

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

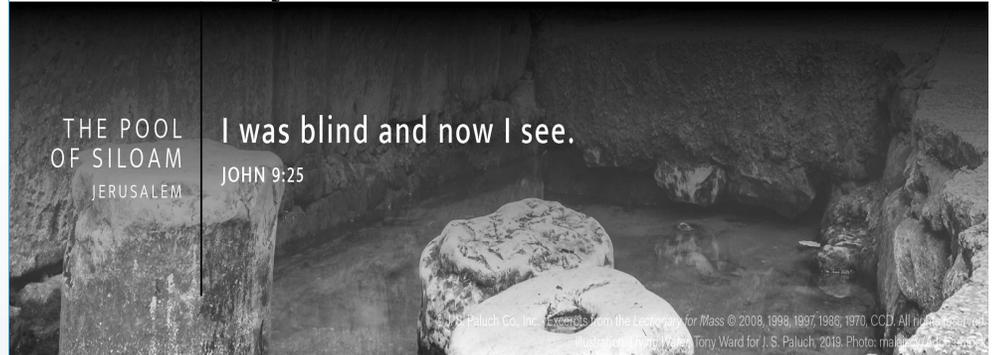
Every Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

Baptism and Marriage

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020



OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE

Due to the cancellation of Masses and parish gatherings for the near future, we are postponing our **Lenten Retreat** and hope to be able to host it during the Easter season.

Cardinal Dolan has given permission to pastors to give the **Sacrament of Confirmation** to already baptized and practicing Catholics and to non-catechized Catholics. Therefore, I would like to arrange for the confirmation of Catholic adults here at Saint Michael's on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. **If you are a baptized, practicing Catholic who has not received the sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to be confirmed**, please give your name and contact information to Brian or Wanda in the office. We will then set up a series of classes between Easter and Pentecost to accommodate the schedules and preferred language (English or Spanish) for those to be confirmed.

As you can see inside, and as naturally makes sense, our **weekly collection** is down significantly because of the cancellation of Masses. For those who remain unimpacted financially by the Coronavirus, and who are able to mail in or hand deliver your weekly donation, please do so. This enables us to keep paying our salaries and bills, as the church remains open!

The church is still open! Though we cannot have any public celebration of Mass, the church remains open for private prayer and devotion, during our normal business hours. Fr. Ben and I are offering Mass privately for the Sunday and daily Mass intentions already on the calendar. We are all in this together, so I urge you, all the more during these trying days, to trust in the Lord. Trust in the Lord! He is drawing great good for us in all our trials, especially that good that brings us to eternal life with him, his grace, his faith, hope, and love. I remain here, as your priest, praying for you and listening to you.

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.

REFLECTIONS FOR A SUNDAY APART

Since we cannot gather to hear the Gospel read, let me offer a brief, homiletic reflection on this Sunday's readings:

When we hear the word "conversion," we often think of some grand moment in a person's life in which he or she more or less suddenly comes to believe in God and to put his moral life in order accordingly. Our examples for this are Saint Paul on the road to Damascus and Saint Augustine in his garden, as well as any number of saints and people we know, perhaps including ourselves. For many or even most people, conversion is a process, an ongoing, continual, repetitive process. Sometimes, like for the man born blind of John 9, this process of conversion does not begin with faith in Jesus Christ but in a separation from the world that corresponds to ever-opening eyes.

Let us trace the process of this man's conversion. He says nothing to Jesus as he passes by, unlike blind Bartimaeus (Mk 10:46-52). Instead, Jesus' disciples use him to ask a theological question about inheriting the guilt of sin. The blind man does not ask to be healed, but he does obey Jesus' instructions to wash away the clay Jesus had rubbed on his eyes.

The first response that the man gives, once he is made able to see, is to affirm exactly what "the man Jesus" had done. The simple, physical evidence he gives already sets him apart from his neighbors. Then, the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being "not from God," but because the man holds firm to his experience, he calls Jesus a prophet. A second time do the Pharisees confront him, which leads the man to affirm that Jesus is from God. Kicked out of the synagogue for this, the man finds Jesus who then, and only then – after having opened his eyes to what the world is really like, after having opened his eyes to the heart of his fellow men – does Jesus ask for faith in him as the Son of Man. The man born blind, who now sees physically and spiritually, completes his conversion.

Cuando escuchamos la palabra "conversión", a menudo pensamos en algún gran momento en la vida de una persona en el que él o ella de repente, más o menos, llega a creer en Dios y a ordenar su vida moral en consecuencia. Nuestros ejemplos de esto son San Pablo en el camino a Damasco y San Agustín en su jardín, así como cualquier número de santos y personas que conocemos, quizás incluyéndonos a nosotros mismos. Para muchas o incluso para la mayoría de las personas, la conversión es un proceso, un proceso continuo, continuo y repetitivo. A veces, como para el hombre nacido ciego de Juan 9, este proceso de conversión no comienza con la fe en Jesucristo sino en una separación del mundo que corresponde a los ojos siempre abiertos.

Vamos a rastrear el proceso de conversión de este hombre. Él no le dice nada a Jesús cuando pasa, a diferencia del ciego Bartimeo (Mc 10, 46-52). En cambio, los discípulos de Jesús lo usan para hacer una pregunta teológica acerca de heredar la culpa del pecado. El ciego no pide ser sanado, pero sí obedece las instrucciones de Jesús de lavar la arcilla que Jesús se había frotado en los ojos.

La primera respuesta que el hombre da, una vez que puede ver, es afirmar exactamente lo que "el hombre Jesús" había hecho. La simple evidencia física que da ya lo distingue de sus vecinos. Luego, los fariseos acusan a Jesús de ser "no de Dios", sino porque el hombre se mantiene firme en su experiencia, él llama a Jesús un profeta. Por segunda vez, los fariseos lo confrontan, lo que lleva al hombre a afirmar que Jesús es de Dios. Expulsado de la sinagoga por esto, el hombre encuentra a Jesús, quien solo entonces, después de haber abierto los ojos a cómo es realmente el mundo, después de haber abierto los ojos al corazón de sus semejantes, Jesús pide fe en él como el Hijo del hombre. El hombre nacido ciego, que ahora ve física y espiritualmente, completa su conversión.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 22nd-Fourth Sunday of Lent

Monday, March 23rd-St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

Tuesday, March 24th-World Day for Truth Concerning Human Rights Violations

Wednesday, March 25th -The Annunciation of the Lord

(*Christian Meditation Group 1:30pm*) -**Cancelled**

Thursday, March 26th—No Events

Friday, March 27th-Abstinence

Saturday, March 28th—No Events



Saturday March 28th-29th

(5:00 pm)	Stephen Perry
8:30 am	Antonio Baptiste
10:00 am	Jennifer Wells
11:30 am	Emma Fernandez
1:00 pm	Christina Nevers

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.

Mass Intentions For The Week



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Sunday, March 22nd

8:30am Yesudan Wilson
10:00am Gary Lamont Frierson (Special Intention)
11:30am Daniela Fonseca
11:30am Gabriel Perez
1:00pm Pro-Populo

Monday March 23rd

9:00am Yesudan Wilson

Tuesday, March 24th

9:00am Paul Neira Family (Special Intention)

Wednesday, March 25th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Thursday, March 26th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Friday, March 27th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Saturday, March 28th

5:00pm William Graham (Special Intention)

Sunday, March 29th

8:30am Pro-Populo
10:00am Maxime Batiennon
11:30am Luis Acosta
1:00pm The Coles Family (Special Intention)

Sanctuary Lamp

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR MARCH 15:

Sunday, March 15:	\$865
Building Fund:	\$25
Catholic Relief Services:	\$160

Thank you for your continued generosity while Masses are cancelled. We do still have salaries and bills to pay, so if you are able to drop off your weekly envelope or mail it in, thank you for doing so.