



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

MARCH 26, 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together"

- Hebrews 10:25

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Saturday

8:30 am

Sunday

5:30 pm (Saturday Vigil Mass)
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 Cavallo &
Deacon Michael Alfano**
Permanent Deacons

Mrs. Rebekah Scicolone
Principal

Mrs. MaryJo Sipe
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

**Mrs. Clare Andriola &
Mrs. Lois Scanio**
Religious Education

**Ms. Cristina Manochio
Mr. Joseph Santillo**
Youth Ministry

**Ms. Fran Engleman &
Mr. Patrick B. Phillips**
Music Ministry

Mr. Tiago Rodrigues
Property Manager

**Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Charles McDermott**

PARISH OFFICE

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 [StMichaelParishUnion](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishUnion)

 [stmichaelunion](https://twitter.com/stmichaelunion)

 [StMichaelChurch](https://www.instagram.com/StMichaelChurch)



TIME IN BETWEEN SUNDAYS

27 FAMILY ROSARY

VIRTUAL

MON

BRING YOUR FAMILY TO MOTHER MARY

7:00 PM

28 BIBLE STUDY

VIRTUAL

TUES

WITH MGRS. ANSELM

7:00 PM

29 CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

WED

LOWER CHURCH—MURPHY ROOM

6:00 PM

MARIAN DEVOTION

IN CHURCH

WITH EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

7:30 PM

31 STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRI

COME AND BE BLESSED

7:00 PM

APR

01 WELLNESS MINISTRY

SAT

EXERCISE & DANCE CLASS

9:30 AM

FOR VIRTUAL PRAYERS go to www.stmichaelunion.org

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.

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE FOR GOD



The gospel of this fifth Sunday of Lent (John 11:1-42) presents us with the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. This story can be our story, any day, any time! Lazarus was the brother to Martha

and Mary, family friends of Jesus. Lazarus had fallen sick, and the family had done everything they could to save him, but all to no avail. So, they turned to Jesus because they knew that if only Jesus lays His hand upon him, he would be made well. He had done these innumerable times for many people. So, they sent word to Jesus that Lazarus, his friend, was seriously ill. One would have thought that Jesus would rush down immediately to save His friend. Instead, He spent two more days before leaving to respond to this urgent call. By the time he arrived, four days later, Lazarus was already dead and buried. You can imagine how the family must have felt. Expectations and the certainty of how Jesus would respond (come down immediately) turned into despair and disappointment. Both Mary and Martha reminded him of this: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died" ([John 11:21](#)).

Why had Jesus ignored their need? Wasn't He the one who said, "Ask, and you shall receive?" Where was He when His friends needed Him most? My friends, you and I could easily be Mary and Martha, where we have asked God for help, and He seemingly hasn't heard our prayers. We are tempted to lose hope in Him, become discouraged, disillusioned, or even lose faith in His faithfulness. Yet, this story teaches us how to deal with situations like that. We must never forget that God won't always answer our calls

when, where, or how we expect. But that doesn't mean our requests are unheard. Delay is not denial! Sometimes, the Lord's response to our request is an immediate "yes." Sometimes, His response is "not yet," and still, some other times, His answer could be "not as you want it." No matter which response is at work during our supplication, the key is to keep the faith and to continue walking with Jesus, for He will, in His time, find a way to use even the most painful of situations to help us see the glory of God and testify to His faithfulness. The fact that Lazarus was already dead, buried, and stinking by the time Jesus arrived made no difference in what God could do. No human condition can frustrate the power of God's divine healing grace. Christ simply asked Lazarus to stand up and come out. Case ended.



Scripture says that when Lazarus rose, he was all bounded, and Christ ordered: "Unbound him and let him go." Many a time, we may feel as though life has gone out of us or perhaps that life has passed us by. It could be that we feel soulless and wrapped up in things that won't let us go. No matter the case, this story tells us that Jesus offers us new life. He calls us by name and can and is willing to loosen that which binds us. All we need to do is to bring Him to the dead places in our lives, in our relationships, in our families, and in our inner selves, and then listen as He calls us out by name and commands our bondage to let go and set us free. Brokenness should never keep us bound but rather should draw us to Christ who can release us into a new life of freedom. When we turn to God, we are forgiven, healed, and restored, and on our lips will be words of praise to our God (Isa 57:19 NLT). My friends, it is never too late for God!

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

Worship Office Archdiocese of Newark Post-Pandemic Liturgy Directive Recovering the Full Celebration of the Liturgy

The Archdiocese has issued post-pandemic liturgical directives in order to foster a renewed fullness in liturgical celebrations.

- Beginning as early as the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on **Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023**, but no later than **Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023**, all pandemic reductions and accommodations are abrogated. The liturgy thenceforth is to be celebrated in the fullness demanded by its very nature, fostering the full participation of the faithful.

We are already in compliance with most of the directives in this document. Below are the ones we need to pay attention to.

- While live streaming and broadcasting liturgies is a valuable resource for those who are unable to attend because of sickness or major health concerns, **it does not satisfy the obligation to participate in Mass for those who able to go to Church and have no serious health concern and issues.**
- Every effort is to be made to ensure that, "the faithful, just as the Priest himself is bound to do, should receive the Body of Christ from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and...partake of the chalice..." **(Communion will henceforth be offered under both species to give our parishioners the option of receiving both)**
- "The consecrated host may be received either on the tongue or in the hand, at the discretion of each communicant"

So, beginning from the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023, Holy Communion will be offered in both species as was customary before the pandemic. Although there is no obligation to receive in both species, I do encourage our parishioners to avail themselves of this fullest way of participating in the Mass as a Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for our salvation.

I am grateful to God that the Church has returned to full normality.

Msgr. Anselm

"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 <u>WEEKLY</u>	ACTUAL <u>WEEKLY</u>	OVER/ <u>UNDER</u>
MARCH			
Week 1	\$ 7,079	\$ 8,006	\$ 927
Week 2	\$ 7,079	\$ 8,359	\$1,280
Week 3	\$ 7,079	\$ 8,134	\$1,055
Week 4	\$ 7,079	\$	
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 9,170	\$ 870

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK ANNUAL APPEAL ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

2023 Base Goal:	\$38,962
2023 Stretch Goal:	\$46,240
As of:	3/21/23
Donor Pledge:	\$27,245
Donor Received:	\$20,977

How to Make a Gift to the Annual Appeal

Make a Gift Online. 1. Visit rcan.org/sharing. You can either make a one-time gift or a monthly gift. You are encouraged to fulfill your pledge on or before June 30, 2023.

Don't forget to select our parish name! You can restrict your gift to a specific area of support. 5. For questions regarding online giving, please call (973) 497-4589.

Fill out an Envelope: Pick up an in-pew envelope at the back of the Church and Complete all the necessary information. Drop the envelope at the parish center, offertory box, or mail it in.

Fill out a Pledge Card: Fill out the pledge card you received in the mail and put it in the enclosed return envelope. For questions please call (973) 497-4129.

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	March 25
5:30 pm	Souls In Purgatory
SUNDAY	March 26
7:30 am	Charles Edward Rilliet, Jr.
9:00 am	Bernadette Pierre-Louis
10:30 am	Alejandro Cruz Anna Joseph Maria Fonseca (3rd Ann.)
12:00 noon	Charismatic Group-Sick Members For the Parishioners
MONDAY	March 27
8:30 am	Maria Tavares Leonel Silva
12:00	Novena of Masses
TUESDAY	March 28
8:30 am	Marie Emmanuelle Jean Baptiste (Living) Valarie & Reginal J.B. Payen (Living)
12:00 noon	Mary A. Schlageter
WEDNESDAY	March 29
8:30 am	Novena of Masses
12:00 noon	John McMahon (37th Ann.) Libio Espiritu
THURSDAY	March 30
8:30 am	Gladys Bertrand (Living)-Birthday
12:00 noon	For the Parishioners
FRIDAY	March 31
8:30 am	For the Parishioners
12:00 noon	Robert Votapek
SATURDAY	April 1
8:30 am	Marjorie Tan Mabalot (Living)
5:30 pm	Tom Kachelriess (4th Ann.)
SUNDAY	April 2 Palm Sunday
7:30 am	Micaela Martinez Taisha Mathieu (Living)-Deliverence For the Parishioners
9:00 am	Galo Proano Cabo (1st Ann.)
10:30 am	Madesa Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving
12:00 noon	Rui Docarmo Subilia Ihediwa

ALTAR OFFERINGS

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

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

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
Theresa Conley

NOVENA OF MASSES

MARCH 2023

Phil Matrale	Jose Arnaldo
James Ford, Sr.	Giuseppe Terriaca
Fritz Maddy	Jorge J. Criado
Pierre & Rubinetti Families	Frank Rubinetti
Carolina Liwanag Santangelo	Consuelo Salazar
Mary & Idolo Russomano	Dr. Tomas Nnoli
Michelene & Joseph Kmetz	Craig Calix (Living)
Thartuma Ikeamyonwu	George Rinehart
Michelle Cuevas Martelli (Living)-Healing	
Teresita Kodumal (Living)-Healing	
St. Joseph Special Intentions	
George, Ruth, Barbara Rinehart	
Anamaria Araujo Pais (Living)-Special Intentions	
Jeff Pogorzelski (Living) - Healing	
Patsy Scalgione & Deceased Family Members	
Living & Deceased Members of the Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Czapla, Leniart & McMahan Families	
Manuel Pereira Araujo & Lucilia Sousa Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Furnari & Potignano Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Dittemer & DaSilva Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Joanne Kalkus, Terry & Tony Russo, Mary Ann Flynn, Lucille Arnaldo, Barbara Lombardi, Josephine Steinberg, Julia Asfalk, Roselle Roux, Amanda D'Amato, Jean Claude, Claubette Kallabeen, Stephen Czapla, Clarence Roberts, Harry Vendemia, Ruth Guido, Maria Santiago, Beth Barto, Targelia Penafiel, Herlinda Castillo, David Randolph, Junia Perez, Virginia Hernandez, Doug Heinzer, Veana Lim, Myra Kebala, Alan Cicotte, William Grant, Matteo Piano, Jesus Adrien Duenas, Cesar DeJesus, Chet Janusz, Baby Charlie Boyle, Carmen Diaz Colon, Marian Orzechowski, Baby Charlie Esmores, George Leary, Grace Fortino, Brian Schmitt, Tom Ewing, Tony Zaliwski, Kathleen Kachelriess, Trudy Spinelli, Willa Jackson, John McEvoy, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Mary Pubehara, Steven Yaccarino, Jacky Schellseheidt, Karen Marotta, Ken Lang, Judy Reid, Ana Torres, Rita Homiak, Stephen Berberabe, Norma Tuano, Marlene Cababe, Milan Durish, Maria Santiago, Marisol Morales, Angelina Amali, Jeff Pogorzelski, Virginia Attanasio, Mary Leeman, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Andre Graigwell, Nicole Pozeinick, Amy Dombroski, Samantha Lopes, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Harry Benbemiam, Ken Lang, Valarie Carter, Willie Green, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Coady Brown, Alex Pretto, Paulo Goncalves, Frances Machado, Antoinette Agriloo, James Scholz, Byron Belmonte

Ministry Happenings

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator of Religious Education
Clare Andriola

Coordinator of Home-Based Religious Education
Lois Scanio

Upcoming Events for 1st Communion Candidates

Family Retreat for First Eucharist ("Communion Bread")
Retreat

Saturday, April 1 in 2 sessions as follows:

- 10:00 am (Child's Last name A thru L)
- 1:00 pm (Child's Last name M thru Z)

The Religious Education Office is open Monday through Thursday 9:30 am to 2:30 pm (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.

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



Unfortunately, our Charity Volleyball Tournament with Roselle Catholic High School's Campus Ministry will be postponed to Tuesday, April 25th. Join us at the Roselle Catholic High School Gym from 7:00pm-9:00pm for a fun tournament of Volleyball! All teens are welcome to play for \$20 and the cost will be \$5 for spectators. The doors will open at 6:30pm for warmup. Snacks and soft drinks will be sold separately. If anyone wishes to play, please email us at cyouionnj@gmail.com.

On the weekends of March 24-25 & April 1-2 the CYO / Youth Ministry will be selling

Palm Crosses, Easter Plants and Candy after all masses! All Crosses and Plants will be \$10.00 and many colors and varieties will be offered.

Candy bars will be \$2.

Please support our CYO by making a purchase! Thank You!

At our upcoming meeting on March 28th, the CYO / Youth Ministry will be holding its annual Easter Food Drive. All donations can be brought to the Phil Matrile Hall from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Please email us for a list of items needed.

We also welcome all to join us for our CYO Living Stations of the Cross presentations at 7:30pm on Friday, March 31st located at Holy Spirit Church, and 7:30pm on Friday, April 7th at St. Michael's Church.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Consider joining the Eucharistic Ministry, it is a rewarding experience, bringing Christ to others at mass and those who are unable to attend mass. At this time our parish is in need for new candidates for the Eucharistic Ministry.

At this time we are in need of men and women 18 years and older to volunteer to the Ministry of the Eucharist. We presently have openings for all masses. If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please contact Joann Pastewski at 908-688-8844 or email jpastewski@aol.com

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

We posted an announcement at end of summer 2022 to introduce Mental Health Ministry to St. Michael's Church. Further to the announcement we hosted an evening in December called "Blue Christmas" to support mental well-being over the holiday period with the commencement of the support group service scheduled to arrive in early 2023.

While we are keen to commence with Mental Health Ministry, we are currently waiting for the Archdiocese of Newark to give the go-ahead before we announce a start date for the group service. We will update you with a further announcement in due course.

HANDS OF GRACE MINISTRY (HUGS)

HUGS Ministry distributes **GRACE Bags** once a month throughout the year. We are presently helping 39 families.

Please continue to help us replenish our inventory.

Contact **Bisi (908) 247-4461** or **Tania (908) 420-8659** for more information on how you can help.

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.

Announcements

2023 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Every Friday – February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
7:00 pm, Church

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

HOLY WEEK
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Saturday, April 1 at 5:30 pm
Sunday, April 2 at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon
Distribution of Palms at all Masses

Wednesday of the Week, April 5
Penance Service with Individual Confession
7:00 – 8:30 pm
No Confession on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday

Holy Thursday, April 6
8:30 am – Morning Prayer
7:00 pm – Mass of the Lord’s Supper followed by Vigil & Adoration

Good Friday/First Friday, April 7
8:30 am – Morning Prayer
2:00 pm – Walking Stations of the Cross, around town
3:30 pm – Celebration of the Passion
7:30 pm – CYO Living Stations of the Cross

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

Easter Sunday, April 9
Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm

Easter Monday, April 10
Mass at 9:00 am

CYO LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 31
Time: 7:30 pm
Place:

Holy Spirit Church

Friday, April 7
Time: 7:30 pm
Place:

St. Michael’s Church

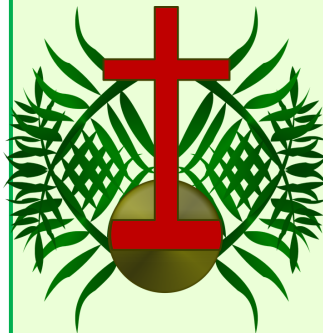


CYO PALM CROSS, PLANT, CANDY SALE

Sold before and after all Masses

March 26-26 and
April 1-2

Prices: Candy—\$2
Palm Crosses: \$10
Plants: \$10



DIVINE MERCY

The **Feast of Divine Mercy** will be celebrated at St. Michael’s on **Sunday, April 16th at 3:00 pm** in church.

ST MICHAEL’S PARISH

EASTER EGG HUNT

ST MICHAEL’S CHURCH
1212 KELLY ST, UNION, NJ 07083

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2023

10:30 AM- 1 PM

MAD HATTER WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE!

FUN CRAFTS • GAMES • PRIZES • BRING YOUR OWN BASKETS!

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: FACSTMICHAELS@GMAIL.COM

EGG HUNT TIMES	AGE	Hunts Start Promptly
	1-3 years	@ 11am
	4-5 years	@11:25am
	6-7 years	@11:50am
	8-10 years	@12:05pm
	11-12 years	@12:30pm

SAVE THE DATE

HEALING

Mass

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

11 AM

PHIL MATRALE HALL

More information will follow