

Fr. Terry Kissell, Pastor
Fr. Felipe Colombo, Parochial Vicar

Parish Pastoral Council

Trudi Lustig	Saturday Mass
Mary Jeanne Gillette	7 a.m. Mass
Tom Dainko	8:45 a.m. Mass
Juliet Knox	10:30 a.m. Mass
Diana Ross	12:30 p.m. Mass
	2:30 p.m. Mass
	Community Umbrella
Carolyn Brake	Formation Umbrella
Michele Soriano	Outreach Umbrella
Marcia Wikoff	Worship Umbrella

St. Michael's Ministries are grouped under "Umbrellas" of like groups. A staff person is assigned to each Umbrella as a resource.

Administration Umbrella

Finance Council
Stewardship Committee
Maggie Swanger, Staff Resource

Community Social Life Umbrella:

Clubs
Parish Social Events
Welcoming Newcomers
Umbrella Rep
Staff Resource

Formation Umbrella:

Adult Formation
Children and Youth
Youth Ministry
Carolyn Brake, Umbrella Rep
Jim Peters, Staff Resource

Outreach Umbrella:

Christian Service
Pastoral Care Team
Social Justice
Michele Soriano, Umbrella Rep
Fr. Terry Kissell, Staff Resource

Worship Umbrella:

Liturgical and Prayer Ministries
Marcia Wikoff, Umbrella Rep
Elizabeth Harris, Staff Resource

A complete list of Ministries is on the website under "Volunteer". Please visit www.stmichael-aurora.org for more information.

Julie Fortuin
Parish Leadership Liaison
julief@stmichael-aurora.org

St. Michael the Archangel Parish Leadership Newsletter

Connected in our Catholic faith, with outreach to others, we celebrate as a welcoming community in joyful worship.

January 2024

This newsletter is designed to give parishioners information about the activities of the Pastoral Council and parish ministries.

Parish Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council meetings will be at 6 p.m. (instead of 7 p.m.). Meetings will continue to be on the first Thursday of each quarter.

There are two current openings on the Parish Pastoral Council: Community Umbrella representative and Spanish Speaking Community representative. Parish Pastoral Council members serve a three year term, with the possibility of a second term. The Parish Pastoral Council usually meets on the first Thursday of January, March, July, and October. Some meetings may be rescheduled due to conflicts. If interested in serving, contact Julie Fortuin at julief@stmichael-aurora.org.

Next meeting is March 7, 2024

Administration Umbrella

St. Michael's welcomed Deacon Paul Zajac, who has been assigned to the parish. Deacon Zajac was ordained in 2007 by Archbishop Chaput. He previously ministered at St. Anthony's Parish. Deacon Paul is a software engineer with Lockheed Martin Space. He has six children, ages 18 to 30 years old. Deacon Paul also works with the Peace Huts, a retreat center near Akron, CO, and the Carron Center Coffee House, serving the developmentally disabled.

The efforts to update the parish census is ongoing. A postcard was sent to all registered parish households in the summer. Approximately 1/3 of those have been verified. Parishioners who have changes to their registration (e.g. new address or phone number, adding a child or removing a child who has moved and no longer attends St. Michael's) are asked to contact the parish office.

The Offertory has increased, thanks to generous parishioners. Unfortunately, inflation continues to increase parish expenses. The budgeting process will begin in the spring for FY 2024-2025.

Community Umbrella

Dinner Club did not gather during December. If interested contact dinner_club@stmichael-aurora.org.

Men's Club donated to the Boy Scouts and attended their Court of Honor Ceremony. Members enjoyed their Christmas party and parishioners enjoyed the December Pancake Breakfast.

Women's Club celebrated the season with a potluck and gift exchange. For information about the Women's Club, contact Jennifer Carey at 720-273-6607 or Dora Yost at 303-261-2546.

Formation Umbrella

December was extra busy for the **Preschool**. Students "traveled" to the North Pole on the Polar Express. Friends and families enjoyed the annual Christmas concert. Preschool staff is preparing for an open house on January 28 for families interested in enrolling their child(ren).

The final parent sessions were held in early December for parents preparing children who will be celebrating **First Reconciliation**.

RCIA participants, their parents, and others packaged 180 bags of parishioner baked cookies. The cookie packages, each containing at least two dozen cookies, were distributed to service men and women in the dorms at Buckley SFB.

That Man is You (TMIY) completed their Fall session. The Spring session began on January 12, continuing the theme "Worthy of the Call".

A new ministry for parish women, **Walking with Purpose**, has had a successful start. The evening Bible Study, *Opening Your Heart*, meets Sunday evenings. Once a month, the ministry hosts a "Connect Coffee Talk", an opportunity for women of the parish to find out more about the ministry.

High School youth set up Angel trees in the gathering space. **Middle School youth** decorated the WhereHouse for Advent and Christmas. An all youth, ugly sweater party included Karaoke and decorated cookies.

Formation Umbrella continued

Young Adults gathered for a Christmas potluck.

Outreach Umbrella

The **Gift stable** was filled several times over. The gifts were donated to multiple community organizations that serve Aurora youth in need.

Thank you to all who provided gifts for **Hampden Hills nursing home**.

Sandwich Makers prepped and made 8,640 in sandwiches in 2023 to help feed the homeless. Volunteers, along with the **Knitter and Crochet Ministry** donated close to 350 hats, mittens, scarves, blankets, and socks to be distributed. Approximately 50 lbs. of oranges and bananas were also donated, to be included with the sandwiches in December.

Worship Umbrella

Beginning with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, through Advent, and Christmas, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, and Lectors served at the many services celebrating the season. St. Michael's is blessed with a wonderful group of dedicated and passionate parishioners serving in these ministries.

The choirs and musicians, which comprise the **Music Ministry**, provided music that enhanced celebrations throughout the Christmas season.

A record number of attendees enjoyed the Christmas Concert and Sing-Along. This has become an annual favorite.

Art and Environment Ministry asks that you don't water the plants in the building. They are on a watering schedule.

Dear God, I seek Your guidance in all aspects of my life—my relationships, career, and endeavors. Please illuminate my path and direct me according to Your divine plan.