



HARK

Announcing the Good News at St. Michael Parish

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NEW WEB SITE:
www.stmikesparish.org



Snag Those Lenten Opportunities by Wendy Hinerman

There is a very handsome squirrel that lives in the trees outside of the parish office. His name is Skippy. He is quite big and has a fabulous fluffy tail! He is a very smart squirrel and while tree squirrels do not hibernate, they do tend to spend much of the time in their nests during the winter months to conserve energy. In other words, Skippy is very selective about his actions.

Father Dan and I feed peanuts to our friend Skippy. We always put out five so we can keep track of how many are missing. I was recently talking to Father McSweeney and out of the corner of my eye I saw Skippy in the tree, with a peanut in his mouth. It really brought the conversation to a new level of excitement! Sometimes the peanuts go quickly and on other

occasions they will sit untouched for several days. I wonder why Skippy does not snag all of the peanuts immediately. They are there for him, and he will benefit from them, right? What's the hold-up?

Following our wonderful Parish Mission, the Parish Staff recently reviewed our plans for the remainder of the Lenten season. We have many opportunities for our parishioners to grow in their faith. Details are provided weekly in the bulletin or on our new website. Our parish has provided many resources to help you prepare for Lent, to walk with Christ, and to prepare your heart to celebrate Easter.

Now, not to imply that our parishioners are squirrely, but just as we have put peanuts out for Skippy, we have made special programming available for you and your Lenten journey. Don't hesitate – snag!

Exciting New Youth Program by Jen Carter

And we're off! After receiving a generous one year grant from the national Life Teen program and months of preparation with our wonderful team, Wheeling is now home to West Virginia's only active Life Teen high school ministry program!

Life Teen is an international Catholic ministry which believes that Eucharist-based ministry has the power to transform teens, transform parishes, and transform culture. St. Michael's, St. Vincent's, Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Peace have come together to build a team of over 20 adults and 4 priests to lead our own teens through this amazing experience! Our program centers around a Mass and Life Night held every first and third Sunday of the month right here at St. Michael's. ALL are invited to the

Mass, which is led in ministry by our teens and led in music by our Life Teen band. Afterwards, the high school age teens are invited to the Angelus Center where they are treated to an evening of food, friends, fun and faith where programming planned by our adult team is led until closing prayer at 8:30 pm.

We are extremely excited to share that our Life-Teen kick-off was a great success! After an energetic inaugural Mass, we headed to our first Life Night where we found exciting fairy tale surprises such as a brave knight and a harrowing prince and a bearded princess all coming together to teach us about overcoming the obstacles in life that keep us from reaching our ultimate goal of the Love of God. We learned to stand up to our fears and be brave with our faith and then rounded up our lesson with some rousing rounds of jousting provided with the help of JK Tank

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Lenten Schedule

- Every Friday
 - Fish Fry 4-7pm
 - Stations of the Cross 2:15pm & 7pm
- March 7
 - Life Teen - Life Night: *Now Hiring*
- March 13
 - Irish Evening, 6-9pm
- March 14
 - Parish Renewal Workshop, 7pm
- March 21
 - Life Teen - Life Night: *Heart of Mystery*
- March 22
 - Communal Penance Service
- Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday
 - Masses Sat. 4:30, Sun. 7:30am, 9am, 11am and 1pm
 - Glory Garden deliveries*
- April 1 - Holy Thursday
 - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm
- April 2 - Good Friday
 - Stations 3pm
 - Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7pm
- April 3
 - Easter Vigil 8pm
- April 4
 - Easter Masses 7:30am, 9am, 11am, and 1pm

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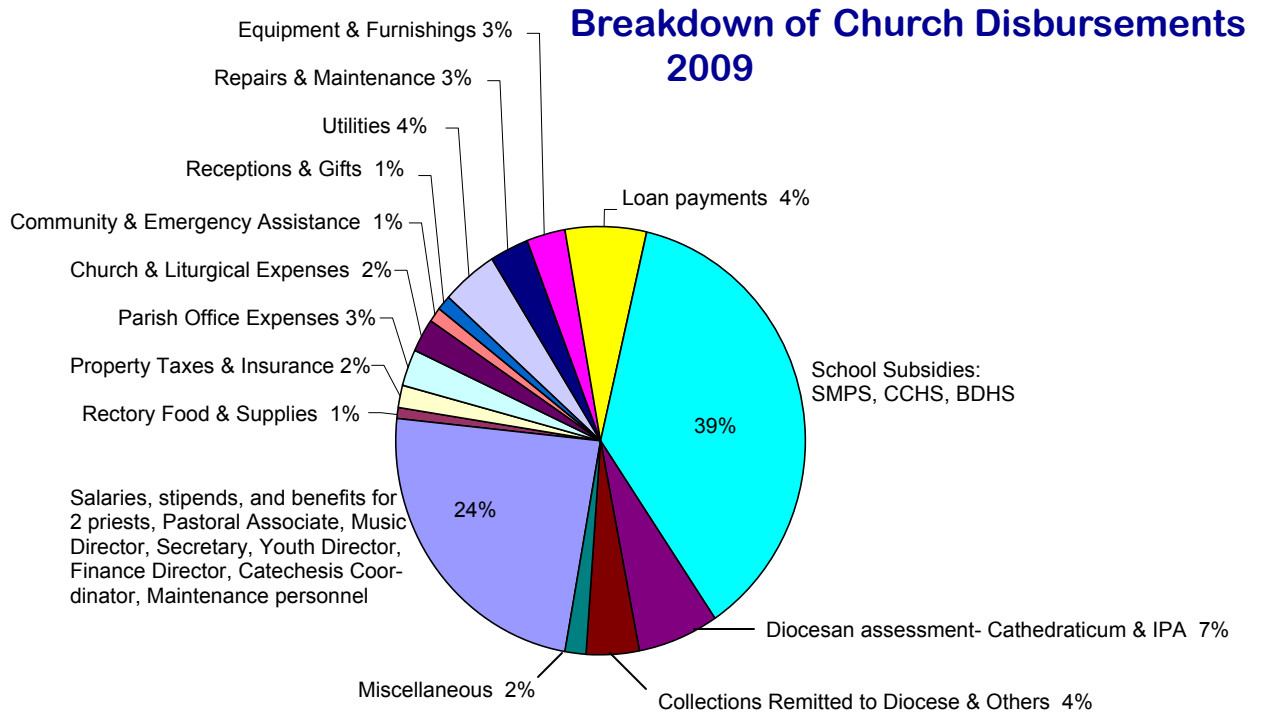
Inflatables. Of course, we tied it all together with great friends and some food thrown in with the help of a fantastic kitchen crew! If you weren't able to make it, you did miss a great night, but never fear! We'll be meeting again! Be sure to check the schedule to join us!

St. Michael Church 2009 Financial Report

Here is a recap of the financial information for 2009 for St. Michael Parish. We appreciate the financial support of all parishioners over the past year and ask that you review the information provided. If you have any questions concerning this information, please call the Parish Finance Office at 304-242-1560 Ext 8, or I can be reached at jhurley@krsm.net.

Jim Hurley, Finance Council President

Parish Finance Council Members: Brann Altmeyer, John Carenbauer, John Hannig, Maureen McNabb, Phil Withum



Where have we been.... and where are we going?

2009 Statistics	
Number of registered parish families:	1,620
Number of families donating to the parish:	1,064
275 families contributed 0 - \$100	
563 families contributed \$101 - \$1000	
226 families contributed \$1001+	

Weekly Collection Recap		
Year	Wkly Mass Collection*	Subsidy to SMPS
2009	\$811,737	\$337,098
2008	\$795,146	\$418,368
2007	\$796,319	\$469,150
2006	\$873,723	\$524,601
2005	\$956,580	\$605,819
2004	\$1,077,203	\$725,854
2003	\$1,110,261	\$746,340
2002	\$1,118,591	\$706,778
2001	\$1,147,680	\$673,262
2000	\$1,190,737	\$611,732

*only reflects collections remaining in the parish; excludes Capital Campaign giving

We ask all registered parishioner to utilize the parish envelopes that are mailed monthly to their homes for their on-going financial gifts to the parish. E-Giving is available to those wishing to have their gift deducted directly from their bank accounts on a monthly or semi-monthly basis. E-Giving is automated giving through an electronic funds transfer from your bank account each month. If you contribute to the parish as a good steward, you apportion a percentage of your income for the church. Once you determine the amount that you plan to give, this amount can be broken down into monthly or semi-monthly deductions from your bank account. Using E-Giving ensures that you put God first in your giving and that His purposes don't fall prey to simply what's left in your wallet when the offertory basket is passed. It also ensures that your giving continues on snowy days or when you are away on vacation. Contact the Parish Finance Office if you are interested in more information 304.242.1560 Ext. 8.



St. Michael Parish
1225 National Road
Wheeling, WV 26003

Return Service Requested

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE
A renewal workshop for all
parishioners interested in
revitalizing
parish spiritual activity
and small group faith formation

***Sharing the Light
Being the Light***

**7pm Sunday, March 14
St. Michael Angelus Center**

**Led by Michelle Tomshack,
Diocesan Director of Faith Formation**

Contact Wendy in the Parish Office to reserve your seat!
304.242.1560 Ext. 0 or stmikes@stmikesparish.org

IRISH EVENING

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

St. Michael Angelus Center
Dinner \$3, with additional donations accepted
Tickets available at the Parish Office

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT 18th STREET
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER**

Dinner 6-7pm

Irish stew, Cabbage & noodles,
Irish soda bread, Desserts, Beverages
Children's Menu Available

Entertainment 7-9pm

Singing, Dancing, and a Bit o' Blarney
Beer and Wine Available

If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a
charitable donation, please send your donation to the
Parish Office marked for the Irish Evening.