



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

1212 KELLY ST, UNION, NEW JERSEY 07083

Mission

A diverse spiritual community in action, dedicated to drawing people to Christ and making church and worship matter. We do this through our liturgical worship and living out our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Monday—Friday
8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Saturday

Mass: 8:30 am
Confession: 1:00 pm—2:00 pm
Saturday Vigil Mass—5:30 pm

Sunday

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12:00 Noon

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu
Pastor

Rev. Camilo Lopez
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Alfano
Permanent Deacon

Margaret Kazan
Principal

Mary Jo Arnaldo-Sipe
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Stephanie Marulanda
Lois Scanio
Religious Education

Cristina Manochio
Joseph Santillo
Youth Ministry

Fran Engleman
Music Director

Tiago Rodrigues
Property Manager

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Charles McDermott

PARISH OFFICE

Tel.: 908-688-1232

Fax: 908-810-1076

stmichaelunion@comcast.net
www.stmichaelunion.org

 StMichaelParishUnion

 stmichaelunion

 Stmichaelchurch



May 11, 2025

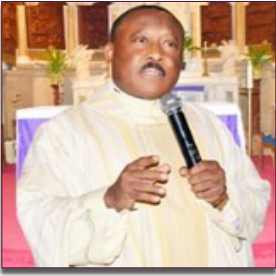
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



My sheep hear my voice;
I know them, and *they*
follow me.

John 10:27

The Voice of the Shepherd



In the gospel reading of this 4th Sunday of Easter, Christ calls Himself the Good Shepherd, that His sheep know Him and He knows them, that they follow His voice, and that no one can snatch them away from His hands (cf.

John 10). There is the story of this woman from southern Nigeria who had two cows she left grazing in a nearby field. A herd of cows got into the area for grazing. The herd owner enticed the two cows to follow his herd, and they did. When the woman returned, she discovered that her cows were gone. She reported to the police and said her suspicion was that the man with a big herd of cows was the culprit. The police questioned her if she had any marks to identify them, to which she said no. The police told her they could not help her with her suspicion because she had no objective evidence. She insisted they take her to the man's herd and see what would happen. After some hesitation, they agreed to take her to the man's ranch. When she got there, she called out, "Maroohaa". Instantly, a big cow stood up from the ground and started walking, with a pace, toward the direction of the voice. Then, she called out again, "Anahoo," and a second cow stood up and headed toward the direction of the voice. The woman turned around and started walking away from the barn, and the two cows followed her. The police arrested the man, and, during interrogation, confessed that he had stolen the cows. As you can see, these cows knew the voice of their owner, the one who knew them by name, the one they had come to trust to feed them, care for them, and protect them.

My friends, who we follow, can make all the difference in life here and hereafter. These days, we follow many celebrities and influencers on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc. The question is, how much life can these people give? How much help can they render? In what ways can they save? Do they even know who you are? The voice of the one we follow must be one that can give life and give it in abundance, one who has been around, knows you personally, and can deliver from the consequences of sin. We can only find such a voice in the Shepherd, Christ Jesus. Why?

In the first place, He has been around forever and knows it all. The Bible says, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God... and nothing was created without the Word... and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:1-14), and "Nothing in all creation is hidden from His sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before His eyes" (Heb. 4:13). This Shepherd knows it all, has seen it all, and nothing surprises Him. As Scripture says, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not fall" (Heb. 4:15). Simply put, this Shepherd understands the pains and joys of humanity, the pains of betrayal and abandonment, what makes people cry and what makes them lose it, what poverty and loss feel like, and what fear, anger, wrath, and hatred can do. He knows the liberating power of compassion, love, and forgiveness. Scripture refers to Him as an ever-present help in times of great need. Secondly, we are never lost to His presence. Most celebrities we follow on social media don't even know who we are. Not so with Jesus the Shepherd. He knows us by name, He knows what hurts us and what helps us, He knows what we are good at and what we are struggling with, He knows where we have been and where we are going, He knows our thoughts even before we speak, and can change mourning into dancing, sorrow into joy, and weeping into songs. This is the Person we do not need to impress and, in whose presence, we do not need to pretend or be who we are not.

Above all, this influencer wants the best outcome for us. As Scripture says, "I know the plans I have for you; plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future full of hope" (Jer. 29:11), and as He says, "I have come that they may have life and have it in its fullness" (John 10:10). Christ wants the best for us and wants to turn everyday mundane actions into meaningful experiences. Let us, therefore, take Him on His word and make Him our Lord and personal Savior. It is worth the try, and I say this with the most profound conviction.

Mmgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

2025 UNION OF SAINTS & NATIONS (USAN)

Different ways to remit a donation

Submit a donation to your group facilitator.

Mail donation to parish office using an envelope marked USAN 2025.

Drop off donations at the parish center or in any of the collection boxes in the Church Vestibule in an envelope marked "USAN 2025". Be sure to have your name, group name, or group number on the envelope.

Use our church online giving in our website, www.stmichaelunion.org or Zelle to stmichaelunion@comcast.net and write USAN 2025 in the comment.

All checks and money orders are to be made payable to St. Michael's Church, and write "USAN" and group name in the Memo.

Duration of fundraiser:

This year's fundraiser will actively begin on **April 27, 2025, and officially end on July 31, 2025**. You can continue to remit money through Sept 30, 2025.

For more information, please call the office at (908) 688-1232 or talk to any priests, Cynthia Grandeza, David Bernot or a "Group Facilitator."

I urge all our parishioners to stand tall and steadfast and commit to this blessed effort. We can accomplish any goal if we do it together. The good news is that we can, and by the grace of God, we will. At this point, our motto is forward ever, backward never.

In the vestibule of the Church, you will see the Plaques for the past years of our USAN Mission with the names of the various groups and their facilitators. We intend to create a history out of this venture because it is proving to be a life-wire for the survival of our parish.

Please pray that the good Lord may grant success to the work of our hands.



Prayer to **ST. MICHAEL**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

*"Give and gifts will be given to you ...
the measure with which you measure will in turn be
measured out to you." Luke 6:38*

COLLECTION & SOS

	NEEDED WEEKLY	ACTUAL WEEKLY	OVER/UNDER
MAY			
Week 1	\$ 8,461	\$ 7,521	\$ 940
Week 2	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 3	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$11,425	\$ 6,272	\$ 5,153
EASTER COLLECTION:		\$23,982	
EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION:		\$ 3,430	

Dear Parishioners,

In order for us to stay in the **GREEN**, it is important that we meet our weekly budget collections and SOS. Please let us continue to support the weekly Sunday collection so that we can achieve our goals of balancing the budget going forward.

Thank you for your support of the parish and your continued generosity.

Msgr. Anselm

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

2025 Base Goal: \$47,850.00

2025 Stretch Goal: \$57,420.00

As of: May 6, 2025

Donor Pledge: \$34,835.00

Donor Received: \$26,614.44

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS

On **May 27, 28, 29**, Msgr. Anselm and Fr. Miles will be away from the Church for Newark Archdiocese Convocation of Priest. **There will only be one Mass - 12:00 noon** for the days they are away. All the Mass intention for the 8:30 Mass will be offered at the 12:00 noon Mass.

Thank you for your understanding.

Bus trip to Wind Creek Casino Bethlehem, PA

Monday, June 16, 2025. Bus leaves St. Michael's parking lot at 9:30 am sharp.

Cost: \$35, you will receive \$25 in slot play

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

May 10

8:30 am Jina & George Sisnero, Leticia Morales
Dada Egwahaide (1st Ann.)
5:30 pm Espana Family (Living)-Thanksgiving
Arthur Lague (Living)-Birthday
Ana Mercedes Torres, Maria Leticia Morales
Eugene Fabio, Sr. & Eugene Fabio, Jr.
Novena of Masses For All Mothers

SUNDAY

May 11

7:30 am Lucille Arnaldo, Mary Lambusta
Francisco Carlos, Jr.
Novena of Masses for All Mothers
9:00 am For All Parishioners, Avelino Torres
Novena of Masses for All Mothers
10:30 am Regina Mendoza (Living)-Birthday
Marietta M. Gancia (Living)-Birthday
Dorothy Marchitello, Abe Maksom
Novena of Masses For All Mothers
12:00 noon Josephine Valentino, Maria Jose Farinha
Novena of Masses For All Mothers

MONDAY

May 12

8:30 am Novena of Masses, Dr. Emmanuel Dorce
12:00 noon Ryan Anthony Bernal, Mary & Gino Ianiro

TUESDAY

May 13

8:30 am Gerard Crincoli, Grace Badiola
12:00 noon Jennifer Chaves (Living)-Birthday
Terese & Nicola Vanni

WEDNESDAY

May 14

8:30 am Cathy & Ronnie DeLeon (Living)
Sean Cooper (Living)
12:00 noon Rosa Mugavero & Antonino Mugavero
Vita Ficarre

THURSDAY

May 15

8:30 am Juana Coda (Living)-Birthday
Cleofe Rodriguez (1st Ann.)
12:00 noon Bernadette Pierre Louis
Mary & Gino Ianiro

FRIDAY

May 16

8:30 am Joseph Cebulak (56th Ann.)
Grace Badiola
12:00 noon Novena Of Masses, Grace Badiola

SATURDAY

May 17

8:30 am Assumpta "Ada" Nosika (Living)
Constance Emery
5:30 pm For the Parishioners
Grace Badiola, Ray Scurko

SUNDAY

May 18

7:30 am Jose Arnaldo (16th Ann.)
Helen & Henry Filipowich
9:00 am Gabriel Picadol (Living)
Aidan Perez (Living)-Thanksgiving
10:30 am Carlos Carrion (Living)-65th Birthday
Mary & Gino Ianiro
12:00 noon Frank Manco, Mary & Gino Ianiro
Virgilio Salazar (1st Ann.)

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine & Sanctuary Lamp are offered in memory of George Rinehart, requested by his wife Rose and children.

The Paschal Candle is donated by Ed & Katherine Izbicki in memory of Walter & Ruth Reinhard and Edward & Carol Izbicki.

Novena of Masses May 2025

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrale
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Mary & Idolo Russomano	George Rinehart, Jr.
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Jake Sarmiento, Jr.	
Mary & Gino Ianiro	Teresa & Nicola Vanni
All Souls in Purgatory	For St. Michael's Clergy
Elizabeth Donato & Joe Pacicco	
Ben & Marivic Del Rosario (Living)	
Doug & Mary Jo Sipe (Living)	
Margau Abueg Depeoro (Living)-Healing	
Jeff Pogorzleski (Living)-Healing	
Special Intentions to the Holy Spirit	
Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family	
George Sr., Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Micheline Kmetz & Joseph Kmetz	
Patsy Scalgione & deceased family members	
Living & Deceased Members of Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Lucille Sousa Araujo & Manuel Periera Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Thomas J. McEnroe & Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Boulin & Maddy Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Durugo & Onyeaanu Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Tokpe, Camara & Santos Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Del Rosario & Perez Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Grace Fortino, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Jeff Pogorzelski, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Alex Pretto, Paulo Goncalves, Frances Machado, Michael Nworu, Victoria Nworu, June Musa, Marivic del Rosario, Theresa Ojeawere, Kathy Chavez, Sofia Teixeira, Carlos Dacruz, Socorro Dagat, Peter & Cathy Fortunato, Anna Lepski, Nicole Ferlo, Therese Ferlo, Dolly Kramer, Junita Ottenstroer, Baby Sophia Alfano, John Dittmer, Sal Dovi, Kathy Doherty, Mary Ann Flynn, Roger Swadish, Jaime DeLeon, Doug Heinzer, Leonard Stfalk, Aida Polanco, Fr. Chuck McDermott, Remedios Mendoza, Bellevina Alexandre, Maria Ferrara, Barbara Donato, Kevin Kinsella, Mary Ann McGrath, Anthony Terrezza, Homer Mereira, Alberta Phillips, Annamae McKnight, Liza David, Kate Hurley-Dandekar, Michelle Dressel, Jose Espiritu, Cristina Sarmiento, Agripina Perez, Walter McMahon, Lois Scanio, Loty Angara, Isabela Esmores, Jonathan Hyland, Anthony Staynings

DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Please remember in your prayers our parish, friends and family members who have passed on to the Lord, that they may inherit the promise of everlasting life in heaven. Especially,

Members of St. Michael's Parish

Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY

Cristina Manocchio
(908) 688-1232, ext 3

Joseph Santillo
cyouunionnj@gmail.com



Join us at our next meeting on May 13th in the Phil Matrale Hall from 7:00pm-8:30pm where we will be having our annual CYO Coffee House Talent Show. All CYO members are encouraged to share their talents with the group. There will be a \$5 admission for baked goods and soft drinks.

Our service projects for the rest of the month include: ARC visit on Saturday, May 17th from 10:00am-11:30am and the Cheshire Home visit on Wednesday, May 28th from 5:30pm-8:00pm. Transportation will be provided if needed to the Cheshire Home.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH 2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 21-July 25 (Monday-Friday 9:00 am -12:00 noon)
Our program is for children ages Pre-K to 8th Grade
Price: \$60 per child (3rd child in a family is 1/2 price)

Child's Name _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

School child attends: _____ Grade in Sept.: _____

Parents Name & Signature: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

(Name) (Phone) (Relations)

Please circle any of the following if your child is allergic to:

Dairy Peanuts Bee Sting

Does your child have any special concerns we should be aware of. This includes any allergies, diabetes, etc.

Pictures from Bible School are used on our website for advertising and on our Church bulletin Boards. No names or personal information is ever used or given out on any child.

If you do not want pictures of your child used sign here _____.

Registration fee is \$60.00 (cash or check)

Total: \$ _____

All children will receive a Bible School T-shirt. Circle size

Small Medium Large

Please return this form to St. Michael's Parish Center, 1211 Orange Ave., Union, NJ 07083. Mail or drop or drop off. Please put St. Michael's Vacation Bible School.

CYO Office (908) 688-1232, Ext 3

DO NOT DELAY! REGISTRATION DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The **Religious Education Office** is open Monday through Thursday 9:30AM to 2:30PM (except holidays) or by appointment. We are located in the Parish Center at 1211 Orange Avenue. You can also contact us by phone 908-964-0965 at any time and leave a message or via email at smreligiouseducation@gmail.com

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

St. Michael's Parish Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group invites you to join us this Wednesday evening's Testimony Night, at 6:00 PM, in Phil Matrale Hall (LC).

RCIA PROGRAM

Deacon Michael Alfano RCIA classes are every Saturday morning in the Phil Matrale Hall (LC) - Murphy Room at 10:30 am. Please contact Deacon Michael at michaeljalfano@aol.com if you want to learn more about the program.

HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS)

Please consider making donations to the Ministry. We are constantly in need of clothing, sanitary and feeding items for children (**New born to Age 5**) and for mothers.

Please call **Bisi Longe** (908)247-4461 or **Tania Massicot** (973) 420-8659 for a comprehensive list of items needed.

All items must be **NEW**.

Please note that donations can also be made online on a one-time or recurring basis, on the parish website at www.stmichael.org.

MIND AND SPIRIT MINISTRY

IN THE LOWER HALL OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH,
1212 KELLY STREET, UNION, NJ

Non-therapeutic groups integrating listening support with spiritual reflection. Available to anyone who wants to attend.

MONTHLY GROUP SESSIONS
THURSDAYS 7PM - 8.30PM

2024

October 10th: Grief & Loss

November 14th: Shame & Inner Criticism

December 12th: Coping with Stress

2025

January 9th: Gratitude & Self-care

February 6th: Managing Anger

March 6th: Relational conflict

April 3rd: Finding Self-forgiveness

May 8th: Living with Anxiety & Fear

June 12th: Personal tribulations

July 10th: Life after Past Experiences

COME AND JOIN US

Contact Ginnie, Jonathan, Ylani and Taisha at
ourmindandspiriteg@gmail.com

Announcements

IMPORTANT PARISH SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

St. Michael's Parish DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX (DMI) Survey

If you're a parishioner and haven't already taken the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** survey, NOW is the time! It's the very important step in St. Michael's Parish's growing in our discipleship. We are currently assessing our parish's greatest strengths and opportunities, and need your response to help strengthen our parish and better prepare us for the future – as we strive to reflect more of Christ's love in our community. For the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link, please visit:

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/c4cbpc>

Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.



SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

You are all invited and hope you can join us on our next Fellowship Gathering on Sunday, May 18, 2025 after all Masses in the Phil Matrale Hall (LC).

We would like to thank the following for their generous donation to our Easter Sunday Celebration & Fellowship: Augustina Okere, Erika Colbert, Victoria Oyakhime, Dr. Madesa Espana, Gisele Velez, Cheryl & Kermit Thompson.

We would also like to thank Amanda Omuka & Erika Colbert for their donation to our March fellowship.

Lastly, our very heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers.

May God continue to bless you!

MAY EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Friday, May 2, 6:30 pm
First Sunday Adoration, Upper Church

Sunday, May 4, 7:00-8:30 pm
First Sunday Mass Adoration, Upper Church

Monday, May 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:00 pm
Online/Virtual Rosary/Family Prayer

Tuesday, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 7:00 pm
Online Bible Class

Wednesday, May 7, 14, 21, 28 – 7:30 pm
Charismatic Renewal Group Prayer Meeting, (LC)

Wednesdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28—7:30 -8:30 pm
Marian Devotion: Rosary and Adoration, Upper Church

Thursday, May 8, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mind & Spirit Ministry, LC

Saturday, May 18, after all Masses
Fellowship Sunday

MARIAN DEVOTIONS FOR MAY 2025



Daily Recitation of the Holy Rosary

Upper Church
8:00 am and after 12:00 noon Mass on Sundays

St. Michael Parish website Go To Meeting
Daily (except Wednesdays) at 7:00 pm

Adoration and Marian Devotion

Upper Church
Wednesdays at 7:30 pm

May Crowning

Upper Church
Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 7:00 pm

Marian Procession

Around St. Michael Church
Saturday, May 31, 2025 after the 5:30 pm Mass

TRAVELING STATUE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



As part of the Church various devotional activities to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the church has commissioned a traveling statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It will be commissioned for any parishioner's home for a week from Sunday to Saturday. Anybody who wants to take home the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, should indicate the week and the mass time you are taking the statue. The statue should be picked up on Sunday at a Mass time you requested, stays at your home for a week and dropped off on Saturday before the 5:30 pm Mass. There is a sign up sheet in the vestibule of the Church or call the Parish Office (908) 688-1232 for more information.

MAY SCHEDULE

May 4-Layla Percy-9:00 am Mass
May 11- Theresa Pogorzelski-10:30 am Mass
May 18-Rose Rendeiro-10:30 am Mass
May 25-Socorro Dagat-7:30 am Mass



"To Teach, To Guide, To Guard"

Saint Michael School Sports Program

Our 51st Annual sports award dinner was held recently, and the following four students received an award representing the ideals of four deceased members of our sports program.

Dennis Farrell Award – Justin Witter
Walt "Wally" Foster Award – Aderola Adelusi
Kevin Apuzzio Award – Devin Dorielan
Eze Emeana Award – Frantz Fombrun

Connie Foster, Athletic Director