

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

October 30, 2022 | *Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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.

REGISTRATION

To register with the parish, please call the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES

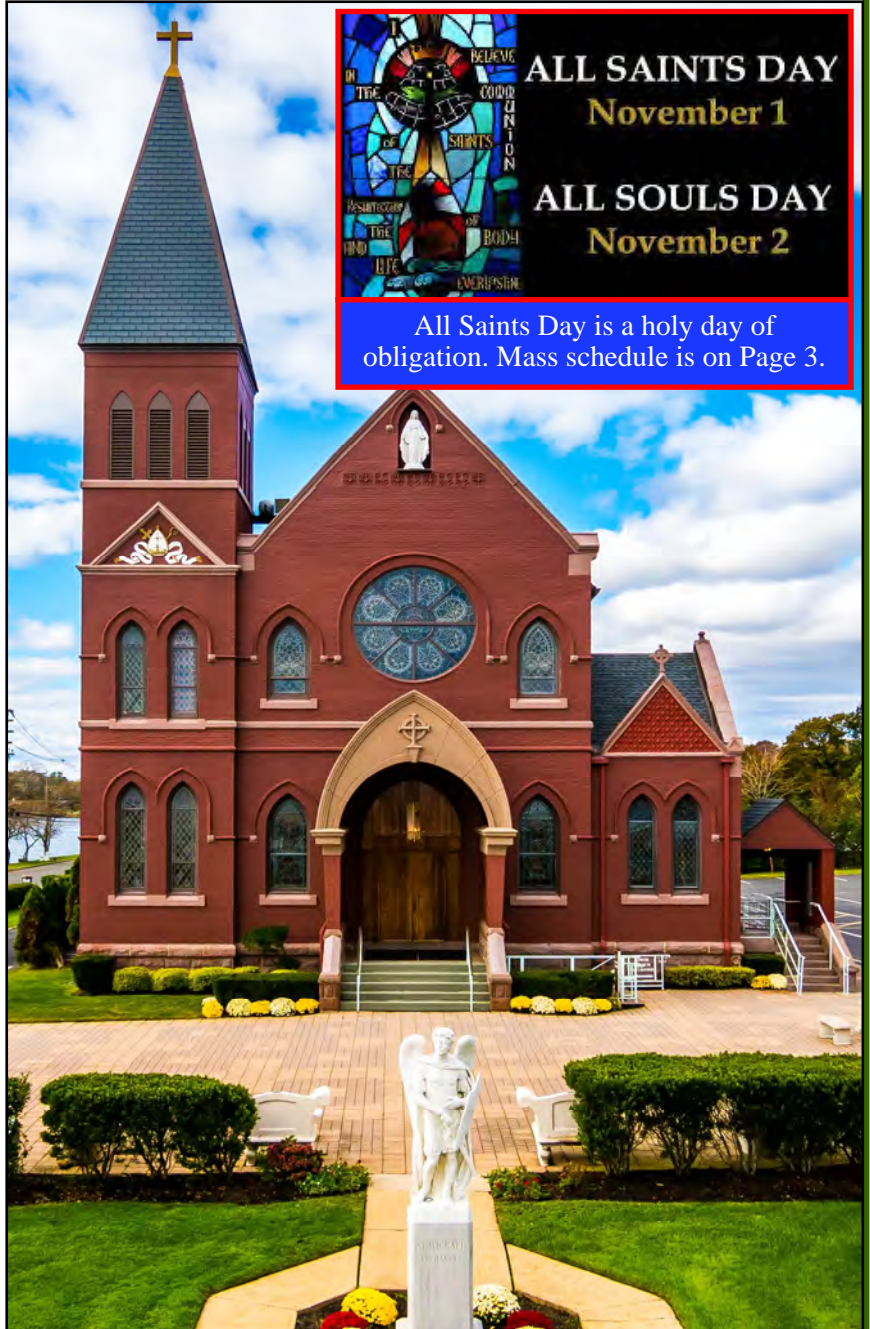
Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There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

BAPTISMS

Baptisms take place generally on Sundays at 1:15 PM. Other days/times can also be arranged. Parents must be registered parishioners, and can call the Parish Office for information and scheduling.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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



All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation. Mass schedule is on Page 3.

PARISH OFFICE

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

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

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor
Rev. Cyril Johnson, Parochial Vicar
Thomas Randazzo, Business Manager
Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed.
Mary Valan, Parish Secretary
Jose Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
Lauren Walters, Acting Music Director

CATHOLIC CENTER AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

16 Beechwood Avenue | West Long Branch, NJ 07764
Ph: (732) 483-0360 | Fx: (732) 483-0363
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
732-483-0360 ext. 1



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 29

8:00 AM † Anthony Somma	Reu Family
People of the Parish	
4:00 PM † Grace Ciotta	Jeanne Boehles
† Pat Farmer	MaryBeth Hunnewell
5:30 PM † Joan McGlennon	Friends
7:00 PM † Sammy Boyd	Tony & Lisa Monte
† Richard V. Grant	Balbo Family

Sunday, October 30

7:00 AM People of the Parish	
8:30 AM † Joseph Signorile	Rene & Jack Brignola
† Irene Bianco	Joan Amitrano
10:00 AM † Lena Brown	Rene & Jack Brignola
Special Intention: Mrs. Peg Buckley	JoAnne Albano
12:00 PM † Claire DeLuca	Moran Family
† John Gilsey	Family
4:00 PM † Janice Brintnall	Janice, Fred, Kathleen & Isabel Carr
7:00 PM † Michael & Marie Conforti	Linda Roberts & Family
† Francis A. Balbo	Balbo Family

Monday, October 31

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause	Friends of Sylvia Marsico
† John Gitti	
4:00 PM † Deceased Alumni/ae of Seton Hall University	
7:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Rosary Altar Society	

Tuesday, November 1

8:00 AM † Michael Wrubel	Wife Maria & Family
† William Dennis	Jack & Rene Brignola
12:15 PM † Barbara Martin Keeley	Sisters
4:00 PM † Ronald Brandmayr, Jr.	
7:00 PM For All the Saints	

"Jesus looked up and said, 'Zacchaeus, come down quickly from that tree, for today I must stay at your house.'"
- Luke 19:5

Wednesday, November 2

8:00 AM † Rosaleen DeBonis	DeBonis Family
† Mark Russo	Mother
7:00 PM † Souls of All the Faithful Departed	
† The Deceased of the War in Ukraine	

Thursday, November 3

8:00 AM † Carmen Tulsa Cruz	
† Anna & George Cattelona	Sister

Friday, November 4

8:00 AM † Joe Agresto	Wife & Children
† Nicholas Cattelona	Sister
12:15 PM † Uncle Barry Prascsak	
5:30 PM Vocations, Vocations, Vocations	

Saturday, November 5

8:00 AM † Souls in Purgatory	Linda
† Sylvia Marsico	Jo Ann
† Clarice Viggiano	Viggiano Family
4:00 PM † Karen Smith	Loving Husband
† Pat Farmer	Basaman Family
5:30 PM † John E. Hogan	Catherine Campen
† Mary Ann Figueroa	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Principe
7:00 PM People of the Parish	

Sunday, November 6

7:00 AM † Charles Murrin	Theresa
† Rosa Alba Stranieri	Mother Francesca
8:30 AM † Nicoletta Mia Ciampa	Grandmother
† Daniel Salvatore	
10:00 AM † William Celmer	Sister In-Law Barbara & Family
† David C. Marks	Joanne & Frank Buono
12:00 PM † Helen Doherty Brown	Sons
† Joan McGlennon	Patricia Sartorio
4:00 PM † Helen McDermott	
† John Gilsey	Rene & Jack Brignola
7:00 PM † Lydia Wikoff	Family
People of the Parish	



40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

September 28 – November 7

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.

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:

Monday, October 31

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

Tuesday, November 1

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

The Parish Office will be closed for business on November 1 in observance of All Saints Day.

The Commemoration Of All The Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (also known as All Souls' Day) is celebrated by the Church on November 2. Here at St. Michael's, in addition to our customary morning Mass at 8:00 a.m. on All Souls' Day we will also celebrate a **Candlelight Mass of Remembrance** on Wednesday, **November 2 at 7:00 p.m.** All are invited and Letters were mailed earlier this month had a death in the family since last attend this 7:00 p.m. Mass and to light for the repose of the soul of their loved the Faithful during this Mass. The will be read aloud during the candle-

The Church encourages the offering faithful departed. And the Church assist the departed in attaining the Beatitudes, and the offering of Mass. The Candlelight All Souls' Mass will be preceded by a Musical Prelude led by Acting Music Director Lauren Walters at 6:30 p.m. (including ensemble cantors and instrumentalists) and will be followed by a reception with light refreshments in the Lower Church immediately after the Mass. May perpetual light shine upon the souls of all the faithful departed.



Remembrance on Wednesday, **November 2** at 7:00 p.m. All are invited and Letters were mailed earlier this month had a death in the family since last attend this 7:00 p.m. Mass and to light for the repose of the soul of their loved the Faithful during this Mass. The will be read aloud during the candle-

of prayers and Mass for the souls of the teaches that the faithful on earth can tific Vision through their prayers, good

Catholic Church Teaching on Cremation, the Conservation of Cremated Remains, and the Burial of the Deceased

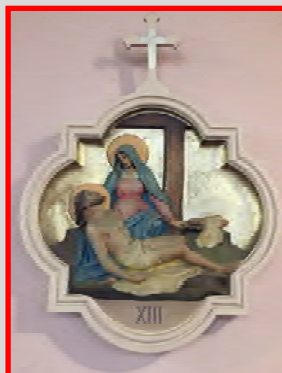
***Pastor's Note:** The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican in Rome has brought together in one document several of the Church's teachings with respect to the cremation of Christian bodies for burial or entombment. This Instruction was promulgated in August 2016. Published below (as it was in our parish bulletins of September 8, 2019, November 8, 2020, and November 14, 2021) is an excerpt from the document as issued by Cardinal Gerhard Muller on behalf of the Congregation. The Instruction states the principles that apply and govern when we Catholics are considering, and making plans for, certain end-of-life matters especially when cremation is one of the considerations. The Instruction is published here for the purpose of providing accurate, definitive, and reliable information on the Church's teaching to enable our knowledge to be well informed and our consciences to be well formed. This Instruction is being provided with an eye towards the month of November, which is the month dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the month in which we commemorate (All Souls' Day on November 2nd) and particularly pray for the souls of all the faithful departed, and the time when we as Catholics make special efforts to visit the graves, mausoleums, and columbariums of our deceased loved ones to pray for their eternal rest. If there are questions, please feel free to contact the parish priests for further guidance.*

1. To rise with Christ, we must die with Christ: we must "be away from the body and at home with the Lord" (2 Cor 5:8). With the Instruction *Piam et Constantem* of 5 July 1963, the then Holy Office established that "all necessary measures must be taken to preserve the practice of reverently burying the faithful departed", adding however that cremation is not "opposed per se to the Christian religion" and that no longer should the sacraments and funeral rites be denied to those who have asked that they be cremated, under the condition that this choice has not been made through "a denial of Christian dogmas, the animosity of a secret society, or hatred of the Catholic religion and the Church". Later this change in ecclesiastical discipline was incorporated into the Code of Canon Law (1983) and the Code of

Canons of Oriental Churches (1990) ... the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has deemed opportune the publication of a new Instruction, with the intention of underlining the doctrinal and pastoral reasons for the preference of the burial of the remains of the faithful and to set out norms pertaining to the conservation of ashes in the case of cremation.



The deceased body of Jesus in the arms of The Blessed Mother as depicted in the Pieta sculpture of Michelangelo as the sculpture was prepared for shipment from the Vatican to New York City for display at the 1964 World's Fair.



The photo above is from our church - - the Thirteenth Station: Mary holds the body of Jesus before He is placed in the Tomb.

2. Following the most ancient Christian tradition, the Church insistently recommends that the bodies of the deceased be buried in cemeteries or other sacred places. In memory of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord, the mystery that illumines the Christian meaning of death, burial is above all the most fitting way to express faith and hope in the resurrection of the body. The Church who, as Mother, has accompanied the Christian during his earthly pilgrimage, offers to the Father, in Christ, the child of her grace, and she commits to the earth, in hope, the seed of the body that will rise in glory... burial in a cemetery or another sacred place adequately corresponds to the piety and respect owed to the bodies of the faithful departed who through Baptism have become temples of the Holy Spirit and in which "as instruments and vessels the Spirit has carried out so many good works".... the burial of the faithful departed

in cemeteries or other sacred places encourages family members and the whole Christian community to pray for and remember the dead, while at the same time fostering the veneration of martyrs and saints.

(continued on page 6)

Small Group Bible Study Fall, 2022



"Advent invites us to a commitment to vigilance, looking beyond ourselves, expanding our mind and heart in order to open ourselves up to the need of people, of brothers and sisters, and to the desire for a new world." (Pope Francis-2018)

Join us as we prepare for Christ's birth by quieting and disciplining our hearts to listen to His Word which calls us to be alert and ready, not weighed down and distracted by the cares of this world (Luke 21:34-36). In this Small Group session, we will be reading and discussing the Bible readings for each of the four Sundays of Advent.

Where: St. Michael's Lower Church

When: Thursday, November 17, 2022
Thursday, December 1, 2022
Thursday, December 8, 2022
Thursday, December 15, 2022



Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Please call Rene and Jack to reserve your place and folder at 732-222-3164.



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 November 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 November 4

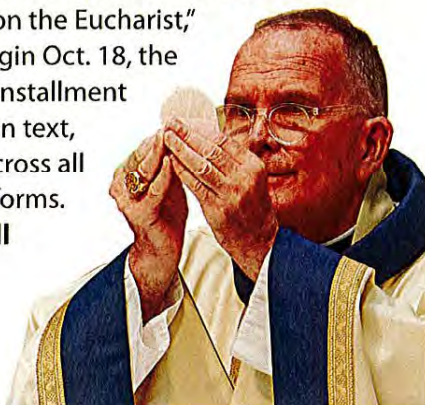


First Friday Mass *in English* will be celebrated on November 4 at 12:15 p.m. Confessions will be heard after that Mass until 1:15 p.m. And First Friday Mass will also be celebrated (in English) at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, November 4 followed by Confessions until 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration will take place throughout the afternoon on Friday, November 4 from the conclusion of the 12:15 Mass until Benediction at 5:15 p.m. All are welcome.

Bishop O'Connell's Series on the Eucharist Has Launched

In a new five-part series on the Eucharist, Bishop David M. O'Connell, C. M., highlights "many aspects of the inexhaustible gift and mystery of the Holy Eucharist as the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ drawn from Scripture and Tradition." Titled "Catechetical Series on the Eucharist," the segments will begin Oct. 18, the Feast of St. Luke. An installment will drop each week in text, video and podcast across all diocesan digital platforms.

The entire series will be printed in the November issue of The Monitor Magazine.



The five installments of the series will cover:

Preface and Part One (Oct. 18) • Eucharist as "mystery" and "reality"; faith as a supernatural gift; Jesus' words, "Do this in memory of me," as the institution of the Sacrament of Eucharist

Part Two (Oct. 25) • Catechesis as necessary for belief in the Real Presence of Jesus; Scripture accounts of God's presence among his people

Part Three (Nov. 1) • Excerpts from great theologians, saints, Scripture, emphasizing the unchanging fundamental belief in the Eucharist

Part Four (Nov. 8) • Excerpts from Papal, Vatican II, U.S. Bishop's documents demonstrating continuity and constancy of Eucharistic doctrine

Part Five (Nov. 15) • Eucharistic Lexicon including words, terms and expressions describing or referring to Holy Eucharist or its celebration

The "Catechetical Series on the Eucharist" will be available in text, video and podcast (English and Spanish) and can be accessed at DioceseofTrenton.org/eucharist-series or by scanning the QR code. It will also be posted to TrentonMonitor.com; TrentonMonitor.com/peces (Spanish), and the Diocese's facebook, twitter and Instagram pages.

► For further information, or to request copies of the November issue of The Monitor Magazine, write to dotcomm@dioceseoftrenton.org, or call (609) 403-7169.



(continued from page 4)

Catholic Church Teaching on Cremation, the Conservation of Cremated Remains, and the Burial of the Deceased

3. In circumstances when cremation is chosen because of sanitary, economic or social considerations, this choice must never violate the explicitly stated or the reasonably inferable wishes of the deceased faithful. The Church raises no doctrinal objections to this practice, since cremation of the deceased's body does not affect his or her soul, nor does it prevent God, in his omnipotence, from raising up the deceased body to new life. Thus cremation, in and of itself, objectively negates neither the Christian doctrine of the soul's immortality nor that of the resurrection of the body.

4. "The Church continues to prefer the practice of burying the bodies of the deceased, because this shows a greater esteem towards the deceased. Nevertheless, cremation is not prohibited, "unless it was chosen for reasons contrary to Christian doctrine"... In the absence of motives contrary to Christian doctrine, the Church, after the celebration of the funeral rite, accompanies the choice of cremation, providing the relevant liturgical and pastoral directives, and taking particular care to avoid every form of scandal or the appearance of religious indifferentism.

5. When, for legitimate motives, cremation of the body has been chosen, ***the ashes of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place, that is, in a cemetery or, in certain cases, in a church or an area, which has been set aside for this purpose, and so dedicated by the competent ecclesial authority.*** From the earliest times, Christians have desired that the faithful departed become the objects of the Christian community's prayers and remembrance. Their tombs have become places of prayer, remembrance and reflection. The faithful departed remain part of the Church who believes "in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church". ***The reservation of the ashes of the departed in a sacred place ensures that they are not excluded from the prayers and remembrance of their family or the Christian community. It prevents the faithful departed from being forgotten, or their remains from being shown a lack of respect, which eventuality is possible, most especially once the immediately subsequent generation has too passed away.*** Also it prevents any unfitting or superstitious practices.

6. ***For the reasons given above, the conservation of the ashes of the departed in a domestic residence is not permitted.*** Only in grave and exceptional cases dependent on cultural conditions of a localized nature, may the Ordinary, in agreement with the Episcopal Conference or the Synod of Bishops of the Oriental Churches, concede permission for the conservation of the ashes of the departed in a domestic residence. ***Nonetheless, the ashes may not be divided among various family members*** and due respect must be maintained regarding the circumstances of such a conservation.

7. In order that every appearance of pantheism, naturalism or nihilism be avoided, ***it is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful departed in the air, on land, at sea or in some other way, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects.*** These courses of action cannot be legitimized by an appeal to the sanitary, social, or economic motives that may have occasioned the choice of cremation.

8. When the deceased notoriously has requested cremation and the scattering of their ashes for reasons contrary to the Christian faith, a Christian funeral must be denied to that person according to the norms of the law."

The Sovereign Pontiff Francis, in the Audience granted to the undersigned Cardinal Prefect on 18 March 2016, approved the present Instruction, adopted in the Ordinary Session of this Congregation on 2 March 2016, and ordered its publication. Rome, from the Offices of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 15 August 2016, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Gerhard Cardinal Müller, Prefect

Second Collection Next Weekend November 5 and 6 for Military Services

Next weekend, we will take up a Second Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS), a collection approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to be taken every three years. The AMS provides pastoral care to Catholic men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, enrolled at a U.S. Military Academy, being treated as a patient at any of the 153 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or who work for the federal government beyond U.S. borders - including those from our own parish and diocese. The AMS does not receive any funding from the government or military and has no parishes from which to receive a weekly assessment. To learn more about the AMS, please go to www.milarch.org/nationalcollection.

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



Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, October 22, 2022

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,089.00	149 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$884.00	82 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$397.00	41 people

Sunday, October 23, 2022

7:00 AM Mass	\$1,293.00	83 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,504.00	104 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,819.00	122 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,296.00	136 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$550.00	88 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$554.00	117 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the October 23 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$1,301.00**

This Week's Total: \$11,687.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$13,753.00

Second Collection: Mission Sunday: \$2,391.00

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

Sunday, December 18, 2022
1:30 p.m. in the Upper Church

Tickets for Fr. Alphonse's Christmas Concert here at St. Michael's went on sale this past Thursday as announced at last weekend's Masses. For the first week or so, these tickets will be sold online (and only online) by visiting the parish's website at www.stmichaelnj.com which will take you to the ticket-selling website of Eventbrite. Beginning on a date to be announced after that first week or so of online ticket sales, tickets will also be sold "manually" in the church vestibule after some of the weekend Masses. Tickets purchased manually after Mass in the church may be paid for with cash or a check. All concert seats will be reserved and assigned seating. The pricing levels are \$50, \$45, and \$40. Tickets will not be available for purchase in the parish business office nor over the phone.

Saint Michael's Rosary Altar Society Monthly Meeting Notice November 12, 2022

Our St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society will have its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Saturday, November 12, 2022. We will meet immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Lower Church. Our Society seeks to foster devotion to the Rosary and to serve the interests of our St. Michael's community with spiritual and corporal works of mercy. All women of the parish are encouraged and welcome to join us.



The next Baptism preparation class for parents is scheduled for Saturday, November 19 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.

***Pastor's Note.** The upcoming month of November is the month of special and extra prayers for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Our thoughts this month focus on all the Faithful Departed. Our Scripture readings at this time of year and as we proceed deeper into November tend to concentrate on the "end of time" and the Day of Final Judgment. We hear Jesus in the Gospels during these times urging us to "Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Accordingly, the homilies in November (and as we approach All Souls Day and All Saints Day) frequently address the Final Judgment and the "end of time" topics and they also provide pastoral instruction and reminders on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (known to some as "Last Rites" – now an outdated name for that Sacrament). The homily preached on these subjects two years ago on November 15, 2020 (and published in the following Sunday's parish bulletin) by our parochial vicar Fr. Mark Nillo – outstanding as usual – hit the bull's eye and is re-printed below. As you read Fr. Mark's homily, please take the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to heart, pray for those who have received that Sacrament or are in need of receiving it and its Graces, and feel free to call the parish office to make arrangements for the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or for a loved one as the circumstances may warrant. Thank you. And God bless.*

Fr. Mark Nillo's Homily on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Jesus' Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) is not about 'good and bad' or 'righteous and unrighteous.' It is about 'wise and foolish.' The wise virgins and the foolish virgins. All of them have accepted the role to accompany the bride and groom in procession as the groom takes the bride into his home. And because this ritual may well occur during the night, the virgins (or bridesmaids) are meant to carry lamps of oil to illuminate the way. The problem in the story is that five of these virgins were wise and five were foolish. Five of them prepared themselves for their role and five of them did not.

The wise virgins, knowing that the arrival of the bridal party might be delayed, decided to bring some additional oil with them to make sure that their lamps would be burning for the procession. The foolish virgins did not worry about such preparations. Their attitude was, "We will deal with that when the time comes." Well, the time came. The groom was delayed. And when it was time to perform their role in the ritual, the foolish virgins found that their lamps were going out.

The foolish virgins asked the wise virgins to share their oil with them, and the wise virgins said no. They rightly point out that there is not enough oil for both of them. Therefore, the foolish ones would have to go and buy some oil for themselves. Meanwhile the bride and groom and the entire wedding party have left and made their way to the groom's house. By the time the foolish virgins got the oil and found their way to the groom's house, the wedding feast had started and they were locked out. Oh no!...

The parable serves as a warning to all members of the Church about the necessity to prepare. For what? For things that come suddenly without warning. Under that category, we can put certain things like natural calamities such as earthquakes and tornadoes. Death is also something that often comes unexpectedly. The second coming of the Lord is another event the exact day and hour of which nobody knows. We know, however, that these things will happen in the future. Whether they will happen sooner or later, we do not know. That's why it is necessary to stay alert and stay awake and be prepared.

It's interesting how different States in America pride themselves as the "Most Prepared State" for a natural disaster. For instance, the State that is most prepared for earthquakes is California (that makes sense). The Midwest State that is most prepared for blizzards and snowstorms is Illinois. And the State that is most prepared for hurricanes is New York...

I wonder, how many of us are prepared for the Second Coming of our Lord? I wonder how many of us are prepared when death comes knocking at our door...

- Have I reconciled with those whom I have hurt or with those who have hurt me?
- Have I received forgiveness from God in the Sacrament of Confession for all the sins I have committed?
- Do I feel the need to increase my acts of charity?
- How have I lived my faith?

-Do I know someone who needs to be anointed with the oil of the sick? Here I want to give a strong reminder that no sick person must experience the burden of waiting for their imminent death until they are anointed by a priest. In other words, there is no need to wait until a seriously ill person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.



(continued on page 9)

(continued from page 8)

Fr. Mark Nillo's Homily on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

The elderly and old people may be anointed if they are in weak condition even though no dangerous illness is present. Children who are sick may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be comforted by this Sacrament. All members of the Church should be encouraged to ask for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. And, as soon as the time for the Anointing comes, it must be received with faith and devotion and not misused by procrastinating and putting it off.

I also want to point out that no one should be afraid of receiving the Anointing. It is a Sacrament, not a death sentence. There's nothing to fear about it. All Seven Sacraments of the Church are for the living because they are ways by which God shares His life with us. Only those who are alive and breathing may receive the Sacraments, including the Anointing of the Sick (that's why we never baptize dead infants...instead, we bless their remains and commend their souls to the mercy of God). Since the Anointing of the Sick is a Sacrament, it is meant to give us grace...the grace that strengthens the faith of the person receiving it...the grace that brings comfort not only to the one receiving it but also to their family and friends...the grace that helps us to be humble, courageous, and strong and **accepting of the will of God** (as the Blessed Mother was on Good Friday afternoon at Calvary). It is a Sacrament of healing and Sacrament for healing. It is meant to strengthen the person's trust in God, and to give the person the courage and patience to face the difficulties that come from illness or old age or infirmity. It is meant to strengthen the person's resolve to unite his or her sufferings to the suffering of Jesus Christ, and to strengthen the person's confidence in God's promise of Resurrection and Eternal Life. It is meant to **prepare** (there's that word again!) those receiving it for **whatever** may happen in the future, and for Eternal Life. It does not mean that the family members and friends have "given up hope". It means that they care and that they love the person whom the priest has been called to visit and anoint.

Now, going back to our litany of questions about our level of preparedness or readiness...

-Have I done anything to plan for my own funeral? Do I want my funeral to be a beautiful celebration of my life?

-What is a Living Will and do I have one?

-What are my wishes, preferences, and decisions in regard to medical treatments and procedures, in case I lose my decision-making capacity...?

-Have I told my family members "Call the priest and ask him to come and see me for Anointing?"

-Are we working on **not** referring to this Sacrament as "Last Rites" but instead referring to it as "Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick?"

- Am I remembering the "rule of thumb" that when I have – or when a loved one has – entered into hospice care or been diagnosed as "gravely ill" or "seriously ill" or "terminally ill" or the like, the appropriate time has **then already arrived** for the priest to be called for the administering of the Sacrament of the Sick. Once again, hope is not being abandoned when that call is made; the Grace of Christ's Sacrament is being sought. The phone call requesting the priest's Sacramental visit need not (and should not) be deferred until death is imminent. It's possible that on a given day or on a given night the priest may not be available when you call (he may be on-call at that moment to anoint another parishioner or another patient or out-of-town for a baptism or for a wedding or what have you). The Church is very clear on this teaching and this practice in the *Catechism*:

- "The Anointing of the Sick "is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived. (Section 1514)

- "If a sick person who received this anointing recovers his health, he can in the case of another grave illness receive this sacrament again. If during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious, the sacrament may be repeated. It is fitting to receive the Anointing of the Sick just prior to a serious operation. The same holds for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced." (Section 1515)

So, as we draw close to the end of the Season of Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar, and as we prepare to begin another church liturgical season and another secular calendar year, the Gospel Parable of the Ten Virgins (referred to above) invites us to contemplate the end of our lives and the end of the world. And the way to respond to these events is not to live in fear and anxiety, or to go after visionaries that claim to have access to God's secret calendar of how and when the world will end. The way to respond wisely is to not procrastinate but to **prepare**...and not just outwardly (remember that the ten virgins all thought they were ready. Outwardly, they all appeared prepared. Apparently, only some were really 'prepared-prepared.') The wise followers of Jesus prepare themselves spiritually, sacramentally, physically, mentally, and emotionally...both outwardly and inwardly, no matter when death knocks at our door or when the Lord chooses to come back again.



The Diocese of Trenton invites you and your family to:

In Communion with Jesus

A Pilgrimage to Mary's House



Bishop David M. O'Connell, CM invites you and your families to journey with him to this holy site, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington DC.



Saturday, November 12, 2022

The nearby parishes of St. Rose in Belmar and St. Teresa of Calcutta in Bradley Beach and Avon-by-the Sea are graciously welcoming St. Michael's parishioners to travel on the St. Rose/St. Teresa bus to this 2022 Diocese of Trenton Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine. The information for purchasing a ticket on this bus follows below:

- The bus will depart from Saint Rose Church-Belmar at 7:30 a.m. SHARP! Address: 603 Seventh Avenue, Belmar, NJ 07719. Please park in the St. Rose church parking or parallel park on the streets near the church.
- Please bring a brown bag lunch.
- Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, C.M., Bishop of Trenton, will be the principal celebrant of the Pilgrimage Mass at 3:00 p.m. Fr. Butler and Fr. Johnson will be among the concelebrants of that Mass.
- The Pilgrimage Day's itinerary includes: • Special Blessings of Families • Opportunities for Confession • Special activities for children • Free time to walk the campus of The Catholic University of America and the neighborhood and to visit the Basilica's Gift Shop and Cafeteria • Mass with Bishop O'Connell at 3:00 p.m.
- The bus will depart Washington, DC for home at 4:30 p.m. — we'll stop for dinner en route on the way back to Belmar, NJ.
- The cost of the bus is \$25.00 for adults; \$10.00 for children and students.
- St. Michael's will pay the bus fees for our St. Michael's CCD children and their parents and for our St. Michael's youth altar servers and their parents who travel to this Pilgrimage on this bus.
- Please complete the reservation form below and bring it to the St. Michael's parish office with cash or check payment; checks payable to "Church of St. Rose" please.
- The bus will be filled in the order of reservations received; first come, first served.
- For additional information or questions, please call or email: St. Rose - Belmar contact person: Italia Testa, 732-604-9449, Italiatesta@gmail.com.
- Fr. Butler and Fr. Johnson will be among the Pilgrims traveling to Washington on this bus.

2022 TRENTON DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE BUS RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____ PARISH: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____
 NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ children _____ adults _____

**The Parish Office will be closed on
Tuesday, November 1 in observance of
All Saints Day**

All Souls' Day Mass at Diocesan Cemetery; All Are Invited and Welcome; November 2nd at 11:00 a.m.

The Diocese of Trenton is re-instituting a pre-pandemic tradition of celebrating Mass at the Diocesan Cemetery – St. Mary's Cemetery in Trenton – on All Souls' Day. St. Mary's Cemetery is located at 1200 Cedar Lane, Trenton, New Jersey 08610. This Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. indoors in the cemetery's mausoleum and the principal celebrant will be Fr. Jason M. Parzynski, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Trenton and Chaplain at Notre Dame High School in Lawrenceville. A group of students from Notre Dame High School will be attending this Mass. All are welcome and invited to participate in this Holy Mass for the departed at our Diocesan Cemetery.



ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



40 Days for Life	September 28-November 7 (See Page 3 for details)
All Saints Day (Holy Day of Obligation)	Tuesday, November 1, 2022 (See Page 3 for Mass Schedule)
All Souls' Day Candlelight Mass	Wednesday, November 2, 2022 7:00 p.m. (See Page 3 for details)
Diocese of Trenton Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception	Sunday, November 12, 2022 Washington D.C. (See Page 10 for details)
Autumn Bible Study (Re: Advent)	Commences on Thursday, November 17, 2022 (See Page 6 for details)
Baptism Class	November 19, 2022 10:00 a.m. at the Catholic Center
Advent Parish Mission	December 3-7, 2022
Fr. Alphonse's Christmas Concert at St. Michael's	Sunday, December 18, 2022 1:30 p.m. (See Page 7 for details)

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer r/o Joyce Lubischer

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 2023

† Susan Whitman

r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

April 2023

† Rita N. Cittadino

r/o Christopher M. Cittadino
and Family

SEPTEMBER 2023

† Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano

r/o The Boeckman Family

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 5

Joanne and Frank
Buono

DIocese of Trenton ■ OFFICE of VOCATIONS

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**JOIN AN UPCOMING
DISCERNMENT EVENT:**

**Saturday, December 3, 2022
Advent Discernment Retreat Day**
@ St. Dominic Parish, Brick
Speakers: Fr. Dave Swantek & Fr. J.M. Patilla

**Saturday, March 25, 2023
Lenten Discernment Retreat Day**
@ St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, Freehold
Speakers: Msgr. Michael Walsh & Fr. Gary Koch

**Thursday, June 29, 2023
Annual Summer "Come & See" BBQ**
@ St. John the Baptist Parish, Allentown
Mass w/ Bishop followed by BBQ, Conversations
and fun activities

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT:
www.GodisCallingYOU.org/the-discernment-opportunities/



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