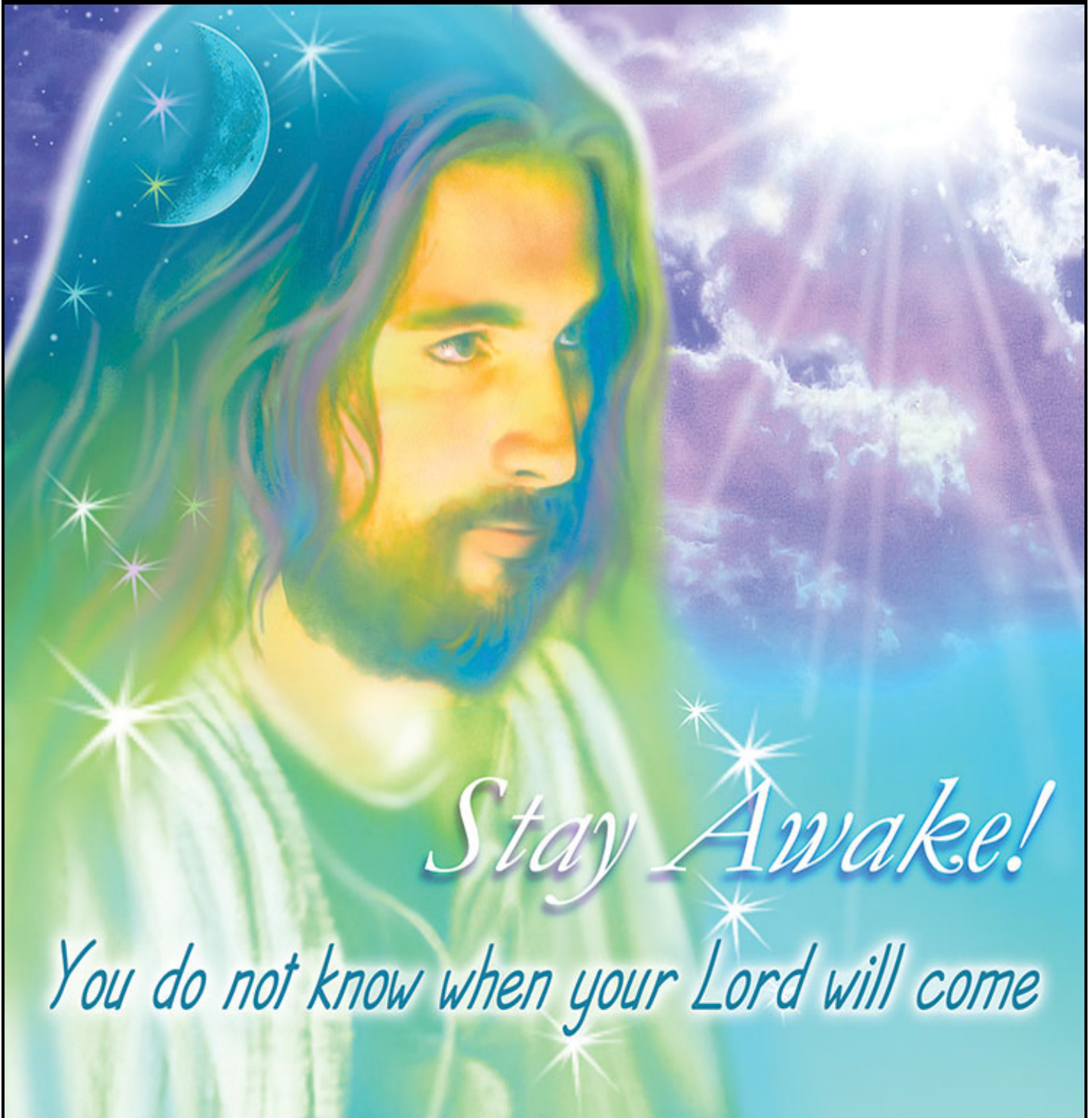


# ***ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH***



*Stay Awake!*

*You do not know when your Lord will come*

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



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 27, 2016  
BE PREPARED**

Be prepared. It's that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes. We really can't escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks?

**TODAY'S READINGS**

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD'S house (**Isaiah 2:1-5**).

Psalms — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (**Psalms 122**).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (**Romans 13:11-14**).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (**Matthew 24:37-44**).

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Before the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Advent had a strong penitential tone, reminiscent of Lent. From as long ago as the fourth century, some Christians began a solemn fast on St. Martin's Day, November 11. This "Saint Martin's Lent" extended all the way to Christmas, and was widely followed in the dioceses of France and Germany, and in the Middle Ages in England. Fasting was required, and dancing and similar activities were banned for the duration. The fast had a social function, too, assuring that the winter food supplies would stretch into spring.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

At the Second Vatican Council, some bishops argued that a revival of the long winter's fast would give the Church a chance to establish the message and themes of the Incarnation long before the holiday hubbub took hold. This proposal didn't pass, and Advent emerged as a four-week period of reflection, expectant waiting, and joyful preparation for the coming of the Lord. The season has two principal phases, with the first beginning this Sunday. The second phase commences on December 17, when the liturgy begins to unfold the story of the Savior's coming. Interestingly, the Eastern Church maintains a strongly penitential note in Advent, which is called "Winter Lent," "The Nativity Fast," or "Christmas Lent," and has laws forbidding people to absent themselves from liturgy from December 17 onward.

**RCIA INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS**

Please join us at the noon Mass on Dec. 4th to welcome those who are formally entering the RCIA process to become Catholic. We will be having a light lunch immediately after the Mass in the parish hall. If you would like to help with the luncheon, please contact Celeste Amos, (904) 583-2163 or celesteamos3@gmail.com.

**TIME OF PREPARATION**

**This life is the time of our preparation for our future state. Our souls will continue for ever what we make them in this world.**

**—John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury**



### ANGEL TREE

Reminder - the Angel Tree gifts must be returned to the church or parish office no later than Tuesday, November 29 so that they can be delivered for Christmas. Thank you for your consideration and generosity.

### BLOOD DRIVES FOR NOVEMBER, 2016

Monday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> 2 pm – 7 pm; Winn Dixie Fernandina Beach, 947 Amelia Plaza  
Wednesday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm, Rotary Club of Fernandina, 31 South 4<sup>th</sup> St  
Saturday Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 am – 2 pm, American Legion Post 54, 626 South 3<sup>rd</sup> St  
**Please remember to use the St. Michael's Parish donor number #1674**



### ST. MICHAEL GIFT SHOP

Please remember our Gift Shop when you are planning to buy the following items:  
Gift Certificates, Christmas cards, advent candles and holders, advent calendars, ornaments, statues, books and coloring books for children etc., along our basic line of merchandise, or anything special that you may like to order.  
Miscellaneous hand crafted gift items are also on display.

#### Store Hours:

**Wednesday: 10:00AM to 4:00PM**

**Saturday: 4:30PM to 6:30PM**

**Sunday: 8:30AM to 1:30PM**

**We appreciate your support.**



### BAPTISM CLASS

If you have a child/children to be baptized, the final baptism class for 2016 will be Thursday, December 8 at 6:45pm in the parish office.

**Please call the parish office if you plan to attend: 904-261-3472.**

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** First Sunday of Advent  
**Wednesday:** St. Andrew  
**Thursday:** World AIDS Awareness Day  
**Friday:** First Friday  
**Saturday:** St. Francis Xavier; First Saturday



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

**Tuesday, December 20, 2016—7:00pm**

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Saturday, December 24, 2016**

**Christmas Eve Masses**

**4:00pm—Church**

**4:00pm—Hall**

**6:00pm—Church**

**11:00pm—Church**

**Sunday, December 25, 2016**

**Christmas Day Masses**

**8:00am—Church**

**10:00am—Church**

**12:00noon—Church**

**Saturday, December 31, 2016**

**Vigil—Mary, Mother of God**

**5:00pm—Church**

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

**Mary, Mother of God**

**8:00am—Church**

**10:00am—Church**

**12:00noon—Church**

### MINISTRY for FAMILIES with SMALL CHILDREN

As part of St. Michael's Renew program, we want to gauge interest in a collaborative, unfolding ministry for families with young children. We'd like your feedback for holding an informational & organizational meeting for this new ministry. Please advise your interest, and if you have a preferred day & time for a meeting. Please respond to Mary Ramsey at: [ramseym61@yahoo.com](mailto:ramseym61@yahoo.com).





**GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR  
GENEROUS OFFERING!**

**Registered Families 1632      November 20, 2016**

**Offertory**

**On Line Offertory**

**Children's Collection**

**Debt Reduction**

**On Line Debt Reduction**

**The November 20th and November 27th offerings will  
be in next week's Bulletin.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR BULLETIN COPY  
VIA EMAIL TO: [jdean@stmichaelscatholic.com](mailto:jdean@stmichaelscatholic.com)  
OR [smjdean@bellsouth.net](mailto:smjdean@bellsouth.net) AT LEAST 2  
WEEKS PRIOR TO THE PUBLISH DATE.  
THANK YOU.**



**COFFEE & DONUTS**

**We invite you to Coffee &  
Donuts in the Parish Hall from  
9:30am—10:30am. A good way  
to meet and socialize with other  
families.**

**VISITATION MINISTRY**

The St. Michael Visitation Ministry is in need of Ministers of Care. Contact Lori Kale at 310-5169 or Sally Fulford at 261-0404 if you are interested in this ministry. Also, we are always on the lookout for parishioners who are unable to attend Mass and might like a spiritual visit. Contact Lori or Sally to inquire. We will visit short term or long term. Thanks for your prayerful consideration.

**IDN (INTERFAITH DINNER NETWORK)**

Quarterly Interfaith Dinner Network signup meeting will be in the parish hall on 12/6 at 7:00. Please come for a brief meeting, signup and fellowship. Bring your favorite snack/appetizer and beverage. All are welcome. **Contact Steve White at 206-6128 for questions.**

**Masses for  
the Week**



- Sat. Nov. 26 (5pm) Marie Sloan by Patrick & Suzy Sabadie
- Sun. Nov. 27 (8am) Mary Curley by Tom & Barbara Oden
- Sun. Nov. 27 (10am) Parishioners of St. Michael
- Sun. Nov. 27 (12noon) Col. Richard Wallace by Medra Keyser
- Mon. Nov.28(8:30am) Bill Lauerman by St. Michael Counting Ministry
- Tues. Nov. 29 (6pm) Fr. Gerry O'Shea by Drew & Marianne Wallace
- Wed. Nov.30(8:30am) Larry Damato by the Damato family
- Thurs. Dec.1(8:30am) Ruth Ann Petree by Charlie & Terri Turner
- Fri. Dec. 2 (8:30am) Fred Fedorko by Marty Ahearn
- Sat. Dec. 3 (5pm) Gary Snyder by Johnelle Snyder
- Sun. Dec. 4 (8am) Harry Kennedy by Buster Kennedy
- Sun. Dec. 4 (10am) George Snyder, Jr. by Alice Amareld
- Sun. Dec. 4 (12noon) Parishioners of St. Michael

Please pray for the sick and all requests in our Prayer Request Book.

**A PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

**Look on us, Jesus, and let all the darkness  
Of our souls disappear before the beams  
Of your brightness.**

**Fill us with your holy love, and open to us  
The treasures of your wisdom.**

**You know all our desires, so bring to perfection  
What you have started, and what the Holy Spirit  
Has wakened us to ask in prayer.**

**We seek your face, turn your face to us  
And show us your glory.**

**Then our longing will be satisfied and  
Our peace will be perfect. Amen**

**—St. Augustine**

# 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](mailto:smjdean@bellsouth.net)  
**ALL EMERGENCIES: 904-277-6566** Website: [www.stmichaelscatholic.com](http://www.stmichaelscatholic.com)



Rev. Jose Kallukalam, Pastor

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: Holy Day	6:00 pm 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—7. Sacrament preparation is available for Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation on Sundays from 10:30 am—11:45 am. Call the parish office, 261-3472.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Walt Edwards: 261-3472

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Denise Ziegler: 654-3855

## ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY

Pre-K—Grade 8 Principal—Dr. Christopher Hampton  
Call 321-2102 for information  
Email: [smacad@smacad.org](mailto:smacad@smacad.org)  
Website: [www.smacad.org](http://www.smacad.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.