

Saint Michael's Roman Catholic Church

A Tithing Community

765 Co-Op City Boulevard
Bronx, New York 10475-1601
Phone: 718-671-8050
Fax: 718-320-3776
www.saintmichaels-cc.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday :
9:30 AM to 4:30PM
Friday
9:30AM-1:30PM

Closed Saturday-Sunday

Parish Staff

Reverend Peter Heasley, S.Th.D.,
Administrator
Reverend Benedict Paul, Ph.D.,
Parochial Vicar
Deacon Thomas Tortorella
Reverend Daniel Sabatos
Sunday Associate
Reverend Akram Javid
Sunday Associate
Reverend Ernest Frimpong
Nursing Home Associate
Brian Freeman, Parish Secretary
Sarah Glassman, Music Director

Mass Schedule

Weekdays: 9:00 AM (Monday -
Friday)

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM,
(English)

11:30 AM (Spanish)

1:00 PM (English)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

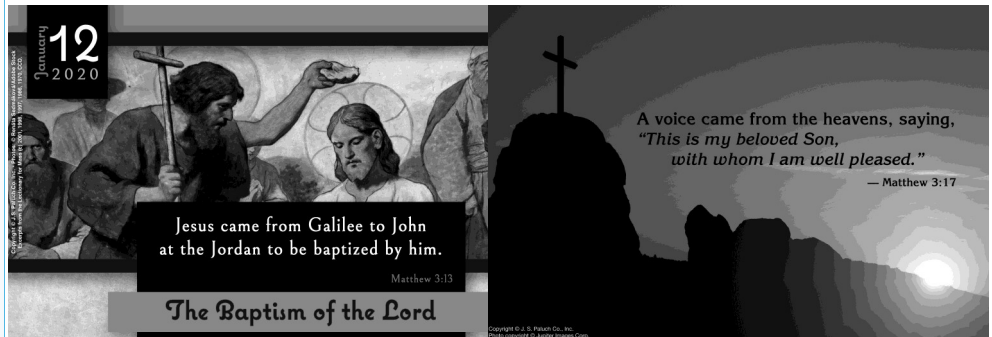
Every Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

Baptism and Marriage

Scheduled by appointment after
meeting with one of the parish
priests. Please see the parish
website for more details.

The Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2020



OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE

Merry Christmas! Today, the Feast of the **Baptism of the Lord**, is the last official day of Christmas on the liturgical calendar of the Church. Tomorrow, January 13, we begin Ordinary Time – this does not mean that it is regular, normal, humdrum time, but “ordinary” in the Latin-language sense of “ordered,” that is, counted. All time now, in Christ, is ordered to our salvation and the consummation of the universe in God. No day is humdrum or commonplace.

On behalf of Fr. Ben and myself, **special thanks** to all who made special gifts to the parish or to us directly this Christmas season, especially to those who did so anonymously or to those for whom we do not have a proper mailing address to which to send a thank you card.

Again, thanks to your Renew and Rebuild donations, we have been able to undertake a **renovation of the office spaces** of the parish. This includes combining the two smaller, private offices into one that is more welcoming, and painting the main office. I hope you find it all more welcoming.

The annual **March for Life** is on Friday, January 24 in Washington, D.C. Saint Lucy's parish is organizing a group to go down by bus. If you are interested in participating – and I highly encourage this, having made a few marches myself – please reserve a place on the bus by visiting Saint Lucy's rectory on 833 Mace Avenue. Their phone number is (718) 822-0710.

On Tuesday, January 21, at 7:00pm, we will celebrate here at St. Michael's a special Mass for the feast of **Our Lady of Altigracia**.

Fr. Peter

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Michael the Archangel Church is a multi-cultural Roman Catholic community seeking to live the faith honestly with courage, warmth, trust, love and hope. We are united together in fellowship as a family. The guiding spirit of Christ enables us to serve the needs of others, thereby leading to peace.

BIBLE BULLETIN 12: GIVING THE COVENANT (EXODUS 19–24)

Rev. Peter A. Heasley, S.Th.D.

After three months of travelling in the desert, after their escape from the Egyptians, the Israelites come upon Mount Sinai and pitch camp. This is the same mountain where Moses, in Exodus 3, had seen the burning bush and received his call to save his people. Now, back on this very mountain, he is to give the people what they need to sustain this new life of freedom: the law.

LAW

Pentateuch	Historical Books
Genesis	Joshua
EXODUS	Judges
Leviticus	Ruth
Numbers	I and II Samuel
Deuteronomy	I and II Kings
	I and II Chronicles
	Ezra–Nehemiah

THE BOOK OF EXODUS

Exod 1–12: Preparations for the Journey

Exod 13–18: Journey to Sinai

EXOD 19–24: GIVING THE COVENANT

Exod 25–40: Preparations for the Dwelling

God has given freedom and now he is giving the means to live out that freedom. In both cases, it is only Moses who interacts directly with God. The people are at a distance. In fact, three times does God warn the people not to approach, lest they die.

First, God tells the people through Moses that they are his chosen people. His language is both exalted and tender: “You have seen for yourselves how I treated the Egyptians and how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself. Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. You shall be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.” Saint Peter quotes these last lines as fulfilled in the Church through Christ Jesus (I Peter 2:9).

Despite the Lord’s warm condescension, he warns them not to look upon him. First, he tells the people not to touch the mountain itself (Exodus 19:12-13). After he descends in fire, he warns them again (Ex 19:21). God then gives the Ten Commandments, which is the heart of his covenant (Ex 20:1-17). By this time, the people themselves are terrified of the display God has made and ask Moses to be their mediator (Ex 20:19). Moses does this, and he interprets God’s actions for them: this display of his power is meant to keep them from sin.

Very often in the Old Testament, we hear about the “fear of the Lord.” While most people today conceive of this in terms of reverence, piety, and awe, we should not forget that the Old Testament sense of the fear of the Lord includes a sense of fright at his power. This is seen as the beginning of wisdom, understanding the vast difference between God and man.

God makes such a display of himself, in fire and smoke, and he warns the people not to make idols. No human undertaking can compare with God’s power – and no idol can achieve what God has, condescending to dwell with the human race and the Jewish people in particular (Ex 20:22-23). This is the context for God’s giving of the law, which he continues to do in very specific terms in Exodus 21–23. God must dwell among a people who behaves as he himself does.

In this moment of lawgiving, God reveals his greater plan. He speaks of an angel who will go before the Israelites, driving out their enemies from the land (Ex 23:20-33). He says, “My name is within him.” This is a mysterious saying, though we can understand it to be Joshua, whose name includes the name of the Lord. Joshua is the one through whom God clears out the land of Canaan for the Israelites.

The name Joshua is also rendered as Jesus. Jesus is the one who, 1400 years later, definitively clears the way for our new freedom and the new law that accompanies us into the kingdom of heaven. With him the fear of the Lord takes the shape of the Cross, the true beginning of wisdom. In him, we have seen the face of God and have lived.

The Baptism of the Lord

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 12th The Baptism of the Lord

Monday, January 13th First Week in Ordinary Time;
St. Hilary

Tuesday, January 14th No Events

Wednesday, January 15th No Events
(*Christian Meditation Group 1:30pm*)

Thursday, January 16th No Events

Friday, January 17th St. Anthony

Saturday, January 18th Blessed Virgin Mary; Week
of Prayer for Christian Unity begins



Saturday January 18th –19th

(5:00 pm) Stephen Perry
8:30 am Stephen Perry
10:00 am Maria Lorenzana
11:30 am Yony Sanchez
1:00 pm Keith Thomas

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Newcomers are always welcome to join the Christian meditation group which meets every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room. This ancient form of prayer seeks God in silence and stillness without words or thoughts. The meeting includes quiet music, an instructional reading and tape, followed by 25 minutes of silent meditation. Discussion is encouraged. Come and find the teacher within. In the silence of the heart He speaks to us.

January 12, 2020

Mass Intentions For The Week



Sunday, January 12th

8:30am Aida Colon
10:00am Carmen Milagros Rodriguez
11:30am Jose Bernes
1:00pm Maria A Echevarria

Monday, January 13th

9:00am The Delgado Family (Special Intention)

Tuesday, January 14th

9:00am Diana Cruz (Special Intention)

Wednesday, January 15th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Thursday, January 16th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Friday, January 17th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Saturday January 18th

5:00pm Barbara Leahy

Sunday, January 19th

8:30am Pro-Populo
10:00am Mrs. Panaarse
11:30am Berta Araujo
1:00pm Manuel Bermudez

Sanctuary Lamp Ivy Villafana



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;
Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10;
Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;
Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7;
Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3;
Jn 1:29-34

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 29–JANUARY 5:

Sunday, December 29:	\$6,553
Sunday, January 5:	\$6800
Mary, Mother of God:	\$1330
Building Fund:	\$1287
Christmas Flowers:	\$35

Thank you for your generosity!