

Dear Friends,

Speak for your servant is listening. Jesus' whole public ministry is a call to people. Like Samuel, Andrew, and the other first disciples of Jesus, we are called and then have to decide if and how to respond. Eli and John the Baptist identify the Lord and the Lamb to others, but the others than need to decide what to do next. Samuel will become the last judge of Israel, while Peter and Andrew will become apostles. It will completely change their lives.

Not just the leaders of the Church are called to this new life. Paul reminds all the people of the church they are all members of Christ and are all called to avoid immorality. When the disciples first approach Jesus he asks them what they are looking for. They say they want to see where he lives, meaning they want to be his disciples. Jesus replies that they should come and see, meaning he accepts them. To truly see Jesus is to live Jesus' way of life.

It is a way of life that calls us to spread the good news as Andrew does to Peter. It will sometimes challenge us, especially when it calls us to live a life differently from the world around us. Paul has to constantly remind the people of God of their calling, because their old lives and the world they live and work in keep calling them also. God knows we need His help to keep to His Way, and will always be there to bring us back when we stray, but we have to want to come back. We have to want to live God's way not just when it in agreement with the world, but even when it is in conflict with it.

This week will be the March for Life, once more reminding the nation of the little victims of the largest legal injustice in our country. Legalized abortion is a sign of one way of living, but is not a way of living that follows Christ. It is a way that solves problems by violence and does not regard the weak as having any value.

Fr. Peter Giovanoni

High School Youth Group--March 1st-4th, Timberline Ski Resort in Davis, WV. Join us for a fun filled excursion to the mountains of West Virginia. We will embrace the winter with all sorts of fun activities. There will also be daily Mass and Adoration. \$50 covers lodging, food, and transportation. There are additional fees, contact Peter Farrell at 913-426-4074 or peter@ihmccc.org for more information. Reserve your space now! Space is limited. Payments are to be made in full by February 22nd.



Weekend Ministries

January 20th & 21st

Saturday--5:00pm

Lector: L. Muir

EMs: L. Muir

Altar Servers: N. Cervantes, I. Cervantes, C. Dursee

Sunday--8:15am

Lector: J. Kellalm

EMs: J. Dominic, J. Kayser, D. Kayser

Altar Servers: K. Kovich, N. Kovich, J. Fitzgerald

Sunday--10:30am

Lector: S. Hall

Reader: F. Hall

EMs: S. Hall, J. Graham, H. Miller

Altar Servers: C. Greenwell, J. Greenwell, I. Sullivan, A. Hamilton

Sunday--6:00pm

Lector: A. Bishop

EMs: A. Bishop



Pray for the Sick

Joyce Ack
Emma Aparicio
Timothy Binder
Robert Bradburn
Lisa Carpenter
Catherine Dean
Jane Dougherty
Jack Greenwell
Mary Agnes Hill
Cameron Kalen
Paul Mackie
Liz Marcus
Ann McDonough
William Morris
Fr. O'Connell
Lin Pery
Peggy Raley
Ann Robrecht
Gabriel Santos
Gertrude Sullivan
Hilda Trossbach
Janice Wood

Grace Angela
Vivian Barnes
Pam Bohmann
Karen Byrne
Jack Cullison
Erica Dingle
Fritz Feltman
Pam Hayden
Jason Hoyer
Jane Kenyon
Sid Marcus
Addie McBride
Diane Miller
Gerry Mueller
Kay Owens
Lawrence Potter
Patty Raley
Janet Sanders
Nicole Shreve
Wise Tennyson
Susanna Wolf
Elizabeth Woodburn

Mass Intentions

January 15th-21st

Monday	9:00am	Brian Gallagher
Tuesday	9:00am	Walter Chimiak
Wednesday	9:00am	Edna Long
Thursday	9:00am	Anna Vial
Friday	9:00am	St. Michael's School
Saturday	5:00pm	Ted Abell
Sunday	8:15am	Special Intentions
Sunday	10:30am	St. Michael's Parishoners
Sunday	6:00pm	Donald Carroll

Catechetical Corner

The March for life is this Friday. It is one way to voice for a call for justice for those who are voiceless. There are many reasons to oppose abortion including those based on natural law not dependent on any particular religious doctrine, but for those who believe in the God who loves all there is an even greater call to defend life and especially innocent life. That is why from the beginning the Church has opposed abortion (CCC 2271) and why it carries the penalty of automatic excommunication (CCC 2272). This is done to make clear the seriousness of the offense that those will seek healing and the forgiveness of God as soon as possible.

The recognition of the dignity of all human life in all stages of life needs to be at the foundation of our moral principles. Once people start making exceptions to this principle or make recognition of the dignity of other people contingent on other conditions, the world quickly heads down the road that humanity has followed so often that leads to exploitation, slavery, and genocide.

Our Lady Star of the Sea--Hosting it's annual dinner theater on January 26th & 27th and February 2nd & 3rd. The show is title "**Alibis**", it is a mystery-comedy spoof. Tickets are \$40 per person which includes the show and a wonderful buffet catered by Thompson Seafood of St. Mary's County. The play will be held in the Providence Room at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, on Solomons Island, MD. For reservations call 410-326-8272. Doors open 6:00pm.

"GIFT: Life in the Spirit"-- Are you interested in learning how to more fully live out your faith in your daily life? This is a six-session series aimed to help people of all ages to encounter the Holy Spirit and empower them to share their faith. Mark your calendars now: St. Michael's School gym, Wednesdays during Lent, 6:30pm-8:30pm. The cost is \$10 (includes all 6 dinners and materials). To register, call 240-587-1248 or email us at discoverchristinRidge@gmail.com. Testimonies from local Catholics who have participated in the GIFT: The Holy Spirit has led me to a deeper understanding of my Catholic faith and given me a closer relationship with God. I know that the Holy Spirit works through me and with me every day to lead me on God's path in my life. Another one: My daily prayers are more important and more meaningful.

Stewardship Report	
January 7 th Collection	\$3,076.00
1 st Dist. Catholic Aid Society	\$838.00

Knights of Columbus

--Next Chicken Dinner is Sunday, January 14th from 11:30am-5:00pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ridge.

--Next Bingo is Saturday, January 20th. Doors open at 5:30pm and games start at 6:30pm. Jackpot is \$5,000!



St. Michael's School News



Cash Calendar Winners

January 1--Mary Vieten--\$500
January 2--Debbie Norris--\$25
January 3--Linda Cullison--\$50
January 4--Robert Barickman--\$50
January 5--Mary Vieten--\$25
January 6--Linda Cullison--\$25
January 7--Karen Fish--\$25
January 8--Trisha Joseph--\$25

Congratulations to All!

Angel Wings and Thrift Store is looking for volunteers during the week when the store is closed to help price and display items that have been donated. Most weeks this is done on Monday's, but that is flexible, depending on volunteer's schedules. Volunteers are also needed on weekends, when store is open to accept donations to help with the intake of the donations. This involves assisting donors, issuing them receipts and if time, sorting items by categories. There will be knowledgeable people available to train you until you are comfortable with doing these tasks on your own. Points of contact to volunteer or answer questions are: Amy Fenhagen, [301-904-8162](tel:301-904-8162) or Kay Fenhagen, [240-298-0551](tel:240-298-0551). All help would be greatly appreciated.

St. Michael's School Annual Auction is planned for June 9, 2018. We are able to accept gently used cars, boats, motorcycles or RV's in running condition. We can store and provide minor repair of donated items. Please contact Rich Muir at 240-538-1888 cell, leave message if no answer.

Queen of Hearts--Every Friday night at the American Legion in Ridge. Tickets will be on sale from 4:00pm-7:00pm and food will be available starting at 5:00pm. Drawing at 7:00pm. Come out and support St. Michael's School for a fun night of chance!



Mark Your Calendars:

January 15--No School, Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 19--Queen of Hearts, 4pm
January 21--SMS Breakfast, 8:30am-11:00am