

The Church of Saint Michael
Sunday, December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Please remember in your prayers those who have died:
Johnny Montalvo

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:
Brian Korgeski, Zachary Glut, Tim Paternostro, Bill Regal, Diane Grzymko, Carolyn Sundheim Nystrom, Karlene Yapple, Dr. Love, Christine Parker, Marjorie Francomacaro, Barbara Poyer, Fred Krause, Nancy Janoski, Bruce Hill

Weekly Memorials

Altar Bread & Wine: *Grace, Albert & Ronald Costanzo*
 Sanctuary Lamp: *Andrew Weaver*

Weekly Devotions

Wednesday:Rosary Group 7:30 pm
 Friday:Divine Mercy 3:00 pm

Readings for the week

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Wednesday

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday

1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday

1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday

1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Mass Intentions For The Week

Saturday, December 22, 2018

8:00 a.m. Bernard & Helen Rogalski

5:00 p.m. Betty DiBernard,
 Eugene, Regina & Robert Trapp

Sunday, December 23, 2018

7:00 a.m. Thomasina Grogan

9:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the
 Ronzo & Soccio Families

11:30 a.m. Anne T. Keenan, Michael G. Dachisen Sr.

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

Monday, December 24, 2018 Christmas Eve

7:00 a.m. Fred & Grace Grogan and
 Deceased Family Members

5:00 p.m. Elwin & Mary Burd, John J. Bauer,
 Martin C. Koert Sr.

10:00 p.m. Samuel D. Palumbo Jr.,
 Adeline & Joseph Bencivenga

Tuesday, December 25, 2018 Christmas Day

7:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Rea Family,
 Louis Castaldi

9:30 a.m. Margaret Flynn, MaryAnn Weldon

11:30 a.m. Alfred & Carmella Esposito,
 Frances & Matthew Soccio

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

9:00 a.m. Janet Loudis

Thursday, December 27, 2018

8:00 a.m. Carol Fenton

Friday, December 28, 2018

7:00 a.m. Mary Brodo

Saturday, December 29, 2018

8:00 a.m. Nancy Zambito

5:00 p.m. Eleanore Sylvester,
 Deceased Members of the Preziosi Family

Sunday, December 30, 2018

7:00 a.m. Sal DiBlasi

9:30 a.m. Leo Coppola, Michael Stabile

11:30 a.m. Richard Reed

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

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

Sunday 12/16/18 \$7,003.00

WeShare 12/16/18 \$2,901.00

Retired Rel. additional \$ 225.00

Christmas Flowers \$ 990.00

WeShare 12/9/18 \$1,126.00

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

Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.

Christmas Message 2018



Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord! Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

Merry Christmas!!!

I would like to take a few moments of your time to thank all of you who have made this past year the wonderful and grace-filled time it has been. There have been so many positive things happening in our church; we gathered together for many celebrations including the Parish Picnic, we travelled together on pilgrimages, we have shared stories and enjoyed delicious breakfasts during Coffee Sundays, we have welcomed many more families to our church through baptism, moving into our community or choosing to worship with us here at Saint Michael Church.

I cannot tell you how truly enamored I am by the generosity of so many people who have come forward when we needed hands to set up or clean up, needed repairs, helped those in need and bought Christmas presents and food for those less fortunate than we. Please know that those who have lost loved ones this

past year will be remembered at all my Christmas Masses. I will also remember those I have baptized, heard your confession, shared with you First Holy Communion, Confirmed, forgave your sins, married, or buried those whom you love.

Being present with you during these joyful and even sad moments is what makes being your "Father" the joy that it has been for me. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord this coming weekend, let us take a few moments and give Him thanks for the many gifts that He has shared with us and the ability to share those gifts with others. For it is only when God becomes flesh, both in word and deed that our faith comes alive and allows others to join us on our journey of faith. Thank you for being part of our family of faith here in Netcong and know that I continue to be committed to building up the Kingdom.

Fr. Mike Lee

Bishop Serratelli will be celebrating Mass at St. Michael Church on Saturday, December 29th at 5pm. Please join us!

St. Michael's Giving Tree

Thank you!

Thank you so much for being so generous and helping us to assist the needy families in our area. God Bless you.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



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

Gr. K-6: No sessions gr. K-6 on 12/23, 12/30. Sessions resume Sun, 1/6 for Gr. 1-6; Kindergarten resumes 1/13

Jr. High: No sessions for Jr. High on 12/24 or 12/31. Sessions resume 1/7 for Gr. 8 and 1/14 for gr. 7

Confirmation Prep

- **Next sessions:** Con. I: 1/13 Con. II: 1/6 regular time and place
- **SIGNED Mass sheets** for Dec. due by 12/31. Please use the mailbox outside of the office front door facing Church St.
- **Confirmation I and II:** Service forms for the quarter (Oct., Nov., Dec.) due Dec. 31
- **Service opportunity:** please call or email Mrs. Rogalo if you would like to help with refreshments for First Reconciliation, morning of Jan. 19. We need about 5 teens to help out.

Children's Choir:

- Practice will resume in January. Merry Christmas!

First Reconciliation

Sat., January 19, 2019 in the Church
9:30 am, The classes of Tina DeLuca and Lucia Pintos



Netcong Educational Foundation is offering child care for the three days after Christmas: 12/26, 12/27 and 12/28, 6:30am – 6:30 pm. There is a fee for this service. If you are interested please contact 862-258-7339 to reserve a spot. Services are available to all!

Youth Ministry

† Christmas Party †

December 23rd, 12:30-2:30

Feel free to bring a dessert or appetizer to share
Fun, food, and gift exchange!

Gift Exchange: Buy **\$5 LIMIT** gift (preferably unisex) and bring to party for a random exchange with other youth ministry students

† Christmas Mass Procession †

December 24th @ 10:00pm Mass

December 25th @ 9:30am Mass

We need 1 Mary, 1 Joseph, and 2 angels per Mass to process down with baby Jesus

Please contact Sarah if interested!

Costumes provided

† MARCH FOR LIFE †

Thursday January 17th-Friday January 18th

Stand for those who cannot stand for themselves

Counts as an excused absence from school if you have discussed with your teachers prior to the trip about rescheduling necessary quarterlies, midterms, or homework

\$100 deposit due by December 20th with permission slip

Only 9 spots available

First come first serve

† Youth Ministry Meetings †

Every Sunday unless posted

12:30-1:30pm in the school

All permission slips/registration forms can be found online

Calendar for other events and service opportunities can be found on the parish website at stmichaelnetcong.org/youth-ministry

Knights of Columbus March For Life Bus Trip January 18, 2019

The bus will leave from St. Michael's upper parking lot at 6:15 am. We will return around 11:00 pm that evening. We will march with thousands of others to peacefully protest the Roe V Wade decision that legalized abortion in America. The cost of the trip is free to all and is sponsored by

The Knights of Columbus Council 3665 Netcong.
To reserve your seat and for more information call John Hand @ 973-670-7457.

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

*Our Next Healing Mass is
Tuesday, January 29th at 7pm*

ADORATION

Jesus wants you to do more than to go to Mass on Sunday. "Our communal worship at Mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic adoration in order that our love may be complete."

(St John Paul II)

OPEN HOURS

Tuesday 3pm, 6 pm, 11pm, Wednesday 12am, Friday 1am, Saturday 4am, 10am partner, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, Sunday 12am. 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

Adoration Chapel Notice for Christmas

The Chapel will close at 5pm on Monday, Christmas Eve and it will reopen on Wednesday, December 26th after the 9am Mass.

Pilgrimage of a Lifetime Save the date

The itinerary and details for our Pilgrimage to Italy led by Father Mike have been finalized. Our 11 day trip will take place from October 4, 2019 to October 14, 2019. Two weekends were incorporated in our plans so those who work won't have to use as many vacation days. We will be flying round trip on United Airlines out of Newark. We will visit Rome, Vatican City, Assisi, Napoli, Pompeii, Sorrento, Capri, the Amalfi coast, San Giovanni Rotondo of Saint Padre Pio, Lanciano (the site of the oldest Eucharist Miracle certified by the Church), and the Abbey of Montecassino (one of the best known abbeys in the world. The complete itinerary and sign up forms will be available after Christmas. The price of \$2,975 PPDO includes everything except beverages and travel insurance. We are booked into all 4 star hotels with breakfast, lunch and dinner included. If you can't wait to learn more, email Valerie Nichols at valerie.n@stmichaelnetcong.org
Please consider joining us as we explore the seat of our faith and several other spiritual and historic sites.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

Micah speaks of the ruler who will come from Bethlehem. He discusses how the people of Israel will be saved from corruption and live in peace.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Paul describes to the Hebrews how Jesus came into the world and offered to do God's will. We were saved through his sacrifice, the only offering sufficient for the sins of the world.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Mary paid a visit to Elizabeth, whose baby stirred in her womb upon hearing Mary's greeting. Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth was deeply overjoyed that the words God had spoken to Mary had now been fulfilled.



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby stirred in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and cried out in a loud voice: 'Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. But who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me?'...'Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled.'"

What a wonderful family reunion. Two expectant mothers meeting, greeting, celebrating imminent births. St. Luke points out the presence of the Holy Spirit, even before the Pentecost event. The question posed by Elizabeth 'who am I?'...can be changed for us today.

Who am I that my Lord and Savior should come to me? A loving Father saw our need, and in concern for us, sent, not the mother or our Savior, but the saving Lord Himself. How frequently we pray the words of Luke in the Hail Mary. As we complete our advent may the question of Elizabeth, and my question be answered.

As we approach the feast of the birth of Christ this week, may we live the visitation event, greeting others in the name of the Lord, recognizing His presence among us in our needy world. The two holy women rejoiced in Christ's presence, and so do we. Reflect for a few moments on the biblical basis of the Hail Mary.

From Fr. Henry



Hoy celebramos el cuarto y último Domingo de adviento y el propósito de estas cuatro semanas han sido ayudarnos a encontrar "intimidad con Dios en medio de nuestras vidas diarias". Creando así una atmósfera interior de esperanza.

Esta cuarta semana de adviento solo cuenta con dos días ya que este martes es noche buena y navidad. Pero aun así podemos continuar utilizando estos días para tratar de aumentar nuestra conciencia de lo que está sucediendo en nuestras vidas, y cómo eso nos puede llevar a tener una Navidad inolvidable.

Muchos de nosotros experimentamos la irónica realidad de que la Navidad puede ser el momento más solitario de nuestras vidas. También para algunos de nosotros la Navidad que vamos a celebrar este año no será tan lucida en comparación con las maravillosas Navidades de nuestro pasado, tal vez porque éramos más jóvenes o más "inocentes" en ese momento, tal vez porque algunos de nuestros seres queridos que fueron fundamentales para nuestra Navidad ya han partido de este mundo o quizás no están donde yo estoy, tal vez porque las cargas y las luchas de mi vida y los conflictos que nos rodean han robado a esta Navidad algo que ya existía.

Para algunos de nosotros, la Navidad será un día más al no poder estar con la familia o los amigos. Para algunos de nosotros, la Navidad significara inevitablemente conflictos familiares o una simple excusa para alimentar nuestros vicios. Para algunos de nosotros, la Navidad nos desafiara con terribles cargas financieras con la presión cultural de comprar para nuestros hijos cosas que no podemos pagar, llevándonos a poner más deuda en la tarjeta de crédito de una manera que simplemente nos empuja a ir más y más para atrás.

Algunos de nosotros, por lo contrario, podríamos estar muy ansiosos por la Navidad, y no ser conscientes de estos problemas, pero sin embargo sentimos que a pesar de nuestros mejores esfuerzos para hacer que el Adviento sea diferente este año, todavía nos sigue faltando algo para sentirnos preparados para la Navidad.

Para todos nosotros, la historia de la Navidad debe invitarnos y acercarnos a llevar nuestras vidas al misterio de cómo Jesús vino a este mundo y por qué. Nuestra mejor preparación para la Noche santa que se avecina y la alegre mañana siguiente, es que reflexionemos sobre cómo llegó Jesús al mundo. Llegó en medio del escándalo y el conflicto. Él vino en la pobreza. Fue rechazado antes de nacer, Nació en un establo, Fue perseguido Y creció en la oscuridad.

Él no rechazó nuestro mundo con su pobreza y conflicto. Él lo abrazó. Y desea abrazarnos hoy, en este día. Justo donde estamos. Justo donde nos sentimos más distantes. Justo cuando nos sentimos menos "religiosos" o menos "preparados".

Pero si le permitimos que venga a nuestros corazones para ser nuestro Salvador en estos días difíciles, nos hallaremos entrando en la noche sagrada y la mañana de Navidad "gozosos y triunfantes" como nunca antes lo habíamos hecho.

Por esta razón alegrémonos en anticipación del nacimiento del Mesías que quiere venir, nacer y quedarse con nosotros en nuestras vidas y corazones.

Mis mejores deseos para todos con el amor, paz y esperanza que trae el verdadero significado de Navidad.

Padre Henry

Horario de las Misas de Navidad y Año Nuevo

24 DE DICIEMBRE: 5:00pm & 10:00pm
en Ingles

No hay confesiones

25 DE DICIEMBRE: 7:00 / 9:30/ 11:30 am.
en Ingles
1:30 pm. En Español

31 DE DICIEMBRE: 5:00 pm. En Ingles
No hay confesiones

1 DE ENERO: 9:30 /11:30 am en ingles
1:30 pm en español



*Merry Christmas from we who serve you,
Deacon Joe, Deacon Stu, Deacon Rich, Annemarie Bias,
Bob Flynn, Debbie Rogalo, Jodi Suralik, Sarah Cho, Lucille Tognio,
Betty Pinsonault, John Kinyon, Donna Bauer, Tomasz Gorski,
Donna Pedulla, Valerie Nichols and Soila Borrero*