

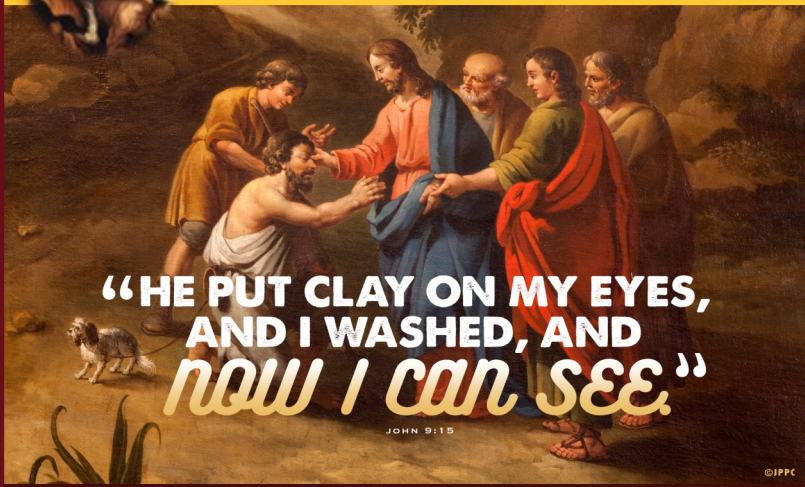


ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

MARCH 22, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



"HE PUT CLAY ON MY EYES,
AND I WASHED, AND
now I can see."

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu, *Pastor*
Rev. Camilo Lopez, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Charles B. McDermott, *Pastor Emeritus*
Deacon Michael Cavallo, *Permanent Deacon*
Mrs. Marilynn Dragone, *Coordinator of Religious Education*
Mr. Philip Matrale, *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 1:30 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:

7:00 am, 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 Sunday and 1st Friday 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

Wellness Ministry

Dance & Wellness Classes

Saturdays 9:30 am, Mondays 7:00 pm

Masses Intentions and Readings

Saturday	March 21
5:30 pm	Roger Boetsch
Sunday	March 22
7:30 am	Alejandro T. Cruz
9:00 am	Manuel Pereira Araujo
10:30 am	Teodoro Mendoza (20th Ann.)
12:00 Noon	For the Parishioners
Monday	March 23
7:00 am	Gloria Aclan Flordeliza
8:30 am	Joseph Hrevnack
12:00 Noon	Maria Ribeiro
Tuesday	March 24
7:00 am	Novena of Masses
8:30 am	Bienvenido Valencia
12:00 Noon	Joseph Furnari - 90th Birthday - (Living)
Wednesday	March 25
7:00 am	Roland Sicut
8:30 am	Roger Boetsch
12:00 Noon	Luis Pais (Living)
Thursday	March 26
7:00 am	Novena of Masses
8:30 am	Godwin Ubani
12:00 Noon	Braulio Villuga
Friday	March 27
7:00 am	Fr. Roy Regaspi - Birthday - (Living)
8:30 am	Maria Tavares
12:00 Noon	Maria Amador
Saturday	March 28
8:30 am	Manuel Fazendeiro
5:30 pm	Roger Boetsch
Sunday	March 29
7:30 am	For the Parishioners
9:00 am	Julian Pruszkowski
10:30 am	John McMahon (34th Ann.)
12:00 Noon	Angela Spalliero-Aviles

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and Sanctuary Lamp are offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.

The Pascal Candle is donated by Ed & Kathy Izbicki, in remembrance of Walter & Ruth Reinhard and Edward & Carol Izbicki.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Hymnal # 1025

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a

Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41 (shorter form: John 9:1,6-9,13-17, 34-38)

Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

Message From Our Pastor

Our Response to Covid-19

My dear people of God, a pandemic has befallen us. In Old Testament days, this would qualify as a plague, something that calls for deep reflection on who we are and how we are with our God and with our neighbor. With our society more secular and our advances in science far more sophisticated, we may easily fall into the temptation of seeing this pandemic with purely humanistic eyes, without much regard to its spiritual implications. More still, we may be tempted to look only upon human ingenuity in search for a cure to this virus, negating the spiritual powers we can tap into. What I am saying is that, because we are spirit and body, it is very important that our response, as Christians, to Covid-19, both in the effort to stop its spread and to find a cure or vaccine, needs to be comprehensive—using extreme measures to deal with it, both from the human level and from a spiritual perspective. The Bible has a lot to say about plagues, and I believe we can draw counsel from the word of God as to how we should respond to this current crisis.

On the humanistic level, we must respond in such a way as to not presume God or let alone tempt Him. The second temptation of Christ in the desert by the devil was the suggestion that Christ should jump from the pinnacle of the temple, under the pretext that God will send His angels to hold him up so that he may not break a leg. Christ countered by this quote: "You shall not tempt the Lord your God". It is important that we exercise prudence, maximum caution, and common sense in reducing the avenues of spread for this virus. Doctors and governmental agencies have provided us with guidelines—be more diligent with washing your hands and wiping them off with sanitizers, avoid touching your face and nose after touching public facilities, minimize exposure to large crowds, cut back on public entertainment activities, limit unnecessary travel, keep at least 3 feet of social distance with others, avoid going out to restaurants and bars, if you get flu-like symptoms, consult your doctor and self-quarantine, store a few more supplies just in case, etc. It is important that we remember that belonging to God does not exempt us from human experience. We must exercise prudence and caution even as we exercise our faith.

The second avenue of response is to seek the face of God". It will be a grave mistake if we, as a nation, fall into the pride of thinking that we can handle this matter only with our great scientific advancements and experience; negating the grave need to fall on our knees and pray. I am reminded of God's word where it says, "When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, Top of Form or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles. 7:13-15). Many events in our lives happen as a wake-up call. A pandemic, such as we are suffering now should remind us of our mortality, the limitedness of material things as a source of happiness, the need to be reconciled with God and with one another, and the need to be ready to go back to the Lord, just in case. Who knew, a month ago that this is where we will be? Who knows what will happen tomorrow? it is important that we do more than put on masks and wash our hands; it is important that we seek the Lord for His solutions, for His wisdom, His guidance, His forgiveness, His strength, and His power to work out things in our lives. It is important that we seek the right relationship with God and with one another.

If a crisis like this can cause people to turn to God and receive eternal life, something very good has come out of it. Let us pray that the good Lord shall surely deliver us from this perilous pestilence. Let us pray that the Body and Blood of Jesus will cover us with Its redemptive power. Let us pray that because we have made the Lord our refuge and strength, and the Most High our dwelling place, no evil shall befall us nor shall any plague come near our dwellings. May the Lord give His angels charge over us, to keep us in all His ways.

Msgr. Anselm

Weekly Calendar & Stewardship of Treasure

Sunday 9:00 - 10:00 am No Religious Education	March 22 RCIA Class, Murphy Room
Monday 8:00 am No Religious Education No Dance and Wellness Class	March 23 Rosary, Church
Tuesday 8:00 am No Religious Education No Contemporary Choir Practice No CYO	March 24 Rosary, Church
Wednesday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	March 25 Rosary, Church Our Lady Devotion, Church
Thursday 8:00 am 7:30 pm	March 26 Rosary, Church Choir Practice, Church
Friday 8:00 am No Stations of the Cross &	March 27 Rosary, Church Lenten Talk
Saturday 9:00 am No Dance & Wellness 1:00 pm	March 28 Lenten Saturday Morning Reflection Confession, Church
Sunday 9:00 - 10:00 am No Religious Education	March 29 RCIA Class, Murphy Room

No Religious Education and No CYO until further notice.

No Stations of the Cross on Fridays and No Wednesday Marian Devotions until further notice.

No Tuesday Contemporary Choir Practice until further notice.

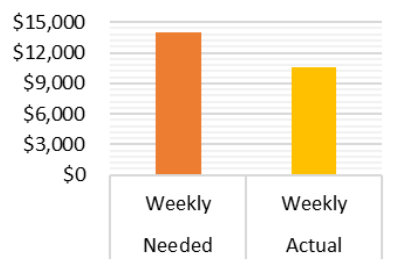
No Dance & Wellness Class until further notice.

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**

3/8/2020	Needed Weekly	Actual Weekly	Deficit Weekly
Collection & SOS	\$14,090	\$10,708	(\$3,382)

As you can see what we needed to cover the cost of our operations this week is **\$14,090**. What we actually received is **\$10,708**, so we are short **\$3,382**. Do please consider what you can do to help cover this deficit.



Thank you for your continued generosity!

"SOS COLLECTION"

On the first weekend of each month, the first collection is the "SOS" collection. This collection is dedicated specifically for our utility bills and emergency Church repairs.

The next SOS collection is the weekend of April 4 & 5, 2020.

Thank you for blessing our Church.

Adorations, Devotions & Reflections

ADORATIONS

April 3, 2020 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

1st Friday Eucharistic Adoration Schedule

- **Mass at 6:30 pm.** Followed by
- **First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**
- **Stations of the Cross**

April 5, 2020 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

1st Sunday Eucharistic Adoration

DEVOTIONS

March 18, 2020 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

2nd Wednesday Marian Devotion
Our Lady of Perpetual Help

March 25, 2020 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

3rd Wednesday Marian Devotion
Immaculate Heart of Mary

April 1, 2020 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

4th Wednesday Marian Devotion
Our Lady of Guadalupe

April 8, 2020 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

1st Wednesday Marian Devotion
Our Lady of Fatima

BIBLE CLASSES

All Bible Classes on Tuesday at 7:00 pm
March 24 and 31 at the Rectory

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

On Saturday during Lent at 9:00 am
March 14, 21, 28, April 4 at the Lower Church

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.



MINISTRY Information**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE**

Time	March 21 - 22 4 th Sunday of Lent	March 28-29 5 th Sunday of Lent
5:30 pm	Angel Rodriguez Jonathan Rodriguez Morgan Labranche Jerome Fernandez Jianna Fernandez	Alyssa De la Cruz Alexis Artiga Blanca Salas Mariana Salas Ana Ruiz
7:30 am	Uguchi Adibemma Uzonna Adibemma Jarlene Estopia	David Bernot Cherry Vibar
9:00 am	Jean Felix Alisha James Aidan Perez Nathan De Guzman	Megan Felix Julian Felix Jewelz Massicot Joshua Laube Nicholas Laube
10:30 am	Johnnuel Magno Nwando Melie Joshua Omoruyi Samuel Ilagan Samuel Nnadi Precious Nnadi	Joshua Estoque Kamsi Emeh Carmella Mendoza Ian Galing Ryenne Ramah Aidan Perez
12:00 Noon	Ginika Ozurumba Gabriel Castano David Punzalan	Lance Fernandez Aimee Cabatu-Panlilio Reginald Mondesir

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The Church is in need of people who can help out in the snow shoveling of the church property during major snow storms.

Snow shovelers will be paid an hourly rate.

For more information, please contact Tiago at stmichaelproperty@yahoo.com

CYO/YOUTH MINISTRY News

cyounion@aol.com

**IMPORTANT CYO ANNOUNCEMENT**

Due to health concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, CYO will be cancelled until further notice. You will be contacted when our weekly meetings will resume.

Please be sure to pass this information to any CYO member or family that might not receive this message.

Sending Prayers for all!
Phil

MINISTRY Information**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS**

Hours for the Religious Education Office are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm.

Other hours are available by appointment. Contact Coordinator: Marilyn Dragone at (908) 964-0965.

We can also be reached via e-mail at smccd@comcast.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

have been cancelled until further notice. Letters will be sent advising what work should be done.

FIRST RECONCILIATION for the First Communicants has been cancelled.

RICE BOWLS

Rice Bowls are available in the Church. Please consider taking one and donating to the missions that help people throughout the world.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

Any parishioners who have experience running **BINGO AND CARNIVALS** please contact the Parish Center (908) 688-1232.

SOCIAL MINISTRY**SR. ANN'S FOOD PANTRY**

Please consider donating some canned or non-perishable food items so we can help feed those in need. Food may be dropped off at the Church or at the Parish Center. Thank you!

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH MUSIC MINISTRY

St. Michael's Church offers a variety of musical styles at the following masses:

Saturday, 5:30 pm and Sunday, 10:30 am
Traditional and Contemporary Music

Sunday, 9:00 am and 12 noon
Gospel/Contemporary Worship Music



The 12:00 Noon Contemporary Band and Choir is looking for volunteers who can play the bass, guitar or sing.

Rehearsals: 7:30 pm on Tuesdays in the Church. Contact: Patrick B. Phillips at patrickphillips96@gmail.com

MINISTRY Information

HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS) MINISTRY

We are in need of clothing, sanitary and feeding items for children (**New born to Age 5**) and for mothers. Please call **Tania Massicot** at (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 our website at www.stmichaelunion.org (Click on the Parish Giving Icon).

"Drop Box"

The **New** Drop Box for the Hands of Grace Ministry is located at the Back Entrance of the Parish Center (**Red Door**).

Please call the Parish Center at (908) 688-1232 or the Ministry Chair, **Bisi Longe** at (908) 247-4461 if you have any questions.



Our next Grace Bags Distribution Day is Tuesday, March 24th, at the Parish Center located at 1211 Orange Avenue from **12:00 to 2:00 pm**.

ST. MICHAEL'S SENIOR NEWS

St Michael's Senior Club will meet on Monday, **April 20th**. Doors will open at 11:30 for coffee and social time. Our general meeting will begin at 12 Noon in the lower church.

Guest Speaker- Terri Maranda from the Union Tax Office. Ms. Maranda will speak on the Senior Freeze.

Upcoming Events:

May 4th Attic Treasures shopping and meeting.

May 18th Senator Joseph Cryan will be our guest speaker.

Remember the '**Penny Jar**' to support parish initiatives.



"To Teach, To Guide, To Guard"

St. Michael School is a community of faith within the vibrant and diverse Saint Michael Parish. Our ministry of the Word is the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ - a message of hope. Each child is seen as a whole person on a developmental progression with individual differences, but with basically similar learning needs: spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional and physical. Our goal is to educate every child who enters our doors.

St. Michael School registration for September is now open for grades Prek-3, Prek-4 and kindergarten - 8th grade. To schedule an individual tour please contact the principal at rscolone@smsunion.org or call (908) 688-1063.

Come tour and explore our amazing school!

NOVENA of Masses

MARCH 2020

Ann L. Corrigan	Jose J. Arnaldo
Jurusik & Arner Families	Alejandro T. Cruz
Mary & Idolo Russomano	John & Augusta Mahon
George Rinehart	James Ford Sr.
Roger Boetsch	Special Intentions
Micheline & Joseph Kmetz	Craig Calix (Living)
Donna Hornig	Leopold Enwonwu
Pierre & Rubineti Families	Frank Rubineti, Sr.
Louis Sauro	Luigi Sauro
Jennie "Pat" Pruszkowski	Rev. Matthias Conva
Raizza Jean Gonzales (Living)	Susan De Jesus
Kathleen Turner (Living)	All Souls in Purgatory
Donna Davidson (1st Ann.)	
Felicitas Onday (Living) - For Health	
Victorino Mendoza (Living) - For Health	
Loi Panes (Living) - For Health	
Ann Marie Bentivegna (1st Ann.)	
George Sr., Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Deceased Members of the Galgo Family	
Living & Deceased Members of the Santoriello Family	
In thanks for God's blessings on the USA	
Living & Deceased Members of the Pruszkowski, Endler, Hornig & Macecsko Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Czapla, Leniart & McMahon Families	
Patsy Scalgione & Deceased Family Members	
Special Intentions for the Nwosuh & Odoemene Families	
Lucila Sousa Araujo and Manuel Pereira Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Araujo, Pais & Cadenas Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR,

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick especially Fr. Lawrence Murphy, Joanne Kalkus, Terry & Tony Russo, Joanne Milana Doman & Joseph Doman, Rakoczy Family, Mary Ann Flynn, Joyce Toth, Brian Phillips, Lucille Arnaldo, Barbara Lombardi, Manuel Crudo, Josephine Steinberg, Julia Astsalk, Frances Machado, Flossie Abrigo, Roselle Roux, Amanda D'Amato, Richard Abrigo, Jean Claude, Claubette Kallabeen, Carol Czapla, Stephen Czapla, Clarence Roberts, Thomasina Rodriguez, Harry Vendemia, Iluminda Duyan, Ruth Guido, Henry Cababe, Joseph Guid, Salve Ching, Maria Santiago, Dr. Vic Tan, Sam Vincent Milana, Beth Barto, Linda Atwell, Targelia Penafiel, Herlinda Castillo, Anthony Reo, Gregory Ward, Marie Mate, David Randolph, Fr. Roy Regaspi, Junia Perez & Virginia Hernandez.

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
Maximillian Ekpeni.

Announcements

2020 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Friday, March 13, 20, 27, April 3
7:00 pm, Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday, April 4
1:00-2:00 pm – Individual Confessions

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Saturday, April 4 at 5:30 pm
Sunday, April 5 at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am and
12:00 noon
Distribution of Palms at all Masses

Monday of the Week, April 6 at 8:00 pm
Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart,
Newark with Archbishop Cardinal Tobin

Wednesday of the Week, April 8
Penance Service with Individual Confession
7:00-8:30 pm

**No confessions on Holy Thursday, Good Friday
and Holy Saturday**

Holy Thursday, April 9
8:30 am – Morning Prayer
7:00 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by
Vigil & Adoration

Good Friday, April 10
8:30 am – Morning Prayer
2:00 pm – Walk of Our Lord (Stations of the Cross)
3:30 pm – Celebration of the Passion
7:30 pm – CYO Living Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 11
8:30 am – Morning Prayer/Reflections
12:00 Noon – Blessing of Food
8:00 pm – Easter Vigil
No Confession/No 5:30 pm Mass

Easter Sunday, April 12

SAVE THE DATE: EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2020
10:30 am - 12:00 Noon
Church Grounds
Rain Location: Lower Church



UNION COLUMBIETTES

Union Columbiettes will be having a **Pocketbook Bingo/Tricky Tray Saturday, April 18** at **Kenilworth VFW**. Doors open at 5 pm and calling starts at 7 pm. **Admission \$25.00** (includes a set of bingo boards for 10 games, dauber, coffee, tea and cake). For ticket info contact Dlupo41@aol.com or 908 577 6606.

Announcements

LENTEN SERIES SPEAKERS

Our Friday night **LENTEN TALKS** have been cancelled.

ALTAR SERVER CAPES

Dear Parishioners,

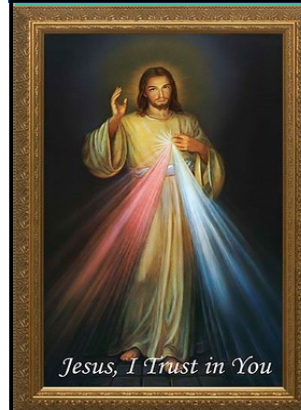
We are still in need of donors for the new Altar Server Capes. Please call the Parish Center Office (908) 688-1232, ext. 100 if you are interested in donating.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

The Feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated at St. Michael's on **Sunday, April 19th** at **3:00 pm** in Church.



SAVE THE DATE: 2ND DANCE FOR A CAUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020
4:00 - 8:00 pm

\$30 per person, includes FOOD and DRINKS
Music provided by: DJ Dano Lumanog
For more information, please contact:
Angie Zoleta — 908-265-2701
Resy Milora-Dilag — 908-416-2732



ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:

You can use the Altar Offerings -

Altar Bread, Altar Wine and Sanctuary Lamp can be used for Thanksgiving, in gratitude and special intentions.