

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

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: 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.



St. Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “idol of the self,” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “Being more” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “quality” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “life in the good old days.” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

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. Thank you

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.



THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY OF WILFRED GIROUX
 for requesting that contributions in his memory be given to St. Michael’s Food Closet. Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 20, 2021

5:00 PM Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael’s

Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:00 AM Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael’s

10:30AM Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael’s

 **READINGS FOR THE WEEK** 

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/ Mk 1:12-15
 Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-4

Religious Formation

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

IN LOVING MEMORY

Ms. Paula Dodd passed away on Feb. 5, 2021. Paula was a Catechist for over 9 years at St. Michael's teaching grades 7 & 8 and Confirmation I. Her faith was displayed in her teaching using fun, Irish stories to capture her student's attention. Ask any student she taught and they would tell you how much Ms. Dodd meant to them. Some kept in touch with her after they were Confirmed. Some went to her house to help shovel snow without being asked! Ms. Dodd was at every Confirmation Ceremony to see her former students receive the Sacrament. She referred to them as "my kids!" Paula will be missed by St. Michael's Catechist who shared so many wonderful stories of their teaching experience and creative ideas with her. She will be terribly missed by me. I could depend on her for anything. She often reminded me of the story the day she called me to offer to teach. I said, "Can you start tonight?", and she said in her beautiful Irish Brogue, "Sure I can do that!"

May the road rise up to meet you Paula!



Wendy Carrier, DRE

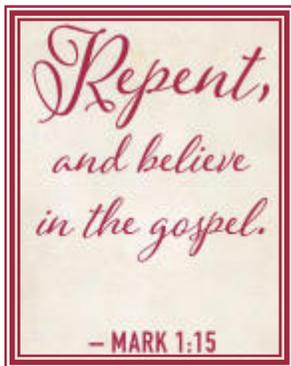
Any student who would like to share a memory of Ms. Dodd, please email faithfomation80@gmail.com and they will be gathered together for all of us to read and celebrate her life.

Throughout history God has given His people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God's sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God's covenant with humanity in which He vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship He has with His people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!

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.

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.

ST. MICHAEL'S FOOD CLOSET



To continue helping our friends and neighbors, the following items are needed: jelly, mayonnaise, boxed mashed potatoes, sugar, canned hams, canned fruit, instant oatmeal, coffee, juices, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, paper towels, napkins, toilet paper 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!



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



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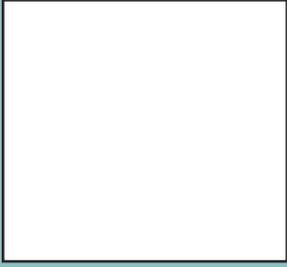
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