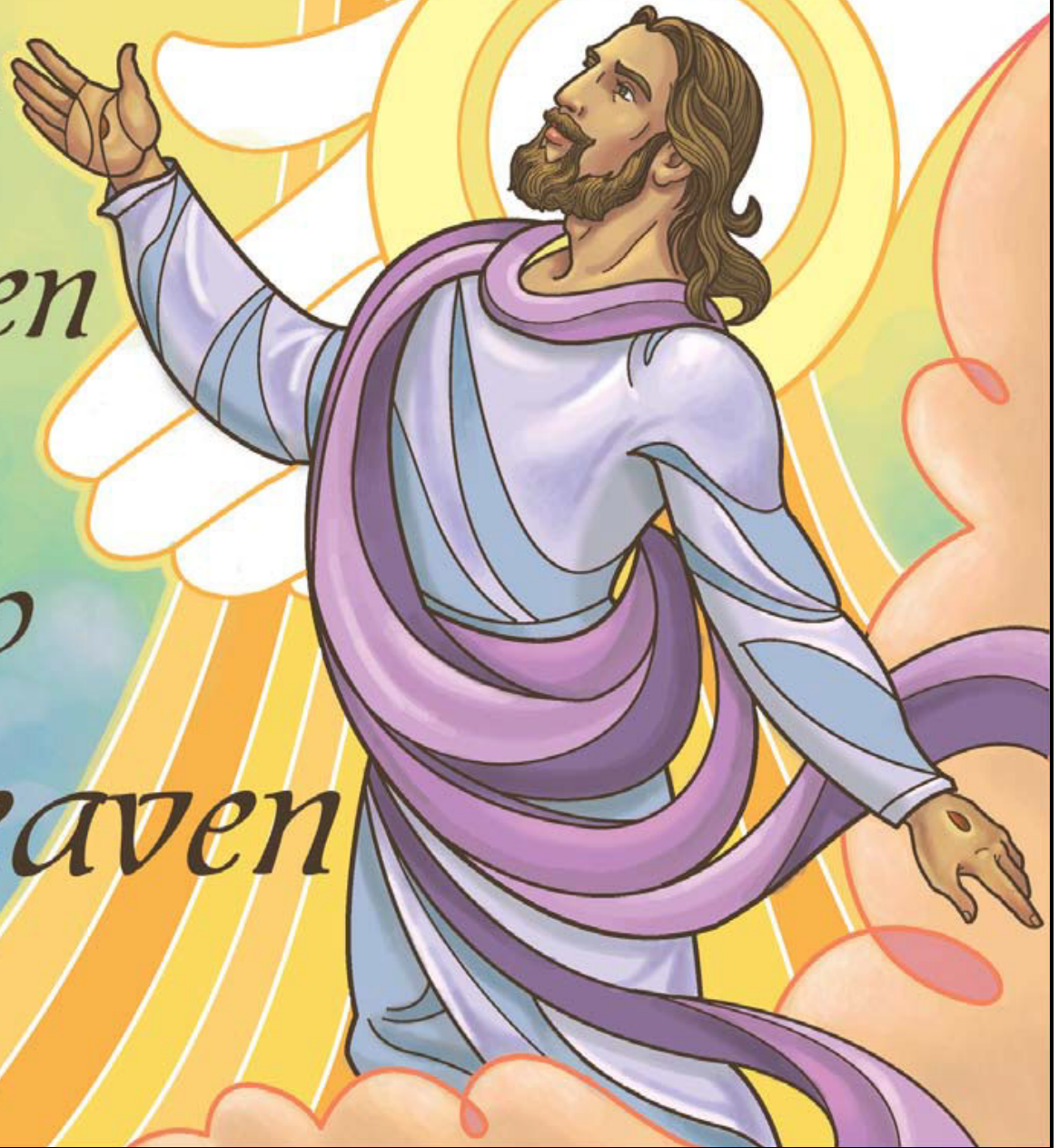


ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

*He
was
taken
up
to
Heaven*



*P.O. Box 6310 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035 corner of North Fourth & Broome Streets
904-261-3472*



**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
MAY 8, 2016
CONTINUALLY PRAISING GOD**

In both the first reading and the Gospel we are told about Christ's glorious ascension into heaven. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us that Christ has been seated at God's right hand in heaven, above every choir of angels. There might be a temptation to stay at an awed distance from Jesus Christ. However, the tone of today's readings is far from that temptation. The tone is exultant and the message is urgent. We are to be his witnesses, and the Gospel describes the first witnesses this way: "[W]ith great joy . . . they were continually in the temple praising God" (Luke 24:53).

How can we continually praise God? The answer can be found in the second reading, in which Paul prays that God will give us a "Spirit of wisdom and revelation" in order to know Christ clearly (Ephesians 1:17). We cannot stand at a distance. We are to be enlightened and empowered.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).
Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).
Second Reading — God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens (Ephesians 1:17-23) or Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23.
Gospel — As Jesus blessed his disciples he parted from them and was taken up to heaven (Luke 24:46-53).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; Mother's Day; World Communications Day
Tuesday: St. Damien de Veuster
Thursday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras
Friday: Our Lady of Fatima
Saturday: St. Matthias

BAPTISMS



Our next baptism class will be Thursday, May 26th at 6:30pm in parish office, 505 Broome Street. If you have a child/children to be baptized, it is mandatory that the parent(s) attend a class, and recommended that the godparents attend one if possible. If you plan to attend or have any questions, please call the parish office, 904-261-3472.

You must be a registered member of St. Michael for at least 6 months prior to your child's baptism.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17
Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY

We reached out to the Picture Directory Company several times inquiring about our parish directory. We were told that because there were only 124 participants, it did not meet their quota. Sorry to say that we learned that they have backed out and, also, are no longer in business. We thank the 124 families who participated.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Second Vatican Council decreed that the devotional life of the Church should be examined and reformed with an eye towards expressing Easter faith. This encouragement for creativity has deep roots in our tradition, and some attempts at reform show great promise. One of the great treasures in our devotional repertoire is a familiar feature of Lent: the Way of the Cross. The faithful walk a path recalling the events of Christ's passion, a contemplative experience increasingly enriched these days by scripture and song. There are fourteen stations in the usual configuration, although in recent years, a fifteenth station of the Empty Tomb has been added. Why stop there? Why not develop a similar journey structured on the theme of the appearances of the Risen Lord?

Over the last decade, a *Via Lucis*, or "Way of Light," has developed as a companion to the *Via Crucis*. It has been celebrated at the Vatican and is catching on elsewhere. There are fourteen stations, beginning with the Women Carrying Spices to the Tomb, continuing with the familiar appearances of the Lord at Emmaus, the Upper Room, the shore of Tiberias. The journey ends with stations recalling the apostles' wait with Mary for the advent of the Spirit, and with Pentecost. This is fertile ground indeed for the genius of artists, musicians, preachers, and liturgists. This is a living example of how many of our traditions are born to fill a great spiritual need, and spread to every corner of the Church. It may even come soon to a church near you.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN CLASS

All parishioners who are working in a ministry with vulnerable adults or with children, or plan to become involved, are required to take Protecting God's Children. **There is a class being offered on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Raphael room in our parish hall.** There is no charge, but you must register at www.virtus.org in order to attend. Any questions, please call Lori—261-3472.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ADULT CONFIRMANDI !

On May 1st, Bishop Estevez conferred the sacrament of confirmation on parishioners Brandon Barnett, Andrew Godek, Jake Gowins, and Daniel Prieto at the Basilica in St. Augustine. Congratulations to all of you on the completion of the Sacraments of Initiation.



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

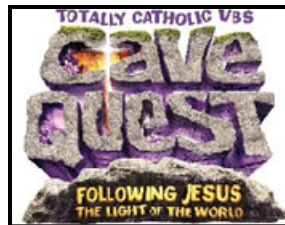
The Youth and Religious Formation programs are inviting all of our 2016 graduates to join us **on Sunday, May 22nd at the 12:00 noon Mass.** For more information and to RSVP, please call the parish office: 904-261-3472.



ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY GOLF OUTING

Join us for the 12th Annual St. Michael Academy Golf Outing **on Friday, May 27th** at Long Point Golf Club. This year we are celebrating the life of Trinity Hoblit and part of the proceeds will go to establish a scholarship in her name.

You can contact our registration coordinator Andy Godek: **904-583-7028** or andrewgodekatc@yahoo.com with any questions. Tickets for the golf dinner are also available for \$60/person. Bring your spouse and enjoy a wonderful evening supporting St. Michael Academy!



**VBS—June 13 – 17th
6 pm – 8:15 pm.
Preschool VBS is available
for 3, 4 and 5 year olds who
have not completed K.
Grades K (if completed)
to 6 grade**

Why do we have VBS? Many wonderful things happen at VBS when a child is immersed in discovering more about Christ. A child will understand more about his or her own faith journey, more about Scripture and prayer and the Church, and more about what it means to live a life of discipleship. This is true also for all those involved in the planning and participating as adults. We are looking for parishioners who would like to help with the numerous tasks that need to be done. Please give Lori a call at the parish office or email at lkennedy@stmichaelscatholic.com if you would love to be a part of this wonderful week!



COFFEE & DONUTS

You are invited to Coffee & Donuts—and fellowship in the Parish Hall after the 10:00am Mass.



GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING!

Registered Families 1613	May 1, 2016
Offertory	\$16,257.19
On Line Offertory	800.00
Children's Collection	63.33
Debt Reduction	330.00
On Line Debt Reduction	75.00
Catholic Home Missions	1,210.00



PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, pray for all mothers, so that they will be able to fulfill their maternal responsibilities. Help them to be lovers and nurturers of all human life from the moment of conception until natural death, all the while being examples for their own children. Pray for their children, so that they, too, will be faithful followers of Your Son. We offer these prayers in Jesus' name, in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen

SPECIAL INTENTION FOR ALL MOTHERS
A special intention is being said today, Mother's Day, for all Mothers Of St Michael Catholic Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

The Knights of Columbus

A MOTHER'S LOVE

A Mother's love is important for every child to see, to hold, to touch, to kiss their cheeks, her way for them to be.

A love that is so gentle, a love that is so pure, A love that only a Mother's love is felt and will endure.

She knows your every weakness, she knows your every pain, she knows a mother's love for you has everything to gain.

You see her will to do what's right and hope you don't do wrong, but if you do, a Mother's love forgives and just goes on.



- Sat. May 7 (5pm) James P. and James J. Huben by Edward Huben
- Sun. May 8 (8am) Rod Brannen by Bunny Smithson
- Sun. May 8 (10am) Ann Hammer by Dan Hammer & family
- Sun. May 8 (12noon) Parishioners of St. Michael
- Mon. May 9 (8:30am) Milly Albi by Peter Albi
- Tues. May 10 (6pm) Armenda Castroverde by Kathy O'Day & Guy Kneedler
- Wed. May 11(8:30am) Jeanne Mulligan by Mark & Marie Fenn
- Thurs. May 12(8:30am) Larry Dean by Jeanne Dean & family
- Fri. May 13 (8:30am) John Duffy by the Flynn family
- Sat. May 14 (5pm) Barbara Albi by Peter Albi
- Sun. May 15 (8am) Cy Yelk by Bob & Pat Henderson
- Sun. May 15 (10am) Parishioners of St. Michael
- Sun. May 15 (12noon) Florence Hanson by Frank & Phyllis Helmes

Please pray for the sick, and all requests in our Prayer Request Book. Please pray for the repose of the souls of John Allen, Justine 'Tina' Shurman, Barbara Tuttle and Ronnie Peterson. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

FIRST COMMUNION STUDENTS 2016
Congratulations to these beautiful children who received the Eucharist for the first time:

Zachary Allen, Kenley Avila, Matthew Bell, Katie Biagini, Liam Campbell, Sean Campbell, Gianna Coyle, Brianna Curzio, Samuel Deaton, Elizabeth Easterling, Emily Easterling, Luke French, Michael Gabor, Jr., Luke Gibbs, Abigail Harger, Anna Harger, Matthew Harger, Alex Lai, Giovanni Gonzales, Ylianna Gonzales, Ignacio Llorens, Brady Massey, Ivan McEskew, Luca Monaco, Mikaela Nichols, Katherine Prescott, Kristine Prescott, Dean Rathmann, Grace Scuderi, Emory Shuman, Sanderson Sosa, Alexander Stancin, Simone Tizzano, Nicholas Todd, Olivia Tyn-dall, Emma Varn, Iva Washechek, Lorelei Wenzell.

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Corner of North Fourth & Broome Streets P.O. Box 6310 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035
Parish Office - 505 Broome Street - Phone - 904-261-3472 Fax - 321-1901 Email: smjdean@bellsouth.net
ALL EMERGENCIES: 904-277-6566 Website: www.stmichaelscatholic.com



Rev. Jose Kallukalam, Pastor
Visiting Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Shea
Deacon Art Treadwell

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass:	5:00 pm
Sunday Masses:	8:00 am—10:00 am—12:00 noon
Confessions:	
Saturday:	4:00-4:45 pm or by appointment
Daily Masses:	8:30 am Mon., Wed., Thurs., & Fri. 6:00 pm Tues.
Holy Days Vigil:	6:00 pm
Holy Day	8:30 am & 6:00 pm

MINISTRY TO SICK & HOMEBOUND

Weekly visits and monthly Communion Services are held at Savannah Grand, Quality Health Care and Jane Adams House. Visits by Priest or Extraordinary Minister can be arranged by calling 261-3472.

MATRIMONY

Marriage preparation for couples who wish to be married in a Catholic ceremony must meet with their parish priest at least eight months prior to the wedding date.

R.C.I.A.

For those seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith, call 261-3472.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Classes are available for grades 1—8. Sacrament preparation is available for Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Call the parish office, 261-3472.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Walt Edwards: 491-0180

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Denise Ziegler: 654-3855

ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY

Pre-K—Grade 8 Principal—Jackie Stewart
Call 321-2102 for information
Email: smacad@smacad.org
Website: www.stmichaels-academy.org



St. Michael Catholic Church Mission Statement

We are the body of Christ at St. Michael's Parish, called to: Gather for Worship, Celebrate the Paschal Mysteries, Preach the Gospel, Minister to Others, Be Witnesses to the World.