

Saint Michael's Parish



CHURCH

2001 College Place
Harlan, IA 51537

PARISH OFFICES

1912 18th Street
Harlan, IA 51537

Parish website: www.stmichaelparish.com
Diocesan website: www.dmdiocese.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of St. Michael's Catholic Parish, are many parts, but one body. As a community of believers in Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the sacraments, are challenged by Sacred Scripture and Roman Catholic Tradition, share of ourselves in service to others, and strive to promote the dignity of all human life and justice for all, as we continue toward the eternal glory of God's kingdom.

FROM THE PASTOR . . .

We hear in the readings today, "Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem, your light has come." This weekend we bring to a close our Christmas season with the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany. Today we proclaim that Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The traditional three kings from the East made their appearance in the Christmas scene. They have followed the star of Bethlehem all the way to the newborn King of Israel.

This baby is the Son of God born among us. He is the fulfillment of all the promises made to the Israelites throughout the course of their history. He is the Messiah, the one who is to come; the one who will save his people.

People react to this newborn in very different ways. The parents of Jesus wonder and ponder all the events of his birth. Angels and shepherds are heard praising God for his promised one who is now born among humanity. They eagerly spread the good news that God has at last carried out his promises. It is only King Herod who reacts negatively. He does not want anyone taking his thrown away from him. He seeks to eliminate this threat.

For us today, the coming of Jesus Christ into our world should not be seen as a threat to us. Rather, we should see his coming as an opportunity for hope and peace. His coming is the light which leads us on the journey to God's Kingdom and the fulfillment of eternal life.

Peace,
Fr. John

Growing In Faith?: How do I show hope to others?

Laudato Si' Encyclical —

The Good News People share from Pope Francis's encyclical, **Laudato Si'** (Praise Be to You). The encyclical is subtitled, *On Care for Our Common Home*.

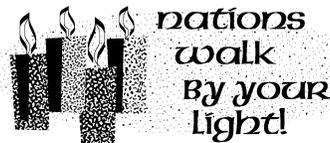
Warming has effects on the carbon cycle...affecting the availability of resources like drinking water and agricultural production in warmer areas which leads to the extinction of part of the planet's biodiversity. Melting of the polar ice caps can lead to dangerous release of methane gas. Things are made worse by the loss of tropical forests which would otherwise help to mitigate climate change. Carbon dioxide pollution increases the acidification of the oceans and compromises the marine food chain. If present trends continue, this century may well witness extraordinary climate change with an unprecedented destruction of ecosystems, with serious consequences for all of us. (Paragraph 24)



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 2016

Shed your light
upon our hearts, Lord!



Pastor

Rev. John Frost
755-5244

Email: jmfrost@harlannet.com

Parish Ministers

Rev. Mr. Jim DeBlauw

Email: stmikedeacon@harlannet.com
Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt (retired), 755-5244

Director of Faith Formation

Veronica Wright, 755-5366
Email: stmikere@harlannet.com

Parish Secretary

Kathy Hull, 755-5244
Parish email: stmike@harlannet.com

Retired Priest

Rev. Don Bruck
1110 Elm Street, 712-310-2782

Hispanic Outreach Minister

Sr. Joyce Blum, FSPA, 712-489-2426

Hispanic Chaplain

Rev. Paul Koch, 712-309-2289

Parish FAX 755-2604

Parish Hall/Kitchen 755-5744

Shelby County Catholic School

Principal: Ann Andersen
755-5634
www.shelcocath.pvt.k12.ia.us

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

4:00 P.M. Saturday or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Is celebrated by request. Notify the office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the office to set a date.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Wedding dates are set after an initial interview with Fr. John.

Calendar for the Week of January 4-10

Monday	Jan. 4	—	No Mass
Tuesday	Jan. 5	9:30 am	Mass in memory of Joe Flies at <i>Elm Crest</i>
Wednesday	Jan. 6	8:15 am 7:00 pm	School Mass in memory of Albert Frederick Crossroads Mass for Grades 7-12 — Everyone is welcome to attend.
Thursday	Jan. 7	7:00 am 12:00 noon 7:00 pm	Scripture Study in Parish Office Meeting Room Mass for deceased members of the William Feser family Liturgy Committee in Parish Office Meeting Room
Friday	Jan. 8	8:15 am	School Mass in memory of Vince & Irene Kenkel
Saturday	Jan. 9	4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Confessions Rosary Mass in memory of Cecil & Anna Mary Blum, Terry Blum, Rosalie Blum & Joe Cowan
Sunday	Jan. 10	8:30 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm	Mass for Ed & Betty Reinig Mass for the people of St. Michael's Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship



Sunday Mass is televised on cable TV (HMU Channel 15 at 4:00 pm on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, on Mediacom Channel 18 at 4:00 pm on Monday and FMCTC Channel 48 at 4:00 pm on Monday and Friday.)

Knights Of Columbus Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local competition which will be held Sunday, January 10, at the Rosman Parish Center. Registration begins at noon, shoot around practice at 12:30 pm, and the competition begins at 1:00 pm. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. The contest is sponsored by the Local Knights of Columbus Councils including Harlan, Portsmouth, Earling, Panama, Westphalia and Defiance.

Save The Date — St. Michael's Dinner/Raffle/Auction will be held on Saturday, March 19, at the Therkildsen Center. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this fun parish fundraiser.

Traveling To Our Sister Parish, San Pedro Apostol

— I have arrived in Nicaragua and am enjoying getting reacquainted with old friends. Latin American Catholic churches have a tradition called Las Posadas. For nine days before Christmas, there is Mass every morning at 5:00. After Mass, everyone processes down the street a few blocks, singing and carrying the Nativity crib with only Mary and Joseph. They stop at a house, knock on the door and sing a song about Joseph and Mary asking for a room in the inn. Eventually, they are told there is room and people are welcomed. More than 100 people participated in this tradition this morning (December 22). It is a great joy to experience the spirituality of the Nicaraguan people.

— Charlotte Willenborg

Charitable IRA Rollover

— It has been signed into law that if you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make a rollover gift to your parish or charity from your required minimum distribution. The IRA rollover gift is a tax-exempt distribution. If you are interested in this type of giving or would like more information, contact The Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa at 515-237-5044 or go to info@CatholicFoundatonIowa.org.

Remember The Sick In Your Prayers And By Your Notes Or Visits —

Jenny Schwery	Mike Wohlhutter	Betty Markham
Zane Coenen	Helen Schmitz	Marge Gubbels
Eunice Blum	Fr. Dave Polich	David Blum
Mary Tepe	Charlie McNair	Helen Blum
Darlene (Dar) Kenkel	Bernice Stracke	Merle Lawyer
Kelly Gaer	Rose Sternberg	Clifford Kruse
Dwayne Stolz	Rhonda Wendt	

Please call the office with names of those who are sick, or in need of our prayers. And please call when their names can be removed.

Readings For The Week —

Mon. 4th	1Jn 3:22—4:6	Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue. 5th	1Jn 4:7-10	Mk 6:34-44
Wed. 6th	1Jn 4:11-18	Mk 6:45-52
Thur. 7th	1Jn 4:19—5:4	Lk 4:14-22a
Fri. 8th	1Jn 5:5-13	Lk 5:12-16
Sun. 10th	Is 40:1-5, 9-11	Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
		Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

<u>Tithing</u> — December 27	\$ 7,784
Needed each week	7,709
Difference	75
	() if deficit
Year to date	\$ (10,176)

Christmas Collection — to date amounts to nearly \$13,605. This amount will be a great help in our general fund. Thank you.

Pennies For Charity — As we begin another year, it was decided to cash in our children's donation jar. This amount came to \$902.79 and will be sent to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. The Pennies for Charity collection jar will continue with all contributions going to the next charity on the list, the Children's Organ Donor. Thanks, again, for your donations.



St. Michael's Faith Formation

WE ARE FAMILY!

Upcoming Dates —

Jan. 6 7:00 pm Crossroad Mass for Grades 7-12
No classes for Grades K-6, but you are encouraged to come to the Mass.



Follow Us — *St. Michael's Faith Formation*

CYO Basketball — Sunday, January 3
St. Michael's Boys and Girls have a Bye.

CYO Basketball — Sunday, January 10
St. Michael's Boys vs Portsmouth — 1st Game — in Portsmouth
St. Michael's Girls vs Portsmouth — 2nd Game — in Portsmouth
Games begin at 1:00 pm. Come and support our youth.

Crossroads Mass — will be at St. Michael's at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, January 6. All are welcome. Come celebrate Mass with our youth with music led by Church, Wind & Fire and the Flames.

Your Donations To Catholic Charities At Work — Gloria, name changed, was living on the streets. Her addiction to drugs had left her with nothing, and she had no hope. Catholic Charities gave her a place to stay and helped her get sober. A sign of her success was renewing her driver's license. Now she helps other women toward healing and wholeness. She said, "Catholic Charities made me feel I was worthy of love." Is there anyone who isn't? Catholic Charities agencies administered 406,571 behavioral health services in 2014 including addiction treatment, group and family counseling, and other mental health services. To learn more, visit www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org.

Help Needed — Members of our parish have been going to Elm Crest every Monday at 10:30 am to lead the rosary and offer communion to the residents. We are looking for more volunteers to help with this ministry. The residents really enjoy this special time, and we would love to continue to offer it. The more ministers we have, the less time involved for any one volunteer. If you are interested in helping, please call the parish office.



Vocations Corner

The First Thing — Before Jesus even preached, healed someone, or performed a miracle, he called people to follow him. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his baptism and temptation in the wilderness, the first thing he did was to call two sets of brothers. He asks Simon and Andrew and then James and John to follow him (Mark 1:16-20). And that is the church in its simplest terms: the followers of Jesus Christ.

—Vision Vocation Guide 2015

Shelby County Catholic School News

Catholic Schools Week — annual open house and pancake breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 31. Breakfast will be served from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Mark the date now and come celebrate the opening of Catholic Schools Week with us.

Mass With Bishop Pates — will be celebrated on Monday, February 1, at 10:30 am at St. Michael's Church.

Area Events

- **Beginning Experience** can help if you find yourself divorced, widowed or separated. You do not have to suffer alone. We have gone through the same things you are going through. Join us for an open house on Friday, January 8, at St. Augustin Church in Des Moines from 7-8:30 pm. Let us show you how we got through our grief. Questions? Contact Marian at 515-964-7815.
- **St. Mary's in Avoca** is hosting an adult faith family presentation on Saturday, February 20, beginning at 3:10 pm. Deacon Joel and Lisa Schmidt will give the keynote presentation entitled, *Pray, Work, Rest and Play: A Rule of Life for Families*. The day will end with Mass at 5:30 pm. Reservations can be made by emailing St. Mary's Church at smpavoca@walnutel.net or call 712-307-6279.
- **Valentine Retreat** will be held at the Creighton Retreat Center near Griswold on February 12-14. Frs. Larry Gillick, S.J. and Greg Carlson, S.J. will lead the retreat. Cost for the retreat is \$375 per couple and includes conferences, room and six delicious homemade meals. Come and celebrate Valentine's Day with your spouse! For more information go to www.creighton.edu/ministry/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats or call 712-778-2466
- **Catholic Daughters Court of St. Catherine** next meeting will be Thursday, March 17, at the parish hall in Earling. Dues, \$25, can be sent to Gail Gross at 624 2200th St., Earling, Iowa, 51530.

Ministry Schedule

Jan. 9-10	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 11:00 a.m.
1st Lector	Lin Brinker	Sandy Wingert	Marcus Gross, Jr.
2nd Lector	Harry Nollen	Cheryl Andersen	Jane Klein
Eucharistic Ministers	Chris Tepe (T) Marvin Bissen Britney Bengford Joyce Thraen Jan Blum Brian Gubbels Pam Gubbels	Donna Schmidt (T) Mary Jane Swanson Phil Markham Maxine Kwapiszeski Richard Lee Pat Lee Ed Reinig	Bob Kesterson (T) Julie Kesterson Brianna Boldan Michelle Custer David Erlbacher Shari Heese Jenna Hucka
Servers	Ashley Petsche Molly Gubbels Volunteer needed	Kara Rueschenberg Mitchell Rueschenberg Kyia Rueschenberg	Trey Gross Ellie Gross Jenna Blum
Musicians			Chris Larsen
Cantors			Brecken Van Baale
Ushers	Joe Klein Don Stowe Lin Brinker Alice Kenkel	Joe Wageman Chuck Buhman Gary Dozler Dale Swanson	Tom Powers Caitlin Yamada Madi Doonan Gary Klein
Jan. 10	E.M. Elm Crest Les Blum Jan Blum	E.M. Private Homes Dan Schechinger Joan Schechinger	Money Counters Joe Tunender Sherry Krantz Bill Coldwell

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San Pedro de Apostòl (Sister Parish)

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