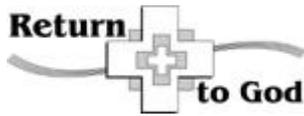


**The Church of Saint Michael**  
**Sunday, March 26, 2017**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**



**Please remember in your prayers those who have died:**  
 Rosita Hernandez

**Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:**  
 Colleen Looby, Peter Stchur, Irma Vidal, Tim Paternostro,  
 Bill Regal, Jeanette DiRenzo, Michelle Demeo, Diana Palumbo,  
 Rose DeSantis, Edmond DeSantis Jr., Susan DeSantis, Vince  
 Richio, Nancy Richio, Manuel Medrano, Domenick DeFeo,  
 Fr. Leo Carey, Frank Demeo, Pat Leone, Beth Courter,  
 Bill Hancock, Bruce Hill, Philip Dalbec

**Weekly Memorials**  
**Sanctuary Lamp:** Andrew Weaver  
**Chapel Candle:** Jim McCabe  
**Altar Bread & Wine:** Brian & Edward Nest

**Weekly Devotions**

Monday:..... Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday:..... Rosary Group 7:30 pm  
 Friday:.....Divine Mercy 3:00 pm  
 Saturday:.....Rosary (after 8 am Mass) 8:30 am

**Readings for the week**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday**

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or  
 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

**Monday**

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday**

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday**

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday**

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

**Friday**

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**First Saturday**

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**

8:00 a.m. Marie Galdieri  
 5:00 p.m. Louis Castaldi

**Sunday, March 26, 2017**

7:00 a.m. James Johnson, Joseph Fenton  
 8:45 a.m. Special Intention  
 10:30 a.m. Josephine Rampone, Josephine Brozon,  
 Isabella Granada Special Intention  
 12:00 p.m. Michael & Regina Parasolle, Mario Tancredi  
 1:30 p.m. Special Intentions

**Monday, March 27, 2017**

7:00 a.m. David Weaver

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

8:00 a.m. Rosa Hernandez  
 7:00 p.m. Healing Mass Intentions

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017**

7:00 a.m. For All St. Michael Parishioners  
 12:15 p.m. Lenten Mass Intentions

**Thursday, March 30, 2017**

8:00 a.m. Elwin & Mary Burd, Robert Colabella

**Friday, March 31, 2017**

7:00 a.m. Paulette Rudella

**Saturday, April 1, 2017**

8:00 a.m. For All Souls  
 5:00 p.m. Paul D'Olivo, James Taormina, Joseph McCabe

**Sunday, April 2, 2017**

7:00 a.m. Protection of Babies in the Womb & Families,  
 Thomasina Grogan  
 8:45 a.m. Mary Rolph  
 10:30 a.m. Patricia Buckley  
 12:00 p.m. Mary Brodo  
 1:30 p.m. Special Intention

**TITHING – GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING**  
**ST. MICHAEL’S HAS BEEN A TITHING PARISH**  
**SINCE 1988.**  
 Mass attendance last weekend - 681  
**Sunday 3/19/17 \$6,548.21**  
*To run our parish properly we need \$9,651.*  
*Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.*

**Mass on Wednesdays at 12:15pm during lent**  
**Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7pm in English**  
**Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 7pm in**  
**Spanish**

**Healing Mass**

Tuesday, March 28th at 7pm,  
 Rosary/Chaplet at 6:30pm

## From Fr. Michael

### Are You Jesus?

There is a story that you might have encountered on the internet but it is powerful and worth reading again for the fourth week of Lent.

A few years ago a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner. In their rush, with tickets and briefcases, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table, which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly missed boarding.

ALL BUT ONE!!! He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned. He told his buddies to go on without him, waved good-bye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the terminal floor.

He was glad he did. The 16-year-old girl was totally blind! She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, and at the same time helplessly groping for her spilled produce as the crowd swirled about her; no one stopping and no one to care for her plight.

The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display. As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised; these he set aside in another basket.

When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. "Are you okay?" She nodded through her tears. He continued on with, "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly."

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister...." He paused and turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, "Are you Jesus?"

He stopped in mid-stride and he wondered. He gently went back and said, "No, I am nothing like Jesus - He is good, kind, caring, loving, and would never have bumped into your display in the first place.

"The girl gently nodded: "I only asked because I prayed for Jesus to help me gather the apples. He sent you to help me, so you are like Him - only He knows who will do His will. Thank you for hearing His call, Mister."

Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning and bouncing about in his soul:

"Are you Jesus?"

Do people mistake you for Jesus?

That's our destiny, is it not? To be so much like Jesus that people cannot tell the difference as we live and interact with a world that is blind to His love, life and grace. If we claim to know Him, we should live, walk and act as He would. Knowing Him is more than simply quoting Scripture and going to church. It's actually living the Word as life unfolds day to day. Lent is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Christ and see the areas of our life that need to be changed to conform ourselves to the heart of Christ.

Happy fourth week of Lent.

*Please pray for our Diaconate Candidates – Russ Raffay and John Meyer*

*Pray for Chelsea our catechumen as she prepares herself for the sacrament of initiation and becomes part of St. Michael's family.*

*Pray for Rosie on her path to ongoing conversion and communion.*



There will be **MANDATORY** training sessions in April (April 24, 26 or 28) for **ALL** Crew Leaders (**new AND veteran**). See the **VBS** page on the website (under Faith Formation) for more information.

### Spanish Ministry

Si eres nuevo en la parroquia te invitamos a llenar el formulario de inscripción a nuestra comunidad, estos formularios se encuentran en la sacristía. 973-347-0032 x205

Durante el tiempo de cuaresma celebraremos el Via crucis todos los jueves a las 7:00 PM en la Iglesia.

El Grupo de estudio Bíblico *Effetá* se reunirá en su horario regular Viernes a las 7:00 PM (Marzo 17, 24, y 31) en el sotano de la rectoria.

Se extiende una invitación a toda la comunidad el Viernes 31 de Marzo compartir con toda la parroquia una deliciosa sopa. Te esperamos!

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## Calendar Reminders-

**Family Faith session for gr. 3-4** today...in the newly renovated Church Hall (under the church), 10-11:15am. ALL OTHER GRADES will report to regular classes at the school. Each child is asked to invite a parent(s) to attend; siblings who are in different grade levels will stay in their own classes that day

## Confirmation II:

**Next set of service forms due 4/10.** Remember—if you don't hand in your forms we have to assume you are not doing service, so you have to assume your Confirmation will be delayed...

**Confirmation II parent meeting:** as per the calendar and letter sent home, April 5, 7 pm, church hall.

Please contact Mrs. Rogalo if you have any questions.

## Confirmation I:

- † **Service forms were due March 10** for all service work done since December
- † Please keep in mind the small group attendance policy: no more than 2 sessions per year can be missed.



## Grade 8 Retreat:

As per the letter sent home:  
Retreat April 7, **6:30-11 pm** here at St. Michael.  
Permission slips were sent home and are available on the website ([stmichaelnetcong.org](http://stmichaelnetcong.org)); go to Faith

Formation then to Religious Ed). You may bring a guest but we ask that all forms be returned in advance so we have enough food and other supplies. Charge for the event: 2 donations for the food pantry. Please call the Rel. Ed. Office for details.

NOTE: This is a scheduled 'class' and the only class we will have in April. In addition, attendance at the retreat will count as make up for those who have more than the 3 allowable absences.

**Teaching Touching Safety Program:** sessions will be given April 2 and 3-to all first and fourth grade classes as per the letter mailed home last week. An opt-out form was included in the letter and *must be returned to the Religious Ed office by March 27 if you do not wish your child to participate*. Please note the diocese has mandated that this program be presented in all Religious Education grade 1 and 4 programs. If you have any questions about the program, please call Mrs. Rogalo at the Religious Ed office.

## "Thirteen Tuesdays Novena to St. Anthony"

3:30pm – 4:00pm

St. Michael Church, Netcong, NJ

March 21, 28

April 4, 11, 18, 25

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13

No sign-up required – just show up!

If you can't do all dates, we will give you a copy of prayers to take home.

Questions – call Maureen at 973-347-1826.

## Mission Trip M & M Sweet Success Fundraiser

Please Support St. Michaels young people as they prepare to serve those in need once again this summer. The week long Mission Trip is successful because of your support. The M&M fundraiser is important as it provides significant financial support thanks to your generosity. We hope you enjoyed the candy. Please return the tubes with quarters this weekend.

Thank you.

Deacon Stu

## Forty Cans for Lent

Join the Knights of Columbus in making this project part of your Lenten preparation this year. Please consider donating over the next five weeks 40 items of canned goods or nonperishable food, representing one for each day of Lent. You may drop off your items in the rear of the Church by the St. Anthony statue. All donations will be given to the parish food pantry to assist the needy.

## Eat at Adams Restaurant!

Just mention that you are with St. Michael's Church when you are at the register and we will receive 10% of every order. Thank you...

St. Michael Invites you to a



### Lenten Soup Night

And fellowship with  
St. Michael's parishioners!  
Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>  
In Msgr. Trapasso Hall  
6:00PM to 7:00PM

Stations of the Cross to follow

**Join us for a bowl of homemade soup  
and some bread and invite others  
(friends, neighbors, relatives, acquaintances)  
Any monetary donations offered will  
be given to the Mission Trip to Haiti**

### 40 Days for Life

**Is prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil,  
and community outreach.**

Join Morris County Right to Life at:  
Planned Parenthood  
196 Speedwell Ave., Morristown, NJ  
8am to 8pm, 7 days a week

Begins Wednesday, March 1 and ends Sunday, April 9

An estimated average of 3 chemical abortions per day begin at  
this facility killing about 1,000 fully formed, pain capable, heart  
beating, brainwave active unborn babies each year.

Please visit [www.morriscountyrighttolife.org](http://www.morriscountyrighttolife.org) or  
[info@morriscountyrighttolife.org](mailto:info@morriscountyrighttolife.org) for more information.

### ADORATION NOTICE

*"St. Joseph was constantly attentive to God, open to the signs of  
God's presence, and receptive to God's plans, and not simply his  
own," - Pope Francis*

Our open hours are posted below. Ideally we would like to fill  
these hours first but all hours of the day or night are available.  
Please prayerfully consider signing up for an hour that is  
convenient for you and help us to reach our goal of at least two  
adorers for every hour. Hourly coordinators and substitutes are  
also needed.

#### **Open Hours**

Sunday	3:00 a.m.
Monday	2:00 a.m.
Monday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday	11:00 p.m.
Thursday	5:00 a.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m.
Friday	5:00 a.m.
Saturday	9:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 p.m.

*Thank you and God bless you.  
Marie Francisco 732-895-7972*

### Wouldn't you like to serve at the altar?

All boys or girls entering the fourth grade or higher who  
would like to serve at the altar are invited to come forward  
and do so. If you are interested in this special ministry of  
service please call Deacon Joe within the next week so he  
can arrange to train you in time for the April schedule. His  
telephone number is 973-229-6959. Or email at:  
[Deacon.Joe@stmichaelnetcong.org](mailto:Deacon.Joe@stmichaelnetcong.org)



#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### **First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse  
of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to  
ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.

#### **Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as "children of light" in  
goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds "done in  
darkness."

#### **Gospel: John 9:1-41**

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born  
blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath,  
the Pharisees called him a "sinner," but the blind man said,  
"He is a prophet." Jesus later reveals to the blind man that  
He is the Son of Man.

### Respect Life Committee



If anyone would like to join us, please call Andrina at  
973-609-4012. 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.**

### Spiritual Adoption

*Now at the time of the Feast of the Annunciation it is also  
the time for us to begin our Spiritual Adoption through  
December. Please spiritually adopt a baby in danger of  
abortion. The sign up book gives the baby a name and we  
ask that you pray for them each day for the entire  
pregnancy. Take a prayer card because your prayers can  
save a life. The book is near the statue of Our Blessed  
Mother. God Bless you.*