



St. Michael Catholic Church, Paderborn
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St. Michael, Paderborn
Rev. Jim Voelker, Administrator
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Website: stmichaelspaderborn.org
Mass: Saturday 4pm – Sunday 9am
December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent

LITURGICAL SCHEDULES AND INTENTIONS:

Wednesday, December 24th, 4:00 p.m. – Cletus Mueth, Tony Holdener, Virgil Massey, John Poetker, Spike Briggs

Thursday, December 25th, 9:00 a.m. – For the Parish

Saturday, December 27th, 4:00 p.m. – For the Parish

Sunday, December 28th, 9:00 a.m. – Garland Whitworth

STEWARDSHIP FROM LAST WEEK:

Envelopes \$1,551.25; Loose \$401; Candles \$72; Book of Remembrance Candles \$127; Ret. for Religious \$80; Mtce \$55; Quilt of the Month \$1,200; Christmas \$65; Needy \$40 – Thank You

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday, Dec. 24th, 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Judy Mueth
Minister: Body of Christ Barb Jany & David Mueth
Minister: Blood of Christ Joan Killebrew & Jennifer Neff
Servers: Noah Huffman & Carson Parker
Crossbearer: Anna Gerdes

Saturday, December 27th, 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Teresa Braunseis
Minister: Body of Christ Barb Jany & Joan Killebrew
Minister: Blood of Christ Pat Tinoco & Susan Halt
Servers:
Crossbearer:

Thursday, December 25th, 9:00 a.m.

Pat Vogel
Volunteer
Volunteers
Volunteers
Volunteer

Sunday, December 28th, 9:00 a.m.

Sandi Gerdes
Jennifer Neff & David Mueth
Vic Klein & Rich Kreher
Carson Parker & Kinzley Kurtz
Anna Gerdes

Fourth Sunday of Advent

When the prophet Isaiah declared that a young woman would conceive and bear a son name Emmanuel (“God with us”), it was a sign to King Ahaz of Judah that he should resist the temptation to ally himself with Assyria. Ahaz tries to politely refuse the Lord’s offer, because he is hoping to join forces with Assyria in order to defend himself from the kings of Syria and the northern kingdom of Israel. The divine sign demonstrates that God is with Ahaz.

As a descendant of David, Jesus fulfills Israel’s centuries-long hope for redeemer who would restore Davidic rule, even if he fulfills that hope in an unexpected way. Paul reminds the Christians in Rome that Christ’s resurrection of the dead fulfilled another prophetic promise, this one to the Gentiles, that they too would someday be adopted into God’s household. Paul sought to bring about “the obedience of faith” (Rom 1:5) among all the nations, including even the empire of Rome, the enemy and oppressor of Israel. The title “God is with us” turns out to mean that God is with all of us.

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God – for them there will be no Christmas. Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone. That someone is God. Emmanuel. God-with-us.

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

2-part Scripture Series: **The Gospel of Mary Magdalen 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 or call 618-394-6281.

From the Tower of Babel to Pentecost: Embracing our Differences, Praising in Unity – Monday, February 16, 2026 from 10 am to 3 pm. Cost \$60 (lunch included). For information call 618-397-0584.



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.

ADOPTED CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

THANK YOU to everyone who donated gifts from our Giving Tree for the three local families so that they would have a Christmas.



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.

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*. **TODAY** Sunday, December 21st is the last day to enter names in the book. 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. 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.

DIOCESAN CHRISTMAS COLLECTION DECEMBER 24-25

The 48th Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Parishes and agencies throughout the diocese will request monies from this collection during 2026 to assist those who are in need with food, clothing, shelter, utility payments, healthcare and medications, funeral and burial expenses, transportation and emergency assistance of all types. Please consider giving as you are able; thank you so much.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS

LOLA • By Todd Clark

