

The Church of Saint Michael
Sunday, December 13, 2015
 Third Sunday of Advent



Please remember in your prayers those who have died.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:

Rose DeSantis, Edmond DeSantis Jr., Emma Jane Fenimore,
 Rosemarie DiRupo, David Pope, Jennie Sommer, Brian
 Bergeson, Eileen Bergeson, Jaydon Franklin, Paula DiElsi,
 Michael Parker, Evelyn and Vivian Dumpert, Sam Rosa
 Pat Leone, Simon Harvey, Robert Newton, Robert White, Phil
 Grella, Vincent D'Alessandro, Diana Palumbo, Patricia Heady

Weekly Memorial

Altar Bread & Sacramental Wine:
 Joseph & Mario Francomacaro

Weekly Devotions

Monday:..... Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm
 (not on the last Monday of the month)
 Wednesday:..... Rosary Group 7:30 pm
 Friday:..... Divine Mercy 3:00 pm
 Friday:..... Under Mary's Mantle 7:30 pm
 Saturday:Rosary (after 8 am Mass) 8:30 am

Readings for the week

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Friday

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 12, 2015

8:00 a.m. Raymond VanSaun
 5:00 p.m. Dion Amendola, John Barbato Jr.
 7:00 p.m. Matias Salazar & Teresa Ramirez

Sunday, December 13, 2015

7:00 a.m. Arthur Rando, Baby Boy
 8:45 a.m. Tom & Virginia Romano, Betty L. McGrath
 10:30 a.m. Pat Buckley, Louis Lamberto
 12:00 p.m. Thanksgiving to Christ the King
 5:00 p.m. Emil & Laura Normandy

Monday, December 14, 2015

7:00 a.m. Patricia DeMartino

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

8:00 a.m. Angelina DeMarco
 Franciszek Gierlach

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

7:00 a.m. Frank M. & Rose P. Pucio

Thursday, December 17, 2015

8:00 a.m. Pasqueline & Vincenzo Arbolino & Family

Friday, December 18, 2015

7:00 a.m. James & Lena DiRenzo

Saturday, December 19, 2015

8:00 a.m. Walter Adonis, John Vara, Joseph Vara Jr.
 5:00 p.m. John Michael Barbato Jr., Richard McCarthy
 7:00 p.m. Martha Mendoza

Sunday, December 20, 2015

7:00 a.m. James & Catherine DeMuccio,
 Mr. & Mrs. Pintos, Mr. & Mrs. Nazzaro &
 Baby Michael
 8:45 a.m. Louis Lamberto, Helen Hartman
 10:30 a.m. Jane Grogan, Rita Boyle
 12:00 p.m. Necelia Polianchik, Carmella Marana
 5:00 p.m. All Parishioners of St. Michael Church

TITHING – GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
 ST. MICHAEL'S HAS BEEN A TITHING PARISH
 SINCE 1988.

Sunday 12/6/15	\$7,526.00
Repairs & Renovation	\$2,887.00
Online	\$ 822.00

Amount Needed Weekly \$9,651.00

To run our parish properly we need \$9,651.

Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.

FROM THE PASTOR

What does IHS mean?

Many people ask what does IHS stand for. It is what is called a Christogram, a combination of letters that represent the name Jesus. It comes from the Greek letters I (iota), H (eta) and S (sigma). The I and H were used in the third century and then in the next century the S was added. It was used as Christian inscriptions (nomina sacra) as the name of Jesus (Iesus Christos). These Greek monograms were used even in the Latin.

The monogram became very popular in the 12th century when St. Bernard was devoted to the Holy Name of Jesus and the 14th when Blessed John Colombini (founder of the Jesuati) wore it on his breast. Towards the end of the Middle Ages, HIS became a symbol and an accepted iconographical characteristic of St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena. St. Ignatius of Loyola adopted the monogram in his seal of the Society of Jesus when he was the general in 1541 and therefore it became the emblem of his institute. It is sometimes wrongly understood as "Jesus Hominum" (or Hierosolymae) Salvator", i.e. Jesus, the Savior of Men (or of Jerusalem=Hierosolyma).

Healing Mass

Our next Healing Mass is on December 29th at 7pm, with Rosary/Chaplet at 6:30pm

Youth/Family Mass

Our next Youth/Family Mass will be on January 3rd at 7pm.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for

December

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.



Giving couldn't be easier!

Click on the Donate tab or the link on the home page on our website (www.stmichaelnetcong.org). If you have questions or need help setting it up, email smonlinegiving@gmail.com!

We'd be happy to help.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEWS

December Sessions for Gr. 1-8 are as follows:

Gr. 1-6: weeks of Dec. 13, 20

Gr. 7: Dec. 21 (test)

Gr. 8: Dec. 14 (test)

Next Kindergarten session: 12/20

Confirmation Prep:

- Confirmation I (freshmen) next large group session: Sunday 12/13, 1-3 pm church basement. ONE service form is due at this meeting.
- Confirmation II:
 - **CORRECTION: Next large group meeting:** January 17, 1-3:20 pm
 - † Service forms due: Jan. 10 (covering all service done since 9/30). Please note all make up service is to be completed by Jan. 10. If you need help, please contact Mrs. Rogalo, 073-347-1465.

Attention any Sophomore, Junior or Senior who would like to help on the Confirmation I retreat (to be held in Feb.): If you want to be part of the team, please come to our planning meeting on JAN. 14, 7 pm, church basement. If you have questions, please contact Fr. Leonardo (972-224-6693) or the Religious Ed office (973-347-1465).

Youth Ministry News

Fr. Leonardo 973-224-6693 or 973-347-0032

What do we love more

A man was polishing his new car; his 4 year old daughter picked up a stone and scratched on the side of the car. In anger, the furious Man took his child's hand and hit it many times, not realizing he was using a wrench. At the hospital, the child lost all his fingers due to multiple fractures. When the child saw her father, with painful eyes he asked 'Dad when will my fingers grow back?' The man was so hurt and speechless. He went back to the car and kicked it many times. Devastated by his own actions, sitting in front of the car he looked at the scratches, His daughter had written 'LOVE YOU DAD'.

Moral: Often parents try to show love by meeting material needs, but this alone isn't enough to communicate the love God wants us to learn from our parents. Always remember that "Things are to be used and people are to be loved". God is never reluctant to say, "I love you"! We are His treasured possession (Dt7:6).

Christmas Family Movie Night

On Sunday, December 20th at 7pm in the church basement, we will be showing Kirk Cameron's "**Saving Christmas.**" The movie brings to the forefront the true reason we celebrate Christmas and explains the Biblical basis for the symbols and decorations we use. Feel free to bring the family and your own snacks/drinks!

St. Michael's Prayer Group

Exciting news! **On Monday evening, beginning on Nov. 30th**, St. Michael will present a four week DVD series entitled "Genesis to Jesus". This series explores God's covenant with his children, from Adam to Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate. Dr. Scott Hahn and Rob Corzine share stories of Noah, Abraham, Moses and other Old Testament figures. Join us this Advent, at 7PM under the rectory downstairs in the meeting room.

In January St. Michael will run a Bible Study on Genesis which will be hosted by Scott Hahn.

Penance Service: Advent and the Jubilee Year of Mercy is a time of preparation and a wonderful opportunity to experience the Father's mercy as a community. All parishioners, as well as visitors, are invited to join us in celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As a community, we will be led through an examination of conscience and make an act of contrition accompanied by prayer and music. Visiting priests will be available to hear individual confession that evening.

Perhaps you or someone you know has not been to confession for many years and longs to be reconciled with Jesus. This is the perfect opportunity. You might be someone who goes to confession regularly. If so, this is a great way to deepen your experience within our community praying for God's mercy for ourselves and others we care about.

Where: St. Michael Church

When: Tuesday evening, December 15 at 7:00pm

Who: All are welcome

Invited by: Jesus

St. Michael School Student Council

Student Council elections were held and the following students will be serving this year:

Saint Michael School Student Council 2015-2016

President: Hailey Contract

Vice-President: Zoe Rizzo

Secretary: Christine Hruby

Treasurer: Renzo Ramirez

Public Relations: Sarah Moore

Religious Activities: Liam Cardin

St. Michael's Christmas Concert Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 18th at
7pm in church. Please
join us for some beautiful
Christmas music.



SAINT MICHAEL'S OUTREACH PANTRY

Christmas is coming and the food pantry is in need of your help to provide food baskets for our program. The pantry is in need of all food items and shopping dollars so that families can purchase perishable items. Also, if you are donating a frozen turkey or ham, please call the rectory first at 973-347-0032. Because of your incredible kindness and generosity, we have always been able to provide for our needy families.



St. Michael School News

St. Michael School Annual Calendar Raffle Tickets On Sale NOW!

St. Michael School's annual calendar raffle ticket sale has begun. The drawing will have daily monetary wins for 65 days starting January 1st through March 6, 2016. A winning ticket is placed back in the raffle so there are *65 chances to win with just one ticket!* Tickets are \$10 each. If you would like to purchase a ticket(s), please contact St. Michael School office at 973-347-0039 x10. We will make arrangements for you to receive. St. Michael School students and parents will also be selling tickets at Masses on 12/12 and 12/13. They make great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers!

Thank you to Mrs. Colananni

A very special thank you to Mrs. Colananni and her fourth grade students for their hard work on the class' service project. Through the help of the school families these students were able to donate 87 bags of food to the Saint Michael Food Pantry and supply the Parish Outreach with \$300 to replenish toiletries. Great job, everyone!

Thanksgiving Thank You!

We extend our sincere thanks for your generous donations to the Outreach Program for Thanksgiving. Your contributions provided needy families and individuals in our community with a happy Thanksgiving. Because of your kindness we were able to provide food, Shop Rite gift cards, fresh bread, desserts, personal items and turkeys to 80 families. Your generosity is truly a reflection of God's goodness.

Thank you to the parishioner who anonymously donated the lighting for the church and Larry DiRenzo Sr., Larry DiRenzo Jr. and Mike Moppert for the installation. Thank you also to the parishioner who donated \$1,000 towards the renovation of the church basement.

S-t. Michael's Giving Tree
Please return gifts with tags this

weekend

We are asking that you **return the ornament tag with the wrapped gift under the tree by December 12/13th**.
 God Bless your generosity.



Knights of Columbus 3665
2015 Monthly Blood Drive

Monday, December 28th
 3pm – 9pm
 140 Ledgewood Avenue, Netcong
 No Appointments necessary
 Walk-ins welcome

ADORATION

“IT’S NICE TO GIVE PRESENTS, BUT IT’S ETERNALLY CRITICAL TO GIVE JESUS YOUR “PRESENCE”.

We are now in the midst of Advent. Perhaps you are wondering how you can prepare for the coming of your Savior. Shopping, meal planning, travel plans, etc. take up a lot of our time. Please don't lose focus on what Christmas is really about. Please consider a visit to the chapel. If you don't feel that you can commit for a long period of time, you can commit just for the Advent season. I'm sure that you will realize that it is the best present you have ever given yourself. You may eventually want to keep your hour. Sacrifice some time so that on Christmas morning when you gaze on the little babe in the manger He will look back at you with love and say, "Thank you for your presence."

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU WILL BE AWAY DURING CHRISTMAS.

Thank you and God bless you. Chris Warner 973-527-3839

We are especially in need of adorers for the middle-of-the-night hours.

SUNDAY	2 AM
SUNDAY	3 AM
MONDAY	12 AM
MONDAY	1 AM
MONDAY	2 AM
MONDAY	5 AM
MONDAY	10 AM
TUESDAY	11 AM
TUESDAY	1 PM
TUESDAY	2 PM
WEDNESDAY	12 AM

Thank you and God bless you. Chris Warner 973-527-3839

Snow Shoveling Help at Church

Fr. Adam will be away for Army boot camp from January through March. We do not have a custodian to help us shovel the walkways. Can you give us a hand? Please call the rectory 973-347-0032. Thank you.

Respect Life Committee



If anyone would like to join us, please call Andrina at 973-609-4012. We need your help and your ideas... The Respect Life Meeting will be held the first Saturday of the month at 11:30am in the rectory basement. Holy Hour will be the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in church. (Crisis Pregnancy Hotline – 800-848-5683)

Spiritual Adoption

Please spiritually adopt, name and pray for an unborn child somewhere at the risk of being aborted. You can sign the book by the statue of the Blessed Mother and take a prayer or use your own prayer for the next nine months.

-Please join us at Planned Parenthood in Newton for one hour of prayer – First Saturday of each month at 10am. All are welcome. We need to end these atrocities against life.

Men's Discussion Group

You are invited to attend the Men's Discussion Group on **Saturday 19 December**, after the 8 AM Mass and Rosary, in the church basement. Our topic will be the **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. R & R** [Religion and Refreshments] will continue as in the past. All are welcome. Please contact John Matits at [973] 248 - 5265 or jmjr99@hotmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you and God bless you.

CHRISTMAS MAGNETS

“Keep Christ in Christmas” magnets, new design, will be on sale after Masses this and next weekend. Additionally, they will be on sale at the Knight's Santa Breakfast. Cost is \$3. Please contact John Matits at [973] 248 - 5265 for details or magnets.

