

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

March 24, 2024 | Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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. Our First Friday 5:30 p.m. Mass has been suspended until further notice.

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.

MARRIAGES

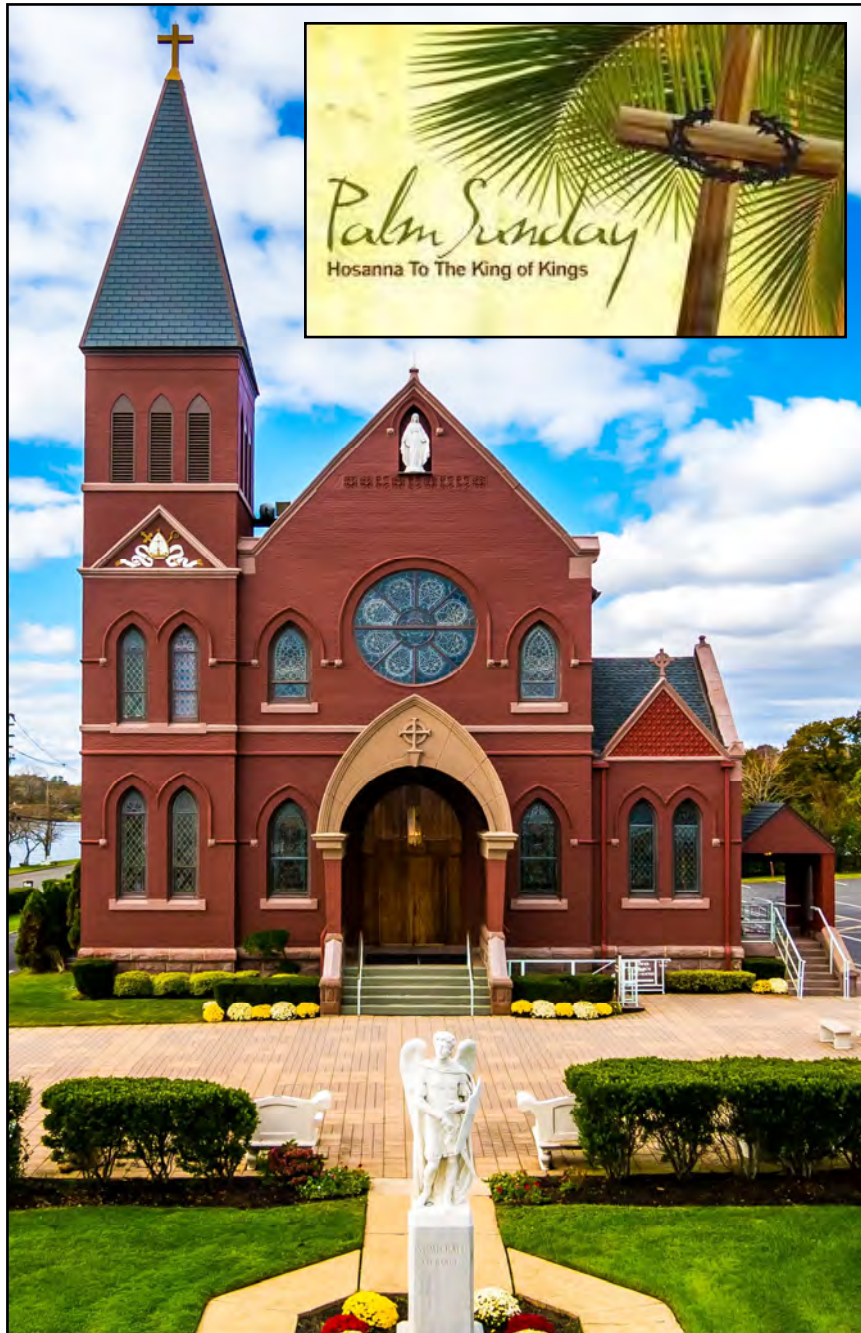
Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There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

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, Maintenance 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



So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

Mark 11:7-8

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 23

8:00 AM People of the Parish

4:00 PM † Gladys & Charles J. Hanisch Daughter Audrey
† Ella Dunham Granddaughter Audrey
† Anna Hanisch Granddaughter Audrey

5:30 PM † Anthony Errico Wife & Daughters
Special Intention

† Gary Fichter Family

7:00 PM † Christopher Roth Wife Patty

Sunday, March 24

7:00 AM † Benjamin Gizzi Wife
† Peter Falvo Mr. & Mrs. James Simonelli

8:30 AM † Joseph Berardi Sudman Family

† Msgr. Ron Bacovin

10:00 AM † Margaret F. Padberg Geiger Family

Special Intention: Staff Sgt Thomas FX Bender, III Family

12:00 PM † Anne & Louis Ciccarone Mary Farrar

† Alfred Thorne St. Vincent de Paul Society

4:00 PM † Joann Migner Mary & Family

† Toni Seda-Morales Testa Family

People of the Parish

7:00 PM † Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fitzgerald Liza

† Francisco Cabaddu Ricky

Monday, March 25

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

† David C. Marks Francine & Family

7:00 PM † Toni Seda-Morales

Tuesday, March 26

8:00 AM † Terry Lee

George & Beverly Hyndsmen

† Toni Seda-Morales

Wednesday, March 27

8:00 AM † Ellen Schmale

Granddaughter Doris

† Ann Marie Fuggetta

Her Family

Thursday, March 28

7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, March 29

3:00 PM Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 30

8:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, March 31

6:00 AM People of the Parish (Outdoors at Church Courtyard)

7:00 AM † Nicholas Ditta Pam & Bruce Testa

† Louis & Marion Casanola Thomas Casanola

8:30 AM Special Intention: Staff Sgt Thomas FX Bender, III Family

† Dale Mainberger Mom & Family

† Fr. George Gothie Sue Mainberger

10:00 AM † Chip Buenafuente Carroll Family

† Harold & Julia Bowman Loving Children Michael, Joe & AnneMarie

12:00 PM † Joe Agresto Wife & Children

† Scott I. Opatosky Mom & Rick Ferrante

† Jean & Joe Ferrante Rick & Carol Ferrante

5:00 PM Special Intention

† Brett Coleman Charlotte Toomey

† Amanda Rosel & Gerry Rosel Ricky & Kochie

† Nidia Da Silva Vieira Longo Family

HOLY WEEK 2024 SCHEDULE

CHRISM MASS

- **Monday, March 25 at 7:30 PM**

Our Bishop, David M. O'Connell, will preside at this especially beautiful Mass at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold. All are invited and welcome to attend this Diocesan Mass. Fr. Butler will be among the 100-plus concelebrating priests. The sacred oils to be used in the parishes will be blessed by the Bishop during this Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- **Wednesday, March 27 at 12:00 Noon - Outdoors** (weather permitting) at the San Alfonso Retreat House Prayer Garden. Meet and begin and conclude in our Upper Church.

- **Friday, March 29 at 5:30 PM**
Outdoors (weather permitting) around Lake Takanassee. We will meet and begin and conclude in our Upper Church.

- **Friday, March 29 at 7:00 PM**
Indoors in the Upper Church.

May the final days of your Lenten Season be holy, prayerful, efficacious, and memorable. St. Michael, pray for us.

MORNING PRAYER

- **Holy Thursday at 8:00 AM**
- **Good Friday at 8:00 AM**
- **Holy Saturday at 8:00 AM**

Morning Prayer (from the Liturgy of the Hours) will be prayed in the Upper Church on the days and at the times noted above. Confessions will be heard on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday morning for 30 minutes by one priest after Morning Prayer. Morning Prayer will be 15-20 minutes in length. No Morning Mass on these days of Holy Week.

HOLY THURSDAY

- 8:00 AM Morning Prayer**
 - 8:20 AM - 8:50 AM Confessions§**
 - 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper†**
- Following Mass, the Church will remain open for Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.*

GOOD FRIDAY#

- 8:00 AM Morning Prayer**
No Scheduled Confessions on this day.
- 3:00 PM Passion of the Lord†**
- 5:30 PM Stations (outdoors)**
- 7:00 PM Stations (Upper Church)**

HOLY SATURDAY

- 8:00 AM Morning Prayer**
- 8:20 AM - 8:50 AM Confessions§**
- 12:00 Noon Blessing of Easter Food Baskets**
- 8:00 PM Great Vigil Mass†**

EASTER SUNDAY#

- 6:00 AM Mass at Sunrise at Parish Courtyard** (outdoors weather permitting; otherwise in Upper Church) †
- 7:00 AM Mass***
- 8:30 AM Mass***
- 10:00 AM Mass-Upper Church†***
- 12:00 PM Mass-Upper Church*&**
- 5:00 PM Mass***

§ One priest hearing Confessions.

No scheduled Confessions on Good Friday and Easter Sunday except as listed here. For an urgent penitential need on those days, please speak to the priest celebrant after Mass or phone the parish office.

† There will be coffee and hot cross buns at the Church Courtyard after this outdoor sunrise Mass.

* There will be **one Mass** at this hour; this Mass in the Upper Church will be simulcast to the TV monitor in the Lower Church.

† Live-Stream available at parish website.

& The parish's Easter Choir will sing at this 12:00 PM Mass.

MORNING PRAYER ON MARCH 28, 29, AND 30



Mass is not celebrated on Holy Thursday (except the Mass of the Lord's Supper that night) nor on Good Friday nor on Holy Saturday (except the Easter Vigil Mass that night). **We will pray Morning Prayer on those three mornings** at 8:00 on Holy Thursday, at 8:00 on Good Friday, and at 8:00 on Holy Saturday. **In addition, Confessions** will be heard by Fr. John for **30 minutes on two of those three mornings after Morning Prayer** on Holy Thursday from 8:20 to 8:50 and on Holy Saturday from 8:20 to 8:50. Our praying of Morning Prayer will take approximately 15-20 minutes each morning. All are invited and welcome.

Morning Prayer is a part of the Liturgy of the Hours. The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office or the Work of God (*Opus Dei*), is the daily prayer of the Church, marking the hours of each day and sanctifying the day with prayer...making the day holy (from the start!) with prayer. The Hours are a meditative dialogue on the mystery of Christ, using scripture and prayer. The Divine Office "is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom. It is the very prayer which Christ himself together with his Body addresses to the Father." (SC 84) St. Basil the Great gives an excellent description of Morning Prayer in these words: "It is said in the morning in order that the first stirrings of our mind may be consecrated to God and that we may take nothing in hand until we have been gladdened by the thought of God, as it is written: 'I was mindful of God and was glad.'" (Ps 77:4) Celebrated as it is as the light of a new day is dawning, **this hour also recalls the resurrection of the Lord Jesus**, the true light enlightening all people (see Jn 1:9) and "the sun of justice" (Mal 4:2), "rising from on high." (Lk 1:78) Hence, we can well understand the advice of St. Cyprian: **"There should be prayer in the morning so that the resurrection of the Lord may thus be celebrated."** (GILH, no. 38) From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and available at <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgy-of-the-hours/index.cfm>

Palm Sunday



This Sunday (March 24) is Palm Sunday

*Palms will be blessed at the beginning of all Masses
this weekend and distributed at the conclusion of each
Palm Sunday Mass.*

Sacrament of Confession During Lent



If you have not already been to Confession during the current Season of Lent, please consider a visit to the church to receive this helpful, uplifting, reconciling, and grace-giving Sacrament – a true gift to yourself as we prepare for Easter Sunday. Several times for Confession remain on the

parish calendar during the upcoming week and they are listed on Page 3 of this bulletin.

“Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.” – Saint Pope John Paul II – September 14, 1987 Homily

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!

Divine Mercy Sunday April 7, 2024

From the diary of Sister Maria Faustina Kowalska, a young Polish nun, “Divine Mercy” is a special devotion that began spreading throughout the world in the 1930s. The message is nothing new, but is a reminder of what the Church has always taught through Scripture and Tradition ~ that God is merciful and forgiving and that we, too, must show mercy and forgiveness. With the Divine Mercy devotion, the message takes on a powerful new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God’s love is unlimited and available to everyone. The Lord revealed to Sister Faustina a powerful prayer which He wanted everyone to pray ~**THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY** ~ and He promised extraordinary graces to those who would recite it.



Join us on Sunday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Michael’s Church for the praying of this special devotion on Divine Mercy Sunday. Confessions will be available from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Communion Visits; Confession Visits; Anointing of the Sick



Please keep in mind that the parish priests and our lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are available and eager to bring Communion to parishioners who are in the hospital (nursing homes, assisted living facilities, rehab centers, and hospices, too) and to parishioners who are at home but unable to get to church. Please contact Mary Valan at the parish office or Dotty O’Hara at (908)310-6497 to make arrangements. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities **generally do not** no-

tify the parish office regarding their Catholic patients who desire to receive Sacraments. And so it falls to the patient herself/himself or to a family member or friend to contact the parish office to make the request. The parish priests will also very gladly make a hospital visit or home visit to hear a Confession and/or administer the Sacrament of the Sick (“Anointing of the Sick”) in addition to bringing Holy Communion. Please remember to contact the parish office or Dotty O’Hara to make these arrangements. Thank you.

Each of us has a vital part **TOGETHER** 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 propels the works of love that build up **our** Church. **You** make that happen with a generous gift to the ACA. Your contribution does make a difference! Please help. Please contribute. Please make a pledge.

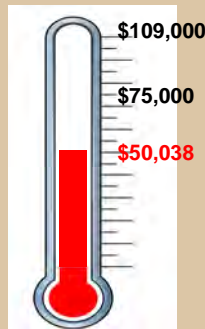


ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2024

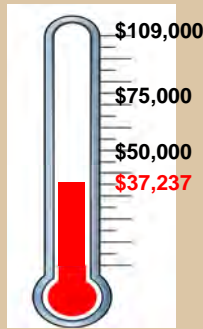
DIOCESE of TRENTON

Parish Goal = \$109,000

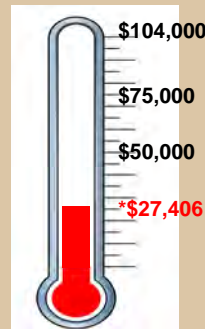
**2022
After Four
Weekends**



**2023
After Four
Weekends**



**2024
After Four
Weekends**



The three “thermometers” above compare our parish’s 2022 vs. 2023 vs. 2024 results-to-date in the Annual Catholic Appeal. The thermometers indicate good news. This year’s total after four weekends is strong, although it is behind the pace after the same first four weekends of last year and the year before that. Thank you for your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal. **Together we can do great things!**

*This \$27,406 figure is approximately 26.4% of our parish goal. It was received through and including the fourth weekend of the campaign (tallied as of March 18) from 60 pledgers or check-writing contributors (and many unidentified, unquantified cash contributors) all of whom comprise approximately 3.0% of the 1,972 registered households of the parish. **Thank you!** The Diocese sent a Diocesan-wide mailing during the week of February 11 to all of our registered parishioners and past ACA contributors asking for prayerful consideration of a pledge/contribution to the Appeal. Please help to the extent that you can.



22nd ANNUAL BLUE MASS & Luncheon



THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON'S
**CELEBRATION of
LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Thursday, April 4, 2024 - 10:30 AM

Principal Celebrant: Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.

St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral | Freehold

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.

Mass of Thanksgiving: God Bless Marietta; Thank You, Fr. PJ

Members of the family, colleagues, and friends of Marietta Datar, BSN, RN, attended a Mass of Thanksgiving for Marietta here at St. Michael's on Sunday, March 10. Marietta is retiring from her position at Monmouth Medical Center as Director of Pulmonary Rehabilitation. Fr. P.J. Alindogan, pastor of St. Veronica's Church in Howell, presided at this Mass and preached the homily. May God continue to bless Marietta ("Gigi") in her retirement. And thank you, Fr. P.J., for celebrating this Mass.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

February 14 - March 25, 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.

HOLY INNOCENTS SOCIETY DIOCESE OF TRENTON

~What is it?

~What has it been doing?

~What is it working on now?

Join us to learn all about it!

Date: **Tuesday, April 9th, 2024**

Time: **7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Location: **Virtually** from wherever you are!

Register to get the link by emailing
holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org
Registrations for Group viewing are welcome!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

IMPORTANT DATES RE OUR CCD PROGRAM

- First Confessions: Saturday, March 23, 2024.
- First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 4, 2024.

Parish Office Closed; Easter Recess

The parish office will be closed on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Monday, April 1. The office will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2. Mass will be celebrated at the regular time on Monday, April 1 at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Confessions on Monday, April 1 will be heard at the usual times after the morning Mass until 9:00 a.m. and after the 7:00 evening Mass until 8:00 p.m.



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

† Dick Nolan

r/o Lin Criesi

APRIL 2025

† Susan Whitman

r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered by Rev. Monsignor Thomas J. Mullelly at our parish on Thursday, March 14. Prayers and best wishes for our Confirmandi, their sponsors, and their families. Gratitude to Mr. Connelly and to all of our CCD catechists, teachers aides, volunteers, musicians, and altar servers.



Nicholas Aranguren *Christopher*

Isabella Aschettino *Vincenza*

Ryan Branco *Michael*

Madeline Carr *Catherine*

Brandon Chewning *James*

Jackson Chewning *Michael*

Skylar Dorsey *Felicity*

Amanda Dos Santos *Mary*

Keira Emick *Elizabeth Anne*

Daegan Farley *Anthony*

Christian Fidek *Joseph*

Michael Gaetano *John Paul II*

Joey Gervolino *Michael*

Amelia Howe *Ava*

Madeline Jacobs *Genevieve*

Cameron Klein *Mary*

Emily Knight *Elizabeth*

Andrew Kokolus *Sebastian*

Emma Madison *Elizabeth*

Haleigh Madison *Theresa*

Ava Matthews *Beatrice*

Oliver Matthews *Rocco*

Teodora Mazza-Softcheck *Serena*

Teagan Miller *Michael*

Alex Nettis *Mark*

Dylan Oliveira *Patrick*

Ty Olsen *Roch*

Annelise Panduri *Irene*

Luciano Stabile *Michael*

Amelia Souto *Rose*

George Stiles *Patrick*

Cecelia Tvrdik *Lucia*

Quintan Wade *Valentine*

Christopher Welter *James*

Colleen Zdan *Elizabeth*

Andrew Zimmerer *Sebastian*





New Jersey CATHOLIC Youth RALLY at Six Flags

MAY 19 2024


9:AM-7PM
Open to all Youth and Young Adults
AND
their family and friends!

Info and Tickets at:
www.diocesoftrenton.org/njcyr



BLOOD DRIVE


Monmouth University



Thursday April 4, 2024
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rebecca Stafford Student Center
Anacon Hall - Side "B"

JERSEY MIKE'S SUBS & \$5 STARBUCKS CARD FOR ALL DONORS!



Scan to sign up or text 732-675-9384

Only 3% of eligible people actually donate blood. All of the blood collected at MU will be used by a local hospital patient. Cancer patients, premature babies and trauma victims need your help!

Bring a photo ID & be sure to eat and drink prior to donating.
Medical eligibility questions answered by calling 732-235-8100 ext. 248

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY **RWJBarnabas HEALTH** **Monmouth Medical Center**



Youth Fishing Derby



The Long Branch PBA Local #10 is excited to announce the return of the Youth Fishing Derby

Lake Takanassee, Long Branch, NJ
Saturday, April 6, 2024
10 am - 2 pm



Registration opens at 9 am!
Or Pre-Registration available online until March 20, 2024
www.lbpbalocal10.com

Please include child's Name, Age and Shirt size

Prizes awarded in the following categories:
0-6 years, 7-12 years, 13-15 years


Must be registered to win.

Must bring your own fishing pole to participate. Bait to be provided.


The road will be closed between Greens Avenue and Elberon Avenue.
Food Trucks will be available for food purchase.
Street parking available as well as additional parking provided by St. Michaels Church on N. Lake Drive.

For More Information Contact
Steve White
(732) 222-1000 ext. 1358

Sponsorships Available



Journey of Faith TOURS




JOIN THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON

11-Day


Eucharistic Miracle Pilgrimage to Italy

September 29 - October 9, 2024

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:



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



MORE INFORMATION/REGISTRATION
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$4,275 / PERSON
WWW.JOURNEYOFFAITHTOURS.COM/TRENTON24
CAROLYN NORBUT 732-216-8073
CAROLYN@JOURNEYOFFAITHTOURS.COM

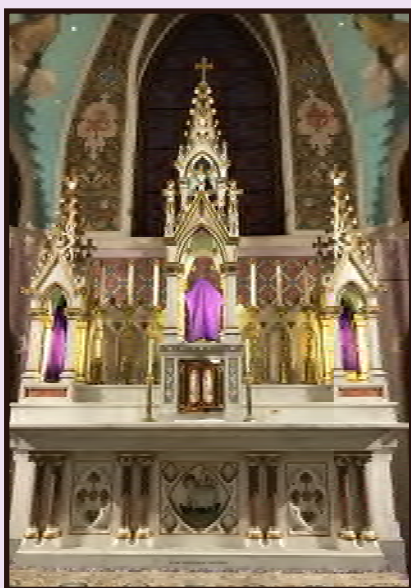


The Lenten Veiling of Statues and Crosses

It is informative and edifying to recall from time to time the theology and traditions behind our religious practices and customs. The Lenten veiling of the church's statues and crosses with purple fabric presents such an opportunity. This practice of veiling or covering dates back many centuries; its exact origin is unclear. The *Roman Missal* currently in use here in the United States provides an instruction (among the "rubrics" in red ink in that liturgical book) stating: "the practice of covering crosses and images in the Church from the Fifth Sunday of Lent is permitted....Crosses remain veiled until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday; images remain veiled until the beginning of the Easter Vigil." The veiling is optional. It is neither mandated nor prohibited.

The purposes and reasons for the veiling are several. The veiling of crosses and images is a sort of "fasting" from viewing with our eyes the sacred depictions; a sacrifice and a self-denial during the latter days of Lent.

The veiling creates a spiritual hunger and yearning for the return of the images and enhances our awareness and appreciation of them during their absence. The purple color is symbolic of the penitential nature of Lent, the kingship of the resurrected and glorified Jesus, and our mourning and sorrow over the suffering and death of Jesus and His time in the tomb. Just as the Lenten fast concludes with the Paschal feast, so too, our fasting from being able "to see the cross" culminates when the purple veils are removed from the Wood of Calvary on Good Friday. Likewise, our fasting from viewing the statues of the saints culminates on the night of the Easter Vigil with a renewed appreciation of the saints' love of Christ, their faith, their devotion, their closeness to God in heaven, their prayers and intercessions for us, and the example of holy living that they provide for us.



St. Vincent de Paul

God of Justice

Open our eyes

To see you in the face of the poor.

Open our ears

To hear you in the cries of the exploited.

Open our mouths

To defend you in the public squares as well as in private deeds.

Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to you. Amen



St. Vincent De Paul
Serving those in Need

Many thanks to the volunteers (photo below) of the St. Vincent dePaul Society (SVDP) who gathered last Saturday to unpack, sort, package, and distribute donated food and groceries for the needy in the community at the Monthly SVDP Food Pantry.



The SVDP Society is always in need of (and welcomes!) new volunteers – especially to assist with the monthly food pantry on "third Saturdays of the month" in the church hall (Lower Church). Please contact Mary Jensen (President of SVDP) at 732-483-0360, ext. 1 to inquire about becoming a volunteer and becoming involved in this important work. Thank you.

Stations of the Cross 2024

Several parish ministry teams and parish organizations have volunteered during the current Season of Lent to lead the Friday evening praying of the Stations of the Cross. Please see the accompanying photos. These groups include the **Rosary Altar Society** (March 1), the **St. Vincent dePaul Society** (March 8), and the **Bible Study** members (March 15). Thank you to these groups and to the altar servers for contributing your time and for enhancing our praying of the Stations.



A LAW ENFORCEMENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY



The Civil Service Exam is now OPEN



The City of Long Branch Police Department
is actively seeking new police officer
recruits to join our team!

Applications for the
Law Enforcement Examination
are being accepted **March 1 - April 1, 2024**

Visit the NJ Civil Service Website
<https://www.nj.gov/csc/>
or Call: Lt. Cahill @ 732-222-1000 x 1318

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, March 16, 2024

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,890.00	176 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$865.00	102 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$653.00	63 people

Sunday, March 17, 2024

7:00 AM Mass	\$997.00	74 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,929.00	133 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,383.00	171 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,643.00	178 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$893.00	129 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$551.00	112 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the March 17 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown:
\$3,502.00

This Week's Total: \$14,306.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$12,770.00

Annual Catholic Appeal: \$1,119.00

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



40 Days for Life	February 14 - March 25, 2024 (See Page 6 for details)
Annual Catholic Appeal 2024	Commenced February 24-25; Ongoing
First Confessions for CCD Second Graders	Saturday, March 23, 2024
Palm Sunday	Sunday, March 24, 2024
Easter	Sunday, March 31, 2024
Divine Mercy Sunday	Sunday, April 7, 2024 (See Page 4 for details)
First Holy Communion	Saturday, May 4, 2024
May Crowning of Mary	Sunday, May 5, 2024
New Jersey March for Life	Thursday, September 26, 2024

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.



JOB OPPORTUNITY – CUSTODIAN: Saint Leo the Great Parish. Part-Time 5 days/4 hours per day. Possible full-time after three months. Must be available for night & weekend work. Compensation is based on practical experience. Must pass a background check and take a child safety course. **Responsible for** maintaining cleanliness of facilities and Parish grounds inside and out - floors, windows, grounds, trash cans, air filters, vents, keeping inventory & ordering supplies as needed, using equipment - commercial vacuums, floor buffers, carpet cleaners. Other duties as requested. **Must have** the following skills and qualifications, including: ability to stand and walk for long periods, ability to lift and move over 50 pounds, knowledge of different cleaning products and tools, multitasking abilities, time-management, physical strength and stamina, organization skills, good verbal communication and interpersonal skills, ability to work with minimal supervision. **Send Resume** with cover letter & three references to Parish@stleothegreat.com. Calls not accepted.