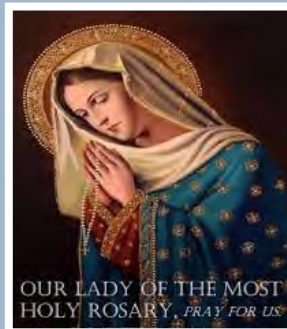


October: Month of the Holy Rosary

by Reverend Matthew R. Mauriello



The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. This memorial was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church and her spiritual children in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.



The memorial was introduced by Pope St. Pius V in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The Pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than to the power of cannons and the valor of the soldiers who fought there.

In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we, too, can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.



Our parishioners pray the Rosary on Monday through Saturday mornings beginning at about 8:30 a.m. immediately following the conclusion of our 8:00 a.m. weekday Daily Mass. All are invited and welcome. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

The above article appeared in the Fairfield County Catholic of January 1996. Reprinted with permission of the publisher and edited to conform to space limitations.



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

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.

PARISH OFFICE

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740

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

www.stmichaelnj.com

Hours: Monday through Friday

8:30am-3:30pm

(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 Education

Mary Valan, Parish Secretary

Emily Carroll, Assistant Parish Secretary

Larry Swenson, Maintenance Coordinator

Lauren Walters, Acting Music Director

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

October 1, 2023 | Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 1, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 30

8:00 AM People of the Parish

4:00 PM † William A. Schmidt

† Claire Cozzetto

Special Intention:
Marilyn Wilbert

5:30 PM † Jay Filippo

† Maria Critelli

7:00 PM † Deceased Grandparents

Wife Doris

Sharon Cozzetto

Sheryl McGill & Family

Family

Michael Bowman

Thursday, October 5

8:00 AM † Clarice Viggiano

Viggiano Family

Friday, October 6

8:00 AM † George Heaning

Linda Heaning

† Mark Russo

Mom

12:15 PM † Souls in Purgatory

5:30 PM † Deceased Teachers

Sunday, October 1

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri

Mother Francesca

8:30 AM † Brian Rogers, Jr.

Joe Marino

† Beverly Russo

Mary & Sons

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

10:00 AM † Ronald E. McConnell

Janice & Fred Carr

† Stephen Podracky

Mary & Steve

12:00 PM † Virginia Hieter

Gloria Eisenbarth

† Mr. & Mrs. Delehanty

Anthony Lucarelli

Health & Blessings: The Legal
Profession

4:00 PM People of the Parish

7:00 PM † Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, October 7

8:00 AM † Conrad Russo

Wife

4:00 PM † Etta Chiafullo

John & Deborah Perri
and Family

† Robert Canale

Rita, Michael, & Nicole
Russomanno

5:30 PM † Rose & Frank Brown

Elizabeth & Fredrica
Brown

† Anthony Gennaro

Joseph & Anne Marie
Principe

7:00 PM † Kevin F. Tuohy

Tricia & Louie Vincelli

People of the Parish

Sunday, October 8

7:00 AM † Josephine Capolino

Paul O'Hare

8:30 AM † Michael Wrubel

Wife Maria & Family

† Alfred DeSantis, Sr.

Stephen Ferraro &
Family

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

10:00 AM † Scott Tave

Kathleen West

† Anthony D'Apolito

Joanne & Frank Buono

12:00 PM † Andrew Bertorelli

Family

† Stephen Podracky

Sudman Family

4:00 PM † Joann Magistro

Jo Ellen Basaman

7:00 PM People of the Parish

Monday, October 2

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause

Friends of Sylvia Marsico

7:00 PM † Irene F. & Edward W.
Moskal Sr.

Barbara & Edward Moskal

† Stephanie & Blaise
Mitkowski

Barbara & Edward Moskal

Tuesday, October 3

8:00 AM † Carmela Bettigole

Karen Welland

Wednesday, October 4

8:00 AM † Lois & Warren Holden

Thayer Family

The Center Sanctuary Candle will be lit
this week in loving memory of Laurie
Procopio, requested by Christine Lowe,
Colleen Gryta, and Kerry Weber.



NEW JERSEY RIGHT TO LIFE RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

The weekend of October 7 & 8 Jersey Right to Life raffle tickets will be sold at all Masses at St. Michael's. Please show your support for LIFE by buying a raffle ticket. The cost is \$10 per ticket.

Proceeds will benefit New Jersey Right to Life, the state's oldest and largest Pro-life organization, dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death.

This year's prizes are :

1st prize - 2024 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV
valued at \$42,400

2nd prize - \$1,000 ShopRite Gift Card

3rd prize - \$750 ShopRite Gift Card

4th prize - \$500 ShopRite Gift Card

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 1ST



Solemnity of All Saints

All Saints Day is November 1, 2022 and *a holy day of obligation*. Mass will be celebrated:

Tuesday, October 31

4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Our Bishop David M. O'Connell will be the celebrant and homilist at both of these Vigil Masses on Tuesday, October 31.

Wednesday, November 1

8:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 4:00 p.m.,
and 7:00 p.m.



September 27 - November 5, 2023

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.



Part II - Our Children's Attendance at Sunday Mass: A Vital Priority PLEASE!!!

Pastor's Note. In last Sunday's parish bulletin I published a letter addressed to the parents of our CCD students and to all the members of our parish. That letter addressed the problem, as I see it, of "the **NON**-attendance at Sunday Mass by many of our parish's children and by their parents." I referred to that problem as a "great concern." Without re-hashing that entire letter here, I cited recent, local, in-our-own-backyard statistics that illustrate the problem; itemized a few measures for working towards a remedy; and "appealed" to parents to take to heart their parental, moral, theological, and canonical responsibilities to attend Sunday Mass themselves and to bring their children to Sunday Mass. On the very next day after publishing that bulletin letter I took heart from a sermon preached roughly 1,500 years ago by St. Augustine which appeared in the *Office of Readings* in the *Liturgy of the Hours* in our clergy *Breviary* for Monday, September 25, 2023. St. Augustine's topic – speaking as a Bishop to his priests – was his encouragement to preach and to speak out even when the priest's/pastor's message may be "unwelcome." That sermon has been described as "stirring" and as an exhortation both to priests and to the people never to give up on the "straying sheep." (1) Many years ago St. Augustine foresaw many of our problems of today; our time in Church History is not unique; we are not the first generation of Catholics to sail on turbulent, troubled waters. St. Augustine's words of the 6th Century – in his sermon quoted in full below and urged to be read by everyone please – offer us wisdom, counsel, and fortitude in the 21st Century. (1) See, <https://blog.adw.org/2016/10/never-give-st-augustines-stirring-call-pastors/>.

From a sermon On Pastors by Saint Augustine, Bishop of Hippo

[Welcome or unwelcome, insist upon the message.]

The straying sheep you have not recalled; the lost sheep you have not sought. In one way or another, we go on living between the hands of robbers and the teeth of raging wolves, and in light of these present dangers we ask your prayers. The sheep moreover are inso-straying sheep, but because they they say that they are not ours. you seek us?" they ask, as if were not the very reason for our out. "If I am straying," he says, me?" You are straying, that is have been lost, I wish to find says: "I wish to be lost."

So you wish to stray and be lost? also wish this. Certainly, I dare ten to the Apostle who upon it, welcome and unwelcome to whom? By all desire it; unwelcome to those come, I dare to say: "You wish

I do not want this." For the one whom I fear does not wish this. And should I wish it, consider his words of reproach: *The straying sheep you have not recalled; the lost sheep you have not sought.* Shall I fear you rather than him? Remember, we must all present ourselves before the judgement seat of Christ.

I shall recall the straying; I shall seek the lost. Whether they wish it or not, I shall do it. And should the brambles of the forests tear at me when I seek them, I shall force myself through all straits; I shall put down all hedges. So far as the God whom I fear grants me the strength, I shall search everywhere. I shall recall the straying; I shall seek after those on the verge of being lost. If you do not want me to suffer, do not stray, do not become lost. It is enough that I lament your straying and loss. No, I fear that in neglecting you, I shall also kill what is strong. Consider the passage that follows: *And what was strong you have destroyed.* Should I neglect the straying and lost, the strong one will also take delight in straying and in being lost.



lent. The shepherd seeks out the have wandered away and are lost "Why do you want us? Why do their straying and being lost wanting them and seeking them "if I am lost, why do you want why I wish to recall you. You you. "But I wish to stray," he

How much better that I do not say, I am unwelcome. But I lis-says: *Preach the word; insist come.* Welcome to whom? Un-means welcome to those who who do not. However unwel-to stray, you wish to be lost; but



St. Augustine of Hippo

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). *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.



EYES OF CHRIST



FEET OF CHRIST

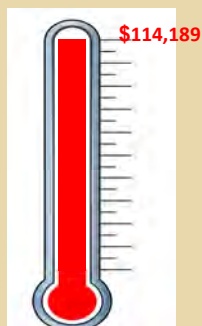


HANDS OF CHRIST

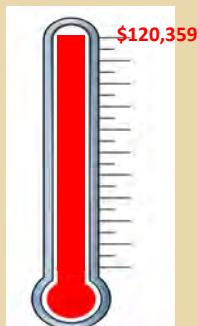
ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2023

Parish Goal = \$109,000

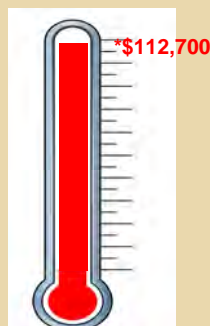
**2021
After Thirty
Weekends**



**2022
After Thirty
Weekends**



**2023
After Thirty
Weekends**



The three “thermometers” above compare our parish’s 2021 vs. 2022 vs. 2023 results-to-date in the Annual Catholic Appeal. The thermometers indicate good news. This year’s total after thirty weekends is strong, although it is behind the pace after the same first thirty 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 \$112,700 figure (not 100% collected) is 103.4% of our parish goal. It was received through and including the thirtieth weekend of the campaign (tallied as of September 26) from 307 pledgers or check-writing contributors (and many unidentified, unquantified cash contributors) all of whom comprise approximately 14.4% of the 2,127 registered households of the parish. **Thank you!** The Diocese sent a Diocesan-wide mailing during the



week of February 10 to all of our registered parishioners and past ACA contributors asking for prayerful consideration of a pledge/contribution to the Appeal.



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 October 5.*** 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 October 6

First Friday Mass ***in English*** will be celebrated on October 6 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, October 6 followed by Confessions until 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration will take place during the afternoon on Friday, October 6 from the conclusion of the 12:15 Latin Mass until an earlier than usual conclusion time (with Benediction) at 3:00 p.m. because of a 3:30 wedding rehearsal. Our priests who are trained in celebrating the Mass in Latin are not available this month.

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Parishioners Tony and Natalina Gomes celebrated with family their 50th wedding anniversary here at St. Michael's last Saturday the 23rd at our 5:30 p.m. Mass. Married in Fatima, Portugal in 1973, Tony and Natalina have been members of our parish for over 50 years. Congratulations, Tony and Natalina, on this very joyful occasion. May God continue to bless you and your family.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Would you like to become a Catholic? Or perhaps you have been baptized yet never received First Holy Communion or made your Confirmation? Or, been baptized and received your First Holy Communion but not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) classes begin in the fall. If you are interested in attending these classes to complete your Sacraments, please contact Kevin Connelly (our Director of Religious Education) at 732-483-0360 ext. 1 or Mary Valan at the parish office.



We joyfully welcome into our parish family the following infants who were baptized here in September 2023: Madison Ann Shea, Adriana Rose DeFilippis, and Alia Nicole DeFilippis. May God bless them and their families.

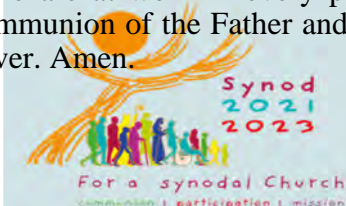


The next Baptism preparation class for parents is scheduled for Saturday, October 28th at 10:00 a.m. in the Lower Church. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

Please keep this worldwide endeavor in your daily prayers

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

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.



St. Luke's RC Church of Toms River and co-hosts
St. Michael's RC Church of Long Branch invite you to the

10th Annual "White Mass" for all Healthcare Workers



Sunday,
October 15, 2023
2:00PM



Join us as we praise and honor St. Luke, the Patron Saint of Physicians. This celebration is for Healthcare Workers of all faiths, their family, and friends. Feel free to wear your white lab coat or other work attire as you wish. There will be a blessing of the hands.

Reception to follow immediately after Mass.



Did you know? The "White Mass" is named for the traditional white coats and uniforms worn by medical personnel and is a special way to recognize all healthcare staff.

ST. LUKE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1674 OLD FREEHOLD ROAD • TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08755



The Order of Malta –
New Jersey Area invites all to

ROSARY COAST TO COAST 2023

Join Catholics around the country in praying the Rosary for the protection and Faith of our Nation.

"The Rosary is the Weapon for these times."
Saint Padre Pio



Eucharistic Procession and the Rosary

Sunday, October 8th at 3 pm

Event will occur rain or shine.



Beginning at St. Paul Inside the Walls, 205 Madison Ave.,
Madison 07940
ending with Benediction at
St. Thomas More, 4 Convent Road, Morristown 07960.

Can't join us to process? Meet us at St. Thomas More
at 3:30 p.m. Please bring a folding chair.

<https://orderofmaltaamerican.org/njrosary>
<https://rosarycoasttocoast.com>
Sign up on Facebook: NJ Rosary Rally For Our Nation

For more information contact Jan Parry at janp1101@gmail.com

*Married at St. Michael's on
September 22, 2023
Nina Carnevale & Thomas Costello*



PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES

A joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities provides licensed professionals for short term counseling (up to six sessions) to parishioners dealing with difficult issues, for example, job-stress, family concerns, and bereavement. Contact your pastor or parish priest (732-222-8080) for additional information and referral. The fee is \$90 per session, but, if needed, financial assistance is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.

Save the Date

Fr. Alphonse's Christmas Concert
at St. Michael's Church

Sunday, December 17, 2023
1:30 p.m. in the Upper Church

Tickets to go on sale in Mid-October.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer r/o Joyce Lubischer

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 2024

† Susan Whitman r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

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

NJ CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

BEHOLD HIM!

Eucharistic Revival



**BISHOP
JOSEPH ESPALLAT**
Auxiliary Bishop
Archdiocese of New York
Friday Evening Speaker



FR. JOHN GORDON
Director of Evangelization
Archdiocese of Newark
Saturday Speaker



GILBERT RODRIGUEZ
Encounter School of
Ministry NJ Campus
Saturday Speaker

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION
732-671-0071 X221

WWW.DOTCCR.ORG

**FRI, OCTOBER 27, 7PM-9PM
SAT, OCTOBER 28, 9AM-9PM**

ST. MARY, MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH
19 CHERRY TREE FARM ROAD
MIDDLETOWN, NJ. 07748

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, September 23, 2023

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,139.00	94 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$1,134.00	82 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$472.00	43 people

Sunday, September 24, 2023

7:00 AM Mass	\$2,896.00	87 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,635.00	93 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,466.00	114 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,482.00	122 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$945.00	104 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$1,289.00	137 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the September 24 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown:
\$2,076.00

This Week's Total: \$15,544.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$12,701.00

Second Collection for Annual Catholic Appeal (cash and checks; omitting pledge cards): \$1,122.00 Thank You!



DIOCESE OF TRENTON
 701 LAWRENCEVILLE ROAD
 POST OFFICE BOX 5147
 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08638-0147

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 1, 2023

Red Mass at St. Michael Parish

Dear Friends,

It is my honor and privilege, as Bishop of the Diocese, to greet you as you gather for the Red Mass this year at St. Michael Church in Long Branch. I regret that I cannot be with you, but I am dedicating a new Diocesan Shrine to Blessed Carlo Acutis that same day. I named him "Patron of Catholic Youth" in our Diocese and his own mother will actually be on hand for the dedication.

I will remember in my own Mass and prayers all the members of the judiciary and the bar who attend along with Fr. Butler, Fr. Alindogan, the other concelebrating priests and all the parishioners of this great parish in our Diocese.

In a special way, I wish to pay tribute to our colleague Judge Lisa Thornton who passed away so suddenly and at such a young age this past year. She was so faithful in attending the Red Mass over the years. May she rest in the Lord's peace!

God bless you all!

Respectfully yours in the Lord,

David M. O'Connell, C.M.

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



Bishop O'Connell at the Red Mass of the Diocese of Trenton at St. Michael's Church in 2021.



**RED MASS
 of the
 Diocese of Trenton
 AT St. Michael's Church
 Sunday, October 1, 2023
 12:00 p.m.**

Our parish will be hosting the 2023 Red Mass of the Diocese of Trenton for judges, lawyers, and others engaged in the administration of justice and the legal profession. Rev. Peter James Alindogan, former Pastor of Our Lady of Hope Parish, our neighboring parish to the West, will be the homilist and among the concelebrating priests.

We'll be praying for all those involved in the legal system and asking the Holy Spirit to help and inspire all of us in our efforts for Justice. All are welcome to attend and participate at the Red Mass. Please join us in prayer. St. Thomas More, pray for us.



***Pastor's Note.** October is the Month of the Holy Rosary as well as Respect Life Month. In our parish bulletin this week and during the weeks of October we will include important teachings and writings of the Church on both of those subjects. That series begins this week with the following information on the Rosary. Please pray the Rosary frequently if not daily. The series will continue next week with a teaching document published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to help us to know and understand more fully and to live-out more effectively the teaching of our Church on respect for human life (especially the lives of the most vulnerable in the womb) and the sinfulness of abortion. Please continue to pray for the end of abortion; for conversion, reconciliation, and healing; and for competent and compassionate care and support for women during pregnancy and thereafter. Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, pray for us.*

The Rosary: A Most Holy, Most Excellent, and Most Powerful Prayer

The Rosary is a method of prayer. It is a combination of several prayers. It is a prayer in and of itself. It is a most holy, a most excellent, a most powerful prayer. The Rosary “*sees*” through the eyes of Mary and “*feels*” through the Sacred Heart of Jesus. By means of the Rosary “the principal events of the life of Jesus Christ pass before the eyes of the soul.” The Rosary employs the words of an angel and assists us in seeking the help, protection, and intercession of a mother: the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of God, the Mother of Our Lord and Our Savior and Our Redeemer, the Blessed Mother, **OUR** spiritual mother....The Blessed Virgin Mary. The Rosary is a most beautiful, a most useful, a most wonderful prayer.

The exact origin of the Rosary in history is uncertain. It gradually took its present form in the second millennium under the guidance of the Spirit of God. We find traces of the Rosary in the 13th century and perhaps as early as the 8th century or even earlier. By the 15th century, the Rosary had evolved into the praying of three sets or “chaplets” of 50 Hail Mary’s each (five decades quoting the greetings of the Angel Gabriel and Elizabeth to Mary in the “Infancy Narrative” of Luke’s Gospel) at which time five “meditations” or “mysteries” became associated with each chaplet. The mysteries/meditations show forth the most significant events in the life of Our Lord Jesus Christ. By the 16th century, the three chaplets of five decades totaling fifteen mysteries had become generally accepted as the proper way of reciting the Rosary. And in 1569, Pope Pius V (known as the “Pope of the Rosary”) gave official Papal approval to the essential structure of the Rosary as it has become known throughout the world.

Pius referred to the Rosary as “that simple way of praying and beseeching God, accessible to all and wholly pious...in which the most Blessed Virgin is venerated by

the angelic greeting repeated 150 times....and by the Lord’s Prayer with each decade.” In 2002, five new meditations or mysteries were added to the Rosary. Accordingly, the present Rosary now consists of four chaplets (Glorious, Joyful, Sorrowful, Luminous) of five mysteries each for a total of 20 mysteries. The Rosary includes six of Catholicism’s most familiar prayers: the Apostles’ Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be, the Fátima Prayer (“O My Jesus”), and the Hail Holy Queen.

Pope Pius V also established the feast now known as Our Lady of the Rosary in thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother to commemorate the naval victory of the Holy See at the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. “The victory was attributed to the help of the Holy Mother of God whose aid was invoked through praying the Rosary” at the direction of Pope Pius. Thus **October** is commonly referred to as “**The Month of the Rosary.**”

The origin of the name “Rosary” is also not known with certainty. There are several theories -- most of which associate the beauty of the prayer with the beauty of the rose. The word rosary itself comes from the Latin word *rosarium*, which means rose garden or garland of roses. One legend tells of Our Lady taking rosebuds from the lips of a young monk as he was reciting Hail Marys and then weaving them into a garland that she placed upon

her head. When you pray the Rosary it is like taking a peaceful walk through Mary’s rose garden -- a garden filled with beautiful, fragrant roses. There are white roses that tell the joys of a Holy Child and His Mother; yellow roses that speak the Truth of a Teacher and His first believer; red roses that tell the sorrows of Man and Woman; and golden roses that tell the glories of a King and a Queen. The name has stuck ever since, and the

(continued on page 10)



(continued from page 9)

A Few Good Reasons For Praying The Rosary

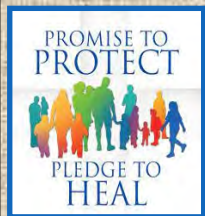


Rosary is said to be the most popular Catholic devotion in the world.

1. Those who recite the Blessed Mother's Rosary faithfully are her beloved children, and thus strengthen their bond as brothers and sisters of her son, Jesus Christ. The Rosary enables us to know our Blessed Mother better. By getting to know Mary better, we in turn get to know Jesus better.
2. The repetition of the prayers within the Rosary leads one into restful contemplation related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ's spirit dwells.
3. The rhythm of the Rosary's prayers, coupled with the fact that many Catholics have been reciting them since early childhood, makes the Rosary a familiar touchstone in a world that often feels unfamiliar and chaotic indeed.
4. Through the promises of the Blessed Mother, praying the Rosary offers us her special protection and graces.
5. The Rosary will make virtue and good works flourish. It lifts the hearts of men and women above the temptations and vanities of this world and to the desire of things eternal.
6. The Rosary is a forceful sword and shield against evil and Satan. It can overcome vice, deliver from sin, and dispel heresy. The Rosary serves as a spiritual weapon that every soldier for Christ and His Church needs in order to fight successfully in the spiritual battle that comprises much of our earthly sojourn.
7. Saint John Paul II wrote in 2002, "The Rosary is a prayer loved by countless saints and encouraged by the bishops of the Church for centuries. Simple yet profound, it brings forth a harvest of holiness. The Rosary has accompanied *me* in moments of joy *and* in moments of difficulty. To it I have entrusted any number of concerns; in it I have always found comfort....***The Rosary is my favorite prayer.*** The Mysteries of the Rosary put us in living communion with Jesus through – we might say – the heart of his Mother...Thus the simple prayer of the Rosary marks the rhythm of human life."
8. Whoever prays the Rosary devoutly will never be overwhelmed by discouragement or despair. Prayed together with the family, the Rosary creates a locus of stability and peace in the home.
9. The Rosary helps us to obtain the many graces that we desperately need to make it through the narrow gate that leads to Heaven.



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OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT:

The Diocese of Trenton and St. Michael's Church are committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the Diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

Job Opportunity

The Sisters of Saint Joseph Center for Spirituality in Ocean Grove, NJ is seeking a "Food Prep Chef" from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Salary is between \$16.00-\$18.00 per hour. Depending on experience. Send resume to pharrington@ssjphila.org ASAP or call 215-248-7263 for further information.

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Annual Catholic Appeal 2023	Commenced February 18-19; Ongoing
Fall Bible Study: The Book of Genesis	Commenced September 21; Ongoing
40 Days for Life	Commenced September 27; Ongoing (See Page 3 for details)
"Red Mass" of the Diocese of Trenton AT St. Michael's (for the legal profession and those in related occupations)	Sunday, October 1, 2023 12:00 Noon (See Page 8 for details)
Holy Hour for Vocations	Thursday, October 5, 2023 2023
First Friday	Friday, October 6, 2023 (12:15 p.m. Mass in English, Eucharistic Adoration 12:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mass in English at 5:30 p.m., Confessions 12:45 to 1:15 and 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)
NJ Right to Life Raffle	October 7 and 8, 2023 (See Page 3 for details)
"White Mass" (for the medical profession and those in the healthcare and related fields)	Sunday, October 15, 2023 2:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Church, Toms River, NJ (See Page 6 for details)

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A Few Good Reasons For Praying The Rosary

10. When we pray the Rosary we can offer it up and ask the Blessed Mother to intercede for our intentions, whether it be for the conversion of souls, for the faithful departed in Purgatory, for an end to abortion, or for a particular need of a family member or friend (or of a stranger in need) or for a personal need.

11. The perceived inconvenience of praying the Rosary ("It takes a long time") is a misperception. It can at first seem lengthy or tedious or burdensome but it grows lighter and more rewarding with every recitation. Make a commitment to pray the Rosary every day – and keep it.

12. Pray the Rosary because Pope Pius IX said, "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world." Pray the Rosary because St. Francis de Sales (great master of spirituality) wrote, "The greatest method of prayer is praying the Rosary."

13. Pope Pius XI is famous for saying, "If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors."

14. Pray the Rosary because Our Lady of Fatima said, "Pray the Rosary daily."

