

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

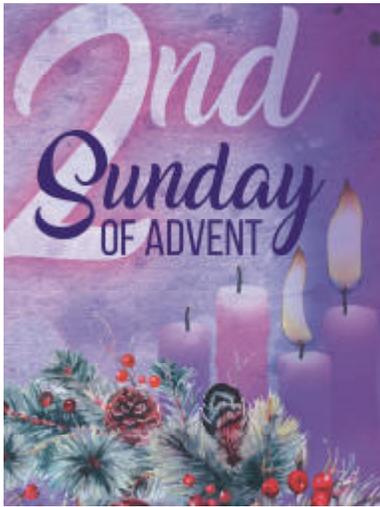
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents should contact the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4, at least four months before the birth of their baby to discuss baptismal plans.

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.

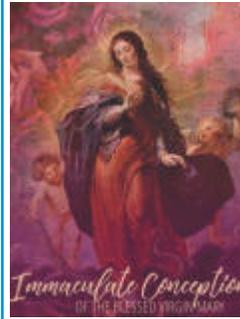
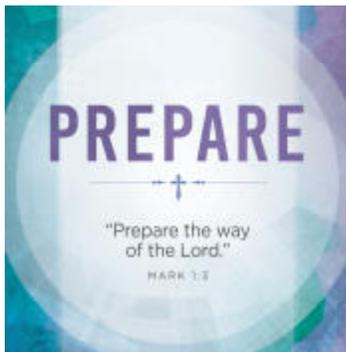


People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just

show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tuesday, December 8th at 9AM
Reserve your seat(s) on our parish website

The Feast of the immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrates our belief that Mary, our Blessed Mother, was conceived without the stain of original sin in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Following COVID-19 protocols, mass attendance will be limited, and reservations will be required

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2020
Mass will be at 5:00 PM

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25, 2020
Mass will be at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Mass can be viewed on our YouTube Page on Friday, December 25, 2020 at 10:30 AM

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 5, 2020

5:00 PM **John Ruzzano**
7th Anniversary, By Family

Sunday, December 6, 2020

8:00 AM **Chiarina Ciotola**
Birthday Remembrance, By Her Children

10:30AM **Paul and Elodie Blackmore**
Remembrance, By Family



READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Religious Formation

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

Happy 2nd week of Advent!



Please continue working at home and following the lesson guidelines you were given so children are not behind in their learning. If you have any questions feel free to contact Wendy, 231-1340, or faithformation80@aol.com

Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation. When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

ST. MICHAEL'S FOOD CLOSET



Thank you, your generosity helped 32 families this Thanksgiving!

To continue helping our friends and neighbors, the following items are needed: **tuna**, sugar, coffee, canned fruit, **juice**, hamburger helper, canned milk, **toilet paper**, paper towels, napkins, and tissues.

Donations to the food closet can be made on weekends during mass time or if you have a large amount, please bring your donations to the rectory, Monday-Thursday from 9am-4pm.

THANK YOU!

2020 Retirement Fund for Religious

In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have served our Church and world. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS CLASSES HAVE STARTED

You can still join in! The reception of the sacraments occur at the Easter Vigil. **Please call Bill Bowden, our Pastoral Assistant at 231-5120, x 4 or email bbowdstmikes@cox.net with any questions or for more details.**



Keep the Heat On: Help or Be Helped

Bishop Tobin recently kicked off this year's Keep the Heat On heating assistance campaign, a program that helps struggling families with heating assistance who have exhausted all other public and private means to keep their families warm during the Rhode Island winter. Since 2005, your generous support has provided more than \$3.25 million in assistance to more than 14,681 Rhode Island households in need.

If you would like to help local families this winter, please send tax-deductible donations to: Keep the Heat On, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903 or visit www.heatRI.com to make a secure credit card donation. You may also support Keep the Heat On using Text-To-Give --text **keepheat** to **401-496-9889**.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of assistance, please visit the web site, www.heatRI.com, or call 401/421-7833 for additional information.

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

As a reminder, Bishop Tobin continues to dispense Catholics in the Diocese of Providence from the obligation to attend Sunday Masses and other Holy Days of Obligation, which includes the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8) and the Nativity of the Lord. Thus, nothing should disturb the consciences of those Catholics who choose to remain at home until further notice.

WE CONTINUE TO STREAM MASS ON
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30 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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