

St. Michael and St. Rose Literacy Program

Mission: The St. Michael and St. Rose Literacy Program is a 501C (3) Non-profit within the St. Michael and St. Rose parishes. Our mission is to provide our adult students with English language classes to support English language skills for reading, speaking, writing, and conversation so that they can adapt to living in our community. We've been serving immigrants and refugees since 2010. The program operates out of the St. Rose Parish Center which is located at 540 N. 31st Street.

History: Our literacy program started in 2010 at St. Michael's parish as an ESL program for Burmese refugees. Primarily, retired people from Catholic parishes worked one to one with a student one time per week to assist students to speak English. Current students come from Thailand, Mexico, Nicaragua, and The Democratic Republic of the Congo.

We are proud of our students success which includes: 57 U.S. citizens, 7 MATC students, better employment, and many homeowners.

Classes include:

- Basic English for daily living
- English grammar for reading, writing and speaking
- Family literacy
- Health literacy
- Digital literacy
- Citizenship

Referrals to community services with partner agencies and organizations which provide: food, clothing, legal services, community college and training, employment and housing..

- First Book Program
- Wisconsin Literacy
- ACTS Housing
- Fr. Gene's Help Center
- Hmong American Friendship Association
- Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health
- Community Center for Immigrants
- Department of Workforce Development

Catholic Parishes in the archdiocese who support our program include:

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- St. Leonard Catholic Church
- Family of Five Parishes (East Side/Downtown/Riverwest)
- Other Catholic Churches in Milwaukee County

For more information to support our program as an ESL tutor or to register for English class contact:

Deborah Lindberg, Program Coordinator at: 414/573-1482 or deborah.lindberg@att.net