

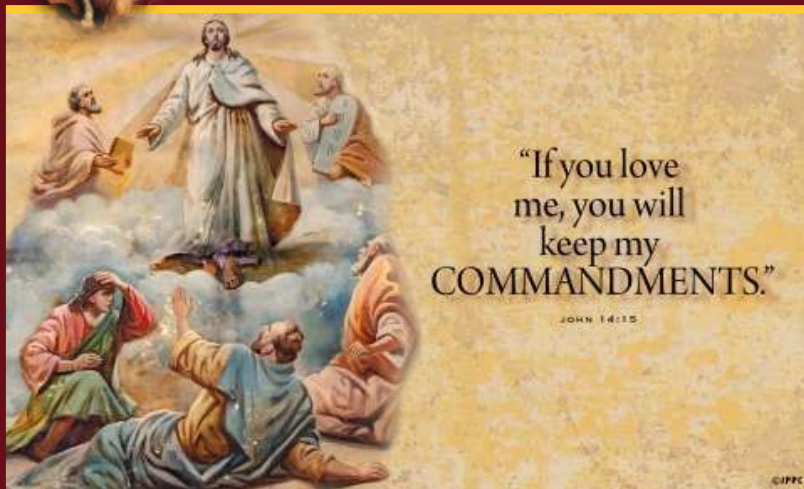


ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

MAY 17, 2020

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

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.

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

Message From Our Pastor



My dear parishioners,

From the questions people are asking me and their thought processes, I get the impression that there seems to be an underlying assumption that coronavirus is, somehow, a punishment from God for what our world has turned into—another Sodom and Gomorrah where all kinds of behavior and acts of the immoral order are judged to be okay; where liberty has turned into libertinism and whatever feels good and appealing to the individual is okay to do; a total rejection of the moral order. While this way of thinking has some biblical grounding, it is also possible to understand this pandemic from a broader existential level.

Our world, like every other interactive system, has a self-corrective measure built into it. This measure may come in various forms but the bottom line is that it allows the world to reboot, just as we do with computers and electronic appliances when they short-circuit. This line of thought allows us to wonder whether our world needed to reboot in order to rediscover the value of balance in our lives; the importance of appreciating what life is truly about—what matters most, the need to appreciate the preciousness of our daily existence—the vulnerabilities associated with our own finitude, and the need to reorder our priorities in terms of what truly matters and what does not really matter.

Isn't it amazing that New York, 'the city that never sleeps', is now so asleep and all quiet; that the beautiful centers of romance, all around the world, now live in echoes; that the eternal city of Rome is deserted, Mecca is empty, and there is no more magic in Disney; that G8 nations are speechless and the developed world suddenly on its knees; that Churches, Mosques, Museums, cruise ships, stadiums are empty and no miracle workers are in insight; that the busiest places are now the most dreaded places and the dreaded places – hospitals, morgues and cemeteries—are now the busiest places. Whoever thought that our loved ones would be left to die alone and the sick left to suffer without the comfort and presence of family members? Whoever thought we would survive without watching the Premier Soccer Leagues, Sunday Football, Major League Baseball, NBA, etc. For almost two months now, we have lived without the things we thought were most important; no movies, no shopping, no eating out, no vacations, no celebrations, our expensive clothes and shoes are tucked away as house clothes and pajamas have become our latest fashion, and yet life has just simply moved on, the sun still shines, and the birds are still singing.

Looking back, it is easy to see how our lives, in the pre-coronavirus era, were filled with dispensable prefixes and suffixes that, in actuality, were misplaced priorities while the things that matter most—life, family and God, took second place. The question is: Which world shall we return back to after this pandemic; the old way of life or the new informed way of life—taking time to smell the roses; the need to stay at home more often and spend time with family, with God, and the self; the need to forgive both self and others and let go of life-baggage; the need to feel the pains of others and to make life worth it for fellow humans; the need to remember our humanity and the importance of each moment and the fragility of our temporal existence. As we prepare to move into post pandemic era, it would be important for us to remember that "death is always over our left shoulder" and there is need to constantly take care of the self, in every good way possible, because we do not know what tomorrow would bring. Let us bear in mind what Solomon had to say when he wrote: "Remember your creator in the days of your youth,...remember him—before the silver cord is severed, and the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, and the wheel broken at the well, and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, all is vanity (Eccl 12:1, 6-8)

Msgr. Anselm

Mass Intentions & Stewardship of Treasure

SATURDAY 8:30 am	May 16 Marcel Depestre, Eugene Fabio, Jr.
SUNDAY 10:00 am	May 17 For the Parishioners, Scott Leddy, Mary Dorothea Pfarr, Thodore Czapl (Living)
MONDAY 12:00 Noon	May 18 Novena of Masses, Joseph Cebulak Jose Arnaldo (11th Ann.)
TUESDAY 12:00 Noon	May 19 Vicente Magno, Philip Montalto, Renato & Renee Garcia
WEDNESDAY 12:00 Noon	May 20 Novena of Masses, Goodwin Ubanii, Teresa, Nicola Vanni & Family
THURSDAY 12:00 Noon	May 21 Ascension of the Lord Sefia & Ojeawere Families, Francis Xavier Gillick, George Rinehart
FRIDAY 12:00 Noon	May 22 Austerberta Olandres, Thomas Canavan, St. Rita Special Intnetions
SATURDAY 8:30 am	May 23 Maria Ribeiro, Jennie Pruszkowski
SUNDAY 10:00 am	May 24 For the Parishioners, Antonio Baldassare, Thomas J. Duffy, Alejandro T. Cruz

ALTAR OFFERINGS

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

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**

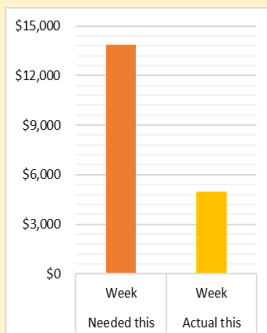
5/10/2020	Needed This Week	Actual This Week	Deficit This Week
Collection & SOS	\$14,254	\$8,091	(\$6,163)

In the present health emergency, with public celebrations of Mass suspended our weekly collections, of course, are interrupted. Please make every effort to maintain your Sunday offerings by using one of the following methods:

- **Mailing your envelopes** to the Parish Center Office.
- **Online Giving** Go to our parish website (stmichaelunion.org) and click on the Parish Giving button that will take you to the easy sign up form.
- **GoFundMe** The Archdiocese has established a site for contributions, to parishes, due to the current emergency. Go to our parish website (stmichaelunion.org) and click on the GoFundMe button that will take you to the St. Michael Union team page.

As you can see what we needed to cover the cost of our operations this week is \$14,254. What we actually received is \$8,091, so we are short **\$6,163**. Do please continue to support St. Michael's Parish.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



Adorations, Devotions & Reflections

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH VIRTUAL GATEWAY TO PRAYER



SUNDAYS MONDAYS - FRIDAYS

MASS

10:00 AM

DAILY MASS

12:00 NOON

TUESDAYS

BIBLE CLASS

7:00 - 8:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

MARIAN DEVOTION

7:00 - 8:00 PM

SATURDAYS

MORNING MASS

8:30 AM

MORNING REFLECTION - 3RD SATURDAYS

9:00 - 10:00 AM

ADORATIONS

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH - SACRED HEART

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

6:30 - 8:00 PM

JOIN US VIRTUALLY

<https://www.gotomeet.me/StMichaelChurch>

OR CALL IN

1 (312) 757-3121

Access Code 574-150-285

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

CYO/YOUTH MINISTRY News

cyouunion@aol.com



Make sure you test Positive for Faith.
Keep distant from Doubt,
and isolate from Fear.
Trust God Through it all! Amen!

Our CYO/Youth Ministry members continue to keep our Parish, Family and Friends in or prayers!

L.O.C.K.D.O.W.N. is a time to:

L-isten to God's voice and reflect. Let go and let God.

O-bey His Word and His teachings.

C-all on Jesus name and be calm.

K-now what is the purpose of all this.

D-well in His presence. Do not panic.

O-ffer a prayer for everyone's safety.

W-ait and be patient.

N-urture our personal relationship with Him.

RICE BOWL

Rice Bowls can be sent to the Parish Center. Those monies are given to missions that help people throughout the world.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8,14-17

The people of Samaria accept the Gospel of Jesus proclaimed to them by Philip.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66:1-7,16,20

Sing praise to God, all the earth.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

Be ready to give explanation for your hope in Christ.

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them another advocate, the Spirit of truth.

MINISTRY Information

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

The **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE** is currently closed. Email and telephone messages are checked daily. You can contact us by phone (908) 964-0965 or by email at smccd@comcast.net if you would like to leave a message.

PARENTS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS:

Please make sure your child continues to work in the religious education book. We strongly encourage you to help your child with their faith formation. Review the book with them. Reciting the Our Father and Hail Mary while washing their hands is one easy way of helping them remember their prayers!

PARENTS OF CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST COMMUNION:

With churches remaining closed, all First Communions have been cancelled for the time being. Once a decision has been made regarding the re-opening of church with new guidelines, only then can we discuss the rescheduling of First Communion Masses. As soon as I hear any updates, I will let you know.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

SR. ANN'S FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to Mike Eger who has worked tirelessly to keep serving the community by delivering food from the food pantry to seniors and those in need during the pandemic. Your service is greatly appreciated.

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.

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.



ST. MICHAEL'S SENIOR NEWS

All meetings are postponed until further notice. Please stay safe.



"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.

Registration is open for St. Michael School, where students come to learn in a faith-filled environment with a strong academic base. St. Michael's offers classes from prek- 8th grade. We have a full day prek-3, prek-4, and kindergarten. Morning and Aftercare until 6:00pm is available as well. If you are interested in enrolling your child at St. Michael School, please email Mrs. Scicolone at rsicolone@smsunion.org.

Come tour and explore our amazing school!

NOVENA of Masses

MAY 2020

Alejandro T. Cruz	Louis Sauro
Jurusik & Arner Families	John & Augusta Mahon
Jose J. Arnaldo	Ann L. Corrigan
Craig Calix (Living)	Serafina Sauro
Mary & Idolo Russomanno	Rosemary Sauro
Pierre & Rubineti Families	Frank Rubineti, Sr.
Roger Boetsch	James Ford, Sr.
Donna (Pruszkowski) Hornig	George Rinehart
Special Intentions	
St. Rita Special Intentions	
Protection & Special Intentions	
Our Lady of Fatima Special Intentions	
Living & Decembers of the Santoriello Family	
George Sr, Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Lucila Sousa Araujo & Manuel Pereira Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of the Santoriello Family	
Living & Deceased Members of the Czapla, Leniart & McMahon Families	
Patsy J. Scalgione & Deceased Family Members	
Special Intentions for the Nwoshu & Odoemene Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Araujo, Pais & Cadenas Families	
All Souls in Purgatory	
Living & Deceased Members of the Pruszkowski, Endler, Hornig & Macecsko Families	
In Thanks for God's Blessings on the USA	
For God's Assistance with CONVID 19	

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
members of St. Michael's Parish.

Announcements

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions, Novena of Masses, Candle Offerings to the Saints in Church, Altar Offerings (Bread, Wine & Sanctuary Lamp) and St. Vincent de Paul Donations can be done online through Parish Giving.

Please go to our website www.stmichaelunion.org

or

You can also drop off your requests at the Parish Center. Please put your name and telephone number so we can get in touch with you if we have any questions.

UPDATED DIRECTIVES REGARDING CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Cardinal Tobin and the Archdiocesan leadership team continue to monitor the ongoing COVID-19 situation and to aggregate guiding information from federal, state and local officials. Based on the latest information shared publicly, following are **updated directives regarding Catholic Cemeteries** approved by Cardinal Tobin for the Archdiocese of Newark.

- * On Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 10**, all archdiocesan cemeteries will be **open for visitation** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will be open for visitation every Sunday, thereafter.
- Beginning on Monday, May 11, up to **10 family members** will be permitted to attend a burial service. (Currently, two family members only are permitted.) Until further notice, all committal services are limited to immediate family only and not to exceed the recommendations of New Jersey Executive Order No. 107 (2020) and Administrative Order 2020-04, that gatherings of 10 persons or fewer are permitted.
- Beginning on Monday, May 18, cemetery visitation will be permitted weekdays, Monday through Saturday, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., *after all interments are completed*.
- **Memorial Day Masses** at our all archdiocesan cemeteries are postponed until further notice. Announcements are forthcoming regarding a live-stream or video of Memorial Day Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery.
- **All** persons entering archdiocesan cemetery and mausoleum premises **must wear a facemask and practice social distancing** as per the state's mandate. Signs will be posted in cemeteries.

We urge all to please adhere to these guidelines for the protection of all. It would be disappointing to all if prior restrictions were reinforced if state and local mandates are not followed.

Announcements

PRAYER AGAINST COVID-19

Heavenly Father, we know that we can do nothing without You, and that with You all things are possible. As we thank You and give You praise and worship, we also come to You in desperate need of Your power and healing grace. At this very moment, we acknowledge that we are weak, fearful and intimidated by COVID-19. Yes, even as we believe that You have absolute power over this virus, our flesh is still afraid and our spirit weak. Fill us therefore with Your courage, hope, peace, and joy in this moment of fear and desperation. David, your servant, testified, "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." Your Word also tells us that, You, Oh God, are close to the brokenhearted; that You save those who are crushed in spirit, and rescue them from all their distress.

Father Almighty, we are highly distressed right now, fearful and in despair and, just like David, we seek your face and implore You to heal our land; to forbid this hand of death and devastation. Come to our aid, forgive our sins, and send forth the rain of deliverance upon the earth, and shower humanity with your healing grace. Protect all healthcare workers as they take care of the sick, strengthen and heal those who have become afflicted and comfort those who have lost loved ones to this virus. Provide wisdom and guidance to scientists and researchers to find a cure for this pandemic, so that this virus may be eradicated faster than it started. Show forth your saving grace, so that every knee may bow and every tongue may confess that it was nothing short of Your power that delivered us from this mayhem. Father, please save your people; answer this prayer and restore unto us the joy of our salvation. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ your Son, Amen.

Save the Date

Friday, September 25th, 2020

7:30 - 11:30 pm

St. Michael's Annual

DINNER DANCE

Galloping Hill Caterers, Union, NJ

Celebration details to follow