



THE WAY

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30 YEARS AGO...



Many things have changed yet many also remain the same. These are the thoughts that come to mind as we pause to recognize and celebrate our Pastor Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu on his Thirtieth Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. Many parishioners clearly recall the appointment of newly ordained Father Anselm, who brought his gregarious smile and intelligent homilies along with his dedication to our burgeoning CYO youth and Pre-Cana Programs. He appeared to always be busy and engaged learning his new role as Pastoral Associate. As his first-year anniversary rolled around that early milestone was marked by a fitting party to celebrate his work among us. We smiled and applauded the accomplishment.

Fast forward to St. Michael's today and God has truly blessed us **again** with his reappointment to our parish. Yet **now** he returns as Monsignor Anselm, licensed Doctor of Psychology, published author of many books and articles, Biblical teacher and scholar, skilled orator and homilist, experienced Pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and friend to all. So once again the people of St. Michael's stand in vigorous ovation and prayerful gratitude to God for granting us the opportunity to work, pray and celebrate together once again.

Happy 30th Anniversary of your Priestly Ordination, Monsignor Anselm!!!

By Jean Perkins

MINISTERS & MINISTRIES

CYO

Church in the Eyes of its Children

For this article, I interviewed several seniors in high school from various areas, schools, and parishes.

"I go to a Catholic school, I pray often, I go to Mass during holidays." Those were the most common answers given when I asked other teenagers if they were religious. With this being a constant theme in the lives of many teenagers it made me wonder if Mass feels like a chore or a blessing. Even at my school, whenever we have class Mass, the line I hear most is, "At least I got to skip Math class." Shouldn't we be saying, "Finally, I can celebrate my faith with my classmates."

During my interviews, many people said Mass was boring. There were often 2 major reasons. 1. They can't follow along because they don't know the responses. 2. It feels dead with only the priest talking from a script.

When looking at our very own parish, I believe we have found solutions to these issues. We have slideshows with the responses. We have a choir that does an amazing job and both our priests give personal and profound homilies. This is why when I interviewed those individuals who attend St. Michael, a majority of them said

that they can feel a presence of belonging during our Mass.

Gen Z, that is the name given to my generation. The thing about my generation is that we like to be trendy and are always looking for the next big thing. In an ever-changing world, this could be a good thing, but for the Church, "who has stayed the same way for the past thousand years," it may cause discord. To look at the Church through the eyes of Gen Z is no hop in the park. My generation is one that simply can't be pleased. I can even quote my fellow classmate who said, *"There is nothing that will quench our [teenagers] boredom and there is especially nothing the Church can do. Either you believe in God or you don't."*

I can only speak for St. Michael's Church when I say this, but I do believe that our Mass feels like home for people of all ages and backgrounds. The truth remains simple, the most important group of people inside our Church is its young people. They are the future of our faith. For many teenagers, what they truly want is a place to feel welcomed, accepted, and at home. I do believe that when you walk through those doors on Sunday at St. Michael Church, a sense of belonging enters your heart.

In conclusion, the Church through the eyes of the youth is one filled with good and bad but what remains is hope - hope for this generation and its continuous faith in Christ.

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By Cristian Simms

LOVING GOD INSIDE AND OUT

Your Personal Pentecost

As I reflect on the Church's Feast of Pentecost, I am reminded of the importance of **Loving God Inside and Out.**

Pentecost, the day in which the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles in Acts Chapter 2 is the birthday of the Church. The word "Pentecost" means fifty. This special day is 50 days after Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. So how can we love God inside and out and experience our personal Pentecost?

The 5 ways which we can deepen the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives can be found in the acrostic **FIVEW** - five plus one letter:

1. **F**ervency in prayer - persistent prayer from our hearts.
2. **I**ntercession in prayer - praying for others' needs and asking the Saints to pray for us.
3. **V**alue in prayer - journaling (writing down) the answers to our prayers.
4. **E**ucharist and Evangelization - spending time in Eucharistic Adoration and spreading the Good News by sharing our Faith and living a virtuous life.
5. **W**alk with our Lord Jesus- day by day we can practice the first four.

We can exercise each of these 5 ways by breaking them down into 10-day periods. Yes, that's right - 5 times 10 - Fifty!

It is my prayer that we love Christ inside and out and have our personal Pentecost!

By Chuck Cababe

TIME, TREASURE & TALENT

Spotlight

Maria Nazare Rodrigues



On behalf of the pastor, Monsignor Anselm, St. Michael's would like to express our sincere gratitude to Maria Nazare Rodrigues.

Maria spends countless hours volunteering to maintain the hedges around our property to keep our church grounds beautiful.

She also has a magical touch when it comes to farming. During spring season, she tends a beautiful plot of land she carved out on the property and plants vegetables, tomatoes, peppers, and various herbs, which always yields an awesome harvest.

We are truly blessed as a parish family to have Maria in our midst. Thank you, Maria, for giving your time, talent, and treasure to glorify the Lord!

May God bless you for all that you do!

SAINTS & US TODAY

St. Isidore



The feast of Pentecost, celebrated this year on Sunday, June 5th, reminds us of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and in our lives as Catholics.

St. Isidore the Farmer had a strong belief in the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit in his personal life and in his devotion to the Church. His feast day is celebrated on May 15th.

I find the life of St. Isidore incredibly inspiring. He was a pious farmer who rose early each morning to attend Mass. He spent many holidays visiting churches near his home in Madrid, Spain. While at work in the fields, he frequently shared his thoughts and feelings in prayer to God.

In today's world, I sometimes find it hard devoting and balancing my time with my family, my work and with our Church. When this happens, I think of the example of St. Isidore who with the help of the Holy Spirit, lived out his faith in his personal life and in his devotion to the Church, and this greatly inspires me in my faith today.

As we prepare for Pentecost, let us pray for the intercession of St. Isidore to live out our faith with the help of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives, in our work, and in our devotion to St. Michael's Church.

By Deacon Michael Alfano

WORD SEARCH

Acts of the Apostles	Gift
Amazed	Holy Spirit
Apostles	Jewish Feast
Baptism	Language
Birthday Catholic Church	Law Given to Moses
Christian Feast	Pentecost
Church Mission	Red
Fiftieth Day Easter	Speak in Tongues
Fire	Tongues of Flame
Firstfruits	Wind

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