

Tri Parish Catholic Faith Community

To Learn, Live and Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ



St. Michael

11400 Farmers Lane NE
Greenville IN 47124
812-364-6646
(1835)



St. Bernard

7600 Highway 337 NW
Depauw IN 47115
812-347-2326
(1847)



St. Joseph

341 S SR 66
Marengo IN 47140
812-347-2326
(1885)

Reconciliation

Monday 5:30 pm St. Bernard
Tuesday 5:30 pm St. Michael
Saturday 3:30 pm St. Michael

Other times available upon request

Baptism

Preparation class for parents required, contact parish office.

Marriage

Six months preparation required, contact parish office.

Sick/Shut-ins

Please call the parish office to request anointing of the sick and for home visits.

New Parishioners

Contact the parish office for registration or pick up a form at the entrance to church and return to the parish office in the collection basket. We would love to have you become an official part of our parish family.

Priestly and Religious Vocations

Contact Vocations Director/Archdiocese of Indianapolis at 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1490.

Combined Parish Staff

Rev. Aaron Pfaff - Pastor - 812-364-6646
E-mail: aaronpfaff@gmail.com

Deacon John Jacobi - Director of Religious Education
Faith Formation Office - 812-364-6173
E-mail: johnjacobi@mw.twcbc.com

Barb Rainbolt - Business Manager
E-mail: st.michaels@mw.twcbc.com

Website: www.saintmichaelschurch.net

Mass Schedule This Week

Sunday	8:30 am	St. Bernard
	9:15 am	St. Joseph
	10:30 am	St. Michael
Monday	6:00 pm	St. Bernard
Tuesday	6:00 pm	St. Michael
Wednesday	9:00 am	St. Bernard
Thursday	NO MASS	
Friday	9:00 am	St. Michael
Saturday	4:00 pm	St. Michael



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Information for all Parishes

Thank you - On behalf of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, I wish to thank the parishioners of St. Michael and St. Bernard Church for your hospitality in welcoming me at your Masses last weekend. It was a pleasure to celebrate Mass with your community and speak of our work helping young men discern a vocation to the priesthood. Your support and prayers are vital to the future of vocations in our Archdiocese. To learn more about Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, please visit: www.bishopssimonbrute.org or follow us on facebook: www.facebook.com/BruteSeminary. See the seminary for yourself at: <https://bit.ly/2ujy931>.

Next weekend is World Mission Sunday. Please take this opportunity to reach out in faith to more than two-thirds of the world's people who have yet to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please be as generous as possible.

Back by popular demand: Fr. Aaron will be doing a final showing of his Sabbatical PowerPoint, October 19th, after the 4PM Mass (5ish), at St. Michael Church Basement.

YARD & BAKE SALE: St. Mary's Catholic Church, 8th & Spring Sts, New Albany, will host a Yard & Bake Sale, 8am – 2pm, Friday & Saturday, October 18 & 19, 2019, in the gym and cafeteria. The sale will include thousands of items: housewares, furniture, clothing, jewelry, vintage and collectibles, toys, & much more. Chili, hotdogs, and chicken and dumplings will be served for lunch. Carry-outs also available. And there will be lots of homemade goodies to take home for a treat later in the day. Call St. Mary's parish office, 812-944-0417, for more information.

Mount St. Francis - "We Walk by Faith: From where we come – To where we go" - October 25-27, 2019. Fr. Vince Petersen, OFM Conv. will facilitate this Men's Weekend. This weekend retreat will help men to appreciate how God has been leading them in their spiritual journeys. By taking an account of the past and looking forward to the future with hope, participants will come to a deeper understanding of how Christ is present to them now in their daily lives. Check-in begins at 6:00 pm on Friday, October 25 and the retreat ends after the 10:00 Mass on Sunday, October 27. The \$215.00 conference fee includes four meals and a single room for two nights.

Our Lady of Providence High School's Performing Arts Department will present James and the Giant Peach in the Robinson Auditorium on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 27, at 2:00 p.m. Performed by the freshman and sophomore Providence Players, this delightful children's musical is an offbeat adaptation of the classic Roald Dahl adventure. The whole family will enjoy this fantastical tale of a boy, his insect friends, and their amazing journey across the ocean on a giant piece of fruit. Tickets are \$5 for adults and students (K-12) and can be purchased at the door. Free admission for children under 5 and for Deanery teachers. Please note: The Saturday show could be moved to Sunday, Oct. 27, if a Providence sports team would be competing in a postseason tournament at the same time. Please check the Our Lady of Providence High School Facebook page and website (www.providencehigh.net) for more information.

Our Lady of Providence High School will host an Open House on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., for prospective students of all ages and their families. This fun and informative event is free and open to the public. Providence faculty and staff, student ambassadors, alumni, and Board of Trustees members will be on hand to showcase the school's beautiful facility and extensive offerings. Information regarding curriculum, the House Student Leadership Program, technology, performing arts, clubs and organizations, athletics, and financial assistance will be available. Refreshments will be provided, and each student receives a gift. For more information, contact Providence Enrollment Management Specialist Brad Burden at bburden@providencehigh.net or the Providence Advancement Office at 812-945-3350. Information can also be found on our website (www.providencehigh.net) and Facebook page (@providencehighschool). Providence is located at 707 Providence Way in Clarksville.

Since 1634, the Oberammergau village in Germany has staged a Passion Play every 10 years. Join Fr. Eric Augenstein to contemplate the mysteries of the cross as you discover Switzerland, Austria, and Germany! This pilgrimage takes place from July 15-24, 2020, and includes great seats at the Oberammergau Passion Play, tours of Lucerne, Interlaken, and Salzburg, and a visit to Einsiedeln Abbey, the Swiss, Benedictine community which founded Saint Meinrad. For more info, please visit www.VersoMinistries.com or call (574) 383-9396.

Middle School Math Teacher needed. St. Joseph Catholic School is seeking applications for a person to teach 4th, 5th and 6th grade math and 4th grade religion. The position will begin January 6, 2020 and extend until the end of the school year. Interested persons should send their resume to St. Joseph Catholic School, 512 N. Mulberry Street, Corydon, IN 47112. You are also welcome to call for more information. The school office phone number is 812-738-4549.

Mt. St. Francis - Help Wanted - Morning Salad Prep/Dishwasher. The Salad Prep/Dishwasher will be prepping the salad bar and washing dishes for groups of 50-100 people per meal, as well as setting up and stocking the dining room for breakfast and lunch. Other duties as needed by the Executive and Sous Chefs. Must be able to lift up to 35lbs. Work days are Wednesday through Sunday as needed from 6am to 2pm. Our busy season runs from September through May. You can expect to get 30-40 hrs. per week during this time. We slow down Jun-Aug and your hours will be adjusted to reflect this but will average around 20 hrs. a week. Benefits include two weeks of vacation after an introductory period as well as sick days and personal days. 403b retirement available. Mt St Francis Retreat Center, send resumes to chef@mountsaintfrancis.org

St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities has immediate openings for compassionate women to work part-time as House Staff on a PRN basis on 2nd and 3rd shift in downtown New Albany. Qualified individuals need to fill-in 1 to 3 days each week. Shifts are 4pm to midnight and midnight to 8am throughout the week and on weekends. This position provides support for our residents in our Women and Children's Emergency Shelter and Family Stability Program in a 24/7 environment. Send resumes to tbyrd@stcharities.org to apply.

Legion of Mary Meeting - Every Tuesday at 4:15-5:45 in the Faith Formation Building at St. Michael.

St. Michael

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Friday – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Mailing Address: 11400 Farmers Lane, Greenville IN 47124
Phone: 812-364-6646 Fax: 812-364-6614

Lisa Murner – Parish Secretary
st.michaels@mw.twcbc.com

Beth Gettelfinger – Pre-School
Pre-school Phone – 812-620-2807

Tim Murner – Director of Music
812-736-1189 - tmurner1@gmail.com

St. Michael Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday	Oct. 12	4:00 PM	Jim Jones
Sunday	Oct 13	10:30 AM	Bonnie Fessel
Tuesday	Oct. 15	6:00 PM	Jim Seipp
Friday	Oct. 18	9:00 AM	Dustin Burch
Saturday	Oct. 19	4:00 PM	Gerald Nordhoff
Sunday	Oct 20	10:30 AM	Mary Cervantes

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS



Casey Snapp, Carol Ransom,
Trish Waggoner, Sue Kochert,
Judy Rae Gettelfinger, Rose
Kiefer, Anna Kaelin, Wanda

Gehm, Julie Payne, Priscilla Gettelfinger, Matthew Kruer, Jack Dohoney, Debbie Jones, Colette Murray, Casey Shaw, Juanita Kiesler, Mary Drabek, Linda Rothrock, Matthew Marino, Gretchen Hammett, Jaxon Nutini, Jerry Jacobi, Kyle Costello, Bobby Humes, Ray Kordek, Carol Cox, Doug Fessel, Patricia A. Trent, Roy Kruer, Luna Smith, Ted Lippert, Irma Morales, Cherie Vickers, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, All our Food Pantry and St. Vincent de Paul Friends.

Please Pray for Our Military & Their Families

CPO Johnathan Akers, Danny Baker, Tyler Hall, Lt. Col. Scott Schroeder, Zachary Shinkle, William Gilmer, Mark Snapp, Brad Missi, Rebecca Gleitz

Weekly Collection:	October 6, 2019
Sun. Collection:	\$ 6,842.25
Needed for Budget:	\$ <u>7,134.65</u>
Difference:	- \$ 292.40

The Week Ahead:

Tuesday – Quilting 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Legion of Mary 4:15 – 5:45
Finance Commission – 6:30
Wednesday – RCIA 7 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

The Finance Commission will meet on Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

The Pastoral Council will meet on Tuesday, October 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

Oct. 19 & 20, 2019

8 people needed, please adjust accordingly.

Saturday: 4:00 PM

EM: Lauren Campbell, Pam Waller, Carol Wise, Nadine Kaelin, Sharon Laufer, Donna Newton

L: Donna Wise, Sharon Laufer

S: Pam Waller

SVRS: Katie Wise

U: Brian Jacobi, Frank Brown, Sue Craig, Joe Jacobi

M: Trio

Sunday: 10:30 AM

EM: Adriana Roll, Lisa Roll, Jared Willis, Juanita Brockman, Katy Casper, Rick Elder, Karen Harbeson

L: Roger Harbeson, Christy Jones

S: Katy Casper

SVRS: Jady Martin, Isabelle Nordhoff

U: Dewayne Wise, Tammy Wise, David Buechler, Daniel Carney

M: All Musicians

St. Michael Food Pantry

Our Current Needs: Coffee, Jelly, Canned Tuna and Chicken, Pasta's & Sauce, Soups, Hamburger Helper, Ketchup & Mustard, Mayo & Miracle Whip, Feminine Products, Diapers and Wipes, Razors, Shampoo & Conditioner, Laundry Soap, and Cleaning Supplies, Toilet Paper and Paper Towels. Kid friendly juice boxes, snacks, fruit cups, etc. are very much appreciated. THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Service Ministry

Welcomed donations of nonperishable items need to be returned next week. They will be taken to Hoosier Hills PACT Domestic Violence Shelter in Salem, IN. During a fiscal year, this agency provides emergency shelter to over 100 individuals, some are children. Shelter clients receive free food, shelter, clothing, emotional support, court advocacy as well as assistance with other needs. Our contribution helps to make all that possible. Thanks for your generous support!

St. Bernard

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Mailing Address: 7600 Highway 337 NW, Depauw IN 47115

Phone: 812-347-2326 Fax: 812-347-2172

Michelle Whittaker – Parish Secretary – SaintBernardCatholicChurch@gmail.com

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sunday:	October 13	8:30 am	Ron & Rick Magill
Monday:	October 14	6:00 pm	Parishioner Intentions
Wednesday:	October 16	9:00 am	Scott Christie
Sunday:	October 20	8:30 am	Dennis Lambert

Reconciliation: Mondays from 5:30 pm – 5:50 pm

**Collection
totals will
appear next
week.**

Liturgical Ministers

Sunday, October 13

(L) Veronica Battista

(EM) John & Ronda Petrysian
Mike Bary

(S) Needed

(U) Stuart Dubois

Sunday, October 20

(L) Anne Robertson

(EM) Stacy Robertson, Anne Robertson
Lisa Rathgeber

(S) Ryan Colin, Colin Griffith

(U) Stewart Colin

Please keep in your prayers:

Wayne Smith, Marlana Cheatham, Toni Rothrock, Michelle Wiseman, Emma Heeke, Jolene Mauck, Olive Sarles, Linda Magill, Donna Schellenberger, David Mauck, Veronica Battista, Jim Nolot, Addley Gaines, Jean Newton, Sharon Bary, Rhonda Day, Larry Colin, Juanita Hughes, Wayne Smith, Sharon Patton, Julia Griffith, Jeff Mauck, Greg Byerley, Sandy Sieg, Michael Briscoe, Bryant Otto, Carolyn Cline.



The St. Rita Altar Society will host Donut Sunday today after Mass. Their next meeting is October 21st after the 6:00 pm Mass. Also Rada products are being sold until October 31 with delivery before the end of November. Catalogs and order forms are in the Narthex. There will be someone in the Narthex after every mass in October to collect order forms and money. Checks should be made payable to St. Bernard Catholic Church.

Thank you to everyone that worked the St. Bernard Unity Meal. Mark your calendar now for November 13th when it will be our turn again.

Eucharist Adoration will be Monday, October 14th after the 6:00 pm Mass.

The Men's Club will meet October 16th at 6:00 PM. Their next breakfast will be Sunday, October 20th.

St. Joseph

Physical Address: 341 S. SR 66, Marengo IN 47140

Mailing Address: 7600 Highway 337 NW, Depauw IN 47115

Phone: 812-347-2326

Fax: 812-347-2172

Michelle Whittaker – Parish Secretary – SaintBernardCatholicChurch@gmail.com

Father Fred Denison – Attended By

Sunday: October 13, 9:15 am

Mass Intention: John Senn

Minister Schedule October 13

Offertory: Fow Family

Lectors: Jane Newton/Nick Siler

Servers: Isaac Gresham/Hays Ferriell

Greeters: Angela Crecelius/Laura Zipp

Eucharist Ministers: Imogene Talley

Laura Zipp/Terri Ward

Sunday: October 20, 9:15 am

Mass Intention: Parishioner Intentions

Minister Schedule October 20

Offertory: Hubert Family

Lectors: Karen Eaton/ Carolyn Pellman

Servers: Ashley Fow/Sarah Fow

Greeters: Judy Neckar/Johnnie Senn Graves

Eucharist Ministers: Paul Conklin

Jane Newton/David Schafflein



Please keep in your prayers:

Judy Neckar, Erin Haendiges, Gail Reyling, Imogene Talley, Carol Will, Richard Will, Father Fred, Mike Trusty, Francis Powell,

Monty and Mary Garrett, Delores Eisfelder, Jane Newton, Jerry Amoroso, Frank Neckar, and all those suffering in any way.

Our Military Family Members:

Tom Shawler, Jr., Hannah Bradley, Chris Eaton



Family and Friends of our parish members:

Paul Panozzo, Elmer Ray Jenkins— Connie Conklin's father; Jamie Craig—Barb Flispart's son-in-law, Carol Goins —Tom Zipp's sister, Adeline Talley—Imogene Talley's granddaughter, Angela Crecelius's nephew — Martin Gabel, Ann Phillips son — Ronnie Phillips, Mary Lee Sneed's brother — Victor Dubois, Robin Bowman, Joni Shaw - Patty Reyling's sister, and all Prayer Requests in the Prayer Book.

Collection totals will appear next week.

St. Joseph Parish Club meeting October 21st at 7:00 pm.

Faith Formation News

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, October 13, 2019

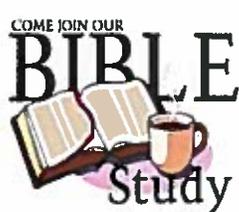
Faith Formation Office Hours are: St. Michael Church - Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Fridays 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. and St. Bernard Church – on Friday Mornings.

Faith Formation News:

Upcoming Faith Formation Classes:

October 13 Grades Pre-School – Grade 12
October 20 Grades Pre-School – Grade 12
October 27 Grades Pre-School – Grade 12
November 3 Grades Pre-School – Grade 12

Sacramental Parent Meetings – Parents who have a child that will celebrate their First Holy Communion this coming spring are invited to a parent gathering at St. Michael Church on Sunday, October 13th at 9:10 a.m. in the lower level of the church or at St. Bernard Church on Sunday, October 20th at 9:40 a.m. We will be discussing plans for First Reconciliation.



Thursday Morning Bible Study – Our Thursday Morning Bible Study at St. Michael will meet this Thursday, October 17th at 9:30 a.m. in the Faith Formation Center. All adults at St. Michael,

St. Bernard, & St. Joseph are welcome to join us anytime!

Altar Server Training – We will have training for any boy or girl, 4th Grade and up who would like to become an Altar Server on October 17th & 24th at St. Michael Church, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. and at St. Bernard on November 3rd during Faith Formation Classes.

Confirmation Parent and Youth Meeting – We will have informational meetings for Youth Grades 9-12 from St. Michael, St. Bernard, and St. Joseph who have not yet celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and their Parents at St. Bernard Church on October 20th at 10:45 a.m. or St. Michael Church on October 27th at 11:30 a.m. We will discuss preparation for the Sacrament and when it will be celebrated.

Men's Group – Our next gathering at St. Michael will be on Sunday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the faith formation center. We will continue our study of the Eucharist. All men in the parish are invited to join us! Come join us as we walk together to grow spiritually as Catholic Men.

Senior Gathering – Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, October 23rd at St. Michael. We will gather at noon for mid-day prayer and then everyone is invited to bring something to share for lunch. All parishioners from St. Michael, St. Bernard, & St. Joseph are invited to attend. Our featured dish in October will be Vegetable Soup and Chicken Noodle Soup.

Epic – A Study of Church History: As Catholics, we are heirs to a remarkable heritage. The history of our Faith is



so much more than a list of facts and dates. It is a fascinating story of adventure, rebellion, tragedy, and triumph. A story 2,000 years in the making. Epic: A Journey through Church History is a captivating and fast-paced look at the story of the Catholic Church. Beginning with the lives of the apostles all the way up to the present day, Epic takes the immense history of the Church and simplifies it. In the course of twenty sessions, participants learn about the major people, places, and events that comprise the captivating story of Christianity. This Study provides participants with an understanding of Church history that enables them to have a greater sense of meaning and identity as Catholics. Join us for the Epic: A Journey through Church History at **St. Michael Church in Bradford** beginning on October 15th – we will meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:40 p.m. in the Faith Formation Center, or at **St. Bernard Church in Frenchtown** beginning on October 20th – we will meet on Sundays we have Faith Formation Classes at 9:30 a.m. in the narthex.



Trunk or Treat will return to St. Michael in Bradford on Thursday, October 31st, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. We invite

adults in the parish to park their car in our parish center parking lot and hand out goodies as children roam about. If you wish you can decorate your vehicle to make it more exciting for the children. Adults can also dress in costume if you like (prizes will be given for best costume and dress decorated car). Be sure to bring your own lawn chair. If you cannot make it to hand out candy, we are accepting donations of pre-packaged candy than can be left in the bin in the narthex of the church. The youth Activities Team will have hot dogs and hot chocolate available. Join us for fun for the whole family in a safe environment. In case of bad weather, we will move into the Parish Center.

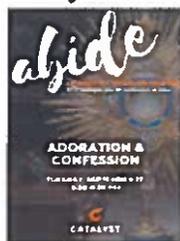
Youth Ministry News:

Jr. High Fall Daze – All youth in Grades 6-8 from St. Michael, St. Bernard, and St. Joseph are invited to give a day of service around the parish grounds on Thursday, October 10th. We will meet at St. Michael at 9:30 a.m. and do service. After lunch we will go to Golf Shores and play some mini golf. The cost of the day is \$7.00 per person for golf. The deadline to sign up is October 6th.

NCYC Pilgrimage Gathering – All youth and adults attending NCYC this November are invited to our next pilgrimage gathering on Sunday, October 13th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Faith Formation Center.

Youth Activities Team – We will have a Youth Activities Team meeting on October 20th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Faith Formation Center at St. Michael. Please make sure you bring your calendars with you.

Abide – Catalyst Catholic hosts Eucharistic Adoration in the Main Chapel at Mount St. Francis on Tuesday, October 15th, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Take some time to spend in prayer with the Lord.



Question of the Week for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Question for Children: Make up a prayer which tells God you are thankful for everything you have, even if it's not all you want.

Question for Youth: Only one of the lepers returned to give thanks. This past week, when have you stopped

to thank someone for something good they have done for you? When have you thanked God this week?
Question for Adults: What are some ways you can think of to show gratitude to God? Make them concrete and real.

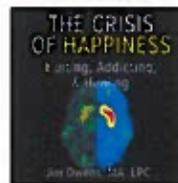
Formed Pick of the Week: If you have not yet registered for formed go to our parish website and click on the registration banner and register for your free account. Then go to www.formed.org and sign in with your username and password or enter through our parish portal at www.saintmichaelchurch.formed.org You can also download the free mobile app.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

**The Crisis of Happiness
Hurting, Addicting, and Healing**

by Jim Owens, MA, LPC

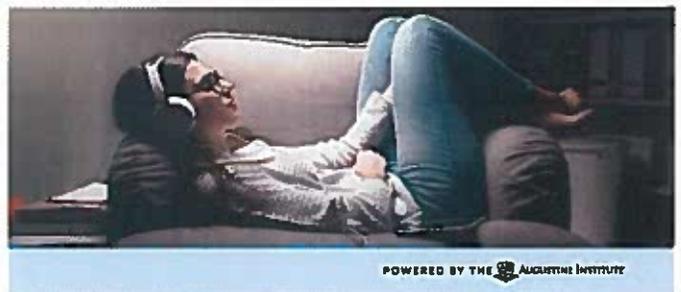


"Engaging, and made me examine my life on a meaningful level!"
 —Martin P., Tallahassee, FL

[LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG](#)

Find Answers to Today's Happiness Crisis

Addictions and distractions are used to manage pain—but end up hurting us and our ability to find lasting happiness. Jim Owens gives scientific evidence and practical advice for overcoming wounds.



POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Monte Casino Pilgrimages at St. Meinrad - The Archabbey's pilgrimages to honor the Blessed Mother at the Monte Cassino Shrine have been scheduled for the Sundays in October. The pilgrimages begin with an opening hymn and a short sermon, followed by a rosary procession. The service ends with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and a hymn. The pilgrimage dates and speakers are:
 October 13: Br. Nathaniel Szidik, OSB
 October 20: Br. Kolbe Wolniakowski, OSB
 October 27: Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB.



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Doug Martin, Manager

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You asked for it: Fr. Aaron's Homily (9 Choirs of Angels), September 28 & 29 was taken from 3 articles. Here is the second article in its entirety. Watch for the 3rd article next week. These will go on the website as well:

www.saintmichaelschurch.net

Second triad of angelic choirs handles governing

"Star of wonder, star of might." How many angels are there?



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

Dominion angel pictured in a window at Our Lady of the Lake Church, in Ashland, Wis.

Did you know that there are angels to control the stars, the planets and the forces of nature? Tradition calls them the angels of government, or the angelic governors.

The number of angels is beyond our grasp, yet tradition since the early Middle Ages (fifth and sixth centuries) has held that angels are arranged into groups called "choirs." The number of these choirs has varied between seven and 11, but most commonly we have recognized nine choirs of angels.

These are seraphim, cherubim, thrones, dominions, powers, virtues, principalities, archangels and angels.

These are arranged into three triads. The first triad is that of angels of presence. The next triad is the angels of government and includes the dominions, powers and virtues.

These angels of government fulfill what St. Thomas Aquinas (d. 1274) called the second reason why angels

exist: beyond worshiping God as the angels of presence do most perfectly, angels implement God's will by ordering creation through the laws of nature. The angels of government do this by interacting in the physical worlds of creation on a broad scale. So when we think about the season of Christmas and the star that led the Magi to Bethlehem, we can also think of these three choirs of angels.

Dominions

In Paul's letter to the Colossians, we hear how God created all things through Christ: "the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him" (1:16). This letter refers to angelic powers: one from the first triad (thrones), one from the third triad (principalities) and two choirs of the three choirs of governing angels: dominions and powers. Last week, we explored how the roles of angelic thrones intersect with the world of creation, which means they impart God's wisdom to the next rank of angels. That next rank is the dominions.

Dominions control the stars and planets. The name "dominion" comes from the Latin *dominatio* (or *princapitus*) and the Greek *kyriotetes* for "lordship," which shows their role in supervising angels below them. Dominions are represented in art as wearing crowns of power and sometimes with stars or planets. They also may carry orbs — either on scepters or swords — to represent the heavenly bodies over which they exercise control.

Virtues

Virtue is a name we most often would use to refer to actions, not to living beings. However, angelic virtues are said to be agents of God's miracles (actions) on earth and therefore act as agents of divine perfection. Perfection is part of the meaning of the word "virtue," which is *vertus* in Latin. *Vertus* means perfection, but it also refers to excellence and courage.

The virtues are sometimes referred to as "strongholds" because the fifth century author of "On the Celestial Hierarchy" commented on their immovable strength: "The name of the holy virtues signifies a certain powerful and unshakable virility, welling forth into all their Godlike energies; not being weak and feeble for any reception of the divine illuminations granted to it; mounting upwards in fullness of power. ..."

To symbolize these powerful angels, artists have painted them carrying white lilies for perfection or red roses to symbolize Christ's passionate love. Because of their connection to both Christ's power and his love, they are sometimes known as agents of the miracles. Other sources call them "the shining ones," perhaps because of their control over the elements of nature, such as storms.

Powers

The strength of the virtues in turn leads us to that of the next choir of angels — the powers, who are also called "the authorities." Not unlike the authorities we know as police officers, angelic powers have the power to control evil spirits that torment those on earth and to thwart their plans.

The name "powers" comes from the Latin *potestas* (authority), which in turn comes from the Greek *exousia*, which refers to "someone whose will must be obeyed." These angels are certainly not to be ignored. They are said to direct the lower angels in battles against the forces of hell. Powers also record history and oversee the power which human beings — such as kings — have been given in the world.

These angels are shown wearing armor and carrying swords — armed for battle — and with garlands of flowers signifying their victories over the powers of hell. Since virtues are on the lowest rank of this second triad of angels, they interact most closely with the last three choirs of angels — the messengers.