

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

February 19, 2023 | Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 22, 2023

DAILY MASS

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

First Friday 12:15 PM in Latin in Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec. In English in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov. And 5:30 PM (on First Friday) in English in all months.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM

DURING LENT

Please see Page 9 for extra times for Mass, Confession, and Eucharistic Adoration during Lent.

RECONCILIATION

Monday through Saturday: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 9:00 a.m.

Monday Night: after the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m.; 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

First Fridays: after the 12:15 p.m. Mass until 1:15 p.m. After the 5:30 Mass until 6:30 p.m.

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 1:15 PM. Other days/times can also be arranged. Parents must be registered parishioners, and can call the Parish Office for information and scheduling.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To enroll your child for our Religious Education classes, please contact Kevin Connelly, ext. 2 at the Catholic Center.

The Sermon on the Mount stained glass window and plaque - on the south wall of our church.



ERECTED IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS BY MARGARET M. CORMICK

IN MEMORY OF A CHILD, BROCKLEBUSH HER BROTHER JOHN AND FAMILY, 1905

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

AND SEEING THE CROWDS, HE WENT UP INTO THE MOUNTAIN. AND WHEN HE WAS SEATED, HIS DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM. AND OPENING HIS MOUTH HE TAUGHT THEM.

Matt. 5:1

This Sunday's and Last Sunday's Gospel - *The Antithesis Statements of Jesus* (Matthew 5:17-37; continuing this Sunday at 5:38-48) from *The Sermon on the Mount* (Matthew 5:1-7:29)

"When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after He had sat down, His disciples came to Him. He began to teach them, saying....

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill....

[4] Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, "Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow." But I say to you, do not swear at all.... Let your "Yes" mean "Yes," and your "No" mean "No"....

[5] You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other cheek as well....

[6] You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...."

[Continued from last Sunday: Antithesis Statements 1-3.]

PARISH OFFICE

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740
Ph: (732) 222-8080 | Fx: (732) 870-1174
www.stmichaelnj.com

Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (closed 12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m. for lunch)
Answering service phone coverage at all other times.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor
Rev. Cyril Johnson, Parochial Vicar
Thomas Randazzo, Business Manager
Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed.
Mary Valan, Parish Secretary
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) 795-3262
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
732-483-0360 ext. 1



"But I say to you, love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you."

Matthew 5:44

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 18

8:00 AM Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda
4:00 PM † Ronald Traversa	Wife Lucille
† Philip Meola	John & Deborah Perri and Family
† Mark Russo (20th Anniversary)	Family
5:30 PM † Nicholas Maria	Vinnie
† Michael Kirby	Cliff & Collette Bailey
7:00 PM People of the Parish	

Sunday, February 19

7:00 AM † Salvatore Ruggeri	Gerald & Amy Ostrov
8:30 AM † Carol DelPizzo	Carmel & Joe Mirarchi
† George & Bridie Richter	Joe & Joan Richter
10:00 AM † Michael Schaffner	Nancy Thorne
† Diane Cusa	Mary & Catherine Farrar
12:00 PM † Bill, Nina & Kurt Kuster	Ried, Kuster & Weiner Families
† Diana Scotti	
4:00 PM People of the Parish	
7:00 PM Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda

Monday, February 20

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause	Friends of Sylvia Marsico
Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda
7:00 PM † Dennis O'Hara	Family

Tuesday, February 21

8:00 AM † Harry B. Tokanos	Mary Tokanos
† Thomas Borgia	Lew & Renee Mazza

Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday)

8:00 AM † Dorothea Caffrey	Tom Bourke
Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda
12:15 PM † Daniel Salvatore	Mom
† Brian Mark Valan	Family
4:00 PM † Emily O'Hara	Family
5:30 PM Children's & Family Mass; Health & Blessings: Children of the Parish	
7:00 PM † Alice May	Dotty O'Hara

Thursday, February 23

8:00 AM † John Connelly	
Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda

Friday, February 24

8:00 AM † Jack & Bette McWilliams	Joe & Joan Richter
Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda
12:15 PM † Stephen Gill	Family
5:30 PM Special Intention: Dominic Salvatore	

Saturday, February 25

8:00 AM People of the Parish	
4:00 PM † Joy Rosano	Family
† Angela Perri	John & Deborah Perri and Family
5:30 PM † Gerald T. Barbato	Charlie & Chris McClelland
† Josephine Van Houten	St. Vincent De Paul Society
7:00 PM Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda

Sunday, February 26

7:00 AM Special Intention: Veronica Heaning	Linda
8:30 AM † All Souls in Purgatory	Joseph & Kelina Vassallo
† James Cade Ducharme	Lew & Renee Mazza
10:00 AM † Ronny Traversa	Tin & Ellie Tarantolo
† Louise Knop	MaryAnn Rogowski
12:00 PM † Tyler Napolitano	Loving Family
† Eileen Patricia Condon	
4:00 PM † James Dillon, III	Friends
† Ed Webb	Barbara & Family
7:00 PM † Lenore Devine	Scavone Family
People of the Parish	



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

February 1, 2023



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the days and weeks of penance that lie ahead --- from **Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, until Holy Thursday morning, April 6, 2023** --- the Catholic Church throughout the world commemorates the penitential season of Lent ending with the Sacred Triduum of Holy Week. The model Jesus gave us for “these forty days” was his own experience in the desert and the temptations that followed him there where he encountered Satan face to face. And yet, Jesus, there in the desert --- alone, fasting and in intense prayer --- beat back the devil and triumphed over temptation, as strong and as unrelenting as it was throughout those forty days.

We enter the desert of Lent like Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, to face our devils, our temptations head on. But we are not alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is with us. And so, too, is the Church, the entire community of faith observing Lent. Here is what the Catholic Church in the United States requires of us as baptized Catholics:

The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE (no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for reason of sickness or those provided in canon law below. ALL OTHER FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of ABSTINENCE.

The pastor of a parish has the faculty to give a dispensation to individual parishioners in his parish and the Diocesan Bishop alone has the authority to dispense groups of Catholics but only for a serious reason.

Those who are automatically dispensed from fast and abstinence regulations outside the age limits noted below include: the physically or mentally ill, especially individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also included in the dispensation are women who are pregnant or nursing. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST (only one full meal) as above. From the age of 14, people are also obliged to ABSTAIN (no meat): this obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat).

The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It is the intentional failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of penitential days, that must be considered a serious matter.

The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year --- often called “Easter duty” --- for those in the state of grace should still be fulfilled during the period from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 25-26, 2023, to Trinity Sunday, June 3-4, 2023**. However, the Church’s law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is a just cause.

I want to encourage all Catholics, especially those who are conscious of serious sin, to go to confession and to make use of the sacrifices and traditions that have always been part of our Lenten practices in the Church.

We do, indeed, fast and pray with the Lord Jesus and with our fellow Catholics. May this Lent be a time of penance leading to grace and joy for us all at Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

GOAL:**\$6.5 MILLION**

"As recipients of the Eucharist, the real presence of Jesus in His Body and Blood, we are meant to become Christ-like, to be Christ to all we meet."

—BISHOP DAVID M. O'CONNELL

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2023

Pastor's Note. The Diocese's Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 (ACA) commences this weekend. Details about the Appeal may be found on Page 5 of this bulletin in the Bishop's letter and the Pastor's letter. The chart below provides helpful breakdown information on the planned use of proceeds of the Diocesan campaign goal of \$6.5 Million. Our parish's \$109,000 target is roughly 1.7% of the Diocesan-wide target. The chart below also describes the three categories that are available for the "earmarking" of your contribution to the ACA if you desire to direct your funds to the support of a specific expense within the very wide field of the Diocese's many services, ministries, and activities.

EYES OF CHRIST

Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.

\$1,750,000

- Families, Youth & Young Adult Ministries
- Catholic Social Services (Mount Carmel Guild)
- Pastoral Care (Prison Ministry, Respect Life, Grief)
- Outreach to the Poor and Vulnerable

FEET OF CHRIST

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

\$2,250,000

- Finding and Forming Priests (Vocations Recruitment & Seminary Preparation)
- Retired Priest Care
- Preparation of Deacons
- Support of Religious Women and Men

HANDS OF CHRIST

Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

\$2,500,000

- Evangelization and Communications Outreach
- Religious Education for Children and Rite of Election of Adults
- Catholic School Programs
- Professional Development for Educators

Your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal makes it possible for the Diocese to support parish leaders to receive all levels of continued training to pass on the faith to more than...

28 Marriage Ministry events serving **706** couples

10 Prison Ministry state and county facilities

39,000+ receive food through Mt. Carmel Guild

1000+ Diocesan Youth Conference

11 Seminarian formation men

182 diocesan Ongoing priestly formation **61** religious

Deacon formation: **257** active

77 Priest retirement men

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

161 Catechumens **387** Full communion

25 elementary Schools **5** high schools

Evangelization efforts reach **640,000** Catholics





LAUNCH WEEKEND: FEB. 18 & 19



February 1, 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As Bishop, each year I look forward to inviting you to witness the good works that our ministries are doing every day in the Diocese of Trenton and in our parishes. Possibly you, a loved one, or a friend have experienced or seen and benefitted from the “gift” of one or more of these ministries in action.

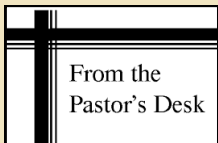
In St. Matthew’s Gospel, the Lord Jesus commissioned his disciples, “What you have *received* as a gift, *give* as a gift!” (Matthew 10:8) These words are a reminder that we should be grateful for the many blessings we have received from God in our lives and that we, in turn, should give of ourselves through our time, talent, and treasure. The Lord’s words are addressed to us! His words are addressed to all of us!

I am humbled by and thankful for your support of our Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal in the past and ask you to again prayerfully consider making a 2023 gift to this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal so that the Church within our Diocese may continue to be a beacon of love and faith for all God’s people. Together we can do great things!

I will continue to keep you and your loved ones in my prayers.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton



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

This weekend (February 18 and 19) is Pledge Weekend for this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal. Each year our Diocese of Trenton and Bishop O’Connell request the support of all of the members of the Diocese of Trenton to further the work of our Diocese’s ministries. Each of us – wherever we reside and wherever we worship and pray – 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 (“ACA”). Our single Act of Faith/Hope/Charity propels the works of love that build up our Church. You are able to make that happen with a generous gift to the ACA. Please read the Bishop’s ACA letter published above.

This year St. Michael’s share of the Diocesan-wide goal is \$109,000 (the same goal as in the past thirteen years and the goal that we achieved last year and the four years before that for the first times). The Diocesan-wide goal for this year’s ACA is \$6.5 million. As the result of reaching our parish ACA goal in each of those five 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, a \$16,500 rebate in each of 2019 and 2020, and a \$21,500 rebate for 2021 and a rebate of approximately \$21,000 anticipated for 2022.

IF IT’S FEBRUARY IT MUST BE.....

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2023 Lenten Soup for the Soul Series



Looking for some spiritual nourishment this Lent?
Come to our **Lenten Soup for the Soul Evenings!**
Join us for some soup, fellowship, prayer and reflection to feed
your body, mind, heart, and soul!

2023 Evenings of Reflection

February 27, March 6, March 27

6:00PM – 8:30PM

5:30 – 6:00 Arrival and Registration
6:00 – 7:00 Simple Lenten Soup Supper
7:00 – 8:30 Program

Monday, February 27, 2023 Take Nothing for the Journey? Packing for the Unknown

If we don't know what the future holds; how can we prepare? It's like packing for a trip without knowing the destination! Nevertheless, the beginning of our journey through Lent is a good time to consider what we need bring with us—and what we might want to leave behind—so that we can travel lightly, responsive to God's call. In this evening of reflection we will pray with stories from the Bible, literature, and life. Using "packing" as a metaphor, we will ponder the attitudes, relationships, dreams, commitments, and even possessions we want to carry with us into the unknown future.

Presenter: Christine Marie Eberle passionately connects Scripture, spirituality, and everyday life. She is the author of two books of daily meditations: *Finding God in Ordinary Time* and *Finding God Abiding*. After a 26-year career as a college campus minister, in 2019 Christine ended her tenure as Director of Campus Ministry at Gwynedd Mercy University to commit to a full-time ministry of writing, speaking, and retreat facilitation. She is thrilled to be returning to San Alfonso for a third Lenten reflection. You can follow her at christine-marie-eberle.com.



Monday, March 6, 2023 Living Lent: Choosing Life!

"Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life..." Deuteronomy 30:19 – 20

Lent invites us by prayer, fasting and almsgiving to be renewed in our resolve to choose life in Christ as the way to our deepest peace inside of ourselves and with others. This evening will offer some reflection on God's call to holiness and to wholeness by listening for God's voice from deep within our being and from within the heart of the world. Embracing our Lenten journey in prayer and reflection enables us to respond more fully to the invitation to turn back to Christ with all our hearts so that "we may have life and have it to the full."



Presenter: Rev. Ed Faliskie, C.Ss.R is a member of the preaching team here at San Alfonso Retreat House. He has previously served as pastor at several Redemptorist parishes, as a foreign missionary, and a parish mission preacher. Fr. Ed has also served his Redemptorist community in various leadership roles throughout his 32 years in ministry.

Monday, March 27, 2023 To Bear the Beams of Love

Early on in Lent we hear that Jesus, "full of the Holy Spirit", returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for forty days. He went into the desert after having been baptized in the Jordan with, as Jan Richardson writes, "the name Beloved ringing in his ears." Our Lenten Journey is meant to be a season of grace when we allow God to speak that same truth to each of us, so that we deepen our understanding of God's promise and come to know ourselves as Beloved.

Presenter: Sr. Honora Nicholson, RSM is a member of the pastoral-services team at RENEW International, a Catholic publishing house. She enjoys her current work, because of her love of parish ministry and the power of small groups. In addition to certification in spiritual direction and leading retreats, she volunteers with various organizations such as The Innocence Project and alternative- education institutions.

Sr. Honora holds the degree of Master of Arts in theological studies from the University of Dayton. She has a passion for social justice, especially in the areas of racism and immigration. Sr. Honora "can often find humor in unusual circumstances" and feels comfortable meeting people with different backgrounds.



Register Today!
Registration Form on Page 7

2023 LENTEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL SERIES REGISTRATION FORM

(ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUESTED)

COST: \$25 PER EVENING

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

I would like to register for the following Lenten evenings: *(Register for one or more evenings. Please check all you would like to attend.)*

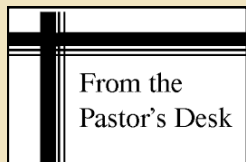
_____ February 27 _____ March 6 _____ March 27

PAYMENT INFO: To make an online credit card payment, visit www.sanalfonso retreats.org/80 To pay by check, please mail completed registration form with checks made payable to:San Alfonso Retreat House
755 Ocean Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740E-mail Us: info@sanalfonso retreats.org

Phone: 732-222-2731, x140

Visit us: www.sanalfonso retreats.org

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LAUNCH WEEKEND: FEB. 18 & 19

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, new ventilation equipment for the Confessionals in the Upper Church, and buildings and grounds repairs. The 2021 ACA rebate was also used in part last year to fund ordinary operating expenses since - as we all know - the parish's revenue from Sunday collections and the Easter and Christmas collections was depleted in 2022 due to the pandemic and reduced in-church Mass attendance.

I have proposed to the parish trustees and parish finance council that if St. Michael's is successful again in achieving the parish's \$109,000 ACA goal and earns and receives a rebate of \$16,000 or more that the parish use those rebate funds for: (a) further upgrades to the air filtration/ventilation system and equipment in the Upper Church, (b) painting of the Lower Church and new ceiling light fixtures in the Lower Church, and (c) re-staining and re-varnishing of the wood floors in the Upper Church. Other parish-related uses of ACA proceeds are also under consideration.

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 prayerfully reflect on any help you can give. We truly need everyone who has the ability to participate in the Annual Catholic Appeal. This year we again are striving to do our parish fair share toward helping the Diocese reach the Diocesan/four-county/97-parish goal of \$6.5 million in the 2023 Appeal. I am always grateful and moved by the level of support that 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, gratitude, and best wishes,

Rev. John K. Butler, Pastor

Second Collection This Weekend February 18 and 19 for The Church in Central and Eastern Europe

This weekend 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, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in the region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next weekend. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccce.



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

IMPORTANT DATES RE OUR CCD PROGRAM

- Sacrament of Confirmation: Thursday, March 9, 2023.
- First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 6, 2023.

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, February 11, 2023

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,152.00	202 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$773.00	78 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$774.00	64 people

Sunday, February 12, 2023

7:00 AM Mass	\$1,418.00	86 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,248.00	103 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,077.00	127 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,540.00	139 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$1,313.00	114 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$228.00	51 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the February 12 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown:
\$1,455.00

This Week's Total: \$11,978.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$11,008.00

St. Patrick's Day 2023: Bishop's Permission for Eating Meat on FRIDAY, March 17

Pastor's Note. In an email dated February 8, 2023 and published below, our Bishop, His Excellency David M. O'Connell, C.M., has granted for this coming **St. Patrick's Day** (which falls on a **Friday** this year) a dispensation from the Lenten Friday obligation to abstain from eating meat. If you take advantage of this permission to eat meat on St. Patrick's Day this year, please also take note of and observe the Bishop's request to transfer your Friday abstinence obligation to another day of your choosing in Lent or to perform a work of charity or some exercise of piety to fulfill the spirit of the Lenten obligation.

"The Holy Season of Lent brings with it the serious annual penitential obligation to abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent. This year, 2023, however, Friday of the second week of Lent corresponds with Saint Patrick's Day (March 17), which has traditionally been an occasion for special celebrations. As Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, I am granting a dispensation from the obligation to abstain from eating meat to Catholics of the Diocese of Trenton as well as to any visitors or travelers who may be physically present within the territory of this Diocese on Friday, March 17.

Those Catholics taking advantage of the dispensation, however, are asked to transfer the Friday abstinence obligation to another day of their choosing in Lent or to perform a work of charity (for example, a donation to the poor) or some exercise of piety (for example, a visit to Church and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, a rosary, or some other prayer, etc.) to fulfill the spirit of the obligation."

Spring Small Group Bible Study

You are invited to join us as we journey back in time to the city of Jerusalem to the spring of AD 33. Our tour guides include three eye-witnesses and one fantastic researcher from the four days that changed the world forever. We know them as Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Our tour departs on Thursday, March 2. There are two time possibilities: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The tour continues:

- Thursday, March 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



Please call Rene and Jack at 732-222-3164 to secure a seat and sign up for a map and the necessary paperwork. (passport not needed).

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 22 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 2023

Our Lenten observances will include the following:

- Ash Wednesday: February 22, 2023
- On Fridays during Lent, **Mass** will be celebrated at **12:15 p.m. and at 5:30 p.m.** in the Upper Church from February 24 through and including March 31. The 8:00 a.m. Mass on Fridays remains unchanged. **Eucharistic Adoration** will follow the 12:15 Mass on these Fridays of Lent until 5:15 p.m. and follow the 5:30 Mass until 6:50 p.m.
- These Friday 12:15 and 5:30 Masses during Lent will be followed by Confessions after the 12:15 Mass until 1:15 and after the 5:30 Mass until 6:30.
- **New:** Confessions on Saturday afternoons during Lent (Feb. 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; Apr 1) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.
- **New:** Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hour on Sunday mornings during Lent (Feb 26; March 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr 2) from 10:50 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.
- Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m.
- Bishop O'Connell's annual letter regarding Lenten regulations is available on the parish website and appears on Page 3 of this bulletin.
- The date and time of the parish's Lenten Penance Service will be announced.

May our Lenten journeys nourish our minds, hearts, and souls; strengthen us against the chains of sin; and bring us closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE - FEBRUARY 22, 2023

8:00 A.M., 12:15 P.M., 4:00 P.M.,
5:30 P.M. (Children's & Family Mass),
7:00 P.M.

Ashes will be imposed at all five Masses on Ash Wednesday at the conclusion of the Mass. 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. Per guidelines provided by the Diocese of Trenton (and with allowance for local parish-level modifications), the following procedures will be followed for the imposition of blessed ashes this year at St. Michael's: • The minister will be wearing a face mask when imposing the ashes. • The minister will use a new/separate cotton swab (Q Tip) for each person (not a cotton ball nor bare thumb nor gloved hand/thumb).

YOU ARE INVITED TO
THE 8TH ANNUAL ST. MICHAEL'S
(AND FIRST TIME SINCE COVID!)

SOUP & SALAD BEFORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Lower Church
Six Fridays of Lent
Beginning February 24, 2023

Soup & Salad from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
FREE-WILL DONATION APPRECIATED

Please note that the 6:00 p.m. Soup and Salad Supper will be preceded by Eucharistic Adoration from 12:45 until 5:15 p.m. and Mass in the Upper Church at 5:30 p.m., Confessions at 6:00 p.m., and Eucharistic Adoration from 6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. and will be followed by Stations of the Cross in the Upper Church at 7:00 p.m.



Presidents' Day

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 20 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. The office will re-open at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 21.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer	r/o Joyce Lubischer
† Albertino Pereira	r/o Tony and Natalina Gomes
† Julio Bento	r/o Tony and Natalina Gomes
† Laurinda Santos Ortuno	r/o Tony and Natalina Gomes

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 2023

† Susan Whitman r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

April 2023

† Rita N. Cittadino r/o Christopher M. Cittadino and Family

SEPTEMBER 2023

† Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano r/o The Boeckman Family



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

February 22 to April 2

HELP SAVE LIVES IN MONMOUTH COUNTY!

Protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide witness of prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils, and community outreach.

Take part in 40 Days for Life in Monmouth County

Vigil Location: Planned Parenthood at 69 E. Newman Springs Road, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702.

Vigil Hours: Monday through Friday 8 am to 6 pm.
Saturday / Sunday - at will.

Local Contact: monmouth4life@hotmail.com

Learn More... 40daysforlife.com/shrewsbury.

Check our Resources for Educational Information, Prayer and Pregnancy Resources.

Come and Bring a Friend... or 2... or 3!

40 Days For Life/Shrewsbury is a peaceful, prayerful witness. There is no shouting, foul language or graphic signs. As always, stay on the sidewalk or public right of way. Do not go on private property, block driveway or park in Planned Parenthood lot.

Please follow current COVID-19 Protocols.

St. Michael's parishioners usually gather at this location on Mondays at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, and 2:00 p.m. during these 40 Days for Life.

Upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekend February 24-26, 2023



Why not give yourselves a Marriage Encounter Weekend. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen

communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held February 24 – 26, 2023. Please apply ASAP as space is limited.

Phone 1-732-904-9636 for application and information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco). Visit us at: www.wwme.org for more information.

Old Guard of Long Branch is Sponsoring a Bus Trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City

When: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Cost: \$40.00 (Receive \$20.00 back at Casino and free refreshments on the bus).



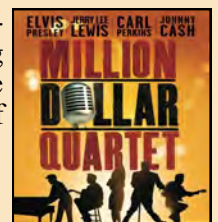
Bus leaves St. Michael's Church at 10:15 a.m.



For more information and to make a reservation call Peter at 732-801-6886

DAY TRIP WITH OCEANPORT SENIORS MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Hunterdon Hills Playhouse April 11, 2023

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET captures the contagious spirit, freewheeling excitement, and thrilling sounds of the once-in-a-life-time event where four of music's best talents came together.



Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Where: Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, Hampton, NJ

Time: 9:30 a.m. (Bus leaves from the Port-au-Peck Firehouse parking lot).

Price: \$95.00 (members) \$110.00 (guests).

Please RSVP to Mimi Paolise by March 1, 2023. Mail payment cash or check payable to Oceanport Seniors to: Mimi Paolise, 49 Wyandotte Avenue, Oceanport, NJ 07757

Price includes bus transportation, lunch and show. No refunds.

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 Kick-Off Weekend	Saturday & Sunday February 18 & 19 (All Masses)
Presidents' Day (Parish Office Closed)	Monday, February 20, 2023
Ash Wednesday	Wednesday, February 22, 2023 (See Page 9 for Mass schedule)
Fridays in Lent (Mass at 8:00, 12:15, 5:30. Confessions after each of these Masses. Eucharistic Adora- tion 12:45-5:15 and 6:00-6:50)	Friday, February 24-March 31, 2023 (excludes Good Friday)
Lenten Stations of the Cross and "Soup & Salad"	Fridays of Lent 6:00 p.m. "Soup & Salad" 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (See Page 9 for details)
Confirmation (Presiding: Msgr. Joseph Rosie)	Thursday, March 9, 2023
Palm Sunday	Sunday, April 2, 2023
Easter	Sunday, April 9, 2023
First Holy Communion	Saturday, May 6, 2023

EARTHQUAKES ROCK TURKEY AND SYRIA

Please help families today with critical relief

Two severe earthquakes struck Turkey and Syria this past Monday. The casualties and damage and the need for help are described in the information below that was sent to the parishes of the Diocese of Trenton by Bishop O'Connell on Tuesday. Catholic Relief Services is a trustworthy and competent organization to whom you may make a financial donation if you desire to support the earthquake relief efforts. The web page through which donations can be made is <https://support.crs.org/donate/earthquakes>.



Photo by Hasan Huseyin Kul/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

The diocesan magazine is providing earthquake coverage at www.TrentonMonitor.com and will add information about "How to Help" as it becomes available.

On February 6th, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of central Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 7,000 and continues to climb. The earthquake is the worst to strike Turkey this century. Later that day, the region experienced a second magnitude 7.7 quake.

Across affected areas in both countries, apartment buildings and schools have been leveled. For Syrians, the damage took place in areas already devastated by years of war. In Turkey, the airports and the high roads of Anatolia are closed and most hospitals are unusable. Schools have been closed across the country.

Catholic Relief Services will support emergency relief efforts led by local partners in both Syria and Turkey with Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria in Aleppo and Lattakia—where extensive damage has been reported—and other local partners. Already in Turkey, Caritas Anatolia, in coordination with authorities, is bringing displaced people to safe, open spaces and distributing hot meals and clothing. The dioceses of Izmir and Istanbul are collecting donations to send to the Anatolia Region.

Your gifts will help partners to provide safe shelter and access to food, clean water, and hygiene supplies.



ST. MARY'S DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

What is an Information Night?

This Information Night will provide you with all the information you need to help you decide if you would like to attend our 12-week program that will begin March 13th, 2023 on Monday nights from 7:00-8:30 pm at St. Mary's Chapel in Middletown.

What can I expect from the 12-week Program?

The program is called "Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family". It is a DVD series developed by Rose Sweet, a dynamic Catholic author and speaker who has developed this series to help Catholics and their families heal from divorce!

Two sessions are available yearly, Fall and Spring. The DVDs last approximately 30 minutes, and then we have open discussion on a variety of topics such as grief, anger, depression, forgiveness, dealing with your ex and your family, how to tell the children and help them cope, how to navigate the court system, your finances and more. We work with a team of professionals that often join us as guest speakers to help you through this process.

We are committed to the program and to divorced and separated Catholics throughout the Diocese and we are eager to assist you in any way we can. Our primary collective goal is to bring about your healing in your own time and support you along the way. The website to learn more about the program can be found by visiting:

www.mylifechangechangecoach.com/separated-divorce

WE DO NOT ASK YOU IF YOU ARE CATHOLIC,
WE ONLY ASK YOU IF YOU NEED TO BE HEALED. ☺
IT IS A CATHOLIC PROGRAM DESIGNED TO HEAL
EVERYONE THAT COMES TO IT!

INFORMATION NIGHT February 27, 2023 7:00-8:30 p.m.

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St. Mary's Chapel
26 Leonardville Rd.
Middletown

All are Welcome!

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REGISTRATION
REQUIRED!
SEATING IS LIMITED!

To Register/Email:

Healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com
One of our facilitators will
get back to you!

