Saint Michael Parish Hudson, Massachusetts



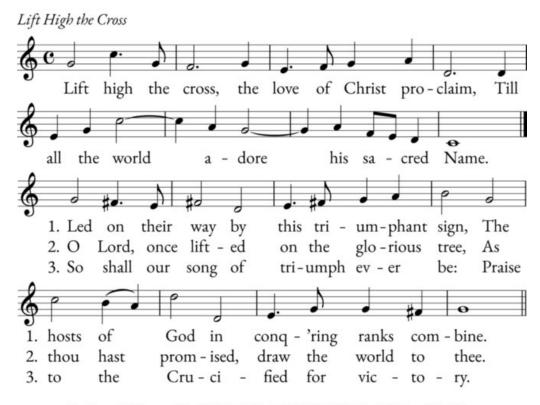
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 14, 2025

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross | Sunday, September 14, 2025

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (all):



Text: George W. Kitchen, rev. Michael R. Newbolt. Melody: CRUCIFER, 10.10 with refrain; Sydney H. Nicholson.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON	Missal, p. 503
SIGN OF THE CROSS & GREETING	Missal, p. 1
PENITENITAL ACT (Form A)	Missal, p. 2
KYRIE ELEISON <i>(all)</i> "Missa Primitiva"	Missal, p. 38
GLORIA (all) "Missa Primitiva"	Missal, p. 35
COLLECT	Missal, p. 504

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING:	Missal, p. 504
RESPONSORIAL PSALM (all)	Missal, p. 504
SECOND READING:	Missal, p. 505
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (all)	Missal, p. 505
GOSPEL:	Missal, p. 505
HOMILY	
NICENE CREED (all)	Missal, p. 7
UNIVERSAL PRAYER	
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST	
OFFERTORY ANTIPHON	
PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS	Missal, p. 11
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS	Missal, p. 506
PREFACE DIALOGUE	Missal, p. 12
SANCTUS (all) "Missa Primitiva"	Missal, p. 36
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER	
I (The Roman Canon) "To you, therefore, most merciful Father" II "You are indeed holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness" III "You are indeed holy, O Lord" IV "We give you praise, Father most holy"	Missal, p. 13 Missal, p. 17 Missal, p. 19 Missal, p. 22
LORD'S PRAYER <i>(all)</i>	Missal, p. 25
AGNUS DEI (all) "Missa Primitiva"	Missal. p. 40

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

COMMUNION HYMN (all):



Text: Caroline Maria Noel. Melody: KING'S WESTON, 11.11.11.11; Ralph Vaughan Williams.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Missal, p. 506

CONCLUDING RITES

Missal, p. 30
Missal, back cover

RECESSIONAL HYMN (all):

The Royal Banners Forward Go



Text: Vexilla regis prodeunt, Ventatius Fortunatus; Tr. John M. Neale. Melody: OLD HUNDREDTH, 8.8.8.8. (L.M.); Louis Bourgeois.

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This weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. At first glance, it may seem strange to "exalt" something as brutal and humiliating as the cross. Yet, in Christ, the cross is transformed—from an instrument of torture into the very means of our salvation. The readings this Sunday lead us into the mystery of how God's love is revealed most fully in the cross of Christ.

Our first reading from the Book of Numbers recalls the Israelites in the desert, complaining and despairing in their journey. As punishment, they encounter serpents, and many die. Yet God offers healing through a paradox: those bitten must look upon a bronze serpent lifted high on a pole to be saved. What once symbolized death becomes, by God's command, the means of life. This foreshadows the cross—where sin and death are nailed, and life and salvation flow forth.

St. Paul in Philippians gives us the great hymn of kenosis (one of my favorite words and concepts from Diaconal

Formation), or "self-emptying." Though Jesus was in the form of God, he did not cling to equality with God. Instead, he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, humbling himself even to the point of death on a cross. This is divine love made visible—not

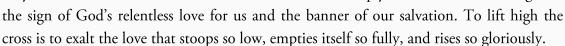
A Message from Our Clergy

Deacon Jared Auclair

grasping at power, but surrendering in obedience and love. Because of this, God exalts him, and "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend." The cross is exalted because it reveals the depth of God's humility and the triumph of his love.

In the Gospel, Jesus himself draws the connection between the bronze serpent and his own cross: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up." To be "lifted up" means both to be crucified and to be glorified. On the cross, Christ is lifted high so that all who look to him in faith may have eternal life. And John makes clear the motive: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son… not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." The cross is love lifted high.

When we sing "Lift High the Cross," we proclaim this paradoxical truth: what once was shame is now glory, what once was defeat is now victory, what once was death is now life. The cross is not simply a reminder of suffering; it is



This feast invites us not only to venerate the cross but also to imitate Christ's kenosis. In our homes, workplaces, and parish, we are called to humble ourselves, to serve, and to give of ourselves in love. When we embrace the small crosses of daily life with trust, we unite ourselves to the great mystery of the Cross of Christ. And in doing so, we share in his exaltation.

May we, then, lift high the cross in our lives, not as a burden, but as the radiant sign of God's saving love.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. September 13, 9 a.m. Jose Correia

Sat. September 13, 4 p.m. Francis & Dorothy Weagle

John F. Rooney

Bob, Ida & Debora Braga

Deceased Members of the Cunningham Family

Viriato Moreira

Sun. September 14, 8 a.m. Private Intention

Sun. September 14, 10 a.m. St. Michael Parishioners

Wed. September 17, 9 a.m. Maria P. Bairos Thu. September 18, 9 a.m. No Intention Fri. September 19, 9 a.m. No Intention Sat. September 20, 9 a.m. No Intention

Sat. September 20, 4 p.m. St. Michael Parishioners

Sun. September 21, 8 a.m. Cheryl Ann Rooney

Margaret & Malcom Callahan

Robert Craig Abraham Lucia Rodrigues Melo

Gail Robinson & Roseann Hannan

Sun. September 21, 10 a.m. Private Intention

September Bread & Wine and Altar Candles are offered in Memory of the Janssen & Gotz Family Members.

MASS SCHEDULE

CONFESSION & ADORATION

Sunday Mass: English 4:00 p.m. (Saturday Vigil) 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Mass: Portuguese

9:15 a.m. Chapel

11:30 a.m. Chapel (Brazilian)

Daily Mass: English Wed-Sat. | 9:00 a.m.

Daily Mass: Portuguese

Mon | 7:00 p.m. Chapel (Brazilian)

Mondays: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Confession & Adoration

(Portuguese/Brazilian)

First Fridays: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Adoration Only (returning in September)

Saturdays: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Confession & Adoration

Confession also available after most Masses by

request or by appointment

BOOK A MASS INTENTION—If you would like to reserve a Mass for someone, please contact the parish office. The suggested stipend for Masses is \$10.

SPONSOR ALTAR CANDLES OR BREAD & WINE—Please

contact the parish office if you are interested in sponsoring Altar Candles or Bread & Wine. Altar Candles are \$50 and Bread & Wine are \$75.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BULLETIN? Contact Andrea at andrea@stmikes.org

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(Portuguese Community)

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Parish Office

20 High St., Hudson, MA 01749 Open Wed/Thu/Fri, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 978-562-2552 | www.stmikes.org

Parish Pastoral Council

PastoralCouncil@stmikes.org

The Pastoral Council helps Fr. Bert with practical parish matters. Please send a message to offer ideas, talent, expertise, or feedback. Note: This e-mail is checked weekly, and the Pastoral Council meets every 6-8 weeks. For immediate pastoral needs, contact the appropriate clergy or staff above.

St. Vincent de Paul

978-618-5175, svdp.hudsonma@gmail.com For any of our Hudson neighbors in need of assistance, the local chapter of St. Vincent de Paul is ready to

ST. MICHAEL'S STAFF UPDATES FAREWELL TO MARC

Marc DeMille has been leading our Sacred Music ministry since the departure of Michael Olbash in July. He has stepped up to make sure that there is music for our liturgies and has covered many weekend Masses and



funerals at St. Michael's as the organist and cantor. He has also assigned musicians and coordinated the music for those Masses he could not be present. We are grateful for your hard work and on behalf of the parish, thank you Marc!

In the peace of Christ,

Fr. Bert

WELCOME PAULA LOWELL



Greetings to all!

I am so pleased and excited to return to St. Michael Parish as Director of Sacred Music. Some of you may remember me from the past, and it is wonderful to see familiar faces as well as having the opportunity to meet and

share music with everyone here. I know that St. Michael's is a warm, welcoming, and faith-filled parish.

I have been a Director of Music for many years, as music ministry is my passion. I have much experience with music planning, directing adult, youth, teen choirs, and small ensembles. I have taught music in two Catholic schools, Grades K-8. I also enjoy teaching piano and being an organist/cantor at the Catholic TV Network.

I hope that many of you will join our music ministry so that we can praise and worship God together through the beautiful gift of music that He has given all of us. Sacred music helps to enhance the beauty of our liturgies as well as being an important way that we can participate in prayer at Mass.

If you are interested in being a part of our music ministry, please see me after one of the Masses or email me at paula@stmikes.org. Thank you!

Peace,

Paula Lowell

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

September 2– 8, 2025

COLLECTION SUMMARY	Offertory	Maint. & Develop.
In-Pew	\$9845	\$2525
Online Giving	\$2882	\$360
GRAND TOTAL	\$12,727	\$2885

Thank you for your generosity!



Please consider using the **WeShare QR Code** to set up Electronic Recurring Payments

Please consider St. Michael Parish when you are estate planning. We just recently received a significant gift from the estate of deceased parishioners. Thank you for your consideration.

Upcoming 2nd Collections
September 14— No Second Collection
September 21—Clergy Health & Retirement

CONFIRMANDI SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Bishop Reed confirmed nine Confirmation candidates from St. Michael's in Hudson, St John's in Hopkinton, and St. Brigid in Lexington. This was the first regional event that our parish has hosted. The ceremony was beautiful!



ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The adult confirmation class is for adult Catholics who were baptized and received their First Holy Communion, but were never confirmed. This class is also offered to students age 17 and over to receive Confirmation. We will meet in the Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. on the first four Thursdays in October starting on October 2. Please see the website for more information. https://www.stmikes.org/confirmation-classes-for-adults

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. MICHAEL'S

SEPTEMBER 13—Feast of Our Lady of Fatima-5:30 p.m. Mass | 6:30 p.m. Candlelight procession. SEPTEMBER 15—Our Lady of Sorrows Memorial— September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows.

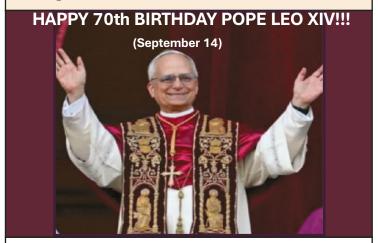
SEPTEMBER 18—Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study—email stmikeswwp@gmail.com register!

SEPTEMBER 23—Ladies Sodality—1:00 p.m., Parish Center

SEPTEMBER 24—Religious Educations classes begin— 6:00 p.m. Deacon Jared will be speaking to the parents in the Upper Church as the children have their first lesson in the parish center.

SEPTEMBER 27—Worcester Catholic Women's Conference—https://www.wcwconference.com

SEPTEMBER 29—Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael



LADIES SODALITY

The Ladies Sodality will be meeting Tuesday, September 23 at 1:00 p.m. in the parish center. Our speaker will be

Mary Walling from Fresh Start, a non-profit volunteer-run organization located in Hudson. We are asking members to bring any household items for donation to help their



cause, we are in need of everything. We begin our meeting with a Rosary. Please contact Martha Berry at 978-562-2705 with any questions. All are welcome!



WOOSOX PARISH OUTING

Everyone had a great time at the WooSox Game! Special welcome to St. Michael's by Polar Park where the game took place! Thanks to the Social Committee for planning this fun event!



ABOUT THE COVER

September 14 is marked as the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The feast commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, during her travels to the Holy Land from 326 to 328 A.D. We are not only honoring Christ's saving action through His death on the Cross, but we are also venerating the actual instrument of the Crucifixion.

Dear Parishioners of St Michael's -

Please find below our Financial Annual Report for fiscal year 2025 which ended on Jun 30, 2025. As our bottom line indicates, we fell short of our budgeted Net Operating Income by \$55k this year due to increased expenses which are explained in the comments' column. With aging buildings, plumbing issues and failing boilers, we are projecting more of the same in the coming new fiscal year (Jul 1, 2025 – Jun 30, 2026) which is why we are kicking off our Increased Offertory Program for the Parish - which you will be learning about this weekend. Fr. Bert will be speaking about this at all the Masses and you will be receiving a mailing next week. I encourage you to prayerfully consider your ability to give more to the Parish in your weekly/monthly contributions so that our basic operating monthly expenses will be met. And if possible, please consider using our We Share program to set up your weekly offerings on-line - QR Code below for your convenience.

God bless you for your continued support of the Parish. Marcy Flaherty, Business Manager



St Michael Parish and Cemetery Financial Annual Report FY2025

	FY2025	FY2025			Budget
St. Michael Parish	Actuals	Budget	Variance	Comments for Variances over \$8k	2026
Income	4000 400	4000 000			
Offertory	\$528,166	\$532,056	(\$3,890)		\$548,88
Grand Annual	\$87,935	\$70,212	\$17,723	Generous Parishioners contributed to us exceeding our budget.	\$87,27
Catholic Appeal Rebate	\$2,612	\$2,000	\$612		\$2,62
Gifts Bequests/Donations	\$78,527	\$48,341	\$30,186	Generous Estate/Memorial Donations and HVAC Donations	\$40,00
Fundraising (Brazil/Port Fest)	\$31,259	\$33,000	(\$1,741)		\$31,00
Faith Formation Tuition	\$8,820	\$10,000	(\$1,180)		\$8,00
Int/Div/Mkt Gain (Loss)	\$12,838	\$10,800	\$2,038		\$10,30
Sacramental Offerings	\$61,970	\$25,512	\$36,458	Primarily Weddings and Convalidations Increase for this year.	\$57,80
Shrines/Candles/Flowers	\$22,569	\$14,000	\$8,569	Holiday Flower donations and Votive Candles.	\$18,91
Rental/Lease	\$11,000	\$12,000	(\$1,000)		\$15,00
Total Income	\$845,695	\$757,921	\$87,774		\$819,78
Expenses					
				1/4 Salary/Benefits for Brazilian Pastoral Assist.,	
Salaries/Benefits	\$524,581	\$445,447	(\$79,134)	Visiting Priest Stipends, and Non-Employee Compensation	\$509,76
Office Supplies	\$58,585	\$38,580	(\$20,005)	Magazine, Music/Liturgy Sheets, Books for Adult Formation	\$51,86
Insurance Expense	\$46,855	\$47,546	\$691		\$51,88
Facility Maintenance	\$45,156	\$23,652	(\$21,504)	Mostly due to Plumbing Repairs in all Buildings and Boller Repairs	\$40,86
Utility Expense	\$66,125	\$49,512	(\$16,613)	Increased cost of Utilities	\$68,910
Household Expense	\$10,187	\$18,240	\$8,053	Savings in rectory expenses since January.	\$7,30
Central Ministry Tithe	\$57,676	\$52,827	(\$4,849)		\$56,88
Pastoral Liturgical	\$76,823	\$70,896	(\$5,927)		\$65,24
Fundraising Expense	\$3,656	\$0	(\$3,656)		\$
Total Expense	\$889,644	\$746,700	(\$142,944)		\$862,71
Net Operating Income	(\$43,949)	\$11,221	(\$55,170)		(\$32,920)
	FY2025	FY2025			Budget
Ch Adiabasi Compton			Marianas	Comments for Veriances area COL	
St. Michael Cemetery	<u>Actuals</u>	Budget	<u>Variance</u>	Comments for Variances over \$8k	2026
Total Income					
				Revenue Fell Short due to lower casket Lot Sales and Casket Internment	
Total Income	\$106,639	\$129,420	(\$22,781)	revenue - Ash Burials are becoming the trend.	\$96,42
Expenses					
Total Expense	\$153,081	\$141,071	(\$12,010)	Older Equipment Repairs, Grounds Maintenance Up	\$132,88
Net Operatina Income	(\$46,442)	(\$11.651)	(\$34,791)		(\$36,463)

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