



Bringing Our  
Faith to Life

# Our Parish Life



ST. MICHAEL  
IN OLD TOWN  
*A Redemptorist Catholic Parish*

1633 N. Cleveland Ave • Chicago, IL 60614 • 312.642.2498 • [www.st-mikes.org](http://www.st-mikes.org)



*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 5, 2012*

Jesus cured many who were sick  
with various diseases.  
(Mark 1:29-39).

Dear Parish Family,

This week almost feels like Spring. I don't want to get too excited at this point in time but it is February and we have dodged the worst of winter up-to-this point. Thankfully weather is not accumulative; it is not like we have a certain amount of cold and snow that we have to experience, like it is added up or something like that. This is just a mild winter session so far with just a few more months to go. Of course there is always the possibility of a White Easter in our future.

Because the weather has been so nice I have made it a point to walk to most of my appointments this past week. Once down to St. Joseph hospital and back to visit a parishioner. Once over to St. Theresa of Avila Church for a meeting of pastors. And then numerous times up and down Sedgwick, North, Wells and most of the side streets. It has been a delight just enjoying the different architecture, not to mention all the people out walking enjoying the same experience that I am enjoying.

This week at all of the masses I will be speaking about the Cardinal's annual appeal. This annual appeal will be our focus the next three weeks, not only here at St. Michael but also in all of the parishes throughout the archdiocese. The annual appeal is vitally important to the archdiocese since it provides a significant portion of the operating income that is used to support the many different ministries in the archdiocese. I know that many fine people and organizations ask you to be kind and generous in your donations, just as we do each week here at the parish in our Offertory Collection, but I also ask that you be as generous as possible for this annual appeal. I recognize that it is a sacrifice and that your offering means that you have made a decision in favor of the archdiocese which means some other choice has to be deferred or perhaps even put aside. I wish to thank you in advance for your generosity and your continued support.

This past week the boiler in the Parish Center finally decided to give up the ghost. Mary Catherine had to cancel Religious Education classes since there was no heat in the building. The Sunday Morning Café served warm coffee and cinnamon rolls but everyone was sitting around in their coats or at least a heavy sweater. The Gala committee met but they too had to speed the meeting procedures up because the West Room of the Parish

## *This Week at St. Michael*

*For more information or to participate in any of the activities listed below, please call the parish office at (312) 642-2498.*

### Sunday, February 5

9:00 a.m. Mass  
9:15 a.m. Religious Education Class  
11:00 a.m. Mass  
12:00 p.m. Church Tour  
12:00 p.m. RCIA

### Monday, February 6

8:00 a.m. Mass  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
6:30 p.m. ACOA  
7:00 p.m. Stillpoint/Contemplative Prayer

### Tuesday, February 7

8:00 a.m. Mass with Perpetual Help  
6:00 p.m. Mass with Perpetual Help  
7:00 p.m. Bible Study  
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

### Wednesday, February 8

8:00 a.m. Mass  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
6:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (women only)  
7:00 p.m. Human Concerns and Needs Commission meeting  
7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation

### Thursday, February 9

8:00 a.m. Mass  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Rosary

### Friday, February 10

8:00 a.m. Mass  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

### Saturday, February 11

8:00 a.m. Mass  
4:45 p.m. Confessions  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Wine and Wisdom - Marriage Enrichment

### Sunday, February 12

9:00 a.m. Mass  
9:15 a.m. Religious Education Class  
11:00 a.m. Mass  
12:00 p.m. Church Tour  
12:00 p.m. RCIA

## From the Pastor

Center was perhaps one of the colder spots in the building. We called in the people who are experts on boilers and they set to work repairing the system. Thankfully, it is a warm winter so there was no real danger that the pipes in the building would freeze, but it is nonetheless an unbudgeted major expense. Not at all totally out of the blue, since we do have old buildings, but still something that we did not plan on dealing with this year. (I think I had a course in the seminary on dealing with unbudgeted major expenses in an urban parish with a limited budget but that was a long time ago.)

It is not too late to plan on attending the Annual Gala at Galleria Marchetti, on Saturday, April 21, 2012. More information is provided in the bulletin, in the back of Church, and in the Sunday Morning Café. The Gala committee is hoping for attendance at this year's function to be around 300 people and for that to happen we all need to seriously consider becoming part of the event. Gather together some friends, members of your family, fellow parishioners and commit to attending the Gala and purchasing a table. The tickets sold are all inclusive for a wonderful evening of fun and it is a good deal. Ask any member of the Gala committee for details or call the office and we would be more than happy to answer your questions.

A generous parishioner has provided the necessary funding that we need in order to purchase a grand piano for our sanctuary. The addition of a piano will increase our ability to be more liturgically flexible and to provide options for all of our Sunday masses and also for weddings, funerals, and on occasion perhaps even a baptism service on Sunday afternoon. Certainly, as I referenced last week in the bulletin, it will be a welcome addition to our Lenten liturgies and also to our Sunday evening liturgies throughout the year. Although the addition of a piano in the sanctuary is new to me I understand that at one time there was a piano in the sanctuary at St. Michael and it was used effectively for many different liturgies until the sound board broke. So, in a very real sense, we are returning to an established practice and tradition.

In addition to the funding for the piano this parishioner has also provided additional funding for a yet unnamed maintenance project in the future. This additional funding comes in the form of a grant that is conditional on the parish providing matching funding, dollar for dollar, for the named project. We will announce the program in the next few weeks after the Finance Council has a chance to look at some of our needs and select one of the needs that seems to us to be a priority. At any rate I think the idea of a grant that challenges us to match it dollar for dollar is a wonderful idea. It stretches both the parish and the individual members of the parish to think "outside the box." Such matching grant programs are routine in many other venues but I imagine it is one of the first times, but by no means the last time, that we have been presented such an opportunity at St. Michael in Old Town. If you have any suggestion for what these funds, and the matching funds that we gather should be used for, don't hesitate to send me an email and provide your suggestion. I would appreciate hearing from you.

Well, that is about it for this week. When our Sunday masses are over (don't forget there is no 7:00 PM mass this evening) I will join the rest of the United States in remote preparation for this year's Super Bowl. I don't really have a favorite team but I am looking forward to watching at least part of the game. Of course there is also the big half-time show with Madonna so I think my Sunday has been planned. Enjoy the game and enjoy the people with whom you share this annual American ritual.

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.  
Pastor



# Parish Directory

## Pastor

Rev. Thomas Santa, C.Ss.R.  
tsanta@st-mikes.org

## Associate Pastors

Rev. Thomas Donaldson, C.Ss.R.  
tdonaldson@st-mikes.org

Rev. James Keena, C.Ss.R.  
jkeena@st-mikes.org

Rev. Joseph Morin, C.Ss.R.  
frmorin@st-mikes.org

Rev. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.  
KCSsR@aol.com

## Director of Religious Education/ Pastoral Associate

Mary Catherine Meek  
(312) 943-4767  
mcmeek@st-mikes.org

## Administrative Asst.

Deanna Cunningham  
dcunningham@st-mikes.org

## Pastoral Minister

Ray Perpignani  
(312) 642-2498, ext. 211  
rayp@st-mikes.org

## Music Ministry

Daniel Stucker  
Director of Music and Organist  
(312) 642-2498  
dstucker@st-mikes.org

Scott Arkenberg  
Director of the Contemporary Choir  
(773) 206-6785  
scott@st-mikes.org

## Business Manager

Jeannie Collins  
(312) 642-2498 ext. 215  
jeannie@st-mikes.org

## Maintenance

Patrick Morin  
Evalds Zimmers

## Parish Relations/Bulletin Editor

Toni Dunning  
(312) 642-2498, ext. 239  
tdunning@st-mikes.org

## Reception

Barbara Rose  
Rose Slattery

## Church Tours

Linda Evans  
tours@st-mikes.org

## Life Directions

Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

## Parish Mission Team

Rev. John Paul Andree, C.Ss.R.  
Rev. Tony Judge, C.Ss.R.  
Rev. Maurice Nutt, C.Ss.R.  
Rev. Gregory Schmitt, C.Ss.R.  
Rev. Arturo Uribe, C.Ss.R.

## Finance Council

Council Chair: Laurence Grant  
financecouncil@st-mikes.org

## Parish Pastoral Council

Council Chair: Paul Kleinaitis  
pastoralcouncil@st-mikes.org

## Communications and Special Events Commission

Commission Head: Jean Cocozza  
communications@st-mikes.org

## Spiritual Living Commission

Commission Head: Christine Kordiuik  
spiritualliving@st-mikes.org  
Monthly Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
7:00 p.m., Parish Center.

## Human Concerns and Needs Commission

Co-Commission Heads:  
Barbara Pope and Jeanne Sanna  
humanconcerns@st-mikes.org  
Monthly Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
7:00 p.m., Parish Center.

## Parish Life Commission

Commission Head: Gisella Tomasio  
parishlife@st-mikes.org  
Monthly Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday  
6:30 p.m., Parish Center.

## Respect Life Commission

Commission Head: Del Ramirez  
rlifesm@gmail.com

## Worship Commission

Commission Head:  
Diane Kelley-Thompson  
worship@st-mikes.org

## Stillpoint/Contemplative Prayer

Director: Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.  
kc SSR@aol.com  
Weekly Gatherings: Monday  
7:00 p.m., Rectory Chapel.

## Gala

Diane Kelley-Thompson  
gala@st-mikes.org

# Mass Schedule

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.; 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday:** 5:30 p.m.

**Monday - Saturday:** 8:00 a.m.

**Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Fri.:** 5:30 p.m. in the Ancilla Domini Chapel (enter via the sacristy)

**Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions:**  
Tuesdays after the 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mass (in the church)

## Confessions

**In the Church:** Saturdays 4:45 - 5:25 p.m.

**At the Rectory:** When a priest is available or by appointment

## Baptisms

**First and third Sundays of each month at 1:00 p.m. except during Lent**

Parent preparation sessions are normally held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. or the fourth Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Holiday weekends are the exception. To schedule a baptism and/or register for a parent preparation session, please contact the church office at (312) 642-2498 or see our website for information.

## Weddings

**Fridays:** 3:00 p.m.

**Saturdays:** 12:00 & 3:00 p.m.

Arrangements should be made a minimum of four months in advance of a wedding date. Please contact the church office at (312) 642-2498 to make an appointment with a priest in order to schedule your wedding and to receive additional information.

## Anointing of the Sick

Please call the church office at (312) 642-2498 if you have a family member or friend who is homebound, in a nursing home, or in the hospital who would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick or other sacraments.

## Rectory Hours

**Weekdays:** 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Sunday and Holidays:** Closed

*Visit our website at [www.st-mikes.org](http://www.st-mikes.org)*



*Join our  
"St. Michael in Old Town"  
Fan Page!*

*Saint of the Day  
&  
Mass Intentions*

Sunday, February 5

*St. Agatha*

9:00 a.m. † Joseph Joyce  
11:00 a.m. Parishioners—Living & Deceased

Monday, February 6

*St. Paul Miki and Companions*

8:00 a.m. † Jo Leiting  
5:30 p.m. John Mendesh

Tuesday, February 7

*St. Colette*

8:00 a.m. † Joseph & Margaret Jung  
6:00 p.m. † Hannah Finch

Wednesday, February 8

*St. Jerome Emiliani*

8:00 a.m. † John & Marie Reiff  
5:00 p.m. † Wesley James

Thursday, February 9

*St. Apollonia*

8:00 a.m. Membership Foundation Fund  
5:30 p.m. † William & Angela O'Connell

Friday, February 10

*St. Scholastica*

8:00 a.m. † Betty Long  
5:30 p.m. † Emmett Steele

Saturday, February 11

*St. Gregory II*

8:00 a.m. † Charles R. Kingore  
5:30 p.m. † Jo Leiting

Sunday, February 12

9:00 a.m. Parishioners—Living & Deceased  
11:00 a.m. John Mendesh  
7:00 p.m. † John DeFrancesca



*This Week's Readings*

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147;  
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39  
Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56  
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13  
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23  
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30  
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Mk 7:31-37  
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10  
Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32;  
1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1; Mk 1:40-45

# Ministry Schedule

*February 6 — February 12*

Date	Celebrants	Homilist	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Monday, 8:00 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson		
Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. Mass 6:00 p.m. Mass	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson		
Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson		
Thursday, 8:00 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson		
Friday, 8:00 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson	Fr. Santa Fr. Donaldson		
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. Mass	Fr. Santa	Fr. Santa		
Saturday, 3:00 p.m. Wedding	Fr. Santa	Fr. Santa		
Saturday, 4:45 p.m. Confessions	Fr. Donaldson			
Date	Celebrant	Homilist	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday, February 11 5:30 p.m.	Fr. Morin	Fr. Morin	L. Scannicchio, L. Scannicchio	T. McNulty*, C. Jaccarino, D. Ramirez, R. Slattery
Sunday, February 12 9:00 a.m. Mass	Fr. Santa	Fr. Morin	L. Sarli, A. Vancheri	D. Dunning*, P. Cassidy, T. Dunning, L. Schreiber
Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Mass	Fr. Santa	Fr. Morin	E. Kettel, C. Boeve	R. Heidenrich*, P. Behier, R. Roach, J. Sanna
Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Mass	Fr. Morin	Fr. Morin	A. Pecoraro, A. Ball	J. Burdick, T. Demko, N. Ziegenhagen

## *St. Michael's Café*

Come one, Come all to the newest spot on campus. The Café is located in the parish Center on the first floor. Bring a book or enjoy a newspaper with your gourmet coffee, pastries or a breakfast sandwich, and juice. Visit with other parishioners and friends. The Café will be open every Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. so come check us out!

# News & Announcements

## Remember in Your Prayers



Barbara Basham, Bernice Baumgarten, Kathleen Beauchamp, Arlene and Bill Conrick, Katelyn Dodson, Tony Dorsey, the Flood family, Karyn Hanselman, Alec Johnson, Marge Kempen, Koswenda family, Paul Kunach, Annie Morin, Carl Neubeck, Lyla Neubek, Tom Preibe, Christine Ramos, Craig Romaine, Dolores Roth, Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R., Joe Spreitzer, Mary Stanton

To place or keep a name on our sick list, please call the rectory every 3 weeks to let us know that you, a loved one or friend are still in need of prayers.

## Upcoming Wedding

**February 11, 2012**

Ms. Courtney Kramer  
&  
Mr. Christopher Clark

**February 25, 2012**

Ms. Allison Jordan  
&  
Mr. Kees Vandenberg

## Upcoming Events

February 11,	Marriage Enrichment
March 1	Lenten Gatherings
March 10	Chili Cook-Off
March 18	New Parishioner Welcome
April 21	7th Annual Gala

## St. Michael's Bulletin

Please feel free to take this bulletin home with you after mass. This publication is printed specifically for you so you will have all the latest information regarding mass times, ministry schedules and the events taking place here at St. Michael's Church. Also contained in the bulletin is the contact information for all the staff, commission heads and council chairs. These are the people that conduct the parish business or the events that are held here. They are always willing to help answer questions about anything pertaining to St. Michael's Church.

## Check Us Out...

Have you visited the new St. Michael's website yet? We have a new look, with new capabilities. Sign up online for your donations and manage when and how often a donation is made. Print your statements from your home. It is simple and easy to do. Call Toni in the Parish Office or email her at [tdunning@st-mikes.org](mailto:tdunning@st-mikes.org) for more information or to answer any questions you may have about the online giving process.

## Parish Life Commission

**Commission Head: Gisella Tomasio**

**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.**  
[parishlife@st-mikes.org](mailto:parishlife@st-mikes.org)

Monthly Meetings: 4th Mon., 6:30 p.m., Parish Center

The Parish Life Commission provides a wide variety of programs that enhance the social experience and sense of community for all parishioners of St. Michael in Old Town. Its various activities include: Young Adults group, Docents of St. Michael's (Art and History Tours), New Mom's Groups, New Parishioner Welcome Events, Over 40's Club, Gardening Group.

## Church Tours

Tours of the church are held most Sundays after the 11:00 a.m. Mass in winter and after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in summer. All are welcome. Please meet by the "1871 display" on the east side of the church. Tours for groups can be scheduled by appointment. Please contact Linda Evans at the church office (312) 642-2498 or send an e-mail to [tours@st-mikes.org](mailto:tours@st-mikes.org).

**Tours: February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 12:00 p.m.**

## New Mom's Group

Come meet other moms for coffee and chitchat. Babies and kids are welcome! We meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. - noon in the Café in the Parish Center. Bring your own snacks, lunch and toys to share.

## Mom's Night Out

Are you a new mom who needs a night out? Join other new mothers for dinner and drinks.

Contact Laura Demko regarding either event at [LEDemko@gmail.com](mailto:LEDemko@gmail.com) for more information.

## Worship Commission

**Commission Head: Diane Kelley-Thompson**

**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.**

**Liaison for Baptism:**

Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.

Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for Altar Servers:**

Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for Confirmation:**

Fr. Jim Keena, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for Eucharistic Ministers:**

Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for First Communion:**

Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for Lectors:**

Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.

**Liaison for RCIA:**

Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.

[worship@st-mikes.org](mailto:worship@st-mikes.org)

The Worship Commission's members plan, prepare, implement, evaluate, and educate about all aspects of the parish's liturgical celebrations.

## *Spiritual Living Commission*

**Commission Head: Christine Kordiuk**  
**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.**  
spiritualliving@st-mikes.org  
Monthly Meeting: 3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m., Parish Center

The Spiritual Living Commission offers programs that nurture living in the presence of God. Catholic in its roots and ecumenical in its outreach, the Commission strives to assist all in their desire for meaning, purpose, and community built on the foundation of God's unconditional love.

Ministries include: Adult Confirmation, Religious Education, RCIA, Family, Catholics Come Home, Culture of Life, Marriage Vocation Development & Enrichment, Religious Vocation Discernment, Single Life Vocation Development & Enrichment, Pathways/Stillpoint, Living the Questions, Bible Scripture studies, Servant Leadership.

## *Finance Council*

**Commission Head: Laurence Grant**  
**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.**  
financecouncil@st-mikes.org

The Finance Council advises the pastor on the tangible assets of the parish community including financial resources, buildings, and the church's grounds and provides financial oversight for all parish events. The Council discusses various ways to enhance the financial future of the parish. The Council consists of parishioners with skills in finance, accounting, legal, construction and architecture. Membership is by invitation of the pastor.

## **We're Counting on You!**

Did it ever seem to you that the ushers are preoccupied when they are passing the collection baskets during the Offertory? Perhaps you tried to acknowledge them with a nod or a smile, but they seemed not to notice.

The most likely reason is that they were busy counting the attendees at each Mass while they passed the baskets. We track the attendance at each Mass and have done so for many years. The basis for this information is the ushers' count each week. Tracking the attendance is one of the ways we know if we are shrinking or growing as a parish. These numbers also help us with budget calculations when the Finance Council presents the needs of the parish.

So, the next time your usher passes your pew without returning your acknowledgement, you'll know what is really going on in his or her head.

# News & Announcement

## *Bible Study*

"WOMEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT" is the topic for Fr. Joe's Bible Study. We continue this Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center West Room.

This series will be comprised of nine lessons in the following order:

- 2 - More Women of Israel's Beginnings; (this week)
- 3 - Women of Israel's Passover;
- 4 - Women of Israel's Early Tribes;
- 5 - More Women of Israel's Early Tribes;
- 6 - Women of Israel's Monarchy;
- 7 - Women, Image of God;
- 8 - Women of Courage and Strength;
- 9 - Queen Esther.

The materials are in and the cost is \$15, if you can. All are welcome and you can join at any time in the series.

## *Lenten Gathering*

It seems hard to believe but planning has begun for Lent; Ash Wednesday is a short 4 weeks away! Last year the Spiritual Living Commission hosted the "Lenten Gathering". For four Thursdays during Lent various sessions for spiritual growth were offered for anyone interested in attending. On March 1, 8, 15, and 22 the commission is again sponsoring the "Lenten Gathering". Mark your calendar NOW. There will be sessions on

**History of the Church** with Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.

**Addiction and Recovery** with Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.

**Prayer Experiences**

**Self-Discovery** with Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.

**Body movement** and meditation using such practices as Yoga

The specific topics to be discussed each week in the sessions will be listed in detail in upcoming bulletins so keep watching and save the dates!

The format of the sessions is to gather for registration and a prayer between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m. After a short prayer people will proceed to the meeting place for the session they have chosen. At 8:30 p.m. all attendees are invited back to the Café for social and gathering with refreshments served.

## *Infant Baptism Preparation*

All parents who wish to have their baby baptized are required to attend an Infant Baptism preparation session. Parents who have previously had a child baptized at St. Michael are exempt from attending a second class. Parents are asked to register in advance for the class by calling the parish office at 312-642-2498. Sessions take place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Lounge of the Parish Center:

### **Upcoming Sessions:**

Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

**Please note: There are no Baptism Preparation classes or Baptisms during the season of Lent.** The regular schedule for Baptism Preparation classes will resume on April 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Baptisms will resume on April 15 at 1:00 p.m. in the church. Please be sure to contact the parish office in advance and reserve your place for all Baptism Preparation classes and Baptisms.

# News & Announcements

## Parish Pastoral Council

### Purpose:

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), an advisory council to the Pastor, represents the needs, ideas and hopes of the Parish community, supports Parish ministries, evaluates the quality of Parish commissions and programs, and plans for the Parish's future by recommending ways to further fulfill the Church's mission.

The PPC exercises shared responsibility for the pastoral life of the parish under the leadership of the pastor. In this context, the purpose of the PPC is to prayerfully engage the people and the pastor in common reflection about the parish's mission and its ministry, and to plan and evaluate in light of the Gospel and Church teaching.

### There are four basic responsibilities:

research the needs, the ideas and the hopes of the faith community;  
encourage and support existing ministries;  
evaluate the quality of life of the parish faith community; and  
plan for the parish's future by recommending policies, procedures, and programs that bear witness to its values and fulfill the Church's mission.

### The function of the PPC is:

regularly review the parish mission statement  
provide a responsible pastoral plan which includes:  
evaluating the mission statement  
assessing the needs of the parish  
consulting with the Pastor on the development of parish goals  
determining broad strategies for goals  
directing the implementation of the strategies  
evaluating the success in achieving the parish's mission.

represent the parish in the Deanery Council  
communicate parish news with the community

Each member of the PPC has the responsibility to attend the monthly PPC meetings. As an active participating member, your role is to fully engage in the meetings including presenting your thoughts, ideas and opinions on the topics of discussion. Based on the various goals and objectives of the year, subcommittees are also formed to work on details of initiatives/projects. As a leader and a steward within the parish community, PPC members participate in the PPC events and other sponsored events where possible.

In addition to attending the PPC meetings, and participating in subcommittees, PPC members serve as liaisons to one of the four formal commissions: Spiritual Living, Human Concerns, Parish Life and Communications/Special Events. The PPC representatives to the Deanery Council are expected to attend 4 meetings per year, and then present a summary of the APC meeting to the commission members. Liaisons are also report back to the PPC on their commission's activities and issues. Not all members of the PPC are liaisons.

### Membership

The PPC is composed of at least 11 members: not fewer than ten members of the parish and a member of the pastoral staff. Although the pastor presides over the council, he is not its chairperson. The members serve a two year term.

The members must be active members of the St. Michael community of faith; confirmed, practicing Catholics, at least 18 years old; and registered parishioners. The members are discerned for the gifts that will serve the mission of the parish.

### Discernment Process

To keep the continuity of the parish leadership, the PPC coordinates the annual discernment process, the means for recruiting and selecting new PPC and Commission members who are responding to the work of the Holy Spirit to share their talents and time. Announcements are made to invite parishioners to consider the PPC. Members of the parish community can recommend themselves or others who they believe will be able to contribute to the growth of the local church.

During the March meeting, representatives of the PPC interview the candidates. The candidates indicate their interest in serving on the PPC by completing and submitting a questionnaire. The interviews are based on the information in the questionnaire and are designed to assure the commitment of the candidates and their ability to serve on the PPC. Based on the information from the interviews, the outgoing members of the PPC and any other PPC members who are in charge of the discernment process, along with the staff liaison, compile a proposed list of new members to be presented to the Pastor for approval. The members approved by the Pastor are notified in April.

## Stillpoint

St. Michael's Spirituality Resource

Director: Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R., [kcssr@aol.com](mailto:kcssr@aol.com)

Contemplative Prayer Gathering: Mondays, 7:15 p.m.

Parish Center 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl Chapel

## Inner Views

“Lord, teach us to pray...: (Luke)

There was a time when I didn't like what Jesus taught us about praying. He said when you pray, pray like this “Our Father” I wanted my prayer to be more personal. I wanted to pray “My Father.” I didn't want to share God's attention. I want prayer to be about me and my agenda, not us and our needs.

Like most things in our life this attitude is changing for me. I still come to God first of all with my personal needs. But I am also aware of how much we function as a community and family. We are in this together and our lives are far richer and more meaningful because of each other. I think that part of this shift in my attitude has come from recognizing that I am not nearly as independent as I imagined.

Spiritual development often happens by becoming more aware of new dimensions of our cherished beliefs. We start off focused in one dimension of a reality and wake up to its opposite dimension. This is the way our mind works. It's only able to look at one side of a coin at a time. And we get so used to looking at that one side that we may not even think about the other – until we drop the coin. Or sometimes we meet somebody who has looked at the other side of the coin. If we don't get into an argument with them we may be persuaded to look at the other side. It sounds like a simple happening but if you pay attention to your point of view you'll see that it takes a lot of energy to become aware of other points and viewpoints. In the Gospels this coming to see through new eyes is called “conversion,” or “repentance.” We spend the time of Lent seeking and praying for this grace.

And this new seeing is what “Our Father” demands of me. It means that I no longer see myself as totally independent and separate from others; “this is me, I'm my own person; I live by MY beliefs.” This has been my experience for most of my life. I consider myself as independent. But now I'm beginning to see that the opposite is just as true about me – about us.

I grew up in a Catholic family and that's basically why I'm a Catholic. I made choices along the way to commit more deeply to my Catholic faith but those too were supported by being with Catholics. Catholics were “my people, my family, my tribe.” I

# Religious Education

## Seeking Confirmation?

Are you like many young adult Catholics who somehow missed being confirmed as a younger student? Are you preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage and realizing you would like to reconnect with the sacramental life of the Church? If so, you might be interested in the St. Michael Confirmation preparation process, which will **begin on February 8** and will continue for 2 sessions each month through April. Confirmation will take place the first Sunday in May. There are 6 Wednesday evening sessions, one Saturday retreat day (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.), and one evening of reflection. Your sponsor is encouraged to attend all sessions with you, but must attend the evening of reflection and Confirmation.

For those baptized in another Christian faith, but interested in becoming Catholic and being confirmed, there are similar opportunities for you. Please read about them below under the RCIA heading.

## RCIA

If you have been thinking about joining the Catholic faith, completing your initiation through Eucharist and/or Confirmation, or journeying with someone who is seeking to know Jesus Christ and his Message and Mission, the RCIA process here at St. Michael might be the right place to begin.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is a process for those seeking to become one with Christ through Baptism and/or membership in the Catholic Faith. Whether baptized or unbaptized, the process allows for spiritual progression of the individual and the opportunity to learn in depth about what the Catholic Church teaches and believes. For those already Catholic wishing to deepen their own faith and live out a spirit of mission, there is an opportunity to accompany a potential Catechumen (unbaptized adult) or Candidate (already baptized in a Christian Church) as they learn about and prepare for full initiation into the Church. These mentors may serve as sponsors or as members of the Team that prepares the sessions each week. A personal conversation is usually the best start to the process.

**RCIA Inquiry** (for those just beginning or newer to the process):

For information, please call 312-943-4767 and speak to Mary Catherine.

**RCIA Catechumenate** (for those who have already been journeying with us at St. Michael):

**Sundays, February 12, 26 after the 11:00 a.m. Mass**

**Saturday, February 18: Retreat**

**RCIA** will celebrate the Rite of Sending at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on February 19. They will then go to Holy Name Cathedral later that day to celebrate the Rite of Election with Cardinal George. Please keep our Catechumens and Candidates in your prayers.

**For information on any of the above programs contact:**

Mary Catherine Meek, Director of Religious Education (DRE), or Deanna Cunningham, Administrative Assistant at the Center for Religious Education at 312-943-4767 or [religiouseducation@st-mikes.org](mailto:religiouseducation@st-mikes.org). The office is usually open Sunday through Thursday. Office hours vary by day due to the nature of the work.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS

**Feb. 12:** Regular class schedule. (Last class for the month of February)

knew that we were in this together and when I met other Catholics with points of view that were foreign to me I was more willing to pay attention to them because they were "Catholic" just like me. My faith has expanded not simply because of what happened in my head but also because differences in our shared faith.

"When you pray, pray like this, 'Our Father...' is one of those awakenings that came from beyond me – this time from Jesus. In truth, one of the reasons I write is to influence your awareness. I've been incredibly blessed by living in a Redemptorist's community. We sit around the dinner table and talk about a great variety of things; from a great variety of perspectives. And this has profoundly affected my life, my faith and my spirituality.

I'm also extremely grateful for being part of this faith community at St. Michael's. My faith has been supported, enlivened and broadened by the "faithful" I meet daily. And on an even more personal level by the people who have been so good to me and generous in helping me deal with dialysis week after week.

The quality of my life has been significantly increased because of the quality and diversity of people I get to know here at St. Michael's. We are made, in the image and likeness of the Trinity, to become fully alive through relationships to one another and with one another to the larger community.

Jesus' basic way of bringing about the Kingdom of God was to get people together. He gathered them around a table to share a meal together. Or he told the people to sit down and they began to share what they had. And this practice became the ultimate conversion experience in the sharing of the Last Supper – which we continue in our Mass. And when he taught us to pray he began with "Our Father."

Ken Sedlak - Stillpoint / PATHWAYS

### Contemplative Prayer Group

2nd Floor Chapel in the Rectory  
Monday from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Come experience the profound impact of silent meditation in a group. If you'd like to learn how to meditate contact Fr. Ken at 312-642-2498 or [KCSsR@aol.com](mailto:KCSsR@aol.com).

It only takes 15 minutes to learn - and a lifetime to complete.

# News & Announcements



Help your parish, have some fun!

St. Michael in Old Town will host its **7th Annual Gala on April 21, 2012 at Galleria Marchetti**. This event has something for *everyone*. No one is too YOUNG or too OLD, come meet and mingle with an **OPEN BAR, DINNER, DANCING, SILENT and LIVE AUCTION**... join in the fun and with **YOUR help** we can make this event the most successful Gala Yet!!

**We need you!** Consider volunteering or donate to the Live and Silent Auctions. Please check at least one option and return this form.

- I would like to be a Gala volunteer
- I would like to volunteer to solicit items for the Auctions
- I (or my friends, parents, etc.) can donate one or more of the following items:

Item(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Can't think of what to give?**

### How about...

- **Hotel, Travel, Vacation Homes** - Do you work in the hotel or travel industry? Do you or someone you know have a vacation home or timeshare? Do you have at least 30,000 frequent flyer miles or hotel points you can donate?
- **Sports or Theatre Tickets, Memorabilia** - Do you have season tickets to a sporting event or theatre group? How about donating a jersey or other sports memorabilia? Could you arrange for someone to meet a 'Celebrity'?
- **Dining** - Do you work in the restaurant industry? Have an acquaintance who is a chef? Do you have unused gift certificates or cooking classes? If you are a "regular" at any establishment, could you ask on St. Mike's behalf for a donation? How about catering a party or arranging for a 'Chef for a Day'?
- **Retail Items** - Do you work in retail? Do you or someone you know make purses, belts, jewelry? Do you have unused Gift certificates or items for specific age groups? Do you have any unused valuable items – jewelry, electronics, etc.?
- **Monetary Donations** – Do you know of a Company who would be a corporate sponsor? How about underwriting the Band, Flowers, or Purchase TABLES? The discount for purchasing a table of 8 is \$ 200.00.

**Thank you** in advance for your time and donations. *Your contributions* are important to the *success* of the *St. Michael's only fund-raiser for 2012*.

**Donations are tax-deductible** and should be dropped-off at the rectory – 1633 N. Cleveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614. Please return this form to the rectory or deposit it in the collection basket. Your donation will be acknowledged in the event program, our website and the parish Sunday bulletin.

**Your Gala Committee – 312.642.2498 [gala@st-mikes.org](mailto:gala@st-mikes.org)**

## Communications and Special Events Commission

**Commission Head: Jean Coccozza**  
**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.**  
[communications@st-mikes.org](mailto:communications@st-mikes.org)

The Communications & Special Events Commission is responsible for marketing and promoting St. Michael, its events and activities, internally to the Parish and externally to the community. Commission members coordinate information and publicize events and happenings through the designing of flyers, posters, bulletin and Mass announcements, the St. Michael website, Facebook and local media. The commission also sponsors other fundraising events throughout the year for use in offsetting annual operating expenses and capital restoration projects.

The Communications & Special Events Commission is always seeking new members with an interest in writing, photography, and graphic design. If you are interested in joining the commission or for more information call the parish office at 312-642-2498 or email [communications@st-mikes.org](mailto:communications@st-mikes.org).

## Human Concerns and Needs Commission

**Co-Commission**  
**Heads: Barbara Pope and Jeanne Sanna**  
**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.**  
[humanconcerns@st-mikes.org](mailto:humanconcerns@st-mikes.org)  
Monthly Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed., 7:00 p.m., Parish Center

**Mission Statement:** The Human Concerns and Needs Commission identifies needs within our parish and community and develops ministries to provide service and material outreach to address those needs.

**Join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, March 14 on the first floor of the Parish Center at 7:00 p.m.**

## Music Ministry

**Director of Music and Organist: Daniel Stucker**  
**Pastor's Representative: Fr. Tom Santa, C.Ss.R.**  
[dstucker@st-mikes.org](mailto:dstucker@st-mikes.org)

Membership to the Parish Choir, Schola Cantorum, is open to all high school, college and adult parishioners. The rehearsals take place on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. It is desirable that singers have a strong love for sacred music and fundamental knowledge of music and singing. If you would like to learn more about the parish choir please contact Daniel Stucker to schedule a time to visit.

**Contemporary Choir Director: Scott Arkenberg**  
[scott@st-mikes.org](mailto:scott@st-mikes.org)