

~ Parish founded in 1799 by the Servant of God, Father Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin ~
Parish church raised to the honor of a minor basilica by St. John Paul II in 1996

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel

Home of the Prince Gallitzin Chapel House and the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies



A parish of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
Very Rev. Father John David Byrnes, JCL, JV, Rector
Deacon Richard T. Golden
321 St. Mary Street PO Box 10 Loretto, PA 15940-0144

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 472-8551
Parish FAX 471-4959
Parish email basilicasm@dioceseaj.org
Parish website basilicasm-loretto.org
Parish Administrative Assistant- Mrs. Sherri Krug
Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:30AM-4:00PM
Father John Byrnes email
jbyrnes@dioceseaj.org
Our Lady of Loretto Hall Rental 886-4619
Bingo 471-2764

MASS SCHEDULE

Fall/Winter/Spring

Sunday Vigil Mass: 4PM
Sunday Masses: 8:00AM and 10:00AM
Summer- Memorial Day to Labor Day
Sunday Vigil Mass: 4PM
Sunday Masses: 8:00AM and 7:00PM (Shrine)

Daily Mass

Monday - Wednesday 7:30AM Friday 8:45AM

Holy Days

See schedule in bulletin

Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturdays 11:30-12:30 or anytime by request



St. Michael
the Archangel
defend us
in battle

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick - upon request for the sick or homebound

Infant Baptism - please call the parish office to schedule preparation

Marriage - 9 months preparation needed please call the parish office

Christian Initiation of Adults - For adults interested in becoming Catholic, please call Cindy McMullen 471-6658

High School Confirmation Process - Ms. Celeste Stolz 472-9808 Sundays 846-5114

PRAYER

Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction - Holy Hour 6:00PM Wednesdays

Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions- June 23 - 24 2019

Rosary for Vocations - 20 minutes prior to Sunday Mass

Devotions to Our Lady of Loretto-following 7:30AM Mass on Mondays

Parish Mission of Our Lady of Loretto - Fourth Week of Lent

EDUCATION

St. Michael School Mrs. Renee Phister 472-9117

Bishop Carroll Catholic High School Mrs. Lorie Ratchford 472-7500

Religious Education Ms. Celeste Stolz 472-9808 Sundays 846-5114

Catholic Outreach

Diocesan Website www.ajdiocese.org

Vocations Office 695-5579 x2681

Diocesan Family Life Office 886-5551

Dorothy Day Center 472-3359

Catholic Charities Johnstown 535-6538 Altoona 944-9388

Crisis Pregnancy/Pro-Life 1-800-395-HELP www.optionline.org

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255

Away from Loretto on Sunday? 1-858-207-6277 or www.masstimes.org

PARISH LIFE

Parish Council- Mrs. Mary Weiland 674-2631

Finance Council- Mr. Nick Byrne 419-9593

Liturgical Music-Mr. Jonathan Nagy 244-1876

Altar&Rosary Society- Mrs Maggie Biter 472-6064

Catholic Fraternal Organizations

Legion of Mary-Mrs. Janet Zabrosky 472-6097

Knights of Columbus-Mr. Bob Crusciel 243-9971

Secular Franciscans-Mrs. Betty Soisson 472-4667

DECEMBER 9, 2018 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec. 9	Second Sunday of Advent 8:00AM People of the parish 10:00AM Patrick McDermott (family)
Monday, Dec. 10	Our Lady of Loretto 7:30AM Living & deceased members of the Memorial Fund
Tuesday, Dec. 11	Advent Weekday 7:30AM Ralph Farabaugh (Mag & Dave Weiland)
Wednesday, Dec. 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe 7:30 AM Paul Kozicky (Phyllis & Anthony Russo) 6 PM Weekly Eucharistic Holy Hour with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, Dec. 13	St. Lucy NO MASS (Mass at Carmelite Monastery@7:45 AM)
Friday, Dec. 14	St. John of the Cross 8:45AM Margaret Lee (Ron & Audrey Lee family)
Saturday, Dec. 15	Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent 4:00PM Donald Mento (family)
Sunday, Dec. 16	Third Sunday of Advent 8:00AM Linda Smith (family) 10:00AM People of the parish



ADVENT 2018

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JOHN:

Dear Parish Family,

I invite you to receive the Sacrament of Penance this Advent by making a good confession before Christmas. Our **Parish Advent Penance Service** is scheduled for this Thursday evening, December 13. Listed below are a variety of opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament!

Special Advent Confession Schedule

Thursday, December 13 St. Michael Basilica Advent Penance Service at 7 PM

7 priests will join me in offering Confessions during our Parish Penance Service.

This is a Religious Education event. **All Religious Education students are expected to attend.**

Thursday, December 13 St. Michael School Students Eucharistic Adoration and Penance Service at 10 AM

Saturday, December 15 First Reconciliation Penance Service at 10 AM

(2 priests) Second Grade parishioners will celebrate the Sacrament for the first time today. Family members will also celebrate the sacrament. A reception will follow in St. Michael School Hall.

Local Parishes

Wednesday Dec 12	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Augustine, St. Augustine	7:00 PM
Sunday Dec 16	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg	2:00 PM
Monday Dec 17	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Monica, Chest Springs	7:00 PM
Wednesday Dec 19	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Demetrius, Gallitzin	7:00 PM
Friday Dec 20	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Nicholas, Nicktown	7:00 PM



Tomorrow, December 10, is the **Feast of Our Lady of Loretto!** Join in our celebration at our **7:30 AM Mass**, followed by our weekly devotions to Our Lady of Loretto!



***The Spirit of the Season* CONCERT-** On behalf of our Director of Sacred Music, Jonathan Nagy, I invite you to attend a special Christmas Concert on **Thursday December 27 at 7 PM** in the basilica! Featuring.....**The Basilica Choir * La Bella Musica String Quartet * St. Michael School Choir** ...offering Christmas carols and anthems. A free will offering will be taken.

Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season!

Visits to Homebound/Anointing of the Sick - I am visiting our homebound parishioners in preparation for Christmas. If you know of others in need of the Sacrament, please call me at the rectory.

Decorating The Basilica for CHRISTMAS!

St. Michael's is a "Christmas Church" having opened as the First Church in Western Pennsylvania on Christmas Eve 1799! We feel it's an honor to prepare our Church for this blessed time of year.

On that note.... we'd like to announce the times for decorating. It does take several days! We invite all who are able to come & we realize what a busy time it is - many hands will make it "happen" more quickly.

Monday, Dec. 17 – Full Committee will meet @ 9:30 A.M. Please come back if you have helped in the past, if not, don't hesitate to come – we need many hands.

Thursday, Dec.20 – Flower Committee needed @ 9:30 A.M. to uncover and put the Poinsettias in place. *This should only take one hour.*

2018 Christmas Schedule

Solemn Christmas Eve Mass 4 PM **Children's Christmas Eve Mass 7 PM (sung by our Children's Choir)**

Solemn Christmas Midnight Mass (Christmas anthems by the Basilica Choir begin at 11:20PM)

Solemn Mass of Christmas Morning 10 AM

All Altar Servers are to be in the sacristy twenty minutes before the Christmas Masses



Weekly Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations Wednesdays 6-7 PM

Begin a commitment to weekly prayer at Eucharistic Adoration! Spend some time with Jesus!

6 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, scripture, brief reflection, quiet prayer and adoration, rosary at 6:30 PM, prayers for vocations, quiet prayer, closing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

SEEK is a bi-yearly conference organized by Focus, which is a Catholic organization that puts campus ministers and chaplains on a lot of campuses across the US. SEEK will be held January 3-7, 2019. I will be attending the conference along with several students from CalU and Waynesburg University, as well as about 13,000 other Catholic college students from around the world. The fund raising that I am requesting to do at St. Michael's would directly benefit me and my fellow students, as well as those from Waynesburg.. Any help from the parishioners for funding this life changing trip would be greatly appreciated! I attended SEEK 2017, and it literally did change my life, so I am hoping that this year will have an even more profound impact on my life and the lives of those attending SEEK with me. Thanks for all of your help and support! God Bless, *Vince Byrne*



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS TICKETS Thank you to all who have turned in the 12 Days fundraiser tickets. If you will not be purchasing or selling your tickets, please return them to the office as soon as possible as we have a waiting list for them! We appreciate your support. **Please turn in all tickets by December 10th.**

The 2018 Catholic Ministries Drive “Making Christ A Home In Your Heart”- continues in our parish and all parishes throughout our diocese. Our **target** this year is **\$22,300**. **So far we have received \$16,182 towards our target goal. We are in need of \$6,118 to meet our goal.** Last year we raised over \$19,000. **I invite your generosity** to this drive which focuses on a select group of ministries which funds care for the poor through Catholic Charities, Marriage preparation and Family Life, education of future priests and seminarians’ formation, and youth programs such as Camp Timothy and Zacchaeus. I ask that those families and individuals who have registered recently in the parish join our long-time parishioners in helping support the drive.

PRAYER LIST Edna Eckenrode, Annette Farrell, Mary Lureen Scanlan, Ken Snowberger, Robert Ruffing, Betty Pryce, Emanuel Ruffing, Dorothy Knopp, Olivia McConnell, Jack McConnell, Toots Volk, Valerie Thomas, Luke Eckenrode, Edna McConnell, Christopher Ruffing, Tina Ruffing, The intentions of the Alumni Circle of Prayer, our Military, and the Sainthood Cause of our founding Pastor, the Rev. Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENT Liturgical Ministries: December 10-16

(R) December 10, 11, 12 Ann Sutton (EM) December 10, 11, 12 (if deacon is present, he assists)

ALTAR SERVERS: December 10-14

Mornings: December 10, 11, 12, 14 Connor McMullen, Meghan McMullen

Holy Hour Wednesday, December 12 6PM-7PM Dane Van Horn, Hanna Taddy

December 15-16

4:00PM Logan Hoover, Nick Clark, Jude Koehle

8:00AM Maddison & Makenna Lee, Briette Hite

10:00AM Mason & Colin Beiswenger, Mia Wyland

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION December 15-16

4:00PM Diane Copoulos, Donna Schenk

8:00AM Nadine Callahan, Joan Krug

10:00AM Janet Hogue, Carol Hines

READERS: December 15-16

4:00PM Donna Schenk

8:00AM Nadine Callahan

10:00AM Kevin McConnell

MUSIC MINISTERS: December 15-16

ORGANISTS: 4PM Joel 8AM Jonathan 10AM Jonathan

CANTORS: 4PM Carol 8AM Doug 10AM Monica

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE Online Giving is available at basilicasm-loretto.org

December 2, 2018

Offertory \$6,954

Online Giving \$597

Total \$7,521

Weekly Goal \$6,800

Difference+\$721

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL NEWS

We thank the following parents for delivering fruit baskets last week: **Lew Klatt, Deb Hoover, Ann Beiswenger, and Melissa Grata.** The sharing of your time was greatly appreciated. Approximately **100 fruit baskets** were made and delivered. We also thank all our **families** for their generous donations of fruit and our eighth-grade students for their spectacular job in assembling the fruit baskets.

We cordially invite the parents and grandparents of our **eighth-grade** students to their special lunch on **Monday, December 10th @ 11:30 am.** We are looking forward to serving and spending time with our special guests.

Our annual Christmas program will be held on **Wednesday, December 12th at OLOLCH**. We will be having **two** performances. The **afternoon** performance will begin at **12:30 pm** and the **evening** performance will begin at **6:30 pm**. All are welcome to attend and we look forward to having you as our guests!

Our “**Santa Secret Shop Spectacular**” will take place on **Friday, December 14th**. Students will have the opportunity to do their Christmas shopping for their families. The Home School Association will host their annual **Christmas luncheon**. Students will enjoy pizza and a sundae bar at no charge.

Our **second-grade** students will receive the sacrament of *Reconciliation* for the first time on **Saturday, December 15th @10 am**. Let us pray that the reception of this sacrament deepens their faith as witnesses to Christ’s mercy.

It’s a sweetheart of a deal! Our school council is sponsoring their annual recreational vehicle raffle. This year’s ticket features the winner’s choice of a **Textron Altera 570 EPS Four-Wheeler or an Arctic Cat Lynx 2000 ES Snowmobile, or \$6000 cash** determined by the **February 14th First Pick 4 EVENING** drawing. **New this year, a second prize, a \$100 Gas Card will be awarded based on the February 14th First Pick 4 DAY** drawing. Tickets are **\$10** each and can be purchased from any school family or by phoning the school office @ 472-9117.

Let us help you with your **Christmas** shopping! **Gift cards** from numerous retailers, restaurants, and grocery stores are readily available through our SCRIP Program. We are pleased to announce that **Taco Bell (\$10 Cards)** has been added to our inventory for your convenience. Just in time for the holidays **Amazon, Target** and **WalMart** gift cards will be available in **\$10** increments for a limited time. If you would like to purchase SCRIP cards during the week or need information pertaining to our SCRIP program please call the **school office**.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

WEEKLY REFLECTION: Advent Begins...Prepare the Way of the Lord!

December 13 -Thursday 7pm Advent Parish & Religious Education Penance Service/ grades 3-11 required

December 15 – Saturday, Celebration of First Penance (Confessions) 10am -Reception to follow in St. Michael's School Hall

December 16 - Classes (Grades 1-11)

December 23 & 30 - No Classes, Christmas Vacation - Students participate in Christmas Liturgies with their families.

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHOIR PRACTICE - We have begun preparing for Christmas! Choir practices are Sunday evenings at 6 PM. Come for at least one practice and see if you like it!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - The third annual Basilica Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 27 at 7 PM. The concert will feature the Saint Michael School choir, La Bella Musica String Quartet, and the Basilica choir, singing a compilation of Christmas arrangements. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!

LORETTO COMMUNITY

Hello Skiers! It’s that time of year to hit the slopes! Your **family, friends** and **relatives** have the opportunity to participate in the **Saint Michael School Ski Club!** **ALL** are **welcome** and **encouraged** to be part of the wintertime fun! You **do not** have to be a student at Saint Michael School to join. Our club is open to **anyone** wishing to participate. Our ski club will operate on the following dates during the hours of **4:30 pm-8:30 pm: Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019, Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019, Saturday Feb. 2, 2019 and Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019.** **Additional information and waivers (all skiers, including adults, must sign a *Blue Knob Waiver* in order to ski)** may be obtained from our school website: www.st-michael-school.org, the school office or by contacting Abby Rice directly. All forms, along with payment are due by **Sunday, December 16, 2018.** **Forms may be returned to the Saint Michael School office or mailed to Abby Rice 151 Harvey Lane, Ebensburg, PA 15931.** **Please contact Abby at 932-2209 or via email: abby.rice.78@gmail.com** with any questions you may have.

The Loretto Legion Children's Christmas Party. It is to be held Sunday **December 23th** from 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the Legion Hall. All Members of the Legion and their families and the children from Loretto Borough, Munster Township, Allegheny Township, And Chest Springs Borough are invited.

AROUND THE AREA

Christmas Bake Sale at Queen of Peace Parish Center (upper level) in Patton. Saturday **December 15th**. Doors open at 9AM. Cookie platters & trays, cinnamon & pumpkin rolls, sticky buns, nut rolls, Panettone bread, Yule logs, Old English Plum Pudding, cheese balls, tarts, and much much more! No pre-orders. Come early!

St. Nicholas Parish invites you to our breakfast on Sunday, **December 16th**, from 6:30AM until Noon (or sold out) in the Church Hall, Nicktown. The price for adults is \$8, children 5-12 will be \$4, and under age 4 are free.