

Welcome to the Parish Communities of

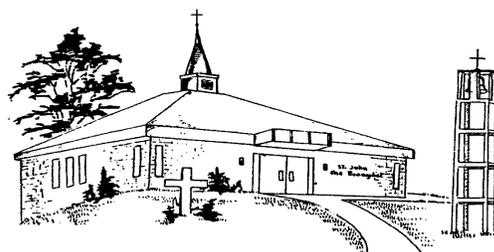
# ST. MICHAEL & ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



ST. MICHAEL – Suring



ST. MICHAEL STATION – Chute Pond



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST – Gillett

**PASTOR**.....Fr. Robert Ni Ni

**Phone** .....903-388-3906

**Email**.....rniinimf@gmail.com

**GILLETT PARISH OFFICE**.....920-855-2542

127 S Garden Ave  
Gillett WI 54124

**Fax Number** .....920-855-1449

**SECRETARY**..... Kathy Campshure

**Email**..... stjohsec@centurytel.net

**SURING PARISH OFFICE** .....920-842-2580

210 S Krueger St  
PO Box 248  
Suring WI 54174

**Fax Number** .....920-842-9825

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** ..... Tricia Fischer

**Email**.....stmikesuring@centurytel.net

**WEBSITE**..... www.stjohnstmichael.com

**FACEBOOK** ..... St. John and St. Michael Catholic Church

## MEMBERSHIP

**Initiation of Adult Candidates** For full membership in the Catholic Community, Adult Candidates are prepared by the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and received into the Catholic Community on the Vigil of Easter.

**Parish Membership** All are welcome to become a member of our Parish Families. Information can be obtained from either Parish Office. Membership forms can also be found on our parish website.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please have the material you wish to have placed in our bulletin to the parish office no later than Tuesday 10:00 AM. Primary consideration may need to be given to our personal parish family needs.

## WILLS

Please consider the needs of our parish communities by remembering St. Michael's or St. John's Parish in your will.

## MASS SCHEDULE (All Masses and parish functions have been suspended until further notice.)

Saturday 4:00 PM - Gillett

Sunday 7:30 AM - Chapel

8:45 AM - Suring

10:00 AM - Gillett

Tuesday 8:30 AM - Gillett

Wednesday 8:30 AM - Suring

1st Friday 8:15 AM - Gillett

Followed by Holy Hour

3rd Saturday 6:00 PM Spanish Mass - Gillett

## WOODLAND VILLAGE MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday 10:15 AM – Woodland Village – Suring

## ST. JOHN & ST. MICHAEL OFFICE HOURS

St. John Monday - Wednesday, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

St. Michael Monday - Wednesday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

## RECONCILIATION

St. John - Saturday 3:00 PM

St. Michael - Wed. following Mass or by appointment

## BAPTISMS

Please call the appropriate Parish Office to make arrangements for required instructions, and to set a date for the baptism.

## WEDDINGS

Arrangements are to be made six months in advance. A year in advance is desired. No date is to be set for the wedding prior to calling the appropriate Parish Office.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Trained ministers from our parishes are available to bring Holy Communion to those who are hospitalized or homebound due to illness or incapacity. Arrangements may also be made for a priest to administer the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

April 18/19, 2020 / Second Sunday of Easter

# DISCIPLES ON THE WAY

## 2nd Sunday of Easter

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, “I am here on purpose and I am loved!” Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.

If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation’s grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-I don’t-know kind of revelation, it is life changing when it takes root in the depth of a person’s soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn’t require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience and encounter the truth, it doesn’t matter how all of the pieces got put together. Truth is simply truth. The “my Lord and my God” responses we utter are not evoked because all of the pieces of faith and life make reasonable sense. The “my Lord and my God” affirmations come when we are lifted up out of our preoccupations and silliness and are in the presence of mystery and mercy.

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation — this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace. “Peace be with you.” Breathe in and breathe out. Peace.

## *A Message from the Pastor*

Since we can’t be together now, I want to greet you through this message instead. I pray that you have a happy and peaceful Easter season. The Lenten season is over, and we are supposed to rejoice in Christ’s resurrection, though it’s really sad for me to celebrate this without your presence.

Anyhow, in the Paschal feast we recall the Old Testament story of the liberation or Passover of God’s chosen people from slavery. In comparison, in the New Testament, we celebrate Jesus’ liberate us from eternal death. That is more profoundly essential. The Old and New Testaments are connected, but the word Paschal relates more to the Old Testament whereas Easter to the New Testament.

This Easter we celebrate liberty over eternal pain and death. Jesus gave his life for us and defeated death. Many in our world are suffering now, and I encourage you to pray for the people who are sick with the coronavirus. Also, pray for those who have died that they be saved from eternal death.

As human beings, we know we can’t escape death. Life is temporary. However, we believe in resurrection after death. The theme of Easter Sunday gospel reading is the Empty Tomb.

The empty tomb is the Easter symbol of Jesus’ victory over death. The empty tomb also is the symbol of our Christian life. Currently, our churches are like empty tombs without people worshiping together, yet we are still united spiritually through our shared faith, prayer and sacrifice. Know that your body is the temple of God. When this is over, the church will be full again. I look forward to that day!

Let us save the world by our continued prayers and sacrifice.

May you be able to overcome all the tombs of pain and suffering with the grace of God.

*A man’s pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor. (Proverbs 29:23)*

*Blessings!*

*Fr. Robert Ni Ni*



# LIVING LIVES OF MERCY

## Thank You

To the members of St. Michael's Church,  
The Christian Food Pantry thanks you for the gift of \$75.00. We will put the money to good use helping those in need. We are grateful for your kindness.

God's Blessings,  
The Christian Food Pantry

## Contributions

Parishioners who would like to continue contributing to the parish can mail contributions to St. Michael Church, PO Box 248, Suring WI 54174 or St. John Church, 127 S Garden Ave, Gillett WI 54124. Your continued support is very much appreciated

## Local Food Pantries

If you need food assistance, the following is a list of local food pantries:



Care/Share Food Pantry St. John Lutheran Church 101 Main St Gillett WI 54124 920-855-6215	Please call for assistance.
Christian Food Pantry 17186 Twin Pine Rd Lakewood WI 54138 715-850-0768	2nd & 4th Wednesday each month, 9 - 10 AM & 6 - 7 PM.
Hillside Assembly of God Food Pantry 5890 Hwy 22 W Gillett WI 54124 920-855-2962	Whenever church doors are open, or call.
Kingdom Come Food Pantry 520 Locust St Oconto Falls WI 54154 920-604-2729	Tuesdays 10 AM - 6 PM

## Everyday Stewardship - Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

### Give Yourself Completely

The early days of the first Christian community were not easy by any measurement. Jesus had been executed, and his disciples had to be discreet so as not to meet a similar fate. Jesus was now risen, but the truth of his resurrection was not accepted by all. However, the depiction of that early community in Acts 2:42-47 would lead someone to believe it was the opposite situation. We are told of community life where people lean on each other and share great joy. They ate and prayed together, and many wonders and signs were occurring to lift the community and bear witness to the power of Jesus Christ. They were disciples living out their faith, and it was their strong sense of stewardship that made all this possible in the face of threatening Roman and Jewish powers.

Today, we find the Church in a new turmoil. Increasing secularism, abuse scandals, and a lack of true fidelity place us once again in a time that is not easy. A friend of mine likes to say that any challenge of sin we encounter in the Church has its origin in a lack or misunderstanding of the stewardship way of life. We create our burdens by not using our gifts wisely and by turning inward selfishly.

Could we use the story in Acts of the early Church to help us today? If we begin with the decision to give of ourselves completely to God and His people, will we become agents of change? There is only one way to find out.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



## ST. MICHAEL PARISH SUPPORT

Needed Each Week..... \$2170.00  
See future bulletins for support totals.  
Bishop's Appeal to Date: \$10050 of \$9185 (109%)

## ST. JOHN PARISH SUPPORT

Needed Each Week..... \$1912.00  
Received April 12..... \$1015.00  
Bishops Appeal To Date..... \$4545 of \$9954 (46%)

Visit our Website at <http://stjohnstmichael.com>

## MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of April 20 - 26

### ST. MICHAEL - CHUTE POND

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

7:30 AM † Joan Woelfel

By Ellen & Kelly Flynn

### ST. MICHAEL - SURING

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

8:45 AM † Open

### ST. JOHN - GILLETT

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

4:00 PM † Open

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

10:00 AM † Open

*Father continues to say Mass privately on Sundays and welcomes Mass intentions.*

### Open Dates For Mass Intentions

#### St. Michael Parish

**Suring, Sunday:** April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24

**Chapel, Sunday:** April 26, May 3, 10, 24, 31

#### St. John Parish

**Saturdays:** Apr. 18, May 2, 9, 23, 30

**Sundays:** Apr. 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

### Readings for the week of April 19, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]/Mk 16:15-20

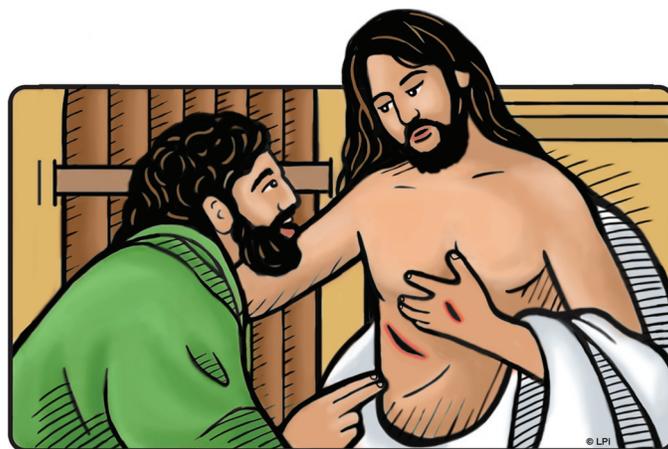
Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

### What does it mean to discern a vocation?

The word vocation comes from the Latin word *vocare*, meaning “to call.” A vocation is a calling or invitation from God to serve in a particular way. For Catholics, that calling might be as a priest, sister, or married person. Vocation is the way we respond to the invitation to share in God’s grace and witness to God’s love in the world.

Discerning a vocation is the process in which we pray for God’s guidance. We listen for God’s message that is often quiet and unassuming in a world filled with noise and distractions. We look at our gifts and talents, seek the advice of others, examine our motives, and listen to see what God is asking of us. The goal of discernment is to follow what the Lord wills, not what we think is the best idea. Many men enter a seminary to discern if that is their vocation, only to discover that their calling is to marriage. Others have resisted the idea for long periods of time, until finally they could resist no more. Some great saints have described that dilemma. Vocation is a human process of divine origin, and each of us must strive constantly to hear the call of God in our lives.

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*“Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” - Jn 20:27b-29*