

St. Michael Church

ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA



RECORDED MASS SCHEDULES: (703) 256-0446
RECTORY, 7401 St. Michael's Lane (703) 256-7822
CONVENT, 7421 St. Michael's Lane (703) 256-2130
SCHOOL (703) 256-1222

Website <http://www.stmikes22003.org>



MASSES:

Sunday Vigil: Saturday Eve, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 6:15 (Extraordinary Form of the Latin Rite),
7:45, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00 noon

Weekday Masses: See Inside Bulletin

PREGNANT AND NEED HELP? CALL 1-800-848-5683

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. SHARP

Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. SHARP

BAPTISMS: SUNDAY AFTER 12:00 NOON MASS

All parents must attend a class prior to the baptism of their child. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month. Please call the rectory for information and assistance. (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

SCHOOLS OF RELIGION: For all children attending public school Pre-School through grade 12 meets on Sundays September through May. For more information contact Deacon McCaffrey, 703-941-9403.

WEEKLY NOVENA: Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Novena of The Miraculous Medal.

MONTHLY DEVOTION: First Saturdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass - Our Lady of Fatima.

MARRIAGE

Please notify one of the priests at least six (6) months before the wedding.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Registration forms are available from the ushers after Mass on Sunday or you may stop by the rectory during the week. Parish membership is required for the reception of either Baptism or Matrimony. Please notify the rectory when your telephone number changes and also when you are moving within or outside the parish.

SICK CALLS

Please notify the Rectory for visits and/or Communion Calls to the sick, shut-ins and those in the hospital.

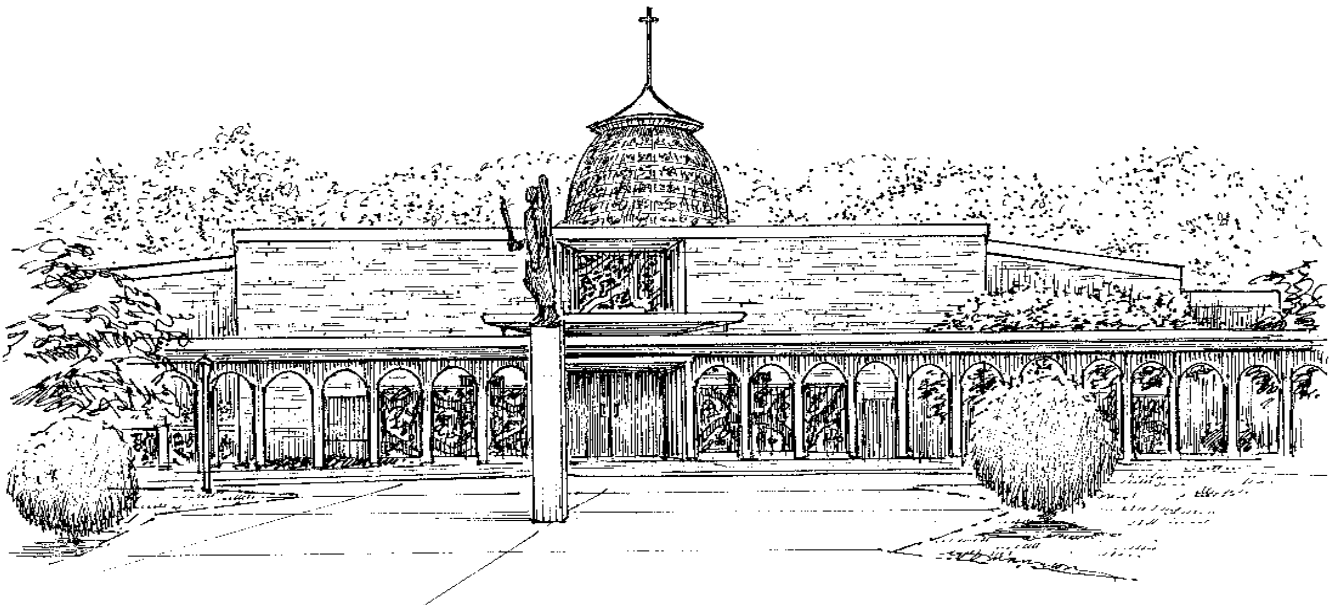
CLERGY OF PARISH

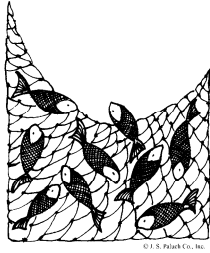
Pastor: Rev. Jerry J. Pokorsky

Parochial Vicars: Rev. John T. B. Trong, Rev. Kevin J. Beres

In Residence: Rev. Joseph J. Clark

Permanent Deacons: Deacon Roger T. Ostrom, Deacon David S. McCaffrey





5TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

February 7, 2010

“I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with all my heart,
for you have heard the words of my mouth.”
~ Psalm 138: 1

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 8

6:15 a.m. Sue & Jim Rider
8:30 a.m. Robert Pfeffer +
12 noon Priest’s Intention

Tuesday, February 9

6:15 a.m. David & Maria Hick
8:30 a.m. Skip Sheridan +
12 noon Priest’s Intention

Wednesday, February 10

6:15 a.m. Mr. James Coleman +
8:30 a.m. Olen Thornton +
12 noon Priest’s Intention

Thursday, February 11

6:15 a.m. Ross McWilliams
8:30 a.m. Louise Mendus +
12 noon Priest’s Intention

Friday, February 12

6:15 a.m. Rev. Anthony Kinuthia
8:30 a.m. Claude “Skip” Sheridan +
12 noon Priest’s Intention

Saturday, February 13

8:30 a.m. Bridget McCaffrey +
5 p.m. Antoine Joseph Tham Nguyen +

Sunday, February 14

6:15 a.m. Thomas Pham Ngoc Chan +
7:45 a.m. Olen D. Thornton +
9 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Anne Bonen-Clark
12 noon Huy-Kim Lien family

Tested Like Gold

“God wishes to test you like gold in the furnace. The dross is consumed by the fire, but the pure gold remains and its value increases.”

~ St. Jerome Emiliani

FROM THE PASTOR

The signs worked by Jesus attest -- that the Father has sent him. They invite belief in him. To those who turn to him in faith, he grants what they ask. So miracles strengthen faith in the One who does his Father's works; they bear witness that he is the Son of God. But his miracles can also be occasions for "offence"; they are not intended to satisfy people's curiosity or desire for magic despite his evident miracles some people reject Jesus; he is even accused of acting by the power of demons. By freeing some individuals from the earthly evils of hunger, injustice, illness and death, Jesus performed messianic signs. Nevertheless he did not come to abolish all evils here below, but to free men from the gravest slavery, sin, which thwarts them in their vocation as God's sons and causes all forms of human bondage.

The annual contribution reports – were sent out last week. If you have any questions, please call the rectory office. Many thanks to all of our benefactors. You help keep the doors of the church and school open!

A learning experience – last weekend: During the snowstorm, I jumped into the truck and started plowing the church parking lot, chomping a cigar (sorry for the smoke in the cab, Bill). I placed cones to block the church entrance. Cars are a real obstacle during snow plowing operations and can be dangerous to the visitors as well as the plow jockeys. The perpetual adoration chapel was open and someone tried to park his car to fulfill his portion of the schedule in worship. I sent him home. Within the hour, I received several phone calls and a delegation of parishioners asking that I designate a place to park, even during snowstorms. Apparently, the chapel hasn't been shut down for over 25 years, regardless of rain, snow or sleet. Hey, I'm kind of new here. Let's designate an area in front of the junior school during snow emergencies. Bill Kennedy and I will work out the details and designate an out of the way location for future storms. The tradition will continue!

Elderly folks – should really consider staying home in the immediate aftermath of a snowstorm without violence to their consciences. St. Michael Parish has been designated as a “Broken Hip Free Zone.”

However, younger folks – and families are not going to get off so easy. On Saturday during the snowstorm, people were coming from miles around to play basketball in our gym. The dedication to sports was an amazing sight. Since I very much support CYO sports, I did what I could to extend gym availability as long as possible. I directed that cars should be moved to another location to allow for snow plowing. But I hope that families that braved the snow for sports will have that same zeal for Mass attendance during bad weather. Not a homily, just a thought. Or maybe it is a homily! At least you have useful personal criteria for the obligation for Mass attendance.

Speaking of snowstorms – please do your best to vacate the parking lots to allow for the snowplows. As I mentioned above, vehicles left in the parking lot not only obstruct snow removal, it can really be dangerous for everyone involved. During the big snowstorm several weeks ago, someone deliberately left a vehicle near the school (according to our plow jockeys). The contractors tried to have the person remove the vehicle, but to no avail. Courtesy and common sense are good rules to follow.

And speaking of stranded vehicles – if vehicles are left in the parking lot in the future, it might be necessary to have the cars towed. Please don't take the risk. Of course, we will always check the Blessed Sacrament Chapel before we take any action. And we will do our best to mark a special location for those participating in perpetual adoration.

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal -- or the BLA supports the apostolates and offices of the Chancery, or the central offices of the Diocese. Some of the offices are: Vocations, the Tribunal, Catholic Charities, and the Family Life Office. For every seminarian advancing to Holy Orders, the Diocese spends over \$30,000 in tuition, room and board every school year. The Family Life Office coordinates marriage preparation and promotes the pro-life activities of the Diocese. The marriage tribunal, of course, looks into the validity of marriages according to the mind of the Church. These apostolates can be costly even with volunteers.

My personal experience -- with the diocesan Finance Office as well as the Office of Construction Management has been very good. These offices of been supportive and have provided valuable advice in the sometimes overwhelming repair and construction projects this parish has and will have. The representatives of the Office of Construction Management have given us valuable advice and guidance when negotiating and navigating construction projects. Next week we will be meeting the contractors who have bid on the restoration of the dome and they will be subject to the intense questioning of the diocesan representatives. Your donations to the BLA assist me as your pastor and assist the diocese as a whole.

It is important to remember that we are members -- of the Catholic Church and our interests extend beyond the parish boundaries of St. Michael Church. We are in the position of assisting the construction of additional churches as well as schools in passing on our beloved Faith. This week is Catholic Schools Week. The Diocesan offices also provide invaluable guidance in the administration of our schools.

Last month, I sent a personal check -- from my personal checking account to the BLA. (Just because you pay my salary, don't think you've already made your contribution to the BLA!) I realize, of course, that economic times are tough. But great or small, I am hoping for widespread participation in the BLA. Last year, because of your generosity, we met our BLA goal of \$177,000. This year, the goal has increased slightly to \$180,000. Next week, just before Mass, there will be an opportunity for you to pledge your support of the Church here in Northern Virginia. I hope you can help.

[Speaker of the House Nancy] Pelosi's latest salvo -- claiming to support abortion and yet be a faithful Catholic came in a December Newsweek interview. "I am a practicing Catholic," she said, while suggesting that this made the U.S. bishops uncomfortable. "I practically mourn this difference of opinion," she said regarding her conflict with the Church over abortion, "because I feel what I was raised to believe is consistent with what I profess, and that is that we are all endowed with, a free will and a responsibility to answer for our actions." She added: "And that women should have that opportunity to exercise their free will." Reacting to Pelosi's stance, Bishop Gainer said, "to make these public statements is a betrayal of our Catholic faith and discipline." The bishop noted that her position was a "contradiction" and stressed that "our Church is clear on what the teachings are regarding the sanctity of life, on the inviolability of human life." On the question of denying Pelosi communion for her betrayals, Bishop Gainer said he understood that such actions on the part of the Church are often spun to make a martyr of those denied communion, by falsely painting the Church as being heavy-handed. Nevertheless, he said, "the bishops have an obligation to stand up for the Church's teaching and when we have such a broad and public consistent denial of our Church's moral position it would seem to indicate that we've been patient enough and something should be done." Bishop Gainer noted more than once that such actions were the responsibility of Pelosi's local bishop. (Source: LifeSiteNews.com, 01.26.10)

The economy is so bad that -- I got a pre-declined credit card in the mail; I ordered a burger at McDonald's and the kid behind the counter asked, "Can you afford fries with that?"; CEO's are now playing miniature golf; If the bank returns your check marked "Insufficient Funds," you call them and ask if they meant you or them; Hot Wheels and Matchbox stocks are trading higher than GM; McDonald's is selling the 1/4 ounce; Parents in Beverly Hills fired their nannies and learned their children's names; A truckload of Americans was caught sneaking into Mexico; Dick Cheney took his stockbroker hunting; Motel Six won't leave the light on anymore; The Mafia is laying off judges; Exxon-Mobile laid off 25 Congressmen; Congress says they are looking into this Bernard Madoff scandal. Oh Great. The guy who made \$50 billion disappear is being investigated by the people who made \$1.5 trillion disappear.

IN OUR PARISH



World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life – February 7
Please pray for those men and women who have dedicated their lives to God and ask the Lord to send an abundance of holy vocations to the consecrated life into the world, that He might be known and loved by all.

Coffee & Donuts

After the 7:45, 9, and 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning Masses, please join other parishioners for coffee & donuts in the All Purpose Room of the Junior School building. This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Second Collection

This week's second collection is for our Diocesan newspaper, *The Arlington Catholic Herald*.

Secular Carmelites

Is God calling you? The Secular Carmelite Vocation may be the answer to your prayers, for it is open to all, men and women, married or single. The Carmelites in the Capital Area, meet the 2nd Sunday of the month from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. *This month we will be meeting in the All Purpose Room of the Junior School building.* Please contact Eugene Slaby, 703-978-8020, or Janet Hillier, 703-280-1595 for further information.

Afternoon of Recollection for Women

An afternoon of recollection for all women will be held on Wednesday, February 10th, from 1-3 p.m. at St. Michael's in the Church. This recollection is conducted by a priest of Opus Dei and consists of two meditations, one lay talk, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For more information, please contact Mary Lou, 703-644-2676.

Lazarus Group

There will be a meeting of St. Michael's Lazarus Group on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 7:00pm in the All Purpose Room of the Junior School. Anyone who wishes to join this bereavement ministry is encouraged to attend this meeting. We welcome new members. For more information please call 703-256-1630.

The **WOSM Group** Invite You to come play BUNCO!

Sunday, February 14, 2010, Sr. School Cafeteria, 1-4PM

\$10 per person

Tickets will be sold after this weekend's Masses & at the door.

Refreshments, finger food, sweets for Valentine's will be served!

Families encouraged to attend as a special Games/Play Area will be set up for the kids!

A fun event for Adults & Children alike!

**** Monies raised at our one fundraiser per year***

are used for different events like the Wine & Cheese, Day

Retreats, C.I.A. sponsored

for the Women of the Parish.

Please call Jermaine with any questions - 703-658-4876.

New Altar Boy Training

New altar boys, please come to any 3 of these scheduled training times:

Monday, February 15th at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 16th at 3 and 7 p.m.

Saturday, February 20th at 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 21st at 3 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23rd at 7 p.m.

Please stop by the rectory to pick up a serving manual and fill out an interest form. Any questions call Fr. Beres 703.256.7822 x33.

This Week's Coming Events

Sunday, February 7

Coffee & Donuts after 7:45, 9, 10:30 Mass All Purpose Room
CCD 10:15 a.m. various classrooms

Monday, February 8

Readers 7:30 p.m. Church
RCIA 7:30 p.m. Lower Level
Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m. CCD office

Wednesday, February 10

Opus Dei Confessions 1 p.m. Church
Lazarus Group 7 p.m. All Purpose Room
Novena & Confessions 7:30 p.m. Church

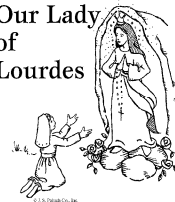
Thursday, February 11

Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Church
First Holy Communion Meeting 7:30 p.m. Cafeteria
Knights of Columbus 7:30 p.m. All Purpose Room

Saturday, February 12

Schola Choir 9:30 a.m. Music Room
Confessions 3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. Church

Our Lady
of
Lourdes



Please Pray for: Maria A. Balenger*; Paul Barsanti*; G. R.; J. G.; M. C*; R. Z; T. S. (friend of Alex Hrovat); M. K.; Kim Thoa; Thomas & Mildred White*; Janet Langen*; Mary Terese Lan; Eleanor Blake; Kendal Chatteliar; Linn Chatteliar; Norma Murphy; our soldiers overseas, especially members of our families; Bonnie Shaffer; Grace Grepo*; Kevin and Claud Clark; Julia Lattanzio; Sylvia Buonincontri*; Robert Bermingham*; John Wilson; Freya Wall; Dick & Trudy Fisher*; Dorothy Sacco*; Jose Gonzalez and Alexis Stattel*; Paul Terry*; Mrs. Sylvia Sanchez*; Marian Sneesby (sister of Lucille Catlin*); Mercedes Misko*; Ruth Naomi Contreras, wife of Deacon Carlos Contreras*; Joey Norris, relative of Bill Montes de Oca*; Dana Semerjian; Donald Clark, husband of Bea Clark*; John Healy, brother of Dolores Wisecarver*; Joseph Pistone; Allyson Caputo, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Caputo; Mi Nguyen daughter of Dziep N Nguyen*; Chris Ballard, son of Jane and Jim Ballard* and former St. Michael School student; Maria LeDoux; Veronica Kiszkiel, sister-in-law of Fran Visco*; Hung Pham and Chau Duong*; with apologies to anyone we dropped – call Father Pokorsky or the Office for next week.

Central and Eastern Europe

Next week, on Ash Wednesday, we will take up a collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The Church in this region continues to have great needs for its essential pastoral work. Your donations invest in future generations of Catholics: a gift of faith to the future. Please be generous in our parish collection to support our sisters and brothers throughout Central and Eastern Europe and parts of Asia that were once under Soviet control.