

ST. MICHAEL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

20 Page Avenue ~ Cohoes, N.Y. 12047

February 16, 2025

MASSES IN COHOES:

Monday, 9:00am at St. Michael's Church
Tuesday, 5:30pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
Wednesday, 9:00am at St. Michael's Church
Thursday, 9:00am at Church of the Holy Trinity
Friday, 9:00am at Church of the Holy Trinity
Saturday, 4:00pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
Sunday, 9:00am at St. Michael's Church
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month – some Polish
Sunday, 10:30am at Church of the Holy Trinity

CONFESSION IN COHOES:

Tuesday, 4:15pm – 5:15pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
Thursday, 5:00pm – 7:00pm at St. Michael's Church
Saturday, 2:45pm – 3:45pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
By appointment anytime – call the Parish Office.

ADORATION IN COHOES:

Tuesday, 4:15pm – 5:15pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
Thursday, 5:00pm – 7:00pm at St. Michael's Church

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK IN COHOES:

After all weekend Masses on the second weekend of the month.
By appointment anytime - please call the Parish Office.

For Baptism, Marriage, Confirmation, to join the Parish, register for Faith Formation, become Catholic, or any other questions or concerns please call the Parish Office.

Please check inside the bulletin or on our website for any schedule changes or additions due to Holy Days, Holidays, etc.



St. Michael's Church is Handicapped Accessible.

PARISH STAFF:

Very Rev. Brian Kelly Pastor
Rev. Kyle Gorenski Parochial Vicar
E-mail address: kyle.gorenski@rcda.org
Kathleen Burns, Faith Formation: (518) 428-6353
E-mail address: FFsmCohoes@rcda.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Parish Office: (518) 237-5151
Office Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 9:30am-12:00pm,
Tues. & Wed. 9:30am-2:00pm
Church Hall: (518) 237-7121
E-mail address: info@stmichaelsofcohoes.org
Website: www.stmichaelsofcohoes.org
Bulletin: bulletin@stmichaelsofcohoes.org
Cemetery: cemetery@stmichaelsofcohoes.org
Parish trustees:
trustees@stmichaelsofcohoes.org

CHURCH OPEN HOURS:

Monday & Wednesday 8:30am-10:00am
Thursday 5:00pm-7:00pm
Sunday 8:00am-10:30am
(closed Tuesday, Friday, & Saturday)

February 16, 2025



**THANK YOU... TO ALL WHO
SHARED THEIR TIME, TALENT
AND TREASURE FOR THE GOOD
OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY LAST WEEK.**

Reflection for February 16th the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
Today's Gospel presents us with one of Jesus' most profound teachings—His sermon on the plain. St. Luke tells us that Jesus came down from the mountain and stood on a "level place" to teach His disciples and the crowds. This detail is significant because it shows Jesus meeting the people where they are—on their level, amidst their struggles and joys, as one who walks with them. Unlike St. Matthew's version of the Beatitudes, which contains eight blessings, St. Luke gives us four blessings followed by four corresponding "woes." The Beatitudes are not just poetic sayings; they are a radical reversal of worldly values. They reveal to us the heart of God and the path to true happiness. But they also challenge us to rethink what it means to be blessed. "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours." Jesus speaks first to the poor. This is not just about material poverty but about an attitude of spiritual dependence on God. The poor have no illusions about self-sufficiency; they know their need for God. Throughout Scripture, God has always shown a special concern for the poor. The Blessed Virgin Mary proclaimed in her Magnificat that God "has lifted up the lowly" and "filled the hungry with good things" (Luke 1:52-53). Saints like St. Francis of Assisi embraced poverty to remind the world that our true treasure is not in earthly wealth but in God alone. However, material poverty alone is not a guarantee of holiness. Jesus is not romanticizing suffering. Rather, He is calling us to recognize our spiritual poverty—our absolute need for God's grace. If we rely on wealth and possessions to give us security, we may lose sight of our deeper need for God. "Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied." Jesus speaks to those who are physically and spiritually hungry. This hunger points to a longing for justice, truth, and righteousness. The world often tells us to satisfy ourselves with power, pleasure, and material goods, but these things never truly satisfy. We see this hunger in the lives of the saints. St. Teresa of Calcutta devoted herself to serving the hungry and dying, not just giving them food but feeding them with love and dignity. She recognized Christ in the poor and was nourished by serving Him in them. This beatitude invites us to hunger for the things of God. Are we seeking Him with the same intensity as someone who is starving for food? Jesus promises that those who hunger for Him will be filled. "Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh." In a world that avoids suffering at all costs, Jesus proclaims that those who mourn will find joy. This is a great paradox. Jesus does not promise a life free from sorrow, but He assures us that our suffering is not meaningless. Many saints experienced deep sorrow. St. Monica wept for years over her son, St. Augustine, praying for his conversion. Her tears were not in vain, for Augustine became one of the greatest saints of the Church. Sorrow in this life can purify us, drawing us closer to God. If we suffer with faith, we will experience the joy of the resurrection. Jesus

Weekly Contributions

February 2, 2025 (TOTAL)	\$2,234.69
February 4, 2024 (Total)	\$2,782.00
February 4, 2024 (Regular Offertory only)	\$2,246.00
Regular Offertory*	\$1,854.69
Parish Building Improvements	\$350.00
Parish Maintenance & Grounds	\$30.00
*Regular Offertory:	
9:00am Mass & Mail	\$1,564.00
E-giving	\$290.69

- Weekly operating expenses (minimum needed): **\$3,723.98**
- For the week above, we fell short of our minimum weekly operating expenses budget by **\$1,489.29**
 - Goal for increased offertory is \$1,500 - \$2,000 per week in order to cover operating expenses plus outstanding debt payments.

(Reflection continued)

Himself, who wept at the tomb of Lazarus, reminds us that God is near to the brokenhearted. "Blessed are you when people hate you, exclude you, insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven." This is perhaps the most difficult beatitude to accept. No one likes to be rejected or persecuted. Yet Jesus tells us that when we suffer for His sake, we should rejoice! Why? Because we are sharing in His own mission. The apostles faced ridicule, imprisonment, and even martyrdom for the Gospel. St. Paul suffered beatings, shipwrecks, and imprisonment, yet he counted it all as joy for the sake of Christ. The early Christians were thrown to the lions, yet they went to their deaths singing hymns. Today, Christians still face persecution—sometimes in dramatic ways, as in countries where the faith is outlawed, but also in subtle ways when our beliefs are mocked or dismissed. Jesus tells us not to fear, for our reward in heaven is great. Immediately after the Beatitudes, Jesus pronounces four "woes," warning those who trust in wealth, comfort, laughter, and human approval. These are not condemnations but wake-up calls. "Woe to you who are rich"—if our wealth makes us self-reliant and indifferent to the poor, we have already received our consolation in this life. "Woe to you who are full now"—if we seek only worldly pleasures, we will find ourselves spiritually empty. "Woe to you who laugh now"—not all laughter is good; if we take joy in sin or injustice, we will face sorrow in the end. "Woe to you when all speak well of you"—if we live only for human praise, we may be compromising the truth of the Gospel. Jesus is not saying that wealth, food, joy, or a good reputation are evil in themselves. Rather, He is warning us not to build our lives on these things, for they will pass away. True joy comes from God alone. The Beatitudes are not just lofty ideals; they are the blueprint for Christian living. They show us the way to eternal life, where our hunger will be satisfied, our tears turned to laughter, and our suffering transformed into glory. May we, like the saints, live out these Beatitudes each day, finding our true blessing in Christ.

Your Brother in Christ, Fr. Kyle

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Children's Liturgy of the Word Feb. 16, 9am
 Social Hour after 9am Mass - Church Hall Feb. 16
 Rosary Society Meeting - Church Hall Feb. 16, 10:45am
 Penny Social Mar. 2, 1pm, doors open at 10:30am
 Anointing of the Sick - after 9am Sunday Mass Mar. 9



SOCIAL HOUR: Mark your calendars for Sunday, **February 16th** for our next social (in the Church Hall). If you have any questions, please contact Sandy at (518) 330-9056.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING: The next meeting will be held after the social hour in the Church Hall on Sunday, **February 16th** at 10:45am.



ROSARY NEWS: St. Michael's Rosary Society will hold their **Annual Penny Social** on Sunday, **March 2, 2025** at 1:00pm in the church hall. Doors will open at 10:30am. Tickets can be purchased starting at 11:00am. Food and refreshments will be available from 11:00am. Since this is our most profitable fundraiser, we again ask our Rosarians and Parishioners for donations of NEW gifts or money donations which can be used to purchase larger gifts for our raffles. This will be greatly appreciated. All gifts can be brought to the church hall on Sundays after the 9:00am Mass. We also need groceries to fill up our tub. All proceeds will benefit the Special Project Fund for parish improvements. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Maria Swieton, Michelle Frainier, and Teresa Barlik co-chairpersons.

CALLING ALL BAKERS: The Rosary Society is in need of homemade baked goods (cookies, brownies, and cupcakes) for our Annual Penny Social on March 2, 2025. You may drop off your baked goods on Saturday, **March 1st** from 11:00am - 2:00pm, or Sunday morning after 9:00am. As always, thank you for supporting our church.



TAX STATEMENT 2024: If you would like to receive a tax statement for 2024, please call the office. A statement can be picked up at the parish center or in the sacristy. In early January the Diocese will be mailing tax acknowledgements for donors who made gifts to the Appeal or Re-Igniting Our Faith in 2024.

Liturgical Roles

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Sacristans
Feb. 23 9:00AM	G. Mierzwa	M. Sala (H) J. Frainier (W) K. Kosek (W)	M. Swieton

SANCTUARY CANDLES
Week of February 17 – February 23



CHURCH:

Main Altar (tabernacle):

People of the Parish.

Sacred Heart (side altar):

People of the Parish.

Blessed Mother (side altar):

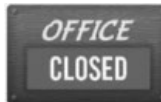
People of the Parish.

WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE:

February 9, 2025: Sunday, 9am 35

COUNTING TEAM FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH:

Ed & Kathy Twiss, Diane Aberle.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: The Parish office will be closed on Monday, **February 17th**, in observance of Presidents' Day.


PRAY THE ROSARY BEFORE MASS: Praying the Rosary in Church before the 9am Sunday Mass begins approximately 40 minutes before Mass.

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP/MAC & CHEESE SUPPER AT SAINT AMBROSE CHURCH: On **March 5th** immediately following the 5:30pm Mass. Sign-up sheets are available at St. Ambrose Church in the pews, office, and entrances into the Church. Deadline for signing up is February 24th. Please contact St. Ambrose for more information or Mary Kay Frederick by email at mkfrederick@gmail.com.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE MEETING: Polish National Alliance Group 1684 will meet on Sunday, **March 9th** at 10:30am in the Church Hall. Any questions please contact Marian Wiercioch at (518) 235-5549 or marianpna1684@aol.com.

DIOCESAN APPEAL:
Assessment \$20,400.00
As of February 3, 2025: \$17,294.00
51 Gifts
85% of goal
Average gift: \$339
Still needed: \$3,106.00



Diocesan Appeal

The Appeal runs from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Please make every effort to support our Diocesan Appeal. Envelopes are available in the pews, in the back of the Church, and in the Parish Office. Thank you for your support.



Keep the Legacy Alive
 Please remember St. Michael's in your will:
 St. Michael the Archangel R. C. Church
 20 Page Ave., Cohoes, NY 12047

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 15 – February 23, 2025

Sat., Feb. 15	
4:00 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Sun., Feb. 16	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m.	† <i>Joseph J. Kosek, Jr.</i> by Emily & Family † <i>Regina LePage (31st Anniv.)</i> by Tony & Sandie LePage † <i>John & Julia Dudek</i> by Nancy Tolak † <i>Robert & Genevieve Callanan</i> by Chuck Fitzgerald † <i>Marie Walbridge (Birth.)</i> by Janet Gorsky
10:30 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Mon., Feb. 17	
9:00 a.m.	Intention of Parishioners
Tues., Feb. 18	
5:30 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Wed., Feb. 19	
9:00 a.m.	† <i>Norma Montes</i> by St. Michael's Bereavement Ministry
Th., Feb. 20	
9:00 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION
Fri., Feb. 21	
9:00 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Sat., Feb. 22	The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
4:00 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Sun., Feb. 23	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m. (some Polish)	† <i>Karol Swieton (Birth.)</i> by Maria Swieton † <i>Genevieve & Robert Callanan</i> by Nancy Tolak † <i>Janina Wiercioch</i> by Paul & Laura Swieton † <i>Pauline Michalik Geboskey</i> by Jane Gebosky & Son † <i>Albert E. Couture, Sr. (3rd Anniv.)</i> by daughter Sandie LePage
10:30 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)



Please note: Masses listed above are at St. Michael's Church unless noted otherwise.

WINTER ALERT! When bad weather is predicted, Fr. Kyle will not say morning Mass if the schools in Cohoes are delayed or closed.



February 16, 2025

St. Michael's

Faith Formation News

Director: Kathy Burns - FFsmCohoes@rcda.org

(518) 428-6353

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

- Sunday February 16: Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9am Mass
- Wednesday, February 19: No Class - Winter break
- Wednesday, February 26: Classes resume – 6pm
- Thursday, February 27: Monthly High School Class - 6pm-8pm

FIRST COMMUNION MASS

First Communion Mass will be held on Saturday, **May 3rd** at 11am. This Mass is open to anyone who would like to attend. Parishioners are invited to attend and support our children.

CLYNK

Please remember our Clynk program when disposing of clean cans and bottles. Income from the Clynk program helps to support Faith Formation programs. Green Clynk bags are available in the Parish office if you would like to use them. Thank You!

PARENT MEETINGS

Parent meetings for the Sacraments of First Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation were held in January. Important dates and information are in the packets that were distributed. Packets were mailed to those who could not attend. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Burns at (518) 428-6353.

BAPTISM

Congratulations to **Oliver Butler**. Oliver was Baptized at St. Michael's on February 8th at 1pm. He is a member of our Kindergarten Faith Formation program. Oliver is the son of Deborah and Wesley Butler. Welcome to St. Michael's and may God bless you!

REGIONAL FOOD BANK

Our next commitment to serve at the Regional Food Bank in Latham is Saturday, **March 15th** from 1pm to 3pm. Please sign up to help with this important service. Adults, teens, children and families are encouraged to help. Please contact Mrs. Burns if you intend to be there. Thank You!

PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

These sites were recently posted on RCDA.org for anyone interested in making a pilgrimage.

<https://cathedralic.com/Cathedral> of the Immaculate Conception, <https://cathedralic.com/125> Eagle St., Albany, NY

149 Old Loudon Rd, Latham

518-785-8161



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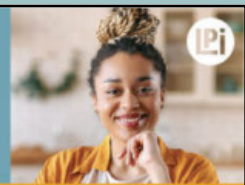
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