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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 . . .

I trust that everyone was able to enjoy a lovely Thanksgiving with their families a week ago. We are now back to normal office hours and ready to produce a new parish bulletin.

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we are reintroduced to the person of John the Baptist. John is the one the ancient prophets referred to as "The Herald" crying out in the desert. John's message is very clear and direct, "Make ready the way of the Lord." John's mission came directly from God the Father, and he was chosen to prepare people for the coming of the promised Messiah. John selected a location on the Jordan River where trade caravans crossed to begin his ministry of baptism. His baptism was to bring about the forgiveness of sins.

This is why we have so many reconciliation services scheduled during the Advent season. The holy season of Advent is calling all of us to conversion, to come not to the River Jordan, but to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We have scheduled our communal penance service here at St. Michael's for next Sunday afternoon, December 13, at 1:00 pm. This is our opportunity to heed the words of John the Baptist to make straight our lives for the coming of the Lord.

Finally, a reminder that this Tuesday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation, so we will have a 5:30 pm Mass on Monday, December 7, an 8:15 am school Mass on Tuesday, and a 7:00 pm Mass on Tuesday evening. Please celebrate this Feast of our Blessed Mother.

Peace,
Fr. John

Growing In Faith?: What does it mean to repent?

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*.

Account must also be taken of the pollution produced by residue, including dangerous waste present in different areas. Each year hundreds of millions of tons of waste are generated, much of it non-biodegradable, highly toxic and radioactive, from homes and businesses, from construction and demolition sites, from clinical, electronic and industrial sources. The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth. Some elderly lament that once beautiful landscapes are now covered with rubbish. Frequently no measures are taken until after people's health has been irreversibly affected. (Paragraph 21)



Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2015
Grant us your salvation, 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 December 7-13

Monday	Dec. 7	5:30 pm	Mass for Feast of the Immaculate Conception in memory of Charles & Madeline Schomer & Steve Anderson
		7:00 pm	SCCS Christmas Program in the Rosman Parish Center
Tuesday	Dec. 8		Feast of the Immaculate Conception
		8:15 am	School Mass for the Casey/Graeve Family
		7:00 pm	Mass in memory of Helen Bissen
Wednesday	Dec. 9	8:15 am	Mass in memory of Agnes Larsen
		6:30 pm	Faith Formation Classes (see next page for details)
Thursday	Dec. 10	7:00 am	Scripture Study in Parish Office Meeting Room
		12:00 noon	Mass of Thanksgiving
Friday	Dec. 11	8:15 am	School Mass in memory of Gary Gross
Saturday	Dec. 12	4:00 pm	Confessions
		4:30 pm	Rosary
		5:00 pm	Mass in memory of Ivo & Darrell Coenen and Speed Kohles
Sunday	Dec. 13	8:30 am	Mass in memory of Mike Goetz and Richard Doran, Sr.
		9:30-11:00 am	Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast in the Rosman Parish Center
		11:00 am	Mass for the people of St. Michael's

Sunday Mass is televised on cable TV (HMU Channel 23 at 4:00 pm on Sunday and Wednesday, on Mediacom Channel 18 at 4:00 pm on Monday and FMCTC Channel 48 at 4:00 pm on Monday and Friday.)



Grant Eternal Rest, O Lord, To: — Irene Huebner, of our parish; Nola Schiltz, mother of Sandy Kenkel of our parish; and Connie Kesterson, mother of Bob Kesterson of our parish.

We Welcome These Children — who were recently baptized as the newest members of our parish community: **Elijah Jacob Friedmann**, son of Carl and Kimberly Friedmann, of our parish; and **Aidan Thomas Hall**, son of Alan and Michele Hall of our parish.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast — will be served on Sunday, December 13, from 9:30-11:00 in the Rosman Parish Center. The menu will include pancakes, sausage and bacon.

Advent Wreath — It has been our tradition to have an individual or family light the candles on the wreath during each weekend Mass of the Advent Season. If you or your family would like to light the wreath, please sign the sheet in back of church.

Advent Giving Ornament Project — Stop by the Christmas trees in back of church to pick up your donation labeled ornament hanging on the tree. Purchase the suggested gift, do not wrap it, and return the ornament and the gift the following week. Place the ornament back on the tree, and place your gift under the tree. You may take as many ornaments as you like. All items will be donated to West Central Development for distribution to those families less fortunate in our local community.

Advent Communal Reconciliation Schedule —

Sunday	December 13	1:00 pm	Harlan
Sunday	December 13	2:30 pm	Panama
Sunday	December 20	2:00 pm	Earling
Sunday	December 20	3:30 pm	Defiance

Can You Help — with a ministry for the Christmas Masses? Sign-up sheets are on the tables in the back of church. Thanks.

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

Clifford Kruse	Carolyn Kintner	Zane Coenen
Jenny Schwery	Mike Wohlhutter	Betty Markham
Joann Weihs	Ellen Campbell	Marge Gubbels
Janet Engel	George Esquivel	Helen Schmitz
Bonnie Peterson	Eunice Blum	Fr. Dave Polich
Mary Tepe	Charlie McNair	David Blum
Darlene (Dar) Kenkel	Pat Kenkel	Helen Blum
Merle Lawyer	Kelly Gaer	Bernice Stracke
Rose Sternberg		

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. 7th	Is 35:1-10	Lk 5:17-26
Tue. 8th	Gn 3:9-15, 20	Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
Wed. 9th	Is 40:25-31	Mt 11:28-30
Thur. 10th	Is 41:13-20	Mt 11:11-15
Fri. 11th	Is 48:17-19	Mt 11:16-19
Sun. 13th	Zep 3:14-18a	Ph 4:4-7

Tithing — November 15	\$ 7,396
November 22	6,304
November 29	6,188
3 Week Total	\$ 19,888

Needed for 3 weeks (7,709 each week)	23,127
Difference	(3,239)
	() if deficit
Year to date	\$ (20,559)

Other Collections —

Catholics Come Home	\$1,471.80
Campaign for Human Development	820.00
Thanksgiving Day (Benevolence Fund)	432.45



St. Michael's Faith Formation

WE ARE FAMILY!

Thank You — to all who helped make St.Nick@Nite a success on December 2. Thanks especially to Joan E. Chamberlain and Circle 6 for organizing the food and all the Guild Ladies who helped with crafts. Your support to the youth faith formation program is greatly appreciated.


Upcoming Dates — All students are expected to participate in this opportunity for Reconciliation.

Dec. 9 6:30 pm Classes for Grades K-2, 6-8
Reconciliation for Grades 3-5; Meet in your classroom.
Grades 9-12 Theology of the Body; Meet in the gym to hear our guest speakers on related issues in Nicaragua.

Dec. 16 6:30 pm Classes for Grades K-5, 9-12
Reconciliation for Grades 6-8. Meet in your classroom.

Dec. 23 & 30 NO CLASSES — Christmas Break


Mittens, Hats, And Gloves — Faith Formation students are collecting these items for those in need to be given to West Central.

 like us on facebook **Follow Us** — *St. Michael's Faith Formation*

Christmas Flowers — If you would like to make a memorial donation for Christmas flowers please place your gift in an envelope marked "Flower Donation". Tell us in whose memory the money is given, and place it in the collection or mail it to the office. Suggested donation is \$20. Memorials received by December 16 will be printed in our bulletin the Sunday before Christmas.

Retirement Fund For Religious Envelope — is attached to this bulletin. Aging Religious need your help. In the Unites States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospital and agencies, usually for little or no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection helps provide for medications, nursing care and more. Thanks for your generosity to those who made a positive difference in so many lives.

Fair Trade Items — will be available in church the next two weekends. Try our new chocolate flavors. They will make great stocking stuffers and you can share the Fair Trade message.



We Each Have A Vocation — The thing to do is answer the call. We each have something to give. — Dorothy Day.

Shelby County Catholic School News

SCCS Christmas program will be Monday, December 7, at 7:00 pm in the Rosman Parish Center. Come to the Immaculate Conception holiday Mass at 5:30 pm and stay for the program. All are invited.

New Bulletin Items — Please notice the two new bulletin items on our sponsor page on page four. In the upper right hand corner will be a note about our sister parish, San Pedro de Apostol, in Villa Sandino, Nicaragua. This brief note will give information or news about our brothers and sisters in our sister parish. In the lower left hand corner is a Thank You note for our bulletin sponsors. In this way, we can show our sponsors how we appreciate them. Please continue to review each of the sponsor ads, as their donation helps to pay for the printing costs of this bulletin each week.

Area Events —

- **SCCO Pancake Brunch** (with the Pancake Man), Bake Sale and Silent Auction will be this Sunday, December 6, 10:00 am-1:30 pm, at the American Legion Building in Harlan. Adults \$6.50, kids \$5.00.
- **Catholic Daughters Court of St. Katherine's** next meeting will be Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 pm in the St. Joseph Parish Hall. More details will be in next week's bulletin.
- **Shelby County Right to Life Committee** invites you to a Holy Hour for Life prayer service on December 8 after the 8:30 am holiday Mass in Panama. Join with over 700 parishes praying on this day.

Give The Gift Of Life — Solar project gift coupons are available.

Pictorial Directories — If you submitted a photo for the directory, those photos have now been returned to us. You can pick up those photos in the parish office. If you have not yet picked up your free 8 X 10, it is also available in the parish office.

Ministry Schedule

	Dec. 12-13	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 11:00 a.m.
1st Lector	Joyce Thraen	Bonnie Kenkel	Gary Weihs	
2nd Lector	Elaine Sprague	Rhonda Buck	David Erlbacher	
Eucharistic Ministers	Duane Fahn (T) Gwen Kaufman Deacon Jim DeBlauw Kevin Campbell Kathy Campbell Ray Chipman Leo Kloewer	Deann Irlmeier (T) Joan M. Chamberlain Deacon Jim DeBlauw Doug Baker Mary Baker Ethel Defenbaugh Jim Kohles	Brianna Boldan (T) Michelle Custer Deacon Jim DeBlauw Joni Larsen Gary Weihs Diane Weihs David Erlbacher	
Servers	Ashley Petsche Molly Gubbels Roberta Golden	Deann Irlmeier Erin Irlmeier Darbie Argotsinger	Madi Doonan Clara Schmidt Robert Schmidt	
Musicians				
Cantors				
Ushers	Les Blum Jan Blum Rodney Bengford Lisa Bengford	J.C. Salvo Kenny Kenkel Ethel Defenbaugh Cletus Schmitz	Marcus Gross, Jr. Bob Hastert Russ Chamberlain Bill Buman	
Dec. 13	E.M. Elm Crest Dan Schechinger Joan Schechinger	E.M. Private Homes Cheryl Andersen Sherry Bierl	Money Counters Barbara Muller Natalie Crees Gary & Julie Thraen	