



THE WAY

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION BY ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, UNION, NJ
Volume 2 | Issue 3 | AUGUST 2022

24 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Gift of Adoration

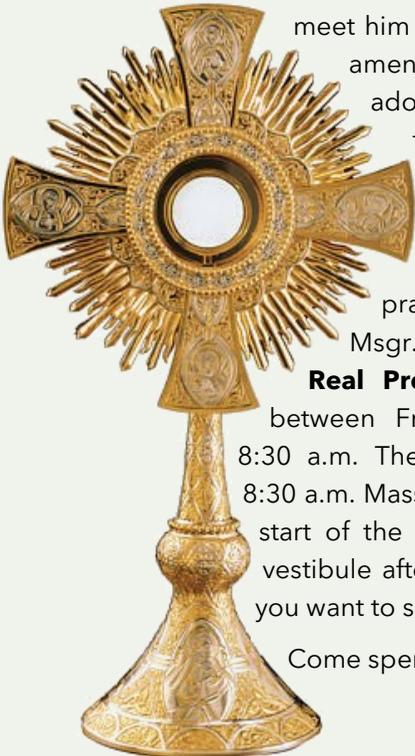
Think of your favorite memory that you have with your best friend. Where were you? What were you doing? Were you together? While everyone has a different story to tell, I'm guessing you all have something in common - your memory involves being with your friend, being physically present with them. Spending time with someone is key to a relationship. Why would that be any different for your relationship with Jesus? The best and easiest way to deepen your relationship with Jesus is to choose to spend time with Him. Adoration gives us the opportunity to be in the physical presence of Jesus, the same Jesus who died on the cross and sits at the right hand of the Father.

St. John Paul II said, "The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease" (Dominicae Cena). Jesus wants to spend time with you. He wants to see you. He is waiting for you. Bring a rosary, bring a journal, or just bring yourself! Whatever you do, don't keep him waiting any longer.

Pope Francis invites everyone to "discover the beauty of the prayer of adoration and to exercise it often." In support, Msgr. Anselm extends an invitation for you to spend an hour with the **Real Presence of the Lord** in prayer, thanksgiving, and meditation between Friday, October 7th, 8:30 a.m. and Saturday, October 8th, 8:30 a.m. There will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Friday, and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed until the start of the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday. You can sign up in the church vestibule after September Sunday Masses for the one-hour time slots when you want to spend time with the Lord.

Come spend an hour with Jesus in prayer and meditation!

By Dr. Madesa Espana & Deacon Michael Alfano



OUR MINISTERS & MINISTRIES

CYO

Meet Our New President

Hi everyone, my name is Laila Tomlinson and I am thrilled to inform you that I will be the 2022-2023 CYO president! I am a seventeen-year-old rising senior that is currently attending Union High School and UCCTI for Digital Multimedia Design. I also work at the Westfield YMCA in the child's sports department.

Apart from myself, we have a group of amazing, diligent, and brilliant individuals known as the Executive Board. They have been active members of CYO and church community and are just as eager to start this year. These individuals include Michelle Torres as Vice-President, Clarence Royandoyan as Secretary, Gabriel Castano as Treasurer, Kyle Pua as Religious Chairperson, and Cristina Freire as Creative Chairperson.

This year we aspire to grow in community and faith. We invite all teenagers to come and see that we are a family who uplifts one another in faith and love. CYO is going to have a great start and we hope to see you all when September comes around!

By Laila Tomlinson

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Meet Our Catechist



In recognition of her exceptional and dedicated service to St. Michael's Church since 1996, Marie Crespo was named the Knights of

Columbus 2021-22 Catechist of the Year. Marie mostly taught second grade, the year in which the children prepare to receive First Communion. This past year Marie taught a specialized group of children in Sacrament Prep 1, a class for children in third grade and older with no prior religious education. Marie has the talent and ability to reach this diverse group and bring them to an understanding of our Catholic faith. This September, she will advance with them to Sacrament Prep 2 as they receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the Spring. Marie's family consists of her three sons, Juan Crespo 3rd, Justin Crespo and Joshua Crespo and her daughter-in-law, Brenda Crespo. When Marie isn't sharing her faith with the children of St. Michael's Church, she is a school bus driver for South Orange/Maplewood Education Association. Prior to that she was employed as a transportation aide for disabled children and subsequently became licensed as a school bus driver for Union Township and continued her employment as a playground and teacher's aide at Hannah Caldwell School. Marie Crespo is a beautiful example of witness to God's love via her stewardship and compassionate work!

By Clare Andriola

AUTUMN

The Colors of Leaves and Their Representation of Christian Virtues

As we enter the season of Autumn, some of us are going back to school or coming back from vacation, but most of us will be in awe of the leaves on the trees changing colors. How do the colors of the leaves represent our Christian virtues? First, some of the leaves change from green to yellow, Yellow signifies warmth. We can bring warmth in our Catholic Christian community by a simple smile, encouraging word, or a prayer from someone's need. Ecclesiastes 4:11b-12 says "How can one alone keep warm? Where a lone man may be overcome, two together can resist. A three-ply cord is not easily broken." Second, other leaves change from green to red, Red symbolizes strength. We become strong in our Christian life when we remain calm in a difficult situation or a faith-challenged situation such as being ridiculed for our faith. Isaiah 30:15 states "By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies." At another stage, other leaves turn from green to orange. Orange represents enthusiasm. Zealousness comes when we give our whole hearts to prayer, the sacraments, and service to Jesus. St. John Paul II says "live the present with enthusiasm." In the final stage, the color of leaves will change from green to brown. Brown symbolizes stability. We become secure when we increase the qualities found in 2 Peter 1:5-7 such as faith and self-control, 2 Peter 1:10 indicates "In doing so, you will never stumble." The virtue symbolization with the colors of Fall correspond with the continuation of becoming new creatures in Christ which was initiated at our Baptism.

By Chuck Cababe

CELEBRATING 4 YEARS OF HUGS

With the Hands of Grace BTS Drive



The Hands of Grace Ministry **(HUGS)** will be celebrating its 4th year this August!

2 years ago, the ministry held a

very successful Back to School (BTS) Drive, giving away over 100 Bags to children at St. Michael's Church. It is amazing and indeed a blessing to see the joy on children's faces when they stretch out their angelic hands politely, to receive their gift bags.

Even though the pandemic held us back from making it an annual event last year, we are so excited that we will be able to run the give-away again this year! In December, we will also be giving out Christmas bags filled with awesome gifts celebrating the season with joy.

Through the year, on a monthly basis, the ministry distributes Grace Bags catering to children ages new born to five years and their mothers. Many have expressed their gratitude to St. Michael's Church for this gesture.

The effectiveness of this ministry would not have been possible without the help of its members who continue to give their time, talent and treasure to make sure we live up to our mission. We are also very grateful to parishioners who have relentlessly shown support to the ministry. Please help share the word about the ministry and its benefit.

By Bisi Longe

SAINTS & US TODAY

St. Faustina Kowalska



As Catholics, we are always looking for opportunities to support and be compassionate toward others. We have a perfect model of Christian service to look up to in St. Faustina Kowalska. Her entire life, in imitation of Christ's life, was to be a sacrifice, a life lived for others.

From a young age, Helena Kowalska (her birth name), felt a calling to enter religious life. But in order to provide for her family,

Helena worked as a housekeeper. She also served as a cook, porter, and gardener to support convents in Poland and Lithuania. She eventually became Sister Maria Faustina, a Polish Roman Catholic nun on 30 April 1926, at the age of 20.

Many people now know of St. Faustina for her visions of Jesus Christ that established the devotion to Divine Mercy. Devotion to the Divine Mercy consists of witnessing by living one's own life in the spirit of trust in God and compassion for others.

St. Faustina Kowalska's feast day is celebrated on October 5th., and she is the patron saint of Mercy.

St. Faustina Kowalska, you devoted your life to serving others and you shared with the world the deep fountain of Divine Mercy—pray for us!

By Deacon Michael Alfano

WORD SEARCH

Adoration	Monstrance
Benediction	Prayer
Blessed	Present
Consecrated Host	Procession
Devotion	Respectful
Eucharistic	Sacrament
Genuflect	See
Holy Hour	Silence
Homage	To Show
Listen	Worship

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