

**The Church of Saint Michael**  
**Sunday, September 24, 2017**  
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Please remember in your prayers those who have died.**  
 Deacon Anthony Signorelli, John Wolcott, John Carr

**Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:**  
 Peter Stchur, Irma Vidal, Tim Paternostro,  
 Bill Regal, Michelle Demeo, Diana Palumbo, Rose DeSantis,  
 Edmond DeSantis Jr., Susan DeSantis, Domenick DeFeo, Fr.  
 Leo Carey, Pat Leone, Beth Courter, Bill Hancock, Bruce Hill,  
 Diane Grzymko, Pauline Milone, Chet Verdi Sr., Chet Verdi Jr.,  
 Jim Rogalo, Doug Ernst, Deborah Kelly, Marie Simmons,  
 Marjorie Hancock, Jordyn G., Karlene Yapple, Jeanne Rattner,  
 Carolyn Sundheim Nystrom, Mike Loretta, Samantha Weckter,  
 Patrick Devine, Veronica Marks, Katherine Chorun, Isabelle  
 Exile, Elaine Grogan Fiorello, William Cooper, James Burns

**Weekly Memorials**  
**Sanctuary Lamp: Andrew Weaver**

**Weekly Devotions**

Monday:..... Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday:..... Rosary Group 7:30 pm  
 Friday:.....Divine Mercy 3:00 pm  
 Saturday:.....Rosary (after 8 am Mass) 8:30 am

**Readings for the week**

**Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sunday**  
 Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a  
**Monday**  
 Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18  
**Tuesday**  
 Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21  
**Wednesday**  
 Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6  
**Thursday**  
 Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9  
**Friday**  
 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51  
**Saturday**  
 Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, September 23, 2017**  
 8:00 a.m. Eleanor Sylvester  
 5:00 p.m. Josephine, Emilio, Sam, Vincent, Rea,  
 Joseph Vendola

**Sunday, September 24, 2017**  
 7:00 a.m. Thomasina Grogan, Eleanor Sylvester  
 8:45 a.m. Louise Harsanyi  
 10:30 a.m. Samuel D. Palumbo Jr.,  
 Adeline & Joseph Bencivenga  
 12:00 p.m. Kyle Mullen  
 1:30 p.m. Special Intention Kelly Morales

**Monday, September 25, 2017**  
 7:00 a.m. Joshua Rivas

**Tuesday, September 26, 2017**  
 8:00 a.m. For Parishioners of St. Michael Parish  
 7:00 p.m. For All Healings

**Wednesday, September 27, 2017**  
 7:00 a.m. For All Souls

**Thursday, September 28, 2017**  
 8:00 a.m. Frank Galante

**Friday, September 29, 2017**  
 7:00 a.m. Sam Rea

**Saturday, September 30, 2017**  
 8:00 a.m. Caroline Bozza  
 5:00 p.m. Elwin & Mary Burd, John J Bauer,  
 Caroline Bozza

**Sunday, October 1, 2017**  
 7:00 a.m. Protection of babies in the womb  
 Deceased members of Netcong Fire Dept and  
 Surrounding areas  
 8:45 a.m. Peter & Scott Dates, Domenic Sarinelli  
 10:30 a.m. Philip Dalbec  
 12:00 p.m. Kyle Mullen  
 1:30 p.m. Special Intention

**TITHING – GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING**  
**ST. MICHAEL’S HAS BEEN A TITHING PARISH**  
**SINCE 1988.**

**Sunday 9/17/17 \$7,307.05**  
*To run our parish properly we need \$9,651.*  
*Please consider helping a little bit more if you can.*

**Please pray for our Diaconate Candidates –**  
**Russ Raffay and John Meyer**

**Next Healing Mass**  
 Tuesday, September 26th at 7pm,  
 Rosary/Chaplet at 6:30pm

## From Fr. Michael

### Understanding what we say and do in Mass

I would like to take the next couple of weeks to examine the Scriptural basis for some of the things that we say and do in Mass to understand their significance. Many times we go through the Mass going through the motions not understanding the richness presented to us which can very often lead to distraction. Perhaps understanding the depths of the beautiful prayers that are present, we might develop a deeper appreciation for what is unfolding before us.

The very first prayer of Mass is the sign of the cross. It is a very powerful prayer where we call upon the name of the Lord as we say "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We see in the Old Testament Abraham called upon the name of God in his times of uncertainty, David called upon the name of God in times when he needed guidance and strength, and many other prophets called upon the name of God for wisdom. We, along with all the figures of the Old Testament, are inviting God's presence into our lives and into this sacred space. We are stating that we want to set this time apart for worship free from the demands of the world.

Tracing the sign of the cross goes back to the Prophet Ezekiel. In chapter 9, we see that Israel is in a time of crisis as the people have turned to pagan worship and are no longer following God. God then announces judgment on his people and they will be carried off into slavery. In Ezk 9:4, God delivers a mysterious sign, the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet which is the shape of a cross, to those who were faithful as a sign of protection. Those with the sign were spared judgment. Making the sign of the cross states: "I want to remain faithful" and "I want to follow you".

The early Christians made the sign of the cross for protection. As St. Cyril of Jerusalem writes: *"Let us therefore, not be ashamed of the Cross of Christ; but though another hide it, do openly seal it on your forehead, that devils may behold the royal sign and flee trembling far away. Make this sign at eating and drinking, at sitting, at lying down, at rising up, at speaking, at walking: in a word, at every act."* So throughout the day when we face temptations and struggle, the sign of the cross is a powerful weapon to aid in dealing with pride, anger, greed and sloth. We then begin Mass with this prayer of protection to set the next hour free from distraction.



## From Fr. Henry

### A call to be one in prayer

One of the advantages of technology is the Media, when they are used to inform and say the truth and make everybody know what is happening around the world. The Media are the basis of Globalization. Now you don't need to move or travel to know what is happening in any of the five continents of the world. Today all the information is at your fingertips; for instance the TV remote, clicking a link with your computer mouse, touching the screen of your smart phone or pushing the button on your car radio. So there is no way to be unformed or. I am talking about the earthquake in Mexico and the hurricanes that have affected the islands and nations in the Caribbean leaving more than hundred people dead and another big number of people without homes.

As Catholics we can't believe that all these disasters are a punishment from God or saying that it is because God hates those people. That is not truth. God loves us all and sometimes allowing these things happen is because He wants to give us a message. Love is the highest value in the universe, and God wants us to experience that love, but also He gave us the free will to choose whether or not to love. That means that love always involves a choice and that is where problems come in. Unfortunately, we humans have abused our free will by rejecting God and walking away from Him and that is the result of the two kinds of evil into the world: the Moral evil and the Natural evil.

Moral evil is the immorality that causes pain and suffering because we choose to be selfish, arrogant, uncaring, hateful and abusive. The second kind of evil called natural evil are things like wildfires, earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes that cause suffering for people. But these two are the indirect result of sin being allowed into the world. God did not create evil. The answer is in Genesis 1:31 "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." But sometimes suffering can be used from God to accomplish good.

We cannot continue being indifferent to the call of God for conversion and be one in union with Him together in prayer. God is calling us to show the same love He had showed when He died upon the cross for us. We must share that Love with our neighbors (those who are around us and need help) and also with nature that has been entrusted to our care. The question is not why all these things are happening today. Rather the question should be, "am I the person that shows God's Love to others and nature as God always asks me to do?"

If not, it is time to do it. Being aware of the suffering of others is time for prayer, conversion, union, solidarity, forgiveness and especially for love. Do not try to be deaf to this call from God. Instead of that, go to actions and show God's love to others as much you can.

In Christ  
Fr. Henry Pinto

## 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal *In Giving, We Receive*

The vital work of our Church supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal is only as successful as the number of faithful parishioners who participate by making a gift. Your support helps bring hope to those who come to our Catholic Charities agencies. It supports seminarian education, our diocesan priests' residence and our inner-city area schools.

Every gift counts! Saint Teresa once wrote that "we feel what we are doing is a drop in the ocean, but that ocean would be less without that drop." Our Bishop's Annual Appeal is able to do that much more with whatever you are able to give. Please help make 2017 the year that our Bishop's Annual Appeal does even more for people in profound need.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY:**

† Pumpkin picking and painting is on September 30<sup>th</sup> †

We will be taking SMCYM to Sun High orchards to pick pumpkins and then will go to Regency Grande nursing home to paint them with the elderly

† NCYC is November 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> †

Catholic high school students go to Indianapolis for the largest youth conference in the country, joining 25,000+ youth to listen to and learn from various speakers

The youth minister is collecting registration forms currently

† Parent meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> †

All parents of students interested in SMCYM are invited to come to listen about the upcoming year, as well as share insight into building a stronger youth ministry

Refreshments will be provided

7pm-8pm

† Corn Maze on October 14<sup>th</sup> †

SMCYM will be spending a night in a corn maze trying to find our way out

† Youth Ministry meetings every Monday †

7:15pm to 9pm, meeting in the church

ALL registration forms are available on the parish website under Youth Ministry

For more information, please contact St. Michael's Youth Minister, Sarah Cho at

[youthministry@stmichaelnetcong.org](mailto:youthministry@stmichaelnetcong.org)

### **Eat at Adams Restaurant!**

Just mention that you are with St. Michael's Church when you are at the register and we will receive 10% of every order. Thank you...

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### NEWS

Registration for classes: if you still have not registered your child, please call the office and we will give you instructions about late registration: 973-347-1465

#### **Confirmation II**

**SERVICE:** any teen in need of service—please let Mrs. Rogalo know which saint you would like to represent for the Saint project service hours.

**Confirmation I** (freshmen): Sunday 9/24, 4-6 pm church hall. Parent meeting 5:30 pm in the church hall.

#### **New Parent Meetings—second of our series of 2 meetings**

Wed. 9/27 at 7 pm in the church hall. These meetings are for all parents of children new to the Rel. Ed. Program **Gr. K-6.**

If you missed the first session last week, we will have handouts from the material covered.

\*We ask at least one parent attend as part of the registration process for Religious Education *even if you missed the first one* (we will have materials to distribute from that meeting). Please call the Religious Ed office if you have questions (973-347-1465).

#### **Next Catechist Meetings:**

Oct. 8, 10-11:15 am rectory basement (for all Catechists; all Aides are welcome as well)

### **ADORATION NOTICE**

Can you use an hour of quiet in your daily life? Would you like to pour your heart out to someone who would really listen? Please try and spend an hour each week with Jesus at the Adoration Chapel.

#### **PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

" Lord, thank You for life. I mean, I do exist. You gave me life. Maybe I have not done a very good job of protecting it, or developing it. But for whatever success or satisfaction I have received, thank You Lord.

I also thank You for the love I have found, the people You have put in my life. My friends Lord, the love I have found there. I never tell them. I thank You for the people I have been able to touch in my life. You give me so many opportunities to add something good to someone else's life. And most of all, thank You Lord for my family. How many more opportunities You give us through families, Lord! How many are missed! How much more love could have been nurtured. Thank You for the chance to do it now, and in the future. Amen."

## ADORATION OPEN HOURS

Monday 10 am  
Tuesday 7 pm  
Friday 1 am  
Friday 4 pm  
Friday 11 pm Prayer Partner  
Saturday 12 am Prayer Partner  
Saturday 4 am  
Saturday 9 pm  
Saturday 12 pm  
Sunday 11 pm

*Thank you and God bless you.*

Marie Francisco 732-895-7972



### **St. Michael Church Children's Choir**

The St. Michael's children's choir will begin practicing for the Advent/Christmas season on Thurs. evening, Oct. 19th at 6:45-7:45. Come and be part of our parish's music ministry during this beautiful season. Call or e-mail Ms. Donna donnamuse@optonline.net 973-670-5687.

### **Respect Life Committee**



If anyone would like to join us, please call Andrina at 973-609-4012. Holy Hour will be the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in church.

(Crisis Pregnancy Hotline – 800-848-5683)

***-Please join us at Planned Parenthood in Newton for one hour of prayer – First Saturday of each month at 10am. All are welcome. We need to end these atrocities against life.***

### **Spiritual Adoption**

*From the time of the Feast of the Annunciation through December. Please spiritually adopt a baby in danger of abortion. The sign up book gives the baby a name and we ask that you pray for them each day for the entire pregnancy. Take a prayer card because your prayers can save a life. The book is near the statue of Our Blessed Mother. God Bless you.*

## **THE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!!**

After a spring and summer with abundant supplies, the Food Pantry is now running low on food items. We are currently in need of the following items: prepared pasta sauce (canned or jars), canned pasta/spaghettios, macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables, canned soup, cereal, and toilet paper. Please leave donations in the food pantry bin near in front of the rectory garage. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity

### ***A FEW SEATS LEFT!!!*** **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017** **BUS TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND IN** **LANCASTER, PA** **"MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS"**

\$110.00 per person - includes ticket, luncheon at Good & Plenty Restaurant (family style) and bus.

Seats are limited – if you have any questions, contact Andrea Trapper at [andratrapp@gmail.com](mailto:andratrapp@gmail.com)  
Or fill out info below....

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of People: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please cut out and bring to Annemarie or Bob in the parish office with a check made out to:  
**St. Michael Church**

### **Schedule for the Lancaster Trip -**

7:00 a.m.	Mass (for those wishing to attend)
7:30 a.m.	Light breakfast to-go in Church Hall
8:00 a.m. Sharp!	Depart St. Michael's Church
11:00 a.m.	Arrive at Kitchen Kettle Village to shop
12:00 p.m.	Leave for Good & Plenty Restaurant
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
2:15 p.m.	Depart for Sight & Sound
3:00 p.m.	Show Time

Bus will depart after the show (approximately two hours). We will stop at a rest area on the way home for anyone wanting a drink and a snack.

Approximate time for arrival home should be around 9:00 p.m.