Welcome Friends of Christ,

Greetings! St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church is happy to have you and your family as part of our growing Church community. This Guide Book has been created to assist you in discovering the many ways in which you can serve within your parish home. It is a resource for current parish information and will lead you to our weekly bulletin and parish website for detailed scheduled events and meetings.

As a registered parishioner of St. Michael the Archangel, you and your family are encouraged to become involved and enjoy the societies, clubs and group activities which are a vibrant part of your parish life. Your participation will help strengthen your Christian beliefs as well as unite all those within our parish home.

Your involvement with your parish is greatly needed; please know that you can make a difference here. By supporting the various ministries and events you and your family can make our parish great,; evangelizing the word of Christ in action.

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church is your parish home. We are blessed with having you and your family as part of our Church Parish Family.

God Bless You and Your Family,

[Signature]
Parish Mission Statement
To engage our Parish Family in continuing the loving and reconciling ministry of Jesus Christ through Worship, Witness, and Works.

Parish History

On October 3, 1981, Monsignor John Scully was given the responsibility of establishing a parish in the Countryside/ Clearwater area. The next morning he celebrated Mass in the yet unnamed parish referred to as the “Countryside Mission Catholic Church”. At that time our parish neighbors were St. Ignatius, north; Light of Christ, south; Espiritu Santo, east; Our Lady of Lourdes, west. The location of the new church was 13.1 acres of land on State Road 580, a quarter of a mile west of U.S. 19 North. Before the church was built, Sunday Liturgies were celebrated in the Countryside Movie Theater until Monsignor obtained the use of the new Countryside High School. Weekday Liturgies continued to be celebrated at Chief Charlies Restaurant.

On December 11, 1981, Most Reverend W. Thomas Larkin, D.D. Bishop of St. Petersburg broke ground for the new church. Construction on the temporary church building began later that same month. The projected completion date was December, 1982. On December 24, 1982, the First Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated in the Church on Christmas Eve. The Church was formally blessed by Bishop W. Thomas Larkin on March 13, 1983. Monsignor John Scully was transferred to St. Theresa Catholic Church in Spring Hill and Reverend Donat McDonagh was appointed Administrator and later, named Pastor in June 1983. Three and a half years later, Reverend James E. Russo was installed as Pastor on February 14, 1987.

In 1991, Guardian Angels Primary School opened in the new classrooms at St. Michael’s with Rev. James E. Russo as School Pastor and Sr. Jean Marie Dick, S.N.D., as Principal. The 35 kindergarten and first graders had Cindy Mann and Cindy Malinski as their teachers. St. Michael’s would be its home until the fall of 1995, when it moved to new facilities on Evans Road.

Father Cooke launched a year-long celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the parish in November 2005, which included social activities and a parish retreat preached by Bishop Robert Lynch. The Silver Jubilee Campaign retired the parish mortgage and paid for the completion of the refurbishment of facilities; with the slogan “Debt Free For Our Jubilee” the campaign surpassed its goal.

Father Gregg Tottle was appointed Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel by Bishop Robert Lynch effective July 1, 2009.

**Chronology**

- December 24, 1982, the First Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated in the Church on Christmas Eve
- St. Michael Housing, Inc. was established and on September 30, 1983, the construction of Casa Miguel, a joint Diocesan/Housing and Urban Development (HUD) facility began
- Casa Miguel received its first residents on October 5, 1984
- On March 2, 1986 - Ground breaking for the Administration Building, Cenacle, Chapel and 12 classrooms
- February 6, 1988 - The new Administration Building, Cenacle, Chapel and 12 classrooms are opened
- January 1993 - The Phase I Building Campaign for the addition of a Narthex, Sacristies and Meditation Garden

**Our Parish Coat Of Arms**

Our parish coat of arms can leave the casual observer with a few questions: “What does all this symbolize?” The following answers those questions.

A red cross that has each arm end in a ball, is known as a “cross pommel”; it is also known as the “Cross of St. Michael.” These arms that cross, honoring the titular patron of the parish, have been modified to be an inverted Latin Cross (as we would usually think of it, upside-down) to honor St. Peter, for whom the Sea City of the Diocese of St. Petersburg is named.

Tradition tells us that when St. Peter was to be crucified by the Romans he felt himself unworthy to die in the same way as Our Lord. Obligingly the Romans honored his wish and crucified him upside-down. Thus, by using the inverted Latin Cross Pommel, in red, we honor both St. Michael the Archangel, patron of the parish, and St. Peter, patron of the diocese.

The background of the shield is composed of wavy bars of blue and white to represent the clear waters, for which the city of Clearwater is named.
Office Hours
Mon. - Thur. 9:00 to 4:00, Fri. 9:00 to 12:00
Phone (727) 797-2375
Website http://www.stmichaelfl.org

Parish Staff
Fr. Gregg Tottle .................. Pastor ............................................ (727) 797-2375
Fr. Theodore Costello ............ Associate Pastor ............................ (727) 797-2375
Deacon Paul Koppie .............. Pastoral Assistant ......................(727) 797-2375 Ext 215
Sr. Thérèse Carolan, OSC ... Pastoral Assistant ............ (727) 797-2375 Ext 229
Eileen Woodbury ............... Parish Administrator .... (727) 797-2375 Ext 221
Katie White ....................... Dir. of Religious Education ................ (727) 797-2375 Ext 243
Elizabth Lyons ............... Director of Music ......................... (727) 797-2375 Ext 237
Cheryl de la Cruz ................. Youth Director ....................... (727) 797-2375 Ext 244
Idania Kessler ................. Office Assistant ......................... (727) 797-2375 Ext 223
Bert Tottle ...................... Plant Manager ....................... (727) 797-2375 Ext 234
Fran Pericone ................... Bookkeeper ....................... (727) 797-2375 Ext 214
Chuck Chucri .................... Chairman of the Parish Council .......... 
Nancy Ridenour .................. Chairman of the Finance Committee 
Mrs. Mary Stalzer .......... Principal - Guardian Angels School (.727) 799-6724
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We’re part of your community

To say that we are part of your community, means much more than just our location. It describes what we do and how we operate our company.

Giving back is the core of our philosophy. We’re not a huge corporation. We are a family owned business and have been for over 30 years. So, we are proud to live here, work here and support local businesses.

727.789.2000 • CurlewHills.com
1750 Curlew Road • Palm Harbor
Schedule of Services

**MASS TIMES**
Saturday: 4:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM  
3:00 PM Spanish Misa En Español  
Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM  
Saturday: 8:00 AM with Anointing of the Sick

**CONFESSION TIMES**
Saturday: 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM and after the 4:00 PM Mass.  
Thursday: before the first Friday of each month: after the 8:00 AM Mass  
Confesión En Español: Sunday 2:00 PM

**WHAT TO DO IF...**

You are a returning Catholic:  
If you have been “away” from the Catholic Church for a while, St. Michael’s Church has a mission to help you return called “Catholics Come Home.” Additional information can be found on page 18.

You are interested in becoming Catholic:  
RCIA information sessions are held each summer, with the regular session beginning in the fall. Additional information can be found on page 10.

You would like to have your baby baptized:  
Parishioners should call the church office six weeks in advance. Parents should participate in catechetical baptismal classes offered by the parish. Additional information can be found on page 12.

You would like to have your child receive First Holy Communion:  
As a person enters into the Sacrament of Holy Communion they deepen their relationship with God. Special classes are conducted at St. Michael the Archangel in our Religious Education Ministry. Please contact our Director of Religious Education for more information.

You would like to have your child Confirmed:  
The Sacrament of Confirmation strengthens a person’s relationship to God with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Participants are usually in eighth grade when beginning the program. Special classes are conducted in our Religious Education Ministry. Please contact our Director of Religious Education for more information.
You would like to get married:
To be married at St. Michael the Archangel parish, you should contact the office at least six months in advance of the date to make arrangements for wedding preparation activities including the required formation program. Please note: If previously married, the process will take longer. To make an appointment to schedule a wedding date, please contact our parish office.

You need to arrange for a funeral Mass for the recently deceased:
Please call the parish office at (727) 797-2375.

You would like to receive Anointing of the Sick:
Anointing of the Sick is available to anyone under severe or chronic illness or is about to undergo surgery, at the Saturday 8:00 AM Mass or by request. Please call the parish office for more information.

You would like a parish priest to visit someone who is sick or you are homebound and would like Communion brought to you:
The priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist are available to bring Holy Communion to the home. Please call the parish office at (727) 797-2375 if a parishioner is in the hospital, nursing home, or homebound.

You would like to arrange a Mass Intention for the living or deceased:
Remembering your loved ones in an Intention announcement at Mass can be arranged by visiting our parish office. If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary to commemorate a special occasion, please visit or call our parish office at (727) 797-2375.

You need to update your contact information:
If you have moved or have a new phone number, please contact the parish office or submit a new parish registration through the parish website; http://www.stmichaelfl.org.

You have questions about offertory or would like to sign up for EFT:
If you would like to have offertory contributions come directly out of your account each month (or bi-monthly, weekly, etc.) you may sign up for Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) by registering for Online Giving on page 24.
Don’t wait to say “I Love You”... and say it often!

Brooksville Chapel
1190 S. Broad St.
Brooksville, FL 34601
Phone: (352) 796-4991
Fax: (352) 799-6451

Laural Oaks at Historic
Masaryktown Cemetery
16345 Squirrel Prairie Rd.
Brooksville, FL 34604
Phone: (352) 796-4991
Fax: (352) 799-6451

Spring Hill Chapel
4450 Commercial Way
Spring Hill, FL 34606
Phone: (352) 596-4991
Fax: (352) 596-9070

Seven Hills Chapel
280 Mariner Blvd.
Spring Hill, FL 34609
Phone: (352) 688-4991
Fax: (352) 686-5673

Tampa Chapel
3328 S. Dale Mabry
Tampa, FL 33629
Phone: (813) 835-4991
Fax: (813) 839-1131

Dunedin Chapel at Parklawn
Memorial Cemetery
2966 Belcher Rd.
Dunedin, FL 34698
Phone: (727) 314-4991
Fax: (727) 223-8966

Kurfiss Clermont Chapel
1018 West Ave.
Clermont, FL 34711
Phone: (352) 394-8500
Fax: (352) 394-2227

Kurfiss Groveland Chapel
132 E. Magnolia St.
Groveland, FL 34736
Phone: (352) 429-3500
Fax: (352) 429-5213

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Religious Education for Children
Our Religious Education for Children educates our children on the Catholic Faith. This ministry provides a structured program for all our children who are not attending a Catholic school. Special classes are also conducted to prepare children to receive their Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation. The goal of this ministry is to enable and encourage the students to learn more about their Faith.

Students in Grades K-1 attend Religious Education Class on Sunday morning from 9:30 AM till 10:30 AM. Students in Grades 2-8 attend Religious Education Class on Monday evenings from 6:45 PM till 8:00 PM. The classes are held from September through May. Parents can register their children for Religious Education on the parish website or by stopping by the parish office. Parents must stop by the parish office to register their children for First Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Spiritually gifted lay Catholic women and men who become Catechists are commissioned by the Pastor and assist in the teaching of these classes. This program also needs women and men to help as assistants and plan special programs and events. Please call the Director of Religious Education, at (727) 797-2375 Ext 243 to volunteer for this ministry.

RCIA
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a journey which gently leads adults into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ within the Catholic Church. For adults seeking Baptism, First Eucharist, or Confirmation, it is a spiritual time of preparation and conversion for the celebration of the sacraments they are seeking. This year-long process is for unbaptized adults and for baptized Christians of other faiths. Catholics who are baptized but who have not received the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation are also invited to be part of the process.

RCIA begins in September with weekly gatherings and continues through early May. Besides providing catechesis of the Catholic teachings, RCIA seeks to encourage and enlighten one’s faith, direct one’s heart to God, and guide one into a full participating member of the Body of Christ.

RCIA is also seeking volunteers to support this very special ministry as prayer partners, catechists, and sponsors. Please contact the Director of Religious Education at (727) 797-2375, Ext 243 for more information about enrollment.
Guardian Angels Catholic School
Guardian Angels Catholic is an inter-parochial elementary school supported by the parishes of All Saints, St. Ignatius of Antioch, St. Luke the Evangelist, and St. Michael the Archangel and covers the grades from Pre-K through Middle School. Guardian Angels, a student-centered institution, welcomes families into a distinctive learning environment that empowers students through the combination of faith-based learning and academic excellence. Guardian Angels is dedicated to cultivating strong relationships through service and stewardship within our school and community. We nurture the gifts and talents that each student possesses. Commitment to the education of the student and to Christ is the premise on which Guardian Angels was built and exists.

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church upholds and assists in the implementation of the philosophy and mission of Guardian Angels Catholic School. The school is dedicated to providing a challenging, faith-filled, education environment, fostering and reflecting Gospel values which establishes the foundation for an active life in service to the Church, community and world.

For more information on the school curriculum, enrollment and/or financial aid, please call (727) 799-6724. Guardian Angels Catholic School website: http://www.gacsfl.com

Bible Study
These small group sessions are designed for Catholics who want to continue their faith journey. The session includes reading Scripture, reflection and discussion with prayer. Morning and evening sessions are available for those interested in joining. Class times are posted in the bulletin or you may call the parish office at (727) 797-2375 for more details.

Men’s Group
Each Wednesday from 8:30-9:30 AM, the Men’s Group reads and reflects on the readings for the next Sunday Mass. A free discussion guide and coffee assists our lively informal discussion. Surrounded by all the issues of daily living, the men discover that the scripture readings encourage and challenge them to live with deeper insight into a Christian life. Participants include regulars, RCIA, converts, and seasonal visitors. This inter-parish group welcomes all men at any faith level.

Parish Library
Our Parish Library offers a large selection of religious resources in a variety of formats and is located in Room #13. It is open for circulation Fridays, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, and Sundays, Noon to 2:00 PM. Check the weekly parish bulletins for schedules of special programs and events (e.g. Movies, Inspirational Talks, Special Projects, etc.). For volunteer opportunities, please contact the church office for more information at (727) 797-2375.
Sacraments

Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions. Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition (Paragraph 1131)

We recognize that the Sacraments have a visible and invisible reality, a reality open to all the human senses but grasped in its God-given depths with the eyes of faith. When parents hug their children, for example, the visible reality we see is the hug. The invisible reality the hug conveys is love. We cannot “see” the love the hug expresses, though sometimes we can see its nurturing effect in the child.

Baptism

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: “Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water and in the word.” Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Ed. Para. 1213

We welcome you and your family with great joy to St. Michael the Archangel parish for the preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism for your child. Guidelines for baptism and the request form can be found on our parish website: https://www.stmichaelfl.org/sacraments-all-7-of-them. We hope the guidelines will be helpful as you begin this process.

To inquire into receiving the sacrament of Baptism in English, please contact Deacon Paul, at (727) 797-2375, Ext 215; en Español - Idania Kessler, (727) 797-2375, Ext 223.

Eucharist

“The Eucharist transforms the worshipping community so that we may be people of hope and action. The fruit of our faith is love and the fruit of our love is service. As we reflect upon the principles of Catholic social teaching, we realize that we are called to work for charity and justice.”

-Living Eucharist: Gathered, Nourished, Sent
The Most Rev. Robert N. Lynch, Bishop Emeritus of St. Petersburg

Eucharist celebrates our life together as a community. It is the central act of worship for Catholics. In the Eucharist, Christ is most profoundly present in the Church, which gathers to hear the Word of God and to share the nourishment of Christ’s Body with one another. Eucharist is celebrated daily by the entire community at all Masses.
Welcome to the comfortable, Residence Inn Clearwater Downtown. Whether traveling for the weekend or planning an extended stay, our Florida hotel's all-suite accommodations offer everything you need to feel relaxed, refreshed and productive. Ideally located just moments from Clearwater Beach and excitement of the downtown area, our studio, one- and two-bedroom suites feature fully-equipped kitchens and separate areas for living, dining and sleeping. Family- and pet-friendly, each hotel suite includes a pullout sofa bed for added flexibility along with free WI-FI and premium movie channels. Enjoy our complimentary daily breakfast buffet, refreshing outdoor pool and well-equipped fitness center. Or, if you're in the mood to explore, our hotel's location is near many great attractions in Clearwater, including Raymond James Stadium, Busch Gardens and the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Come see for yourself why the Residence Inn Clearwater Downtown is a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence winner!
First Communion

First Communion is traditionally celebrated in the Spring of the 2nd grade. Two years of formal instruction in the faith is recommended. Both children and parents participate in the immediate preparation of this sacrament. Youth who are beyond second grade and have not celebrated this sacrament are required to be enrolled in the religious education program and will also participate in preparation for their First Communion.

For additional information or to register for religious education, please contact the Director of Religious Education, at (727) 797-2375, Ext 243

Confirmation

Confirmation seals our Baptism and confirms our commitment both to the Church and to the work of Christ in the world.

Confirmation for young people is traditionally celebrated in the Spring of the 8th grade year. A minimum of one year of formal education prior to celebration of the Sacrament is required. Both candidates and parents participate in the preparation process.

For additional information or to register for Confirmation classes, please contact the Director of Religious Education, at (727) 797-2375, Ext 243

Reconciliation (Confession)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, sometimes referred to as “confession” celebrates God's mercy and helps us to experience divine forgiveness. It enables us to return to spiritual health in the family of God, to forgive ourselves and to become reconciled with others.

Confession Times:
Saturday - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM and after the 4:00 PM Mass.
Thursday before the first Friday of each month - after the 8:00 AM Mass
Sunday - 2:00 PM; Confesión En Español

In addition, Communal Reconciliation Services are scheduled at various times throughout the year (e.g. the seasons of Advent and Lent). Please refer to the bulletin for those times.
Anointing of the Sick

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the presbyters of the Church, and let them pray over them, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.” James 5:14-15.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick has as its purpose the conferral of a special grace on the Christian experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age. This special grace unites the sick person to the passion of Christ, provides strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings, forgives sins, and restores health if it is conducive to the salvation of the soul. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Ed. Para. 1131 & 1532

St. Michael the Archangel Church celebrates the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick every Saturday morning at the 8:00 AM Mass. Please alert the sacristan prior to the start of Mass if you wish to receive this sacrament.

Anointing of the Sick is also provided to those who are home-bound, or in a nursing home or hospital. Please contact the Director of Community Care, Sr. Thérèse Carolan, at (727) 797-2375, Ext 229, for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

“The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament.” Catechism of the Catholic Church second edition (paragraph 1601)

Marriage is a sacramental relationship of the utmost importance to the community and the Church. It is a personal relationship of life giving love in which man and woman make the love of Christ present to each other and become a sign of the love of Christ to those around them. In marriage, the relationship of the couple is the sacrament that reveals the love of God for his people.

First Time Marriages - Please call the parish office at (727) 797-2375 for an appointment at least six months in advance of the planned marriage date.

Previous Marriages - If one of the parties was married before (civilly or religiously, in the Catholic Church or outside of it) the previous marriage must be resolved, if possible, in light of the Church’s canon law. This can often take up to a year. Please call the parish office at (727) 797-2375 for an appointment.
Convalidation - Couples who have been married outside the Church who wish to have their marriage officially recognized by the Church will be asked to undergo preparation suited to their particular situation. The liturgical celebration in these circumstances is generally simple in nature and requires a new and valid act of consent to marriage. Please call the parish office at (727) 797-2375 for an appointment.

Holy Orders

*Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time; thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry. It includes three degrees: episcopate (bishop), presbyterate (priests), and diaconate (deacons).*  
Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition (Paragraph 1536)

If you feel you are being called to Holy Orders or a religious life, additional information can be found at the Diocese of St. Petersburg website under the “Vocations” tab (http://www.dosp.org/).
Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers
Altar servers assist the priest during the celebration of Mass and for other liturgical celebrations and devotions. Children and young adults from the age of 10 and up are encouraged to serve as Altar Servers. Because of their involvement with the liturgy, the ministry of altar server leads children to a greater appreciation of the Mass, and a deeper awareness of the importance of Christian service. Please contact Sean Hoolihan, sean.hoolihan@raymondjames.com, or the church office at (727) 797-2375.

Adult Servers
Adult altar servers are also needed. They help to serve the weekday and Saturday 8:00 morning Masses and other liturgical celebrations including funerals. To find out more about this ministry, please contact Tracy Marshall at (727) 432-0128.

Extraordinary Ministers
Extraordinary Ministers are appointed ministers and empowered by the Pastor to distribute Holy Eucharist to assist the clergy in distribution of Holy Communion at Mass, and visit the homebound, aged, and sick so that they may receive the Eucharist and remain connected with the parish community. We are always in need of more men and women. Please contact Sue Styles at (727) 781-5144.

Lectors
Lectors proclaim the Word of God, lead the Prayer of the Faithful and make announcements for the weekend Masses, Holy Days and special liturgical celebrations throughout the year. Adults and youth with excellent reading ability and a strong speaking voice are encouraged to inquire. Volunteers receive initial training, attend an annual workshop and are provided with ongoing guidance and support throughout the year. For further information or to volunteer for this very important ministry, please contact Nancy Faucette at (727) 204-8495.

Music Ministry
When you sing, you pray twice. Why not join our choir and make your voice heard? The music ministry consists of the Chancel Choir, Contemporary Choir, a Youth Ensemble, and Español.

The Chancel Choir members are high school age and older. This choir provides music for the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday and for special liturgies throughout the year. Our adult Contemporary Choir sings routinely at the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. The Junior Choir for children sings monthly during the school year at the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. For more information about these choirs please contact Liz Lyons at (727) 797-2375, Ext 237.
**Ushers**

The ministry of ushers is the oldest lay ministry in the Catholic Church. The ushers of today have descended from a long line of people of God who have gone before them. During the time of Christ, the doorkeepers of the temple numbered in the hundreds and were the forerunners of today’s ushers. Today, the usher’s primary duties and responsibilities include greeting and welcoming parishioners, maintaining order, controlling movement throughout the service, collecting and presenting the weekly offertory during Mass, and assisting and directing people should an emergency develop. They are the caretakers of the church and all its Parishioners, material items, and treasures. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Anthony Carbone at (727) 786-5771.

**Welcoming Committee**

This ministry is dedicated to greeting and welcoming parishioners to our Church. If you are a friendly person and wish to share your smile with others, join this ministry. Please contact Richard and Kathy Clark to find out more about this program by calling the parish office at (727) 797-2375.

**Sacristans**

Men, women and confirmed youth help prepare the altar, vestments and set-up the vessels for the weekday and Sunday Masses as well as special liturgies. Sacristans, if needed, may also serve as altar servers for weekday Masses, weddings, funerals or special occasions when youth servers are not available. To find out more about this ministry, please contact Tracy Marshall at (727) 432-0128.

**Decorating Committee**

The Church is decorated according to the liturgical season and for various events. If you have talent in decorating and would like to contribute time to preparing our church environment seasonally, please contact Denise McCracken by calling the church office at (727) 797-2375.
Outreach Ministries

Catholics Come Home
Do you know a family member or friend who has been “away” from the Catholic Church for a while? St Michael’s Church has a mission to help: “Catholics Come Home.”

Catholics Come Home is a national organization working to help Catholics return to the church. Any Catholic who wants to come home to the Church is invited at any time. Also, during Lent, St Michael’s has offered a 5 week evening class of 1 hour each week.

Studies show that people who practice their Christian faith and pray regularly are healthier and happier. Experience a positive difference in your life by visiting St. Michael’s and encountering Jesus through the sacraments. Do it for yourself. Welcome home.

If you want to discuss coming home to the church with a member of St Michael’s parish, call Bob Meadows at (727) 669-7906. Additional information on “Catholics Come Home,” can be found at the following website: http://www.catholicscomehome.org/

Community Care
Sr. Thérèse Carolan provides pastoral care for our parishioners in hospitals and nursing homes. In addition, Extraordinary Ministers bring the Eucharist to the Sick and Homebound and to facilities within our parish boundaries. Please contact our church office and ask for Sr. Thérèse Carolan for more information at (727) 797-2375, Ext 229.

Grief and Bereavement
Grief and Bereavement is a support group for individuals that have lost loved one(s) in the last two years and meets for six sessions on Thursdays at 1:30 PM several times each year. For more information call Sr. Thérèse Carolan at the church office (727) 797-2375, Ext 229.

Parish Vocation Enrichment Team
The Parish Vocation Enrichment Team (PVET) was established as a new ministry of St. Michael Parish in March, 2011. PVET is dedicated to fostering and promoting baptismal vocation consciousness among all the members of the parish community. The work of the Team is accomplished through prayer, worship, education, service and fellowship with the entire parish.

Volunteer parishioners come together four times a year to plan projects for the discernment, promotion and support of vocations, especially to ordained and consecrated religious life.

A major project of the Team has been to assist at the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Oratory on Wednesdays beginning at 8:30 AM and concluding with a Holy Hour and Benediction from 6:00 PM-7:00 PM.

For more information about this parish ministry, call Sr. Margaret Harig, SND, at (727) 408-0843.
Sangre De Cristo - Sister Parish Twinning Committee

In 2010, our parish, under the leadership of our pastor, Fr. Tottle, and in compliance with the wishes of Bishop Lynch, began a twinning project with Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) parish in Jinotega, Nicaragua. This extremely poor parish in Nicaragua with 24 remote mountain missions is staffed by one priest. Three teams of St. Michael volunteers, using their own resources, have visited this sister-parish and helped in ways needed at the time. In the years between 2010 and the present, the Committee has traditionally sponsored Spring and Fall events as major fundraisers; e.g. St. Patrick Day Dinner Dance. As a result of their hard work and due to the attendance of our parishioners at these events, we have been able to accomplish the following major projects:

- Building a rectory/parish Center. The priest had no place to live near the parish center or to meet with the people.
- Painting the Church exterior which is now visible as a bright jewel sitting in a valley surrounded by high mountains.
- Installing a bathroom and septic tank at the church which had no facilities.
- Rewiring and installing a new lighting system for the church which was very dark and a fire hazard.
- Installing two water tanks for storage to offset the effects of severe and frequent droughts.
- Helping build three mission chapels and providing statues of their patron saints which are very important to these people.
- Providing food for the people who come down from the mountains for leadership and catechetical training in two-day workshops.
- Providing scholarship funds for four students to attend college enabling them to get jobs and income. We want this fund to grow.
- Providing help to the pastor with tires for his Jeep as he visits each of these remote mountain missions for Mass and the Sacraments several times a year on nearly impassable roads.
- Providing security bars for the Sisters’ convent for their safety and well-being.

For more information on supporting this Parish Twinning Committee, please contact the Parish Office at (727) 797-2375.
Faith & Action for Strength Together
A justice ministry organization, F.A.S.T. is made up of more than 35 varied faith communities in Pinellas County. The mission of F.A.S.T. is to bring together people of all faiths to engage in a process of listening, educating and acting in order to address community issues in a powerful way. The goal is to serve as agents of change, calling for a renewed community by holding public systems accountable to improve the quality of life for all in Pinellas County and to foster and promote community wide interest and concern for the problems of individuals and families, particularly low to moderate income, so that such issues as poverty, crime, sickness, housing, education, and environmental degradation may be brought to the attention of our civic leaders. Our parish is actively involved in FAST and we invite you to help our seniors, the poor, and disabled of our county. To participate in this group or learn more, please contact Betty Taylor at (727) 734-1071.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
This Society ministers to the poor, needy, and homeless in our community by offering food, bus passes, and rent & utilities assistance. Monetary donations are collected outside the church doors once a month. Meetings are held twice monthly on the first Tuesdays and third Thursdays in St. Vincent de Paul Room #10. To participate in this group or for more information, please contact Ed Bruckner at the St. Vincent de Paul office; (727) 797-2375, Ext 217.

Respect Life
For the Church, there is no distinction between defending human life and promoting the dignity of the human person. As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death. The life and dignity of every person must be respected and protected at every stage and in every condition. The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace. (http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/index.cfm)

The Respect Life organization at St. Michael the Archangel has as its main objective to reinforce the Respect for all Human Life. Volunteers discuss events within the community to promote the Pro Life mission of the Church and our Parish Community. Please contact Donna Selkey at (727) 786-6322.
Pinellas Hope
Pinellas Hope is located in Clearwater on the over 20 acres of land provided by Bishop Robert Lynch and the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Pinellas Hope was established to serve street homeless adults by providing temporary emergency shelter. Intake is facilitated by three Community Outreach teams. Residents are assisted with food, transportation, employment assistance and social services.

Our parish contributes to Pinellas Hope a few times a year with serving a dinner meal. If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please contact the church office at (727) 797-2375.

Casa Miguel Apartments
Casa Miguel is a rental community with 82 units designed to provide housing for very low income elderly. It is owned and operated by St. Michael’s Housing, Inc., a non-profit corporation operating under the rules and regulations of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For more information, call (727) 797-8551.

Youth Ministry & Young Adults

Youth Ministry
The St. Michael the Archangel Youth Group seeks to have its focus and center in Christ; whether it be loving Him in our peers and parish community during youth activities and parish events, serving Him in the poor through service projects and charitable works, encountering Him in the Holy Sacraments and at conferences and retreats, or praying silently before Him in the Most Blessed Sacrament. We seek Christ and want to love Him!

Middle School students meet on Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 8:00 PM and High Schoolers meet on Sunday evenings 6:30 to 8:30 PM for spiritual reinforcement, fellowship, civic involvement, and just plain fun. Contact Cheryl de la Cruz at (727) 797-2375 Ext 244 to volunteer for this ministry.

Young Adults
A community of young professionals, those in college, graduates, and in the workforce, who come to learn more about their Catholic Faith and find fellowship with those of like mind. We provide bi-monthly book study, monthly social events, and enjoy Theology on Tap. For more information, contact Cheryl de la Cruz at (727) 797-2375 Ext 244.
Organizations

St. Michael’s Women’s Club
The St. Michael’s Women’s Club invites all women over the age of 18 to join and become involved in many ministries, fellowships and to build lasting friendships. Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month in the Cenacle at 10am. To join this club, contact Toni Montevago at (727) 420-2070.

Knights of Columbus - St. Michael Council 11295
From the moment of the Knights of Columbus founding in 1882, charity has been its first principle. We are men of faith and men of action.

Our charitable activities encompass an almost infinite variety of local, national and international projects. From international charitable partnerships with Special Olympics, the Global Wheelchair Mission and Habitat for Humanity to our own Food for Families and Support of Unwed Mothers projects and other local charities, the opportunity to work together with fellow Knights and their families is virtually endless.

“We are answering Pope Francis’ call to go to the peripheries,” Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said. “We can reach half way around the globe to help those in need and we can reach to our neighbor next door. And we do that every day. That makes us witnesses to the faith.”

If you’d like to be a part of an international organization of more than 1.9 million Catholic men whose principal work involves helping others in need, supporting our parishes, religious, and priests, and witnessing to our Faith, we’d like to meet you and invite you to join us.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, please call Anthony Carbone at (727) 786-5771.

K of C Ladies Auxiliary
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, St. Michael the Archangel, Council 11295 invites you to join us. Membership is open to any woman over the age of 18, married or single, who is the wife, mother, daughter or sister of a Knight of Columbus in good standing or the widow of a deceased Knight. A woman must be a practicing Catholic or the non-Catholic wife of a member of Council 11295.

We meet in Room #12 on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in conjunction with the Council meeting. After both meetings adjourn, we gather with the Knights in the Cenacle for refreshments and fellowship. The Auxiliary assists St Michael’s Council and the 4th Degree Assembly with their events and activities throughout the year and promotes the friendships and spiritual growth of its members. Women of the Auxiliary have the opportunity to serve Christ, our church, our community and each other as we pray together, work together, laugh and have fun together.

Come to one of our monthly meetings and see for yourself if the Auxiliary is for you. If you would like more information, please contact Pat Kantner, President, at (727) 692-1612.
Arts & Crafts
All are welcome to come join us on Wednesday mornings at 9 AM in Room #12 to share in the fun while creating items for our annual bazaars. We also make rosaries to be distributed around the world which you can pick up supplies for here and work on at home or with our group. Call Marie Bronson at (727) 789-3735 for more information.

Hispanic Association
Designed to meet the needs of our Hispanic Community; this social and faith sharing group meets every Tuesday morning from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM and the second & fourth Thursday of every month from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM in Room #12. To join this Association, contact Gladys Vargas at (727) 786-2657.

Alcoholics & Narcotics Anonymous
Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous are fellowship groups of men and women who share their experience, strengths and hopes with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking or stop taking drugs. The meetings are separate and are hosted here by St. Michael’s. Meetings for AA are Monday through Friday at 12:00 PM and at Thursday 8:00 PM. Meetings for NA are on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM.

Committees

Parish Council
The Parish Council acts as an advisory board to the Pastor. The work of the Council deals with matters of planning and development, public relations and community life. Members are elected to three year terms by the parishioners; should you wish to offer your name for candidacy, please submit your name. Elections are held each year.

Finance Committee
The Finance Council is a leadership board of consultants that assists the Pastor in financial planning of the parish. This includes the administration of all parish finances, building, and grounds which are presented in budgets within specific timelines. Minimum requirements for members include being an active parishioner and having financial expertise. Members are appointed by the Pastor and new council members serve a three year term.

Liturgy Committee
This committee of liturgical ministry leaders regulates and creates the reverence of Mass in which it is to be celebrated by all parishioners. Ministry leaders are active parishioners and are appointed by the Pastor.
Online Offertory Giving

Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. This convenient new system does not require you to contact your bank to sign up or to make changes. You can use any of your checking or savings accounts and the funds will be automatically transferred to our parish bank account or you can use your credit card for your giving. You can see reports on your contribution history and generate tax statements at each year’s end. By setting up your weekly contributions, Online Giving helps you maintain your giving even if you cannot be here at Mass (e.g. inclement weather) and helps the parish streamline its cash flow.

Reasons to sign up for Electronic Giving:
• No need to write checks or bring cash to church.
• Peace-of-mind knowing that the church is receiving your contribution even if you are unable to attend.
• More secure than checks.
• All contributions are recorded for you on your bank statement with date of settlement.
• IT COSTS YOU NOTHING!

To register and/or make/change your contributions, visit our parish website at: https://www.stmichaelfl.org/online-giving.
Or call the parish office at (727) 797-2375.
Courageously Living the Gospel

Shortly after Bishop Parkes was installed as fifth bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, people began to ask about his vision for the Diocese. Bishop Parkes set out to learn from the priests, religious, deacons, employees, and parishioners about their hopes and concerns.

Through listening sessions, gatherings and online surveys, Bishop Parkes heard common themes about the need to expand outreach efforts to the poor and vulnerable, youth and young adults and fallen away Catholics.

Through prayer, discernment and the research of relevant information, the Visioning Team appointed by Bishop Parkes developed a Mutually-Shared Vision – Courageously Living the Gospel – that represents the many voices of the faithful who contributed with their input and prayers.

St. Michael the Archangel parish is part of this effort. All parish ministries, entities, families, and individuals are invited to learn about our Mutually Shared Vision and reflect on how it applies to their lives. The Mutually Shared Vision includes three priorities that are the primary focus of all that we do as Catholics:

- Proclaim: Knowing and sharing the Gospel of Jesus
- Invite: Welcoming and accompanying others as Jesus did
- Encounter: Growing in relationship to Jesus and one another

With clarity, purpose and renewed hope, Courageously Living the Gospel is a source of inspiration and direction as we each strive daily to be Disciples of Jesus Christ. We, the parishioners of St. Michael the Archangel along with the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg, are a joyful community of disciples proclaiming the Good News and inviting all people to encounter the love and mercy of Jesus Christ.

More information can be found on our parish website at: https://www.stmichaelfl.org/courageously-living-the-gospel