

# St. Michael Church

ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003



**RECORDED MASS SCHEDULES:** (703) 256-0446  
**RECTORY, 7401 St. Michael's Lane** (703) 256-7822  
**SCHOOL, 7401 St. Michael's Lane** (703) 256-1222  
**CONVENT, 7421 St. Michael's Lane** (703) 256-2130  
Website: [www.saintmichael22003.org](http://www.saintmichael22003.org)



## MASSES:

**Sunday Vigil:** Saturday Eve, 5:00 p.m.;  
7:30 p.m. (Vietnamese) only on first Saturdays  
**Sunday:** 6:15 (Extraordinary Form of the Latin Rite),  
7:45, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00 noon

**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: 7:30 p.m. SHARP. Advent & Lent special schedule.

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

**WEEKLY NOVENA:** Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.  
Novena of The Miraculous Medal.

**MONTHLY DEVOTION:** First Saturdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass - Our Lady of Fatima.

## ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL:

Kindergarten through grade 8.  
For information contact Sister Therese at 703.256.1222 or [sister.therese@stmikes22003.org](mailto:sister.therese@stmikes22003.org).  
Website: [stmikes22003.org](http://stmikes22003.org)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

For all children attending public school Pre-School through grade 12 meets on Sundays September through May. For more information contact Deacon McCaffrey, 703-941-9403.

**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.

**MARRIAGE:** Please notify one of the priests at least six (6) months before the wedding. Cohabitation (living together before marriage) is not lawful.

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

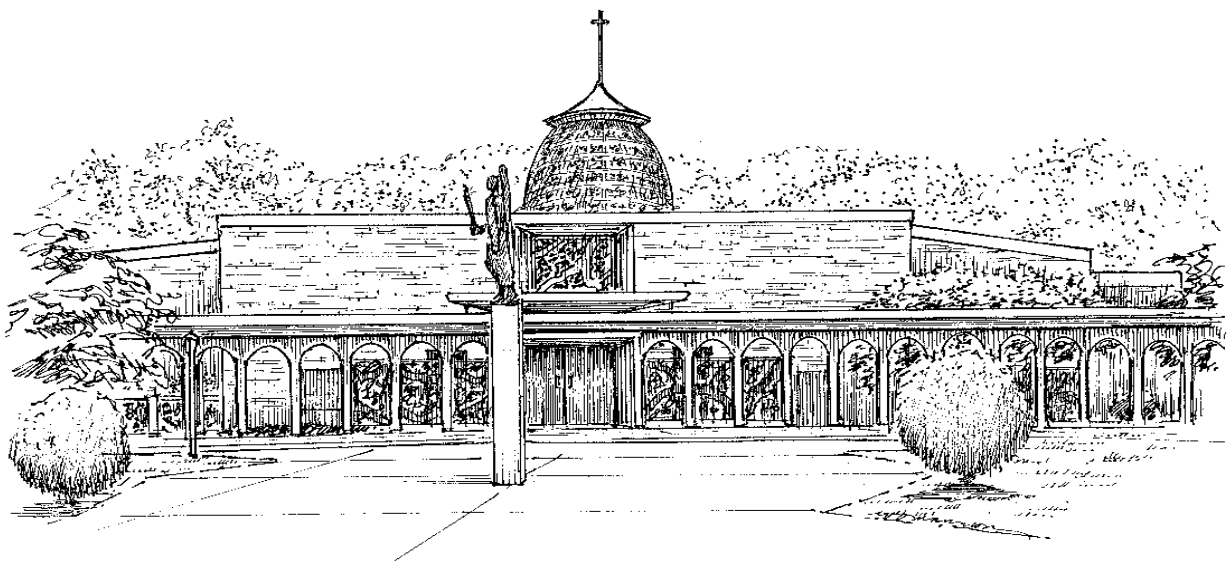
## CLERGY OF PARISH

Pastor: Rev. Jerry J. Pokorsky

Parochial Vicars: Rev. John T. B. Trong, Rev. Kevin J. Beres

In Residence: Rev. Joseph J. Clark

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





**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

June 5, 2011

“He was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.”  
~ Acts 1: 9

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

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**Monday, June 6**

6:15 a.m. James Joyce +  
8:30 a.m. Kathy Bethea +  
12 noon Priest's Intention

**Tuesday, June 7**

6:15 a.m. Fr. Pokorsky  
8:30 a.m. Kathy Bethea +  
12 noon Priest's Intention

**Wednesday, June 8**

6:15 a.m. LCDR. John Richardson +  
8:30 a.m. Msgr. Thomas Wells +  
12 noon Priest's Intention

**Thursday, June 9**

6:15 a.m. Amy Biven  
8:30 a.m. Thomas Griffin +  
12 noon Priest's Intention

**Friday, June 10**

6:15 a.m. Gatewood family  
8:30 a.m. Elsie Mary Sinn +  
12 noon Priest's Intention

**Saturday, June 11**

8:30 a.m. Virginia Schlather +  
5 p.m. Kathleen Bethea +

**Sunday, June 12**

6:15 a.m. Parish Priests  
7:45 a.m. Siegfried & McEnrue families +  
9 a.m. People of the Parish  
10:30 a.m. Donna Gapuz  
12 noon Tammy & Kylie family

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**FROM THE PASTOR**

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**Only Catholics Are In Heaven?** -- There is an old and rather annoying joke about the devout Protestant who dies and is met by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates for a tour of heaven. As the tour goes on Saint Peter points out all the different denominations, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and so forth. As they come to a certain group way off to themselves, Saint Peter draws the man closer and whispers, "Now, for this next group, we need to be really quiet. They are the Catholics and they think they're the only ones here." Good jokes are funny because of certain clever contrasts with the truth. But

some attempts at humor, like this one, fail because of muddled logic and a distortion of the truth. This joke fails because, verily, there is no need for faith in heaven. The joke takes a needless swipe of the Catholic understanding of the Faith as the "true religion." A faith and moral doctrines of a religion – or aspects of a religion – are either true or false.

**Christ identifies Himself** -- as the "way, the truth and the life." The early Church was known simply as "the Way." In every time, the Magisterium of the Catholic Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, proclaims "fullness of truth" of Jesus Christ. Every soul upon entering eternity is measured against the definitive revelation of the truth of Christ. In acknowledging the truth of faith, one becomes more accountable, not less. If the Catholic faith is true (as Catholics ought to believe), then when the fullness of truth is revealed on the Day of Judgment to every soul – Catholic or non-Catholic - - the Catholic Faith will be validated as true. The same logic (in terms of expectations) holds for anyone who thoughtfully subscribes to any religion. Why would anyone be Lutheran or Muslim or Hindu if he harbored any significant doubts as to the ultimate truth of the religion, a truth that must be definitively validated upon entering eternity?

**The insistence that the truths** -- of the Catholic faith are validated in heaven (and hell, for that matter), upon close inspection, does not suggest that non-Catholics of goodwill cannot be saved. In particular cases it could be argued that a devout non-Catholic is doing the will of the Father more perfectly than many Catholics. Equally consistent with the truth "heaven validates the truths of the Catholic faith" is to insist that it is beyond our authority and competence to declare the condemnation of this or that person. Christ Himself warns, "Judge not and ye shall not be judged." Catholics are in the business of proclaiming salvation in Christ, not condemning anyone to hell. One hopes Judas and Hitler and Osama bin Laden – and that good-for-nothing office manager– made it (or will make it) to heaven. But if not, only God knows. And if they fell short of eternal bliss (to use a euphemism), God's justice is served.

**Contemplating the reality** -- and prospect of hell is sobering. There are real consequences for willfully avoiding ultimate questions about our existence and the meaning of a good life. Every Catholic, for example, must confront a personal inadequacy in understanding the Catholic Faith. Priests frequently must correct penitents who regularly receive Communion at Mass despite their objective mortal sins: invalid marriages; deliberately missing Mass with an insufficient reason; the usual sexual sins; etc. Day by day, Catholics are obliged to deepen their understanding of the Faith and purify goodwill with the express purpose, at minimum, of avoiding fires of hell.

**In this week's Gospel, Christ asserts** -- before His Ascension into heaven, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me." If true, the way of Christ is not only worth proclaiming; His way is an imperative. Our reasoning and conclusions may be flawed. Our understanding of our Faith may be far too vague. But there is no joke in the demand Christ places on us: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing

them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Source of preceding: Pastor’s Gospel Commentary.)

**A number of thoughtful parishioners** – have begun to use their bank’s “bill pay” routine for their monthly donations. It works very nicely and we encourage its use. If you choose to use the bank application for this purpose, please place your envelope number on the “Account number” line. Again, thanks for your continuing generosity.

**The gym floor replacement fund** – is holding steady at \$10,948 with the help of 24 benefactors. The goal is \$55,000, or at least widespread participation according to the means of those who use the gym.

**The House of Representatives recently** -- approved the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act," a historic bill that completely bans taxpayer-funded abortion! Over the past 5 months, the new Republican majority has made great progress towards abolishing this terrible misuse of your tax dollars. But, given Planned Parenthood's host of lobbyists, allies on the Left and latest drive to raise \$1 million from supporters, this fight is far from over. That's why Catholic Advocate is rallying our troops to hold elected leaders accountable. We will not tolerate being lied to and manipulated so they can score political points. And we most certainly will not tolerate their attempts to fund the abortion business with our hard-earned money. With the presidential election less than a year-and-a-half away and campaigns already gearing up, now is the time to solidify our base of pro-life activists. Because the number of Catholic voters makes up a large portion of the pro-life movement, Catholic Advocate is preparing to be at the frontlines, ensuring that the abortion issue is not forgotten in the political debate... (Source: See more <http://www.catholicadvocate.com>.)

**Obama Administration threatens Indiana** -- over defunding Planned Parenthood by Peter J. Smith: The Obama administration is not happy with Indiana for being the first state to defund Planned Parenthood. According to reports, the administration is considering taking away the state’s Medicaid money in retaliation. Pro-life Gov. Mitch Daniels recently signed into law a measure that bars state agencies from entering into contracts with abortion providers, aside from hospitals. The law also bans abortion past 20 weeks gestation, with an exception for the life or physical health of the mother. The law effectively cuts Planned Parenthood off from approximately \$3 million in state family planning funds, unless the state organization divides into separate independent affiliates that have nothing to do financially with abortion-providing affiliates. The New York Times reports that federal officials are considering withholding some or all of the state’s Medicaid money in order to pressure the state to allow the nation’s largest abortion provider to tap into family planning funds. The Times reports that the administration has 90 days to take action. The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said in a statement approved by the White House: “Federal law prohibits federal Medicaid dollars from being spent on abortion services. Medicaid does not allow states to stop beneficiaries from getting care they need — like cancer screenings and preventive care — because their provider offers certain other services. We are reviewing this particular situation and situations in other states.” (Source: LifeSiteNews.com, May 24, 2011.)



***PRAYER OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI  
TO OUR LADY OF SHESHAN  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER  
FOR THE CHURCH IN CHINA (24 MAY 2008)***

Virgin Most Holy, Mother of the Incarnate Word and our Mother, venerated in the Shrine of Sheshan under the title "Help of Christians", the entire Church in China looks to you with devout affection. We come before you today to implore your protection. Look upon the People of God and, with a mother’s care, guide them along the paths of truth and love, so that they may always be a haven of harmonious coexistence among all citizens.

When you obediently said "yes" in the house of Nazareth, you allowed God’s eternal Son to take flesh in your virginal womb and thus to begin in history the work of our redemption. You willingly and generously cooperated in that work, allowing the sword of pain to pierce your soul, until the supreme hour of the Cross, when you kept watch on Calvary, standing beside your Son, who died that we might live.

From that moment, you became, in a new way, the Mother of all those who receive your Son Jesus in faith and choose to follow in his footsteps by taking up his Cross. Mother of hope, in the darkness of Holy Saturday you journeyed with unflinching trust towards the dawn of Easter. Grant that your children may discern at all times, even those that are darkest, the signs of God’s loving presence.

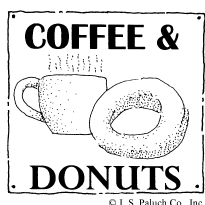
Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world, and of the world to Jesus.

In the statue overlooking the Shrine you lift your Son on high, offering him to the world with open arms in a gesture of love. Help Catholics always to be credible witnesses to this love, ever clinging to the rock of Peter on which the Church is built. Mother of China and all Asia, pray for us, now and forever. Amen!

**Puns For the Higher IQ**... A man’s home is his castle, in a manor of speaking. Dijon vu — the same mustard as before. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell? Reading while sunbathing makes you well red. A bicycle can’t stand on its own because it is two tired. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress. Every calendar’s days are numbered. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat. He had a photographic memory that was never developed. Once you’ve seen one shopping center, you’ve seen a mall. Bakers trade recipes on a knead-to-know basis.

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IN OUR PARISH  
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**The Second Collection** -- this weekend is for the *Catholic Communications Campaign*. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) collection in 1979 to respond to the national and local communications needs of the Church. The collection is unique in that proceeds are split equally between each participating diocese and the national office. Dioceses use their share of the CCC collection to support local communications efforts such as televised Masses and diocesan newspapers. On the national level, CCC funds support the development and production of a wide range of media initiatives that are carried out by USCCB staff and grantee organizations. A portion of the CCC's national funds are also set aside for grants to aid Catholic communication efforts in developing nations.



**Coffee & Donuts** -- will be available after the 7:45, 9, and 10:30 a.m. Masses in the All Purpose Room. Plan on joining us to spend time with friends and parishioners at this monthly event! This is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

**Diaper Collection** -- this weekend, June 4/5. Sizes 3, 4, and 5 are especially needed. Simply drop off donations in the designated box in the church vestibule. This helps clients of A Woman's Choice, a pro-life pregnancy resource center. For more information go to [www.AWomansChoiceCenter.com](http://www.AWomansChoiceCenter.com). Thanks for helping us help mom's choose life!

**Religious Education Program News** -- Our religious education program for 2010-11 has concluded with many blessings for all involved. Now is the time to enroll for 2011-12. If your children were enrolled this year you should have received re-enrollment forms within the past several weeks. Please update the forms and supply any missing or incorrect information and return them to the religious education office or the rectory as soon as possible. If the forms are returned by June 15th with at least half of the enrollment fee there is no increase in cost for next year. The remainder of any money is due by October 15th. If you don't have the forms we distributed or have new enrollees, there are forms available in the narthex of the Church or at the rectory. Financial arrangements are as given above. If there are any questions, please contact the Religious Education office, 703-941-9403.

**The parish office hours have slightly changed** -- please note that on Monday and Friday it is open from 9 a.m.—8 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m.—5 p.m., and on Sundays from 9 a.m.—1 p.m. For those with meetings, events, and room reservations, please pick up keys during these posted office hours. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Here are the names of family members** -- of parishioners who are serving our country overseas: Maj. Michael Swingler, USMC, son of Mary & Bill Swingler; James Pokorsky, USN, nephew of Father Pokorsky; PFC J.C. Atkinson, USMC, grandson of Deacon Ostrom; Lt. Col. Geoff Kent US Army, son-in-law of Betsy and David Lockman; PFC Mark Haugh, USMC, nephew of Ray Diroll; LCpl Chali Cameron USMC; Matt and Jay Waite, Army, friends of Mr. & Mrs. Ballard; and.... [please call Mary (703.256.7822) and we'll keep our prayers going for our soldiers in harms way. Let's keep this list growing].

**Please Pray for:** Jack Delaney\*; Frances Raftery\*; Jack & Pat Pearing; Maria Kerrinckx\*; Nick Giuliani; Pam Rugg\*; Dolores Rike\*; Marissa Ann Wuerthele\*; Michael O'Neill\*; John Wilson; John Zych\*; Mercedes Misko\*; Julia Lattanzio; Michael Rowan\*; Marguerite Wise; Hung Pham and Chau Duong\*; with apologies to anyone we dropped; to re-add names call Father Pokorsky or the Office for next week.

**Father's Day Novena** -- is coming up in a couple weeks. Please turn in the special Mass Intention envelope for the upcoming Father's Day Novena which will be from June 20 – June 22, 2011 to have your father, grandfather, godfather, etc. included in this prayerful way!

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IN OUR DIOCESE  
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**National Pilgrimage of Vietnamese American Catholics** -- will take place June 16-18, 2011. This three-day pilgrimage begins with a Mass and workshop at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Vietnam (11812 New Hampshire, Silver Spring, Maryland). On Friday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m., there will be another Mass and workshop at Holy Martyrs of Vietnam in Arlington. The three-day pilgrimage culminates with a procession and Solemn Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on June 18 at 1:30 p.m. This will commemorate the Fifth Anniversary of the establishment of Our Lady of Lavang Chapel. Bishop Vincent Nguyen Manh Hieu, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto, Canada, will preside over the Mass.

**Workshops on the New Translation of the Roman Missal** -- On Nov. 27, 2011, Catholics throughout the United States and in other English-speaking countries will begin praying the Mass with a revised translation of the Roman Missal. To aid the faithful in preparing for this revised translation, parishioners are invited to workshops on the New Missal to be held in various locations throughout 2011. Fr. Paul deLadurantaye, director of the Office of Sacred Liturgy and the Office of Catechetics of the Diocese of Arlington, will be the presenter. The final workshop in this series will be on June 25 at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Vienna, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Young Adult Holy Hour and Luau Cook-Out: June 25, from 7 to 10:30 p.m.** -- at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road in Alexandria. We'll offer praise and worship, time for silent prayer, confession, a reflection, and a social with specialty (non-alcoholic) drinks, with lots of delicious eats. A \$10 donation is request at the doors of the social. For more info please contact Kateri Ambrow at (703) 841-2550 or [yam@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:yam@arlingtondiocese.org).