

## The Church of Saint Michael

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Third Sunday in Ordinary time



### Please remember in your prayers those who have died:

Scott Danielson, Joanne Puco

### 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, Elaine Dietz, Michele Demeo, David Downs, Thomas Togno, James Maurino, Charlene Walsh

### Weekly Memorial

#### Sactuary Lamp:

Andrew Weaver

### Weekly Devotions

Monday:..... Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm  
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 in Ordinary Time

##### Sunday

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

##### Monday

Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18

##### Tuesday

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 3:31-35

##### Wednesday

2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20

##### Thursday

2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25

##### Friday

2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34

##### Saturday

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, January 23, 2016

8:00 a.m. Theresa Sue Driscoll  
5:00 p.m. Santina & Vincenzo Frantangelo,  
Michael Bortak, Edmund & Anne Perkins  
7:00 p.m. Luisa Fernanda Rios

### Sunday, January 24, 2016

7:00 a.m. Richie DiRenzo  
8:45 a.m. Barbara Ann Venticinque  
10:30 a.m. Patricia Buckley  
12:00 p.m. Emil & Laura Normandy  
5:00 p.m. Mary Alice & William Keenan

### Monday, January 25, 2016

7:00 a.m. Felipe Lopez

### Tuesday, January 26, 2016

8:00 a.m. Louis Castaldi, Matthew & Frances Soccio  
7:00 p.m. For all the sick

### Wednesday, January 27, 2016

7:00 a.m. For St. Michael's Parishioners

### Thursday, January 28, 2016

8:00 a.m. Thomasina Grogan

### Friday, January 29, 2016

7:00 a.m. Charles O'Brien

### Saturday, January 30, 2016

8:00 a.m. For all souls in Purgatory  
5:00 p.m. Jacqueline Schwerzler, Joseph Esposito  
7:00 p.m. Julia Garcia

### Sunday, January 31, 2016

7:00 a.m. For World Peace  
8:45 a.m. Joseph D'Auria, AnnMarie Konyak  
10:30 a.m. Thomasina Grogan  
12:00 p.m. Rebecca Dana Antunes & Faithfully Departed  
5:00 p.m. To End Abortion

### TITHING – GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

ST. MICHAEL'S HAS BEEN A TITHING PARISH SINCE 1988.

Sunday 1/17/16 \$6,812.00

Online Regular \$1,063.75

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

*Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.*

### Healing Mass

**Our next Healing Mass is on Tuesday, January 26th at 7pm, with Rosary/Chaplet at 6:30pm**

**NO Youth/Family Mass on February 7.**

## From Msgr. Paul Knauer

### The Saints

The saints can be models for us of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. They, like us, had to face the normal challenges of life in so many ways. They can teach us how to deal with all the surprises life has in store for us. They can also be our advocates for us when we ask their intercession before God. This week we celebrate the feast day of some well known saints.

The Conversion of St Paul on Monday, January 25. Paul turned from being a persecutor of Christians to being one of the most famous promoters of Christianity. He is an example for all of us on turning our lives around with the help of God's grace.

Saints Timothy and Titus, two of Paul's associates on his missionary journeys who followed Paul's example. They became proclaimers of the Good News of Jesus to others. Letters that Paul sent to them are now part of the New Testament.

Saint Angela Merici was orphaned at 15. The two lived with an uncle in Lombardy in Italy when her sister died suddenly. Angela had visions and in one she was told she would found a school for girls. Eventually she did establish such a school. She also gathered a group of women around her which grew into the Ursuline nuns. Angela died on January 29 in 1540.

Saint Thomas Aquinas was born on January 28, 1225. He was ordained a Dominican priest. He became one of the most influential theologians in the history of the Church. His influence remains with us in his writings till today. He is named a Doctor of the Church and is the patron of Catholic schools.

The Blessed Mother is honored on Saturday as she is on most Saturdays that have no special saint. She is the most highly honored saint since God himself had chosen her to be the mother of His Son.

Prayer to the saints goes back to the early days of the Roman Martyrs. The example they set caused them to be invoked when others were faced with persecution and death because of their faith. We still seek their intercession when faced with difficulties in life, especially our patron saints..

### Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for

#### January

**Universal:** Interreligious Dialogue

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.

**Evangelization:** Christian Unity

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.



### **Giving couldn't be easier!**

Click on the Donate tab or the link on the home page on our website ([www.stmichaelnetcong.org](http://www.stmichaelnetcong.org)). If you have questions or need help setting it up, email [smonlinegiving@gmail.com](mailto:smonlinegiving@gmail.com)! We'd be happy to help.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### NEWS

#### Calendar

Gr. 8 sessions resume Jan. 4 at 6:45 pm (and every Mon. night through 2/1)

Gr. 7 sessions resume Feb. 8

**Confirmation I: all candidates have received small group schedules!** If you don't know when your next small group session is, please call the Religious Ed office!

† **Retreat information letters** have been mailed home. Permission slip and fee to be returned to Rel. Ed. Office **by 2/7**

#### Confirmation II:

- **Next large group meeting:** Feb. 7, 1-3 pm with sponsors (or parent stand in)
- † **ALL CURRENT AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE FORMS** and saint report corrections are due now.

**Next catechist in-service:** Jan. 27, 7:00 pm, rectory basement. Deacon Stu will be teaching about Mercy through the book of Jonah!

### St. Michael's Prayer Group

"Genesis to Jesus" series continues on Monday at 7pm.

### Annual Manna Food Drive

St. Michael School will be conducting their Annual Manna Food Drive as a service component through Catholic Schools Week. Manna food bags will be available after all Masses this weekend. All the food donations will go to our parish community food pantry for distribution to the needy in our area. *Please return your donation to the food bin outside the garage.* Thank you for your support.

## Youth Ministry News

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

### **The Elephant Chain**

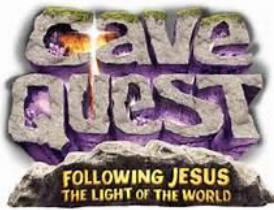
As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at anytime, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not. He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. "Well," trainer said, "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free." The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn't, they were stuck right where they were. Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? Failure is part of learning; we should never give up the struggle in life. Remember the holiness is in the struggle.

-Author Unknown

### **YM Teen Workshop**

Beginning in January, Youth Ministry will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month for an activity in the rectory basement from 6:30pm-8:30pm (if other than that, we will advise).

**Chicken Parm Dinner is cancelled...**



**VBS is August 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> – mark your calendars! The theme is Cave Quest – Following Jesus the Light of the World.**

Crew and Station leaders (and anyone interested in assisting with VBS) – there will be an organizational meeting on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the rectory basement.

### **Adult Confirmation**

We invite any adults of the parish who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation to consider taking the necessary steps to prepare for reception of this Sacrament. Instructional sessions will begin soon. Anyone interested should contact Deacon Joe for further information at [973-229-6959](tel:973-229-6959).

## **ADORATION**

"We must visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament a hundred thousand times a day." (St. Francis de Sales)

### **Open Hours**

Sunday - 2:00 A.M.  
Sunday - 3:00 A.M.  
Monday - 12:00 A.M.  
Monday - 1:00 A.M.  
Monday - 2:00 A.M.  
Monday - 5:00 A.M.  
Monday - 1:00 P.M.  
Tuesday - 11:00 A.M.  
Tuesday - 2:00 P.M.

### **Mass Card Donation**

#### **January 1, 2016**

The Mass Card donation will now be \$15 per Mass.

### **Putting Mercy into Action**

#### **January Mercy Cards**

The January Mercy Cards are available at all entrances of the church. One way you can participate in the Year of Mercy is by making the spiritual and corporal works of mercy a part of your spiritual journey. We encourage everyone to take a card and put the suggested work of mercy into practice. There is room on the back of the card for recording the spiritual benefits you gained from putting mercy into practice. If you choose to share your experience, drop the card in the collection basket. We will consider publishing them (anonymously) in the bulletin and on the website.

### **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)

**-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.**

### **Knights of Columbus**

#### **Free Throw Contest**

Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>  
1-3pm, St. Michael's Gym  
Girls and Boys  
Ages 9-14

## **St. Michael School Catholic Schools Week Schedule**

### **Sunday, January 31**

12 o'clock Mass Opening of Catholic Schools Week  
Family Bingo at the Knights Hall

### **Monday, February 1** Parent Appreciation Day

Coffee on Us!  
Come join us for coffee before going to work  
Thank you notes and letters from your children

### **Tuesday, February 2**

Open House 9 to 11  
Forensic Speeches given at the Church 1 PM

### **Wednesday, February 3**

Middle School Jeopardy Tournament  
Primary Grade Author Share  
Family Math Night – space is limited  
Let's learn about Hexa Stix!

### **Thursday, February 4** Student Appreciation Day

Multicultural Celebration in Church 1 PM

### **Friday, February 5** Faculty Appreciation Day

Free Dress Down Day  
Ice Cream Sundaes after Lunch  
Luncheon for our Teachers and Staff

## **St. Michael School Calendar Raffle Results**

These are the results of the drawing for the calendar raffle this week:

1/18	#0511	\$25
1/19	#1579	\$25
1/20	#0665	\$25
1/21	#2699	\$25
1/22	#1840	\$25
1/23	#1101	\$50
1/24	#2054	\$100

## **40 Cans for Lent**

**Sponsored by**

**St. Michael Knights of Columbus**

**To Benefit the Parish Food Pantry**

The goal of this project is for each council member and each parishioner to contribute one can of food per day during the forty days of Lent. This is a great way to help those in need who benefit from St. Michael's food pantry. It is also a wonderful way to offer a work of Mercy during this Year of Mercy and make a Lenten sacrifice by feeding the hungry.

### **How Does it Work?**

Individuals and families are encouraged to donate a total of 40 cans (or the equivalent) during Lent. Food can be brought to Church each after each Mass on Saturday or Sunday, beginning February 14, and placed at the Statue of St. Anthony. Members of the Knights of Columbus may also bring their donation to the Knights of Columbus Hall Tuesday evenings between 7:00 and 8:00.

**Suggested Items:** soup, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti, peas, mixed vegetables, carrots, tuna fish, canned meats, Mac and cheese, Hot Chocolate, Dry Milk, Pasta, Shelf Milk (does not require refrigeration)  
***"For I was hungry and you gave me food."* Matthew 25:36**



## **The Logo for the Jubilee Year of Mercy**

The *logo* and the *motto* together provide a fitting summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about. The motto *Merciful Like the Father* (Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (Lk 6:37-38). The logo represents an image quite important to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul, demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of his incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze, the love of the Father.

The scene is captured within the so called *mandorla* (the shape of an almond), a figure quite important in early and medieval iconography, for it calls to mind the two natures of Christ, divine and human. The three concentric ovals, with colors progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ who carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker color suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.

- Extracted from the Vatican website