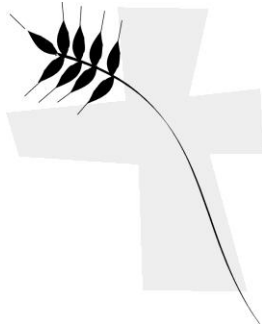


**The Church of Saint Michael**  
**Sunday, March 18, 2018**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**



Please remember in your prayers those who have died:

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, Al Yonick

**Weekly Memorials**

Bread and Wine:  
 Grace Costanzo

**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**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday**

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

**Monday**

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;  
 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Tuesday**

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday**

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday**

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

**Friday**

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday**

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**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

**Monday, March 19, 2018**

7:00 a.m. Brian Sr. & Edward Nest

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**

8:00 a.m. Anna Bello

**Wednesday, March 21, 2018**

7:00 a.m. Special Intention

12:15 p.m. Lenten Mass

**Thursday, March 22, 2018**

8:00 a.m. Angelo Multari

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

7:00 a.m. Donna & Jimmy LaBell

**Saturday, March 24, 2018**

8:00 a.m. Gregory Tatitch

5:00 p.m. Louis Castaldi, Carol Dinkowitz

**Sunday, March 25, 2018**

7:00 a.m. Frank Spinner

8:45 a.m. Joseph Fenton & Jimmy Johnson,  
 Winifred Maskarinetz

10:30 a.m. Peter Stchur, Rose LaConte

12:00 p.m. Ronald Costanzo, Mario Tancredi

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

**TITHING – GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

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

Sunday, 3/11/18 \$6,646.50

Repair & Renov. \$ 232.00

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 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm*

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

## From Fr. Michael

Where is St. Michael Church heading? On our Lenten Journey, as we focus on our spiritually affairs, I think it is important that we take into consideration the vision of the parish. We can take a cue from the hard work, dedication, pain, suffering and crucifixion of Fr. Michael White and his lay associate Tom Corcoran in their book entitled *Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost, and Making Church Matter*. Fr. Michael and Tom have written this book as a reaction to the fact that “one in three people raised in the Catholic Church has walked away from it, making ‘former Catholic’ the third largest religious designation in the country.”

They begin their book with these words: “Permit us to offer a vast over-simplification, by way of introduction. You could sum up much of the history of the Catholic Church in the United States with a twist on the famous verse from *Field of Dreams*: “They’ve come; build it.” For generations, wave upon wave of Catholics washed ashore and many proceeded to have families, not a few of them large families. When one church filled up, another was built, sometimes just up the street.” “Most Catholics arrived in this country poor and vulnerable. Many, if not most, were marginalized in American society, as they had been in their countries of origin. The Church, to its everlasting credit, stepped up to meet many of the basic needs these immigrants had. Beyond spiritual care, the Church often times provided health care, education, and networks of social support. Catholics built hospitals, schools, and orphanages, along with churches. The Catholic faithful found themselves in the role of needy consumers, and the Church served them well. As Catholics pursued the American Dream and moved up the economic ladder, these critical needs became less urgent, and people’s relationship to the Church changed. They received the sacraments and spiritual guidance; they were given religious instruction and found social support. Their obedience was expected in return for these services, and obedience to Church laws and rules, even local customs, was widely given. The faithful graduated to the role of compliant consumers and the strategy of Church leaders became “build it and they will come.”

Somewhere after the Second Vatican Council, the role of the average parishioner shifted again. Nobody really knows exactly when, but the tipping point might have been the publication of *Humanae Vitae*, the 1968 Papal Encyclical restating the Church’s traditional teaching on the regulation of birth. Other significant developments of this period include the rise of an educated laity, the decline in Catholic school enrollment, the universal disregard of parish boundaries, the first clouds in the coming “crisis” in vocations, and the near total collapse in the practice of confession. At the same time, the larger culture was being reshaped by the Vietnam War, “white flight,” the Civil Rights Movement, the sexual revolution, revolutionary changes in health care, communications, and travel, the questioning of all authority and dependability of institutions, and the accelerated demise of organized religion. All of these changes within and beyond the Church ushered in the dawn of the so-called “cafeteria” Catholics or what we will be calling demanding consumers. This day’s dawn increasingly casts light on the new reality: “They’re not coming.” And that’s just about where our story begins.

To be continued .....

## 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).

### 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.

## 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. Choir will sing at 8:45am Mass on Palm Sunday (3/25)

### **Confirmation Prep:**

- Confirmation II: Next session: March 18, 8:30-11
- **Confirmation I:** Next session: March 18, 4-6pm

**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 (Dec. 2016-Feb. 28, 2018) BY MARCH 20. 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. Forms for the next quarter Jan., Feb, March will be due on March 31.

### **First Communion:**

† **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.



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

### **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 23<sup>rd</sup> †

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 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-9:00pm in the school

† Easter Egg Hunt, March 31<sup>st</sup> †

11:00am-12:00pm

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

† Midnight Run changed to April 6<sup>th</sup> †

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 10<sup>th</sup>

† 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat, April 13<sup>th</sup> †

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



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

If you are interested but cannot make the meeting, contact Karen Cubberly at [karen.cubberly@stmichaelnetcong.org](mailto:karen.cubberly@stmichaelnetcong.org).

### **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.

Come visit our newly renovated Adoration Chapel.  
We need to thank Joe Zaccarino for his generosity, dedication and hard work.

### **ADORATION**

#### **OPEN HOURS**

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

### **Lenten Prayer for Spiritual Renewal**

"God, heavenly Father look upon me and hear my prayer during this holy Season of Lent. By the good works You inspire, help me to discipline my body and to be renewed in spirit."

Without You I can do nothing. By Your Spirit help me to know what is right and to be eager in doing Your will. Teach me to find new life through penance. Keep me from sin, and help me live by Your commandment of love. God of love, bring me back to You. Send Your Spirit to make me strong in faith and active in good works. May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness, open my heart to Your love, and prepare me for the coming feast of the Resurrection of Jesus. Amen"

### **NEW MASS SCHEDULE**

Beginning on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> –  
Mother's Day – our new Mass schedule will be  
7am, 9:30am & 11:30am in English –  
the Saturday 5pm Mass will remain the same.  
The Spanish Mass will remain at  
1:30pm on Sundays.

### **From Fr. Henry**

#### **COMO INICIO LA ADORACION PERPETUA EN NUESTRA PARROQUIA DE SAINT MICHAEL?**

Chris Warner, quien fue nuestra supervisora de la Adoración Eucarística por más de 12 años, escuchó por primera vez acerca de la Adoración Perpetua en 1994. Ella ni siquiera era consciente de que existía tal cosa, pero sintió un constante tirón por seguirla más de cerca. Después de llamar la atención de su grupo de oración, comenzaron a orar al respecto. La adoración comenzó con un día a la semana pero el deseo de extenderlo aún más tiraba y se solicitó la aprobación de nuestro pastor, Msgr. Tom Trapasso. Les dijeron que deberían esperar. Siendo obedientes, el grupo oró y ayunó, continuando creyendo que esto es lo que Dios quería para la parroquia. Tomó tres años y mucha oración, pero el Espíritu Santo ciertamente trabajó en el corazón de Mons. Tom y finalmente obtuvimos la aprobación para seguir adelante con el programa. Monseñor fue un gran apoyo convirtiéndose también en un visitante diario de la Capilla.

Se contactó a los Misioneros del Santísimo Sacramento, cuyo principal propósito es fomentar la devoción al Santísimo Sacramento, y el Padre. Víctor vino a nuestra parroquia y habló en todas las Misas. Al principio, nos mostrábamos escépticos sobre la posibilidad de encontrar suficientes personas para cubrir las 168 horas de la semana, pero después del primer registro, tuvimos el doble de personas de las necesarias para cubrir todas las horas, incluyendo las difíciles horas de la media noche. ¡Nunca más cuestionamos el poder del Espíritu Santo! Hemos sido bendecidos con maravillosos sacerdotes que apoyan a fondo la Adoración Perpetua y nuestra parroquia ha visto muchas sanaciones físicas, emocionales y espirituales como resultado.

Agradecemos a todos los adoradores que continúan sacrificando su valioso tiempo para compartir a los pies del Maestro un momento de oración y contemplación. Es posible

ver con claridad como los afanes del día, las preocupaciones, nuestros trabajos y obligaciones nos alejan de nuestro principal objetivo como cristianos tal como le sucedió a Marta en el pasaje Evangélico de Lucas 10, 38-42

«En aquel tiempo, entró Jesús en un pueblo, y una mujer llamada Marta lo recibió en su casa. Esta tenía una hermana llamada María, que, sentada a los pies del Señor, escuchaba su palabra. En cambio, Marta estaba atareada con todo el servicio de la casa; hasta que se paró y dijo: «Señor, ¿no te importa que mi hermana me haya dejado sola con el servicio? Dile que me ayude». Pero el Señor le contestó: «Marta, Marta, andas inquieta y nerviosa con tantas cosas; sólo una es necesaria. María ha escogido la mejor parte, y no se la quitarán».

Los invito a que sintiéndonos identificados con Marta la cual representa la actividad, el afán por las cosas inmediatas y quizá terrenas. Imitemos a María siendo la personificación de la contemplación y de la dedicación a las cosas del espíritu, eligiendo así la mejor parte para nuestras vidas. Dios mismo.

Dios no nos abandona y quiere quedarse con nosotros!. Démosle apertura en nuestras vidas haciendo posible que esta devoción Eucarística siga siendo el motor que mantiene viva nuestra comunidad y la fe de todas las personas que se acercan a este lugar sagrado en busca del amor de Dios.

Si deseas convertirte en uno de nuestros adoradores puedes comunicarte con Andrea Trapper at 973-347-7031 para cubrir algunas de las horas que un están abiertas:

Viernes 1:00 a.m. Viernes 3:00 p.m.  
Miercoles 10:00 p.m. Sabado 6:00 p.m.  
Sabado 7:00 p.m. Sabado 9:00 p.m.  
Sabado 10:00 p.m.

#### **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**