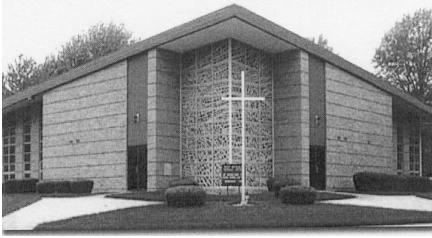


Saint Michael's Parish



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

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

My soul rejoices in my Lord!

Rejoice!
Your GOD is near.

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.

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.

FROM THE PASTOR . . .

We have arrived this weekend to roughly the half-way point of the Advent season. The Third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday" which means "praise" and "rejoicing". As we come closer to the day of the birth of our Savior, the church reminds us that we are to be filled with a spirit of praising and rejoicing in God for his love for us. In the gospel this weekend, John the Baptist tells the crowd what they should be doing to make ready for the coming of the Messiah. He simply says, "Give to the poor. Be fair and just in your dealings with others." He reminds the crowd that they need to be content and at peace with God for the coming of God's Kingdom is near at hand.

As we draw even closer to the day of our Lord's coming, we are given more and more opportunities to heed the words of John the Baptist. To be fully able to praise and rejoice in the coming of the Lord, we first need to have our sins be forgiven. The sacrament of Reconciliation is the best way to have our sins be forgiven. This Sunday at 1:00 pm we will have our Advent Communal Penance Service. Let us use well this wonderful means for the forgiveness of our sins. The Messiah was born so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be one in God's love. Through the confession of our sins, may we receive spiritual healing in our lives this Advent season.

Peace,
Fr. John

Growing In Faith?: What step do I need to take in my life?

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*.

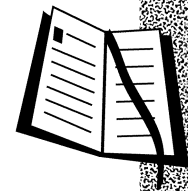
These problems are closely linked to a throwaway culture. Our industrial system, at the end of its cycle of production and consumption, has not developed the capacity to absorb and reuse waste and byproducts. We have not yet managed to adopt a circular model of production capable of preserving resources for present and future generations, while limiting as much as possible the use of nonrenewable resources, moderating their consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing and recycling them. A serious consideration of this issue would be one way of counteracting the throwaway culture which affects the entire planet. (Paragraph 22)



Calendar for the Week of December 14-20

Monday	Dec. 14	8:15 am	Rosary in Church with the SCCS students
Tuesday	Dec. 15	9:30 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Mass in memory of Lottie & Ann McDermott at <i>Elm Crest</i> Finance Council in Parish Office Meeting Room Pastoral Council in Parish Office Meeting Room
Wednesday	Dec. 16	8:15 am 6:30 pm	School Mass in memory of Pete & Elaine Sheldon and Laura Schmitz Faith Formation Classes for Grades K-12
Thursday	Dec. 17	7:00 am 12:00 noon	Scripture Study in Parish Office Meeting Room Mass in memory of Mark Feser and Mary "Pat" Portwood
Friday	Dec. 18	8:15 am	School Mass in memory of Charlotte Assman and in memory of Otto Klein & for his family
Saturday	Dec. 19	4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Confessions Rosary Mass in memory of Larry & Nita McCool and in memory of Russ Lefeber, Lois Goetzinger, & Jason Nielsen
Sunday	Dec. 20	8:30 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	Mass for the people of St. Michael's Mass in memory of Francis Heese and Brandy Chamberlain Harms Spanish Mass

Preach
the
GOOD
NEWS



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.)

Fair Trade Items — will be available in the back of church this weekend and next weekend. Fair Trade gives the farmers who grow the coffee beans and cocoa a fair price for their crops. By giving these items as a gift, you share the Fair Trade message with others. Try our new chocolate flavors for stocking stuffers! New to our list of items are: Dark Chocolate with Raspberries, White Chocolate with Strawberries, Milk Chocolate with Hazelnuts, Milk Chocolate with Toffee & Sea Salt and Dark Chocolate with Toffee & Sea Salt. Also, the Juan Ana coffee from Guatemala, in ground or whole bean, will be available.

Give The Gift Of Light — Someone from the Nicaragua Committee will be in the back of church December 12-13 and December 19-20 to answer questions or accept donations for the solar panel project for our sister parish.

Advent Giving Ornament Project — Thanks for your support of this program. All items will be taken to West Central.

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

Ministries For The Christmas Masses — Because we were not sure of your Christmas plans, we did not schedule ministers for the Christmas Masses. If you will be around for these Masses and are willing to help, please sign the sheets in the back of church so we know that the Masses are covered.

Early Deadline For Next Bulletin — The bulletin will be printed early next week. If you have an item for the bulletin, be sure to have it to the office by Monday, December 21.

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

We would like to keep this list more current for people going through changing conditions, so we have decided to keep names on the list for no more than six months, unless the family specifically requests that they be continued for another six months.

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	Pat Kenkel	Bernice Stracke
Merle Lawyer	Kelly Gaer	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.	14th	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a	Mt 21:23-27
Tue.	15th	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13	Mt 21:28-32
Wed.	16th	Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21b-25	Lk 7:18b-23
Thur.	17th	Gen 49:2, 8-10	Mt 1:1-17
Fri.	18th	Jer 23:5-8	Mt 1:18-25
Sun.	20th	Mi 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10	Lk 1:39-45

Tithing — December 6	\$ 16,261
Needed each week	7,709
Difference	8,552
	() if deficit
Year to date	\$ (12,007)

Food Pantry Collection — resulted in \$246 and 260 pounds of food or toiletry items. Thanks for your continued support of our local food pantry. There is always a need for our contributions.



St. Michael's Faith Formation

WE ARE FAMILY!

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

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.



Follow Us — St. Michael's Faith Formation

CYO Basketball — This Sunday, December 13

St. Michael's Girls vs Panama — 1:00 pm — in Panama

St. Michael's Boys vs. Defiance — 2:00 pm — in Panama

Come and support our youth!

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.

Year Of Mercy — December 8, 2015, began the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. To mark the beginning of the holy year, Pope Francis opened the Holy Doors at St. Peter Basilica at the Vatican. To learn more about this special year, read the pamphlet attached to this bulletin. We will keep you posted on what is happening at St. Michael's and throughout the diocese as the activities unfold. For now, the pope's *Open to God's Mercy* prayer is available at the church entrances. Also at the entrances are free-of-charge "Jesus, I Trust In You" booklets and magnets.

Pictorial Directory Pictures — If you submitted a photo for the directory, or you have not yet picked up your free 8 X 10 photo, they are available in the parish office.



Sometimes We Need A Little Help —

seeing clearly. Various devices aid our focus from eyeglasses and contact lenses to microscopes and telescopes. Sometimes seeing clearly means shifting our perspective, too. Take the example of Saint Gertrude (the only female saint to earn the title "the Great"). Correcting her vision came about by changing the direction she was facing. A brilliant young Benedictine sister, she excelled in the study of philosophy and literature. Then she received a vision of Jesus urging her to trade in her pursuit of the humanities for divinity studies. Gertrude's heart was ignited with a new flame, and she became a profound mystic. —Take Five for Faith

Longest Married Couple — Worldwide Marriage Encounter is once again conducting its annual search for the Longest Married Couple in the United States as well as each of the 50 states. Please consider nominating family or friends who are blessed with long marriages. Couples can only win by being nominated. The nomination should be sent to Dick & Diane Baumbach at dickanddiane66@bellsouth.net or by calling 321-613-5180. Nominations can also be mailed to Dick and Diane Baumbach at 8934 Puerto Del Rio Dr. #402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920.

Go Fund Me — There is a Go Fund Me account set up for our Nicaragua solar panel project at www.GoFundMe.com/villasandino. Please share this site with your family and friends. Check out our website at shelbycountynicaraguapartners.org. Spread the word about the good things happening in Shelby County.

Area Events —

- **Alzheimer's Support Group** will meet Monday, December 14, at 9:30 am at the Harlan Senior Center located within the Therkidsen Activity Center.
- **St. Joseph Parish in Earling** is hosting a Christmas/Holiday Bingo Wednesday, December 16, in the parish hall. There will be Good Neighbor Games, lots of door prizes and other surprises. Lunch will be available. Early Birds begin at 6:30 pm. Regular games begin at 7:00 pm. Come and enjoy an evening with us.
- **Catholic Daughters Court of St. Katherine** will meet Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 pm in St. Joseph Parish Hall for a meeting and Christmas party. Daughters are to bring a wrapped new, lightly-used, or home-made Christmas ornament for a gift exchange. There will be music for entertainment. Please plan to attend.
- Come to the **Museum of Religious Arts** tree and nativities display. December Hours: Sunday Noon – 4; Tuesday - Saturday 10 - 4

Ministry Schedule

Dec. 19-20	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 11:00 a.m.
1st Lector 2nd Lector	Leo Kloewer Wayne Goedken	Michael Rueschenberg Maxine Kwapiszeski	Joan Schechinger Makayla Tremel
Eucharistic Ministers	Phil Koesters (T) Connie Kohles Virginia Kruse Shayla Leinen Joe Klein Jane Klein Clare Klein	Phil Markham (T) Betty Leuck Richard Lee Pat Lee Maxine Kwapiszeski Alan Kenkel Jo Kenkel	Joni Larsen (T) Julie Juhl Kyle Juhl Jenna Hucka Shari Heese Brian Gubbels Pam Gubbels
Servers	Wyatt Fahn Cole Fahn Stephen Leinen	Kara Rueschenberg Mitchell Rueschenberg Kyia Rueschenberg	Ronana Noeth Cianan Noeth Keyton Francis
Musicians	Rod Carlson		
Cantors	John Rosman		
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. 20	E.M. Elm Crest Roger Thomsen Pat Thomsen	E.M. Private Homes Janice Calhoon Nancy Jacobs	Money Counters Bruce & Kathy Carl Shelly Schmidt

Please Support our Sponsors — They help make this bulletin possible!

 <p>Rick Dotzler, RPh 755-2101 Tina Dotzler, RPh after hours 755-0706 www.PextonPharmacy.com</p>	 <p>SHELBY COUNTY STATE BANK <i>Banking For Your Life!</i> Member FDIC 712.755.5112 scsbn.net</p>	<p align="center">STATE FARM INSURANCE</p> <p align="center">EJ Leinen 712-755-5825</p>	<p align="center"><i>San Pedro de Apostòl (Sister Parish)</i></p> <p>Nicaragua celebrates December 8 (The Feast of the Immaculate Conception) with many festivals called La Purisima. Families build shrines to the Virgin Mary and celebrate with processions, dances, food and candy.</p> 
 <p align="center">755-2154</p>	<p align="center">FOR SALE</p>  <p align="center">Ouren REAL ESTATE 755 - 3300 www.ouren.com</p>	 <p>Harlan, Iowa 712-755-3135 Walnut, Iowa 712-784-3313 Avoca, Iowa 712-343-2453 800-831-6805 800-447-2588</p>	<p>SW Iowa Farm Business Assoc. *Operated by and for Farmers* for Over 40 Years Comparative Farm Analysis Records and Consulting Tax Management</p> <p>Bob McHugh, EA Consultant 773-2295</p> <p>Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING</p> <p>616 Market Street, Harlan 712-755-7271</p> <p>debbie.davis@edwardjones.com www.edwardjones.com</p>  <p align="right"><i>Debbie Davis</i> Financial Advisor</p>
<p>Schaben Real Estate, LLC 701 Hwy. 30 W., Dunlap, IA 51529 www.jimshaberenrealstate.com</p> <p>Bob Schmitz BROKER - ASSOCIATE 1121 7th St., Harlan, IA 51537 Office 712-755-5405 Cell 712-579-2997</p>	<p align="center"><i>Floral Elegance</i></p> <p align="center">Harlan's Full Service Floral Shop <i>Andrea Miller, Owner</i></p> <p>1814 Chatburn Plaza Harlan, IA 51537 712-755-2680</p>	 <p align="center">FOUR SEASONS TRAVEL</p> <p align="center">For all of your travel needs call Linda, Doi, Trina or Steve</p> <p>1119 7th Street (712) 755-3811 Harlan, IA 51537 800-356-5579</p>	<p align="center">ULTRA NO TOUCH CAR WASH</p> <p align="center"><i>Brent and Morgan Schumacher, Owners</i></p> <p align="center">Two Locations</p> <p>1316 Chatburn 755-2654  21st & Lincoln 755-2238</p> <p>HARLAN AUTO MART www.harlanautomart.com Service • Parts • Tires Mike & Laurie Byrnes Owners</p>
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<p align="center"><i>"complete insurance service"</i></p>  <p align="center">the Agency</p> <p>712-755-5195 1205 8th Street Harlan, Iowa 51537 www.theagencyinsurance.com</p>	<p align="center">Town & Country CREDIT UNION</p> <p align="center">755-3881</p> <p>1414 Chatburn Avenue Harlan, IA 51537 www.towncountrycu.com</p>	<p align="center">LEO'S BARBER SHOP</p> <p align="center">Leo & Janie Goeser</p> <p>1105 7th Street Phone Harlan, IA 51537 755-5826</p>	<p align="center">professional vision care</p> <p align="center">755-2150 M-Th 8:00-5:00 Fri 7:00-2:30 Sat 8:00-12:00</p> <p align="center">MICHAEL V. JOHNSTON, O.D. PRIMARY CARE OPTOMETRIST</p> <p align="center">2110 12th Street</p> <p align="center">UNITED BANK of IOWA <i>The Difference is Here!</i></p> <p>1802 23rd St., Hwy. 59, Harlan, IA 712-755-5800 • www.unitedbk.com</p>
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