

# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

80 FARNUM PIKE, GEORGIAVILLE, RHODE ISLAND



## Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 PM - Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 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](http://www.stmichaelsmithfield.org)

**EMAIL:** [stmikesgeo@gmail.com](mailto:stmikesgeo@gmail.com)

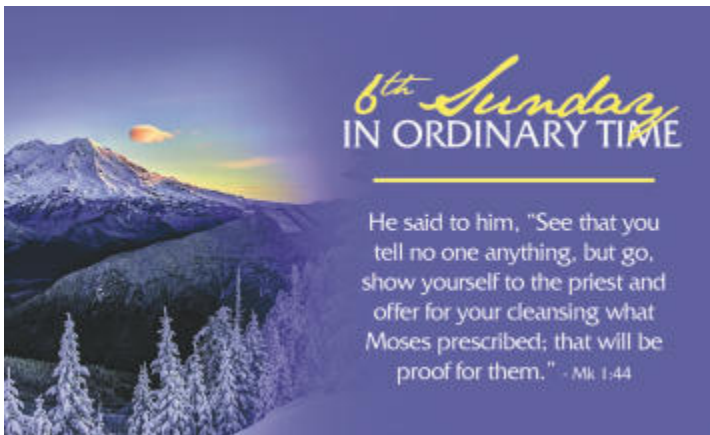
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Parents should contact the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4, at least four months before the birth of their baby to discuss baptismal plans.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 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.



The Church, as a voice of the Gospel, proclaims the sacredness of all human life. Everyone created by God is fashioned in God's image and has Divine DNA at the center of their soul. God never leaves what God creates but always remains intimately bound to what he has given form. Everyone has a place and because they have received the gift of Divine Blessing, nobody deserves to feel inferior, unworthy, unwanted, unclean or marginalized. Even the most broken of souls has a place. We, the Body of Christ, have the privilege and responsibility to give voice to the voiceless. The cries of the little one in his or her mother's womb are just as sacred as the cries of one who is homeless and hungry. The migrant deserves our attention as much as the forgotten elderly and even the prisoner, with a heart hardened by anger and resentment, deserves respect and dignity.

The Gospel of Life is often hard to swallow, and we would rather keep those we consider unclean, different or unfixable in a place by themselves. It is hard to see them with us, but they deserve to be. There is far too much violence in this world and the result of that violence is the assault on human life. Many are forced to leave the place they call home in search of safer ground, finding few if any along the way who will help them. How different today's Gospel story would be if Jesus gave in to what was politically correct at that time. The leper would have been turned away and a soul, already beaten down by disease and fear, would have experienced an even deeper wound. Jesus wouldn't have captured much attention from anyone, nor would he have mirrored the Father's compassion and love.

Where do we stand with all of this? Do we at least understand that God's vision is often in conflict with the vision put forth in our world and even the one we advance ourselves? There is no doubt that it is incredibly challenging to find a place for everyone at the table. This challenge is compounded when the systems of operation and structure that are so ingrained in us affirm power and privilege rather than inclusivity and justice. Everything really goes askew when the powerful begin to control who is entitled to wholeness and inclusion, and greed becomes a driving force. Prejudice and entitlement raise their ugly heads and we find ourselves with quite a mess. It's time to admit that things have been a mess for a very long time. The mess needs to be healed, not by erasing it but by allowing God to touch it and make it whole. We need to bring God back to the center of life where God belongs. There are no easy solutions to the world's dilemmas. But, knowing that wholeness, healing, and dignity are worthy pursuits, we can more confidently labor to achieve God's vision.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**February 17, 2021**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. Ashes will be blessed and given at

**8:00 AM Mass and 12:00 PM Mass**  
**3:00 PM Service (No Mass)**

Following COVID-19 protocols, attendance is limited, and reservations are required. Please note that the *Congregation of Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments* has modified the imposition of ashes: *"the priest wearing a face mask, distributes the ashes without saying anything; the ashes are distributed by "sprinkling" them on each person's head."*

It is intended as an exceptional measure for the duration of the pandemic.

Ashes are a sign of mortality and of a willingness to turn to a renewed commitment to the Gospel. Ashes are intended for those who are capable of the spirit of penance. Therefore, it would seem inappropriate to impose ashes on any person who has not yet received First Penance, especially very young children and infants.

**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

**ABSTINENCE from meat** is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years and older on **Ash Wednesday and on ALL the Fridays of Lent.**

**FASTING** is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics 18 – 59 years of age.** Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if medically necessary, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

These Lenten laws are meant to create a spirit of penance and sacrifice. However, serious health conditions can excuse a person from these disciplines.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 13, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

**Louis V. Jackvony Jr.**  
5th Anniversary, By Family

**Sunday, February 14, 2021**

**8:00 AM**

**Lola Boulet**  
Remembrance, By Family

**10:30AM**

**Rosalie Mele & David Cunha** 6th Anniversary  
**Barbara Cunha** Birthday Remembrance, By Family



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**



Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45  
Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13  
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21  
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25  
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15  
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27-32

## Religious Formation

401-231-1340, Ext 3  
EMAIL: [faithformation80@aol.com](mailto:faithformation80@aol.com)



Please continue with home learning for the winter months. All work should be kept in the book or folder you were given in September. Contact Wendy if you have any questions, 231-1340 or [faithfomation80@gmail.com](mailto:faithfomation80@gmail.com)



**2021 Catholic Charity Appeal**  
letters are mailed from the Diocesan Stewardship and Development office. Donations can be returned directly to the Diocese using the donation cards sent in this mailing. Your donation will be credited to our parish. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to support the 2021 Appeal to the best of your ability. You can return the pledge card in the mail, or visit [givecentral.org/2021CCA](http://givecentral.org/2021CCA). Thank you



**PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH**



Please consider supporting high school student, and parishioner Elizabeth Shepard in her effort to raise money in honor of her grandfather for life-saving blood cancer research. Learn more and donate to her

campaign at <https://events.lls.org/ma/bostonsoy21/eshepard> or checks can be made out to LLS (with Elizabeth's name in memo) and mailed to 23 Farnum Pike, Apt 1, Smithfield, RI 02917. Thank You



**Help is Available**  
If you know of someone who could benefit from *Keep the Heat On* please call 401.421.7833, ext. 207 or visit [www.HeatRI.com](http://www.HeatRI.com).

*No Rhode Islander should be forced to endure frigid temperatures during the winter months!*

### ATTENTION PARENTS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Diocese of Providence requests that each parish provide tuition assistance to families who have children enrolled in a Catholic School – Kindergarten through Grade 8. Anyone who is an active, registered member of St. Michael's for at least one year can apply for these funds. Please email [smcg.billing@gmail.com](mailto:smcg.billing@gmail.com) for an application. Requests must be received before May 31<sup>st</sup> for the 2021-2022 school year.

### 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. 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 until further notice.



### ST. MICHAEL'S FOOD CLOSET



The parish food closet depends solely on the generosity of you, our parishioners, and we thank you for everything you donate: food, grocery cards and other financial assistance. 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.

The following items are needed: boxed mashed potatoes, sugar, canned fruit, instant oatmeal, coffee, juices, **paper towels, napkins, toilet paper and tissues.**

THANK YOU!

### 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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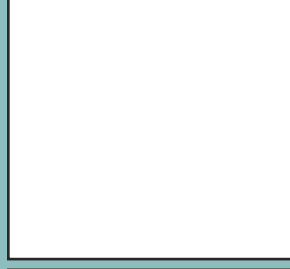
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