

The Church of Saint Michael
December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent



Please remember in your prayers those who have died.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:

Tim Paternostro, Abigail Paternostro, Bill Regal, Diane Grzymko, Doug Ernst, Zach Glut, Catherine Lackey, Maggie Michaud, Diana Palumbo, Keith Pasquariello, Nancy Regal, Carmella Susco, George Ellis, Mari Grohowski, Joseph Albensi

Weekly Memorial

Bread & Wine: Anne T. Keenan

All are Welcome... All are Invited...
Come... PRAY the ROSARY
Monday though Saturday
7:30AM

Readings for the week

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Monday

Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 30, 2019

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

5:00 p.m. Rea Family, Gloria Bauer

Sunday, December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. Special Intention

9:30 a.m. Gayle Jackson

11:30 a.m. Chester DeFelice Sr., Francesco Fluri

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

Monday, December 2, 2019

7:00 a.m. Mary Brodo

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

8:00 a.m. MaryAnn Weldon

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

7:00 a.m. Mary & Elwin Burd

Thursday, December 5, 2019

8:00 a.m. Gloria Bauer

Friday, December 6, 2019

7:00 a.m. Benvenuto Family

Saturday, December 7, 2019

8:00 a.m. Togno Family

5:00 p.m. Margaret Flynn, Pat DeFelice

Sunday, December 8, 2019 Second Sunday
of Advent

7:00 a.m. Intentions for the Unborn,
Louis & Alice Esposito

9:30 a.m. Vincent Joseph

11:30 a.m. Intentions of the Aziz Family,
Ronald Costanzo

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

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

Sunday 11/24/19

not available

WeShare 11/24/19

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

Next Healing Mass is Tuesday, November 26th at 7pm

From Fr. Mike

Advent is not like Lent. It is not a penitential season, in the true sense of the word, but one of joy. When one thinks about Advent, our minds jump to Christmas parties, cards, celebrations, carols and decorations, but it is really a season of waiting. The more exact definition is “a season of devout, wholehearted and joyful preparation for the coming of Jesus into the world.” The problem with the notion of “waiting” is that like waiting in a doctor’s office or waiting for your laundry to be done, it is a passive experience that we go through. We just sit and wait for something to happen, for something to be completed. There is nothing that can be done in the interim, but wait.

When the Lord calls us to “wait” for His coming, He does not mean this passive waiting, but an active, Christian waiting that hopefully is in the end, receptive. So often we have the approach that God will show up and then we can act. But the reality is that only after we act God shows up. But this activity is not in decorating nor is it in festivities. All through the waiting for the coming of Christ, God continues to engage us, call us, and to challenge us. Central to this type of spirituality are the words of the Prophet Jeremiah “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you” (1:5). Therefore, it is God who calls us even before we first think to call upon Him. God makes the first move to us and then He waits for us to respond. This is seen most perfectly in the Mass during the Liturgy of the Word when God speaks to us in His Word; from the Old Testament, from the Psalm, from the New Testament and then in the Gospel. It is here that we are called once again to be receptive to God’s call to be changed, to be different, to be better than we were than when we first entered the church.

But again, we must be receptive. As we begin these four weeks of preparation, are we just waiting for it to be over or will we wait actively this year? Are we going to be receptive to God in our lives? We must also remember that being open to God’s Word is not always a huge revelation, an “Aha” moment in our lives or even “Oh my, God just spoke to me!” Maybe it is just a simple word, a small idea or even a feeling that God loves us just the way we are. Sometimes the Word of God directs us, sometimes it lifts us up, sometimes we are called to just “be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10) but in all of these cases, we must be receptive to the Lord in our lives so we can absorb and digest it into our hearts, our minds

and our souls. God is waiting for us to be receptive to His grace.

The goal of Advent is to worship the Lord well and prepare for His Second Coming as well as celebrating the coming of Jesus into our daily lives. It is a question of how to live with God not at the borders of my life but as the Lord of my life. However, we are left with the questions: If Jesus came today, would you have room for Him and would you be ready for Him? Maybe in our hectic and daily lives we can learn a new word this Advent which is “No!” And this “No” is in response to not being pulled in every direction, to every party, to everything and place that keeps us from focusing on the Lord. Saying “No” does not mean that they are necessarily bad things; they are probably all good things, but it allows us to say yes to the “great things” when they appear. It means making room for the Lord in our lives so that we can truly and wholeheartedly celebrate Him coming. We need to say “No” more in our lives to the smaller good things so when the opportunity for great things happen, we can say “Yes” to Jesus. What do you think? Yes or No? I hope that this Advent Season will bring you much joy as you prepare for the coming of the Lord Jesus into the world, but more importantly into your hearts, your lives and your souls. For thousands of years the world awaited a savior to save us from ourselves, to save us from our sins. What will you do this year that makes room for the Lord in your lives???



St. Michael’s Giving Tree Coming soon!



The Giving Tree will be located in the back of the church and the ornament tags will be available. We are asking that you **return the wrapped gift with the ornament tag by December 15th**.
God Bless your generosity.



Sessions resume for grades 1-6 this week

Gr. K: next session 12/15

Confirmation II:

- **Saint reports:** as per the handout given to you in your folder, saint reports were due in Faith Formation office 11/30. This is a requirement of the preparation process. Please contact Mrs. Rogalo if you have any questions.

Confirmation I and II:

- SIGNED Mass sheets due Nov. 30 in Faith Formation office. Please use the mailbox outside of the office front door facing Church St.

First Reconciliation/First Communion Morning of Reflection:

- For children in Mrs. DeLuca's and Mrs. Lopez's gr. 2 classes and Mrs. Pintos's special sacraments class
- Sat., Dec. 7, 9:30 am-11:30 am. Please arrive at church by 9:20 am. An adult should accompany each child. If this is a problem, please contact Mrs. Rogalo.



ADORATION

Whatever your struggle may be or the long to-do list of your day, HIS presence is always more important. We are constantly moving from one thing to the next. It is HIS presence that helps us refocus our minds on what is true, good, and beautiful. We will be best at whatever we do when we take time to let HIM reorient our mind. But most times, we think we do not have the time to go to adoration because of all the busyness and things we need to get done. IN REALITY, HIS PRESENCE IS EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED TO GET THROUGH THE DAY. Visit our adoration chapel for an hour once a week, it is life changing.

NO OPEN HOURS – All Adoration hours have been filled. This is an opportunity to sign up as a prayer partner.

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

YOUTH MINISTRY

Yankee Candle Fundraiser

You can still place online orders to get delivery before Christmas. Order due before Dec. 6th
(first order of candles are in –
pick up in Parish Office)
<https://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/store.htm>
- choose what candles or other merchandise you would like, and MAKE SURE TO USE THE CODE #99Up9993370 at check out.

Dec. 6

Midnight Run to NY

We are done taking donations for this run. Thank you to everyone who donated - also thank you to the people who helped sort and organize!

Dec. 14

Nursing Home visit – Mt. Arlington

1:30pm-3pm

Jan. 17-19

Sign up for Salesian Leadership Retreat

Application and payment due before Dec. 6th

Jan 24

March For Life Sign ups

(overnight trip – Jan. 23-24)

Feb. 13

Jason Evert – 7-9pm, St. Paul Inside the Wall

Youth Ministry Meetings

Mondays at 7:00pm in Youth Ministry mtg. room
All permission slips/registration forms can be found online. Calendar for other events can be found on the parish website at stmichaelnetcong.org/youth-ministry. If you have questions, please email Nicole at youth.ministry@stmichaelnetcong.org

St. Michael Church 50/50 Raffle
Please return your sold tickets asap!
Our drawing will take place at
Coffee Sunday
On December 1st at 11am.

HELP THE FOOD PANTRY

The cupboards in the Pantry are bare!!!!!! We are in great need of the following items:
canned vegetables, cereal, tuna, and soup. Please leave your donations in the bin outside the rectory garage. Thank you, as always, for your generosity!!

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal Diocese of Paterson



As the year comes fast to an end, and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Bishop's Annual Appeal – as either a contributor to the cause or as a recipient of its mission – and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Bishop's Annual Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit cards, through gifts of securities or on-line at www.2019appeal.org. If you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA, you can receive a tax benefit by instructing your IRA investment manager to donate your required minimum distribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at 973-777-8818, ext. 218 for addition details and also consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

Wouldn't you like to serve at the altar?

All boys or girls in the fourth grade or higher who would like to serve at the altar are invited to come forward and do so. We have an **URGENT** need for servers who can serve at 5:00 PM, 7:00 AM and 11:30 AM. 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. His telephone number is 973-229-6959. Or email at: Deacon.Joe@stmichaelnetcong.org

FREE



ZUMBA

Saturdays from 10 to 11am

Also Wednesdays at 7pm in the Parish Gym

¡Clases de Zumba Gratis en el Gym de la parroquia!!!!

Sábados de 10:00 AM a 11:00 AM

Y Miercoles a las 7:00 PM

From Fr. Henry



Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass
Sunday, December 15th at 11:30am
Bilingual

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Domingo

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Lunes

Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11

Martes

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Miércoles

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Jueves

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Primer Viernes

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

Primer Sábado

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Primera Lectura: Isaías 2:1-5

Las palabras de Isaías instan a la gente a abandonar la guerra y a vivir en paz para siempre. El tono alcanza el clímax con las palabras: "Ningún pueblo volverá a tomar las armas contra otro ni a recibir instrucción para la guerra."

Segunda Lectura: Romanos 13:11-14

San Pablo nos invita a dejar todo lo malvado y el pecado y a prepararnos para la venida de Cristo.

Evangelio: San Mateo: 24:37-44

Se hace una comparación entre la destrucción causada por el diluvio en tiempos de Noé y la necesidad de estar preparados para la segunda venida de Cristo. "Manténganse ustedes despiertos, porque no saben a qué hora va a venir su Señor."