

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

February 7, 2021 | Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

DAILY MASS

Mon-Sat: 8:00 AM | Mon: 7:00 PM

First Friday: 12:15 (in Latin) and 5:30 (in English)

During Lent: Special schedule on Fridays (see page 5)

WEEKEND MASSES

Our weekend Mass schedule is gradually evolving as the pandemic lockdown subsides. Please see the inner pages of this bulletin and our parish website for specific weekend Mass times.

RECONCILIATION

Our Confession/Reconciliation schedule is also gradually evolving as the pandemic lockdown subsides. Please see the inner pages of this bulletin and our parish website for specific Confession times. All scheduled Confessions will be indoors near the St. Joseph Altar of the sanctuary until further notice. For a special need or to arrange for a by-appointment Confession at other times, please call the parish office.

REGISTRATION

To register with the parish, please call the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES

Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There is a twelve month timeline for wedding preparations.

BAPTISMS

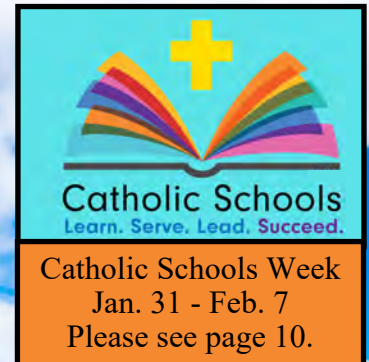
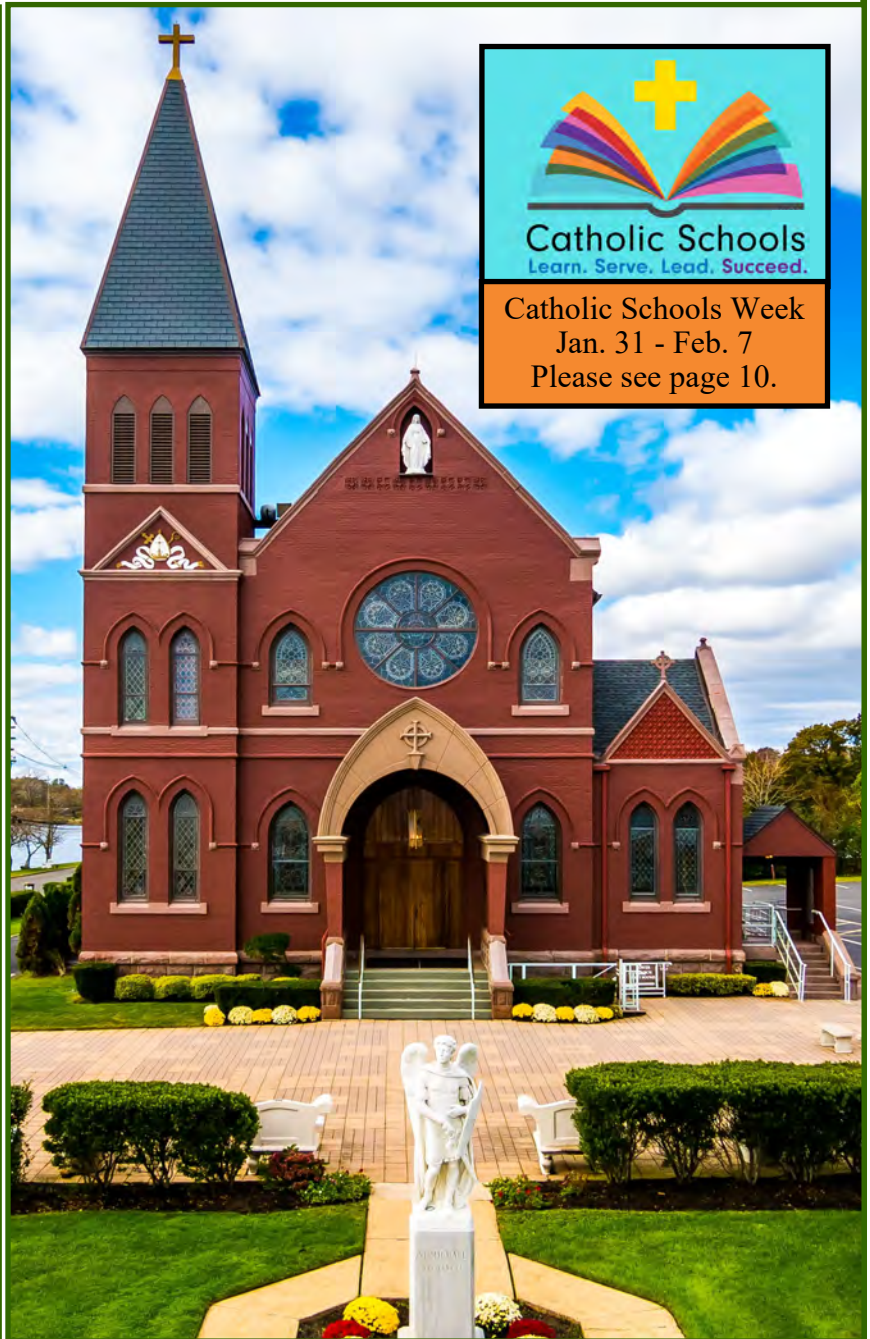
Baptisms take place generally on Sundays at 1:00 PM. Other days/times can also be arranged. Parents must be registered parishioners, and can call the Parish Office for information and scheduling.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

There is a Monthly Holy Hour for Vocations that includes Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions. This Monthly Holy Hour is from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on the Thursday immediately preceding the First Friday.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To enroll your child for our Religious Education classes, please contact Kevin Connelly, ext. 2 at the Catholic Center. All families must be registered with the parish.



PARISH OFFICE

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740

Ph: (732) 222-8080 | Fx: (732) 870-1174

www.stmichaelnj.com

Hours (pending return to full schedule):

Mon, Wed, Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Answering service phone coverage at all other times.

Closed Tuesday and Thursday until further notice as a Covid precaution.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor

Rev. Mark Nillo, Parochial Vicar

Thomas Randazzo, Business Manager

Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed.

Mary Valan, Parish Secretary

Jose Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager

Lauren Walters, Acting Music Director

CATHOLIC CENTER AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

16 Beechwood Avenue | West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Ph: (732) 483-0360 | Fx: (732) 483-0363

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

732-483-0360 ext. 7

FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*The Lord tells the numbers of the
stars and calls them by name.*

-Psalm 147:4

MASS INTENTIONS*

Saturday, February 6

8:00 AM † Conrad J. Russo

† Linda DeLicio

* 4:00 PM † Linda DeLicio

7:00 PM People of the Parish

Wife

Fr. Mark Nillo &
Fr. John Butler

Fr. Mark Nillo &
Fr. John Butler

Wednesday, February 10

8:00 AM Special Intention: Cristian
Rodrigues

Ana Rodrigues & Family

Thursday, February 11

8:00 AM † Wally Case

Jane & Pat Farmer

Friday, February 12

8:00 AM † Ann Miller

Thayers

† Joseph Miller

Nick Parisi & Lana

Saturday, February 13

8:00 AM People of the Parish

* 4:00 PM † Danielle M. Russo

Sons Tyler, Dwayne &
Timothy

7:00 PM † Rev. William T. Schneider

Sunday, February 14

7:00 AM † Charles Murrin

Theresa

† Rosa Alba Stranieri

Mother Francesca

8:30 AM † Michael Wrubel

Wife Maria & Family

† Carol Thomas

Joan Sigmond

* 10:00 AM † Patty Chavez

Emily & David Kaplan

Special Intention: Pro-Life
Movement

Vincent Lepore

12:00 PM † Bill, Nina & Kurt Kuster

Ried, Kuster & Weiner
Families

† Richard Lepore

Don & Maria Cronin

7:00 PM † Joan Fornin

Jeremiah & Marlaine
Hampton

People of the Parish

Sunday, February 7

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri

Mother Francesca

8:30 AM † Cathy Coll Valani

Bruce Crowell &
Sharon Mazza

† Rev. William T. Schneider

* 10:00 AM † Kimberly Watts

Carol Ferrante

† Callie Thomas

Patricia Tucker

12:00 PM † Paul Sebastiano

Mary Quinones

† John Lastimosa

Violeta Peters

7:00 PM † James & Mary Weeden

Grandchildren

People of the Parish

Monday, February 8

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause

Friends of Sylvia Marsico

† Patrick Sheridan

Nancy Murphy

7:00 PM † Stephen Gill

Children

Tuesday, February 9

8:00 AM † Jay Filippo

Family

Special Intention: Lisa Virga

* 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 Blessed Mother, the Center, 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 FEBRUARY 6-7 AND FEBRUARY 13-14 AND FOR THE WEEKDAYS OF FEBRUARY 8 THROUGH FEBRUARY 13

FACE MASKS REQUIRED AT ALL MASSES, CONFESSIONS, ETC.

Weekend Outdoor Parking Lot

In-Car Masses *

Saturday, February 6 and February 13 at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 7 and February 14 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 and in that case the church will be open in limited numbers to the public during these Parking Lot Masses. Restrooms are available during these Masses.

Weekday Public In-Church Masses

Monday, February 8 through
Saturday, February 13 at 8:00 a.m.
Monday, February 8 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).

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).

Weekend Public In-Church Masses

Saturday, February 6 and February 13 at
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 7 and February 14 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 in-door, 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).



* Regarding Our Parking Lot Masses

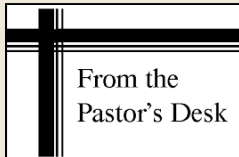
Our outdoor parking lot Masses have been very well attended (over 120 cars per Mass lately) and enhanced safety and confidence. We desire to continue celebrating these Masses until winter cold weather makes it unfeasible for the health of the Communion Ministers, ushers, and other volunteers. Please check the parish website for any weather-related notice of a change. If we move a parking lot Mass indoors 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, February 6: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, February 7: 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, February 8 through Saturday, February 13: after the 8:00 a.m. in-church Mass until 9:00 a.m.
- Monday, February 8: after the 7:00 p.m. in-church Mass until 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 13: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, February 14: 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 November 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.



Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Michael's Church:

The weekend of February 14 and 15 will be Pledge Weekend for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) throughout the Diocese of Trenton. Each year Bishop O'Connell seeks the support of all of the members of the Diocese of Trenton to further the work of our ministries. Each of us has a vital part in all we do in Christ's name, and each of us can share in all we do with a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Our single Act of Faith propels the works of love that build up our Church. You make that happen with a generous gift to the ACA.



This year St. Michael's share of the Diocesan-wide goal is \$109,000 (the same goal as in the past eleven years and the goal that we achieved last year and the two years before that for the first times). As the result of reaching our parish ACA goal in each of those three most recent years we not only strongly supported the Diocese in its ministries and charitable works and demonstrated our commitment to stewardship and charitable giving, our parish also gained the financial reward of a \$23,000 rebate in 2018 and a \$16,500 rebate in each of 2019 and 2020. Those ACA rebate funds were utilized for the Lower Church restrooms renovation project, church foundation water-proofing and repairs, CCD/education materials, Covid-related upgrades to the Lower Church's ventilation equipment, and buildings and grounds repairs. The 2020 ACA rebate was also used in part to fund ordinary operating expenses since - as we all know - the parish's revenue from Sunday collections and the Easter and Christmas collections was significantly depleted in 2020 due to the pandemic and reduced in-church Mass attendance.

I have proposed to the parish trustees and again in achieving the parish's \$109,000 \$16,000 or more that the parish use those rebate ventilation system and equipment in the Upper ultra-violet light air purifier), (b) improvements new speakers for increased volume in the area church and near/in the sanctuary, and (c) security-indoor equipment (deferred from last year's revenue). Other parish-related uses of ACA



finance council that if St. Michael's is successful ACA goal and earns and receives a rebate of funds for: (a) upgrades to the air filtration/Church (including a state-of-the-art germicidal, to the Upper Church's sound system (especially near the first seven pews at the front of the ty cameras and safety/surveillance outdoor and work list due to the decline in Sunday collection proceeds are also under consideration.

The following projects that were earmarked for last year's 2020 ACA rebate funding are in-process presently or already completed: (a) replacing and upgrading the votive candle racks in the rear of the church and in the St. Ann and Virgin Mary Shrine; (b) masonry repairs of the church's 1886 cornerstone, west façade steps, courtyard pavers, and walls of the north stairwell to the Lower Church and other rainwater drainage repairs around the church's foundation; (c) replacement of liturgical vestments that were showing their age; and (d) upgrades to the Lower Church's air ventilation and filtration systems and equipment.

As the people of the Diocese of Trenton, we and you and all of us have an opportunity to help others see Christ working in our midst. I ask you to please take a moment and truly reflect on any help you can give. We truly need everyone to participate. This year we again are striving to do our parish fair share toward helping the Diocese reach the Diocesan/four-county/107-parish goal of \$7 million in the 2021 Annual Appeal.



I am always grateful and moved by the level of support you give to our parish and to our Diocese. I thank you for this support, and may God continue to bless you and your family and St. Michael's Parish.

With prayers and best wishes,
Rev. John K. Butler
Pastor

IF IT'S FEBRUARY IT MUST BE.....



Ash Wednesday Children's and Family Mass

Please join us for our annual Children's and Family Ash Wednesday Mass. This Mass will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday, February 17 at 5:30 P.M. for all children and their families and friends. All are welcome. Begin this Lenten season with your child and make this a Lent to remember!!!

LENT 2021

Our Lenten observances will include the following:

- On Fridays during Lent, *Mass* will be celebrated at **12:15 p.m. and at 5:30 p.m.** in the Upper Church. The 8:00 a.m. Mass on Fridays remains unchanged.
- These Friday 12:15 and 5:30 Masses during Lent will be followed by Confessions for 30 minutes. Confession also follows the weekday 8:00 a.m. Mass until 9:00 a.m.
- ***Eucharistic Adoration*** will follow the 12:15 Mass on these Fridays of Lent until 5:15 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays of Lent ***at 7:00 p.m. this year*** (not 7:30 p.m. as in recent past years).
- The parish's Lenten Penance Service will occur during the week beginning March 15 (date and time to be announced).
- Bishop O'Connell's annual letter regarding Lenten regulations is available on the parish website and will be published in next Sunday's bulletin.

No Soup & Salad Suppers This Year/Lent as a Covid-19 Precaution

Sad to say that this year – this Lent 2021 – we will not be conducting the Soup & Salad Suppers that have preceded Stations of the Cross the past several years/Lents on Friday evenings here at St. Michael's. We are taking this action in the abundance of caution that has characterized much of our lives and decisions recently. The fellowship, camaraderie, and prayerfulness that have marked our pre-Stations suppers will be missed but they will hopefully return in abundance next year. Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday night of Lent beginning on February 19 and continuing through Good Friday. ***Please note the new and earlier starting time of 7:00 p.m. (not 7:30) this year.***

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CCD CLASSES

Please note that ***in-class*** CCD instruction will resume in the Lower Church during the week of February 8 for the three Sacramental grades (2nd, 7th, 8th): 8th Grade on Monday, Feb. 8 and 2nd and 7th Grades on Tuesday, February 9 and Wednesday Feb. 10. In-class instruction for these three grades had been converted during January to at-home virtual instruction as a health and safety precaution while covid cases were spiking in our community. At-home virtual instruction will continue as-is for all other CCD grades for the remainder of the current semester.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

On Ash Wednesday, February 17 Masses are as follows:

8:00 A.M. Mass

12:15 P.M. Mass

4:00 P.M. Mass (***Parking Lot; Live-Stream***)

5:30 P.M. Mass (Children's & Family Mass)

7:00 P.M. Mass

Ashes will be imposed at all five Masses on Ash Wednesday. The 5:30 p.m. Mass on Ash Wednesday will focus on the parish's children and families; all are welcome and invited to that Mass.

Bishop O'Connell - - with everyone's health and safety in mind on Ash Wednesday and during Lent - - has directed parishes to continue following all covid protocols during Lent and to please be mindful of the following:

- The Church has ***never obliged*** attendance at Mass nor the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation this year nor has it been in the past.
- Imposing ashes in the usual manner is not permitted this year.
- Recommended Method: marking the foreheads of the faithful with ashes ***with the use of a QTip***.
- A new QTip must be used with every person (as currently done with Anointings of the Sick).
- Sprinkling of ashes on the top of the head (the "Roman custom") is not customary in the U.S. and is inadvisable.
- Priests and, only if necessary, other ministers shall sanitize hands before and after imposition of ashes.
- Ashes are to be blessed after the homily of the Mass. They will be imposed at the conclusion of the Mass prior to the departure of the faithful.

World Marriage Day and National Marriage Week 2021

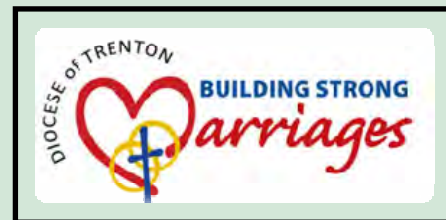


A special announcement for Catholic married couples! In observance of World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 14, 2021) and National

Marriage Week (February 7-14, 2021), the Diocese of Trenton has launched an exciting new web resource for Catholic married couples to enhance their marriage in three important ways: 1) *Reconnect with Your Spouse*, 2) *Make Your Marriage Even Better*, and 3) *Serve Others in Your Marriage*. Find all this and more at www.dioceseoftrenton.org/world-marriage-day-for-couples - what every couple needs to make their marriage extraordinary! (Part of the *BuildingStrongMarriages.org* initiative of the Diocese of Trenton)

The Cana Rosary for Marriage (February 7-14, 2021)

To commemorate World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 14) and National Marriage Week (February 7 – 14), the Diocese of Trenton will host a special livestreamed event for all Catholic families – *The Cana Rosary for Marriage* - from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm each evening, Sunday, February 7 through Saturday, February 14, 2021. This recitation of the rosary and reflection on marriage will be led by a different couple each evening; it will help all couples rely on our Most Holy Mother Mary to assist with their greatest needs and bring them closer to the Lord. All information for this event can be found at www.dioceseoftrenton.org/world-marriage-day



A Prayer Amid an Epidemic

By Kerry Weber

America

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

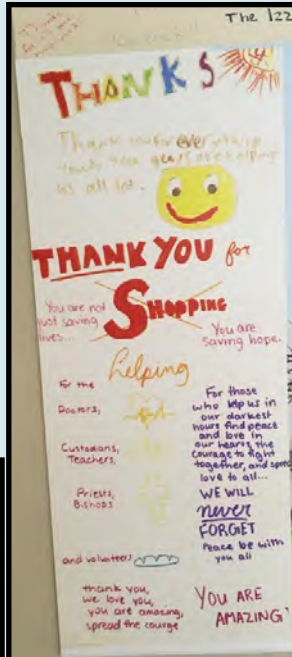
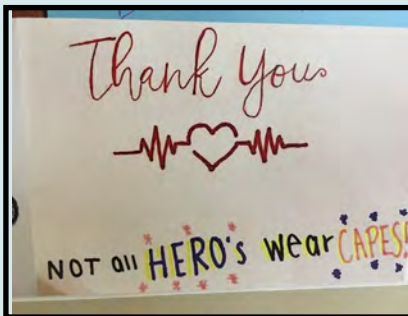
Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus Christ, heal us.

Available at americamagazine.org/faith/2020/03/02/coronavirus-prayer. Kerry Weber is an executive editor of America.

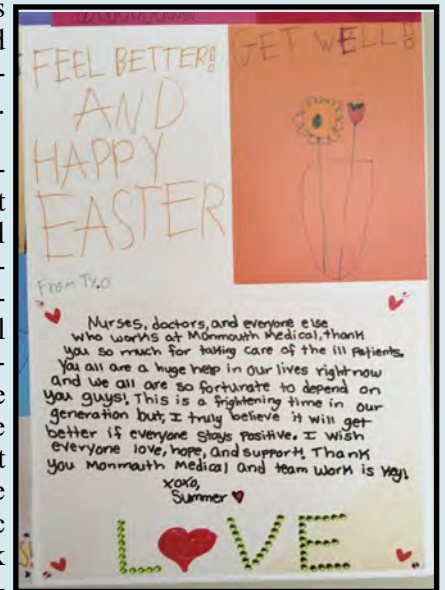
January and February 2021: The New Year Begins at St. Michael's



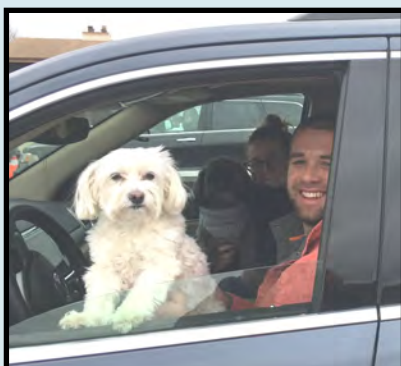
The New Year of 2021 began with....a nor'easter and six inches of snow here at the parish last Monday with flags on one side of the street blowing from northeast to southwest while on the opposite side of the street the Imperial House's flag simultaneously blew in exactly the opposite direction from southwest to northeast....our good friend and Holy Thursday visiting priest Msgr. James Turro celebrated his 99th birthday and donned the official red baseball cap of the St. Michael's Summer



Choir....Msgr sends his blessing and good wishes to everyone at St. Michael's....thank you notes and artwork were posted at Monmouth Medical Center in the Stanley/Greenwall Corridor sent by school children of the community to recognize the efforts of all the staff members at MMC during the covid pandemic ("Heroes Work Here")....the ex-



pressions of gratitude were addressed to the nurses, doctors, custodians, teachers, priests, bishops, "and everyone else who works at MMC"....a parish group visited St. Patrick's Cathedral for the Archdiocese of New York's Mass for Life (Dotty O'Hara and Cardinal Dolan exchanged greetings at the conclusion of the Mass)several canine friends attended recent parking lot Masses on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and received blessings and greetings from Fr. Mark and Fr. John....more photos of parish life will appear in later bulletins as we all continue (with the help of God and with the prayers and support of each other) to emerge from the pandemic and to move back towards normalcy.



Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, January 30, 2021

4:00 PM Parking Lot Mass	\$1,999.00	87 Cars
7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass	\$603.00	39 People

Sunday, January 31, 2021

7:00 AM Public In-Church Mass	\$708.00	40 People
8:30 AM Public In-Church Mass	\$820.00	41 People
10:00 AM Parking Lot Mass	\$1,541.00	78 Cars
12:00 PM Public In-Church Mass	\$734.00	94 People
7:00 PM Public In-Church Mass	\$193.00	13 People

Mailed-in Envelopes for the January 31 Collection and for Previous Sunday Collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$4,680.00**

This Week's Total: \$11,278.00

Same Week Last Year's Total: \$14,375.00

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.*

Second Collection Next Weekend February 13 and 14 For the Church in Central and Eastern Europe



Next weekend February 13 and 14 we will take up a Second Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that still struggle

to recover from former Communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the second collection next weekend. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccee.

Please make checks payable to St. Michael's Church.

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST FORM

If you wish to receive a written statement reporting your 2020 contributions to St. Michael's Church for purposes of your income tax returns, please complete the form below and return it to the Parish Office. Submit your request to St. Michael's Church, 800 Ocean Ave., Long Branch, NJ 07740. Or email your request to parish@stmichaelnj.com.

Faith Direct – If you make your weekly contributions or other contributions to the parish by means of the *Faith Direct* online method, you may obtain a written statement reporting such online contributions by visiting www.faithdirect.net and following the instructions on the homepage.

For additional assistance, please call parish Business Manager Thomas Randazzo at the Parish Office at 732-222-8080 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday during business hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m.).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Envelope Number: _____



Presidents' Day

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day. Daily

Mass that day will take place at the usual Monday 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. times with Confessions after each of those Masses for 30 minutes. The office will re-open at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 17.



Save the Dates: Parish Mission: Fr. Wade

The Parish Mission with *Fr. Wade Menezes, of the Fathers of Mercy*, was originally scheduled for May 2-6 and was postponed twice last year because of the covid pandemic. We have re-scheduled the Parish Mission and Fr. Wade will be here at St. Michael's December 11-15, 2021 for an Advent Parish Mission. Please save the dates.



Fr. Wade Menezes

Aid For The Hearing Impaired

We offer the use of radio aids during Mass upon request. The device is tuned to the sound system in the church so that those who have a hearing deficit might hear more clearly. Please ask an usher for assistance.



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.

2021 Mass Book

The 2021 Mass Book is open for Mass Intentions. We kindly ask that when you drop your Mass Intentions off to the office mailbox for scheduling, please include a written list stating the names and dates of your requests and your name and phone number. The stipend for Masses is \$10.00 per Mass.

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Altar Rosary Society's Valentine's Day Mass & Luncheon (Cancelled due to pandemic)	Friday, February 12, 2021
Baptism Preparation Class	Saturday, February 13, 2021 10:00 a.m.
Kick-Off of Annual Catholic Appeal 2021	February 13-14, 2021 at all Masses
Parish Office Closed (Presidents' Day)	Monday, February 15, 2021
Ash Wednesday	Wednesday, February 17, 2021 (see page 5 for Mass times)
Fridays in Lent (Mass at 8:00, 12:15, 5:30. Confessions after each of these Masses. Eucharistic Adoration 12:45-5:15)	February 19-March 26, 2021 (excludes Good Friday)
Confirmation (Msgr. Gervasio presiding)	Thursday, March 4, 2021 6:00 p.m.
Cohort 17 Lenten Reconciliation Week	March 15-21, 2021
First Confessions	Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 9:30 and 11:30
First Holy Communion	Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 9:30 and 11:30

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

Connie Mirarchi

Week 3

Andrew Yeboah

Week 5

Walter Fiore

Week 7

Jennifer Abate

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

OCTOBER 2021

Salvatore J. Mirarchi

r/o Joe & Carmel Mirarchi

A CALL FOR PRAYER ON THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK: Thursday, February 11

Saint Pope John Paul II in 1992 designated February 11 as World Day of the Sick. In the letter that Saint John Paul published to institute the World Day of the Sick he referred to “a special time of prayers and sharing, of offering one’s suffering for the good of the Church and of reminding us to see in our sick brothers and sisters the face of Christ who, by suffering, dying, and rising, achieved the salvation of humankind”. On World Day of the Sick, we are called to be especially sensitive to the needs of the ill and homebound, and so....We pray to You, O God of our Faith. We lift to You imploringly our needs and the needs of the sick throughout the world, particularly those who are cast away because of their illness or advanced age. We pray for the patience of the sick, and the compassion of caregivers. Let Your blessings of healing come upon our sisters/brothers that they may praise You all the days of their lives. God of healing, heal Your people. We pray, merciful God, hear our prayers. Amen.



**CELEBRATE CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS WEEK 2021**
SAINT JEROME SCHOOL
JANUARY 31—FEBRUARY 6

During Catholic Schools Week, we celebrate the key elements of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service. These are the qualities that form the cornerstone of education at Saint Jerome School. This year is different from all other years. We may not to have as many in-person activities as we would like but we are thriving in all that we do. **This year our open house is virtual.** Please make sure your go to saintjeromeschool.org to see some of the great programs that are planned for Catholic Schools Week and beyond. You are always welcome to visit. Please call ahead to make an appointment (732.222.8686) to see first hand the great education that takes place everyday! **Registration for Pre-K through Sixth grade begins on Monday, February, 9, 2021. looking forward to “seeing you.”**

This year, I want to take the moment to thank you, the parishioners of Saint Michael’s Parish. You are so very generous and supportive of all that we do at Saint Jerome School. Because of your continued efforts, our children do receive a quality Catholic education in the finest tradition. Rest assured the children do include you in our prayers at Mass and remember, every Thursday, down the road a piece the Sisters pray for you and thank God for you.

God bless you.

Sister Elizabeth Seton Dalessio, MPF
Principal

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Jesus elevated marriage to a Sacrament at the Wedding Feast at Cana. Catholics have the duty to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony in a church. The Grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony enhances and supports the permanent and indissoluble bond of marriage and strengthens the love and fidelity, patience and wisdom of the spouses.



Please make contact with the parish office at least one year prior to your intended marriage date to begin the preparation process. This includes attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference and several meetings with one of our parish priests. A specific wedding date cannot be assured by the parish until **after** this marriage preparation has commenced and initial documentation has been received and reviewed. Therefore, all engaged couples are strongly advised to **speak to the parish staff first** when beginning to make wedding plans and **strongly advised not to make commitments with third-parties** (banquet halls, photographers, hotels, airlines, etc.) until **after** the wedding date has been finalized in writing with the parish office.

If you are presently in a civil marriage and desire to receive the Sacrament and enter into a valid Catholic marriage, please contact the parish office at 732-222-8080 to obtain further information about the "convalidation" of your marriage. We also offer direction and assistance on the possibility of receiving an annulment for those who are divorced. Please do not hesitate to call. The annulment process is generally less difficult or cumbersome than imagined.

For all your Christian and Spiritual Essentials



In an effort to collaborate with Saint Leo the Great religious store's outreach ministry, we are asking our parishioners to please stop by the store in Lincroft for all your religious and spiritual needs. The store has a plethora of items including statues, books, rosary beads, jewelry, art, home décor, music and more. For every purchase by one of our parishioners, the store will donate 10% of your purchase back to St. Michael's. Please visit this beautiful store and be sure to tell them our parish name. Visit them on the web at www.stleostore.com

Saint Leo the Great
50 Hurleys Lane
Lincroft, NJ 07738
(732) 513-2231



Why is it so important to register with a parish? Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Some people think that

because they attend a particular parish they automatically belong. Registering as parishioners requires signing up, formally enrolling yourself in a parish by contacting the parish business office. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social and ministerial activities of your parish. Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits and administrative purposes, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining a sponsor or godparent certificate, and getting donation statements for your taxes. Most importantly, it lets the parish count on you, to call on you to assist in its mission. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish. For further information about registering at St. Michael's Church, please call Mary at the Parish Office at 732-222-8080.

Please keep in mind that **wearing masks, social distancing, and sanitizing worship spaces are required** by the State and Diocese at **all outdoor and indoor gatherings for public health and safety reasons**. Please wear your mask when receiving Communion at a parking lot Mass and during/throughout an in-church Mass, during Confession, and at all other times on the church grounds. And when at Mass remove the mask to consume the host **after the priest or Eucharistic Minister has moved on from you** to the next Communicant. Thank you for your cooperation.



Online Giving

Join the parishioners who are using Faith Direct for automated giving to St. Michael's Church. It is secure, convenient and Faith Direct will provide you with an offertory card to place in the basket during the collection. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Please sign up today by visiting faithdirect.net. Our parish code is NJ319. Thank You.



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