

St. Michael Church

ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003

Website: www.stmichaelannandale.org

E-mail: church@stmikes22003.org

Celebrating
64 years:
1953~2017

RECTORY, 7401 St. Michaels Lane 703-256-7822

SCHOOL, 7401 St. Michaels Lane 703-256-1222

CONVENT, 7421 St. Michaels Lane

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD) 703-941-9403

MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00 a.m. (Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite)
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m.

Weekday Masses: See Inside Bulletin

PREGNANT AND NEED HELP? CALL 1-800-848-5683

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. SHARP.
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. SHARP. Advent & Lent special schedule.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month, after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. All parents must attend a class prior to the baptism of their child. Please call the rectory for information and assistance. (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

HOLY MATRIMONY: Please notify one of the priests at least six (6) months before the wedding. Cohabitation (living together before marriage) is not lawful; such couples will be asked to separate.

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL:

Pre-K3 through grade 8. For information, contact the school office at 703-256-1222. Website: stmikes22003.org. Principal: Daniel V. Cinalli, daniel.cinalli@stmikes22003.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

For all children attending public school, Pre-School through grade 12. Director of Religious Education: Adina Ordonez, 703-941-9403 or ccdstm@outlook.com.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Registration forms are available from the ushers after Mass on Sunday or you may stop by the rectory during the week. Parish membership is required for the reception of either Baptism or Matrimony. Please notify the rectory when your telephone number changes and also when you are moving within or outside the parish.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

SICK CALLS: Please notify the Rectory for visits and/or Communion Calls to the sick, shut-ins and those in the hospital.

WEEKLY NOVENA: Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Novena of The Miraculous Medal, unless otherwise noted.

CLERGY OF PARISH

Pastor: Rev. Alexander R. Drummond

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Richard T. Carr, Rev. Brian B. McAllister

Permanent Deacons: Deacon David S. McCaffrey, Deacon Roger T. Ostrom (retired)



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 29, 2017

The Priest's Mass Intentions

Monday, October 30

8:30 a.m. Thomas McKeone +
12 noon Jack Pender

Tuesday, October 31

8:30 a.m. Mary & John Gladis +
12 noon Rev. Fr. Edwin Perez
7 p.m. Lantry Family

Wednesday, November 1

8:30 a.m. Alfred J. Embarrato +
12 noon Regina Plunkett
7 p.m. Julianne Ivins +

Thursday, November 2

8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena
12 noon All Souls Novena

Friday, November 3

8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena
12 noon All Souls Novena

Saturday, November 4

8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena
5 p.m. All Souls Novena

Sunday, November 5

7 a.m. All Souls Novena
8:30 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. All Souls Novena
12:30 p.m. All Souls Novena

A Word from Fr. Drummond

In 1976 as I began my university studies, I lived in a suburb of Heidelberg called Rohrbach about four and a half kilometers from the middle of Heidelberg where all the student life converged both for study and play (and I have to admit on my part it was more play than study). My main means of transportation was Shanks-mare; I walked. I walked everywhere both for exercise and to save money on the streetcar, and also for the sheer joy of walking. When coming home at night I would often take a shortcut through a cemetery. Friends would ask if that was scary, and say that it took a lot off nerve to walk through a cemetery at night. In fact, it was quite peaceful and I was never fearful. What harm I have ever suffered has always been at the hands of the living, not the dead. On the 31st of October I took my usual shortcut through the cemetery and was surprised to see it suffused with a reddish glow. This did not frighten me but it peaked my curiosity and I was actually delighted to find that almost every grave was lit by a little red votive lantern. The effect on me was a warm care-free feeling and I slowed my pace so as to savour this almost magical sight. The lamps would burn for the next three days and nights, commemorating the feasts of All Saints and All Souls. Last year I was in Lourdes at this time of year and discovered that All Saints and All Souls are commemorated there by placing

Mums on the graves of ones family with the effect that the cemetery looked like a field of Mums, all different colours. While amazingly beautiful, it lacked the magical appeal of the red glow of the little votive lanterns in Heidelberg.

Both of these traditions commemorating All Saints are so far removed from the American tradition of Halloween as to beggar the imagination. The word Halloween is itself an old English contraction of All Hallows Eve, Hallows meaning saints or holy ones. All Hallows is All Saints. And we celebrate the Saints by dressing as monsters, witches, and warlocks!?!?

There are several different reasons for this distortion of All Saints. Some like to claim that All Saints was originally a pagan holiday in Celtic countries commemorating the beginning of winter when everything "dies." The Celtic feast Samhain is usually invoked here and All Saints it is claimed was merely the Catholic Church's way of appropriating and "baptizing" this pagan holiday and the dressing up as witches, ghosts, and devils, etc. is a holdover from that. But in this country I believe that the celebration of Halloween rather than All Saints was an unconscious Protestant response to All Saints which is so very Catholic in its every aspect. The Protestants have always been wary if not downright disdainful of the Catholic veneration of Saints. "You Catholics pray to Mary and the Saints, *we* pray to God," is a common reaction to Catholic veneration of the Saints, ignoring the fact that Catholic prayers to Saints are nothing more than requests for them to pray for us, just as we might ask *any* person we see as particularly good to pray for us. The final words of the most popular Catholic prayer, the Hail Mary, are "...*pray for us* sinners now and in the hour of our death."

By reducing the Feast of All Saints to Halloween and claiming it is rooted in pagan tradition, the impact of the role of Saints is sidelined and the true meaning of the holiday is forgotten. The "Protestantization" of Catholic beliefs and traditions is a first step in the secularization of society as a whole. The joyful dressing up as creatures of evil is an example of how far our society is growing from God.

All Saints is intimately connected with the Feast of All Souls. Just as we ask the Saints to pray for us, so we too must pray for the Souls of those who have gone before us and are not yet in Heaven. The Feast of All Souls goes to the heart of the Catholic dogma of Purgatory which Protestants since the time of Martin Luther have resolutely denied. Protestants, sadly enough like many Catholics, believe that most if not all souls go directly to Heaven when their body dies. Very few of us, however, die in a spiritual state that would automatically merit Heaven. And some of us do indeed die in a spiritual state that lands us in Hell. On All Souls we pray for the Souls of all who are in Purgatory in an effort to hasten their ascent to Heaven. This is why Catholics pray for the dead, and most Protestants do not. In this respect I can see dressing up as a ghost for Halloween, as ghosts are nothing more than souls of the departed (in Purgatory) asking for our prayers.

The combined Feasts of All Saints and All Souls are a time when we Catholics need to seriously reflect on how far our society has grown from God. One of the most blatant examples of this is the romanticization of evil creature, witches, warlocks and vampires as good in movies and literature and particularly in literature directed at young people. Gone are the days when a vampire, for example, was unambiguously evil. Gone are the days when the Apocalypse was seen as the triumph of good over evil. Instead we have "Zombie"

Apocalypses where evil prevails. By infusing in our children an appreciation for and understanding of the true meaning both All Saints and All Souls we can begin to drive back the moral darkness that besets our society and cease to dress up evil as good but call it for what it is and turn away from it and into beautiful red-dish warm glow of All Saints.

In Our Parish

This Week's Special Collection -- will be taken to help the *Little Sisters of the Poor*, whose mission provides a home where the neediest elderly of every race and religion are welcomed as Christ and cared for as family since 1874 in the Commonwealth of VA. The Sisters will be present at all the Masses to explain their mission and to ask for your support. They go out to the community to beg for the needs of the Home. They count on your generosity to continue their work of mercy as much as you can count on their grateful prayers for you and your loved ones. You are invited to visit the website, www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org.

Save the Date and Call for Volunteers -- The Fall 2017 St. Michael Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2017 in the gym. ***Please visit our tables this weekend (28th and 29th of October) to sign up to give blood*** or to volunteer otherwise! For more information contact either Joe Provenzano, phone: 571-331-4051; email atjprov51@yahoo.com or Pete Pistolesi, phone: 703-354-7047 You may also make your reservation via phone by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS; let them know you are signing up for the St. Michael's Drive. You can furthermore sign up ONLINE by going to www.redcrossblood.org and typing STMICHAELSANNANDALE into the "Find a Blood Drive: box. If you have ELIGIBILITY questions, please contact the Red Cross Help Line at 1-866- 236-3276.

Teams of Our Lady -- is a world-wide movement in the Catholic Church to help couples grow in their spiritual life as a couple. Locally it is composed of teams of five to seven couples who meet monthly with a spiritual counselor. To learn more and find out if you are interested, come to an Information Meeting after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 29. The meeting will be in the All Purpose Room in the Junior School at St. Michael Church, 7401 Ravensworth Road in Annandale. Alternately, call Carol & Deacon Dave McCaffrey, 703-941-4573.

All Saints Day, a Holy Day of Obligation -- 7 p.m. (vigil) on Tuesday, October 31st. On Wednesday, November 1st: 8:30 a.m., 12 p.m., and 7 p.m. (Novus Ordo).

All Souls Novena -- will be from November 2-10, 2017. Be sure to turn in your novena envelopes with the names of your deceased loved ones. Extra envelopes can be found in the main vestibule entrance.

40 Days for Life -- is coming to a close (November 5th). If you haven't been able to participate in this peaceful vigil praying for the end to abortion, you are invited to join, especially for our parish's last sponsored day: **7AM - 7PM on Friday, November**

3rd. The location is in the public right-of-way outside the Falls Church Healthcare Center at 900 S. Washington Street. If you'd like more information, please contact: Anh Tu Do at 703-919-4370 or e-mail anhdo18@gmail.com. Also, feel free to visit www.40daysforlife.com/fallschurch for more information.

Mass of Remembrance -- The annual Mass of Remembrance will be held here at St. Michael's Church on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. This Mass will be offered for all those parishioners and loved ones of parishioners who have died this past year. All the deceased whose funeral Mass was celebrated here at St. Michael's will have their names included on the program. If you have lost a loved one this past year and would like that name included on the program, please call Anne Keast at 703-354-5888. If leaving a message, please be sure to leave your phone number. ***The deadline for adding names is Wednesday, November 1, 2017.*** The names of the deceased will be remembered during the Prayer of the Faithful. A reception with light refreshments will be held in the Senior School cafeteria immediately following. We invite all members of the parish to attend this special memorial Mass and join together in prayer for our fellow parishioners who have been called home to Our Lord.

ST. MICHAEL'S SENIORS (50+) GROUP

What: Sunday Brunch at Toby's Theater in Columbia, MD with a performance of "Miracle on 34th Street."

When: Sunday, December 10, 2017

Time: Leave St. Michael's from the Senior School at 9 a.m. Return approx. 5 p.m.

Cost: \$80 for group members; \$84 for non-group members.

Reservation Deadline: Friday, November 3, 2017. Full payment for the group is due no later than Nov 10th. We have reserved 40 tickets. Do not delay if you wish to attend.

Mail reservation checks, payable to St. Michael's Seniors (SMS) to Bill Fietze, 6919 Richard Place, Annandale, VA 22003. Any questions, call Geri, 703-941-3848 or Bill, 703-256-4563.

Enjoy an excellent Brunch Buffet selection and get into the Christmas spirit with a fine performance of a seasonal favorite, "Miracle on 34th Street." Invite a friend to join you!

ST. MICHAEL'S SENIORS (50+) GROUP (announcement #2) --

What: Bingo and Lunch

When: Saturday, November 11, 2017

Where: Senior School Cafeteria

Time: 1:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$12 for group members; \$16 for non-group members

Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, November 8, 2017

Come and enjoy lunch and a fun afternoon and maybe win some money. There will be door prizes, game prizes and the ever popular 50/50. Everyone is welcome to join us and bring a friend. Not too late to become a member — annual dues are \$10, covers October 1, 2017—September 30, 2018. We ask that you bring a donation of peanut butter, jam/jelly for our local food pantry. This will help those in need at Thanksgiving. Mail reservation checks, payable to St. Michael's Seniors (SMS), to Bill Fietze, 6919 Richard Place, Annandale, VA 22003. Any questions, call Geri, 703-841-3848 or Bill, 703-256-4563.

Dibujando Sonrisas -- (which translates to Drawing Smiles) is a non-profit organization that collects various necessities and gives them to families living in extreme poverty in Mexico. Natural disasters, like the recent earthquake make these needs all the more urgent. St. Michael's will be collecting school supplies, which can be dropped off in the designated box in the vestibule. Items particularly requested are: markers, crayons, pencils, colored pencils, pens, erasers, notebooks, folders, paper, stickers, and backpacks and lunchboxes. If you are able to, new or almost new supplies would be most appreciated. *Please bring in your donations by November 19th.* If you have any further questions, contact Jae Sung Kim at jaeskim11@gmail.com.

HAPPY 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY -- to Joe and Natalie Coleman. Please join us for light refreshments in the All Purpose Room, following the regular 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday, November 11, 2017. We wish to extend thanks for the many kindnesses shown to our family by St. Michael Parishioners. RSVP to shac_clan@yahoo.com or 703-476-3939.

NVJCYO Basketball Beginning Soon! -- Inviting parish members attending our CCD/Religious classes in grades 3-8 to register and join our St. Michael Parish teams to play in the upcoming Northern Virginia Catholic Youth Organization (NVJCYO) basketball program. Teams being formed, with practices soon to begin and games starting the 1st weekend of December. Volunteer Coaches may also be needed! Please contact Jermaine Perkins at 703-658-4876 or wrauthor@gmail.com for information. No basketball experience needed to participate.

Recycling Dates -- AHG's Troop VA0894 collection of aluminum cans/recyclable metal will take place on the following dates **AFTER the Saturday, 5 p.m., and Sunday, 8:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. Masses:** 11/18, 11/19, 12/16, 12/17.

Trail Life Troop 894 -- Meetings for the newly formed St. Michael TL Troop 894 have begun. The Trail Life Boy's Scouting Program is open to all boys in grades Kindergarten thru Grade 12. Both youth members and adult leaders are needed to help make our new program successful. Please contact Jim Perkins at [703-615-2607](tel:703-615-2607) or jim@jim-perkins.com with any questions.

AHG Troop VA0894 -- Our parish's AHG girls scouting troop has officially begun another year of scouting. Our program is open to all girls in grades Kindergarten thru Grade 12. We meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the All Purpose Room from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Both youth members and adult leaders are needed to help continue to make our program successful. Contact Jermaine Perkins at [703-658-4876](tel:703-658-4876) or wrauthor@gmail.com with any questions.

Afternoon of Recollection -- A priest of Opus Dei hears Confessions every Wednesday afternoon (except on the 1st Wednesday) from 1:00 to 4 p.m. For more information regarding Opus Dei, please contact Lorraine Anderson, 703-425-0921.

Perpetual Adoration -- St. Michael is one of the few parishes in the entire Diocese with perpetual adoration — and vocations are one of the many fruits! To sign up for an hour or for more information, contact Rosemary Duffy at 703-256-4468. Currently, we are in most need for members on: Mondays 2-3 p.m.; Thursdays 12 noon-1 p.m.; Fridays 4-5 a.m.; and Sundays 5-6 p.m.

Please Pray for: Maria Pozar*; Rosemary Dooley*; Ariadne Pasa; Maria Kerrinckx*; Richard Owen*; Marissa Ann Wuerthele*; Jean O. Cole; Lilia Prieto; Tuy Nguyen*; Cathy Callaghan*; Ellen Louise Daily; Steve Maitland*; Rose Guinan*; Dan Keller; Lili Lang; June & Norman Grimm*; Julia & Sophia Lattanzio; Carlton Hanson; Sr. Paul Marie; Dan Weiler*; Delia Sinn; Julie Molony Lee; Joe Meister; William Jeoff Robbins; Mary Roche*; Marco Tulio Gamba; Terry Spragens; Madelyn Respicio Cabatic; Rose Bledsoe; Bob Cafarella; Terry Chuppe; Michelle Soummier; Elsa Noriega*; Paul McEnrue*; Julia Garcia; John and Marie Sibenik*; Margaret Johnson*; Charlie Wise-carver*; Theresa Corcoran*; Jean Kratochvil*; Irma Barrera; John Carlson; Charles Salvo*; Elizabeth Medved*; Beatrice Clark*; Robert and Courtney Villareal*; Tracy Wilson; *with apologies to anyone we dropped; to re-add names call the Parish Office for next week.*

Here are the names of family members -- of parishioners who are serving our country overseas: PFC Mark Haugh, USMC; Cdr. David Stabish, USNavy; Alex Puentes USNavy; Sgt. Ramsey Hamilton; LtJG Grace Dalton, USNavy; Ens. Andre Acevedo, USNavy; Maj. John D. Barringer, III, USAF; LCpl Benjamin C. Martino, USMC; Lt. Matthew Becker USNavy; and... [call Mary at the parish office, 703-256-7822, and we'll keep our prayers going for our military in harms way.]

School News

Registration is NOW OPEN for Preschool 3 – through 8th Grade -- Saint Michael School is dedicated to teaching the whole child. Our teachers and staff are committed to the success of each student. For a tour of our school, or if you have any questions, please call Michelle Kennedy at the school office 703-256-1222.

Religious Education

"Who am I to Judge?" Over the next few weeks, we will continue to explore (during the 'Coffee Talks' hour) this series by Edward Sri on how to respond to relativism with logic and love. Many of us have been affected by the relativistic outlook that pervades the modern world. We live in a society that supports the opinion that each person should make up his or her own morality - that there is no moral truth that applies to everyone. Maybe some of us wonder whether there really is an absolute right and wrong for everyone. Or maybe we accept that there is a moral standard for all, but we don't know how to explain our moral convictions in a convincing way. Maybe some of us are afraid of saying something is immoral because we're afraid of offending others or of being labeled intolerant. Join us for **'Coffee Talks' from 2-3 PM All Purpose Room.** We will explore how we talk about morality in a relativistic world.

Youth Group meets Sunday evenings at 6 PM in All Purpose Room of the Junior School Building.