

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

August 16, 2026 | Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

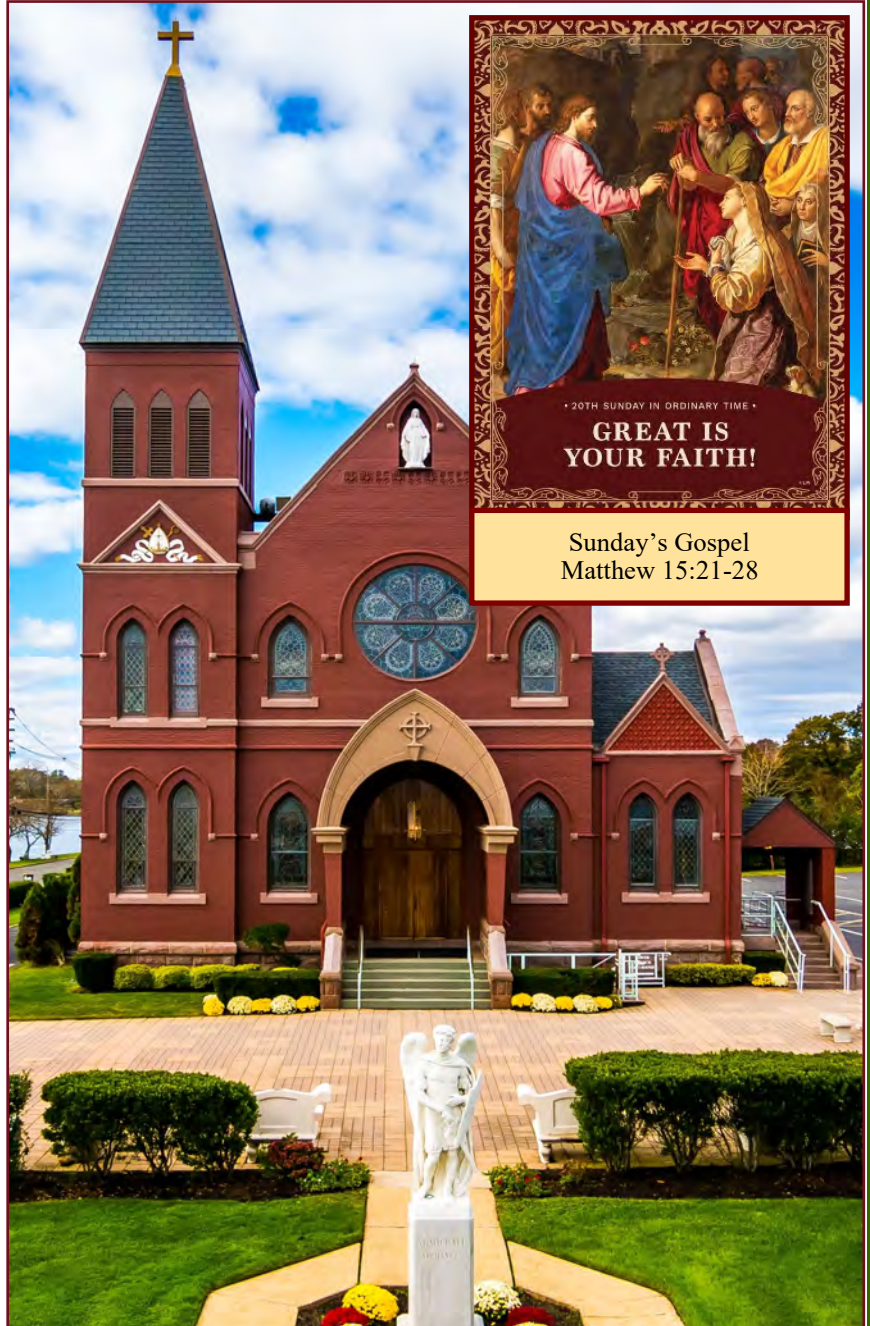
Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There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

Monday through **Thursday**: 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

Mark Brown, Parish Business Manager

Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed.

Emily Carroll, Parish Secretary

Mary Valan, Wedding Coordinator

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 15

8:00 AM † Josephine Harrington Ed Harrington
 † Margaret Armstrong Renee Mazza

11:00 AM † Deceased
 Parishioners of St.
 Michael's

4:00 PM † Theresa Scardena Debra & Ron Chrobocinski
 † Margaret DiSalvo Debra & Ron Chrobocinski
 † Dolores Jackson Dennis Jackson

5:30 PM Special Intention

† Kathy Agresto Mary Jensen

7:00 PM William Thomson III Family
 People of the Parish

Sunday, August 16

7:00 AM † Charles Murrin Theresa
 † John Dorgan Basaman Family

8:30 AM † Emilia & Julius Simonelli Family

† Rose Notaro with love, Lia

10:00 AM † Frank A. Buono Sr Joanne & Frank Buono
 † Rosemary Lloyd Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Principe

12:00 PM † Luis Burgos Tejada
 † Robert Czech

4:00 PM † John, Jay & Gerry Kurec Ann
 † Edouard "Edo" Boisseau Maria & Richard Friedman

7:00 PM † Ethel Delaney Family
 People of the Parish

Monday, August 17

8:00 AM † Pro-Life Cause Friends of Sylvia Marsico
 † Vicki Castellano Cousin, Quinta

7:00 PM † Chip Buenafuente Carroll Family
 † Jean Marie Moriarty Mary Rogowski

Tuesday, August 18

8:00 AM † Fred P. West, Jr. Wife
 † Pauline D'Amico Brother Tim
 † Fran Stein Husband

Wednesday, August 19

8:00 AM † Leigh Ann Basaman Michaelae McKenna & Patty Micale
 † Fr. Albert Ricciardelli

Thursday, August 20

8:00 AM † Tom Noonan Fred & Janice Carr
 † Leigh Ann & Edward Basaman Basaman Family

Friday, August 21

8:00 AM † Breeden & Madonna Family Breeden Family
 † Deceased Members of the Cattelona Family Russo Family

Saturday, August 22

8:00 AM † James F. Simonelli Nella & Family

† Grace Ciotta Tommy & Diane

4:00 PM † Irvn G. Miller Miller & McIntyre Families
 † Kathy Kellam Ross (Anniversary) Her Mother Bianca Kellam

5:30 PM Special Intention

† James Simonelli 1-year Anniversary Missing you, Your Family

7:00 PM Special Intention: Arthur Carroll Family

People of the Parish

Sunday, August 23

7:00 AM † John Dorgan Rene & Jack Brignola

† Deceased Members of the Russo Family Russo Family

8:30 AM † Bob Kupic Mary & Marianne McGann

† Michael Wrubel Wife Maria & Family

People of the Parish

10:00 AM † Maria Grandinetti Marie & Joe Cilurzo

† James Haley Mr. Michael Bowman

12:00 PM † Kate Briscoe Family

† Robert Czech

4:00 PM † Barbara Alexander Maria & Richard Friedman

† Orty Probo Basaman Family

7:00 PM † Michael Esposito Family

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Michael's:

This weekend we are welcoming Fr. Gontran Antsoniavindrinda, C.M. who is preaching the Annual Summer Missionary Appeal here at St. Michael's (and at other nearby parishes in the Diocese of Trenton) on behalf of the Vincentian religious community in Africa. With the recent remarkable growth in the number of Vincentian vocations to the priesthood in Madagascar (the first mission established outside of Europe by St. Vincent dePaul himself), there is a pressing need for the construction of a new seminary there. Potential future priests are being deferred or turned away because of the lack of space for their education and formation.



Fr. Gontran will speak about this important missionary effort in Africa and about our shared charitable mission and responsibility here in the U.S. and at St. Michael's to assist and support the forming of future priests and missionaries – these future servants of the Church who will serve the poor, preach the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments, and bring the love of Christ to communities for generations to come.



Please welcome Fr. Gontran and please be as generous as you can be in today's second collection. Checks may be made payable to St. Michael's Church with a memo line notation "Summer Missionary Appeal". And please pray for the developing Church in Africa and for vocations, vocations, vocations. Thank you. And may God bless you.



**SAVE THE DATE! FOR FR. ALPHONSE AND HIS 1940s BIG BAND:
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 at 5:00 P.M.
Labor Day Weekend**



We are pleased to announce that the parish will again be hosting **Fr. Alphonse Stephenson and His 1940s Big Band** for an early evening of delightful outdoor summer music on **Sunday, September 6 at 5:00 p.m.** on the church's front lawn.



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!! Further information will be provided in subsequent bulletins. This concert will be free-of-charge and open to the public. Concert goers are invited to bring a picnic-style meal, lawn chairs, beach blankets, etc. **AND ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to attend the 4:00 Mass preceding the concert or the 7:00 p.m. Mass following the concert. Several of the accompanying photos are from Fr. Alphonse's outdoor concert here at St. Michael's in 2023. Please pray for perfect weather and please mark your calendars for this very special evening at St. Michael's.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It's that time of year when the sun sets on summer and the children go back to school. And as important as reading, writing, and arithmetic are, nothing is more important than learning our Catholic faith. We cannot truly love God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - if we do not truly know God.

All public-school Catholic children in grades 1 thru 8 should be enrolled in a CCD program.

St. Michael's offers CCD classes at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays at St. Jerome's School beginning September 15. (For those who cannot attend at that time, there is a homeschool option.) Children need to be registered now, so please pick up a registration form in the back of the church or request one by email at kconnelly@stmichaelnj.com.

Confirmation students have a separate registration form and they meet on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at St. Michael's in the Lower Church.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

1. Aug. 12-Sept. 8: REGISTRATION FORM is due. September 8 is a firm **DEADLINE**.
2. Sept. 8, Tuesday at 7PM: Mandatory Parent Meeting at St. Michael's. At least one parent must attend please.
3. Sept. 15 at 4PM: CCD Classes 1 – 7 begin at St. Jerome's.
4. Sept. 21: Confirmation sessions begin at St. Michael's at 5:30PM
5. Sept. 22, Tuesday at 4PM: Mass of the Holy Spirit to Commence the CCD School Year. At St. Michael's Church. Mandatory attendance for all CCD students in Grades 1-7. Attendance will be taken. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend.
6. Fall Communion Breakfast - TBD

Lost & Found

These bicycles were found in our parking lot. Please contact Larry at the parish office if you are the owners or know the owners.

Thank You.



6 THINGS CATHOLICS SHOULD STOP DOING DURING HOLY MASS

1. ARRIVING LATE OR LEAVING EARLY
2. USING PHONES FOR NON-SPIRITUAL PURPOSES
3. CASUAL ATTIRE WITH NO REVERENCE
4. CHEWING GUM OR EATING
5. TALKING AND WHISPERING UNNECESSARILY
6. RUSHING THROUGH RESPONSES



San Alfonso Retreat House

755 Ocean Ave • Long Branch, NJ • 07740

You're Invited – And It's Free!

A Night of Reflection and Prayer, in Spanish

Monday, August 17, AT 7 PM

Light Refreshments will be served

For more information,

Call Fr. Tizio: 732-222-2731, ext. 169

e-mail info@sanalfonsoretreats.org

www.sanalfonsoretreats.org

Phone: 732-222-2731, X140

Full program description available at
www.sanalfonsoretreats.org/actividades-en-espanol

The Sunday Mass Obligation: It's an "obligation" not an "option" for good reason

*"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."
– St. Francis of Assisi*



Kevin Connelly
Director of
Religious Education

The danger in asking the question, "What can I do about it?" is shrugging your shoulders and answering, "nothing." (Score one for the Devil.) Better to ask, "What am I going to do about it?" (Score one for the Holy Spirit.)

No matter what the issue is, we can and should always pray - and it is prayer that bolsters the will and leads us into appropriate action. Countless things need our efforts, all with the goal of bringing about the Kingdom of God, or in the vernacular, "making this world a better place." To that end St. Mother Teresa advised, "If you want to change the world, go home and love your family." Putting her advice into practice doesn't just happen. I have to do something about it.

One much abandoned but so very needed custom for our families, for our faith, and for the world is the Third Commandment of keeping our sabbath day holy. It is far more impactful on healthy, happy and holy living than most realize. We Catholics desperately need to rescue The Lord's Day, Sunday, and ourselves, from the secular clutches of the world. And it's not going to be easy. We, this writer included, are far too accustomed to giving our time to worldly pursuits over heavenly ones - something that children and others learn to do from us and thus the problem escalates and perpetuates. Sure, developing musical talent, sports performance, or any other good ability is a good thing, but these are not our highest calling especially on a Sunday;

Instead of doing unnecessary work, a frenzied sports or talent pursuit with tizing our lives to what is ultimately joyful. To begin with, no experience gathered as One in the actual presence Mass. And it's not supposed to be a quickly and prematurely exit from. community, prayer and fellowship, family and rest. A day especially focused on sharing God's love with others.

"All who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer."

- Isaiah 56:6-7
Today's First Reading

worthwhile, but these are not our high-The Lord's Day.

shopping, gluing to the TV, or keeping the kids, Sundays are meant for prioritizing, most meaningful, rewarding and can be more beneficial than being of Jesus Christ at the Sacrifice of the personal holy hour that we sometimes Rather, it should foster a day of community, prayer and fellowship, family and rest. A day especially focused on sharing God's love with others.

Now I am not suggesting that we should completely cut out all of the above activities. Some are good ways to relax and be with one another. However, **I sincerely believe that we Catholics should make sacrosanct our Sunday Mass time** and make certain that we and our children faithfully observe the Sunday Mass obligation — every Sunday. I know Father John and I will get blowback, but even though I made the mistake myself, I don't think Catholics should participate in Sunday morning sporting events at all. I'll go a step farther and say that taking my kids out of travel teams was a great decision for my family. It was a sacrifice and it caused some stress and unhappiness but it was the right thing to do; in more ways than one.

I can hear it now. "Hold on, that's impossible! We can't do that!" Don't tell that to our Jewish brethren who truly keep their sabbath day holy. They (well-dressed and enthusiastically) put the entire day aside for worship and family and refuse to allow the world to encroach upon them. If you haven't noticed, the world works around them and at one time it did the same for Christians and can do so again. That is, if we have the will to do something about it and "it" begins in the family and in the home.

That something is to see the Sunday sabbath for what it is – a divine gift for our benefit. A gift of weekly spiritual renewal of our relationships — especially with God and family, a respite for the laborer, a time for reflection, a chance to kick off your shoes and enjoy being thankful for God's creation, and for living out the Gospel call to serve others. It is a tremendous and transforming and sacramental gift that too many of us are missing out on and that many of us are depriving our children of.

So, do the necessary and commit yourself to a real Sunday Sabbath. Do the possible and bring back the Sunday family meal, worship at Mass together (every Sunday; and holy days of obligation, too!), talk about the goodness of God. Then get ready to start doing the impossible.

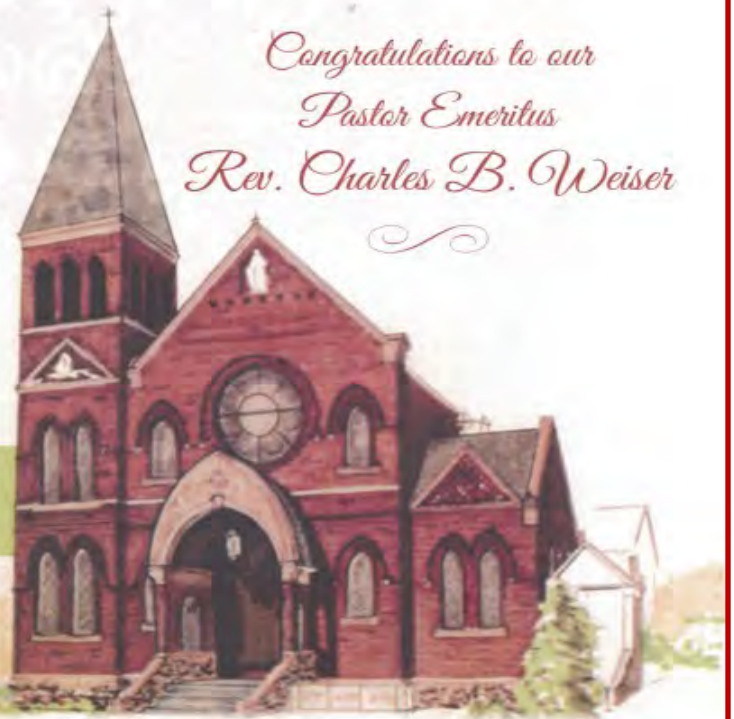
"I have called you by name." -Isaiah 45:4



65 Years of Priesthood

*With Love, Gratitude and Prayers,
from the
Parishioners & Staff of
St. Michael's Church
Long Branch*

*Congratulations to our
Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Charles B. Weiser*



"Here I am, Lord. Send me." - Isaiah 6:8



Busy Beading for a Blessed Beatification



The St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society hosted a Rosary Making Workshop on Sat 8/8 to help reach our parish goal of 1,000 World Mission Rosaries for the Beatification Mass of Fulton J. Sheen in September. The event was well attended by friends and families from several local parishes including St. Anthony's, St. Leo's, St. Catharine's, St. Martha's, Ascension, and Christ the King. Over 110 Rosaries were assembled. Fellowship and fun was shared by all. Parishioners who are making rosaries at home should return the completed kits to the church before 8/23. Many Thanks to all who participated in this special project.

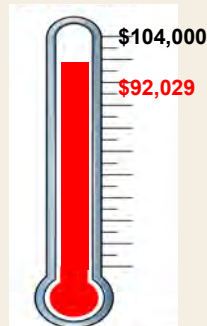
Info: Call or Text Rose McVey, 201-232-3891

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.

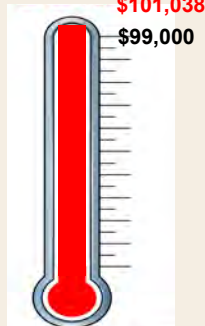


Parish Goal = \$89,000

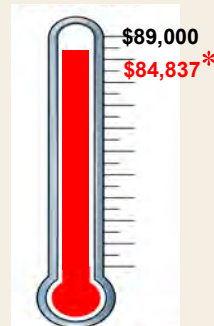
2024
After Twenty-Six
Weekends



2025
After Twenty-Six
Weekends



2026
After Twenty-Six
Weekends



*This \$84,837 figure is approximately 95.3% of our parish goal. It was received through and including the twenty-sixth weekend of the campaign (tallied as of Aug 1) from 258 pledgers or check-writing contributors (and many unidentified, unquantified cash contributors) all of whom comprise approximately 13.1% of the 1,972 registered households of the parish. **Thank you!** The Diocese sent a Diocesan-wide mailing during the week of February 12 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.



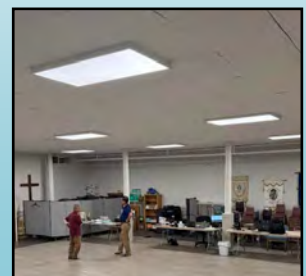
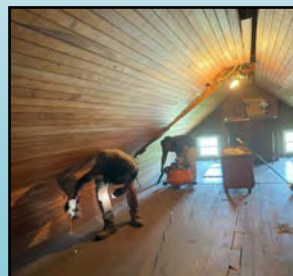
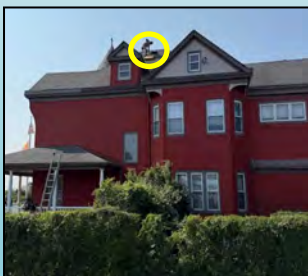
These three "thermometers" compare our parish's 2024 vs. 2025 vs. 2026 results-to-date in the Annual Catholic Appeal. The thermometers indicate that the campaign is going well and that we have passed the \$84,000 and 95% marks. This year's total after twenty-six weekends

is still behind the pace of the two previous years but we are gaining and getting closer to the finish line. Thank you for your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal. ***Together we can do great things!***



The Rain in Spain Stays Mainly in the ATTIC

Repair and maintenance work began during the past week in the attics of the rectory (please see the accompanying photos) where rainwater leakage through the roof, windows, and gaps in the siding panels, eaves, and window frames has combined with the building's advanced age and summertime humidity to create moisture and mold that are being remedied indoors with cleaning, disinfecting, and vacuuming in the attics and ducts as well as the outdoor installation of new roof vents and caulking sealants. In connection with this indoor work in the rectory, our business office staff has temporarily relocated their work stations and office equipment to the Lower Church.



NJ BISHOPS' Mass for Life



Thursday, October 8, 2026 | 9:30 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

151 N. Warren Street, Trenton



PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT
Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin,
C.Ss.R., D.D.,
Archdiocese of Newark



HOMILIST
Bishop Pedro Bismarck
Chau, D.D.,
Archdiocese of Newark

NEW JERSEY
MARCH FOR LIFE

*The NJ Rally & March for Life will
begin at 11 am at the Statehouse Annex,
a short walk from the Cathedral



ARCHDIOCESE
of NEWARK



DIOCESE
of TRENTON



DIOCESE
of CAMDEN



DIOCESE
of PATERSON



DIOCESE
of METUCHEN



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
EPARCHY of PASSAIC



For full information, visit: <https://dioceseoftrenton.org/nj-march-for-life>



BISHOP'S Anniversary + BLESSING

All couples celebrating their **1st, 25th or 50th** (or more) anniversary of Catholic marriage during the 2026 calendar year



October 18, 2026
Co-Cathedral
St. Robert Bellarmine,
Freehold



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER ROSARY MAKERS




Please Return the MAKE AT HOME DIY Rosary Kits on or before Sunday, 8/23 for Shipping to St. Louis

COLLECTION BASKET in Rear of the Church

Many thanks for helping St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society reach our goal of creating 1,000 World Mission Rosaries for the September 24th Beatification Mass of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in St. Louis. Every Rosary made will be PRAYED and BLESSED at the Mass.



CALL or TEXT Rose McVey 201-232-3891

St. Michael's Rosary Altar Society Prayer Chain

Let us Pray...

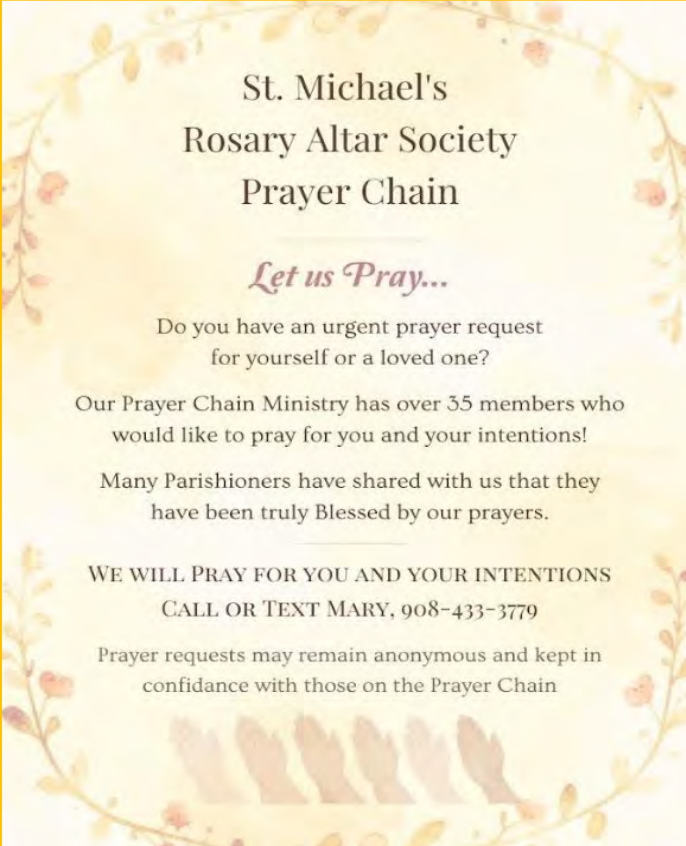
Do you have an urgent prayer request for yourself or a loved one?

Our Prayer Chain Ministry has over 35 members who would like to pray for you and your intentions!

Many Parishioners have shared with us that they have been truly Blessed by our prayers.

WE WILL PRAY FOR YOU AND YOUR INTENTIONS
CALL OR TEXT MARY, 908-433-3779

Prayer requests may remain anonymous and kept in confidence with those on the Prayer Chain



 THE ORATORY MUSIC CONSORTIUM PRESENTS

An Afternoon at the
OPERA

AN AFTERNOON FILLED WITH MESMERIZING PERFORMANCE



**AUGUST 23, 2026
3:30 PM**

**ADMISSION
A FREE WILL OFFERING**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Performed by members & friends of the Oratory Choir
- Exquisite Music
- Stunning Voices

THE ORATORY CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
27 ORATORY WAY, RED BANK

FOR MORE INFORMATION
732-747-0813
WEB.STANTHONYSFREDBANK.NET





ACT of FAITH

O MY GOD,
I firmly believe
that Thou art one God in Three
Divine Persons,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
I believe that Thy Divine Son became
Man
and died for our sins
and that He will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe these and all the truths
which the Holy Catholic Church
teaches
because Thou hast revealed them,
Who canst neither deceive nor be
deceived.
Amen

ACT of HOPE

O MY GOD,
relying on Thy almighty power
and infinite mercy and promises,
I hope to obtain pardon of my sins,
the help of Thy grace
and Life Everlasting,
through the merits of Jesus Christ,
my Lord and Redeemer.
Amen

ACT of CHARITY

O MY GOD,
I love Thee above all things,
with my whole heart and soul
because Thou art all-good
and worthy of all love.
I love my neighbour as myself
for the love of Thee.
I forgive all who have injured me
and ask pardon
of all whom I have injured.
Amen



The next Baptism preparation class for parents is scheduled for Saturday, September 12 at 11:45 a.m. in the Lower Church. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

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.

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, August 8, 2026

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,352.00	183 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$1,143.00	104 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$644.00	72 people

Sunday, August 9, 2026

7:00 AM Mass	\$1,867.00	107 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,654.00	173 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$883.00	114 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,593.00	126 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$1,108.00	118 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$961.00	181 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the August 9 collection and for previous Sunday collections: **\$1,352.00**

This Week's Total: \$13,557.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$12,177.00

Second Collection: Annual Catholic Appeal: \$1,064.00

Adjustment to Office Hours

The Parish Business Office will be closed all day on the remaining Fridays of August and through and including the Labor Day weekend. This adjustment is temporary and will be re-evaluated in September. If a priest is urgently needed on any of these Fridays for an emergency situation, please call the Parish Office and the answering service will relay your message to Fr. Butler for response.



Bus Trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City

When: Tuesday, August 18, 2026
Cost: \$40.00 (Receive \$20.00 back at Casino and free refreshments on the bus).

Bus leaves St. Michael's Church at 10:15 a.m.



For more information and to make a reservation call Peter at 732-801-6886

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

May 2027

†Susan Whitman
†Ronald Lubischer

r/o Lex and Janet Tucci
r/o Joyce Lubischer

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Annual Catholic Appeal 2026 Commenced February 14-15; Ongoing

CCD Registration August 12, 2026-September 8, 2026
(Registration deadline: Sept. 8) Classes begin September 15 & 21
(See Page 4 for details)

Summer Missionary Appeal August 15 and 16, 2026
(See Page 3 for details)

Parish Summer Choir Singing at Saturday, August 22, 2026
Lakewood Blueclaws & 5:00 p.m.
Mass at the stadium

Fr. Alphonse's 1940s Sunday, September 6, 2026
Big Band Concert 5:00 p.m.
(See Page 3 for details)

New Jersey Bishops' Mass for Life Thursday, October 8, 2026
and March for Life 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
(See Page 8 for details)