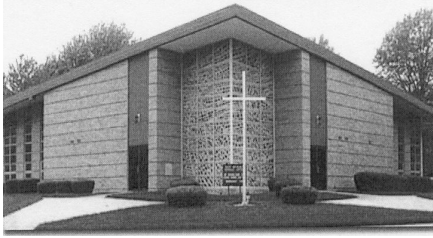


Saint Michael's Parish



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

The Nativity of the Lord Christmas

December 25, 2016

Today is born our Savior, Christ
the Lord!



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

Brenda Blum, 755-5244
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: Joshua De Weerd
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 . . .

A thought on celebrating the Twelve Days of Christmas with these prayers:

First Day of Christmas — Give thanks for the greatest gift we have been given, Jesus Christ. Thank God for his son.

Second Day of Christmas — Pray for all family members, both immediate and distant relatives.

Third Day of Christmas — Pray for friends, both close and casual acquaintances.

Fourth Day of Christmas — Pray for yourself, for help and guidance. Thank God for your life, talents, and your blessings.

Fifth Day of Christmas — Pray for your parish, all parish committees, your faith formation volunteers and teachers, the staff and pastor, and for the Church.

Sixth Day of Christmas — Pray for our local community, for all civic organizations and government, for those who help in emergencies and protect our community.

Seventh Day of Christmas — Pray for our state and national legislators and government leaders, and for the special needs of our state and country.

Eighth Day of Christmas — Pray for our nation, for the guidance to govern with wisdom and justice, and to protect and aid the poor and marginalized of our society.

Ninth Day of Christmas — Pray for our world and for peace.

Tenth Day of Christmas — Pray for social justice, for world hunger, for refugees, for the homeless, and the handicapped.

Eleventh Day of Christmas — Pray in memory of our deceased love ones and in thanksgiving for their eternal rest in heaven.

Twelfth Day of Christmas — Pray for personal guidance, help, and strength to do our part for our parish, community, nation, and the world. Pray to be a good steward of all God's gifts.

The January 1 bulletin will be the first bulletin with our new format. As we begin our new format, I will not be writing a weekly letter, but from time to time I will still include thoughts or messages. I am hopeful that the new bulletin will be well received, and that it will continue to be effective in getting parish information to the parishioners. Thank you for your time and patience in reading my past parish letters. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas!

Peace,
Fr. John

Calendar for the Week of December 26-January 1

Monday	Dec. 26	——	No Mass
Tuesday	Dec. 27	——	No Mass
Wednesday	Dec. 28	——	No Mass
Thursday	Dec. 29	12:00 noon	Mass in memory of Mark Feser
Friday	Dec. 30	8:15 am	Mass in memory of Kathleen Renze
Saturday	Dec. 31	4:00 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Confessions Rosary Mass in celebration of Mildred Vandenberg's 94th Birthday
Sunday	Jan. 1	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Mass in memory of Kenny Kloewer and the people of St. Michael's Spanish Mass



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 on FMCTC Channel 48 at 4:00 pm on Monday.) Sunday Mass is also available on demand by accessing the Harlan Knights of Columbus channel on YouTube.

Grant Eternal Rest, O Lord, To: — Gordon Nelson, husband of Thelma Nelson, of our parish. **Gene Hahn**, brother of Betty Wageman, of our parish.

We Welcome This Child — who was baptized last weekend as the newest member of our parish community: **James Allen Goeser, Jr.**, son of James Goeser, Sr. and Tiffany Powers.

Apostolic Exhortation "The Joy Of Love" — (from the 2014/2015 Assembly of Synod of Bishops)



— excerpt from Chapter 1, p. 35
Love is so central to the Christian experience of marriage and the family. Another virtue stands out, one often overlooked in our world of frenetic and superficial relationships. It is tenderness. In Psalm 131, Exodus 4:22, Isaiah 49:15, and Psalm 27:10, the union between the Lord and his faithful ones is expressed in terms of parental love. Here we see a delicate and tender intimacy between mother and child: the image is that of a baby sleeping in his mother's arms after being nursed. As the Hebrew word "gamul" suggests, the infant is now fed and clings to his mother, who takes him to her bosom. There is a closeness that is conscious and not simply biological. Drawing on this image, the Psalmist sings: "I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child quieted at its mother's breast (Psalm 131:2)

What a timely image of tenderness this Christmas Season!

Money Counters Needed — Are you available one Sunday every other month (six times a year) to help count the Sunday collection? Several of our current money counters have decided that it is time to take their names off the list, and we need your help. An experienced money counter will show you what you need to do. If you can help, please call the parish office at 755-5244. Thanks for giving this some consideration.

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

In order to keep this list more current for people going through changing conditions, names will be kept on the list for no more than six months, unless the family specifically requests they be continued for another six months.

Violet Bohr	Margaret Feldman	Marie Hatfield
Joe Gubbels	Kathy Carl	Linda Tietzort
Kenny Kenkel	Courtney Rosmann	Alice Carey
Anna Mae Kramer	Bonnie Peterson	Ric Schneider

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. 26th	Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59	Mt 10:17-22
Tue. 27th	1 Jn 1:1-4	Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wed. 28th	1 Jn 1:5-2:2	Mt 2:13-18
Thur. 29th	1 Jn 2:3-11	Lk 2:22-35
Fri. 30th	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14	Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Sun. 1st	Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7	Lk 2:16-21

Tithing —	December 18	\$ 5,438
	Needed each week	7,308
	Difference	(1,870)
		() if deficit
	Year to date	\$ 10,030



University of Iowa Newman Singers — are coming to Harlan and will present a concert at St. Michael's Church on Friday, January 6, at 7:00 pm. All are invited to come listen to these talented young people as they sing songs of praise and worship. There is no charge for this concert, but a free will donation will be accepted. Zach Dotzler, son of Rick and Tina Dotzler, is a member of this group.



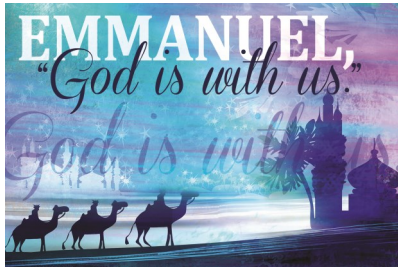
St. Michael's Faith Formation

ST. MICHAEL, PRAY FOR US

Upcoming Dates

Dec. 28 — Christmas Break — No Classes
 Jan. 4 — New Year's Break — No Classes
 Jan. 11 6:30 pm Classes for Grades K-12

Reminder — We will begin testing prayers in January. If your child did not bring home the list of required prayers for their grade, please check with their catechist.



"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Today we celebrate that the prophetic dream of St. Joseph was fulfilled! Jesus is born! A Savior has come to deliver us--Emmanuel, "God is with us." Christmas is a feast of fulfillment, a holiday of deep and enduring happiness not only because God became man and was born of a woman, but because along with his Incarnation, God brought us freedom. Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah who sets us free from the misery of our own sins. This is the ultimate gift of Christmas Day.

We exchange gifts today as a sign of our love for one another to be sure, but also as a concrete, visible way to celebrate the gift that we have first received from God. We are free people! We are not slaves but rather the children of God whose priceless inheritance is to dwell in his kingdom for all eternity. On this most festive day of the year, we are invited to exult in this fact and spare little effort or expense to show our gratitude and joy.

We only must be careful not to reduce our celebrating today to something less glorious, something less meaningful, or less profound. This is no mere secular holiday. This is not just a ritual of family gatherings, elaborate evergreen trees and sumptuous meals. Christmas is a holy day and as Christians it is our day in a most definite and undeniable way. The treats and trimmings are all signs that remind us of what lies ahead for those who accept the real gift of Jesus Christ: an unending banquet of eternal delights and divine gifts that will never fail to satisfy. Yes, Christmas is a little taste of heaven, the perfect gift that lies in wait for those who love the Lord.



Flower Memorials Given To The Parish — are in loving memory of: Jerry Klein, Maxine Thielen, Ashley Stamp, Ivo Coenen, Darrell Coenen, Ernie Schnack, Ralph Gessert, Donald & Regina Gessert, Elmo & Genevieve Kimball, Leonard & Rose Mary Reinig, Tony & Mary Bruck, Ed Plagman, Jake & Gen Jacobsen, Mark Bruck, Betty Kohles, Chuck Jacobs, Brandy Chamberlain Harms, Marvin Miller, Joelle Breezley, Jim & Frances Griffin, Frank & Isabel Miller, Marge Kramer, Terry Blum, Ray Kloewer, JoAnn Weihs, and Otto Klein.

Food Pantry Collection — January 1 is the first Sunday of the month, so our collection will be next weekend. Any food or toiletry items that you can donate will be greatly appreciated.

St. Michael's Parish Offices — will be closed all day on Monday, December 26, at noon on December 30, and all day on Monday, January 2. We wish you all a Happy New Year!

Items For January 8 Bulletin — need to be in the office by December 28. For all future bulletins, items that you would like printed need to be in the office by noon on Mondays for the following weekend bulletin. Thanks for your help on this.



Vocations
Corner

In The Midst— of a turbulent, often chaotic life we are called to reach out, with courageous honesty to our innermost self, with relentless care to our fellow human beings and with increasing prayer to our God.

— Henri J. Nouwen

Ministry Schedule

	Dec. 31-Jan. 1 Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 9:00 a.m.	
1st Lector	Steve Finn	Sandy Wingert	
2nd Lector	Jane Klein	Tom Schmitz	
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Tepe (T) Chris Tepe Ron Muenchrath Joe Klein Jane Klein Cindy Pattee Virginia Kruse	Ed Reinig (T) Mary Jane Swanson Donna Schmidt Maxine Kwapiszeski Nancy Jacobs Richard Lee Pat Lee	
Servers	Ethan Tepe Jonathan Tepe Volunteer Needed	Brecken Van Baale Brett Van Baale Bryce Van Baale	
Musicians	Kate Kohorst	Chase Shoemaker	
Cantors	Maryalyce Dotzler	Donna Schmidt	
Ushers	Alice Kenkel Joann Kenkel Mick Schmidt Rachel Blum	Joey Petsche Ashley Petsche Jackie Coenen Maxine Kwapiszeski	
Jan. 1	E.M. Elm Crest Steve Finn Susan Finn	E.M. Private Homes Tom Schmitz Bev Schmitz	Money Counters Happy New Year!

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 712.555.5112 scsbn.net</p>	<p align="center">STATE FARM INSURANCE</p> <p align="center">EJ Leinen</p> <p align="center">712-755-5825</p>	<p align="center"><i>San Pedro de Apostol (Sister Parish)</i></p> <p>Jobs are few in Nicaragua so many will travel to Costa Rica during the winter months to find work during the peak tourist season.</p> 	
 <p align="center">755-2154</p>	<p align="center">FOR SALE</p>  <p align="center">755 - 3300 www.ouren.com</p>	 <p>1304 Ninth Street Harlan, IA 51537 (712) 755-3135 (800) 831-6805 1304 N Sawmill Drive Avoca, IA 51521 (712) 343-2453 (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 debbie.davis@edwardjones.com www.edwardjones.com Debbie Davis Financial Advisor</p> 	
<p>Schaben Real Estate, LLC 701 Hwy. 30 W., Dunlap, IA 51529 www.jimschabenrealestate.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 Andrea Miller, Owner</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, Dori, Trina or Steve</p> <p>1119 7th Street Harlan, IA 51537 (712) 755-3811 800-356-5579</p>	<p align="center">ULTRA NO TOUCH CAR WASH</p> <p align="center">Brent and Morgan Schumacher, Owners</p> <p align="center">Two Locations</p> <p>1316 Chatburn 755-2654 21st & Lincoln 755-2238</p>	<p align="center">HARLAN AUTO MART</p> <p align="center">www.harlanautomart.com</p> <p align="center">Service • Parts • Tires</p> <p align="center">Mike & Laurie Byrnes Owners</p>
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<p align="center"> the agency</p> <p align="center">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 align="center">1414 Chatburn Avenue Harlan, IA 51537 www.towncountrycu.com</p>	<p align="center">LEO'S BARBER SHOP</p> <p align="center">Leo & Janie Goesser</p> <p align="center">1105 7th Street Harlan, IA 51537 Phone 755-5826</p>	<p align="center"> 755-2150</p> <p align="center">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 2110 12th Street</p>	<p align="center"> UNITED BANK of IOWA</p> <p align="center">The Difference is Here!</p> <p align="center">1802 23rd St., Hwy. 59, Harlan, IA 712-755-5800 • www.unitedbk.com</p>
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