# St. Michael's Church

March 3, 2024 | Third Sunday of Lent

#### 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 3 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, (732)483-0360, 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.

# DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

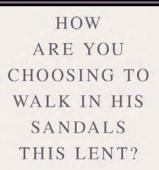
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

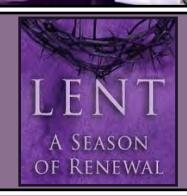
Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.





#### PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor Thomas Randazzo, Business Manager Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed. Mary Valan, Parish Secretary Emily Carroll, Assistant Parish Secretary Lauren Walters, Acting Music Director Larry Swenson, Maintenace Coordinator

# Religious Education Office

16 Beechwood Avenue | West Long Branch, NJ 07764
Ph: (732) 483-0360 ext. 2| Fx: (732) 795-3262
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
732-483-0360 ext. 1



#### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, March 2

8:00 AM † Chestoria Heaning Linda

People of the Parish

4:00 PM Special Intention: Anthony &

His Cousins

† Anne & Ernesto DeMarco Anne & Bill

5:30 PM † Deceased Members of the Zambrano Family

Special Intention

7:00 PM Thanksgiving to St. Michael

Family

Peter Greeley

Daughter Palmyra

Daughter Palmyra

Loundy Saint Louis

Marie Coppinger

**Daughters** 

Susan Hauck

Friend

Sister Audrey

Sister Audrey

Armand R. Zambrano, Jr.

Loundy Saint Louis

#### Sunday, March 3

7:00 AM † Richard Fromer Bruce & Angelica

> † Jack Levy Wife Debbie

8:30 AM † John McTague VanDerhoef Family

> Special Intention: Staff Sgt Thomas FX Bender, III

8:45 AM (At St. Jerome's Church):

Health & Blessings: Children of Our Parish and

**Our Catechists** 

10:00 AM † Eileen Ann Harrington Fr. John & the Butler Family

Special Intention: Frich &

Barbara Bodnar 12:00 PM † Theresa Fisher

† John Fisher, Sr.

4:00 PM † Charles F. Hanisch

† George Hanisch

People of the Parish

7:00 PM Thanksgiving to St. Michael

† Sally Matthes

Monday, March 4

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

> † Ralph Apicelli Sam & Ann Apicelli

† Natalie Easu

7:00 PM † Edward Sullivan

† Patrick Mulrane Sr

Tuesday, March 5

8:00 AM † John Anthony Kmecz **Kmecz Family** † Clarice Viggiano Viggiano Family Wednesday, March 6

8:00 AM † Lorenza Redaelli Russo Family † Sally Matthes Marie Coppinger

Thursday, March 7

8:00 AM † Veronica Heaning

† Michael Chevalier David & Koorleen Minton

Linda

† Rev. Paul R. Manning

(1st. Anniv.)

Friday, March 8

8:00 AM † Msgr. Ron Bacovin

† Jeffrey Kennedy Jane Farmer

12:15 PM Health & Blessings:

Our Confirmation Candidates

Saturday, March 9

8:00 AM People of the Parish

4:00 PM † Peter Falvo Karen & Richard Ricciardi

> † John Higgenbothem Friends

5:30 PM † Rosemary Brundage Agnes & Paul D'Angelo

Special Intention

7:00 PM Health & Blessings: The Elderly & Infirm

Sunday, March 10

7:00 AM † Maria Merenyi Mary Jensen

> † Alfred Thorne Sue and Rob Davidson

> > Family

8:30 AM † Ryan Mogila Ed & Laura Mogila

> Special Intention Staff Sgt Thomas FX Bender, III

8:45 AM (At St. Jerome's Church): Health & Blessings: Children of Our Parish and

**Our Catechists** 

10:00 AM † Anne Carroll Family

> **Bruce Crowell** † John Higinbotham

Special Intention Health & Blessings: Retirement of Gigi

Datar

12:00 PM † Rev. Russell Abata

† Beverly Gomez

† Theresa Fisher & Joseph

Sandra Skurat Stephanie Siciliano

Rick Binaco

DeRosa

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

People of the Parish

Lin

7:00 PM † Steven Davis

Special Intention: A friend & her Mike

2 daughters

Special Intention Happy & Healthy 65th Fr. John

Lin & Mike

Third Sunday of Lent March 3, 2024 Page 3

# **LENT 2024**

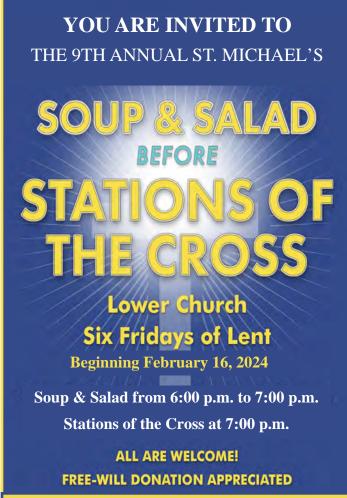
# Our Lenten observances will include the following:

- On Fridays during Lent, *Mass* will be celebrated at *12:15 p.m.* in the Upper Church from February 16 through and including March 22. The 8:00 a.m. Mass on Fridays remains unchanged. *Eucharistic Adoration* will follow the 8:00 a.m. Mass on these Fridays of Lent until Benediction at 12:00 p.m. There will be no Friday 5:30 Masses during this year's Season of Lent.
- These Friday 12:15 Masses during Lent will be followed by Confessions after the 12:15 Mass until 1:15.



- 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 was published in the February 11th 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.



New volunteers are always welcome to join the Soup & Salad Team and to help with at-home preparation of soup items or salad items or dessert items and with night-of set-up, serving, and clean-up.

To learn more about helping with our Soup & Salad Suppers, please call JoAnn Dorgan at (732) 614-1484.

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of the Stations of the Cross will be led by the following groups and parish ministry teams:

- Friday, March 1.....Rosary Altar Society
- Friday, March 8.....St. Vincent dePaul Society
- Friday, March 15.....Bible Study Group
- Friday, March 22.....Catholic Campus Ministry
  Students of Monmouth University

All are invited and welcome to participate in the praying of the Stations of the Cross on the Friday evenings of Lent and on Good Friday. One may also walk and pray the Stations of the Cross at other times in the church - - privately and individually; or in a small group with a friend or two and/or family members - - whenever the church is open for private visits, for example Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and Sundays between 10:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.



St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society Sponsoring Lenten Day of Prayer and Reflection Thursday, March 21, 2024 At the San Alfonso Retreat House



All women and men of the parish are invited to attend a Lenten Day of Prayer and Reflection. Our one-day retreat will include community prayer, rosary, spiritual lecture, confession, lunch, and Mass.

Date and Time: Thursday, March 21 - 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Where: San Alfonso Retreat House, 755 Ocean Avenue, Long Branch (parking in the rear).

Cost: \$60.00 (per person) Coffee and Danish upon arrival. Lunch at 12:00 Noon.

Reservations: RSVP by Monday, March 18, 2024 by calling Sharon Barham at 732-539-7145. Please pro-

vide the number of guests, names, contact phone numbers.

Payment: Check made payable to: St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society.

Mail check to: Sharon Barham, 2 Belle Drive, West Long Branch, NJ 07764.

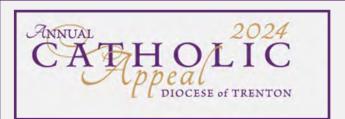
For further information contact: Dotty O'Hara 908-310-6497.

### Congratulations to Fr. Mark Nillo, Citizen of the U.S.A.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Fr. Mark Nillo, parochial vicar and parish priest here at St. Michael's (2017-2022). Fr. Mark has completed all the necessary preparations and studies and he was sworn-in as a citizen of the United States during a ceremony on February 23. Please see the accompanying photos. God bless America! And God bless our country's newest citizen, Fr. Mark Nillo!







LAUNCH WEEKEND WAS FEB. 24 & 25.



February 2024

This letter was originally published in our February 25, 2024 bulletin

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

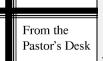
Today, I invite you to be a part of something truly special—the Annual Catholic Appeal! This year's theme, "One Love, One Faith, One Family," mirrors the teachings of Christ and resonates with the wisdom of Colossians: "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity" (Colossians 3:14). This profound and perfect love reinforces our shared belief in one God, inspiring us to become pillars of compassion and support for each other.

A gift to the appeal becomes a lifeline for families in need, supports the education of our youth in the faith, and empowers individuals on their journey to become religious leaders, such as Deacons and Catechists, serving our parishes and communities with wisdom and faith. Your support also sustains our retired priests, allowing them to continue offering guidance, and provides essential resources to our Catholic school principals and teachers, ensuring an education grounded in faith and values.

May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and commitment to our church. Join us on this journey, hand in hand, as we embody the spirit of "One Love, One Faith, One Family."

With every good wish, I remain

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



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

Last weekend (February 24 and 25) was the official Pledge Weekend and the Kick-Off for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal. The Appeal will continue during the following months. Each year *our Diocese of Trenton* and Bishop O'Connell request the financial 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 (and in all that we are called upon and invited to do) with a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal. 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. Pledge cards are in the pews at all of our Masses this weekend.

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

(continued on page 7)









Annual Catholic Appeal

## RE∮IGI©US EDUCA∱ION

#### IMPORTANT DATES RE OUR CCD PROGRAM

- Sacrament of Confirmation: Thursday, March 14, 2024. (Msgr. Thomas Mullelly presiding)
- First Confessions: Saturday, March 23, 2024.
- First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 4, 2024.



#### 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.

#### PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

#### Weekly Mass Intention

† Ronald Lubischer

r/o Joyce Lubischer

#### YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

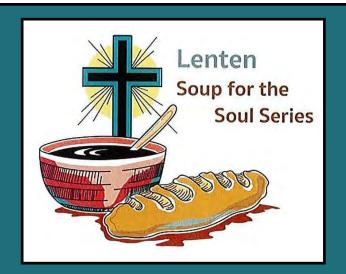
#### **APRIL 2024**

**†Rita N. Cittadino**r/o Christopher M. Cittadino
and Children

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

**†Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano** r/o *The Boeckman Family* **†Connie and Tony Criesi** r/o *Lin Criesi* 

†Connie and Tony Criesi r/o Lin Criesi †Dick Nolan r/o Lin Criesi



Lenten Soup for the Soul Series

#### San Alfonso Retreat House

755 Ocean Ave . Long Branch, NJ . 07740

February 21, March 4, March 11 and March 18

6:00 - 8:30 PM

Soup Supper 6:00 PM, Presentation 7:00 pm

\$25 per Evening

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!

#### Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Become What You Celebrate
Presenter: Rev. Timothy Tarnacki, OSPPE

#### Monday, March 4, 2024

What Does It Mean To Be The Beloved?

Presenter: Sr. Maureen Christensen, RSM

#### Monday, March 11, 2024

How to Witness To Your Faith in the 21st Century
Presenter: Cristina D'Averso-Collins

#### Monday, March 18, 2024

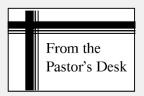
Praying With Jesus' Good News in the Parables of Mercy
Presenter: Judy Schiavo

#### Registration is required

To register: e-mail info@sanalfonsoretreats.org OR register online: www.sanalfonsoretreats.org
Phone: 732-222-2731, X140
Full program description available at

www.sanalfonsoretreats.org

(continued form page 5)





#### LAUNCH WEEKEND WAS FEB. 24 & 25.

This year St. Michael's share of the Diocesan-wide goal is \$104,000 (a dollar amount that has been reduced by the Diocese from our former goal of many years of \$109,000; this reduction is in light of our parish's recent lower numbers in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and the Sunday Offertory collection). We at St. Michael's achieved our ACA goal last year and the six years before that for the first times; we've been batting 1,000% in the Annual Appeal since 2017! As the result of reaching our parish ACA goal in each of those seven most recent years we not only strongly supported the Diocese in its charitable works and ministries (including sending young men to the seminary to become our priests of the future) and demonstrated our commitment to stewardship and charitable giving, our parish also gained the financial reward of a rebate that has averaged \$20,200 per year for each of the past seven years (2023 back to 2017).

Those ACA rebate funds have been utilized for the Lower Church restrooms renovation project, church foundation water-proofing and repairs, CCD/education materials, church roof repairs, Covid-related upgrades to the Lower Church's ventilation equipment, new ventilation equipment for the Confessionals, and buildings and grounds repairs. The 2022 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 2022 due to the pandemic and reduced in-church Mass attendance. I have proposed to our Parish Trustees and the Parish Finance Council that we use the hoped-for 2024 ACA rebate to pay for a significant portion of the boiler repairs and the ultimate boiler replacement so that we can keep the heat "on" in our church; details about our church's heat, boiler, and boiler expenses may be found on Page 6 of our February 18 bulletin (available at the parish website).

As the people of the Diocese of Trenton, we and you and I 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 to participate. This year we again are striving to do our parish fair share toward helping the Diocese reach the Diocesan-wide/four-county/97-parish goal of \$6.5 million in the 2024 Annual Catholic 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



# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL

If you-would like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please complete the form below and return this page to the Parish Office with your donation. The cost is \$45 per memorial. All names will be included in a memorial booklet and published in the Easter bulletin. Booklets will be available in the back of the church when printed. To be included in the memorial booklet and the Easter bulletin, your form and donation must be received at the Parish Office by **Monday**, **March 18. Please print clearly**.

<u>In Memory Of</u>	Requested By	Quantity

Please include your name and mailing address to receive your copy of the memorial booklet:

Phone Number:

Total Number of Memorials

x \$45.00 = \$

Additional donation (optional):

Total Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_

May our Lenten journeys and sacrifices lead us to - - and enrich - - our Easter joy!

Third Sunday of Lent March 3, 2024 Page 9



We joyfully welcome into our parish family the following infant who was baptized here in February 2024: Siena Rae Bagarozza. May God bless them and their families.



The next Baptism preparation class for parents is scheduled for Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the Parish's Catholic Center at 16 Beechwood Avenue, West Long Branch. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

Copies of *The Little Black Book* (six-minute reflections on the weekdays' Gospels of Lent) are available in the back of the church. Please help yourself to one!

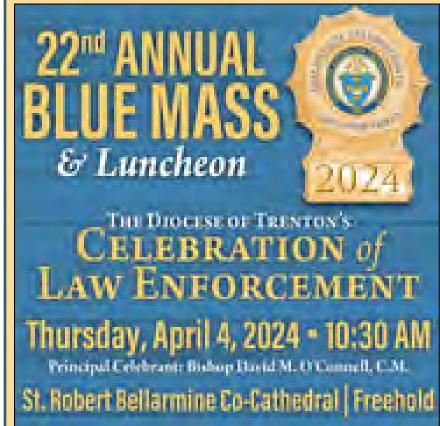
### Second Collection Next Weekend March 9 and 10 for Catholic Relief Services



Next weekend we will have a second collection at all Masses for the Catholic Relief Services. Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disas-

ters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

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

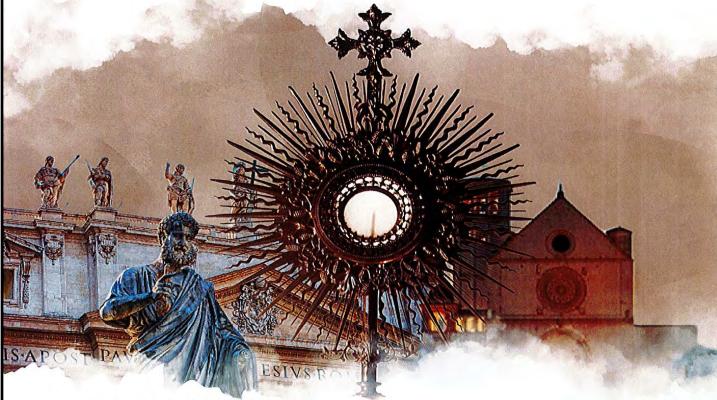


PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS THROUGHOUT CENTRAL NEW JERSEY are invited to pray for law enforcement personnel who work to keep their communities safe when the Diocese of Trenton hosts the 22nd Annual Blue Mass April 4, 2024 in St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, Freehold, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., will serve as principal celebrant and homilist and will be joined at the altar with priests from across Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Bagpipers, fife and drum corps members and color guard processions will once again be part of the day's tribute.

The Mass is open to the public. Afterward, a luncheon will be held for law enforcement personnel and their families. All those who wish to attend the luncheon are asked to register online at dioceseoftrenton.org/blue-mass; (Tickets are \$20 per person; all immediate family members of law enforcement personnel are invited to the luncheon at no charge.)





JOIN THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON

# Eucharistic Miracle Pilgrimage to Italy September 29 - October 9, 2024

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:



MORE INFORMATION/ REGISTRATION

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$4,275 / PERSON

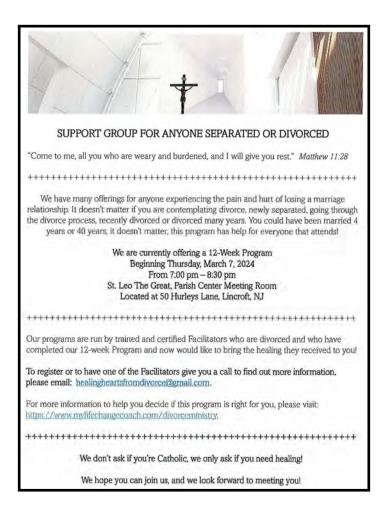
WWW.JOURNEYOFFAITHTOURS.COM/TRENTON24

CAROLYN NORBUT | 732-216-8073

CAROLYN@JOURNEYOFFAITHTOURS.COM

REV. MARTIN O'REILLY, PASTOR,
MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, BORDENTOWN

Third Sunday of Lent March 3, 2024 Page 11



### Weekend Collection & Attendance

#### Thank You!

#### Saturday, February 24, 2024

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,914.00	166 people
<b>5:30 PM Mass</b>	\$822.00	102 people
<b>7:00 PM Mass</b>	\$366.00	57 people

#### Sunday, February 25, 2024

<b>7:00 AM Mass</b>	\$1,265.00	78 people
<b>8:30 AM Mass</b>	\$1,893.00	129 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,583.00	203 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,883.00	167 people
<b>4:00 PM Mass</b>	\$1,199.00	144 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$726.00	111 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the February 25 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: \$1.230.00

This Week's Total: \$12,881.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$13,607.00

Annual Catholic Appeal: \$2,062.00

### On the Calendar at St. Michael's Church



40 Days for Life

February 14 - March 24, 2024 (See Page 6 for details)

Fridays in Lent (Mass at 8:00 <u>and</u> <u>12:15</u>. Confessions after each of these Masses. Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

Friday, February 16-March 22, 2024 (excludes Good Friday) (See Page 3 for details)

**Annual Catholic Appeal 2024** 

Commenced February 24-25; Ongoing

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 3 for details)

Confirmation

Thursday, March 14, 2024

First Confessions for CCD Second Graders

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Easter

Sunday, March 31, 2024

First Holy Communion

Saturday, May 4, 2024

New Jersey March for Life

Thursday, September 26, 2024

## Rosarian Prayer Group

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.

PRAYERS FOR

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 6
Jack Barney

#### 2024 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.