



# ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

## 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.

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Daily Mass: Monday—Friday**  
8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

### Saturday

Mass: 8:30 am  
Confession: 1:00 pm—2:00 pm  
Saturday Vigil Mass—5:30 pm

### Sunday

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 Alfano**  
*Permanent Deacon*

**Margaret Kazan**  
*Principal*

**Mary Jo Arnaldo-Sipe**  
*Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper*

**Clare Andriola**  
**Lois Scanio**  
*Religious Education*

**Cristina Manochio**  
**Joseph Santillo**  
*Youth Ministry*

**Fran Engleman**  
*Music Director*

**Tiago Rodrigues**  
*Property Manager*

*Pastor Emeritus*  
**Rev. Charles McDermott**

## PARISH OFFICE

Tel.: 908-688-1232

Fax: 908-810-1076

[stmichaelunion@comcast.net](mailto:stmichaelunion@comcast.net)

[www.stmichaelunion.org](http://www.stmichaelunion.org)

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

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March 17, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

# SACRIFICE



**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 soul-less 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*



# Stewardship of Treasure



## SAVE THE DATE

Our parish will be taking a cruise around New York City as part of the celebration of St. Michael's Feast Day 2024.

**Cruise Date:** Friday, September 27, 2024  
**Boarding:** 6:30 pm  
**Cruising:** 7:00 pm—9:30 pm  
**Vessel:** Spirit of New Jersey  
**Departing:** Lincoln Harbor  
 1500 Harbor Blvd. Weehawken, NJ

**COST:**

- Option 1:** \$170 per person all included **without** 1 glass of wine or a bottle of beer
- Option 2:** \$178 per person **with** 1 glass of wine or a bottle of beer
- Option 3:** \$150 per person all included **without** bus transportation and no glass of wine or a bottle beer.

Tickets are first come first serve basis. Only **150** tickets will be sold.  
 Bus boarding at St. Michael's Parking Lot at 5:00 sharp.  
 Please call Parish Office (908) 688-1232 for more information.

## ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK ANNUAL APPEAL ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

**2024 Base Goal:** \$43,473  
**2024 Stretch Goal:** \$46,240  
**As of:** 3/13/24  
**Donor Pledge:** \$20,747.01  
**Donor Received:** \$16,526.90

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to Jeff and Theresa Pogorzelski and Ana DiFabrizio for your generous donations for the purchase of the chasubles.

There are still 2 chasubles available for donations. Thank you for your generosity.

"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

	<u>NEEDED WEEKLY</u>	<u>ACTUAL WEEKLY</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
<b>MARCH</b>			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 8,383	\$ 1,076
Week 2	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,763	\$ 456
Week 3	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
<b>Monthly SOS</b>	<b>\$10,040</b>	<b>\$ 8,974</b>	<b>\$ 1,066</b>

**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

<p><b>ONLINE GIVING:</b></p> <p>—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING— stmichaelunion.org</p>	<p><b>BANK TRANSFER:</b></p> <p>stmichaelunion@comcast.net</p> <p><small>In the Comment section, indicate where your donation should be accounted for, e.g., USAN (with your Group Name), Offertory, Tithe, etc.</small></p>	<p><b>CONTACT FREE: QR CODE</b></p> <p><small>Scanning the code above with your mobile device directs you to the online donation page</small></p>
<p><b>MAIL IN:</b></p> <p><small>1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083</small></p>	<p><b>DROP OFF: AT THE PARISH CENTER</b></p> <p><small>1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083</small></p>	<p><b>DURING OFFERTORY: AT MASS</b></p> <p><small>You can use designated envelopes OR use your envelope but indicate where your donation should be accounted for.</small></p>

## 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.

## Mass Intentions & Novenas

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### **SATURDAY**

#### **March 16**

8:30 am Joselito Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving  
 Johanna Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving  
 5:30 pm Giuseppe Terriaca & Giovanna DiBiase

#### **SUNDAY**

#### **March 17**

7:30 am For the Parishioners  
 Patricio Querubin (Living)-Thanksgiving  
 9:00 am John Forde, Patrick Fields  
 10:30 am Teodoro Mendoza  
 12:00 noon Dumitru Anusca (1st Ann.)  
 Divine Burch (Living)-Healing  
 MaryRose Daileman  
 Fritz Saint-Juste

#### **MONDAY**

#### **March 18**

8:30 am Florintino Rivera  
 12:00 noon Novea of Masses, Terry Piccio

#### **TUESDAY**

#### **March 19**

8:30 am Sevyn Lautre (Living)-1st Birthday  
 Special Intentions to St. Joseph  
 Mary Ann Canavan (11th Ann.)  
 12:00 noon Jose Arnaldo  
 Frances Maksom (Living)-Birthday

#### **WEDNESDAY**

#### **March 20**

8:30 am Helen Walano, Amoakon Mian  
 12:00 noon Antonino Mugavero & Rosa Mugavero

#### **THURSDAY**

#### **March 21**

8:30 am Albert & Yolanda Shack  
 12:00 noon Lucy Gimenez (Living)-Healing

#### **FRIDAY**

#### **March 22**

8:30 am Darlene Bourdeau (Living)  
 Samuel Lautre (Living)  
 Joseph Hrevnck  
 12:00 noon Elizabeth Szybowski (Living)-Birthday  
 Alan Cabatigan,  
 Mary R. Bernot (7th Ann.)

#### **SATURDAY**

#### **March 23**

8:30 am Novena of Masses  
 5:30 pm Living & Deceased Members of Boetsch  
 & Gillick Families

#### **SUNDAY**

#### **March 24**

7:30 am Jose & Lucille Arnaldo  
 9:00 am Avelino Torres, For the Parishioners  
 10:30 am Alan Cabatigan, Anna Joseph,  
 Carlos James  
 12:00 noon Sybilia Ihediva  
 Judy Salazar (Living)-Healing

#### **ALTAR OFFERINGS**

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

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

### NOVENA OF MASSES MARCH 2024

<b>Jose &amp; Lucille Arnaldo</b>	<b>Phil Matrale</b>
<b>Mary &amp; Idolo Russomano</b>	<b>James Ford, Sr.</b>
<b>Pierre &amp; Rubinetti Families</b>	<b>Frank Rubinetti</b>
<b>Jorge &amp; Hilda Criado</b>	<b>George Rinehart, Jr.</b>
<b>Maria Leanor Coronel</b>	<b>Ramon Valera</b>
<b>Special Intentions-VG</b>	<b>Amoakon Mian</b>
<b>Lourdes Ezpeleta</b>	<b>Eugenia M. Hingco</b>
<b>Maureen Kohl (Living)-Healing</b>	
<b>Rosario Arnaldo (Living)-Healing</b>	
<b>Nickdy B. Auguste (Living)-Healing</b>	
<b>Michellene &amp; Joseph Kmetz</b>	
<b>Special Intentions to St. Joseph</b>	
<b>John Dittemer (Living) - Healing</b>	
<b>Antonio Simao DeMelo Madeiros</b>	
<b>George Sr., Ruth &amp; Barbara Rinehart</b>	
<b>Chinyere Odoemene &amp; Family (Living)-</b>	
<b>Special Intentions</b>	
<b>Jeff Pogorzelski (Living) - Healing</b>	
<b>Manuel Pereira Aarujó &amp; Lucilia Silva Sousa Aarujó</b>	
<b>Patsy Scalgione &amp; Deceased Family Members</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members of the Orlando,</b>	
<b>Landolfi, Siciliano &amp; LaManna Families</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members of Del Rosario</b>	
<b>&amp; Perez Families</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members Onyenanu &amp;</b>	
<b>Durugo Families</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members of Maddy &amp;</b>	
<b>Boulin Families</b>	
<b>Rodrigues, Medeiros &amp; Aarujó Families</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members of Santoriello Family</b>	
<b>Living &amp; Deceased Members of Ignatus &amp;</b>	
<b>Nwosuh Families</b>	

### PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Grace Fortino, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Ana Torres, Rita Homiak, Stephen Berberabe, Norma Tuano, Jeff Pogorzelski, Virginia Attanasio, Mary Leeman, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Andre Graigwell, Nicole Pozeinick, Amy Dombroski, Samantha Lopes, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Ken Lang, Valarie Carter, Willie Green, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Alex Pretto, Paulo Goncalves, Frances Machado, Antoinette Agriloo, James Scholz, Michael Nworu, Victoria Nworu, June Musa, Marivic del Rosario, Theresa Ojeaware, Kathy Chavez, John McEvoy, Sofia Teixeira, Carlos Dacruz, Anthony Staynings, Socorro Dagat, Peter & Cathy Fortunato, Anna Lepski, Nicole Ferlo, Therese Ferlo, Dolly Kramer, Junita Ottenstroer, Baby Sophia Alfano, Jean Ford, John Dittemer, Pat Wittek, Sal Dovi

### 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.

**Especially**  
**Members of St. Michael's Parish**

# Ministry Happenings

## CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



### Palm Cross & Candy Sale

March 16, March 17, March 23, March 24 after all Masses



### CYO Living Stations of the Cross—Friday, March 29 at 7:00 pm



## MIND AND SPIRIT MINISTRY

IN THE LOWER HALL OF  
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH,  
1212 KELLY STREET, UNION, NJ

Non-therapeutic groups that combine listening support with spiritual reflection. Available to anyone who wants to attend.

### Monthly Group Sessions

February 8th 7PM:  
Personal Tribulations

March 14th 7PM:  
Forgiveness of Self & Others

April 11th 7PM:  
Living with Sadness

May 9th 7PM:  
Coping with Fear & Anxiety

June 13th 7PM:  
Building Self-esteem

### COME AND JOIN US

Contact Ginnie, Jonathan, Ylani and Taisha at  
[ourmindandspirit@gmail.com](mailto:ourmindandspirit@gmail.com)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Reminder:** We will not have Religious Education classes on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday during the weeks of March 24 (Palm Sunday) and March 31 (Easter Sunday). Classes will resume on Sunday, April 7.

### FIRST COMMUNION:

Over 60 1<sup>st</sup> Communion candidates received the sacrament of 1<sup>st</sup> Penance & Reconciliation on March 2. Each child received a crucifix as a remembrance of this very special day. Thank you Msgr. Anselm, Fr. Miles and our visiting priests. Thanks, also, to our catechists who assisted.

### Upcoming Events for 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Candidates:

**Family Retreat for First Eucharist ("Communion Bread" Retreat): Saturday, Apr. 13 at 10AM in Phil Matrale Hall**

We have fun activity stations planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion candidates. Parents will receive an email with more information in the coming weeks.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Thank You from the Sisters of St. Dominic at Caldwell!

We received a handwritten note from Sr. Catherine Waters which reads: "The generosity of all those at the Parish of St. Michael is a thing to behold! I remember all of you with great fondness and am so grateful to have been among you. The Sisters who have gone before us are smiling, too! Fondly, Sr. Catherine"

\*\*\*\*\*

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).

## WELLNESS MINISTRY

**(FREE) DANCE/EXERCISE Class**  
For the Family



**Saturdays 9:30—10:30 am**  
Phil Matrale Hall (LC)

## CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **PERSONALLY** WITH ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group



**DAY: Wednesday**  
**TIME: 6 PM-7:30 PM**  
**VENUE: Murphy Room, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)**

## HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS)

Please consider making donations to the Ministry. We are constantly in need of clothing, sanitary and feeding items for children (**New born to Age 5**) and for mothers.

Please call **Bisi Longe** (908)247-4461 or **Tania Massicot** (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 the parish website at [www.stmichaelunion.org](http://www.stmichaelunion.org) (Click on the Parish Giving Icon).

Join the **HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS) MINISTRY** in celebrating "**Giving Bear Sunday**" every 3rd Sunday of the month. Look out for our Purple Bear in the vestibule with a basket of cards for family needs. Please stop by and pick a card or 2 to help ensure the ministries inventory never dries up.

The HUGS Ministry services 50 families in our parish and community by giving out Grace Bags monthly to mothers and children-newborn to age 5.





# Announcements

## 2024 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday – March 1, 8, 15, 22  
7:00 pm, Church

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, March 23  
1:00-2:00 pm – Individual Confession

### HOLY WEEK

#### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 23 at 5:30 pm  
Sunday, March 24 at 7:30 am, 9:00 am,  
10:30 am, 12:00 noon  
Distribution of Palms at all Masses

#### Wednesday of the Week, March 27

Penance Service with Individual Confession  
7:00 – 8:30 pm  
No Confession on Holy Thursday, Good Friday,  
and Holy Saturday

#### Holy Thursday, March 28

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

#### Good Friday, March 29

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, March 30

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, March 31

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

#### Easter Monday, April 1

Mass at 9:00 am

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024

The Feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated at St. Michael's on Sunday, April 7th at 3:00 pm in the Church. The Chaplet will be recited followed by prayers.



**ST MICHAEL'S PARISH CHURCH**  
1212 Kelly St. Union, NJ 07083

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

HUNT TIMES  
- ages 6 & under start at 11am  
- ages 7 and up start at 11:30am

**FUN CRAFTS PRIZES**  
Bring your own baskets!  
Volunteers Needed!

**30 MARCH**  
10:30-1PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION: FACSTMICHAELS@GMAIL.COM

## COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS

April 21, 2024



Our next Coffee and Fellowship Sunday will be on April 21 after all the Sunday Masses at the Phil Matrale Hall (LC). We hope you can join us.

Thank you to Yakima Williams, Victoria Oyakhrome, Cheryl & Kermit Thompson for their generous donation to the February fellowship

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / LOCAL SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Status: Part Time: 25-28 hours per week, flexible schedule

Supervisor: Pastor

**Position Summary** - The Director of Religious Education (DRE) oversees and directs the parish religious education program grades 1 through 8, including sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion; recruits, trains and supervises volunteer catechists. The DRE is also the Local Safe Environment Coordinator (LSEC),


#### Position Specific Requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church
- Must have vision and a demonstrated ability to plan, develop, coordinate, manage and implement a parish catechetical program within the parameters of the Catholic Church
- Current credentials as a Catechetical leader and participation in the Archdiocesan ongoing certification and mentoring process
- An ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with youth, diverse individuals, and teams of volunteers
- Basic computer and technology skills
- As LSEC, to ensure the volunteers (in ministry with minors) and employees in the Parish have the required safe environment documentation on file.

Interested candidates are invited to send cover letters and resumes to the attention of:

Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu  
St. Michael's Parish  
1212 Kelly Street  
Union, NJ 07083

Email: [stmichaelunion@comcast.net](mailto:stmichaelunion@comcast.net)



Jennifer Tanis *Funeral Director* NJ Lic. No. 4894  
 Edward J. Shaffery, Jr. *Manager* NJ Lic. No. 3315  
 Ronald T. Principe, Jr. *Funeral Director* NJ Lic. No. 4841  
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