

# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

March 1, 2026 | Second Sunday of Lent

## DAILY MASS

Mon – Sat: 8:00 AM | Mon: 7:00 PM  
First Friday 12:15 p.m. in Latin in Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec. In English in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov. And 5:30 PM (on First Friday) in English in all months.

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM  
Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM

## DURING LENT

Please see Page 3 for extra times for Mass, Confession, and Eucharistic Adoration during Lent

## RECONCILIATION

Monday through Saturday: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 9:00 a.m.

Monday Night: after the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m.; 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass.  
First Fridays: after the 12:15 p.m. Mass until 1:15 p.m. After the 5:30 Mass until 6:30 p.m.

On the Thursday evenings immediately preceding First Fridays, Confessions are heard (7:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.) during the monthly Holy Hour for Vocations.

## 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 Religious Education Office.



## PARISH OFFICE

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740  
Ph: (732) 222-8080 | Fx: (732) 870-1174  
[www.stmichaelnj.com](http://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 K. Butler, Pastor  
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

800 Ocean Avenue | Lower Church | Long Branch, NJ 07740  
Ph: (732) 483-0360 ext. 2 | Fx: (732) 795-3262

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
732-483-0360 ext. 1



*“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”  
Matthew 17:5b*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 28**

8:00 AM † Nicholas Cattelona	Daughter
4:00 PM † Guy Rayner & Mike Weiner	Richard Cero
† Frank Clementi	Maria Voglino
5:30 PM Special Intention	
† Jay Filippo	Filippo Family
7:00 PM People of the Parish	

**Sunday, March 1**

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri	
8:30 AM † Patricia Stephens	Leslie DeSimone & Family
† Ann Olivadoti	DeBonis Family
10:00 AM † Ann & Michael Ciccarone	Mary & Catherine Farrar
† Noel Vassallo	Vassallo Family
12:00 PM † Hugh Keiser	Family
† Robert Scally	Donna
4:00 PM † Helen Marzarella	Hilary Michaels
People of the Parish	
7:00 PM † Jack Hickey	Ivy Gonzalez

**Monday, March 2**

8:00 AM † Leigh Ann Basaman	Michaele McKenna & Patricia Micale
† Grace Tho	Aida David
Pro-Life Cause	Friends of Sylvia Marsico
7:00 PM † John Coats	

**Tuesday, March 3**

8:00 AM † Jack Levy	Wife Debbie
† Richard Fromer	Bruce & Angelica Fromer
Special Intention: Corrina Panduri	Saverio Panduri

**Wednesday, March 4**

8:00 AM † Natalie Easu	Daughters
† Michelina Russo	Family

**Thursday, March 5**

8:00 AM † Lorraine DeTulio	
† Pura Gonzalez	Ryan & Eileen Wolff

**Friday, March 6**

8:00 AM † Anthony & Sharon Florio	Anne & Bill Lisa
Special Intention: JoAnn Dorgan	Jane
12:15 PM † Dorothy O'Hara	
5:30 PM † William Kellam	

**Saturday, March 7**

8:00 AM People of the Parish	
4:00 PM † Benedict Trigani	Deirdre & Andrew Leonard
† Marianne Mills	Rosemary Finnegan
5:30 PM Special Intention	
† Anthony Condone	Angela & Frank
7:00 PM † Kathleen Miller	

**Sunday, March 8**

7:00 AM † John Coats	Mary Jensen
8:30 AM † Patricia Stephens	Susan Dasilva & Family
† Nick D'Onofrio	DeBonis Family
10:00 AM Special Intention: Children's Rosary	
† Ann Olivadoti	Rae Marsico
12:00 PM † Priscilla Thomson	Carroll Family
† Daniel Purdy	Dunlap Family
4:00 PM People of the Parish	
7:00 PM † Lorraine DeTulio	

The Blessed Mother, the St. Joseph, and the Center Sanctuary Candles will be lit this week in prayer for peace around the world and for a holy, fruitful Lent.



## LENT 2026

Our Lenten observances will include the following:

- On all ***Fridays*** during Lent, ***Mass*** will be celebrated at ***12:15 p.m. and at 5:30 p.m.*** in the Upper Church from February 20 through and including March 27. The 8:00 a.m. Mass on Fridays remains unchanged. ***Eucharistic Adoration*** will follow the 8:00 a.m. Mass on all of these ***Fridays*** of Lent until Benediction at 12:00 p.m.
- These ***Friday*** 12:15 and 5:30 Masses during Lent will be followed by Confessions after the 12:15 Mass until 1:15 and after the 5:30 Mass until 6:30.
- Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m.



- Bishop O’Connell’s annual letter regarding Lenten regulations is available on the parish website and was published on Page 2 of the February 15 bulletin.
- The date and time of the parish’s Lenten Penance Service will be announced.

*May our Lenten journeys nourish our minds, hearts, and souls; strengthen us against the chains of sin; and bring us closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.*

Copies of ***The Little Black Book*** (six-minute reflections that focus this year on the Passion of Jesus according to John) are available in the back of the church. Please help yourself to one!

## DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis



Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 11TH ANNUAL ST. MICHAEL’S SOUP & SALAD BEFORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Lower Church  
Six Fridays of Lent**

Beginning February 20, 2026

Soup & Salad from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**FREE-WILL DONATION APPRECIATED**



**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**  
February 18-  
March 29

**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](mailto:monmouth4life@hotmail.com)

**Learn More...** [40daysforlife.com/shrewsbury](http://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.

**St. Michael's parishioners usually gather at this location on Mondays at 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. during these 40 Days for Life.**



**Sunday Mass of St. Patrick in the Gaelic Language**

**Sunday, March 22, 2026  
11:00 A.M.**

**St. Michael's Church  
800 Ocean Avenue  
Long Branch, NJ 07740**

**All are Invited and Welcome!**

Bagpipe music before and during the Mass. Hospitality, fellowship, and Irish-themed refreshments and music will be available in the church hall immediately after the Mass.

Principal Celebrant & Homilist: Rev. Daniel Cahill  
Concelebrants: Msgr. John Carroll & Rev. John Butler





**Diocese of Trenton  
Department of Youth & Young Adults invites you to...**

**Hear His Voice**

*a young adult  
Retreat*

**03.07.26**  
ST. DAVID THE KING, PRINCETON JUNCTION



[www.dioceseoftrenton.org/yaretreat](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/yaretreat)

**PRAY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE**

**Last Tuesday, Feb. 24 was the fourth anniversary of this war.**



**Children's Rosary**

Please join us for a Children's Rosary on Sunday, March 8 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Michael's Church.

All are invited to participate and pray with us. Rosaries and prayer books will be available.

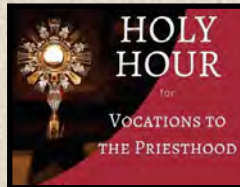


No prior knowledge of the Rosary is needed.

*Any questions, call or text  
Renee Mazza at  
(732) 829-4548*

### Publication Notice

This week’s bulletin contains fewer pages than usual for this time of year because of the shortened work week (two office days were lost to the Blizzard of ’26) and because of our Wednesday morning deadline for sending the bulletin to our publishing company. Ordinarily this week’s bulletin would have also contained information about last Saturday’s St. Vincent dePaul Society’s monthly food pantry, the results of the first weeks of the Annual Catholic Appeal, the 40 Days for Life campaign, the Lenten Stations of the Cross, last Sunday’s “Holy Hour for Peace”, and other topics.



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

### ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL’S CHURCH



Annual Catholic Appeal 2026	Commenced February 14-15; Ongoing
40 Days for Life	February 18– March 29, 2026 (See Page 4 for details)
Fridays in Lent (Mass at 8:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 5:30 p.m.; Confessions after each of these Masses; Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)	Friday, February 20-March 27, 2026 (excludes Good Friday) (See Page 3 for details)
Lenten Stations of the Cross and “Soup & Salad”	Fridays of Lent 6:00 p.m. “Soup & salad” 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (See Page 3 for details)
Holy Hour for Vocations	Thursday, March 5, 2026 7:00 p.m.
Children’s Rosary	Sunday, March 8, 2026 (after the 10:00 a.m. Mass) (See Page 4 for details)
St. Patrick’s Day	Tuesday, March 17, 2026
Sunday Mass of St. Patrick in the Gaelic Language (Fr. Daniel Cahill presiding)	Sunday, March 22, 2026 11:00 a.m. (See Page 4 for details)
Confirmation	Thursday, March 26, 2026
Palm Sunday	Sunday, March 29, 2026
Easter	Sunday, April 5, 2026
First Holy Communion	Saturday, May 2, 2026
Second Annual CCD Communion Breakfast	Sunday, May 17, 2026



### Invitation to All Women of the Parish

**Rosary Altar Society  
March Meeting  
Saturday, March 14  
8 AM Mass and  
Recitation of the Rosary  
followed by  
Meeting and Refreshments  
in the Lower Church**

Questions, Call or Text Rose McVey 201-232-3891

### PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

#### WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer r/o Joyce Lubischer

#### YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS


##### April 2026

† Susan Whitman r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

##### May 2026

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

## DAY OF HEALING AND ANOINTING




**MARCH 23, 2026**  
**11:30 AM - 3:30 PM**  
**Arrival: 11:00 AM**

The day begins with a Guided Reflection at 11:30 AM, followed by Lunch at 12 Noon.  
 There is Availability for Confession in the afternoon.  
 Mass and Anointing of the Sick is at 2:00 PM  
 Departure is at 3:30 PM  
**COST: \$35**  
 (See attached registration form or register online at [sanalfonso retreats.org](http://sanalfonso retreats.org))

**Who can receive this sacrament?**  
 Any sickness that is serious enough to keep a person from performing their normal daily activities is reason enough to request the anointing. The effects of aging is also a reason to be anointed. Someone may be young in age or look "perfectly healthy" but suffer from some type of chronic illness that seriously impairs their well-being or health (alcoholism or other addictions, depression, cancer, lung/heart disease or other ailments). This is by no means an exhaustive list. A person may also be anointed before surgery. The Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated several times in one's lifetime.

**SAN ALFONSO RETREAT HOUSE**  
 755 Ocean Avenue  
 Long Branch, New Jersey 07740  
 (732) 222-2731 ext. 140



We joyfully welcome into our parish family the following baby who was baptized at St. Michael's in February 2026: Vivian Mae Pereira. May God bless her and her family.

### 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.

## *Twilight Evening of Reflection for Married Couples*

### Wednesday, March 11, 2026

**Arrival: 4:30 pm - Reflection: 5:00 pm**

A gentle evening of prayer and reflection, including the celebration of Mass, renewal of marriage vows and festive dinner.



**Cost: \$145 (Overnight option \$250)**  
 Register online at [www.sanalfonso retreats.org/2026-events](http://www.sanalfonso retreats.org/2026-events)  
**Phone: (732) 222-2731 ext. 140**  
**Email: [info@sanalfonso retreats.org](mailto:info@sanalfonso retreats.org)**  
**San Alfonso Retreat House**  
**755 Ocean Ave., Long Branch, NJ 07740**

### SPRING SEMINAR SERIES



## Living and Dying Well:

Facing the Pastoral & Practical Challenges at Times of Severe Illness and End-of-Life



**SEMINAR PRESENTER:**  
**Charles Camosy, PhD.**  
 Catholic Moral Theologian, Author and Speaker

**SESSION #1**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 28**  
 9 AM to 12:00 PM •  
 8:30 AM arrival  
**FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPTS**  
 St. Anselm, Wayside

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**SESSION #2**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 18**  
 9 AM to 12:00 PM •  
 8:30 AM arrival  
**PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS**  
 St. Luke, Toms River

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**SESSION #3**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 17**  
 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM •  
 2:00 pm arrival  
**MEDICAL DECISION MAKING**  
 St. Anthony of Padua, Hightstown



**Registration Link**  
 Attendance at all sessions is recommended but not required.

Full Information: [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry)

## 2026 LENT MADNESS SAINT vs. SAINT Weekly Results

**INFO: Rose McVey**  
Text 201-232-3891  
rosetmcvey@optimum.net

**Round of 32**

St. Anthony 62  
St. Augustine 17  
St. Bernadette 55  
St. Cecilia 24  
St. Carlo Acutis 31  
St. Thomas 48  
Elizabeth Seton 44  
St. Catherine 35  
St. Michael 70  
St. John Bosco 9  
St. Gianna 14  
Mother Teresa 65  
Mary Magdalene 52  
Teresa of Avila 27  
St. Joseph 57  
Pope John Paul II 22

**Round of 16**

St. Anthony  
St. Bernadette  
St. Thomas  
St. Elizabeth  
St. Michael  
Mother Teresa  
Mary Magdalene  
St. Joseph


**Round of 8**

St. Anthony  
St. Bernadette  
St. Thomas  
St. Elizabeth  
St. Michael  
Mother Teresa  
Mary Magdalene  
St. Joseph

**Round of 4**

St. Anthony  
St. Bernadette  
St. Thomas  
St. Elizabeth  
St. Michael  
Mother Teresa  
Mary Magdalene  
St. Joseph

**Final Round**



**The Heavenly Crown**

catholicmadness.org

**Round of 4**

St. Francis of Assisi  
Venerable Fulton Sheen  
St. Clare of Assisi  
St. Faustina Kowalska  
St. Juan Diego  
St. Damien of Molokai  
St. Joan of Arc  
St. Therese of Lisieux  
St. Zelig Martin  
Sts. Joachim & Anne  
St. Kateri Tekakwitha  
St. Monica  
St. Lucy  
St. Maria Goretti  
St. Maximilian Kolbe  
St. Pio of Pietrelcina

### Weekend Collection & Attendance

*Thank You!*

**Saturday, February 21, 2026**

4:00 PM Mass	\$3,435.00	283 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$1,099.00	107 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$534.00	86 people

**Sunday, February 22, 2026**

7:00 AM Mass	\$976.00	77 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$2,191.00	103 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$912.00	131 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,625.00	134 people
4:00 PM Mass	Mass cancelled due to snowstorm	
7:00 PM Mass	Mass cancelled due to snowstorm	

Mailed-in Envelopes for the February 22 collection and for previous Sunday collections: **\$1,625.00**

**This Week's Total: \$12,397.00**  
**Same Week's Total Last Year: \$11,992.00**  
**Second Collection: The Church in Central and Eastern Europe: \$1,253.00**  
**Ash Wednesday: \$6,026.00**



You Are Invited

**Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience<sup>®</sup>**

*Sunday, March 22nd*

**Our Lady Star of the Sea**  
**101 Chelsea Avenue**  
**Long Branch, NJ 07740**  
**2:30 pm**

- Touch the Grotto Rock
- Experience Lourdes Water
- Adoration & Benediction
- Candlelight Rosary Procession

\*Prepare a petition to be placed in the Grotto & receive a bottle of Lourdes Water.

