

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

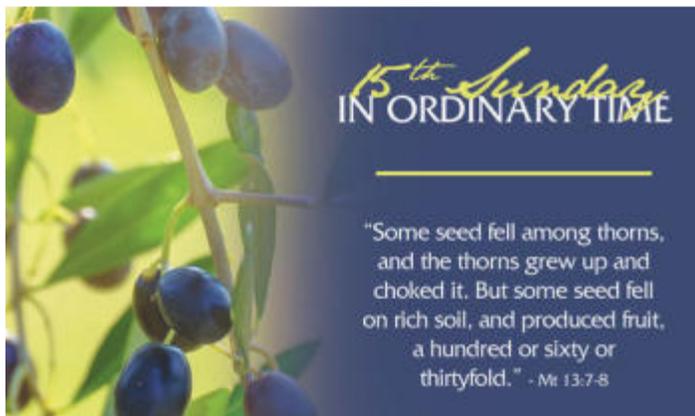
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents should contact the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4, at least four months before the birth of their baby to discuss baptismal plans.

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.



Any good farmer will tell you that regardless of how good the quality of the seed, its sprouting and bearing of effective fruit is dependent upon the quality of the soil. Preparing the soil is one of the most essential components of farming. There is no doubt that the seed of God's Word will eventually achieve its purpose. God cannot and will not fail. When and how that seed bears fruit is, however, dependent upon us. What is the quality and condition of your soil? Life's concerns and preoccupations can cause us to become inattentive to our inner life. This sometimes unintentional neglect can result in our soil becoming hard, overgrown with weeds, rocky, parched, and lifeless. When God's seed is sown, it doesn't always take root because it struggles to establish roots and flourish. How can you more attentively attend to the soil of your heart so that it will be a fertile and vital place for the fruit of the Gospel to grow?

Why do Catholics baptize babies?

For adults who want to be baptized, the celebration only takes place after a long, guided, and thoughtful process through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is also true for many Protestant Christians, who are baptized later in life, often after a personal, transforming religious experience. So, it seems fair to ask why our Catholic tradition includes infant baptism. After all, if we make adults who want to become Catholic wait months and even years as they grow in their understanding of Christ and his teachings, why should babies — who “do nothing” — be baptized?

Our custom of infant baptism dates back to the earliest days of the Church, when St. Paul baptized entire households, including, we presume, children (see Acts 16:15, 33; 18:8). That had become common practice by the second century. When Christianity was legalized 200 years later, infant baptism became the normal practice throughout the Church.

We recognize that in Baptism, we are given the grace to overcome original sin — the human tendency to choose ourselves and our own wills over God — and to become members of the Church. This is the gift we give to infants in Baptism.

In its essence, the baptism of infants also reminds us adult Christians that the gift of salvation and membership in the Church (i.e., the Body of Christ) is God's initiative. It is freely offered to us, regardless of where we might be in life's journey. Salvation isn't something we earn. Instead, we see that Baptism is the beginning of a lifelong process of growing into the kind of disciples that Jesus wants us to be.

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



To make arrangements to have your child baptized please contact Bill Bowden, our Pastoral Assistant at 231-5120, x 4 or bbowdstmikes@cox.net to answer any questions or to help you prepare for baptism.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-2

*O Jesus, come back into our society,
our family life, our souls
and reign there as our peaceful sovereign.
Enlighten with the splendor of faith
and the charity of your tender heart
the souls of those who work
for the good of the people, for your poor.
Impart in them your own spirit,
a spirit of discipline, order and gentleness,
preserving the flame of enthusiasm
ever alight in their hearts.
May that day come very soon,
when we shall see you
restored to the center of civic life,
borne on the shoulders of your joyful people.
Amen.*

—Pope John III

Religious Formation

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



Summer home school has begun. If you have not received a welcome letter form Sadlier Religion, please contact Wendy, faithformation80@aol.com or 231-1340 ext. 3. All work should be completed by August 15.

Registrations for Summer Home School are closed. There will not be enough time to complete all necessary work. Children who are not doing summer home study will be able to register for fall/winter sessions in August.

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.

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.



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.



Mother of Hope Camp

GOOD NEWS! The summer day camp program at Mother of Hope (Mater Spei) is opening this summer! It offers children aged 5-12 daily and weekly options through August 14th. Mother of Hope Camp, an agency of the Catholic Diocese of Providence, is located on 126 acres of beautiful woodlands along Echo Lake in Chepachet, RI. MOH Camp's caring and professional staff members engage campers in daily prayer, weekly Mass, as well as many traditional outdoor camp experiences such as swimming, hiking, arts & crafts, nature education, canoeing, sports, and more! Sibling discounts available! Secure, online registration available at www.motherofhopecamp.com Call 401-568-3580 for information and follow Mother of Hope Camp on Facebook and Instagram! Please check our website for updated Covid-19 information.

e-GIVING

Electronic giving is an automatic transfer program which allows you to make contributions without writing checks. Weekly budget and monthly maintenance contributions can be made automatically from your checking account or credit card. Go to stmichaelsmithfield.org/egiving to set up an account.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish
Please remember you can also mail your budget envelopes to the parish office.



ST. MICHAEL'S FOOD CLOSET

There will be a Food Closet for our active Food Closet members on **Saturday, August 8th from 11AM-12PM.**



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