Welcome to St. Michael Catholic Church

Parish Mission Statement

St. Michael's Catholic Church, a people of diverse cultures and backgrounds, are brought together by God through the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. Our mission is to make disciples of Christ through:

-Prayer and frequent celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

-Sharing our faith and educating others about the Church.

-Living a life of continual conversion.

-Providing our children a strong Catholic upbringing.

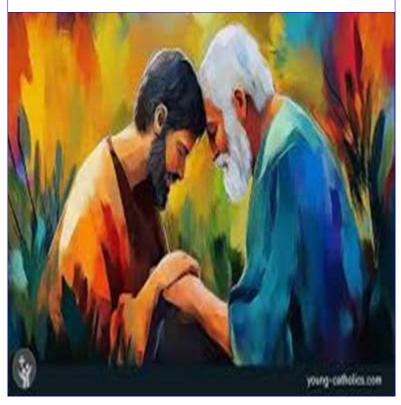
-Giving comfort to those in need.

-Stewardship of our time, talent and treasure.

-Acting as the living presence of Christ in our world, building community and welcoming all.

-Empowering one another to share the Gospel through our words and by our actions.

March 30, 2025 4th SUNDAY OF LENT





We're glad to have you! If you're new, welcome to the St. Michael's Parish Family! If you haven't been here in awhile, welcome back! St. Michael's is a small, close-knit parish family,

always open to new & returning members. **There's no formal "registration" process; once** you come here we consider you part of the family!

Check us out!

Shoot us a text, email or give us a call! Or visit us online at: www.smsebree.org, www.facebook.com/smsebree

Mass Intentions Available

If you would like to have a mass said for a loved one (living or deceased) you can put an envelope with the intention and date requested. In the collection or in the mail (the *suggested* donation per mass is \$5)

Parish Council Members Connie Caldwell, Jim Hurtte, Devin Gibson, Jenny Glenn, Randy Thompson, Mila Mendoza, Kattia Angulo.

Pastor: Fr. Carmelo Jimenez | (270) 881-7737 | Carmelo.jimenez@pastoral.org | fax: 855-631-0319 Deacon: Baltazar Rafael | (270) 748-0527 Pastoral Associate: Kattia Angulo | katjun75@yahoo.com RCIA Coordinator: Jose Vanegas Bookkeeper: April Dickens

PO Box 705 - 57 Watkins Sebree Rd. Sebree KY 42455 - Phone: 270-835-2584 - Fax: 855-631-0319



Thanks to Those who Shared Their Time & Talent

Thank you to everyone who have helped us keeping our buildings clean!. Thanks to **Felipe Domingo** for cleaning the church last week, Church Cleaners week of **03/31 to 04/04 To Felipe &** María José **Family.** We would like to thank KoC (Jim)for all their work they



MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Please pray for the sick members and friends of this parish, especially: Henry Adam, Matt Adams, Dcn Rene Amaya, Christa Bennett, Tyler Blandford, Tony Bess, Bobby & Susie Blanford, Cindy Bloodworth, Sabrina Blue, Charles Buchanan, William Buckman, Crystal Childress, Bonny Clark, Fany Cordon, Scott Coffman, Carolyn Dacy, Donna Dacy, Jim & Nelly Daughterly, Leo Dickens, Shane Dickens, Rosie Edwads, Russell Edwards, Jennifer Ebelhar, Sr., Marty Eisten, Jesus Manuel Francisco, David Ferriell, Anna Filbert, Jaime Harris, Dan Hawkins, Katelyn Hensley, Peggy Howell, Dora Jimenez, Donnie & Kathy Jones, Keith Kenney, Richard Kolodey, Roger & Debbie Lloyd, Pam McGraw, Brea Meadows, Jeff Meredith, Charlotte Moore, Zoey Nash, Carmen & Daryl Periard, Cenia J. Quintanilla, Pam Raleigh, Ruby Sparks, Annie Spillman, Jack Spillman, Veronica Spink, Burnetta Springfield, Vickie Tichenor, Gary & Nadine Trogden, Lynda Trogden, Dusty Utley, Richard Vowels, Doris Vowels, Johnny Wahl, Carter Wilkerson, Tony Whitledge, Tom Yancy To make a prayer request, give an update, take someone off the list or sign up to receive urgent prayer requests visit

www.smsebree.org



LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Israelites celebrate their first Passover in the land of Canaan. In the second reading, Paul pleads with the Corinthians to be reconciled to God. In the Gospel, Jesus responds to the complaint that he welcomed sinners by telling a parable about a father who welcomed back the younger of his sons who had sinned against him.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mar 29	<u>Sacristan</u> : Jenny Glenn
Mar 30	<u>Sacristan:</u> Charles Buchanan
EM	MaryJane Hawkins
Lector	Cathy Robertson
Altar Server	Voluntary
Apr 05 Apr 06 EM Lector Altar Server	5

TODAY'S READINGS

Reading I: <u>1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a</u> Responsorial Psalm: <u>23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6</u> Reading II: <u>Ephesians 5:8-14</u> Gospel: <u>John 9:1-41</u>

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES 29 Sat Lenten Weekday violet Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14 **30 SUN FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT** violet or rose Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (33) or, for Year A, 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 (31) Pss IV 5 The following readings may be used on any Lenten day this week, especially in Years B and C when the Gospel of the Samaritan Woman is not read on the Third Sunday of Lent: Ex 17:1-7/Jn 4:5-42 (236). 21

31 Mon Lenten Weekday violet Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54 (244) APRIL 2025

1 Tue Lenten Weekday violet Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16 **2 Wed Lenten Weekday** violet [Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit] Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30 (246)

3 Thu Lenten Weekday violet Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47 **4 Fri Lenten Weekday** violet [Saint Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church] Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

WORD OF LIFE

"With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (*The Gospel of Life* 95).

Thank You For Your Generosity

Sunday Offering 03/23/2025	\$	2,164.16
Weekly Goal	\$	2,317.23
Year-to-date Total 38 of 52 Sundays		80,966.27
Budget YTD	\$	88,054.74
Over/Under Collection	\$	-9 ,405.70



4th SUNDAY OF LENT THE DIVINE MERCY

In this fourth Sunday of Lent, the reflection is centered on Divine Mercy. If you were looking for a text to illustrate this, you could not find a better one than this text from Saint Luke which we hear

this Sunday: Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32, which is known as parable of the Prodigal Son. But I would like to call it: the parable of the merciful father. If we remember last Sunday we heard the name of God: "I am" and the psalm completed it with "compassionate and merciful." This is the name of God: compassionate and merciful.

Pope Francis affirmed this in the Papal Bullof indiction of extraordinary jubilee: The Face of Mercy in paragraph #9a: "In the parables devoted to mercy, Jesus reveals the nature of God as that of a Father who never gives up until he has forgiven the wrong and overcome rejection with compassion and mercy. We know these parables well, three in particular: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the father with two sons (cf. Lk 15:1-32). In these parables, God is always presented as full of joy, especially when he pardons. In them we find the core of the Gospel and of our faith, because mercy is presented as a force that overcomes everything, filling the heart with love and bringing consolation through pardon."

The parable of the Merciful father is about a father who has two sons. The Father of these two children is God. The two children are the two groups of God's people: the oldest son represents the Jewish people and the younger son represent the Gentiles. The inheritance received is freedom, intelligence, memory, and everything that God has given us so we can recognize him and worship him.

The figure of the youngest son represents the Gentiles. He went away from the house of the Father toward a distant country, to squander the treasure and the inheritance that God had so generously entrusted to him. And in that region of sin the image and likeness that the Creator had printed on his soul became more and more obscured. He wanted freedom without limits, which God respected and he let him leave, even though he was not in agreement, he let him. The young son lets himself get carried away by illusions, trying to quench the thirst of happiness which dwells in his heart with the pleasures of this world. We can distinguish two elements which were fundamental in his return to his home: reflection and a sense of family. The young man had gotten to the bottom: an emptiness of all kinds, of his morals, of his spirit, of his personal values and he started to reflect: "How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger." (Lk 15:17) Reflecting on our journey is what will allow us to know ourselves better in the light of God, confessing in this way our misery. The second element: the sense of family – If this younger brother decides to return home to his father's house it is because he feels a sense of security, of love and affection from him, apart from the comforts that his family life afforded him.

The figure of the older brother represents the Jewish people who have fulfilled the law, faithful to the divine

Covenant, guided by the Patriarchs and Prophets. Despite this, little by little, like a worm eating away at this faithfulness, pride enters - the worst of sins. He believed he had certain rights from his father. He believed he was just. Together with pride and a presumption of his own merits, came resentment, jealousy, anger, and sadness. What a shame that this older son ends up breaking the wonderful symphony of the house by not wanting to join the feast of mercy!

And finally the figure of the Father. The Father was merciful with his younger son and with the older one too. With the younger son, his mercy was demonstrated in the details: he respects his freedom; he waits for him with patience until he matures; he receives him with joy and splendor; and he restores his human and spiritual dignity. With the older son he shows his mercy in the details as well: he goes out to call his son; he invites him to the communal feast; he puts up with the humiliation his sons throws in his face for being so merciful with the younger son; and he lets the older son know that he is not a slave in their home, rather a son who can have all of the goods of the family.

The Father shed tears of joy upon the return of the younger son, but also of sadness and pity for the older son. "The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. He feels responsible; that is, he desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful. This is the path which the merciful love of Christians must also travel. As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other." (Misericordiae Vultus #9d) Let us open our hearts to divine mercy, reconciling ourselves with God, with our brothers and with ourselves.

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez

The Holy Father asks for our prayers.

(You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.)

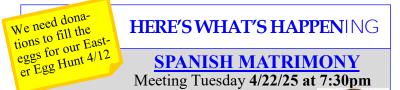
For families in crisis

Let us pray that divided families may find in forgiveness the healing of their wounds, rediscovering even in their differences the riches of each one.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT

To report suspected abuse, contact the Cabinet for Health and Family Services by calling their Child/ Adult Abuse Hotline at their toll-free number 877-KYSAFE1 (877-597-2331) or by visiting their website. You may also contact your local Commonwealth Attorney. To report abuse, current or past, to the diocese, by anyone acting in the name of the Church, please call our pastoral assistance coordinator, Scott Ingram, at 270-852-8380 (English) and Miguel Quintanilla, 270-880-8360 (Spanish).



<u>YOUTH GROUP</u> Every Tuesday at 5pm.



RELIGIOUS CLASSES! (1st Communion, Candidates to Confirmation) RCIA, candidates meet every Wednesday at 5:30pm to 7:00pm

> BIBLE STUDY Tuesday at 10Am

STATION OF THE CROSS(VIA CRUSIS) All Fridays of Lent at 6:00PM (Bilingual)

Thank you for another year of organizing and sharing Friday Fish Fry with everyone in the community The Next Fish Fry 4/4 after ViaCrusis.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/29 Lori Fulkerson, Moises Angel Juan, Felix Calvillo
3/30 Alejandro Lopez
4/2 Kattia Angulo
4/3 Abelina Pascual
4/4 Pascual Diego, Amabilia Rodriguez, Angelina Martin.

Join Bishop Medley and priests from across the diocese for **the Chrism Mass on April 15 at 6:30 p.m**. This sacred tradition celebrates the blessing of the oils used in the sacraments throughout the year. The entire parish community is invited to attend this special event!



Mass Intentions March 29 to April 6

Sat.	English	5pm	Betty Howard
	Akateco	7:30pm	For the Parishioners
Sun.	English	10am	Betty Howard
	Spanish	12pm	Billy Davis
Mon.	English	9am	NO MASS
Tues.	English	9am	NO MASS
Wed	Spanish	12pm	NO MASS
Thurs	Spanish	7pm	NO MASS
Sat.	English	5pm	Kathy Prough
	Akateco	7:30pm	Betty Howard
Sun.	English	10am	For the Parishioners
	Spanish	12pm	Billy Davis

