

St. Michael Church

Website: www.stmichaelannandale.org E-mail: church@stmikes22003.org



RECTORY, 7401 St. Michaels Lane **703-256-7822**
SCHOOL, 7401A St. Michaels Lane **703-256-1222**
CONVENT, 7421 St. Michaels Lane, Annandale, VA 22003
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD) **571-385-0085**

MASSES:

Saturday Vigil:

5:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Weekday Masses: See Inside Bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., and Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. SHARP.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month, after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. All parents must attend a class prior to the baptism of their child. Please call the rectory for assistance and more information.

HOLY MATRIMONY: Please notify one of the priests at least six (6) months before the wedding. Cohabitation (living together before marriage) is not lawful; such couples will be asked to separate.

SICK CALLS: Please notify the Rectory for Communion Calls to the sick and shut-in.

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL:

Pre-K3 through grade 8. For information, contact the school office at 703-256-1222. Website: stmikes22003.org.
Principal: Annie Fernandez,
annie.fernandez@stmikes22003.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

For all children attending public school, Grades 1-12. Director of Religious Education: Zachary Beckman, 571-385-0085 or reled@stmikes22003.org.

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.

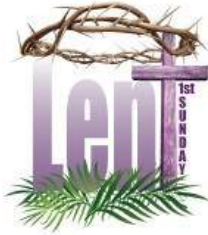
RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

9:30 a.m. — 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and until 4 p.m. on Friday.

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

CLERGY OF PARISH

Pastor: Rev. Alexander R. Drummond
Parochial Vicars: Rev. Michael J. Folmar
Rev. John F. Heisler
Permanent Deacon: Deacon David S. McCaffrey



1st Sunday
of Lent

March 9, 2025

The Priest's Mass Intentions

- Saturday, March 8
- 8:30 a.m. Lorraine Rabil +
- 5 p.m. Wladyslawa Kurjanska +
- Sunday, March 9
- 8:30 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:30 a.m. Maria Nguyen Kim Lien +
- 12:30 p.m. Taylor Garcia
- Monday, March 10
- 8:30 a.m. Paul Loan Pham +
- 12 noon Bernard J. Kennelly +
- Tuesday, March 11
- 8:30 a.m. Angelus Academy Atrium Program
- 12 noon Kristen J. Espejo
- Wednesday, March 12
- 8:30 a.m. Rev. Canon Philip S. Majka +
- 12 noon Herminia A. Espejo +
- Thursday, March 13
- 8:30 a.m. Sister Mary Jo Heisler +
- 12 noon Paul Hien Q. Pham +
- Friday, March 14
- 8:30 a.m. Oscar Estrella +
- 12 noon Matthew Schnur
- Saturday, March 15
- 8:30 a.m. Christian Mothers
- 5 p.m. Lorraine Rabil +
- Sunday, March 16
- 8:30 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:30 a.m. Cherry McMahon
- 12:30 p.m. William Swingler +

A Word from Fr. Drummond

The Book of Judges is the story of pre-monarchy Israel. The Israelites having taken possession of the Promised Land were ruled by a succession of Judges. The people would begin to forget the Lord then were faced with catastrophe and the Lord would raise up a Judge to lead and save them.

Unique among the Judges raised up by the Lord is Deborah. Deborah of the Tribe of Ephraim and the wife of Lappidoth is described as a prophetess (Judges 4:4). She sits under the palm of Deborah offering judgement to people who came to her with their disputes. But as a prophetess she also speaks on behalf of the Lord. As such she summons the general Barak son of Abino-am to tell him that God wants him to lead his army against Jabin's army headed by Sisera. Barak comes off as something of a wimp as he responds he will go only if Deborah accompanies him. She agrees but cautions him that now this will not lead to glory for him but that Sisera will be taken by a woman.

The woman who takes Sisera is not Deborah. As Barak's army with Deborah in tow faces Sisera, the Lord routes the army of Sisera who flees the battlefield. Sisera takes refuge in the tent of Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite. The Kenites are at peace with Jabin, Sisera's King, so Sisera naturally thinks he might find refuge there. Jael receives him graciously, covering him with a rug and giving him milk to drink. But once the general falls asleep, Jael takes a peg and a mallet and rams the peg through his head! Shortly after Barak comes in pursuit of Sisera and Jael reveals to him Sisera's body with the peg through his temple. This encourages the Israelites to overcome and destroy Jabin King of Canaan.

There are four main characters in this episode, two women and two men. The men come off pretty badly in this story. Barak will not go to war unless Deborah accompanies him even though it is God who assures him of victory. Sisera flees the battlefield alone, leaving his men in the lurch. What kind of general does that? Jael, the wife of Heber, is not a weak demure woman; she is a woman of cunning and strength. She realizes that God is on the side of Barak and not Sisera, and Jael acts accordingly. She packs a mighty wallop as she can pound a peg through a man's head which she then presents to Barak. In face of both Deborah and Jael, Barak must have felt rather a small man.

Following the prose account of this story is a poetic treatment — The Song of Deborah. The poetic account is much more colourful with details of the battle before referring to Jael as "most blessed of women" as it recounts her grisly deed. But there is also a poignant coda which takes a look at the "other side." Here we now see Sisera's mother looking out the window wondering why he is taking so long as her ladies assure her that the men are dividing the spoils to bring back to her. One cannot help but feel compassion for Sisera's mother at this point, and the enemy is very much humanized. This coda with its details of Sisera's mother thinking of the embroidered cloth her son will bring her inclines me to believe that the "Song of Deborah" was itself written by a woman. After this the Land had forty years of peace.

The story of Deborah (and Jael) challenges our notion of Old Testament society as being rigidly patriarchal. Deborah is not only a Judge but also a prophetess — God speaks through her, and *men listen*. The women in this story are powerful — and every bit as capable as men of great violence. What makes them stand out, however, is not so much that they were women, but that they were open to the Will of the Lord when others around them were not.



With all that's been going on in our world and in our country, is there something that we could do to actually help? What about our school that we've been trying to get out of debt?

Well, this Lent our parish is doing something highly beneficial that will help us to grow closer to God on a deeper level, while also bringing others closer to Him. It's a devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus booklet that Fr. Stefan Starzynski had put together with a designer, who I then was able to get in touch with to make some minor modifications for our parish. Then, we had someone come forward to donate the needed money to be able to make this booklet available for our parish this Lent. A special thank you to them!

This is a very powerful devotion that has a rich history of fighting against our Church's adversaries, while helping people to turn back to God. It's what we call a work of reparation. That is, these are strong prayers that help to repair our relationship with God, despite what damage people have done in our world and country.

Moreover, this devotion will enrich our meditations on Christ's Passion, such as when praying the Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet, which will help us to better understand, as well as be more prepared, for Easter with Christ's triumphal Resurrection.

And so, in this booklet, there are special prayers for our world, for our country, and even for our parish and school. Please strongly consider praying every day the prayer on pg. 13: *Prayer to Obtain the Settlement of All Our Needs*. With all that's going on with our school that Fr. Drummond preached about back in November, this is a very powerful means to obtain what we need for our school and parish.

Finally, this is a way to console Jesus, who is blasphemed every day. Doing this devotion is like imitating, joining even, St. Veronica who bravely went to Jesus while He was greatly suffering carrying His Cross up Calvary and wiped His Holy Face.

If we want to start hearing better news in our society, then we need to do our part, since complaining does nothing. However, by doing this devotion, we are actually making our world a better place, and repairing damage that's been done, so as to console the Heart of Jesus.

So bring out the Holy Face with us this Lent by praying these prayers in the booklet, as we seek God's Protection and Mercy to be upon our world, our country, our school and parish, as well as our families, besides ourselves.

"I sought one who would console me" (*Psalm 69:20*). Be the one to console
Jesus!

-Fr. Michael Folmar



In Our Parish

“Abounding in Hope” -- is the theme for this year’s 2025 Bishop’s Lenten Appeal (BLA). Your pledge will help sustain the good works funded by the BLA which offer vital services and assistance to those in need across our communities. We are asking every family to participate to help our parish make our goal. By participating in the BLA, we renew our commitment to the Lord with a response to his call to serve our brothers and sisters. You may go online to make a donation at www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla.



FaithDirect -- Getting started with eGiving is easy; sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA409. Extra pamphlets can be found in the main vestibule, or inquire at the parish office. Thank you for your support of the St. Michael Church family!

The Secular Carmelites -- Is God calling you? Secular Carmelites are those lay faithful, who by a special vocation, undertake to live an evangelical life in the world, imbued with the spirit of contemplation, in imitation of our Carmelite Saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is open to all, men and women, married or single. A local Community of Secular Carmelites meet here the **second Sunday of each month**, and we invite you to reach out to us and arrange for a visit to learn more. Contact Kathy Izquierdo at kizquierdo2@yahoo.com for more information.

The Christian Mothers -- will meet on March 15th at 8:30 am Mass in the Church. A meeting will follow in the All Purpose Room. Please remember that this group is open to Mothers of all ages. Please call Patrice at 703-941-0017 if you have questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -- St. Michael Ushers are seeking men or women to serve as substitute ushers at the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass, and as permanent ushers at the 12:30 PM Sunday Mass. Please contact Stan Ritchick by email (sritc@verizon.net), supplying your name and email address. We look forward to increasing our corps of faithful volunteers.

Salt and Light Ministry (SALM) -- is open to young adults (18-39) at St. Michael’s. The mission is to be the SALT of the earth and the LIGHT of the world! Matthew 5:13-16. Visit <https://linktr.ee/saltandlightyoungadults> to get connected.

Perpetual Adoration -- “Will you not spend one hour with me?” ~ Jesus Spend time with Him in front of the Blessed Sacrament this Lent! We are in need of adorers at these times:
Monday 2-3 p.m.
Wednesday 7-8 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.
Friday 2-3 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.
Saturday 7-8 a.m.

Please consider spending an hour with the Lord! If you would like more information about perpetual adoration at St. Michael, or to sign up, contact Rosemary Duffy at 703-256-4468.

Legion of Mary -- was founded by Servant of God, Frank Duff, with the primary goal of the sanctification of its members, by supporting the parish via apostolic works and evangelization. To find out more about what this group does for our parish, or how to become an active participant or an auxiliary (praying) member, contact their President, Jim Caruso, at carusofairfax@gmail.com.

Please Pray for: Mauricio Posada; Pat Daly*; Carlos Reguerin*; Stone Uhre; Sean and Cynthia Clark*; Joanne Pearring*; Hailey Steiniger; Sr. Paul Marie; Yoshimi Kadota; Stephan Nguyen*; Mr. Nhuong Le; Carmen Deshler*; Julie Molony Lee; Andrew Christian; Paul Klimavicz; Vicki D. Fox*; Ironda Dos Santos; Mary Fontaine*; Christopher Tran; Marco Tulio Gamba; Mary C. Doss; Ethel Apostolico*; Richard & Norma Geiger*; Sean & Chrissy Campbell; Terry Spragens; Christopher Solomon*; Debi Hochgertle; Bob Cafarella; Elsa Noriega*; David Randall*; Paul McEnrue*; Julia Garcia; John and Marie Sibenik*; George Szele; Robert Candler*; Peter Pometto; John Kennelly*; Miriam Kennelly*; Priscilla Chaney*; Irma Barrera; Michael and Patricia Cole; Lucie Le*; Charlene Morison; James Vitalie*; Maria Castro; Arianne Yzabelle; Daniel Randall*; John Carlson; Courtney Villareal*; Tracy Wilson; Tom & Charlene Sheffler*; Mark & Jennifer McGowan; Laura & Collin McGowan; Carol Lloyd*; Ariadne Pasa; Maria Gorey*; Thomas Siemer*; Diana Pascoe; Lauren Hagelin; Evelyn Lang*; Cindy Hall; Cecile McNeill*; Gloria Tansey*; Micah Nguyen; Mohammad E. Musa; Joan Pistolesi*; Tuy Nguyen*; Zoe Green*; Paul B. Haring*; Ellen Louise Daily; Steve Maitland*; Carroll Walker; Dan Keller; Ruth Nicaise Smokowski; Carolyn Nugent-Cole; Lucy Cole*; Barbara (Babby) Dashiell; Joe Armstead; Jane O’Connor; Gerry Connolly; Fred Caovan*; Richard Fox*; Kathleen Foster*; Joyce Bryant; Joseph Jose; Lili Lang; Diane McGill*; Loretta A. Wack; Eileen Carroll-Doshier; Norman Grimm*; Patino family*; Julia & Sophia Lattanzio; *with apologies to anyone we dropped; to re-add names call the Parish Office.*

Here are the names of family members -- of parishioners who are serving our country overseas: PFC Mark Haugh, USMC; Cdr. David Stabish, USNavy; Alex Puentes USNavy; Sgt. Ramsey Hamilton; LtJG Grace Dalton, USNavy; Lt. Col. John D. Barringer, III, USAF; John P. Hoang USMC; David Hayes, Jr. USNavy; David Blincoe, USMC; Kevin Coleman, USAF; Tommy Do, USArmy; PO3 Daniel Hash, USN and.... [call Mary at the parish office, 703-256-7822, and we’ll keep our prayers going for our military in harms way.]

Knights of Columbus -- is the largest Catholic men’s organization in the world! The Msgr. Scannell Council here at Saint Michael does many good works of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism for our parish community. If you have any questions on membership, please contact Grand Knight Javier Almodovar, gk14523@vakofc.org, or any Msgr. Scannell Council member. It is very easy to join; scan the QR code or go to www.kofc.org/un/newjoin/en/ and put in the Saint Michael Council Number 14523. All Catholic men from our parish wanting to make a difference are encouraged to join our fraternity.



- The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Financial Seminar on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 7:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. All are invited to better understand the benefits available to Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. It is open to the entire community. To learn more, go to <https://knightsinsurance.org> or check out the flyer at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zRNz2NH8OAdIlyXyyegGKisvDP1niX1E/view?usp=sharing>.



Faith Formation/Religious Education

CONTINUE INVESTING IN YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH! St. Michael's Religious Education offers many opportunities to continue learning and growing in your own faith, while also supporting your fellow parish families. Learn more about our programs by clicking the "FAITH FORMATION" tab on our website, stmichaelannandale.org/. We offer:

- **Monday Night Religious Education** classes for Grades 1-8 and High School. We are always looking for catechists and assistants - get in touch with our DRE, Zachary Beckman, to find out how you can share your time, talents, or treasure (email: reled@stmikes22003.org, phone: 571-385-0085).
- **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** sessions for ages 3-12. To learn more, visit stmichaelannandale.org/atrium, and get in touch with our Atrium Coordinator at st.michael.atrium@gmail.com!
- **Adult Bible Study** weekly meetings to deepen your understanding of our Liturgy and the Bible. To learn more, visit stmichaelannandale.org/adultbiblestudy!
- **RCIA** weekly meetings for those who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA classes are for those who have not been Baptized, those who are Baptized but not as Catholics, or for those who have been Baptized Catholic but who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. Interested, or know someone who is? Get in touch with our DRE, Zachary Beckman, to find out how you can get started (email: reled@stmikes22003.org, phone: 571-385-0085).

Be Sure to Join Flocknote



Stay up to date on Parish Announcements and Receive a Variety of Faith Growth/Enrichment

1. Text to Join: text "STMICHAEL1" to 84576. There is a return text. Supply the requested information (first and last name, email address, smart phone number), or

2. Log on to

stmichael1@flocknote.com. That gets you to a place for you to supply the above information, or

3. Email Dcn. McCaffrey at dsmjr1@gmail.com with the above information.



If there is any disturbance, or if you see a person acting erratically, do not hesitate to call 911.

School News



Do you love FRESH Krispy Kreme and supporting the students at St. Michael School?

Support the SMS Angelic Choir by Pre-Ordering delicious Krispy Kreme donuts! We order bi-weekly, donuts are available for pickup from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the school lobby for parishioners NOT picking up students from school. Scan the QR Code or use the link bit.ly/SMSChoirDonuts to order yours now! Pickup dates are: 3/21, 4/4 and 4/17. Support our Choir as they make their way to competition in Hershey, PA! For any questions, please email christine.norris@stmikes22003.org.



Do you like working with children? Would you like to be a part of our team?

We are in need of substitute teachers for this school year. Please call the school office at 703-256-1222. Or email the school principal Annie Fernandez at annie.fernandez@stmikes22003.org.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION – We are currently accepting applications for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 School Year. We invite you to call the school office and schedule a tour to see all the wonderful things that happen at Saint Michael School. Our classes are filled on a first registered basis. For more information please call the school office at 703-256-1222 or email office@stmikes22003.org.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION IS AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE

We, the children of God at St. Michael Catholic School, strive to learn and embody the Gospel message, achieve academic excellence, and selflessly serve others.

Around the Diocese



After Abortion Day of Prayer & Healing

– You are not alone. Take the first step towards healing. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. For confidential inquiries and registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: 703-841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org.

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