

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

February 27, 2022 | Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

DAILY MASS

Mon – Sat: 8:00 AM | Mon: 7:00 PM

First Friday 12:15 in Latin in Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr, June, Aug. In English in Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar, May, July. And 5:30 (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 *And temporarily a Sunday 5:30 PM Mass as described on Page 5.

DURING LENT

Please see Page 4 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 1:00 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.



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. 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

Susan Cleaver, Ass't Parish Secretary

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, February 26

8:00 AM † Nicolo Pierro

People of the Parish

4:00 PM † Angela Perri

† Marie Christine
Ruggiero

5:30 PM † Jack DuBois

† Bernadette Calahane

7:00 PM † Susan Whitman

John & Deborah Perri
and Family

Tocci Family

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Lang
and Family

Paul & Agnes D'Angelo

Tony & Lisa Monte

Sunday, February 27

7:00 AM † Dr. Margaret Boland

† John Weiser

8:30 AM † Donald "Eddie" Blanchett

† Carolyn Kuz

10:00 AM † Dr. & Mrs. X. Falivene

† Joseph Dumbra

12:00 PM † Plinio Agresti

† Virginia Larkin

4:00 PM † NYC Police Officer
Jason Rivera

† NYC Police Officer
Wilbert Mora

5:30 PM People of the Parish

7:00 PM † Souls in Purgatory

Mary Jensen

Linda Tanchak &
Anna DeSouza

Stephanie Siciliano

Basaman Family

Wife Dirici Agresti

Michele Agresti

Fr. John & Fr. Mark

Fr. John & Fr. Mark

Monday, February 28

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause

† Nicholas Maria

7:00 PM † Gerald Libertelli

Friends of Sylvia Marsico

Vince Masi

Debra & John Nunziato

Tuesday, March 1

8:00 AM † Louis Bianchini

† Kathleen Manganello

Wednesday, March 2 (Ash Wednesday)

8:00 AM † Chestoria Heaning

† Joan Fiumefreddo

12:15 PM † Brian Mark Valan

4:00 PM † Chris Renzo

5:30 PM † Anna Sokalski

7:00 PM † Robert Davidson

Linda

Loving Family

Thursday, March 3

8:00 AM † Richard Fromer

† Michelina Russo

Bruce Fromer

Family

Friday, March 4

8:00 AM † Natalie Easu

† Nicholas Cattelona, Sr.

12:15 PM † Donald Evans

5:30 PM † Denise Renzo-Wayne

Daughter

Russo Family

Saturday, March 5

8:00 AM † Clarice Viggiano

† Conrad Russo

4:00 PM † Angela Perri

† Frankie Manzi

5:30 PM † John E. Hogan

† William Conley

7:00 PM People of the Parish

Viggiano Family

Family

Eileen Roller & Family

Angela Pfeiffer

Catherine Campen

Conley Family

Sunday, March 6

7:00 AM Special Intention:
Teresa Tobiaslim

† Augustine Tobiaslim

† Rosa Alba Stranieri

8:30 AM † Angelina Costello

† Carolyn Kuz

10:00 AM † Jack DuBois

† Jeanne Kenny

12:00 PM † Robert Hanlon

† Lily Jalinos

4:00 PM † Irene F. & Edward W.
Moskal, Sr.

5:30 PM People of the Parish

7:00 PM † Rev. William Halbing

Teresa

Teresa

Mother Francesca

Sandy Collins

Linda Tanchak &
Anna DeSouza

Dorothy, Tony &
Sanzone Family

Barbara & Edward Moskal

Audrey Boglioli

Maggio Family

Barbara & Edward Moskal

The Blessed Mother, the St. Joseph, and the Center Sanctuary Candles will be lit this week for peace in Ukraine, for an end to abortion, and for competent and compassionate care for women in crisis pregnancies.





OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
February 4, 2022



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the days and weeks of penance that lie ahead --- from **Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022 until Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022** --- 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. The pastor of a parish has the authority to give a dispensation to individual parishioners in his parish. The 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 (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

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, March 5-6, 2022 to Trinity Sunday, June 12, 2022**. 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 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

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, March 2 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!!!

Begin this Lenten season with your child and make this a Lent to remember!!!

LENT 2022

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 from March 4 through and including April 8. 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.
- 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.
- 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 on Page 3 of today's bulletin and on the parish website.
- The date and time of the parish's Lenten Penance Service will be announced.
- Please see the accompanying announcement on this Page 4 regarding "Coffee And..." in place of Soup & Salad preceding Stations of the Cross on the Friday evenings of Lent.

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

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).

"Coffee And..." in Place of Soup & Salad This Lent 2022

During our 2022 Lenten Season we are going to offer a new social gathering on Friday evenings immediately prior to 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross.

Last year and in 2020 we cancelled the Lenten Soup & Salad Suppers because of the covid pandemic. This year as Lent approaches, the pandemic seems to be waning but it is still not entirely behind us, and the preparation and serving of food and beverages at a community gathering is still of concern for some.

So we are "modifying the menu" but not the fundamental concept of Soup & Salad this year. Instead of the home-made soups and home-made salads and other simple, minimal supper items that have been prepared and then served family-style and buffet-style in past years, this year we will offer coffee, tea, bottled water, individual containers of fruit juices, and individually wrapped portions of cakes and cookies – "light fare" – to be enjoyed along with conversation and fellowship beginning at 6:15 p.m. each Friday with the Praying of Grace and before moving to the Upper Church shortly before 7:00 p.m. for Stations of the Cross. These evening refreshments are intended to make us mindful of foregoing a more substantial meal on the Fridays of Lent in favor of smaller portions that provide sustenance while also highlighting the Lenten themes of fasting, sacrifice, self-denial, and penitential practices.

"Coffee And..." will take place in the Lower Church. Thanks once again to the Parish Hospitality Committee members for their vision and efforts in putting this spiritual and social event together for us. May our Lenten journeys nourish our minds, hearts, and souls; strengthen and refresh us; and bring us closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2022

LAUNCH WEEKEND: FEB 26 & 27



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If someone asked you “What does love have to do with it?” what would you say? Perhaps you would think of special people in your life – family, friend or a child or grandchild – or perhaps you reflect on a personal moment that you witnessed or experienced.

As I thought about this question, “What does love have to do with it,” I immediately said, “everything!” As we look around at the many challenges we are faced with today, we need more of God’s love in everything we do. St. John said, “Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.” (1 John 4:8).

Sisters and brothers, every year at this Diocese of Trenton to ask for your help. The theme this year is “What does Help us share the love with so many of cese of Trenton. Remember, love is not

What does
LOVE
have to do with it...
everything!

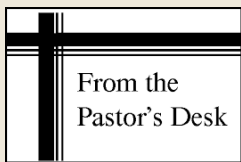
time, I reach out to the faithful of the and support of the Annual Catholic Appeal love have to do with it... Everything!” your neighbors in need here in the Dio- what you say, love is what you do.

And so, once again I ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal, so we may share the love by reaching out to provide the essential ministries, programs and services that make a critical difference in the lives of so many.

May God bless you for your past generosity and for whatever support you can provide for the vital work that lies ahead.

Yours in Christ,

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



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

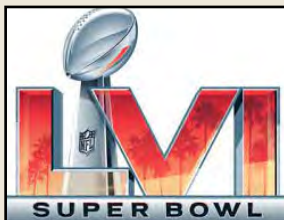
This weekend (February 26 and 27) is Pledge Weekend for this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA). Each year Bishop O’Connell seeks the support of all of the members of the Diocese of Trenton to further the work of our diocesan ministries. Each of us has a vital part in all we do in Christ’s name, and 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. 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 twelve years and the goal that we achieved last year and the three years before that for the first times). As the result of reaching our parish ACA goal in each of those four 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 an approximate \$20,000 rebate for 2021. Those ACA rebate funds were utilized for the Lower Church restrooms renovation project,

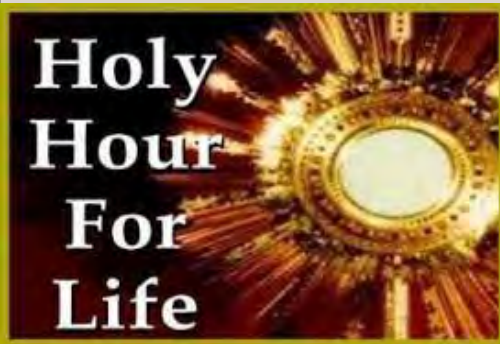
IF IT’S FEBRUARY IT MUST BE.....

(continued on page 6)



**Annual
Catholic
Appeal**

Holy Hours for Life on 1st and 22nd of the Month



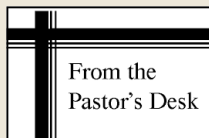
The Supreme Court's decision in the *Roe vs. Wade* case was issued on the 22nd of the month in January 1973.

The Supreme Court heard the oral argument in the *Dobbs vs. Jackson* case (the case that we pray will overrule *Roe vs. Wade* or at least substantially cutback on *Roe* and substantially increase the protection of the unborn) on the 1st of the month in December 2021.

The Supreme Court's decision in the *Dobbs* case is likely to be issued in June of this year or perhaps sooner.

During the coming months as we anticipate the *Dobbs* decision, we will conduct a Holy Hour for Life on the 1st day and the 22nd day of each month beginning on February 1st. This Holy Hour will take place twice on each of these days – immediately after the conclusion of the 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass until 9:30 a.m. and again in the evening of each of these days from 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Each Holy Hour for Life will include Eucharistic Adoration, Scripture reading, reflection/homily, Rosary, and Benediction. All are invited and welcome. ***The next day of these Holy Hours for Life will be this coming Tuesday, March 1st at 8:30 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.*** Please pray for an end to abortion; for reconciliation, conversion, and healing; and for compassionate and competent care for women during and after crisis pregnancy. St. Michael, pray for us.

(continued from page 5)



LAUNCH WEEKEND: FEB 26 & 27

church foundation water-proofing and repairs, CCD/education materials, Covid-related upgrades to the Lower Church's ventilation equipment, new ventilation equipment for the Upper Church's Confessionals, and buildings and grounds repairs. The 2021 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 depleted in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic and reduced in-church Mass attendance.

I have proposed to the parish trustees and 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 in 2023 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, (c) re-staining and re-varnishing of the wood floors in the Upper Church, and (d) upgrades and replacements for the aging computers and office furniture in the parish business office. Carry-over projects from last year include repair of the church's 1886 cornerstone and purchase and installation of the Prayer Monument in Memory of the Unborn; donations for those two latter projects are still being accepted and most welcome. 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 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/97-parish goal of \$6.5 million in the 2022 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

COVID-19 Vaccinations at St. Michael's THIS SATURDAY THROUGH MONDAY!

● Friday, February 25
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

● Saturday, February 26
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

● Sunday, February 27
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

● Monday, February 28
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Both Moderna and Pfizer vaccines

- Pfizer available for ages 5 and older
- Pfizer booster for ages 12 and older
- Moderna available for ages 18 and older.

*First, second, and booster doses available.
Walk-ins welcome.*

St. Michael's Church will again be participating with the New Jersey Department of Health and with the Pharmacy Town Company in the *Grateful for the Shot* program to provide Covid vaccinations free of charge in the St. Michael's Lower Church. No appointment necessary. No need to provide



identification documentation or insurance documentation. No impact on immigration status. First come, first served. For those unable to walk down and up the Lower Church stairs, a small tent will be set-up in the church parking lot (winter weather permitting) where you may receive the Covid vaccination. Please pray for a swift and complete end to the Covid-19 pandemic, for the recovery of those who are ill with this virus, and for the safety and perseverance of their caregivers.

You are encouraged to bring to this clinic your COVID vaccination verification documentation if you have already received Dose #1 and or Dose #2. But that verification is NOT REQUIRED at this clinic. Prior vaccination verification documentation is NOT NECESSARY at this clinic.



There will be a Holy Hour for Vocations from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the Thursday evening that precedes First Friday. *The next Holy Hour for Vocations will be on March 3.*

The Holy Hour will include Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, and Confessions. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. Please join with us in praying for vocations!

First Friday Mass *In English* at 12:15 P.M. and Eucharistic Adoration on March 4

First Friday Mass *in English* will be celebrated on March 4 at 12:15 p.m. Confessions will be heard after that Mass until 1:15 p.m. And First Friday Mass will also be celebrated (in English) at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 4 followed by Confessions until 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration will take place throughout the afternoon on Friday, March 4 from the conclusion of the 12:15 Mass until 2:30 p.m. *Please note that the Eucharistic Adoration on First Friday, March 4 will conclude earlier than usual this month at 2:30 p.m. because of a 3:30 wedding in the Upper Church that afternoon.* Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Small Group Meeting *Beacon of Hope*

In 1886 the Statue of Liberty was dedicated in New York Harbor as a Beacon of Hope for all immigrants coming to the United States through New York. That same year, Saint Michael's Church was opened to serve, in particular, the local Irish immigrants as a Beacon of Hope as they journeyed through life to their final destination, Heaven. This Lent, we will talk about how our parish church continues to be that beacon, that refuge, that place of calm in the storm, by looking at the art, the paintings, the stained glass windows, and the statues found in our parish church, each with its own story. We invite you to join us.

**Wednesdays, March 9, 16, and 23, 2022
9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m. in the Upper Church**

Please call Rene/Jack at 732-222-3164 to register so we will be sure to have a take home packet for you.

2022 Mass Book

We kindly ask that when you come to the office for scheduling, please bring a written list including the names and dates of your requests and your name and phone number. The stipend for Masses is \$10.00 per Mass.

St. Michael's Parish and some of our neighboring parishes will once again participate in the "40 Days for Life" prayer vigil at Planned Parenthood in Shrewsbury during the Season of Lent. This Spring vigil starts on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd and extends through April 10th. We invite you to please join us! During past campaigns, St. Michael's parishioners have been going to this location to pray on Monday's at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, or 2:00 p.m.



However, if a more convenient time is needed, as indicated in the flyer below, the hours at Planned Parenthood are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and "Saturday and Sunday at will".

All participants are asked to attend with a prayer partner. Please see the flyer below for information and to sign up.



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.

2022 Lenten Soup for the Soul Series San Alfonso Retreat House

755 Ocean Ave • Long Branch, NJ • 07740

March 8, 15, 22, 29

6:00 – 8:30 P.M.

\$25 per Evening, \$80 for all 4 Evenings



Looking for some spiritual nourishment this Lent?

Come to our Lenten Soup for the Soul Evenings this March!

Join us for some soup, fellowship, prayer and reflection to feed your body, mind, heart, and soul!

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Living the Lent You Get

Presenter: Christine Marie Eberle

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

The Slow, Brave Work of Forgiveness

Presenter: Janet Corso

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Watch and Pray: A Contemporary Meditation on The Way of the Cross

Presenter: Michelle Sullivan

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

A Lenten Heart for the Cosmos

Presenter: Immacolata Cassetta, CND

Space is limited; registration is required

To register: e-mail register@sanalfonsoretreats.org

Phone: 732-222-2731 ext. 140

To register online or for full program description visit

www.sanalfonsoretreats.org

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer r/o Joyce Lubischer

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2022

†Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano r/o The Boeckman Family

FEBRUARY 2023

†Susan Whitman r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

Pastor's Note. This past Wednesday, February 23 at his weekly General Audience, Pope Francis made the following appeal for peace in Ukraine and he urged prayer and fasting for that intention especially next week on Ash Wednesday. See <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2022/documents/20220223-udienza-generale.html>. St. Michael, pray for us.

APPEAL

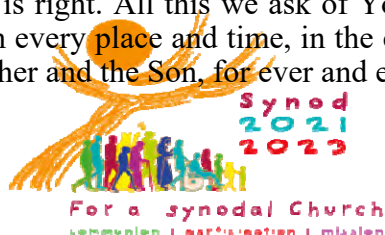
My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilizing coexistence between nations, and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. **I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day.** May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

Please keep this parish and world-wide endeavor in your daily prayers

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, for ever and ever. Amen.



ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Covid Vaccinations in St. Michael's Lower Church	Friday, February 25 to Monday, February 28, 2022 (See Page 7 for details)
Kick-Off of Annual Catholic Appeal 2022	February 26-27, 2022 at all Masses
Ash Wednesday	March 2, 2022 (See Page 3 for details)
Fridays in Lent (Mass at 8:00, 12:15, 5:30. Confessions after each of these Masses. Eucharistic Adoration 12:45-5:15)	March 4-April 8, 2022 (excludes Good Friday)
Lenten Stations of the Cross and "Coffee And...."	Fridays of Lent 6:15 p.m. "Coffee And...." 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (See Page 4 for details)
Confirmation (Msgr. Mullely presiding)	Thursday, March 10, 2022
First Confessions	Saturday, March 26, 2022
May Crowning of Mary	Sunday, May 1, 2022
First Holy Communion	Saturday, May 7, 2022

Most Happy Birthday Wishes

It's rare that happy birthday wishes make their way into the bulletin....however. Parishioner Jack Brignola – who serves our parish in numerous capacities including trustee, altar server, lector, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, catechist, Adult Bible Study instructor, Pro-Life advocate – recently celebrated a birthday and his First Holy Communion photo (above right) was shared as part of the birthday celebration. Happy birthday, Jack.....and.....



.....a prayerful and joyful welcome is extended to new-borns Josephina and Cameron – twin granddaughters of St. Michael's parishioners Sharon and Nick.



BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, March 10 1:00-7:00 p.m.

St. Ann's School Gym
285 Carr Avenue, Keansburg

Blood is an essential medicine!

Appointments suggested. For an appointment go to

<https://nybc.org/newjerseydrive>

Use sponsor code 70756
or call 800-933-2566

Please eat and drink before you come and bring ID.

Donors 76 years and over need a doctor's note unless on file with us. 16 year olds need signed parental consent form.

Walk ins accepted if spacing allows.

Masks are required for all donors regardless of vaccination status.

For full list of COVID-19 safety protocols, please visit nybc.org/coronavirus.

Second Collection Next Weekend March 5 and 6 For the Black and Indian Peoples



Next weekend March 5 and 6 we will take up a Second Collection for the Black and Indian Peoples. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast, including our diocese, which received \$14,000 from the Black and Indian Mission Collection last year. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today at Mass, through our parish online giving, or at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections>. Thank you for your support.

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

Parish Office Hours and Office Covid Protocols Modified.

During the months of January and February 2022, our parish business office and all parish staff have been following guidelines issued by our Diocese for the Diocese Chancery Office staff members and Chancery Office visitors as an omicron precaution. The parish office staff have been alternating days in the office and days working at home through the end of February. Beginning on March 1st, Mary and Susan will be in the office on all weekdays during usual business hours at the parish office. All office visitors are asked to please wear face masks while visiting the parish office until further notice.

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, February 19, 2022

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,164.00	117 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$340.00	49 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$389.00	38 people

Sunday, February 20, 2022

7:00 AM Mass	\$1,420.00	74 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,773.00	83 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,789.00	108 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$2,101.00	116 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$713.00	82 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$347.00	21 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$555.00	89 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the February 20 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$1,828.00**

This Week's Total: \$13,419.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$10,235.00

Updated Total for Haiti Earthquake Relief: \$8,424.00

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 2

Kevin Epperson

Week 3

Richie Thomas

Week 6

Noel DeFazio

Week 7

Joanne and Frank Buono

Week 8

Paul Anizavino
Angelo Stanco

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

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Nazareth
Tiberias
Sea of Galilee
Cana
Bethlehem
Jerusalem

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