



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

DECEMBER 12, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Pastoral Staff

Rev. Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu, *Pastor*
Rev. Camilo Lopez, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Charles B. McDermott, *Pastor Emeritus*
Deacon Michael Cavallo, *Permanent Deacon*
Deacon Michael Alfano, *Permanent Deacon*
Mrs. Clare Andriola, *Pastoral Associate for Religious Education*
Ms. Cristina Manochio, *Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry*
Mr. Peter Petrecca, *Music Director*
Ms. Fran Engleman, *9:00 am Choirmaster*
Mr. Patrick B. Phillips, *12:00 Noon Choirmaster*
Mrs. Rebekah Scicolone, *Principal*

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE Saturday 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Notify a priest of all who are hospitalized or home bound

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms: 2nd Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm
Baptism preparation: 2nd Friday evening at 7:30 pm
Call parish office to register (908-688-1232)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Contact a priest at the parish at least no less than eight months prior to booking your wedding date.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Adults wishing to join the Catholic Church or who are baptized but have not made their First Communion/Confirmation should please contact the parish office for full information and guidance.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (CCD)

Grade 1-8 religious formation for First Penance and First Communion please call the Parish Religious Education office (908-964-0965).

YOUTH MINISTRY

A comprehensive youth program for all teens from 9th to 12th grade. Our program prepares teens for Confirmation, promotes growth in Catholic values and morals, provides opportunities for Christian service and offers positive social activities. For further information call the Youth Ministry Office.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

All parishioners need to be registered.

Please call the Parish Office for registration or information.

Mission Statement

St. Michael the Archangel Parish is dedicated to growing disciples, drawing people to Christ and making church and worship matter. We do this through our liturgical worship, the proclamation of the Good News, and living out our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

Mass Schedule

SUNDAY

5:30 pm (Saturday Evening)
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon

DAILY

Monday ► Friday:

8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Saturday: 8:30 am

Holy Days: Announced in the bulletin

Address

1212 Kelly Street, Union, New Jersey 07083

Telephones

Rectory/Parish Center: 908-688-1232
Rectory/Parish Center Fax: 908-810-1076
School: 908-688-1063
Religious Education Office: 908-964-0965
Youth Ministry Office: 908-686-3762
Email: stmichaelunion@comcast.net
Stay Connected:



www.stmichaelunion.org



StMichaelParishUnion



stmichaelunion



Stmichaelchurch



Devotions

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATIONS

Every 1st Friday and 1st Sunday 6:30 pm

DEVOTION TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Wednesdays 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 1st, 2nd and 4th 7:00 pm

BOLD AND CATHOLIC REFLECTION

3rd Saturdays 9:00 am

ADVENT REFLECTION

Every Saturday of Advent 9:00 am

LENTEN REFLECTION

Every Friday of Lent 7:00 pm
Every Saturday of Lent 9:00 am

Message From The Pastors Desk

CHRIST: "THE AKUJOBI " (RECONCILER IN-CHIEF)



Nigerian names, and especially Ibo names, generally have a meaning; meanings that tell a story, describe a situation, make a statement, state an intention, or even declare a wish. The name of my friend is "Akujobi" (the one who has taken the anger away). He was named "Akujobi" because his parents experienced great opposition to their marriage from both of their families. They were, by all intents and purposes, forbidden to marry. But, because they were so much in love with each other, they defied the family opinions and got married, which, for all intents and purposes, ostracized them from their families for many years. His mother eventually took in and he came into the world. With their grandchild in the picture, the walls of racial divide crumbled and the grandparents spoke to themselves. So, his parents named him "Akujobi"—"the one who broke down the walls of hostility and took away the anger." Reflecting on this, it dawned on me that there is no better name for Jesus Christ than "Akujobi I—the Reconciler in-Chief"—since He is the one who came to reconcile us with the Father and freed us from the bondage of the evil one.

This Sunday is called "Rejoice Sunday" and so the readings encourage us to bask in spiritual joy, in worship and praise, and to glory in our God who has freed us from the bondage of sin and death. In the 1st reading, Zephaniah piled praise words upon another – sing, shout, rejoice, and exult. Why? Because God is now on our side and has taken away the judgment against us! The Lord of Lords is in our midst; we should never again be afraid. We should sing and rejoice and shout aloud in His praise. We should not be silent, rather, we should boast as loud as we can about God's grace and goodness. He is on our side! Scripture says, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17). Jesus, our King, did not come to condemn us; He came to save us from our sins. Therefore, we must let go of the humiliations of our past; we should not let past sins embarrass us any longer. We should reconcile with the Lord and move on.

On October 10, 2016, four buildings collapsed in Wenzhou, eastern China, killing 22 people, with five surviving. After working more than 12 hours, rescue workers discovered the final survivor in the rubble, Wu Ningxi, a three year-old girl, wrapped tightly in the arms of her dead father. He had shielded her from the crushing weight of the building by using his own flesh and blood to prop up a life-saving space for his daughter. That is exactly what Jesus did for us. God's judgment came crashing down on Jesus, who used his own flesh and blood to prop up a life-saving space for us!

In the gospel reading, people came to John the Baptist and asked him "What shall we do so that we can bask in the joy of what Christ has done to save us? John did not demand that they wear sackcloth and sit in ashes; he did not tell them to offer more sacrifices and do week-long fasting; he simply told them to work on the areas of their greatest weakness; to the public, he told them to overcome self-centeredness by sharing what they have with those in need; to the tax collectors, he told them to overcome their occupational temptation of collecting too much money from the people; to the soldiers, he told them to overcome the temptation of power by desisting from extortion; and to you and me, he said....

What would John the Baptist say to you if you were to ask him, "How about me? What situations in your life will he point to that pose the greatest threat to your spiritual joy?"

Msgr. Anselm

Announcements

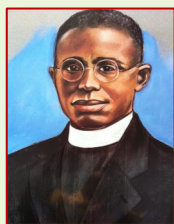
ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS

All the Masses this weekend (December 11 and 12) will be dedicated to the success of our USAN Fund-raiser. Thank you to all the Parishioners who helped make this fundraiser a success.

SAVE THE DATE: SIMBANG GABI CHRISTMAS EVENING MASS



Sunday, December 19,
2021 at 8:00 pm
St. Michael's Church



SAVE THE DATE: BLESSED CYPRIAN IWENE TANSI MASS

DECEMBER 12, 2021 at
12:00 noon Mass

SAVE THE DATE: BAMBINELLI SUNDAY- DECEMBER 12

This Sunday, December 12th is Bambinelli Sunday. There will be a blessing at all Masses that weekend of Baby Jesus figurines from your home Nativity sets.

Remember to bring your Infant Jesus to Mass this weekend.



ST. MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER EDITION

www.stmichaelunion.org/welcome

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.



Stewardship of Treasure

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

"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**

11/28/2021	NEEDED WEEKLY	ACTUAL WEEKLY	OVER/UNDER

	This Week	This Week	This Week
Collection & SOS	\$ 9,038	\$8,131	(\$907)

Deficit for last Sunday 11/28/2021 is (\$907). Could we please have some parishioners help us cover this deficit this coming weeks, in this way we stay in budget and be in the green. Thank you for your generosity to God's Kingdom on earth.

Please make every effort to maintain your Sunday offerings by using one of the following methods:

- **Mailing/dropping off your envelopes** to the Parish Center Office (1211 Orange Ave).
- **Online Giving** Go to our parish website (stmichaelunion.org) and click on the Parish Giving button that will take you to the easy sign up form.

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.

Msr. Anselm



—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING—

Thank you to our parishioners who have started using Parish Giving. Sunday Collections donated online, using Parish Giving, has increased from 9%, in 2019, to currently 30% of our Total Sunday Collections.

Donating your weekly collections through the **Parish Giving online platform** is helpful now more than ever. Due to health and safety concerns related to the pandemic the number of volunteers that are available to count the collections has significantly diminished. By using online giving you are selecting the safest and easiest method of giving for St. Michael's Parish.

To start using Parish Giving go to our parish website (stmichaelunion.org) and click on the Parish Giving button or **scan the QR Code above**, (with your phone camera) that will take you to the easy sign up form. Thank you for sustaining the parish during the unprecedented emergency that we are experiencing.



Mass Intentions & Devotions

SATURDAY 5:30 pm	December 11 Olga Iturralde Velasco Sylvia Duarte
SUNDAY 7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 12 Third Sunday of Advent Valentine Remi Blanc (1st. Ann.) Paul Sefia (Living) - Birthday Charlie Tato (20th Ann.) Nordick Anthony Garcia
MONDAY 8:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 13 Novena of Masses Efren Vidal Ogechizara Chika-Nwosuh (Living)-Birthday
TUESDAY 8:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 14 Francis & Clare Gillick Deceased Members of the Lazcano Family
WEDNESDAY 8:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 15 Delfin C. Samson Nancy Nolasco Angeles Rosa Mugavero & Antonino Mugavero
THURSDAY 8:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 16 Fidala Dagat Novena of Masses Gloria Almodiel
FRIDAY 8:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 17 Teresita Espeleta (Living) Waleria Koziol
SATURDAY 8:30 am 5:30 pm	December 18 Amadeo Lao Kathleen McCarrick
SUNDAY 7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 Noon	December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent Thanksgiving—Sipe & Arnaldo Families Joseph Gabriel Concepcion & Reynaldo Ticzon Irma Abril Salvador V. Antonio

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread and Altar Wine offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.

The Sanctuary Lamp is offered for Valentine Remi Blanc.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CYCLE C)

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
A savior is promised to Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-3,4,5-6
A song of praise to God our savior

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7
Rejoice always because the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:10-18
John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

MINISTRY Information

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 smccd@comcast.net.

ATTENTION ALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENT:

There are no religious education classes on Sunday, December 19 and 26, Monday, December 20 and 27 and Tuesday, December 21 and 28. All classes will resume the week of January 2, 2022.

Thank you to all who came to **A MORNING OF ADVENT REFLECTIONS** on Saturday to hear Barbara La Mort speak on "A Time to Savor God's Gift of Grace" and to share your personal experiences. Thank you to **Joe Furnari** who had a big urn of coffee ready for us when we arrived.

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

cyouunionnj@gmail.com



CYO Christmas Service Projects

Our Christmas Service Projects are in full swing and a big thank you to all our members who have signed up. These projects include collecting Christmas presents for the Quadriplegic adults at the Cheshire Home, a visit with the disabled children at the ARC, and a night of decorating Christmas cards and Christmas themed "Color a Smile" pages to be donated. There is still time to sign up and donate for these Christmas Projects. Email us at cyouunionnj@gmail.com if you would like any additional information.

Special CYO Christmas Presentation! The Festival of Lights

Once again, our CYO/Youth Ministry Program will present our Christmas Festival of Lights! Join us on Monday, December 13th in St. Michael's Church at 7:00pm! Our Festival is a night of Reflection, Music and Prayer to Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Our members will reenact the roles of Mary, Joseph, the Angel Gabriel, Shepherds and other Christmas Story Characters. It is an event to be experienced by all! The entire Parish is invited including all CYO Families, Parishioners, Friends and especially Children. The Festival will begin at 7:00pm so please arrive by 6:45. (Doors will open at 6:30pm) Come see, hear and experience the beauty of Christmas!

CYO Christmas Dance

Our annual CYO Christmas Dance & Dinner is back! All CYO members can join us on Friday, December 17th in the Phil Matrale Hall from 7-11pm. Admission will be \$10 for pizza and other refreshments. Masks will also be required. Please email us if you are interested in attending so that we can get a head count beforehand. Thank You!

CYO FUNDRAISER

After all Masses December 11 & 12
Christmas Wreath: \$20.00
Small Grave Cover: \$20.00
Large Grave Cover: \$35.00
We will be right in front of St. Michael's Church & Rectory.
We appreciate your support!



VOLUNTEER DINNER NOVEMBER 14, 2021



Thank you, **volunteers** for all the work you do for this Church and we are coming back strong. I also want to thank everyone for the success of USAN as we close the 2021 campaign. Thanksgiving Masses this weekend for all the parishioners and all facilitators who made USAN Fundraisers a success.

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.

For this week, we especially remember
Daniel J. Fasano, Manuel J. Ribeiro, Kathleen Lumley,
Claudette Fleury, Anna Chimienti

NOVENA of Masses

NOVENA OF MASSES DECEMBER 2021

Phil Matrale	Jose Arnaldo
James Ford, Sr.	Ann L. Corrigan
Fritz Maddy	Jerome Shaw, Jr.
Alejandro T. Cruz	George Rinehart
Artemia Tan	Ana Rodrigues (Living)
Ibrahim Makson	Alex Micayabas
Celso & Rosalia Anuada	Emmett Villa
Jorge J. Criado	Craig Calix (Living)
Pierre & Rubinetti Families	Frank Rubinetti, Sr.
Special Intentions (VG)	Rosemary Sauro
Mary & Idolo Russomano	Serafina Sauro
Christopher Albarracin (Living)	All Souls in Purgatory
Goerge Mgbeahurike	Elizabeth Odoemene
Micard Charlotin (Living)	Kent Charlotin (Living)
Dorothy Pryzby Stand (Living)	Lorna Basila
Aida Dela Sierra Necio	Jose Noel Banaban
Jessica Church Ward (Living)	Clautaire Jean
Lorna Basila	Aida Necio
Frantzy Petit Homme	Claudy Duclervil
Helen & Stanley Skora	Edie, Tom & Scott Leddy
Stanislaw & Czeslawa Pogorzelski	Anna & Wladyslaw Skoczlas
Reynaldo & Concepcion Ticzon	Cecile Abraham (Living)
Special Intentions to St. Joseph	Marie Civil Maddy (Living)
Endel & Avi Stefenau	Oscar & Linda Horn
Helmut & Rosalie Kikas	Charlotte Skoczylas (Living)
Jordan Alexander Machado (Living)	Roger Michaud (Living)
Marie Jean Panes (Living)-Thanksgiving & Health	
Shella Boulon (Living)-Thanksgiving	
Ben & Marivic del Rosario & Family (Living)	
Patsy Scalgione & Deceased Family Members	
Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family	
Living & Deceased Members of the Czapl, Leinart & McMahon Fam	
Living & Deceased Members of the Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaMonna Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Milana, Crosby, Doman, Vricella, Scanlon & Matthiack Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Torres & Araujo Families	
Manuel Pereira Araujo & Lucilia Silva Sousa Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of the Araujo, Cadenas & Pais Family	
Living & Deceased Members of the Joseph & Royal Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Landeira & Machado Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Chinyere Odoemene Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Ignatius Nwosuh Family	
Living & Deceased Members of the Furnari & Potignano Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Beldua, Veloso & Narciso Families	
Deceased Members of the Terriaca & Di Fabrizio Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Pruszkowski, Endler, Hornig & Macecsko Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR,

Joanne Kalkus, Terry & Tony Russo, Joseph Doman, Mary Ann Flynn, Brian Phillips, Lucille Arnaldo, Barbara Lombardi, Josephine Steinberg, Julia Astsalk, Flossie Abrigo, Roselle Roux, Amanda D'Amato, Richard Abrigo, Jean Claude, Claubette Kallabeen, Stephen Czapl, Clarence Roberts, Thomasina Rodriguez, Harry Vendemia, Illuminda Duyan, Ruth Guido, Henry Cababe, Maria Santiago, Dr. Vic Tan, Sam Vincent Milana, Beth Barto, Targelia Penafiel, Herlinda Castillo, Anthony Reo, Gregory Ward, Marie Mate, David Randolph, Fr. Roy Regaspi, Junia Perez, Virginia Hernandez, Lucy Scalgione, Doug Heinzer, Veana Lim, Myra Ke-bala, Alan Cicotte, William Grant, Matteo Piano, Jesus Adrien Duenas, Cesar DeJesus, Frances Mechado, Chet Janusz, Kathy Sarno, Baby Charlie Boyle, Carmen Diaz Colon, Marian Orzechowski, Sebastian Del'Inno, Mary Keegan, Baby Charlie Esmores, George Leary, Carole A. Facenta, Grace Fortino, Brian Schmitt, Aurora Manochio, Tom Ewing, Tony Zaliwski, Kathleen Kachelriess, Trudy Spinelli, Willa Jackson, John McEvoy, Stephanie Phillips, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Mary Pube-hara, Steven Yaccarino, Jacky Schellseheidt, Karen Marotta, Ken Lang, Judy Reid

ANNOUNCEMENTS



"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better at Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child himself."
Charles Dickens

Our parish **Giving Tree**, long a tradition of Christian charity at St. Michael's will be greeting you once again during the Advent season.

CANDY CANES will represent the wishes of the children at Blessed Sacrament Church, Newark.

We are expanding our **GIFT CARD PROGRAM** to meet the needs of our many parishioners struggling during these difficult times.

Supermarket Gift Cards are a valuable source of assistance. Consider Visa, Walmart, and local businesses.

Please return all gifts and gift cards on Sat/Sun. Dec.11/12.

"Love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12

If you would like to contribute a gift card or monetary donation to the **SISTERS OF ST. DOMINIC - CALDWELL**, we will have a separate collection bin in the vestibule of the Church clearly marked for these donations. Last year the Sisters were able to plan a lovely dinner celebration for their residents and purchase some needed items as a result of your generosity.

HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS) MINISTRY GIVING TREE

A Big Thank You to the **HUGS and Family Activities Committee** Members for coming together to decorate the HUGS Giving Tree, and to **Cheryl and Kerm Thompson** for donating the tree and ornaments! We are so blessed to belong to such a loving church family! Please stop by the vestibule to pick up a candy cane or two and keep a family warm and clothed for the season.

The ministry is also asking for families interested in being on the **Distribution List**, to please reach out. We serve our families with the utmost dignity and respect. HUGS Ministry distributes Gift Bags once a month throughout the year. Please help spread the word about the ministry.

For more information, about the project or the HUGS Ministry, please contact

Bisi
(908) 247-4461
or
Tania
(908) 420 8659



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 18

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

CORRECTIONS: Wednesday, December 22

Communal Penance Service with Confession

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Times with asterisk will be Live Streamed

Friday, December 24th

8:30 AM, 12:00 Noon

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM Family Liturgy

8:00 PM Christmas Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, *10:30 AM*, 12:00 Noon

NEW YEAR MASSES

Friday, December 31st

8:30 AM, 12:00 Noon

New Year's Eve

7:00 PM Vigil mass & Prayer Service

New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1st

9:00 AM, 10:30 AM

5:30 PM (Sunday Mass)

JOB VACANCY
Apply Now!

PART-TIME BUSINESS MANAGER

Practicing Catholic; strongly committed to Servant Leadership; Bachelor's degree or above, with 3-5 years of business experience; knowledge of accounting principles and practices; proficient with Microsoft Word, Excel, and Quick books, and ability to use financial reporting programs; demonstrated ability to set priorities and to organize work effectively, including maintaining effective record keeping systems; strong communication skills, ability to compose correspondence and reports; ability to relate well with variety of persons; ability to negotiate and manage contracts with outside vendors and interface with corporations, maintain confidentiality, prioritize, and be flexible.

For consideration, please send your resume to
stmichaelunion@comcast.net

Bradley. Smith & Smith Funeral Home invites all parishioners to a free in-person brunch & learn event: "Everything you need to Know about Preplanning a Funeral or Cremation. December 15 at 10:30 am, 415 Morris Ave., Springfield. RSVP by 12/14, (973-635-2428, ext. 140.