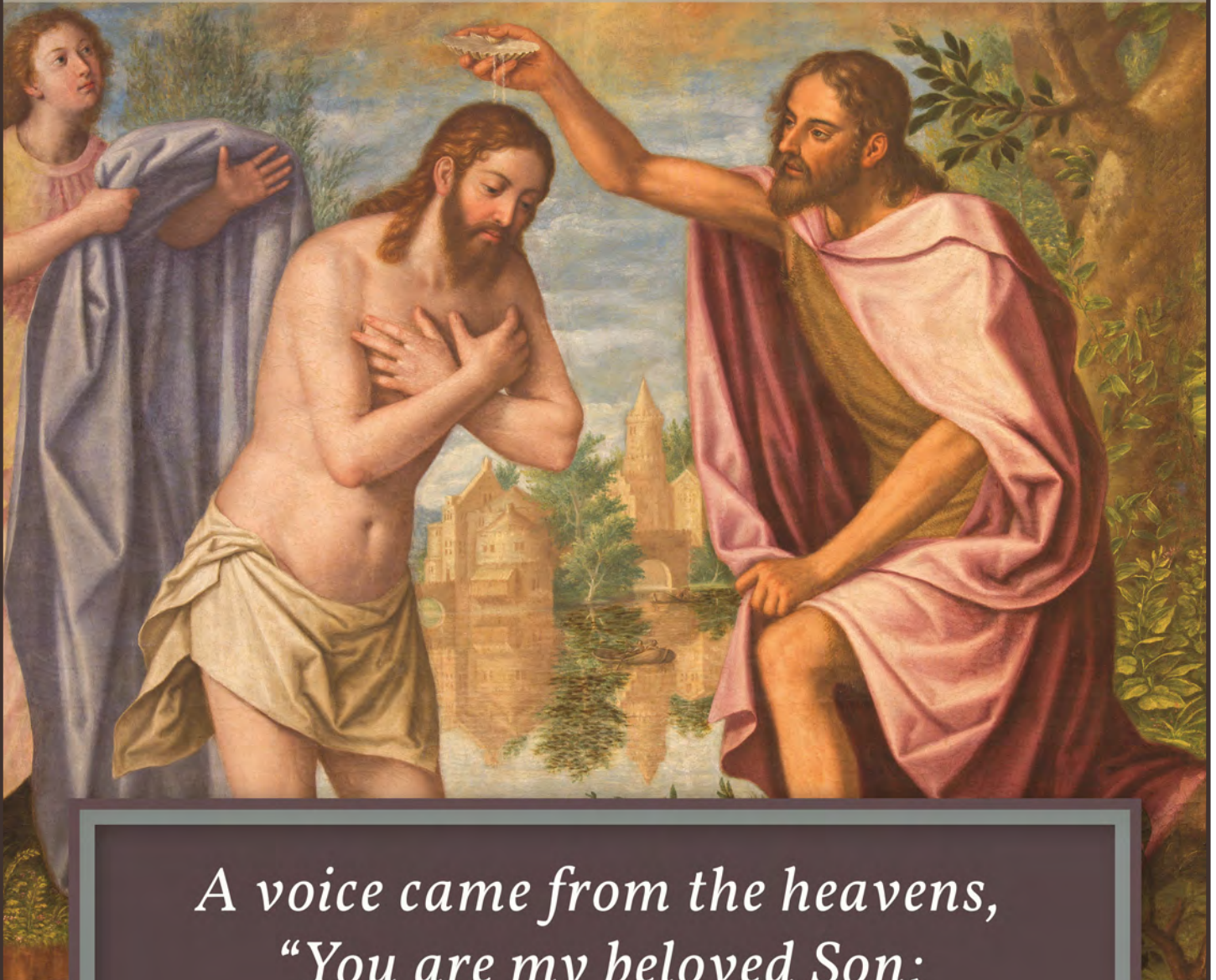


THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021



*A voice came from the heavens,
“You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.”*

Mark 1:11

St. Michael's Church



Let us remember the date of our Baptism,
the date of our initial sanctification, of our
reception of the Holy Spirit from the
Father, and of great forgiveness.

Pope Francis

January 10, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS*

Saturday, January 9

8:00 AM People of the Parish

* 4:00 PM † Anna A. Pingitore Pingitore Family

7:00 PM † Rev. Joseph Quinlan

Sunday, January 10

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri Mother Francesca

8:30 AM † Charles & Mary Avallone Brendan Queenan

* 10:00 AM † Robert J. Clark Joanne & Frank Buono

† Matthew Vincent Pellegrino Patricia Tucker

12:00 PM † Karen Gomes Parents & Siblings

† Nicholas DeLicio Mario DeVecchio

7:00 PM † Mark Stanis Nick & Debbie Migliaccio

People of the Parish

Monday, January 11

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause Friends of Sylvia Marsico

7:00 PM † James R. Seppi Dotty O'Hara

Tuesday, January 12

8:00 AM Special Intention: Friends
Lisa Virga

Wednesday, January 13

8:00 AM † John Paolise Mimi Paolise & Family
(5th Anniversary)

Thursday, January 14

8:00 AM † Patricia "Patty" A. Chavez

Friday, January 15

8:00 AM † Nicholas Anthony DeLicio Fr. Mark Nillo

Saturday, January 16

8:00 AM † Dr. Bart Maggio Tom Viggiano

* 4:00 PM † Patty Chavez Nicholas & Sharon
Fornarotto

7:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, January 17

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri Mother Francesca

8:30 AM † Marion Puma Janet, Jennifer &
Edward Brown

* 10:00 AM † Patty Chavez Luci, Ed & Elisa Perez

† Patricia Battista Joseph & AnneMarie
Principe

12:00 PM † Charles Fiumefreddo Dotty O'Hara

7:00 PM People of the Parish

* All Masses listed on this page will be celebrated indoors in the Upper Church with the exception of the Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass and the Sunday 10:00 a.m. which are celebrated (weather permitting) in the parish's North Parking Lot and live-streamed via the parish website www.stmichaelnj.com and the parish's YouTube channel. **Please see Page 3 of this bulletin for further information on winter weather-related contingencies and plans regarding our outdoor parking lot Masses.**

The Center Sanctuary Candle will be lit this week in loving of Julia Rose Bowman, requested by her loving children Michael, Joe and AnneMarie.



The Blessed Mother, and the St. Joseph Candles will be lit this week in prayer for the nurses, doctors, healthcare workers, family members, and friends who are caring for and treating COVID-19 patients; for their own health and safety; and for their courage, professionalism, and love.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THE WEEKENDS OF JANUARY 9-10 AND JANUARY 16-17 AND FOR THE WEEKDAYS OF JANUARY 11 THROUGH JANUARY 16

FACE MASKS REQUIRED AT ALL MASSES, CONFESSIONS, ETC.

Weekend Outdoor Parking Lot

In-Car Masses *

Saturday, January 9 and January 16 at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 10 and January 17 at 10:00 a.m.

- Communion distributed in cars at end of Mass.
- Tune your radio to 92.1 FM.
- Live-stream available at parish website and You Tube.
- If inclement weather occurs, the priest/celebrant and Eucharistic Ministers will re-locate to the Upper Church. The church will be closed to the public during these Parking Lot Masses. Restrooms are available during these Masses.

Weekend Public In-Church Masses

Saturday, January 9 and January 16 at
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 10 and January 17 at
7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 12:00 Noon, and 7:00 p.m.

- Communion will be distributed only inside the Church. No parking lot in-car Communion at these indoor, in-church Masses.
- Upper and Lower Church open with **limited seating** in compliance with social distancing guidelines.
- The Upper Church Mass will be viewable on the Lower Church TV monitor if limited seating capacity (64) in Upper Church is exceeded.
- Holy Communion will be brought to congregants (if any) in the Lower Church (seating capacity 50).

Weekday Public In-Church Masses

Monday, January 11 through
Saturday, January 16 at 8:00 a.m.
Monday, January 11 at 7:00 p.m.

- Our Saturday morning Daily Mass was restored to the regular weekly Mass schedule beginning on Saturday, August 1 but at 8:00 a.m. rather than the former pre-lockdown 9:00 a.m. time until further notice in order to provide Saturday morning time slots for Baptisms until the pending backlog of Baptism requests (resulting from the pandemic lockdown) has been accommodated.
- Communion will be distributed only inside the Church. No parking lot in-car Communion at these Masses.
- Upper and Lower Church open with **limited seating** in compliance with social distancing guidelines.
- The Upper Church Mass will be viewable on the Lower Church TV monitor if limited seating capacity (64) in Upper Church is exceeded.
- Holy Communion will be brought to congregants (if any) in the Lower Church (seating capacity 50).

* **Regarding Our Parking Lot Masses**

Our outdoor parking lot Masses have been very well attended (over 120 cars per Mass lately) and enhanced safety and confidence. We desire to continue celebrating these Masses until winter cold weather makes it unfeasible for the health of the Communion Ministers, ushers, and other volunteers. Please check the parish website for any weather-related notice of cancellation. If we cancel a parking lot Mass due to the weather, we will do our best to live-stream the indoor Mass at the same time and to distribute Communion in the parking lot at the conclusion of the indoor in-church Mass.

Schedule of Confessions

(All Confessions are Currently Indoors*)

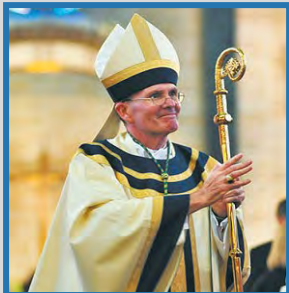
- Saturday, January 9: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, January 10: after the 7:00 a.m. in-church Mass until 8:00 a.m. • 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. in-church Mass.
- Monday, January 11 thru Saturday, January 16: after the 8:00 a.m. in-church Mass until 9:00 a.m.
- Monday, January 11: after the 7:00 p.m. in-church Mass until 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, January 16: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, January 17: after the 7:00 a.m. in-church Mass until 8:00 a.m. • 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. in-church Mass.

* Commencing on Nov. 29 all of the Confession times listed above are conducted indoors in the sanctuary near the St. Joseph Altar. Weather permitting in the event of unseasonably mild temperatures on a given day, the priest-celebrant of the Mass preceding Confessions may elect to move the Confession location outdoors to the north portico of the church; and if that is the case, the priest-celebrant (and confessor) will announce that change of location at the conclusion of Mass.

Church Building Hours For Private Prayer

- These hours are subject to change for funerals, weddings, and other special occasions.
- Monday through Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Monday: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (before and after Monday evening's 7:00 p.m. Mass)
- Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (before and after Saturday morning's 8:00 a.m. Mass) and 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (before and after Saturday evening 7:00 p.m. Mass)
- Sunday: 6:30 a.m. until conclusion at 8:00 a.m. of the Confessions following the 7:00 a.m. Mass when the church will be closed to allow for sanitizing/cleaning before re-opening for the 8:30 a.m. Mass. And 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (respectively, before and after the Sunday 12:00 Noon and Sunday evening 7:00 p.m. Masses).

Mass, Prayers, Fasting, ACTION To End Abortion



As the new year begins, there are many issues in society that challenge our Catholic moral and social teachings. Opposition to abortion remains our “pre-eminent priority.” During the month of January when we acknowledge the 48th anniversary of the fateful Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision, I invite the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Trenton to join one another in a common prayerful response: (1) pray the rosary daily for the rest of the month for an end to abortion in our country; (2) pray the newly created “Novena to St. Joseph” to end abortion that will be published on our parish and diocesan websites each day, January 14 through 22; (3) pray and fast to end abortion on the actual anniversary date, January 22, as parishes celebrate Masses for the legal protection of the unborn. Since COVID precautions will restrict our usual participation in the annual March for Life in Washington on January 29, I will celebrate Mass online that day and many parishes will celebrate Masses in churches for all these intentions. As a Diocese, as parishes, let us pray for an end to abortion, for the legal protection of the unborn and in thanksgiving to God for the gift of human life.

Thank you,
Bishop O'Connell

Pastor's Note: Please see Page 5 of this bulletin for information on the Pro-Life Mass and other events at St. Michael's.



NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH TO END ABORTION January 14-22, 2021

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and Guardian of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus, the Son of God whom she carried in her Immaculate womb: intercede for us, we pray, that all recourse to abortion might cease in our nation and our world. As your cared for Mother and Child, care for all women who bear the gift of life in their womb. May no harm ever endanger them and may no choice ever threaten the

blessing of human life that God has created within. Guard them with your loving protection, at every moment, until His will has been fulfilled. St. Joseph, spouse of Mary and foster father of the Lord, help us build a culture of life that yields a civilization of love among us. Say the “Our Father,” the “Hail Mary” and the “Glory be” after the novena prayer. This novena will be prayed at all Masses Jan. 14-22 at St. Michael's.



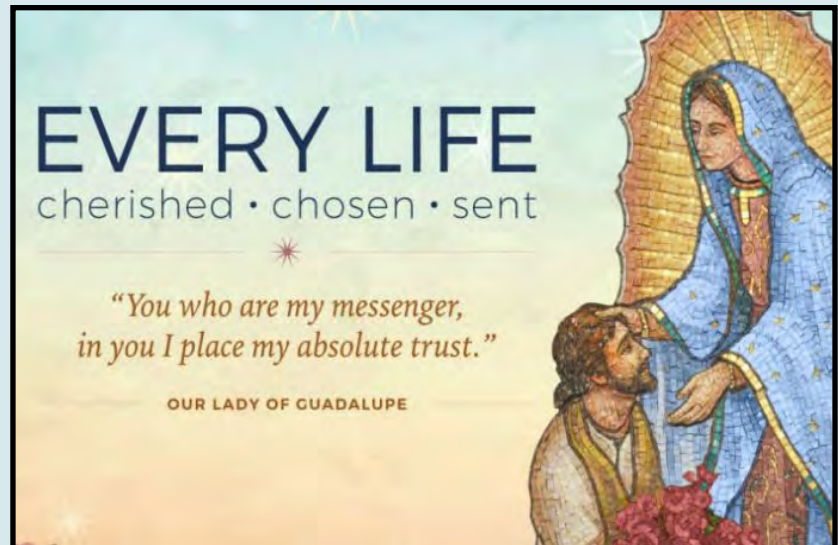
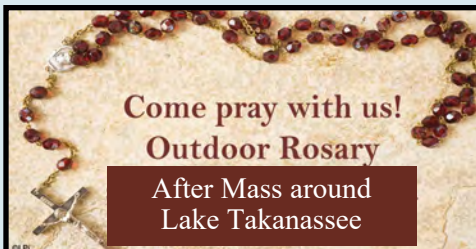
NOVENA to SAINT JOSEPH

January 14-22, 2021

For An End to Abortion: 12:05 Mass, Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, and Fasting at St. Michael's on January 22

As part of our parish's concerted efforts to achieve an end to abortion and also to effect reconciliation, conversion, and healing, all are invited to participate in the following on Friday, January 22, 2021:

- 12:05 p.m. - Outdoor Mass in the parking lot (live-streamed; Communion distributed after Mass).
- Outdoor Rosary (after Mass) while processing around Lake Takanassee.
- Eucharistic Adoration in the Upper Church after the conclusion of the Rosary until 2:30 p.m.
- In the event of inclement weather the Mass and Rosary will be moved to the Upper Church and Communion will be distributed outdoors after the Mass. All covid health and safety guidelines will be followed.



Office Closed; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 18 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The office will reopen Wednesday, January 20 at 8:30 a.m. Masses and Confessions will take place at their usual Monday times on January 18.

PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES

A joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities provides licensed professionals for short term counseling (up to six sessions) to parishioners dealing with difficult issues, for example, job-stress, family concerns, and bereavement. Contact your pastor or parish priest for additional information and referral. The fee is \$90 per session, but, if needed, financial assistance is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.

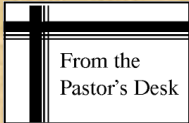
ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



| | |
|--|---|
| Parish Office Closed Martin Luther King Day | Monday, January 18, 2021 |
| Inauguration Day Prayer Service | January 20, 2021 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. following 8:00 a.m. Mass |
| Mass for Life, Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration | January 22, 2021 12:05 p.m. |
| Mass of Remembrance for Patty Chavez | Sunday, January 31, 2021 12:00 Noon |
| Holy Hour for Vocations | Thursday, February 4, 2021 7:00 p.m. |
| First Friday Mass in Latin | Friday, February 5, 2021 12:15 p.m. |
| Ash Wednesday | Wednesday, February 17, 2021 |

Proclamation on 850th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Saint Thomas Becket

Issued on: December 28, 2020



Pastor's Note. The Memorial of St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr, was recently celebrated on December 29. Becket is remembered for, among other things, his defense of the Church against interference by the State in Church affairs. A conflict arose during the 1160s between the King of England and Becket (the Archbishop of Canterbury in those days). He died a martyr's death in 1170 at the hands of assassins supportive of King Henry II. With a focus on the 850th anniversary of Becket's death this past December 29 and on his heroic stand for the autonomy of the Church and for religious liberty, the White House issued a Proclamation as published below signed by President Trump. The Proclamation takes note of the fact that St. Thomas "gave his life so that 'the Church will attain liberty and peace.'" St. Thomas Becket, pray for us.



Today is the 850th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Thomas Becket on December 29, 1170. Thomas Becket was a statesman, a scholar, a chancellor, a priest, an archbishop, and a lion of religious liberty. Before the Magna Carta was drafted, before the right to free exercise of religion was enshrined as America's first freedom in our glorious Constitution, Thomas gave his life so that, as he said, "the Church will attain liberty and peace."

The son of a London sheriff and once described as "a low-born clerk" by the King who had him killed, Thomas Becket rose to become the leader of the church in England. When the crown attempted to encroach upon the affairs of the house of God through the Constitutions of Clarendon, Thomas refused to sign the offending document. When the furious King Henry II threatened to hold him in contempt of royal authority and questioned why this "poor and humble" priest would dare defy him, **Archbishop Becket responded "God is the supreme ruler, above Kings" and "we ought to obey God rather than men."**

Because Thomas would not assent to rendering the church subservient to the state, he was forced to forfeit all his property and flee his own country. Years later, after the intervention of the Pope, Becket was allowed to return — and continued to resist the King's oppressive interferences into the life of the church. Finally, the King had enough of Thomas Becket's stalwart defense of religious faith and reportedly exclaimed in consternation: "Will no one rid me of this meddlesome priest?"

The King's knights responded and rode to Canterbury Cathedral to deliver Thomas Becket an ultimatum: give in to the King's demands or die. Thomas's reply echoes around the world and across the ages. ***His last words on this earth were these: "For the name of Jesus and the protection of the Church, I am ready to embrace death."*** Dressed in holy robes, Thomas was cut down where he stood inside the walls of his own church.

Thomas Becket's martyrdom changed the course of history. It eventually brought about numerous constitutional limitations on the power of the state over the Church across the West. In England, Becket's murder led to the Magna Carta's declaration 45 years later that: "[T]he English church shall be free, and shall have its rights undiminished and its liberties unimpaired."

When the Archbishop refused to allow the King to interfere in the affairs of the Church, Thomas Becket stood at the intersection of church and state. That stand, after centuries of state-sponsored religious oppression and religious wars throughout Europe, eventually led to the establishment of religious liberty in the New World. It is because of great men like Thomas Becket that the first American President George Washington could proclaim more than 600 years later that, in the United States, "All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship" and that "it is now no more that toleration is spoken of, as if it was by the indulgence of one class of people, that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights."



Thomas Becket's death serves as a powerful and timeless reminder to every American that our freedom from religious persecution is not a mere luxury or accident of history, but rather an essential element of our liberty. It is our priceless treasure and inheritance. And it was bought with the blood of martyrs.

(continued on page 8)

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, December 26, 2020

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 4:00 PM Parking Lot Mass | \$2,166.00 | 91 Cars |
| 7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$393.00 | 44 People |

Sunday, December 27, 2020

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 7:00 AM Public In-Church Mass | \$1,063.00 | 52 People |
| 8:30 AM Public In-Church Mass | \$2,131.00 | 54 People |
| 10:00 AM Parking Lot Mass | \$2,081.00 | 102 Cars |
| 12:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$813.00 | 48 People |
| 7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$215.00 | 36 People |

Mailed-in Envelopes for the December 27 Collection and for Previous Sunday Collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$2,691.00**

This Week's Total: \$11,553.00

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, January 2, 2021

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 4:00 PM Parking Lot Mass | \$2,598.00 | 122 Cars |
| 7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$572.00 | 39 People |

Sunday, January 3, 2021

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 7:00 AM Public In-Church Mass | \$756.00 | 53 People |
| 8:30 AM Public In-Church Mass | \$920.00 | 46 People |
| 10:00 AM Parking Lot Mass | \$962. | 64 Cars |
| 12:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$1,047.00 | 41 People |
| 7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass | \$350.00 | 52 People |

Mailed-in Envelopes for the January 3 Collection and for Previous Sunday Collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$8,214.00**

This Week's Total: \$15,419.00

Mary, Mother of God - January 1, 2021: \$1,983.00

Please continue your financial support of your parish during the COVID-19 situation by: mailing Sunday collection envelopes to the parish business office; dropping-off Sunday collection envelopes in the rectory mailbox at any time; or by means of online Faith Direct.net where the St. Michael's parish identification code is NJ319. *Thank you very much. And God bless.*



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Due to the spike in Covid cases in our area, **for the month of January, there will be no in-person classes** for grades 2, 7 or 8, or any CCD grades. All CCD instruction will continue virtually and/or online. St. Michael, pray for us.

Poinsettias for Your Home

The Christmas Season (but not the Christmas *SPIRIT!*) will conclude with our 7:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, January 10 (The Baptism of the Lord). We will begin removing the church's Christmas decorations after the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday the 10th and complete that work after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Monday the 11th. If you would like to take home one or two poinsettia plants, they will be available in the vestibule of the church next Monday right after the Morning Mass on a first come, first served, no charge basis.



Christmas 2020 Collection

The tallying of the Christmas collection is a work in progress at this time since cash and checks earmarked for Christmas continue to come in through the mail and drop-offs at the parish office. We'll publish the amount of the Christmas collection in the Sunday bulletin in the next few weeks, promptly after we close the books on the counting process. Thank you for your faithful stewardship and financial support of the parish.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| † Manuel Outeiro | r/o Tony and Natalina |
| † Ronald Lubischer | r/o Joyce Lubischer |

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 2021

Louis Carlesimo
r/o Children
Ursula Carlesimo
r/o Children

OCTOBER 2021

Salvatore J. Mirarchi
r/o Joe & Carmel Mirarchi

Rosarian Prayer Group

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

This is a list of parishioners, relatives, and friends who are in need of our prayers for healing. Our Rosarians also pray every Saturday for all the parishioners of St. Michael's. Please note that intentions will be listed for two months and then removed, unless the requestor

calls to renew for another two months. Please also note that according to the HIPPA & privacy laws only the sick themselves or family members may request to be added to the list. Contact the Parish Office for all prayer requests. Thank you and may Our Lord grant healing to all those who are suffering and in need of our prayers.

Week 1

Walter Fiore

Week 3

Jennifer Abate

Week 5

June Scavone

Week 6

Frank and Joanne Buono

Week 8

Connie Mirarchi

Week 8

Danielle Sanders

(continued from Page 6)

Proclamation on 850th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Saint Thomas Becket



As Americans, we were first united by our belief that “rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God” and that defending liberty is more important than life itself. If we are to continue to be the land of the free, no government official, no governor, no bureaucrat, no judge, and no legislator must be allowed to decree what is orthodox in matters of religion or to require religious believers to violate their consciences. ***No right is more fundamental to a peaceful, prosperous, and virtuous society than the right to follow one’s religious convictions.*** As I declared in Krasiński Square in Warsaw, Poland on July 6, 2017, the people of America and the people of the world still cry out: “We want God.”

On this day, we celebrate and revere Thomas Becket’s courageous stand for religious liberty and we reaffirm our call to end religious persecution worldwide. In my historic address to the United Nations last year, I made clear that America stands with believers in every country who ask only for the freedom to live ac-

cording to the faith that is within their own hearts. I also stated that global bureaucrats have absolutely no business attacking the sovereignty of nations that wish to protect innocent life, reflecting ***the belief held by the United States and many other countries that every child — born and unborn — is a sacred gift from God.*** Earlier this year, I signed an Executive Order to prioritize religious freedom as a core dimension of United States foreign policy. We have directed every Ambassador — and the over 13,000 United States Foreign Service officers and specialists — in more than 195 countries to promote, defend, and support religious freedom as a central pillar of American diplomacy.

We pray for religious believers everywhere who suffer persecution for their faith. We especially pray for their brave and inspiring shepherds — like Cardinal Joseph Zen of Hong Kong and Pastor Wang Yi of Chengdu — who are tireless witnesses to hope.

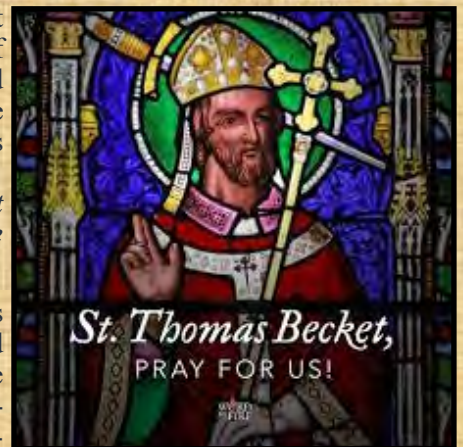
To honor Thomas Becket’s memory, the crimes against people of faith must stop, prisoners of conscience must be released, laws restricting freedom of religion and belief must be repealed, and the vulnerable, the defenseless, and the oppressed must be protected. The tyranny and murder that shocked the conscience of the Middle Ages must never be allowed to happen again. As long as America stands, we will always defend religious liberty.

A society without religion cannot prosper. A nation without faith cannot endure — because justice, goodness, and peace cannot prevail without the grace of God.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim December 29, 2020, as the 850th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Thomas Becket. I invite the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches and customary places of meeting with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the life and legacy of Thomas Becket.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.

DONALD J. TRUMP



ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVEABLE FEASTS FOR 2021

Pastor's Note: The Proclamation of the date of Easter and the other moveable feasts on Epiphany dates from an ancient time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the date of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its date. The number of Sundays that follow Epiphany, the date of Ash Wednesday, and the number of Sundays that follow Pentecost are all computed in relation to Easter. Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year for many years in advance, the Epiphany proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year. The Proclamation appears in this our January 10 bulletin due to early printing deadlines and other circumstances that prevented a January 3 publication this year.

Know, dear brothers and sisters,
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of His Resurrection,
who is our Savior.

On the seventeenth day of February will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the fourth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the thirteenth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-third day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the sixth day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the twenty-eighth day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord
Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.



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on an ADVERTISED mattress
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
brushes his teeth
with ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
drinks a cup
of ADVERTISED coffee
drives to work
in an ADVERTISED car
and then . . .
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