

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

80 FARNUM PIKE, GEORGIAVILLE, RHODE ISLAND



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 PM - Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM - Mon-Wed: 7:00 AM
Holy Days: As announced in bulletin

PASTOR: Rev. Richard A. Valentine

PASTORAL ASSISTANT:

William A. Bowden, ext. 4

PARISH SECRETARY:

Donna M. Capalbo, ext. 0

RELIGIOUS FORMATION DIRECTOR:

Wendy A. Carrier, ext. 3

PARISH OFFICE:..... 231-5119

RELIGIOUS FORMATION:.....231-1340

OFFICE FAXNUMBER:..... 231-0523

HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

WEB SITE: www.stmichaelsmithfield.org

EMAIL: stmikesgeo@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents should contact the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4, at least four months before the birth of their baby to discuss baptismal plans.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:30 or by appointment with the priest.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Couples should contact the parish priest at least one year in advance. Be sure you have a confirmed date at the church before making any other arrangements.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring communion to the homebound. Please call the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4.

PARISH PRAYER LINE: If anyone wishes to request a special intention, please call Avis at 233-0225. All requests will remain confidential.



There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the "what has always been" and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. If someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.

♥ **Parish Prayer Line** is available for anyone who wishes to request a special intention: 233-0225 ♥
All requests will remain confidential.

A PRAYER FOR FATHERS

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers,
Newly embracing their vocation:
May they find the courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers
Who have supported and challenged us;
May they continue to lead in strong and gentle ways.

We remember fathers around the world
whose children are lost or suffering;
May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who are no long with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen



✠ **READINGS FOR THE WEEK** ✠

Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 [14c]/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13 [7b]/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9d]/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 [6b]/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17. Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Mt 7:21-29
Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-1

Religious Formation

401-231-1340, Ext 3
 EMAIL: faithformation80@aol.com



With our social distancing regulations carrying into the summer months, St. Michael's Summer Religious Formation Program will be provided as an *At-Home Model* this year. Registration forms were mailed home to all students who will be in grades 3 through 8 in September. If you did not receive one please notify the Office of Religious Formation at 231-1340 or faithformation80@gmail.com. At this time, registrations are only being taken for grades 3-8 who want to home school this summer. Registrations for all other sessions and grades will be available by September.

Summer school home study is not available for students in sacramental preparation grades which are grades 1, 2, 9 and 10. Once we know the social distancing guidelines for school in the fall, we will decide how these classes will be held. Distance learning might be an option but not at this time. Summer school has always been for grades 3 - 8 only.

First Communion and Confirmation families will be notified with plans for receiving the sacraments when decisions can be made according to health guidelines and directions from the office of Bishop Tobin.

Please continue to pray for God's healing grace upon us.

Dear Parishioners,

As you know, the process of reopening our state and our churches from the restrictions caused by the coronavirus has begun. Here at St. Michael's our schedule is one mass Saturday at 5:00PM with attendance limited to one hundred people by reservation. You can sign up to attend on our parish website, www.stmichaelsmithfield.org or if you need assistance you can call the rectory. One mass on Sunday will continue to stream online at 10:00AM. We will continue with this schedule for the month of June. By the end of the month we should know if the virus is under control. If it is, we can safely add public masses at that time.

Scheduling the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation is still not possible until we see how June goes. If all goes well, and if larger congregations become possible we could schedule these sacraments for late summer or early fall. In any case, we already have a few reasonable options in place depending on the level of the public health concerns. Families will be notified directly and with ample time to consider options and to make plans.

I'm grateful that our parish staff has continued to work for the past eleven weeks processing information and contributions, arranging for funerals (we have had twelve since March, four were Covid19 related), cleaning the church and parish hall, planning for religious formation programs and paying bills. And I thank you for your prayers and financial support. You have shown tremendous generosity, cooperation and strength during this difficult time. I appreciate all you have done.

Finally, I hope you are doing reasonably well with all the challenges this virus has caused and I assure you of my prayers. It's important to remember that most of our sacrifices, restrictions and inconveniences are temporary. Only time will tell if we have been successful in managing this public health crisis, but I am confident that what we have each done for the good of our church and community will be the foundation for a safe and healthy future.

Sincerely,
Father Valentine

Catholics continue to be dispensed from Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses.

While public Masses will resume, vulnerable populations, the elderly, and those with underlying health conditions are asked to follow the most up to date health regulations and remain at home. There are many who might feel uncomfortable returning to Mass. They, too, have legitimate reason to remain at home. Bishop Tobin has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses until further notice.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO STREAM MASS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:00 AM on our YouTube Page

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You in Holy Communion, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and I unite myself completely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



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2020 Catholic Communication Campaign
 Did you know that because of your support of the annual Catholic Communication Campaign, our diocesan Communications Office has been able to remain open and in touch with the faithful of RI and beyond throughout the COVID-19 Crisis? Thanks to your dona-

tions, we have been able to provide weekly emails with vital information and updates, prayerful messages and videos from Bishop Tobin, schedule of Holy Masses streamed on the web while public worship was suspended, timely spiritual and informational videos, and much more. As expected, support of the 2020 Catholic Communication Campaign is more vital now than ever. We hope we can rely on your support, no matter how small, to help us to continue to share the good news and the Gospel message during this unprecedented time in our Church history. 50% of the funds raised stay in the Diocese of Providence, the other 50% supports national communications efforts as well as projects in developing countries. Learn more - <https://www.dioceseofprovidence.org/catholic-communication-campaign> *NEW for 2020* Make a gift now securely online - <https://www.givecentral.org/dioprovccc>



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