00-7:00 am
Good Friday Service 3:00 pm

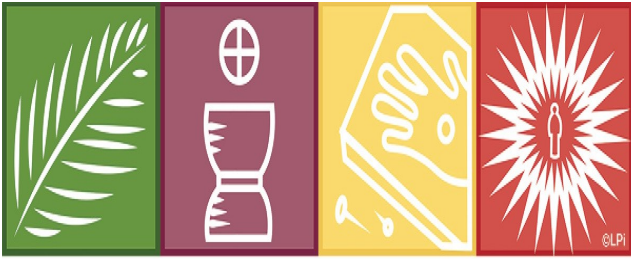
April 9 - Easter Mass 8:00 am

April 14 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am

We pray for all our parishioners, families and friends who are in need of physical or spiritual healing, especially, Anne Haynes, Bryce Young, Don Graunke, Marian Spindler, Reymundo Ramirez, Thomas Eilen, Shelly DeMars, Dave Schmitz, Sophia Dawson, and Sharon Hoaglund

We pray for those in the Armed forces, especially Sergio Jr & Angela Rodriguez, Zury Hoaglund, Zane Hoaglund, and Naomi Bauernfeind.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



April 5 - NO Wednesday evening Mass

April 6 - Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm
Altar of Repose 8:00-10:00 pm

April 7 - Holy Hour of Reparation with Stations of the Cross
and the Rosary 6:00-7:00 am
Good Friday Service 3:00 pm

April 9 - Easter Mass 8:00 am

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Vacation Bible School - June 19-23

The program we are using this year is called, "Great Big Beautiful World." This theme is inspired by Pope Francis. The goals are focused on caring for God's world through our choices and actions, to love God the Creator, and to follow in the way of Jesus.

The VBS program is open to ALL children (ages 4 to 14) who attend St. Michael's Church, who attend St Michael's faith formation program, relatives to members of St. Michael's, and any community members that would like to have their kids attend a VBS program. As far as the age, the older kids can choose to either be a helper (confirmation hours) or be involved in the actual program. The cost will be \$15 per student or \$45 limit per family. If you have any questions at all, please contact Jo Ann Erie. Thank you.

Since Easter falls on the second Sunday of the month, the breakfast schedule will be altered. The breakfast will be the third Sunday, April 16. Those with the last names beginning with B-J-R-S will plan this breakfast.



The **Living Water Program** is ending for this year. Please return your water bottles or donations to the parish office. If you prefer to write a check, please make it out to St. Michael's and put Kitui in the memo line.

Thank you for helping promote water awareness and raise money to be used in programs that assist the Kitui Diocese!

Holy Land Appeal: April 7

This annual appeal on Good Friday supports the Church in the Holy Land. Pope Francis has asked parishes to help as the Holy Land, which relies on pilgrimages and visitors, has been hit particularly hard by the COVID pandemic. You can help the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land continue their efforts maintaining our sacred shrines, parishes and formation programs, Catholic schools, and providing basic humanitarian needs of food and shelter. When you contribute to the Good Friday collection you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land, including our brothers and sisters in Damascus. Please be as generous as you are able.

Community Events/News

•St. John's of Wheeling Township will present the annual Last Supper Drama on Palm Sunday, April 2 at 8 pm, This drama features a live presentation of Leonardo da Vinci's painting of the Last Supper. A monologue featuring each of the disciples and their relationship with Christ is also part of the presentation. Fellowship hour will follow the presentation.



As Christ entered Jerusalem he was greeted as King and Messiah, Let us adore him, and joyfully praise him: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to you, Son of David, King of the ages, hosanna to you, victor over death and the powers of darkness.

You went up to Jerusalem to suffer and so enter into your glory, lead your Church into the paschal feast of heaven.

You made your cross the tree of life, give its fruit to those reborn in baptism.

Savior of mankind, you came to save sinners, bring into your kingdom all who have faith, hope, and love.

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth. Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus. Help me to be with Jesus in this week as he demonstrates again his total love for me. He died so that I would no longer be separated from you. Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.