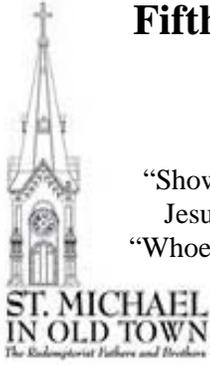




**Mary,
our Mother,
comfort
and
strengthen
all mothers**



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2017

“Show us the Father,” Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: “Whoever sees me, sees the Father” (John 14:1-12).

This Week at St. Michael

For more information or to participate in any of the activities listed below, please call the Parish Office at (312) 642-2498.

Sunday, May 14

- 9:00 a.m. Mass with First Communion
- 10:00 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:00 a.m. Mass
- 6:00 p.m. Mass

Monday, May 15

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 12:00 p.m. Mass
- 7:00 p.m. Stillpoint/Contemplative Prayer
- 8:00 p.m. ACA

Tuesday, May 16

- 8:00 a.m. Mass with Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion
- 12:00 p.m. Mass with Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, May 17

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 12:00 p.m. Mass
- 6:00 p.m. AA (Women Only)

Thursday, May 18

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 12:00 p.m. Mass
- 6:00 p.m. Parishioner Welcome Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Rosary

Friday, May 19

- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 12:00 p.m. Mass
- 3:00 p.m. Wedding
- 8:00 p.m. AA

Saturday, May 20

- 8:00 p.m. Mass
- 8:30 a.m. Weightwatchers
- 4:15 p.m. Confession
- 5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, May 21

- 9:00 a.m. Mass
- 10:00 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 10:00 a.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Today we are celebrating a very important occasion here at St. Michael's. Sixteen children are receiving their First Communion. This is certainly a celebration they will never forget. I doubt there are many people who would not remember the first time they received Jesus through the Eucharist. First Eucharist or First Communion is the second sacrament of Initiation on their journey to be full members of the Roman Catholic Church. All of them have begun their initiation when they were presented by their parents for Baptism. Now that they have reached the age of reason when they are offered the Eucharist as means of coming to a deeper relationship with Christ and the Church. The third sacrament of Initiation, Confirmation, is waiting for them a few years down the road. They will have reached an age when they will make a public commitment to live their lives as faithful members of the Catholic Church in the ongoing development of their faith.

Let us pray that these children will find strength and direction through the Eucharist in the days, months and years to come. May they be reminded constantly through their parents, family and friends that First Communion isn't the only Communion. May they be given every opportunity possible to share

<i>Madelein Blatchford</i>	<i>Blake Hall</i>	<i>Ella Miller</i>
<i>Norma Dorantes</i>	<i>Adrian Hoag</i>	<i>Jack O'Brien</i>
<i>Oliver Eltink</i>	<i>Zachary Hosek</i>	<i>Diego Offut</i>
<i>John Falciglia</i>	<i>Madison Lacey</i>	<i>Ariane Ravanas</i>
<i>Jackson Guzman</i>	<i>Jacqueline Madda</i>	<i>Brenton Robinson</i>
		<i>Zeda Wilton</i>

in the gift of the Eucharist. Here are the names of the First Communicants.

God bless you and congratulations. We'll see you in the Communion Line!

Today is special in another way. We are observing Mothers' Day. I'd like to share another reflection by Fr. Ron Rolheiser entitled "Mothers Day" which offers a unique and thought-provoking opportunity as we honor our mothers today.

For many years, I've had a bias against Mothers' Day. I'm not against the concept, it's a private grudge. My own mother died 40 years ago and my ignoring of Mothers' Day has been payback to the universe for that perceived injustice: Let the world celebrate, but count me out!

But time heals and occasionally makes us wiser. Now, on Mothers' Day, I'm always conscious of my own mother and find good reasons to celebrate. You don't have to be alive to nurture someone, and such is the case with my mother. Jesus told us that we receive someone's spirit more purely after they have left us and I know that's true. Forty years after her death, I am more conscious of who my mother was and what she gave me than I was during all the years of my childhood when she was alive and her motherhood embraced me tangibly.

What my siblings and I are now conscious of, more clearly than when she was alive, is that we drew a long-straw. We had a good mother. It's as simple as that. In everything that was essential, she gave us what's important: security, protection, a sense of being wanted, a sense of being precious, adequate food, adequate clothing, the underlying sense that life is good, and, most of all, the sense that we are in the hands always of a God who is trustworthy.

From the Pastor

None of this, of course, came perfectly. My mother wasn't God. She had real limits and so did the energy and the resources she drew upon to nurture us. We were a large family and were chronically strapped economically. We had enough, but just, just enough. There were never any extras. That was also true for the attention and the affection she could give out to us individually. She didn't have the time, energy, or luxury to dote on any of us individually, even as none of us ever doubted that we were getting as much from her as if each of us had been an only child. But still, all of us felt her limits and live with the effects of that today.

But her chronic over-extension was also her special gift: Like Jesus she multiplied the loaves and the fishes. Somehow she always found enough of everything, food, clothing, educational supplies, an extra cake or ribbon or whatever for a special occasion. Somehow we always had what we needed, just as somehow she made our family table stretch enough to feed anyone – neighbor, teacher, priest, salesman, or uncle-down-on-his luck – who happened to be around near mealtime. She believed something most of us don't, namely, that when you are with the Bread of Life you always have the resources you need, no matter how meager they appear. She trusted that there would always be enough, and there always was.

And she complemented my father perfectly. You couldn't have ordered a better marriage from either Hollywood or a Catholic dating service. They found each other, soulmates, at a parish picnic and their affection and respect for each other was what, perhaps more than anything else, gave us, their children, an inchoate sense of safety, stability, and faith. My father was the moral compass, she was the heart; but they could reverse those roles and she could offer the moral challenge while he provided the sensitivity. Either way, they did it together and by the time they died, leaving behind a family that felt too young to be on its own, they had given us what they needed to, all the basic tools to build our own lives and to live with some buoyancy and joy.

She died of pancreatitis and a broken heart, just three months after she had nursed my dad through a year-long, losing battle with cancer. As my dad lay dying, one of my brothers and I took her to a shop to buy a dress for the funeral. She splurged and bought the most expensive dress she'd ever purchased. When she tried on the dress the sales clerk told her: "You look terrific in that dress! I hope you enjoy wearing it!" She wore it just twice, once to her husband's funeral and once to her own. The irony of the salesclerk's comment hasn't been lost.



For whatever reason, she disliked her name, Mathilda. Her woman friends shortened it to Tilly, which she disliked even more. I'm not sure what my dad called her in the privacy of their intimacy, but I suspect it wasn't either of those names.

Anthropologists tell us that our mothers are our symbiotic link to life. They have to let us know that the universe wants us, that we're loveable simply for whom we are, that love doesn't have to be earned. My mother was too busy sometimes to nurture each of her children individually with that sense that we were unique, beautiful, and precious; but she mothered us in such a way that life itself and the God who grounds life, give us that precious gift. – In Exile 05/08/11

Spiritual Living Commission

Commission Head: Susan Cass

The Spiritual Living Commission offers programs that nurture living in the presence of God. Catholic in its roots and ecumenical in its outreach, the Commission strives to assist all in their desire for meaning, purpose, and community built on the foundation of God's unconditional love.

Ministries include: Adult Confirmation, Religious Education, RCIA, Young Adult Ministry, Marriage, Single Life Development & Enrichment, Pathways/Stillpoint, Bible/Scripture stud-

Contemplative Prayer Group

2nd Floor Chapel in the Rectory
Monday from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Come experience the profound impact of silent meditation in a group. If you'd like to learn how to meditate, contact Fr. Ken Sedlak at 312-642-2498 or email kcscr148@gmail.com.

It only takes 15 minutes to learn - and a lifetime to

Rosary Prayer Group

Ancilla Domini Chapel

Saint Louis De Montfort writes in The Secret of the Rosary, "Somebody who says his Rosary alone gains the merit of one Rosary, but if he says it together with thirty other people he gains the merit of thirty Rosaries. This is the law of public prayer. How profitable, how advantageous this is!"

Looking for a way to enrich your spiritual life? Join in praying the Rosary weekly with your fellow parishioners. The group meets on Thursdays

Music Ministry

Pastor's Representative: Fr. Ted Lawson

Membership to the Schola Cantorum or the Contemporary Choir is open to all high school, college and adult parishioners. If you would like to learn more about our parish choirs please contact Fr. Lawson, tlawson@st-mikes.org or 312-642-2498 to schedule a time to visit.

Mass Schedule

Mass in the Church

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

Daily Mass in the Ancilla Domini Chapel:

Monday through Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Monday through Friday: 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions:

Tuesdays after the 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. masses.

For all chapel masses please enter through the east door when possible.

Confessions

In the Church: Saturdays 4:15 - 4:50 p.m.

At the Rectory: When a priest is available or by appointment.

Baptisms

First and third Sundays of each month at 1:00 p.m. except during Lent

Parent preparation sessions are normally held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. or the fourth Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Holiday weekends are the exception. To schedule a baptism and/or register for a parent preparation session, please contact the Parish Office at (312) 642-2498 or see our website for information.

Weddings

Fridays: 3:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 12:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Other wedding times are possible when mutually agreed upon with the pastor.

Arrangements should be made a minimum of four months in advance of a wedding date. Please contact the Parish Office at (312) 642-2498 and ask for Christine Kordiuk to receive additional information.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the church office at (312) 642-2498 if you have a family member or friend who is homebound, in a nursing home, or in the hospital who would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick or other sacraments.

Rectory Hours

Monday: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Parish Directory

Pastor/Rectory

Rev. Ted Lawson, C.Ss.R.
tlawson@st-mikes.org

Associate Pastors

Rev. Ramon Dompke, C.Ss.R.
ololramon@yahoo.com

Rev. Joseph Morin, C.Ss.R.
jjmorin@st-mikes.org

Rev. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.
kcssr148@gmail.com

Redemptorists in Residence

Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Tat Hoang, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Jim Keena, C.Ss.R.
Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Gregory Schmitt, C.Ss.R.

Business Office

Daniel Szymanski
(312) 642-2498, ext. 215
dszymanski@st-mikes.org

Administrative Assistant

Barbara Giannoni
(312) 642-2498, ext. 210
bgiannoni@st-mikes.org

Parish Manager

Toni Dunning
(312) 642-2498, ext. 211
tdunning@st-mikes.org

Wedding Coordinator/ Parish Center Manager

Christine Kordiuk
(312) 642-2498
ckordiuk@st-mikes.org

Music Ministry

Fr. Ted Lawson, C.Ss.R.
(312) 642-2498, ext. 216
tlawson@st-mikes.org

Religious Education Coordinator

Elizabeth Kabacinski
(312) 642-2498
ekabacinski@st-mikes.org

Parish Activities

James Colaianni
(312) 642-2498,
jcolaianni@st-mikes.org

Sacristy

Ray Perpignani
(312) 642-2498, ext. 239
rperpignani@st-mikes.org

Sacristy/Office

John Steigerwald
(312) 642-2498, ext. 210
jsteigerwald@st-mikes.org

Housekeeping

Kendra Koldan
Victoria Reyes

Maintenance & Chef

Roxana Vieira
Evalds Zemmers

Church Tours

tours@st-mikes.org

Finance Council

Council Chair:

Parish Pastoral Council

Council Chair: Annie Pecoraro

Communications and Special Events Commission

Commission Head:

Spiritual Living Commission

Commission Head: Susan Cass

Human Concerns and Needs Commission

Co-Commission Heads:

Barbara Pope and Jeanne Sanna

Parish Life Commission

Commission Head:

Respect Life Commission

For Information contact Fr. Ted Lawson

Worship Commission

Commission Head:

Diane Kelley-Thompson

Stillpoint/Contemplative Prayer

Director: Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.

kcssr148@gmail.com

Gala

Diane Kelley-Thompson
gala@st-mikes.org

Social Media Sites - Check us out!

Facebook:

St. Michael's Moms Group

St. Michael in Old Town

Oktoberfest 5K Run

Young Adults of St. Michael in Old
Town (Public group)

St. Michael in Old Town Young Adults

Websites:

St-mikes.org

Oktoberfest5krun.org (under
construction!)

Breakfast With Santa

(sites.google.com/site/stmichaelsbws/)

Spring Fling Gala

(sites.google.com/site/stmikesgala/)

Ministry Schedule

Date	Celebrant	Homilist		
Monday, May 15 8:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Mass	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson		
Tuesday, May 16 8:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Mass	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson		
Wednesday, May 17 8:00 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Mass	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson	Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson		
Thursday, May 18 8:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Mass	Fr. Morin Fr. Keena	Fr. Morin Fr. Keena		
Friday, May 19 8:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Mass 3:00 p.m. Wedding	Fr. Morin Fr. Keena Fr. Lawson	Fr. Morin Fr. Keena Fr. Lawson		
Saturday, May 20 8:00 a.m. No Mass 1:00 p.m. Wedding 3:00 p.m. Wedding 4:00 p.m. Wedding 4:15 p.m. Confession	Fr. Keena Fr. Morin Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson Fr. Morin	Fr. Keena Fr. Morin Fr. Morin Fr. Lawson Fr. Morin		
Date	Celebrant	Homilist	Lectors/ Servers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday, May 20 5:00 p.m.	Fr. Dompke	Fr. Dompke	T. McNulty W. McNulty	M. McGowan K. Rabun
Sunday, May 21 9:00 a.m. Mass	Fr. Lawson	Fr. Lawson	D. Sajous-Brady W. Karas	P. Cassidy* V. Rose M. Santana L. Schreiber
11:00 a.m. Mass	Fr. Lawson	Fr. Lawson	C. Donnelan K. Verret	K. McOster* R. Dump G. Palis B. Rahn
6:00 p.m. Mass NA	Fr. Dompke	Fr. Dompke	M. Mitten	All trained EMS present please come forward

*Minister to prepare host/wine and assignments

Roles in the Mass



We are seeking additional lectors, servers, and Eucharistic ministers for all our masses. To sign up please call the Parish Office at 312-642-2498 or email information@st-mikes.org.



Mass Intention

Sunday, May 14

St. Boniface

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Michael's
11:00 a.m. † Velma Coleman
6:00 p.m. † Severina Bacer Edwards

Monday, May 15

St. John Baptist de la Salle

8:00 a.m. † Ann and Chester Krupa
12:00 p.m. † Sr. Rita Black

Tuesday, May 16

St. Brendan

8:00 a.m. Judy Knight
12:00 p.m. St. Michael's Foundation

Wednesday, May 17

St. Paschal Baylon

8:00 a.m. † John and Marie Reiff
12:00 p.m. † William and Angela O'Connell

Thursday, May 18

St. Eric

8:00 a.m. † Gene Krier
12:00 p.m. † Francesca Campione

Friday, May 19

Pope St. Celestine V

8:00 a.m. † Helen Dillon
12:00 p.m. † Reynaldo Santos

Saturday, May 20

St. Bernardine of Siena

8:00 a.m. † Jo Leiting
5:00 p.m. † Dorothy Knuth

Sunday, May 21

St. Bobola

9:00 a.m. † Francesca Campione
11:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Michael's
6:00 p.m. † Francesco DiFranco

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠
This Week's Readings
✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16;
Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab,
21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5;
Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10;
Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12;
Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn
15:18-21

Human Concerns & Needs Commission

Co-Commission Heads:

Barbara Pope and Jeanne Sanna

Pastor's Representative: Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.

information@st-mikes.org

Monthly Meetings: 2nd Wednesday 7:00 pm,
Parish Office Conference Room

Current Projects where your help makes a big difference:

Ongoing Collections

- Toiletries for Marquard Center, **non-perishable** food for Catholic Charities, Boxtops for Education and Campbell's labels for Manierre School

Food Service

- Marquard Center — Provide a baked good or cook or serve the dinner on the second Saturday of each month. Contact R. Yanku (marquard.center.volunteers@gmail.com)

Contact Krysten McOsker for the following volunteer opportunities (krystenmcosker@gmail.com)

- Deborah's Place —Cook and serve dinner on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Contact Krysten McOsker (krystenmcosker@gmail.com)

Tutoring at Manierre School

Volunteers needed for the 2016-2017 school year

Knights of Columbus

@kofc15571 on Facebook

Knights of Columbus Council 15771 is based at St. Michael's in Old Town parish. We are a relatively

Finance Council

Council Chair:

Pastor's representative: Fr. Ted Lawson

The Finance Council advises the pastor on the tangible assets of the parish community including financial resources, buildings, and the church's grounds and provides financial oversight for all parish events. The Council consists of parishioners with skills in finance, accounting, legal, construction and architecture.

Membership is by invitation of the pastor, Fr. Ted Lawson, C.Ss.R..

News & Announcements

Remember in Your Prayers

For Health and Healing:



Herbert Austin, Bernice Baumgarten, James and Nancy Brewer, Kathy Eales, Dolores Garcia, Mary Jones, Mary V. Joyce, Kendra Koepp, Theresa and Paul Kunach, Dan and Tom McGinnis, Roy Pecot, Paul Robert, Carl, Diane, and Rudy Neubek, Christine Schuman, Rev. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R., Marie Sineni, Drew Michael Williams, MaryAnn and Ted Wiszowaty, Rosalie Zayia

*To place or keep a name on our sick list, please call the rectory every **4 weeks** to let us know that you, a loved one, or friend are still in need of prayers.*

Wedding Banns

III- May 20, 2017

*Ms. Joan Savage
&
Mr. Ryan Knodle*

III- May 20, 2017

*Ms. Florida Levidiotis
&
Mr. Preston Bailey*

III- May 20, 2017

*Ms. Jessica Scanlon
&
Mr. Owen Kramer*

III- May 20, 2017

*Ms. Jessica Scanfora
&
Mr. George Mavregenes*



II- May 26, 2017

*Ms. Kathrin Deutsche
&
Alfonso Otero Barba*

II- May 27, 2017

*Ms. Gloria Enriques
&
Mr. Joseph Leppok*

II- May 27, 2017

*Ms. Emily Gould
&
Mr. Cameron Cimala*

I- June 3, 2017

*Ms. Colleen Coleman
&
Mr. Michael May*

Parishioner Welcome Dinner

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Parish Center Cafe

6:00 p.m.

Have you registered as a parishioner of St. Michael in Old Town in the past year? If so, you are invited to join Fr. Lawson and the pastoral staff to officially welcome you to the parish family. There are no formal presentations or expectations, just have a lovely evening of cocktails, great food and opportunity to enjoy each other's company. You are welcomed to attend if you consider yourself a New Parishioner regardless of when you registered or are looking for an opportunity to meet other members of the community. For more information or to RSVP please call the main office

Save the Date!

Harvest Moon Party
September 29, 2017
Galleria Marchetti

This is a fun evening with silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing!



News & Announcements

Yoga of 12 Step Recovery at St. Mikes

The Yoga of 12 Step Recovery (Y12SR) combines the practical tools of a 12 step program with yoga, addressing the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of addiction. Modeled from the meetings of 12-step programs, Y12SR is a group sharing circle coupled with an intentional, themed trauma-informed yoga practice. Y12SR meetings are open for anyone dealing with their own addictive behaviors or affected by those behaviors in others. Y12SR deepens any work participants may be currently doing or jumpstart the journey of self-discovery. Meetings are free, donations optional. Please wear comfortable clothes. More information is available at www.Y12SR.com or email Christine Kordiuk, ckordiuk@st-mikes.org or call 312-642-2498, ext. 301. This class will be meeting every other Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the next classes being held on May 16 and so on in the Parish Center, 3rd floor. Please enter through the



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

A Jesuit, a Dominican, and a Franciscan were walking along an old road, debating the greatness of their orders. Suddenly, an apparition of the Holy Family appeared in front of them, with Jesus in a manger and Mary and Joseph praying over him. The Franciscan fell on his face, overcome with awe at the sight of God born in such poverty. The Dominican fell to his knees, adoring the beautiful reflection of the Trinity and the Holy Family. The Jesuit walked up to Joseph, put his arm around his shoulder, and said, "So, have you thought about where to send him to school?"

Trivia Night is Back!!

Did you have a blast at St. Michael's Trivia Night? Or, maybe you missed the Trivia Night? Never fear, because Trivia Night is back! Trivia Night will take place at the Parish Center on June, 17th, at 7:00 PM! Cover charge is \$10.00. While the event is BYOB, drinks and food will be available. Teams of up to 6 people are allowed. Bring some friends and a few brewskies, and enjoy a night of laughs, friends, and fun! All are welcome! If you have any questions, or if you're interested in attending, please RSVP yourself and your party with James Colaianni at 312-642-2498

Third annual WingOut celebration!
Get your tickets now at
greencurtainevents.com



Volunteers Needed!

Wing Out is coming **June 3 and June 4** from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and we need your help in the beer stand! Volunteers will be needed to serve beer on those days. Shifts are 2.5 hours long on both days. You **MUST** be 21 years old to serve at the Wing Out. If you can volunteer please email Toni Dunning at tdunning@st-mikes.org. Questions? Call Toni at 312-642-2498.

Stillpoint

St. Michael's Spirituality Resource
Director: Fr. Ken Sedlak, C.Ss.R.,
Contemplative Prayer Gathering:
Mondays, 7:00 p.m. Parish Rectory
2nd Floor Chapel



INNER VIEWS

Someone in the crowd said, "Teacher, order my brother to give me a fair share of the family inheritance." Jesus replied, "Mister, what makes you think it's any of my business to be a judge or mediator for you?"

Speaking to the people he went on, "Take care! Protect yourself against the least bit of greed. Life is not defined by what you have, even when you have a lot." (Luke 12:13ff)

Greed just might be the most soul destructive drive in our American culture. By greed I don't mean amassing and hoarding money. That's just a symptom of something deeper. We've given money extreme power over our life. And this is built on a set of unconscious, unexamined assumptions that come before thinking, a myth that we take as true because of the culture in which we live. When we live in the Reign of God we live in a place of sufficiency, a place of completeness and wholeness, and an understanding of who we deeply are. But our culture has us convinced that we are living in a world where there's not enough to go around and so I have to accumulate way more than I need out of the fear that I'm not going to have enough for me and mine.

But an even more destructive level of this mindset leads us to believe that we're not enough. We have a deficit relationship with ourselves and so I have to accumulate more and more. This fear of not having enough blinds us to what we have and puts us at odds with our most deeply held beliefs. This leads to a greed that makes love impossible. And that is why Jesus reacts the way he does in the gospel I quoted at the beginning of this reflection. Instead of dividing the heritage between the two brothers, he focuses on why the inheritance has divided them. Instead of attacking them and judging them he tells a story, which invites them to draw their own conclusions. Accumulation of wealth, capital resources and good insurance is no guarantee against a heart attack, cancer or traffic accidents. Accumulation of material resources creates an illusion of security.

Wealth is something that we can possess and save up. But happiness, true friends, meaning in life and security that comes from being eternal are not commodities that can be bought, saved or hoarded.

They exist only in the present moment and they are a side effect of making God our first priority.

Jesus is not saying that wealth and God are in opposition. We need money to help us get some of the necessities of life. But money can't gain for us what really matters. That comes from knowing God's un

conditional love in our lives, treating one another with this love, and finding the meaning that comes from living in relationship to God and one another.

God rarely appears in Jesus' parables, but He appears in this one to call the rich man an idiot. This comes from the Greek *idiotes* meaning "the one who is alone." Although made in the image of the Creator, the rich man does not live as the Creator does who gives himself to his creation. An idiot is one who have everything but finds himself alone because of it. as the Russian proverb points out, "Where there is too much something is missing." Wise people give the gift that keeps on giving – love. Love can't be stored up. The only way to hold onto love is by loving.

So how do we deal with the greed that can so easily take over our lives? One way is to try to uncover the need that this addiction is trying to fill. Ask yourself, "Why do I feel driven in this way?" And keep asking until you uncover an emotion about something you feel you're missing in life. Keep digging until you feel the personal drivenness. But follow Jesus' lead, dig with kindness. Try not to judge yourself. You're dealing with something that we all suffer. In being kind with yourself you'll learn compassion for your sisters and brothers.'

And finally, notice how Jesus lives. he gathers people around him and loves to dine with them. He does not judge these people or exclude any one from his table. He enjoys a good meal and the companionship that goes it it. this is the basic way he creates his Father's Reign on earth. Gratitude and generosity are the basic ways we take part in God feeling us,

Ken Sedlak C.Ss.R., PATHWAYS / STILLPOINT



@Kencssr his beloved children.

We are divine / human beings made to find our happiness and joy around our Father's table. We are sisters and brothers of Jesus, called to give our love with the same gratitude and generosity that he does. Our life is meant to be lived Divinely. Please don't sell yourself short.

News & Announcements

Marquard Center Needs

Every second Saturday of the month, our Human Concerns and Needs Commission prepares and serves a meal at the Marquard Center, a Franciscan outreach soup kitchen at 1645 W Le Moyne St, Chicago, to over 100 homeless persons.

Volunteers from St. Michael's shop, bake cookies or brownies, prepare, cook and serve the meal each month. It takes many volunteers to keep this going and we could use YOU! If you can donate any time for this outreach program, please email marquard.center.volunteers@gmail.com.

You can sign up for a specific month that fits into your schedule or every month! The Human Concerns Commission appreciates every minute you can spare! Upcoming dates are May 13th, June 10th and July 8th. Save the date

Moms Group Gathering

All moms are invited to the Parish Center Café on the first and third Wednesdays of every month or play and social time for moms and children. Feel free to bring what you and your child will need to enjoy the morning.

Everyone is welcome, you need not be a parishioner of St. Michael's so feel free to invite all of your friends. Enter through the 1711 N. Cleveland Ave. entrance just adjacent to the parking lot.

SPIRITUAL COMPANIONING MINISTRY

Are you:

- on a conscious spiritual journey and ready for deeper discovery?
- looking for greater purpose and meaning in life?
- have questions of the heart or soul you would like to explore?

If so, you are invited to experience the art of Spiritual Companioning. Spiritual Companioning (aka spiritual

direction) is an ancient tradition of discernment and discovery with no agenda, judgment or opinion. Spiritual Direction's purpose is to nurture the inner life and connection to the Divine within the context of everyday life, inviting a deeper understanding of ourselves. Many people find, through companioning, a greater sense of peace, freedom, connection and wholeness in their lives.

Spiritual Companions are certified, trained and experienced in the art of deep listening. It is a sacred, safe and completely confidential environment.

If you are interested in exploring one-to-one companionship, you are invited to contact Juliet Benoit at jberiou@gmail.com or Susan Cass at susanpannicass@gmail.com or visit www.sacredsoulfood.com. Susan also



News & Announcements

Giving Options at St. Michael's! We Need YOU!

Here at St. Michael we strive to make giving convenient and stay current with modern technology choices and **online giving**. As you travel this summer, consider setting your donation up online so even though you are gone, your donation won't be! Below you will find options for you when you find yourself wanting to donate. If we can address your needs in another manner feel free to email tdunning@st-mikes.org with details.



1. Giving Kiosk

On the east side of the church is a kiosk designed for accepting donations. On the front of the kiosk you can insert cash, checks or swipe a credit card for "Quick" gives. No login is required. OR—if you choose, our kiosk is linked directly to our website. From the St. Michael's home page, you can view our website for information, click on any link on our site, and gain access to our **Online Giving System** by clicking the **Online Giving logo** on the front page, bottom right corner. Donations can be designated to the Outreach Fund, Maintenance Fund, or Sunday Giving, in addition to any of the seasonal funds for projects and events currently taking place at St. Michael's.

2. Quick Read Code

With your smart phone you can now scan our code with your phone and you will be linked automatically to our Online Giving system login page.



3. From any computer you can access our website (www.st-mikes.org) and enter into our **Online Giving System**.

4. We accept donations of cash or checks mailed to us (1633 N Cleveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614), delivered to the office or in the Offertory at mass.

5. If you would like to create a regular donation plan and are unable to use a computer, find the systems confusing or just need help, please call **Toni Dunning** in the office for assistance. (312-642-2498)

6. If you wish to purchase items online in support of any event (Christmas Gift Drive, Outreach, Hunger Relief Drive, for example) you can have your donation shipped directly to St. Michael's, attn. Toni Dunning, 1633 N Cleveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614. In the comment section when ordering indicate the event the donation is in support of or email tdunning@st-mikes.org

Weight Watchers Meeting in the Parish Center

Weight Watchers Meetings are now at St. Michael's Parish Center (1711 N. Cleveland Ave.) **Meetings are held on Saturdays at 8:30 am beginning May 20th**. Come meet our new team Chris and Jean! Attend a meeting for **FREE** to see how Weight Watchers is Taking it Beyond the Scale! Just stop by or email Melissa for more information to melisa.g.zoppa@weightwatchers.com

Parish Pastoral Council

Council Chair: Annie Pecoraro

2017 Parish Pastoral Council Members

CHAIR: Annie Pecoraro

VICE-CHAIR: Alice Huff

Member-at-large: Andrea Mularcyk

Member-at-large: Joe Tully

Member-at-large: Annie Pecoraro

Member-at-large: Alice Huff

Member-at-large: Jim Theisen

Commission Representatives

Communications/
Special Events:

Spiritual Living: Susan Cass

Human Concerns: Jeanne Sanna

Parish Life:

Worship:

Diane Kelley-Thompson

Pastor:

Fr. Ted Lawson, C.Ss.R.

Parish Staff

Representatives:

Fr. Joe Morin, C.Ss.R.

Christine Kordiuk

Parish Life Commission

Commission Head:

information@st-mikes.org

The Parish Life Commission provides a wide variety of programs that enhance the social experience and sense of community for all parishioners of St. Michael in Old Town. Its various activities include: Young Adults group, Docents of St. Michael's (Art and History Tours), Parishioner Welcome Dinner, Gardening Group.

Church Tours

All are welcome Sundays after the 11:00 a.m. Mass in winter and after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in summer. Please meet by the Giving Kiosk on the east side of the church. Tours for groups can be scheduled by appointment by emailing tours@st-mikes.org.

Tours at Noon: May 7, 14, 21

Mom's Group

Join our welcoming group of new moms monthly at the Parish Center. They meet the first and third Wednesday of the month for a playgroup, snack and craft from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Please con-

Toni Dunning

**Please join us for a
potluck brunch on
may 21, 2017
from 10 a.m.- noon in
the parish courtyard**

**On the last day of religious
education, let's toast to a fun,
relaxing, and safe summer**

Organized by the St. Mike's Mom's Group

**Please bring your favorite dish to share. Food can be
stored in the parish cafe/refrigerator during Mass.**

**RSVP to Kristina Mulhall at
kristinamarie25@gmail.com**

