



In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" – "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." – that the promise finds fulfillment. Luke 1:38

**Readings for the Week of December 21, 2008**

**Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;  
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

**Monday**  
1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8; Lk 1:46-56

**Tuesday Saint John of Kanty, priest**  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25; Lk 1:57-66

**Wednesday**  
Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;  
Lk 1:67-79  
Vigil: Is 62:1-5 ; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;  
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

**Thursday The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**  
Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

**Friday Saint Stephen, first martyr**  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22

**Saturday Saint John, apostle, evangelist**  
1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Sunday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128;  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



The Advent wreath is now fully alight with the warm glow of love. It urges you not to be loving – not to be beloved – but to BE LOVE. Love itself came to earth on Christmas Day. Emmanuel was born. God, who IS LOVE, dwelt among us, giving us the ability to be love in this world. BE LOVE! "God sent his Son..." Galatians 4:4

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Wednesday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 a.m. Weekday Mass  
5:00 p.m. Caroling in Church & Hall  
5:30 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass in both the Hall and Church  
8:30 p.m. Caroling in Church  
9:00 p.m. Christmas Midnight Mass in the Church

**Thursday, Dec 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m.** Mass in the Church

**Friday, Dec 26<sup>th</sup> -- 8:30 a.m.** Weekday Mass

**Saturday, Dec 27<sup>th</sup> -- 5:30 p.m.** Vigil Mass

**Sunday, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> -- 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.** Mass

The Parish Offices will be closed for the holidays on Wednesday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, reopening on Monday, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>.

Monday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. is the date for our Advent Penance Service here at St. Michael the Archangel. There will be 6 Priests to hear individual confessions following the communal service.

*Forever I Will Sing*

*The Goodness Of The Lord.*

**DECEMBER 23 THROUGH DECEMBER 28**



**Mass Intentions**

**TUESDAY 5:30 P.M.** Unemployed persons

**WEDNESDAY 8:30 A.M.** †Bessie Daugird  
**5:30 P.M. (C)** †Larry James Bennett  
**5:30 P.M. (H)** †Albert & Rosa Romano  
†Joe & Lena Mandola  
**9:00 P.M.** Parishioners of SMLJ

**THURSDAY 10:00 A.M.** †Bessie Ermis  
†Mark Klockentager

**FRIDAY 8:30 A.M.** Msgr. Leo Wleczyk

**SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.** Rev. Marty Pham

**SUNDAY 8:00 A.M.** Unemployed persons  
**9:30 A.M.** †Bob Rogido  
†Donald & Remidios Young  
**11:00 A.M.** †Deceased Priests of the Archdiocese of G-H

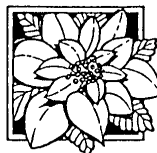
Please pray for the repose of the soul of †Colin Muhl, great nephew of Winnie and Maurice Badeaux.

Beginning Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, names submitted for the prayer list will remain in the bulletin for one month. Please call the parish office with an update if you would like the name to remain on the prayer list for an additional period of time.

Karen Abdelkader, Carolyn Sue Allen, Arnold Areson, Brenda Bartlett, Ann Bomba, Paul Bono, Michael Brown, **John Buettner**, Doris Causbie, Robert Causbie, Kellie Chaney, John Henry Cook, Cecil Cromeans, Charlie Dirba, Lenora Duval, Leada Fecanin, Marcia Flournoy, Margaret Flournoy, Ann Foster, Betty Lou Furlong, **Emil Galetka**, Ashton Garrett, Michael Gillman, Arthur Haas, Paige Haas, Belia Hardesty, Maury Havlik, Pat Havlik, Dennis Heinroth, Alice Jasek, Vickie Kaatz, John Karacostis, **Emily Krell**, Willie (Bill) Kubala, Mary LaCoume, **Julie Lange**, Sarah Langston, **Pat Latkovich**, Delia Luna, Bobby Marshall, **Marcella Martinez**, Gene Matus, Paula Matzke, Otis Mayes, Myra Lee McFarling, Ora Meritt, Raymond Muniza, Marty Murphy, Heloise Murray, Charlene Burrigge Paschall, **Cindy Patlik**, Jim Pawelek, Mary Pelliccia, Lea Marie Perez, Cecelia Peterson, Marilyn Pikas, Joe Ragland, June Ragland, Kenny Rentrop, Ellen Rice, **Celeste Rohde**, Vince Rowan, Prudencia Sanchez, Catherine Schoppe, **Donna Schwertner**, Jim Seidler, June Stanke, **Bill Stevens**, Bud Stover, Edward John Thigpen, Tommy Tumlinson, Ernie Valdez, Loyd Wainscott, and **Jack Yonge**. (Bold denotes new on prayer list or in crisis.)



If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas flowers for the church, please contact the Parish Office at 297-3041 on **MONDAY 12/22.**



Poinsettias

The requested donation is \$15.00 per poinsettia.



Poinsettias

Youth Ministry 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**DECEMBER**

Dec 21<sup>st</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 31<sup>st</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

**JANUARY**

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Jan 11<sup>th</sup> CLASS, 6:30-8:30 - Vocation Night

**Fourth Sunday of Advent B - Second Reading**  
**Romans 16:25-27**

A Great Ending

A good story has a great ending. It features good characters, a fanciful setting, and an interesting plot with a good share of twists. But it needs an ending that pulls everything together—sometimes with a surprise. God has written a good story with a great ending. The story appeared not in a few chapters, but in thousands of years of human history. For all those generations, people were waiting on God to fulfill a promise. They believed in their hearts that one day God would deliver, but they did not know when or how. The ending of the story was the beginning of Christianity: the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus entered human history as our Messiah. He was not what believers were expecting—he seemed like less, yet he was much more. He seemed like a mere vulnerable human, born in poverty, killed in dishonor. But he was more. He was the Son of God, born human like each of us, crucified for our sins—and risen from the dead. St. Paul says God kept this mystery secret for long ages, like the surprise ending to a good book. The prophets gave clues to what the ending would be, but God revealed it much later in time. God made this good news known not just to the children of the covenant—the people who were reading the book— but to all the nations of the world. The God who did that, Paul says, deserves our praise.

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As a component of **The Word of God** initiative from our Archdiocese, we are offering bibles for sale at very low cost to all who need them. It is our desire that every Catholic can afford to own

and read a Bible. **Bibles are available in English or Spanish for only \$5.00 each.** Stop by the Parish office between 9am -4pm, Monday - Friday to purchase a copy. For more information call 297-3041.

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Congratulations to those that successfully discerned to be **members of the St. Michael's Pastoral Council for 2009.** **Shari Hanson, Teresa Gonzales, Gene Kanski, Scott Schaunaman, and Erv Sterzinger** will join with current council members Ken Prochaska, Joe Lesnau, and Margarita Prinz to support Fr. Leo as he leads our Parish. Pray that the Holy Spirit guides them throughout the year.

**ST. MICHAEL'S VISION STATEMENT:**  
*"A Eucharistic community in continual transformation, surrendering ourselves to God to be His instruments for world change."*

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

- Are you searching for a church to call your own?
- Do you struggle with questions about life – death – suffering – hope – forgiveness – love – God?
- Ever Wonder Why Catholics worship the way they do?
- Do you have questions about what we really believe?



**Look no further. If you are not Catholic, but are curious** about the Church, or have a friend or family member who may be interested, or perhaps have some misconceptions about the Church. **Inquiry is the place.** All are welcome. For more information call Tommie Holt at 979-265-4685.

**Did you miss receiving your Confirmation as a teenager or young adult?** If so, now is the time to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Tommie Holt at 265-4685 for more information.

**Parish Calendar Now On-Line**

We have gone “electronic” with the St. Michael’s facility schedule (no more black books!). You can now **view** the general Parish calendar **on-line from the main page of our Parish website, [www.smlj.org](http://www.smlj.org).** This calendar shows which rooms are reserved for meetings, gatherings, programs, and special events for the next 30 days. Check it out when you have a chance – your feedback would be appreciated! A printed schedule for the upcoming week is also posted in the hallway of the FLC outside the main office and outside the Angelina Room. Contact Lynne at 297-3041 with questions, feedback, or **to make sure your upcoming meeting is noted correctly on the master facility schedule.**

The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to **thank everyone who made it possible for us to reach out to neighbors in our community with our annual Thanksgiving basket distribution.**

*Saint  
Vincent  
de Paul  
Society*

Our ability to provide this expression of God’s love is due to the continued support and generosity of the St. Michael’s parishioners. **Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus** for their ceaseless benevolence – and also to the **Youth of St. Michael’s** for the basket decorations.

To all of you who visited, sent cards & said prayers for me, I want to say “Thank You Very Much.” You made my stay at the hospital more bearable. May you all have a very Blessed Holiday Season.

**Marcella (Marcie) Martinez**