

St. Michael Catholic Church, Paderborn  
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St. Michael, Paderborn  
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Website: [stmichaelspaderborn.org](http://stmichaelspaderborn.org)  
Mass: Saturday 4pm – Sunday 9am  
December 14, 2025  
Third Sunday of Advent

#### LITURGICAL SCHEDULES AND INTENTIONS:

Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m. – Ele Louveau

Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 a.m. – Rick Keefe

#### STEWARSHIP FROM LAST WEEK:

Envelopes \$3,656.25; Loose \$628; Candles \$47; Book of Remembrance Candles \$215; Ret. for Religious \$100; Mtce \$100; Quilt of the Month \$2,060 – Thank You

#### LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

##### Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m.

**Lector:** Pat Vogel  
**Minister: Body of Christ** Barb Jany & Pat Tinoco  
**Minister: Blood of Christ** Karen Mueller & Joan Killebrew  
**Servers:**  
**Crossbearer:**

##### Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 a.m.

Rich Kreher  
Sandi Gerdes & David Mueth  
Diane Mueller & Jennifer Neff  
Kinzley Kurtz & Addison Parker  
Noah Huffman

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

Feeding the hungry, releasing those held captive, giving sight to the blind, raising up those who are bowed down: these are the marks of the kingdom because they are God's activities. It's easy to read them merely as spiritual metaphors, but the material and the spiritual always intertwine in Scripture. God (and Jesus) feeds those who hunger for bread and those who hunger for God.

Although Jesus' ministry ushered in the dawning of God's kingdom and a new end of exile for all people, we are still waiting, here in this season of Advent. James writes to his fellow Christians to tell them to be patient as they await the coming of the Lord. Be patient, he repeats. He uses as his examples the farmer and the prophet. The farmer waits patiently for months to see how her seeds will grow; the prophets waited through decades of loss and suffering before seeing the glory of the Lord arriving to save them. Indeed, the prophet Isaiah is like a farmer, for he announces the salvation of God with flowers that bloom in the desert.

#### **2025 QUILT RAFFLE**

Our winner of the January quilt was Chuck Mueller, February – Kate Buettner, March – David & Janice Holdener, April – Jim & Jodie Probst, May – Michelle Walls, June – Janet Kreher, July – Phil Halt, August – Vern Moehrs, September – Sarah Birkner, October – Susan Kossina, November – Chris Zimmermann.

#### **NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS**

**God First Loved Us – Retreats** Starting September 12, 2025 through May 1, 2026. Retreat begins on Friday at 4:00 pm through Sunday's at 1:00 pm - \$250 per person (includes lodging and meals)  
**Spring Quiet Retreats** – Men's Quiet Retreats: January 9-11, 16-18, May 1-3  
Women's Quite Retreats: March-April  
Days of Reflection & Spiritual Cinema: February-May  
**The Way of Lights** – November 21 through December 3, 2025, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Indoor activities are closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day.  
**Way of Lights 5K Run** – Join us for our 5k Competitive Run and 1.5-mile Fun Walk on January 1, 2026. For more information call 618-397-6700 or visit [snows.org/wolrun](http://snows.org/wolrun)  
**2-part Scripture Series: The Gospel of Mary Magdalene and The Gospel of Judas** – Saturdays, January 10 and January 17, 2026 from 10 am to 12:00 noon. Cost \$15 per session. Register online [snows.org/gospelseries](http://snows.org/gospelseries) or call 618-394-6281.

**St. Michael's Prayer Chain** – To request that someone be added to the Prayer Chain contact Karen Mueller at 473-3401. The person will be on the "prayer chain" for one (1) month, unless the person that requested the prayers asks for longer.

#### **GIBAULT**

Gibault Catholic School is collecting plastic lids. The lids may be left in the entrance of church. They will be collecting lids until January 30, 2026.

#### **ADOPTED CHRISTMAS FAMILIES**

As a Parish we have adopted 3 local families for Christmas this year. Please consider taking one or two ornaments off the "Giving Tree" and purchasing a gift for a family. All gifts will need to be returned to church **UNWRAPPED** by **TODAY** Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Walsh

#### **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you haven't already done so, please pick up your 2025 Offering envelopes that are located in the entrance of church. If you give online, you will not have a box of envelopes.

#### **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

A tradition at St. Michael is the *Book of Remembrance & Candles*. From this Sunday until Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> the book will be placed in the entrance of the church. Anyone who wishes to have a 7-day vigil candle lit in memory of a departed loved one or family on Christmas Eve may list their name/names. Also, if you wish to have a candle lit for someone who can't be with you/your family this Christmas, for example serving our country in some distant place, or just unable to make it home, and you would like a candle lit for him/her please list the name. Candles will be prepared with the individual/family name and will be placed in the windowsills of the church on Christmas Eve. If you wish to take the candle home after Christmas Eve Mass you may do so, or it may be left in church. The suggested donation is \$3.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS**

Jim Elbe and Chuck Mueller were elected to the Parish Council for a two (2) year term. Thank you to Rich Kreher for serving on the Parish Council and Welcome to the New Members!

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers and parking attendants for Christmas Eve Mass. Please contact Sue Walsh at the office 618-473-2798 or 314-974-2516 if you are able to help.

#### **DIOCESAN CHRISTMAS DINNER**

The Catholic Diocese of Belleville will sponsor the annual Diocesan Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25, at 11:30 a.m. in the Monsignor Bernard Voss Parish Center of St. Henry Parish, 5303 West Main Street, Belleville. Meals can also be delivered in Belleville to those who are disabled/homebound (three meals maximum for delivery). If you or someone you know lives alone and would like to attend the dinner or need a meal delivered, please call 618-722-5024 no later than December 16, 2025.

#### **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**

Today's special collection supports the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps more than 20,500 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have spent their lives in service—many receiving little to no pay. Now, their communities struggle to meet their basic care, medication, and daily living needs. Your generosity ensures they can age with dignity. Please give in gratitude for their lifelong commitment.

#### **TRADITIONAL PLANT**

This Christmas, start a meaningful family tradition with a unique gift: a plant or tree at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. It's a gift that creates lasting memories as it grows with you. For information call 618-397-6700 or [info@snows.org](mailto:info@snows.org).

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

**CATHOLIC URBAN PROGRAM:** St. Michael's December collection; Mittens, Gloves, Winter Hats and Scarves, boots—Thank you!

**St. Peter & Paul** – Annual Euchre Tournament on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 6:30 Tournament starts at 7:00 pm  
Albert Einstein once said, "There are two ways to live your life. One is that nothing is a miracle. The other is that everything is a miracle."