

The Church of Saint Michael
Sunday, March 11, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Lent



Please remember in your prayers those who have died:
 Elena Lazarro, Albert Pioppi, Eugene Kim

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:
 Helen Newstead, Louis DiBernard, Maria Spezza,
 James Mahieu, Sal Romano, Tim Paternostro, Bill Regal, Diane
 Grzymko, Carolyn Sundheim Nystrom, James Morino,
 Doug Ernst

Weekly Memorials

Sanctuary Lamp:
 Andrew Weaver

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

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

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

Saturday

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 10, 2018

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

5:00 p.m. Angelina Arbolino, Emelio Rea Jr.

Sunday, March 11, 2018

7:00 a.m. For Parishioners of St. Michael Church

8:45 a.m. John Martel, Joseph Backer

10:30 a.m. Patricial Buckley, Joseph Falci

12:00 p.m. Ronald Costanzo

1:30 p.m. Flor Medranda

Monday, March 12, 2018

7:00 a.m. Albert Pioppi

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

8:00 a.m. Angelo Multari, Jean Baptiste Ferdinand Eugene

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

7:00 a.m. For All St. Michael Parishioners

12:15 p.m. Lenten Mass

Thursday, March 15, 2018

8:00 a.m. Anna Bello

Friday, March 16, 2018

7:00 a.m. Andrew Dedinsky

Saturday, March 17, 2018

8:00 a.m. Martin & Bridget Grogan and Family

5:00 p.m. Tony & Julie Arbolino, Anthony Preziosi Sr.

Sunday, March 18, 2018

7:00 a.m. Richie DiRenzo

8:45 a.m. Frank Pacifico, Aileen Quinn

10:30 a.m. Margaret Carol Baer

12:00 p.m. Grace Costanzo, Patricia Campbell

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

TITHING – GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

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

Sunday, 3/4/18 \$5,856.00

Repair & Renov. \$2,145.00

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

Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.

No Healing Mass in March

*Next Healing Mass is
 Tuesday, April 17th at 7pm*

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

From Fr. Michael

Lenten Journey

Days of Abstinence: No meat may be eaten on *Ash Wednesday*, all Fridays in Lent and *Good Friday* (for all those who are 14 years or older).

Days of Fast: A limit of one full meatless meal on *Ash Wednesday* and *Good Friday* (for all who are 18-60 years old).

Weekdays of Lent: There is no obligation to fast, however, voluntary acts of self-denial are always a great way to be more involved during Lent.

Easter Duty Obligation: Every Catholic must receive Holy Communion and go to confession between the First Sunday in Lent (Feb. 18) and Trinity Sunday (May 27).

Acts of Devotion: They are encouraged on a voluntary basis. These may include spiritual study, Lenten Devotions, the Rosary, Stations of the Cross and deeds of mercy and kindness. Of course, the greatest prayer and to receive the greatest fruits of the Lenten Season is by our participation in daily and Sunday Mass.

Eucharistic Fast: You should fast one hour before Mass from foods and liquids (water and medicine are exceptions to this fast).

ALL MASS sheets for Confirmation I and II for the months of January and February are due in the Religious Ed office now. If we don't receive these, we will assume you are not going to mass weekly.

Con. II Service forms: for the months of Dec., Jan., Feb. are due in the Religious Ed office now. Forms for all outstanding service from last year are also due. Confirmation will be delayed for those who have not completed the service requirement.

Con. I service forms: for the months of Oct, Nov., Dec. were due on Dec. 31. A number of teens have not handed in service forms. Forms for the next quarter Jan., Feb, March will be due on March 31.

First Communion:

If you missed either of the First Communion parent meetings, please contact Mrs. Rogalo at the Religious Ed office for important information about First Communion Day...there are details of which you must be aware!

† Please hand in a wallet sized photo of your child by March 11!

† **JESUS DAY:** Sat., March 24 at 9-11:30 am in the church hall; for all children (and at least one parent/guardian)

Religious Education Calendars for all programs are available on the website. Go to Faith Formation tab then choose Religious Education.

Partners in Faith Campaign 2017 Rebate
St. Michael Parish has received \$9,478.75

Votive Candle Stand

As you might have experienced we are in need of a new votive candle stand by the statue of St. Anthony.

The price of a new electric one is \$4,150.00. If you would like to donate towards it and have a loved one memorialized, please call the Parish Office.



Grade 8 Retreat:

As per the letter sent home:
Retreat Friday, April 13, **6:30-11 pm** here at St. Michael. Permission slips were sent home and are available on the website

(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 session. In addition, *attendance at the retreat will count as make up for those who have more than the 3 allowable absences.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Children's choir practices after class in the school building, room 23, 11:15 am-11:45 am. *New members are welcome!* See Mrs. Rogalo if your child is interested.

Family Faith session for Gr. K-6 and Jr. High:



All families are invited/encouraged to participate in the Stations of the Cross on March 16, 7pm in the church. This will be a version of the Way of the Cross especially for families. Please plan to attend!

Confirmation Prep:

- **Confirmation I:** Next session: March 4, 4-6pm
- **SUPERGROUP Session for Con. I and II:** March 11, 4-6:45 pm, church hall (dinner is included)

Rosaries left in Chapel

taken by mistake

Black beads with clear crystal

Silver Crucifix with Crown of Thorns

Please return to parish office or call 973-262-1189.

YOUTH MINISTRY

† Passion Play on Friday, March 23rd †

Goes towards 4 service hours for confirmation students

Play is from 7:00-8:00pm

St. Michael Church

Original music is accompanied by a hired string quartet

Play practices on March 12th and 19th from 8:00-9:00pm

in the school

† Easter Egg Hunt, March 31st †

11:00am-12:00pm

High school students setting up egg hunt must meet at 10am

† Midnight Run changed to April 6th †

Goes towards service hours for confirmation students

Everyone is welcome to help organize the trip from

5:00pm to 8:30pm

We can only take 10 students to the actual run (8:30pm-

12:30am), so please contact Sarah about openings

Please have registration forms handed in by March 10th

† 8th Grade Retreat, April 13th †

Looking for high school students to participate as small group

leaders or to give talks

Looking for adult workshopers- MUST HAVE PGC

† Youth Ministry meetings every Monday †

7:15pm to 9pm, meeting in the church

Toiletry Kits: accepting donations for...

Toothpaste, toothbrush, washcloth, soap, razor,

deodorant, feminine hygiene products,

men's briefs M-XXXL (NEW IN PACKAGING), W/M

socks (NEW IN PACKAGING), plain t-shirts M-XXXL

(NEW IN PACKAGING), large zip lock bags, plastic bags.

Gently used men's sneakers, sweatpants and

Zip-up sweatshirts L, XL, XXL

Knights of Columbus Fish & Chips Dinner

The Knights of Columbus will be doing a Fish and Chips dinner on Friday March 16th in Monsignor Trapasso hall.

From 6:00pm to 7:30PM The cost will be \$15 per dinner and we will do take out or eat in. Please come and join us.

For more information please call the Knights @ (973) 347-9706.

ADORATION

Our Adoration Chapel is closed until March 11th

ADORATION OPEN HOURS

Tuesday 7 p.m., Wednesday 10 p.m., Friday 1 a.m. & 3 p.m., Saturday 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m. & 10 p.m. Temporary

Please prayerfully consider filling an open hour.

If you cannot make your hour – please find coverage or call your division leader. Thank you!

Marie Francisco 732-895-7972

Andrea Trapper 973-347-7031

40 Cans for Lent

Once again, the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring the 40 Cans for Lent program. We ask that individuals and families try to donate 40 cans (or equivalent items) of food during the Lenten season...one can for each day of Lent. You can place the cans in front of the St. Anthony statue in the rear of the church and the Knights will collect them and bring them to the food pantry for distribution to the needy in the area. Suggested items include: soups, peanut butter, canned vegetables, pasta, tuna, cereal etc. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14.



IMPORTANT MEETING for all interested in **helping** with VBS on Monday, March 19th from 7pm to 8pm in the school. Volunteers must currently be in 5th grade or older (adults are welcome!).

If you are interested but cannot make the meeting, contact Karen Cubberly at karen.cubberly@stmichaelnetcong.org.

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 11, 2018

“God who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ – by grace you have been saved, raised us up with him and seated us with him...for by grace you have been saved, and this is not from you it is the gift of God.”

Perhaps a great difficulty for us, is to appreciate the need we had for Jesus' saving work. Because we have been redeemed by Him, and experience His presence and love, we forget the great need which existed for all time for a Savior. Maybe we should change the words of St. Paul, and write 'the great love He has for us.'

We might place on a back burner, the effects of Superstorm Sandy, the earthquake in Mexico, the hurricanes of last fall, the California wild fires, while the devastating effects are still being felt. So too our sinfulness and need for redemption today.

Our Lenten practices call us to acknowledge our need today and through prayer, good works, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist, we are to move ourselves closer to the Lord. Remember, it is God's gift to us and we open our hearts today to receive it. May we seek forgiveness and grace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, making it to confession before Easter.

From Fr. Henry

QUE ES EL PECADO?

La semana pasada durante las confesiones, una persona se acerca y me dice "padre, discúlpeme pero no sé qué decirle, pues la verdad no sé que es pecado y que no es pecado." Frase a la cual respondí con mucho respeto: ¿entonces cual es el motivo que te tiene por aquí? Y fue de este modo en que la persona respondiendo a mi pregunta comenzó a darme sus razones.

El pecado, considero que es algo lo cual todos los cristianos debemos saber su significado. Una primera aproximación al concepto de *pecado* designa la precaria situación del hombre después de haber sido arrojado del Edén a causa de la desobediencia a su Creador. Esta situación consiste en habersele presentado frente a sus ojos la diferencia entre el bien y el mal. San Agustín, afirma que el mal en sí mismo no es una cosa, sino la ausencia o la distorsión de algo. Por lo tanto lo única cosa que existe es el bien, tales como la bondad, la verdad, la belleza; eso son cosas que existen. Por ende el mal siempre va a ser la usencia del bien o su distorsión.

Por ejemplo: la ceguera no es una cosa que existe por sí misma, tenemos la vista, la cual es un bien, Por lo tanto la ceguera es la ausencia de este bien. Lo mismo pasa por ejemplo con la comunicación; tenemos la posibilidad de hablar con otras personas, pero también podemos distorsionar la verdad y de ese modo estaríamos diciendo una mentira. Con esto podemos concluir que el mal es una ausencia o distorsión del bien.

Para poder reconocer el bien entre nosotros, no basta solo con de salir y ver el bien en la naturaleza, Dios mismo se nos ha revelado, revelando de igual manera su voluntad. Dios nos revelo su bondad, su amor, su belleza, su misericordia. De este modo cuando estamos alejados o intencionalmente violamos estas cosas es ahí cuando estamos cometiendo pecado.

Dios nos revela su voluntad, y yo sabiendo que esa es su voluntad intencionalmente elijo de todos modos hacer lo que yo quiero, no simplemente estoy violando la ley ni quebrantando un mandamiento sino que estoy rompiendo una relación con El. Y es eso lo que significa el pecado: "Señor yo sé que es lo que tú quieres, pero no me importa, yo quiero hacer lo que yo quiero." Finalmente podemos concluir lo que es el pecado: no es un accidente, no es un error, no es quebrantar una ley sino nuestra rebeldía y decisión de hacer lo que a nosotros nos parezca siendo consientes de la voluntad de Dios.

Padre Henry

EL SANTO VIA CRUCIS

Durante el tiempo de cuaresma tendremos las estaciones de la Santa Cruz todos los viernes a las 8:00pm en el Templo Parroquial.

¡Únete a la experiencia de caminar con Jesús!

Bienvenido a Casa

Tiempo de reconciliación con Dios durante esta Cuaresma

Confesiones: Lunes de 7:00pm a 8:30pm

Sabados: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

INTENCIONES PARA LA MISA

Si tienes alguna intención para ofrecer en la Misa Dominical en Epanol a la 1:30pm.

Puedes comunicarte con el Padre Henry al 973-347-0032 Ext-2350 o acercarse a las oficinas de la parroquia de Lunes a Jueves de 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

Midnight Run

Midnight es una organización encargada de ayudar las personas necesitadas en las calles de NY, Los voluntarios Midnight distribuyen alimentos, ropa, mantas y artículos de cuidado personal a los pobres sin hogar en las calles de la ciudad de Nueva York. Logrando un intercambio humano, más que un intercambio de bienes, esta es la esencia de la misión Midnight Run.

Próximo Midnight Run: Abril 6, 2018

Nota: La capilla de adoración Perpetua está cerrada debido a su remodelación. Se abrirá aproximadamente el día 11 de Marzo, 2018.