

The Church of Saint Michael
January 26, 2020
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please remember in your prayers those who have died:
Cheryl (Sherry) Lopez, Joan Hall, Susan Agostina

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:
David Gowdy

Weekly Memorial
Bread & Wine:
For Parishioners of St. Michael Church

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

Readings for the week

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

Is 8:23-9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

Monday

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday

2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday

2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25

Friday

2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34

First Saturday

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 25, 2020

8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Secco

5:00 p.m. Louis Castaldi,
Santina & Vincenzo Fratangelo

Sunday, January 26, 2020

7:00 a.m. Betty DiBernard

9:30 a.m. Joseph Albensi, Maria Spezza

11:30 a.m. Kathleen Van Blarcum,
Matthew & Frances Soccio

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

Monday, January 27, 2020

7:00 a.m. Catalina Martinez

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. Richard Bencivenga

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

7:00 a.m. Carol Baranik

Thursday, January 30, 2020

8:00 a.m. Joseph Esposito

Friday, January 31, 2020

7:00 a.m. Catalina Martinez

Saturday, February 1, 2020

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

5:00 p.m. Angie Guerra, Frank Giuliana

Sunday, February 2, 2020

7:00 a.m. Patricia Short, Cheryl (Sherry) Lopez

9:30 a.m. Ronald E. Costanzo,
Special Intention Omari Beaubien

11:30 a.m. Samuel D. Palumbo Jr.,
Adeline & Joseph Bencivenga

1:30 p.m. Special Intention

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

Sunday 1/19/20 \$4,715.00

WeShare \$1,186.00

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



This past week was the Anniversary of the Supreme Court Ruling that allowed abortions to be legalized in this country. Over the past forty-seven years, as we have heard our political leaders state that they will not allow their beliefs to interfere with their constituency, there has been a notion that has been circulating that Catholics can be "Pro-Choice." Let us be very clear that this is an oxymoron. There is NO SUCH thing as any Catholic that holds a position which sees abortion, at any time in the term of pregnancy, as acceptable. As educated Catholics we know from the secular institutions of medicine and in particular the field of obstetrics, that the small child's life begins at conception. From the very first weeks, we have learned, these small fetus' are able to feel pain and discomfort. Therefore, if we believe that life begins at the moment of conception, there is never a reason (no matter how grave) that would support the termination of a pregnancy.

Now I know that this is a very "hot topic" and runs the gamut of emotions for women, men, fathers and mothers. Nonetheless, as Catholics we have to be very clear about this subject. Certainly, you have heard many people say that "I believe that abortion is always wrong except in the case of rape or incest." It must be noted the cases of actual births resulting from these horrific situations are very minimal and constitute a very small percentage of actual pregnancies.

Nonetheless, aside from the emotional scars that are left because of these circumstances, the fact of the matter is that the child still has the right to live. You have heard many times that "a woman has the right over her own body." And to that I say, yes, that is correct. However, the child also has a right to their body and their life. And just as the government steps in when a child is neglected, beaten or abandoned, so it should be the obligation and duty of the government to intercede for the innocent and incapable child to speak for him/herself. For if we believe that life begins at conception, then how can it ever be ok to terminate this life, regardless of the circumstance of the baby's conception?

I can share with you my personal experience (without violating the seal of confession) that 100% of the women and even men that have participated in the act of abortion carry this guilt with them for the rest of their lives. Unfortunately, when faced with the difficult decision whether to carry the baby full term or not, abortion seems the easiest solution (especially when the parents are young). However, the sad reality is that it is a decision that often haunts people's conscience's and lives for the rest of their lives, not to mention the health issues that arise which often leaves the women unable to conceive in the future. I always respected the Archdiocese of New York (under the late Cardinal O'Connor) and re-affirmed by Cardinal Dolan, when it implemented that: "Any woman facing a difficult pregnancy will be provided free, confidential help of the highest quality from the Archdiocese of New York" where 40% of all pregnancies end in abortion. This is truly putting faith into action.

One very important fact that is often left out of this equation is how the Church is ready, willing and able to welcome anyone that has participated in an abortion. Here at Saint Michael Church, I personally welcome anyone that is weighted down by this sin to come and experience the loving mercy and unconditional love of the Heavenly Father in the Sacrament of Confession. This is NOT an unforgivable sin! This is not something you have to carry around with you anymore! Come and allow this Sacrament to heal your hearts and your lives. As we continue with this sad dilemma, let us pray for all the parents, grandparents and family members who have been affected by abortion as we also pray for all these children, may the know of God's mercy and forgiveness as He welcomes them home to be at peace in the heavenly kingdom.



Parish Appreciation Dinner

Friday, February 14th at 6:30pm

Msgr. Trapasso Hall

Sign ups are on our website

www.stmichaelnetcong.org

Parish Staff will be cooking and serving

Just bring a dessert to share



Flocknote

If you would like to receive communications from our parish – please sign up for Flocknote.

You will receive news, events, reminders, chapel closings, Mass times, messages and greetings, etc.

Please sign up

Visit www.Flocknote.com

Click [find your church](#)

Enter [07857](#)

Click [St. Michael Church \(Netcong\)](#)

Enter [First name, last name, email and cell phone number](#)

Click [sign me up](#)

You will get a confirmation email

[Once you confirm your email](#) –

You will be a member of our parish flocknote.



Holy Land Pilgrimage

Father Mike will be leading a 10 day pilgrimage to Israel starting on Nov. 8, 2020 and returning on Nov. 17, 2020. We will be flying round trip on United Airlines out of Newark. We will visit Haifa, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Tabor, Nazareth, Cana, Galilee, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem and Jerusalem (we will do the Via Dolorosa- actual stations of the cross, the Wailing Wall and the Holy Sepulchre). The price of \$2,950 PPDO (per person double occupancy) includes everything except beverages, tips, church donations and travel insurance. We are booked into 4 star hotels with breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Travel through Israel will be in a deluxe coach bus and there will be an English speaking guide throughout the pilgrimage. Please note - there will be some strenuous walking/hiking. Please direct all questions to Valerie Nichols, Parish Pilgrimage Coordinator. For a detailed copy of the itinerary, the information and reservation form, contact Valerie Nichols at valerie.n@stmichaelnetcong.org or call her at home 973-347-9030. Please consider joining us as we walk in Jesus' steps. RSVP soon – spots are filling fast!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

Confirmation I and II:

- If you forgot to hand in your service for the 4th quarter (4 hrs. over the course of Sept-Dec) and signed Mass sheets for December this is the last week you can hand them in.
- Please hand in signed mass sheets for January after you go to Mass this weekend
- Next sessions: Jan. 26 for Con. II/ Feb. 2 for Con. I)

Confirmation I retreat: Feb. 15, 10-4 pm, Sacred Heart Center. ALL CANDIDATES ARE TO ATTEND THE 5 PM MASS ON 2/15---this will be the retreat closing mass

- The retreat is mandatory
- All forms and payment are due in Faith Formation office by Jan. 31

Confirmation II Sponsor and Candidate meeting:

Feb. 9, after the 11:30 am Mass (about 12:30 pm) in the church hall. IF sponsor cannot attend, a parent or other significant adult should attend in sponsor's place. Snow date: 2/16

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sweet Success Fundraiser coming soon!

Feb. 13

Jason Evert – St. Paul Inside the Wall

Feb. 14

Parish Appreciation Dinner – please sign up on our website.

Feb. 21

Ice Skating at Aspen Ice

March 20

Stations of the Cross & Unplanned Movie Night

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

ADORATION CHAPEL

The best New Year's Resolution you could make would be to spend an hour with Jesus in the adoration Chapel. An hour away from the hustle and bustle of life basking in the light of Jesus. Why not sign up for an hour? He is waiting for you!

Open Hours-Sunday 11pm, Monday 12am & 1am

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

THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD PANTRY

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our parishioners, community members, local schools and organizations who donated for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your kindness and generosity have given those who come to the pantry a joyous holiday season.

We provided the following:

Thanksgiving –

65 Families and 181 bags of food, 61 turkeys

Christmas –

78 Families and 222 bags of food, 18 turkeys

Again, thank you for all you do for the pantry, not just at the holidays, but all year long.

St. Michael's Giving Tree **THANK YOU!**



God Bless your generosity!
Because of you – we were able to assist many needy families at Christmas.

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

Miércoles a las 7:00 PM

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 26, 2020

“As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, ‘Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.’ At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.”

There must have been something special in the meeting of the two sets of brothers with Jesus. Had He met them before? Why did He call these four, and not someone else? Did they understand what He was calling them to, and what did being ‘fishers of men’ meant? How were they able to leave their father and business?

Jesus continues to walk with us, not by the sea of Galilee, but He does. He calls all without exception for His work. We find Him, not only at church but on our block, at the mall, during the PTA meeting, at the ball field, and in our parish life. Do you recognize Him? We never know why, how or when, the same Jesus summons us but the task is the same as that which was given to the brothers. What if they had refused? Where would we be today? What is He asking of me?

Tercer Domingo en Tiempo Ordinario
26 de enero de 2020

“Mientras caminaba a orillas del mar de Galilea, Jesús vio a dos hermanos: a Simón, llamado Pedro, y a su hermano Andrés, que echaban las redes al mar porque eran pescadores. Entonces les dijo: ‘Sígueme, y yo los haré pescadores de hombres.’ Inmediatamente, ellos dejaron las redes y lo siguieron. Continuando su camino, vio a otros dos hermanos: a Santiago, hijo de Zebedeo, y a su hermano Juan, que estaban en la barca de Zebedeo, su padre, arreglando las redes; y Jesús los llamó. Inmediatamente, ellos dejaron la barca y a su padre, y lo siguieron.”

Hubo algo especial en el encuentro de las dos parejas de hermanos con Jesús. ¿Los conocía de antes? ¿Por qué llamó a estos cuatro y no a alguien más? ¿Comprendieron ellos a qué los estaba llamando, y lo que significaba ser ‘pescadores de hombres’? ¿Cómo pudieron abandonar a su padre y negocio? Jesús continúa caminando con nosotros, no a la orilla del mar de Galilea, pero sin embargo lo hace. Nos llama a todos, sin excepción, a Su trabajo. Lo encontramos, no solo en una iglesia, sino en nuestro vecindario, en las tiendas, en reuniones de padres y maestros, en el campo de pelota, y en nuestra vida parroquial. ¿Lo reconoce? Nunca sabemos por qué, cómo ni cuándo, pero el mismo Jesús nos llama y la tarea es la misma que se les encomendó a esos hermanos. ¿Qué si hubieran rehusado? ¿En dónde estaríamos hoy? ¿Qué es lo que El pide de mí?