

ST. MICHAEL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

20 Page Avenue ~ Cohoes, N.Y. 12047

February 22, 2026

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:

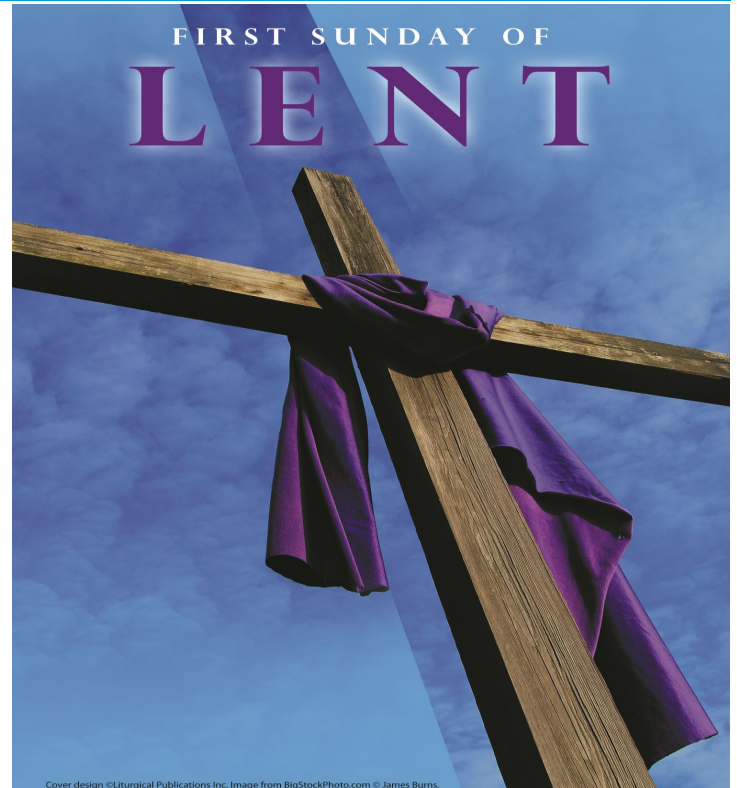
Tuesday, 4:15pm – 5:15pm at Church of the Holy Trinity
Thursday, 5:00pm – 7:00pm at St. Michael's Church

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 22, 2026



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

Reflection for February 22nd the 1st Sunday of Lent

Lent begins in a quiet and unsettling place: the desert. Right after His baptism—right after the voice of the Father declares, “This is my beloved Son”—Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness. Not away from God’s favor, not because He failed, but precisely because He is beloved. That alone should catch our attention. We sometimes assume that closeness to God means ease, clarity, and peace. But the Gospel tells us something more honest. Even Jesus enters into struggle. Even Jesus is tested. The devil’s temptations are subtle. They are not obviously evil. In fact, they sound almost reasonable. “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread.” Jesus is hungry. He has fasted for forty days. There is nothing wrong with bread. The temptation isn’t about food—it’s about control. It’s the voice that says: Take care of yourself first. Use your power to meet your needs on your own terms. How often do we hear that voice? When life is hard, when prayer feels slow, when waiting feels unbearable. We’re tempted to grasp, to fix, to fill the hunger immediately—sometimes with things that numb us rather than nourish us. Jesus responds, “One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.” He chooses trust over control. Then the devil tempts Him with spectacle. “Throw yourself down... God will save you.” It’s the temptation to prove God’s love, to demand signs, to turn faith into a performance. We fall into this when we say, “God, if you really love me, then do this.” When we try to force certainty instead of walking in faith. Jesus refuses. Love does not need to be tested. God does not need to be manipulated. Finally, the devil offers power: “All these kingdoms I shall give you.” This is the temptation to take shortcuts—to achieve good ends through compromised means. To believe that influence, success, or control will finally bring peace. But Jesus knows the truth: worship belongs to God alone. Anything else becomes an idol, even when it looks productive or efficient or impressive. What’s striking is how Jesus fights these temptations. He doesn’t argue. He doesn’t negotiate. He doesn’t panic. He stands firmly on the Word of God. Scripture shapes His response. His identity is rooted not in what He can do, but in who He belongs to. And that’s the heart of this Gospel. Lent is not about proving our strength. It’s about letting God remind us who we are. Beloved sons and daughters who do not need to grasp, perform, or dominate to be worthy. The desert reveals what we cling to—and what we truly need. This season, Jesus does not wait for us at the end of our struggles. He walks into them with us. He knows

Weekly Contributions

February 8, 2026 (TOTAL)	\$3,690.38
February 9, 2025 (Total)	\$3,797.07
February 9, 2025 (Regular Offertory only)	\$2,917.07
Regular Offertory*	\$2,885.38
Parish Maintenance & Grounds	\$535.00
Parish Building Improvements	\$270.00
*Regular Offertory:	
9:00am Mass & Mail	\$2,409.00
E-giving	\$476.38

Weekly operating expenses (minimum needed): **\$3,723.98**

- For the week above, we fell **short** of our weekly budget by **\$33.60**.
- Goal for increased offertory is \$1,500 - \$2,000 per week to cover operating expenses plus outstanding debt payments.

COUNTING TEAM FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD: Michelle Frainier, Teresa Barlik, Maria Swieton.

MASS ATTENDANCE - February 15, 2026: Sunday, 9am 120

SECOND ENVELOPE: Black, Native American & Latin America Missions collection is this weekend, February 22nd.

DIOCESAN APPEAL: Assessment \$22,722.00

As of January 27, 2026: **Total collected: \$8,503.66**

57 Gifts, 36 Donors

Still needed: \$14,218.34



Diocesan
Appeal

The Appeal runs until June 30, 2026. Thank you for your support.

DECEASED: †Mary Anne Colaroutolo passed away recently. Please keep her & her family in your prayers.

Eternal Rest Prayer



Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Liturgical Roles[†]

Mass	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Sacristans
Mar. 1 9:00AM	K. Shassberger	N. Batting (H) K. Kosek (W) J. Clairmont (W)	M. Swieton T. Barlik

(reflection continued)

hunger. He knows temptation. He knows weakness. And because He has gone before us, our deserts are no longer places of abandonment, but places of encounter. If we let Him, Lent becomes a time not of fear, but of freedom. Freedom from false hungers. Freedom from lies. Freedom to worship God alone and trust that He is enough. And in that freedom, like Jesus, we will find that angels come—not always immediately—but faithfully, carrying the grace we need to keep going.

Your Brother in Christ, Fr. Kyle

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Stations of the Cross Feb. 27, 5pm
 Penny Social - Church Hall Mar. 1, 1pm, doors open at 10:30am
 Anointing of the Sick - after 9am Sunday Mass Mar. 8
 Children's Liturgy of the Word Mar. 15, 9am
 Social Hour after 9am Mass - Church Hall Mar. 15
 Rosary Society Meeting - Church Hall Mar. 15, 10:45am

ROSARY NEWS: St. Michael's Rosary Society will hold their **Annual Penny Social** on Sunday, **March 1st** 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 Lighting in the Church/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, & cupcakes) for our Annual Penny Social on March 1st. You may drop off your baked goods on Saturday, **February 28th** from 11:00am - 2:00pm, or Sunday morning, **March 1st** after 9:00am Mass. As always, thank you for supporting our church.

SOCIAL HOUR: Our next social hour is **March 15th** after 9:00 Mass. Please join us for some good food and companionship in the Church Hall. Bring a favorite dish to share. Any questions, call Sandy at (518) 330-9056.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING: The next meeting is Sunday, **March 15th** at 10:45am in the Church Hall. We hope to see you there!

OUR BULLETIN is made possible by the businesses that advertise on the last page. Please support those who support us and let them know you saw their advertisement here!



33-DAY SELF-GUIDED RETREAT - CONSECRATION TO DIVINE MERCY: Please join us for a 33-day self-guided retreat in preparation for Consecration to Divine Mercy. The retreat begins March 9th and concludes on April 11th-12th (Divine Mercy Sunday), with the consecration taking place at all weekend Masses. We will be using the book 33 Days to Merciful Love by Fr. Michael Gaitley. Copies are available for purchase after Mass in the back of Holy Trinity Church, at the Holy Trinity Parish Center, or online through Amazon. All are welcome to participate—whether you are making the consecration for the first time or renewing it. We invite you to journey more deeply into the merciful love of Jesus during this sacred season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Come join us in praying the Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent beginning **February 20th**. We will gather in the church at 5:00pm. We are looking for volunteers to lead the prayers each week. You do not have to be a lector to volunteer. Please contact Maria Swieton (518 782-1203) if you are interested. Let's make this Lenten journey together.



BISHOP MARK O'CONNELL WILL BE VISITING THE COHOES CHURCHES. All are welcome:

- Church of the Holy Trinity on Saturday, **March 28th** - he will celebrate the 4pm Mass.
- St. Michael's Church on Sunday, **April 19th** - he will celebrate the 9am Mass.

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS


40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Through prayer, fasting, community outreach and presence in front of abortion centers, 40 Days for Life works to end abortion. Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday. Albany: public sidewalk at bus stop: 855 Central Ave., 12206 Troy: public sidewalk (not plaza sidewalk) 120 Hoosick St., 12180. Hudson River Commons. Bring friends or join a group. For more information Albany: Mike at alb40days@gmail.com or Troy: Margaret at (518) 698-9057.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE MEETING: The Polish National Alliance Group 1684 will meet on Sunday, **March 8th** at 10:30am in the Church Hall. Any questions please contact Marian Wiercioch at (518) 235-5549 or marianpna1684@aol.com.

LUCKY BUCKET EXTRAVAGANZA: Sunday, **March 15th** by St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Waterford Altar Society. The event will be held at St. Mary's Hall on the corner of Sixth and Division Streets in the Village of Waterford, from noon-2:30pm (doors open at 11:30). \$10 admission includes lunch, beverages, dessert, and a ticket for the door prize. Tickets for baskets are sold separately. If you would be willing to donate a basket or a gift card, email Sharon at shar53159@aol.com. Your support will be greatly appreciated!




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 St. Michael the Archangel R. C. Church
 20 Page Ave., Cohoes, NY 12047



SANCTUARY CANDLES
Week of February 23 – March 1

CHURCH:
Main Altar (tabernacle):
 In memory of †Walerek Lopatniuk
 by Friends of the Family.
Sacred Heart (side altar):
 People of the Parish.
Blessed Mother (side altar):
 People of the Parish.



February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent
February 21, 2026 – March 1, 2026

Sat., Feb. 21	
4:00 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Sun., Feb. 22	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
9:00 a.m. (some Polish)	† BRONISLAWA NAWARYCZ by friend Marian Wiercioch † KAROL SWIETON (Birth. Wishes) by Family † WALEREK LOPATNIUK by Friends of the Family † JAN MIKA, JR. by Mary & John Sala † PAULINE GEBOSKEY by Jane Gebosky & Son † ALBERT E. COUTURE, SR. (4 th Anniv.) by daughter Sandie LePage † STEPHANIA KLEBIEKO by Maria Swieton † KATHRYN RACZKOWSKI by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Leoniak † FELICJA TUMA by Tuma-Loya Families
10:30 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Mon., Feb. 23	
9:00 a.m.	† CHRISTINE ST. PIERRE (2 nd Anniv.) by Family
Tue., Feb. 24	
5:30 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Wed., Feb. 25	
9:00 a.m.	† PAUL DIDONNA by St. Michael's Bereavement Ministry
Th., Feb. 26	
9:00 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION
Fri., Feb. 27	
9:00 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
5:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat., Feb. 28	
4:00 p.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)
Sun., Mar. 1	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
9:00 a.m.	† JAN MIKA, JR. by St. Joseph Society, Group 1684 (PNA)
10:30 a.m.	(Mass at Holy Trinity)

MASS INTENTIONS: The stipend for a Mass Intention is **\$15**. Envelopes labeled "Mass Intentions" are available in the back of the Church and in the Office. The intention should be received in the Parish Office at least 2 1/2 weeks in advance of the Mass date for inclusion in the bulletin. Stop by the Parish Office if you would like a Mass card that can be mailed to the family.

February 22, 2026

St. Michael's

Faith Formation News

Director: Kathy Burns - FFsmCohoes@rcda.org
 (518) 428-6353

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

- Thursday, February 26: 6pm-8pm - High school youth group class
- Sunday, March 1: First Communion Presentation
- Wednesday, March 4: 6pm – Class grades K-8
- Wednesday, March 11: 6pm – Class grades K-8 – First Confession Grade 2 only
- Saturday, March 14: 1pm-3pm – Regional Food Bank – Community service
- Wednesday, March 18: 6pm – Class grades K-8
- Wednesday, March 25: 6pm – Class grades K-8 – Lenten Confession for grades 3-8

FIRST COMMUNION PRESENTATION

On Sunday, **March 1st** our First Communion class will be presented to Father Kyle and the parish community. They will be given a gift from their parish. Our First Communicants who will make their First Communion on Saturday, May 2nd at 11am at St. Michael's Church are:

Abigail Burns	Dominic Pucci
Rauri Burns	Madison Walker
Nova Deming	Mason Walker
Damian Miller	Aliyana Yetto

FIRST CONFESSION

On Wednesday, **March 11th** during 6pm Faith Formation class, our First Communion Candidates will make their First Confession with Father Kyle. Please bring your child to Faith Formation class as usual. Any parent who would like to be in the church with their child may stay, but it is not necessary. All other students will have normal Wednesday night class. Please contact Mrs. Burns with any questions (518) 428-6353.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

On Saturday, **March 14th** we will be volunteering at The Regional Food Bank in Latham. The Food Bank depends on volunteers to pack food that goes to area agencies. The Food Bank does not have employees to do the packing, so they depend heavily on volunteers. All ages are welcome to join us. Please contact Kathleen Burns at (518) 428-6353 if you are able to help.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Children's Liturgy on February 15th. Our next Children's Liturgy of The Word will be on Sunday, **March 15th** at 9am.

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. Mt 5:13-14).?

Pope Francis, Message for Lent, 2020

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