

THE PRAISE & WORSHIP MUSIC MINISTRY



November 2022, Msgr. Anselm approached us, with the coordination of Jun Felix, to lead the 1st Sunday Adoration music for the month of December. Bro. Jun gathered friends & family who love to worship and praise God, and who happen to love music. A few rehearsals later, we had our 1st Sunday Adoration Music Ministry: Jun & Marianne Felix, Jong Edralin, Charry Fernandez, Lisa & Dendee Veloso, and Marj & Mia Catuncan (vocals), Winlove Edralin (acoustic guitar), Jojo (Bass) & Beth (keyboards) Tabia, Kenn & Jerome Fernandez (drums), MJ Catuncan (drums), Ingrid Veloso (harpist), and Mike Catuncan (worship leader/vocals/acoustic guitar).

We strive to offer an excellent standard of praise and worship by practicing and developing our vocal and instrumental abilities to usher in the presence of God and the corporate anointing during Adoration. Although none of us are professional musicians by trade, we want to offer nothing less than high praises to God who is our source of strength and energy. More importantly, we strive to have humble hearts and just give all we have for the Lord.

We encourage anyone out there who has the same passion for the Lord as we do, to join us in leading our parish St. Michael to Praising and Worshiping our Good, Good Father.

See you at our next 1st Sunday Adoration! God bless!

By Jun Felix & Mike Catuncan

OUR MINISTERS & MINISTRIES

PARISH COUNCIL

Bishop Elías Lorenzo's visit

Last month, our parish had the opportunity to host Most Reverend Bishop Elias Lorenzo. We would like to thank all of St. Michael's parishioners for coming together and showing support during his visit. We greatly appreciate the time and effort you spent to warmly welcome him to our parish family and into our ministries. His visitation would not have been successful without all of you!



By Terry Dziejcz

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Giving Tree—Generosity

Our theme for *The Giving Tree* this Christmas was gift giving. We gave each other the gifts of Peace, Joy, Love and Hope, all wrapped up in a ribbon of gold.

The parishioners of St. Michael's truly exhibit a generous spirit. Generosity is explained as "the quality of being kind and unselfish, especially as it pertains to sharing money and other valuables with others."

The children of Blessed Sacrament, Newark received over 100 gifts (toys, games, science equipment, books, sports equipment, craft kits, puzzles and art supplies). In addition, the gift card donations totaled over \$1000. These cards will be made available to families in our own parish who are in need of financial assistance. When we are generous, our lives reflect the Heart of God. The parishioners of our community, through their limitless generosity, certainly abide within the Heart of God. God Bless All!



By Joan Pikula

LENT*LOVE Beyond the Status Quo*

In the summer of 1941, a great event occurred in the Catholic Church and the world, Saint Maximilian Kolbe took the place to die in the concentration camp in Auschwitz instead of Franciszek Gajowniczek, a prisoner who had a wife and children and was scheduled to be executed by the Nazis. This extraordinary sacrificial act was not only an application of John 15:13 - "No one has a greater love than to lay down one's life to one's friends" but also was the foundation for our Lenten practice: Love Beyond the Status Quo- our existing spiritual state.

So how do we increase our love for God during Lent? First, we need to spend more time in our personal prayer. My wife, Joyce, and myself have committed ourselves to pray for one country a day. Being faithful in doing this will cover the world-(195 nations on earth) in prayer in less than a year! Second, we could go to one Catholic devotion on a regular basis such as Eucharistic Adoration or Stations of the Cross. Also, what are two ways we could love others in a deeper way in Lent? One recommendation would be to call 3 lonely or depressed people who need comfort and encouragement. Notice I said pick up the telephone and call in addition or instead of texting! A second suggestion would be to give 12 grocery items to our parish's food pantry that corresponds with the number of the apostles. Jesus loved beyond the Status Quo by his obedience to his Heavenly Father and compassion for others. St. Maximilian pray for us that we do the same.

By Chuck Cababe

YOUNG ADULTS*A call to show LOVE*

We often refer to Church as the House of God. A house in which we can all come together in unity and praise our Lord, similar to the way that we as people come together to find and be welcomed by the community that our cultures provide us. St. Michael's Church is not only a home but a community. It brings people from all walks of life together no matter their race, gender, or status. To embrace the spirit of black history month and the community cultivated by black people whilst fighting against generations of hardship and trauma, I want to call the people of St. Michael's Church to be resilient and strong in the name of the Lord and the community.

Throughout the month, think of your struggles as a chance to further create kinship within your church and community by choosing to fight your battles with the help of your community. Understand that God puts people in your life for a reason and acknowledge the value that they hold in your life. Allow them to help you stay motivated and become a stronger unit of the Lord's disciples. Be encouraged to make our congregation stronger: Extend your love to those who may need it and be ready to receive the help that God sends you through your community.



By Cristian Simms

SAINTS & US TODAY

St. Joseph



In the season of Lent and throughout the year, we as Christians are called upon to put our trust in God. There is no better saint who served as a model for trusting in God than

St. Joseph, the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We celebrate St. Joseph's feast day on March 20th.

St. Joseph is known for his faithfulness, accepting the will of God even when he did not completely understand what was

happening when Mary became pregnant with Jesus. When the angel, sent by God, appeared to him in a dream, telling him, "*Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit,*" he did as the angel told him, *trusting in God.*

I learned early in life that things often don't go according to our plans. By his example, St. Joseph teaches us to always place our trust in God including times when things do not go as we have planned, and God will see us through any situation with his blessings.

From the "Prayer to St. Joseph", *O St. Joseph, assist me by thy powerful intercession and obtain for me all spiritual blessings through thy foster Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

By Deacon Michael Alfano

WORD SEARCH

Angel Visitation	Husband of Mary
Carpenter	Jesus' Earthly Father
Devoted	Joyful
Faithfulness	Lily
Fled to Egypt	Magi
Foster Father	Patron of Workers
Happy Death	Protector
Holy Family	Righteous Man
Hope	St Joseph
House of David	Universal Church

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