



# ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

JANUARY 8, 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



## 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

## Pastoral Staff

- Rev. Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu, *Pastor*
- Rev. Camilo Lopez, *Parochial Vicar*
- 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*
- Ms. Fran Engleman, *9:00 am Choirmaster*
- Mr. Patrick B. Phillips, *12:00 Noon Choirmaster*
- Mrs. Rebekah Scicolone, *Principal*

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charles B. McDermott

**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.

## 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](http://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*



## THE VISIT OF THE MAGI: LIFE LESSONS

The story of the visit of the three wise men that travelled from the Far East to Bethlehem to see the Child Jesus is very revealing and uncovers power strategies that can combine to bring about success in different areas of our lives.

From the story, we can discern that the Magi had an expectation, something they were looking forward to—to visit the Child Jesus when He is born. Life goals, generally, begin with an Expectation. Without expectations, our life could easily become a revolving door. We need to make life happen for us and that begins with having some expectations, goals, and aspiration we can direct our energy toward.

But to be able to work effectively toward our expectations, we need to have the ability to notice things that matter with respect to our goals. It is notable that while everyone else saws stars in the heavens, the Magi saw, in the midst of a gazillion stars, the Star of David. Many a time opportunities abound around us but our inability to notice them can impair our dreams and goals. Two people can easily come upon a heap of scrapped iron; one sees a heap of garbage while the other sees materials for spare parts. Our ability to keep our eyes and ears open is a key ingredient to success.

Notice that when the Magi saw the Star of David, they immediately swung into action; they headed out to Bethlehem. You see, no matter what ideas, goals and dreams we have in life; no matter how many opportunities we encounter, without swinging into action, those ideas, will never grow bigger than the brain cells they occupy in our minds.

It is interesting that when the Magi lost sight of the Star, while mourning to Bethlehem, they did not give up their quest. Rather, they took a detoured to the king's palace and inquired about their way forward. My friends, the ability to adapt, to be flexible, to be open-minded, and to seek alternative is the key to getting through the maze of life's unpredictability. While we must stay committed to our goals, we must always be flexible in our approach.

Scripture says, "Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker" (Psalm 95:6). The sole reason why the Magi travelled such a long distance to Bethlehem was to behold the Child Jesus, face to face, and adore Him in worship. This was the first thing they did as they entered that hut, full of animals. How lucky we are that we don't have to travel days and weeks to behold Jesus face to face. Christ has made it easy for us to behold Him face to face in the gift of the Holy Eucharist. He is 100% real in the Eucharist as He was real when the Magi visited Him. We can visit and worship Him in Eucharistic Adoration, either in community or privately.

The Magi taught us a very important lesson—that adoration and gratitude go together. They gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and Myrrh, inviting us to do the same in our times of worship and adoration.

Although God is all-powerful, He refuses to coerce but always summons us to cooperation. An Angel informed the Magi to go home through a different road. They obeyed. How about us? As we enter this New Year, could we let it be God's business to lead, to command, to impel, to send, and to determine how we live and make it our business to follow, to obey, to agree, to move, to respond, and to do as commanded. Obedience, as they say, is better than sacrifice. No amount of prayer or names we can call God can take the place of simply doing His will. If God does not reign over simple things in our lives, He does not reign at all. The cost of following the gospel is the death of our will. May the good Lord give us hearts that yearn for His will, minds that are clear about His commands, wills that are obedient to His word, and souls that are determined to do His bidding!

*Msgr. Anselm*

## Announcements



### CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPE

In your envelope package and at the vestibule of the Church, you will find envelopes for Christmas Flower Offerings. Please be generous in your donations to keep our Church beautifully decorated for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### ST. MICHAEL'S COLLECTIONS

Below is an explanation of some of the different St. Michael's Collections:

**S.O.S. Collection** - This is a monthly "restricted" collection dedicated to paying our utility bills. *Restricted collections are not assessed by the Archdiocese of Newark and therefore all funds are used solely by St. Michael's to pay our bills. S.O.S. collections are appreciated at all times.*

**Tithing**—This is a monthly "restricted" collection dedicated to paying for the new air conditioner. *Restricted collections are not assessed by the Archdiocese and therefore all funds are used solely for St. Michael's needs. Tithing collections are appreciated at all times.*

**Assessment Collection** - The Archdiocese of Newark assesses all parishes in the archdiocese a percentage of the parish's annual unrestricted revenue, to be paid monthly. This assessment is used by the Archdiocese to support administrative services. St. Michael's has instituted a monthly "restricted" collection that is used solely for paying our monthly assessment. *All Assessment Collection funds are sent directly to Archdiocese of Newark, monthly, to pay our Assessment Obligation. No funds are used for St. Michael's needs.*

**National Collections** - the Archdiocese of Newark has ten collections during the year to benefit various organizations such as the retired priest's fund, the church in Eastern Europe, the religious retirement fund, and mission appeals. *Money from the national collections go directly to the Archdiocese of Newark.*

**St. Vincent De Paul Collection** - money donated to St. Vincent De Paul is distributed prior to Thanksgiving and prior to Easter to local foodbanks, soup kitchens and social centers that provide food and shelter for those in need.

**Thank you for your continued generosity and support to our Parish!**

### STAY INFORMED ABOUT ST. MICHAEL'S

If you have not been receiving emails from the church via **Evangelus** please visit [eva.us/stmichaels](http://eva.us/stmichaels) to sign up in order to receive messages and stay informed about current happenings in church.

## 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**

#### COLLECTION & SOS

	NEEDED WEEKLY	ACTUAL WEEKLY	OVER/UNDER
December			
Week 1 Collections	\$7,079	\$6,789	\$ 290
Week 2 Collections	\$7,079	\$7,855	\$ 776
Week 3 Collection	\$7,079	\$6,732	\$ 347
Week 4 Collection	\$7,079	\$6,802	\$ 277
Week 5 Collection	\$7,079	\$4,874	\$2,205
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$12,520	\$2,480

- **Mailing/dropping off your envelopes** to the Parish Center Office (1211 Orange Ave).
- **Online Giving** Go to our parish website ([stmichaelunion.org](http://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.

*Msgr. Anselm*

## 6 Ways To DONATE

#### ONLINE GIVING:



—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING—  
stmichaelunion.org

#### BANK TRANSFER:



stmichaelunion@comcast.net  
In the Comment section, indicate where your donation should be accounted for, e.g., USAN (with your Group Name), Offertory, Tithe, etc.

#### CONTACT FREE:

##### QR CODE



Scanning the code above with your mobile device directs you to the online donation page

#### MAIL IN:



1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083

#### DROP OFF:

##### AT THE PARISH CENTER



1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083

#### DURING OFFERTORY:

##### AT MASS



You can use designated envelopes OR use your envelope but indicate where your donation should be accounted for.

## Mass Intentions & Devotions

<b>SATURDAY</b> 5:30 pm	<b>January 7</b> Sofia Teixeira Guilhermina Santos Marcelo Signar
<b>SUNDAY</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 8</b> Roberto Grandeza (Living)-Birthday Jaime Camacho Rivera (2nd Ann.) For the Parishioners Richard Perkins
<b>MONDAY</b> 8:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 9</b> Roger Boetsch Thomas Ryan Wilson
<b>TUESDAY</b> 8:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 10</b> Novena of Masses Jiada Verga (Living) & Anna Mae Verga (Living) Hermelo Jay & Anna Mae Verga (Living) 14th Wedding Anniversary
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 8:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 11</b> Thomas Coullahan Brian Phillips (1st Ann.) Irene Grandeza (Living)-Special Intentions
<b>THURSDAY</b> 8:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 12</b> Cynthia Villasis (Living) Marley Keem Espejon (Living)-Birthday
<b>FRIDAY</b> 8:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 13</b> For the Parishioners Novena of Masses
<b>SATURDAY</b> 8:30 am 5:30 pm	<b>January 14</b> Novena of Masses New Year Novena of Masses
<b>SUNDAY</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 noon	<b>January 15</b> For the Parishioners Mark Mitchell Fredrickson For the Parishioners Dr. Thomas Ifediorama Nnoli

### ALTAR OFFERINGS

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

**The Sanctuary Lamp is offered in memory of Mollie Endler.**

### **2023 MASS BOOK is open.**

**Please stop by the Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave.) to book your Mass Intentions. The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

## Ministry Information

### CYO YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

[cyounionnj@gmail.com](mailto:cyounionnj@gmail.com)



There will be no CYO meetings on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> or January 3<sup>rd</sup>. CYO will resume on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year Everyone!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Coordinator of Religious Education**  
*Clare Andriola*  
**Coordinator of Home-Based Religious Education**  
*Lois Scanio*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS:** There are no religious education classes on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>; Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>; and Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> and January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Classes will resume beginning Sunday, January 8, 2023.

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](mailto:smccd@comcast.net). The office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's.

"Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new." **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**



## Announcements

### EPIFANY OF THE LORD

#### First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13

Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

#### Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

#### Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

### PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Joanne Kalkus, Terry & Tony Russo, Joseph Doman, Mary Ann Flynn, Lucille Arnaldo, Barbara Lombardi, Josephine Steinberg, Julia Astsalk, Roselle Roux, Amanda D'Amato, Jean Claude, Claubette Kallabeen, Stephen Czapla, Clarence Roberts, Thomasina Rodriguez, Harry Vendemia, Iluminda Duyan, Ruth Guido, Maria Santiago, Dr. Vic Tan, Sam Vincent Milana, Beth Barto, Targelia Penafiel, Herlinda Castillo, Gregory Ward, David Randolph, Junia Perez, Virginia Hernandez, Lucy Scalgione, Doug Heinzer, Veana Lim, Myra Kebala, 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 DePinho, Baby Charlie Esmores, George Leary, Carole A. Fa-centa, 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, Connie Emery, Ana Torres, Rita Homiak, Stephen Berberabe, Norma Tuano, Marlene Cababe, Milan Durish, Maria Santiago, Marisol Morales, Angelina Amali, Jeff Pogorzelski, Virginia Attanasio, Karen Zabbia, Mary Leeman, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Andre Graigwell, Nicole Pozeinick, Amy Dombroski, Byron DelMonte, Samantha Lopes, Joselito Espana, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Harry Benbemia, Ken Lang, Valarie Carter, Willie Green, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Rosa A. Rendeiro, Christopher Persaud

### 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

**Mark R. Frederickson, Gerald A. Giordano,  
Margaret French, Agnes Baldino, Gino Ianiro,  
Leonel Silva**

### 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.



## NOVENA of Masses

### NOVENA OF MASSES JANUARY 2023

Phil Matrale

James Ford, Sr.

Fritz Maddy

Carolina Liwanag Santangelo

Mary & Idolo Russomano

Michelene & Joseph Kmetz

Christopher Boulin (Living) - Birthday

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



### COME AND EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT PERSONALLY WITH ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group

DAY: Wednesday TIME: 6PM-7:30PM

VENUE: Murphy's Room, Lower Church

### HANDS OF GRACE MINISTRY (HUGS)

HUGS Ministry distributes **Gift Bags once a month throughout the year.** We are presently helping **33 families.** Please help us replenish our inventory.

Please contact **Bisi (908) 247-4461** or **Tania (908) 420 8659.**

### WELLNESS MINISTRY



(FREE) DANCE Classes  
For the whole Family

Saturdays 9:30-10:30 am  
Phil Matrale Church Hall (LC)



## Announcements

### SANTO NINO FEAST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

3:00 PM—MASS

FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWS AFTER MASS AT

THE Phil Matrale Hall (LC)



### PETER PETRECCA RETIREMENT MASS & REFRESHMENTS SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023 12:00 noon Mass

Please join us in the retirement celebration of Peter Petrecca, the Church Music Director. He has been with St. Michael's Church for over 30 years.

Thank you Peter for your service to St. Michael's Church!

## Announcements



### THE HANDS OF GRACE MINISTRY AND THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Hands of Grace Ministry (HUGS) members would like to express their immense gratitude to the Knights of Columbus (Union Council 4504) for supporting the ministry by donating winter coats to the ministry.

We would also like to thank all those who tirelessly dropped gifts under the pink tree. The response was pleasantly overwhelming. The Gift back Distribution was done on January 5<sup>th</sup> to 34 very grateful families!

HUGS Ministry distributes Gift Bags once a month throughout the year. We are asking for families with children ages newborn to 5 years, interested in being on the monthly Distribution List, to please fill out the form at <https://www.stmichaelunion.org/handsograceform>

We serve all families with utmost dignity and respect. Please help spread the word about the ministry.

For more information about HUGS Ministry, please contact Bisi (908) 247-4461 or Tania (908) 420-8659.

### SIMBANG GABI (CHRISTMAS NIGHT MASS) DECEMBER 19, 2022





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**A HERO WALKED HERE.**  
 The story and aftermath of a Saint Michaels School graduate, a 21-year-old Rutgers University Student and volunteer Fire Fighter and his line of duty death while trying to save a woman from her burning home. Available at **www.Lulu.com** search "A hero walked here". Proceeds to go to the Firefighters Foundation.

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