



**The Baptism of our Lord**

As I read the readings for this Sunday, I immediately thought of my recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land and standing in the Jordan River as Deacon Dave Sadler poured water over my forehead as I renewed my commitment to following Christ. It is an amazing and life giving experience to walk the land where Jesus walked and called all people to this new way of life. I know that going to the Holy Land in Israel is not practical or even possible for most people... but we all have the Holy Land of our heart, mind and soul where Jesus lives and calls each of us everyday. Through our Baptism and new life of grace we are called to grow in grace and understanding just as Jesus did and also to go forth and witness to the good news.

Some of the ways our high school age youth of our parish are invited to actively participate are:  
LIFE TEEN – We begin with 6:00 PM Mass, as the Word of God and the Eucharist are most important in our life in Christ. Then we nourish our physical being with a light meal and have social time to connect with friends. Our last component is Life Night that has been creatively prepared by one of our Life Teen Teams and brings fun and meaning to our Catholic faith and builds friendships. There is no registration, just come and enjoy!

FAMINE EXPERIENCE – Feb. 19-20, This service event is filled with opportunities to help others in Findlay and our sister parish in Belize. It is a time to ask others to participate by collecting sponsor funds in advance that will help those most in need. We will be fasting, spending time in prayer, going out into the community and helping others, having fun time in the gym and playing games. We will go to 4:30 Mass and end with a meal after Mass. There is sign up in advance so you have time to get sponsors and for planning of service work. Registrations will be passed out at Life Teen and available at the Parish Office.

TEC – Teens Encounter Christ, This is a retreat for Juniors and Seniors in high school. It is held in Carey and begins at 10:00 AM on Saturday and ends on Monday at 6:00 PM. There are 8 offered each school year, 4 for girls and 4 for guys. Do you ever wonder

(Continued in the next column)

**The Baptism of the Lord continued**

what is really important in life and where are you going???? Give yourself a break and take time away to grow in understanding, direction and truth plus have a great time in the process.

All of these events and all the other many opportunities that are offered for all ages in our parish are possible because of so many of Christ followers, young and old, who continue to grow in understanding and grace and choose to go forth and spread the good news. THANK YOU!

May God bless you,  
Donna Brown

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION 2009**

In December our bulletin due date for printing gets changed with the Christmas and New Year holidays. Working with the holiday schedule we are not always able to get the thermometer figures in the bulletin, so we need to catch you up on December collections. The last collection reported in the bulletin was for December 13, 2009. Collection totals for the last two Sundays for December are as follows:

December 20, 2009	\$33,906
December 27, 2009	\$35,344

These collections are wonderful Christmas presents to St. Michael the Archangel Parish because they exceed the weekly budgeted amount. Thank you for your generosity and sharing your gifts with your parish family.

The Christmas Collection budget is \$81,750.00. As of January 6, 2010, we have collected \$81,079.00. We have collected 99% of the budgeted amount for the Christmas Collection. Again, your generosity is an inspiration.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO ST. MICHAEL FOR 2009:**

January 13, 2010 is the cut-off for any contributions to St. Michael the Archangel Parish for the 2009 calendar year. Remember, your check must be dated 2009! Please have your donations to the Parish Office by 9:00 pm on Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

Thank you,  
Aggie Hempfling

# Men's Bible Study

St. Michael the Archangel Parish is again offering its early morning Men's Bible Study.

*"Your  
Word is a  
Lamp  
upon my  
feet."*

## Matthew 26-28 "Jesus' Life-Giving Death"

Where: Marian Room

Time: 6:30—7:45 a.m.

Dates: February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25

Cost: \$15.00 (Includes book & refreshments)

Come join us for study and fellowship!

Please complete the registration below and return it to the Parish Office by January 29. For more information, please contact Ron Kuhlman @ 419-365-5545 or Armando Gonzalez @ 419-423-4718.

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Men's Early Morning Bible Study—Registration Form—Due January 29, 2010

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 Fee:     Enclosed                       Not Enclosed

St. Michael the Archangel  
Parish  
750 Bright Rd.  
Findlay, OH 45840

419-422-2646

**Attention SMS, CCD and Home-Schooled 7th Grade Parents/Students:** Mark this date on your calendar! We will hold our Confirmation Candidate/Parent Meeting on **May 6, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium.** This is a required meeting for all those who wish to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation for 2011. More information will follow!

**PRAYERS for VOCATIONS** - There is a need for more parishioners to take a chalice into their homes as they pray for an increase in vocations. Call Bob and Louise Laube @423-7390 to learn more about this ministry. Miss Shelly Fox and her 8A class had a chalice last week as they prayed for vocations and Mrs. Eileen Nold and her 1B class have one of the parish chalices in their classroom this week as they continue to pray for an increase in vocations.

**IT'S COMING!!** Have you purchased your tickets for the SMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, January 31? All tickets are **PRESALE ONLY** and can be purchased by contacting any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, the SMS Office at 419-422-2512 or Beth Hinshaw @ 427-2574 . Tickets may also be purchased after the Masses on the weekend of Jan. 16 and 17.

**COMING SOON!! Parish Mission** - Mark your calendars today! Our Parish Mission will be held **March 1-4, 2010.**

**STATIONS of the CROSS** for victims of abortion will be prayed on Thursday, January 21, at 7:00 pm in the Downtown Church. Please join us in prayer.

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY** - To all families who have experienced a death in their lives. A Mass of Remembrance will be held at 8:00 am on Saturday, January 16, 2010, in the Main Church on Bright Road. A light breakfast will be served in the Activity Center following Mass. For breakfast reservations, please call (419) 423-9357.

**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS** - The Knights of Columbus will be having a *Free Throw Contest* on January 16, 2010, in the parish Gym, on Bright Road, from 9:00 - 11:00 am. It is for boys and girls ages 10 thru 14. You may register for the contest when you arrive. Questions? Call David Mueller (419) 957-7995.

## **ST MICHAEL SCHOOL NEWS**

### **KINDERGARTEN - KR REGISTRATION AND OPEN HOUSE**

Kindergarten Open House for the 2010-2011 school year is Wednesday, January 13, from 7-8 pm in the Auditorium. **(This is a parent-only meeting.)** If you have a child who will be five on or before July 31, 2010, and have not registered for Kindergarten, please contact the School Office. Enrollment is limited. We will again have full day and half-day kindergarten.

We are also taking registrations for students who will be five between August 1st and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, for the Kindergarten Readiness class. Open House for the Readiness students will also be January 13, at the same time and place. **This too is a parent-only meeting.**

Correct placement into our early education programs can ensure student success.

### **ACADEMY OF ANGELS PRESCHOOL (THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLD PROGRAMS)**


We will be hosting a preschool open house on January 20, from 7-8 pm. We have a 3 or 5-day program for students who will be 4 years old by July 31, 2010. The 3-day program is for students turning 4 between August 1 & December 31, 2010, and the 2-day program is for students turning 4 between January 1 and July 31, 2011. Registrations are now open for school families. Please stop by to register for the program if you did not receive information in the mail. **This meeting is a parent-only meeting.**

**END OF QUARTER IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13.**  
**GRADE CARDS HOME ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21.**

**OUT OF UNIFORM** is Monday, January 11, for a \$1.00 donation to the Completing Our Vision Campaign.

**PARISH BREAKFAST -The Marriage Enrichment Team** will be serving breakfast next Sunday, January 17, after the 10:00 am Mass in the Activity Center. All parishioners and their friends are invited.

**DIVORCED or SEPARATED?** Don't go through this alone. The *New Life Journey Divorcecare* 13 week sessions begins January 10, on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the school's Faculty Lounge. Join us - no registration required.

  
**JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH - GRADES 6, 7, & 8**  
 in Public, Catholic, & Home Schools and your  
 friends in these grades

**Youth Website:** See High Sch. Youth News.

**SKI EVENT** – Saturday, January 16 – For  
 those who have pre-registered.

**AMP (About More Praise)** Jan. 13 & 27,  
 from 6:30-8:00 in the Youth Rm. This Junior  
 High Youth Group is open to all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and  
 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth that are members of St. Mi-  
 chael Parish and your friends (Catholic and  
 non-Catholic) There is no registration or  
 charge, just come when you can.

**DANCE** – Friday, Feb. 5, from 7-9 PM in the  
**Auditorium**. There will be a DJ to playing  
 your favorite tunes. Please bring \$4.00 to  
 help cover the cost of DJ, pizza, and pop.  
 Dress is casual. No pre-registration, pay at  
 the door. Thanks! I will need adults to help  
 chaperone. Please call me at 419-422-2646 or  
 email me at [dbrown@findlaystmichael.org](mailto:dbrown@findlaystmichael.org) by  
 January 29, if you're available to help.

**What does the Catholic Church teach about  
 Divorce, Annulments, and Remarriage?** Hear  
 Father Chris Vasko, from the Diocese of Toledo, speak  
 on the practical aspects of the Church's teaching on  
divorce, annulments, civil marriages and remarriage  
 on Thursday, January 14, at 7pm at St. Wendelin Par-  
 ish Hall, 313 North Wood St., Fostoria. Questions?  
 Call Phil @ 419-435-6692.

**Prayer Vigil for Life Commemorating the 37th  
 Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade** - Please join the  
 Helpers of God's Precious Infants for a Prayer Vigil for  
 Life on Thursday, January 14, 2010. Mass will be cele-  
 brated at Rosary Cathedral at 6pm followed by expo-  
 sition of the Blessed Sacrament. We will then drive to  
 the Ashland Baptist Church parking lot where we will  
 begin our one-block pilgrimage to the Center for  
 Choice abortion clinic where abortions will be taking  
 place. After praying the rosary until approximately  
 8pm, the group will return to the Cathedral for Bene-  
 diction and refreshments. For more information, con-  
 tact Mary Kay at (419) 878-0486.

  
**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH & YOUR FRIENDS  
 IN HIGH SCHOOL**


**FOR FORMS AND INFORMATION:** Web-  
 site, [www.findlaystmichael.org](http://www.findlaystmichael.org) , Ministries and  
 then Youth Ministry or call 422-2646.

**SKI TRIP** Saturday, January 16, for those  
 who have pre-registered.

**LIFE TEEN MASS AND LIFE NIGHT** – Sun-  
 day, January 10 and 24. We will begin with  
 6:00 PM Mass at the Main Church on Bright  
 Rd. and we invite you to sit in the reserved  
 seats for Life Teen. If you do go to another  
 Mass, please join us for a light meal after  
 Mass in the Activity Center at 7:15 and for  
 Life Night at 7:30 in the Auditorium. We will  
 be finished by 8:30 PM and you will need a  
 ride home at this time. Please come when  
 you can and bring your friends (Catholic and  
 non-Catholic). There is no registration or cost.

**MORNING PRAYER** – We will have prayer  
 January 14, 21, and 28, from 7:00 – 7:30 AM  
 in the Downtown Church. One of the high  
 school youth will prepare and lead prayer and  
 we will have donuts and juice also. If FHS is  
 delayed, prayer will be cancelled. Hope to see  
 you there.

**FAMINE EXPERIENCE 2010** - February 19-  
 20, This awesome event is filled with fun,  
 fasting, service, friends and prayer. Be asser-  
 tive and ask your friends to do this with you –  
 they too will be gifted with the experience of  
 touching the lives of our brothers and sisters  
 in need and making a difference in our world.  
 The flier with all the information and registra-  
 tion will be passed out at Life Teen and avail-  
 able in the back of church and at the Parish  
 Office. There is no cost but registration is due  
 by February 1.

  
**THE 5th ANNUAL HANCOCK CHRISTIAN  
 CLEARING HOUSE GARAGE SALE** WILL BE HELD  
 ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 20 & 21.

Start saving those items for the sale AND watch the  
 bulletin for more information!!

**YOUR MONEY COUNTS**

Crown Ministries is based on the work of Howard Dayton as discussed in his book *Your Money Counts*. The book is a work reviewing what the Bible says about money management. The Crown Courses are about bringing like-minded people together to review and discuss these ideas, and how to put them to work managing money in the home and business.

Dayton focuses on eight principles: Spending, Debt, Counsel, Honesty, Giving, Work, Investing, and Children. Go on-line or to your favorite bookstore and pick up a copy. The ISBN is 0-9651114-0-7