

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

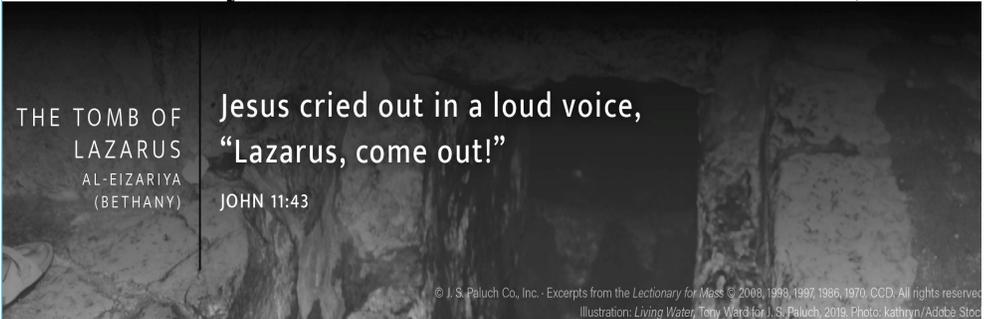
Every Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

Baptism and Marriage

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020



OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE

It would be the boast of a generation used to boasting to say that we are living in exceptional times. There have been many plagues throughout human history, much worse than what we are living through right now. The Black Plague lingered for centuries and killed over 25 million people, a third of Europe's population. The Spanish Flu, just over a century ago, infected over 500 million people and killed between 25-50 million, or about 1% of the world's population. As of this writing, Coronavirus/Covid-19 has infected around 400,000 people and killed around 18,000. Nevertheless, our response seems exceptional. Cities, states, and countries are in various types of "lockdown" or "shelter in place" to prevent the virus from spreading even further. Masses are canceled, and our Holy Week and Easter celebrations will be offered privately by the priests.

To some, these cancellations seem excessive. They will point to the bravery of the Church's priests, monks, and nuns in ages past, who remained or rushed into plague situations to minister to the suffering and dying. Others will say that our knowledge of epidemiology was limited, and that we did not know that those ministers themselves were vectors of disease. Based on the reality in countries like Italy, where large numbers of the aged clergy and population have died, caution is on our side.

More than caution, however, is the spiritual reality of the Lenten fast God has imposed on us. Without Mass and the Eucharist, without get-togethers, and fearing the loss of work and economic vitality, we can fear the loss of life and grow depressed. Certainly, this fast from the Eucharist should increase our hunger for it, for Him. All the more, then, should this fast increase our **faith** in Jesus' Eucharistic presence, our **hope** in the promise of the new world to come, and our **love** for the Church and each other, as we long for neighborly love and the tangible sign of God's presence. Through this plague, God's grace may be accomplishing much more than our own Lenten observances, or our notions of Christian bravery, ever could.

The church remains open for prayer, though the office is closed except for essential business. **Blessed palms** will be available on Palm Sunday, when the church is open, from 9am-12noon.

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.

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

In this Sunday's readings, we hear explicitly about the resurrection of the dead. This belief is at the very core of our Christian teaching. Our faith in Jesus Christ as true God and true man is anchored by this hope, which Jesus demonstrated in his own resurrection from the dead, in his human body, on Easter Sunday.

Our Lord has given us examples of the resurrection even before his own. The prophet Ezekiel, in our first reading, speaks of the return of Israel's exiles from Babylon in terms of rising from their graves. The metaphor becomes reality in Jesus' day, when he raises from the dead a little girl (Mark 5:21-43) and, as we hear today, his friend Lazarus (John 11). In both cases, Jesus speaks of death as being "asleep." Saint Paul picks up this language in 1 Thessalonians 4:14. We must not suppose that the little girl or Lazarus are in a coma, for Lazarus has been wrapped up in the tomb for four days. Jesus uses a metaphor, but as we learn, the metaphor is closer to reality than our own perception. When we dream intensely, we forget that the dream is not reality. We can have feelings of real fear, desire, and joy in our dreams, and sometimes we do not want to wake up from them. On waking, we can feel relieved that our fears were imagined, or saddened that our desires are not realized.

Though we can trust our senses and our minds while awake in this world, our life in eternity, when we behold the face of God, will make our experience in this world feel like a dream. The resurrection from the dead will be our true awakening to life. Just like our dreams in this world reflect the fears and desires of our waking life, so the decisions we make in this world affect the outcome of our awakening into eternal life. We should have no fear about dying to this world, so long as we desire eternal life with God and repent of our sins, for we, at the resurrection, awake to true life and live in true perception of the world.

En las lecturas de este domingo, escuchamos acerca de la resurrección de los muertos. Esta creencia es el núcleo de nuestra enseñanza cristiana. Nuestra fe en Jesucristo como verdadero Dios y verdadero hombre está anclada en esta esperanza, que Jesús demostró en su propia resurrección de los muertos, en su cuerpo humano, el domingo de Pascua.

Nuestro Señor nos ha dado ejemplos de la resurrección antes que la suya. El profeta Ezequiel, en nuestra primera lectura, habla del regreso de los exiliados de Israel de Babilonia en términos de levantarse de sus tumbas. La metáfora se hace realidad en los días de Jesús, cuando resucita de entre los muertos una niña pequeña (Marcos 5:21-43) y, como escuchamos hoy, su amigo Lázaro (Juan 11). En ambos casos, Jesús habla de la muerte como "dormir". San Pablo retoma este idioma en 1 Tesalonicenses 4:14. No debemos suponer que la niña o Lázaro están en coma, porque Lázaro ha estado envuelto en la tumba durante cuatro días. Jesús usa una metáfora, pero a medida que aprendemos, la metáfora está más cerca de la realidad que nuestra propia percepción. Cuando soñamos intensamente, olvidamos que el sueño no es realidad. Podemos tener sentimientos de verdadero miedo, deseo y alegría en nuestros sueños, y a veces no queremos despertar de ellos. Al despertar, podemos sentirnos aliviados de que se hayan imaginado nuestros miedos o entristecidos de que nuestros deseos no se hayan realizado.

Aunque podemos confiar en nuestros sentidos y nuestras mentes mientras estamos despiertos en este mundo, nuestra vida en la eternidad, cuando contemplamos el rostro de Dios, hará que nuestra experiencia en este mundo se sienta como un sueño. La resurrección de los muertos será nuestro verdadero despertar a la vida. Al igual que nuestros sueños en este mundo reflejan los temores y los deseos de nuestra vida de vigilia, las decisiones que tomamos en este mundo afectan el resultado de nuestro despertar a la vida eterna. No debemos tener miedo de morir en este mundo, siempre y cuando deseemos la vida eterna con Dios y nos arrepintamos de nuestros pecados, ya que nosotros, en la resurrección, despertamos a la verdadera vida y vivimos en la verdadera percepción del mundo.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 29th Fifth Sunday of Lent

Monday, March 30th— No Events

Tuesday, March 31st— No Events

Wednesday, April 1st April Fool's Day

(Christian Meditation Group 1:30pm) -Cancelled

Thursday, April 2nd St. Francis of Paola

Friday, April 3rd First Friday; Abstinence

Saturday, April 4th St. Isidore; First Saturday



To mitigate the spread of Coronavirus/Covid-19, the Archdiocese of New York has suspended the public celebration of Holy Mass, as of March 14, until further notice. **Update: this includes funeral Masses. Funeral rites will be supplied at open grave sites and Memorial Masses can be offered at a future date. Baptisms must be postponed until a later date.**

Update: **Saint Michael's will remain open for private prayer, from 9:30am-1:30pm.** The office is closed to non-essential business, but if you have an emergency, please leave a message during office hours or use the phone menu to dial the emergency line during nighttime hours.

The priests of Saint Michael's will continue to offer Mass privately for the announced Mass intentions.

Para mitigar la propagación de Coronavirus / Covid-19, la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York ha suspendido la celebración pública de la Santa Misa, a partir del 14 de marzo, hasta nuevo aviso. **Actualización: esto incluye misas funerarias. Los ritos fúnebres se proporcionarán en tumbas abiertas y se pueden ofrecer misas conmemorativas en una fecha futura. Los bautismos deben posponerse hasta una fecha futura.**

Actualización: San Miguel permanecerá abierto para la oración privada, de 9:30 a.m. a 1:30 p.m. La oficina está cerrada a negocios no esenciales, pero si tiene una emergencia, deje un mensaje durante el horario de oficina o use el menú del teléfono para marcar la línea de emergencia durante el horario nocturno.

Los sacerdotes de San Miguel continuarán ofreciendo misa en privado por las intenciones de misa anunciadas

Mass Intentions For The Week



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Sunday, March 29th

8:30am Pro-Populo

10:00am Maxime Batiennon

11:30am Luis Acosta

1:00pm The Coles Family (Special Intention)

Monday March 30th

9:00am Pro-Populo

Tuesday, March 31st

9:00am Pro-Populo

Wednesday, April 1st

9:00am Vincent Mc Donnell(Special Intention)

Thursday, April 2nd

9:00am Flavia Darceuil

Friday, April 3rd

9:00am Pro-Populo

Saturday, April 4th

5:00pm Steven Vega

Sunday, April 5th

8:30am Jessye Timmons and Shirley Mack

10:00am Wini Saltus

11:30am Jose Rios

1:00pm Pro-Populo

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];

Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession);

Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;

Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR MARCH 22:

Sunday, March 15: \$1156

Building Fund: \$20

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, as many of you are doing, thank you for doing so.