

**St. Michael
Netcong, New Jersey**

*Make safe
the way that
leads on high...*

*First Sunday
of Advent*

The Church of Saint Michael
November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent



Please remember in your prayers those who have died.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Nicholas Rafferty, Beth Courter, Tim Paternostro, Dick Bland, Karlene Yapple, David Conklin Jr., Allison Leigh, Paula DiElsi, Robert Spezza, Richard Trapp, Bob Flynn, Janet Chanda

Weekly Memorial
 Sanctuary Lamp:
 Andrew Weaver

Readings for the week

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 27, 2021

10am Kathy Barger

5pm Antoinette Gugliemini, Rea Family,
 Louis Castaldi, Theresa Donnarumma

Sunday, November 28 2021

7am Thomasina Grogan, Felix Sellarole

9:30am Albert E. Costanzo, Anna Valentine

11:30am Special Intention

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, November 29, 2021

10am John Bauer

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

10am Michael Rudinsky

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

10am Martin A. O'Neill

Thursday, December 2, 2021

10am Raymond DeFalco, Andrew Baranik

Friday, December 3, 2021

10am Patricia Rea

Saturday, December 4, 2021

10am Antoinette Gugliemini

5pm Ohle Family & Riordan Family,
 Mary Gruszecki

Sunday, December 5, 2021

7am Joseph DeVito

9:30am Protection of babies in the womb and their
 families, Theresa Donnarumma

11:30am Raymond DeFalco, Harry Simionidis

1:30pm Special Intention

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

Sunday, November 21, 2021not available
 WeSharenot available

From Fr. Mike

The first and foremost thing we should know about the Advent Season is that it is NOT a penitential season like Lent. Although many churches use the same color for vestments, wreaths, and decorations, the two liturgical seasons are very distinct in nature and meaning. That is why Saint Michael Church this year has gone to the color blue for Advent to distinguish it from Lent (in case you haven't noticed.)

So then, what is Advent? Wikipedia states that Advent is "A season observed in many Christian Churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming." For us Christians of the Catholic faith, Advent is a joyful (joy filled) time of preparation for the coming of Christmas (the celebration of the Lord's birth into humanity as a child on December 25th). While many of us know or think we know how to prepare for Lent by giving up or doing things, we are still left with the question: how do we prepare ourselves spiritually for Advent?

Some have said it is a season of being "devout" or "pious." Of course, this only confuses the issue, because most of us are not quite sure what being "devout" or "pious" really means. Does it mean being sincere, virtuous or self-righteous? Does it mean folding our hands and praying all the time? I think a good definition of "devout" is being firm and steadfast, when one gives their whole heart and soul to something.

So now the next question we have is: What is joy? Often times, joy and happiness are confused by interchanging them as if they are synonyms and always happen simultaneously. A better understanding of joy is that it is more profound than mere happiness. While happiness often comes out of our circumstances in life (e.g. I am happy because there is still toilet paper on the selves, I am happy that gas has not gone over \$4, etc.) joy, on the other hand, is the ability to have a certain happiness which is separate or independent of our circumstances.

This joy is based upon the knowledge that God the Father loves me in spite of everything I do or do not do. One can actually be joyful while dying. We might not be happy about the pain and suffering of our lives, but we certainly can be joyful, because we know and believe that death does not have the final

say in our lives. At the end of the day, joy is a choice that we make knowing that the Father of all good things loves me and will protect me from all harm, even in spite of the circumstances of my life. Joy is the choice to abide in God's loving presence.

So, Advent is the wholehearted and joyful preparation for Christmas. The goal of Advent is not to have a "Merry Christmas" but it is to worship Jesus well, commemorating His birth into the world. BUT, it is also preparing for His Second Coming. Therefore, we actually have two "comings" of Christ in our lives; His coming into the world (which already happened over 2,000 years ago) and His coming into the world once again at the end of time.

So what do we do in between these two comings? Often times, we are in the presence of the Lord, whether it be in our community, when we read the Holy Scriptures and most definitively, uniquely and substantially, when we celebrate the Holy Eucharist. But there is another presence, another coming that we must anticipate, we must prepare for and that is His Second Coming at the end of time. The question we are left with this week is: If Jesus came and appeared to you in your life this very moment, what would you do (after you got up off the floor)? Would there be any room for Him in your life?

One of the debates that I have during this time of year is (people who know me say that I debate everything) when does the Christmas tree get put up, when do decorations start going up, and when is it appropriate to start playing Christmas music. One side thinks there are too many parties, too much music and too much drinking and being "merry" during the Advent Season, that we lose the true meaning of Christmas. Like most things, I vote for moderation. I think that Christmas parties (NOT "holiday" parties) are okay. I think that a Christmas carol that I hear or even sing is also okay because it actually helps me get in the "Christmas spirit," it actually helps me prepare for Christmas. But in all things, I think moderation is key.

It is okay and actually helpful that we say "no" once in a while to these Christmas things during the next four weeks so we can have a chance to joyfully prepare for the coming of Christ; on His birthday and in the end time. Maybe when and if we can say "no" once in a while to things, we will be able to make more space for the Lord in our lives. The irony is that the more we say "no" allows us to actually say "yes" to Jesus in our lives, this very moment, on

December 25th, when our lives here on earth come to an end and when He will return at the end of time. May God bless you during the next few weeks of Advent. I pray that your “no” time will lead you to a life of “yes’s” and acceptance of the Lord Jesus in your lives and in the lives of your families and friends. **Happy and joy-filled Advent to you all!**

Faith Formation

Calendar Reminders:

- 11/28: Mass only this week; no class sessions
- 12/5: Family Session for Gr. K-7 after 9:30 am Mass

Confirmation II (sophomores):

- Saint Report due 11/30
- You should be working on service for the quarter that includes Oct, Nov, Dec., due Dec. 31
- Mass participation sheets due Nov. 30
- Sponsor Paperwork: due 1/15/22. Please hand in blue info form AND signed Sponsor form TOGETHER).

Middle School Confirmation (gr. 8 and 9)

- You should be working on service for the quarter that includes Oct, Nov, Dec., due Dec. 31
- Mass participation sheets due Nov. 30
- Sponsor Paperwork: due 1/30/22. Please hand in blue info form AND signed Sponsor form TOGETHER).

First Reconciliation/First Communion Morning of Reflection:

- For children in Grade 2 preparing for First Reconciliation
- Sat., Dec.4, 10:45 am-12:30 pm. Please arrive at church by 10:35 am. An adult should accompany each child/family



YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry Meetings on Mondays at 7pm.

If you have any questions, please email me at youth.ministry@stmichaelnetcong.org

-Nicole

Midnight Run NYC

Our first midnight run of the year!

Saturday, Dec. 18th

We are in need of donations – new underwear in larger sizes for men, socks, toiletry items (only small-travel size), clean and gently used clothing in larger sizes, clean pants, shirts, shoes. Large and xlarge hoodie sweatshirts, backpacks or tote bags, new underwear for woman in large and xlarge sizes along with clean clothes. Thank you-

Advent Day of Recollection

Thursday, December 9th 7-9pm in church

Come join us as Brother Thomas and the Franciscans of the Renewal (CFR) share the meaning of Advent

Advent Retreat in Spanish

Saturday, December 11th 9am-3pm

in church

Fr. Alexis Coffi

Suggested \$10 donation

Immaculate Conception Masses

Wednesday, December 8th

7:00am

10:00am

7:00 pm

Christmas Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

3:30pm

5:30pm

10:00pm

Saturday, December 25th

Christmas Day Masses

7:00am

9:30am

11:30am

1:30pm in Spanish

Sunday, December 26th

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord tells of fulfilling the promise he had made to Israel. He will send a replacement for David, someone who "shall do what is right and just in the land," believed by most to mean Jesus.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be ready for the coming of the Lord. He explains that although they are conducting themselves in a way that would please God, they should always strive to do even better.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus warns his followers to be prepared for the end of the world. He reminds them not to be preoccupied with unimportant events, or they will be caught unaware rather than being on watch as they should.

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Primera Lectura: Jeremías 33:14-16

El Señor habla de cumplir la promesa que ha hecho a Israel. Mandará un descendiente legítimo de David, quien "establecerá la justicia y la rectitud en el país". Generalmente se cree que este descendiente es Jesús.

Segunda Lectura: 1 Tesalonienses 3:12—4:2

Pablo anima a los Tesalonienses a alistarse para la venida del Señor. El explica que a pesar de que se están conduciendo de modo que agrada a Dios, siempre deben tratar de mejorar.

Evangelio: San Lucas 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesús advierte a sus seguidores que deben prepararse para el fin del mundo. Les recuerda que no deben preocuparse de cosas sin importancia, o serán sorprendidos en vez de estar listos como debieran.



PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Domingo

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Lunes

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

Martes

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Miércoles

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Jueves

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Primer Viernes

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

Primer Sábado

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8



Primer Domingo de Adviento

28 de Noviembre de 2021

“Se acerca ya el momento, dice el Señor, en que cumpliré la promesa que hice a la gente de Israel y a la de Judá. En esos días, haré nacer un nuevo brote de David que ejercerá la justicia y el derecho en el país. Entonces Judá estará a salvo, Jerusalén vivirá segura ”

Como iglesia estamos llamados a cambiar velocidades, recordando la promesa de Jeremías, y esperando que se lleve a cabo. El Adviento nos provee la oportunidad de pensar en la promesa y esperar que se cumpla una vez más en nuestras vidas.

Nos embarcamos en este tiempo de expectación con gran anticipación. Considere lo que era para los creyentes en los siglos antes de Cristo, esperando, deseando, buscando el cumplimiento de la promesa. Considere ahora nuestras necesidades, sabiendo que Cristo ha venido, pero todavía esperando la justicia y la virtud de la cual habló Jeremías.

La preparación del Adviento depende de mí, cómo rezo, cómo actúo.

Beckman Dental
EXCELLENCE

Kenneth B. Beckman D.M.D.

FAMILY, COSMETIC AND PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY

(973) 347-0080

78 MAIN STREET • NETCONG, NEW JERSEY 07857

Eddie Koster

Plumbing & Heating

License No. 7504

39 Maple Avenue • Netcong

973-347-7207

kosterplumbing@optonline.net

VOTED BEST 24 HOUR DINER IN MORRIS COUNTY

Budd Lake

DINER

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER

P: 973-691-9100 ~ TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE ~ F: 973-691-9137

NETCONG VILLAGE FLORIST
PLANT NOOK & GIFT SHOP

"The Home of Quality & Creativeness"

OPEN M-F 9-6 SAT 9-5

All Major Credit Cards Accepted by Phone

973-347-4050

1-800-800-4051 • 49 Main St., Netcong

www.netcongvillageflorist.com

MORGAN FUNERAL HOME

Robert E. Kanapaux, Manager - N.J. Lic. 3215
Melissa A. Kanapaux, Funeral Director - N.J. Lic. No. 4523
Christopher J. DePuyt, Funeral Director - N.J. Lic. No. 4728

973-347-0165

31 Main Street • Netcong, NJ 07857

www.NetcongFuneral.com

NEED A LAWYER?
INJURED ON THE JOB?

MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.

Personal Injury
Workers' Compensation
Social Security Disability

CALL FOR A FREE LEGAL CONSULTATION

(973) 326-8902

222 RIDGEDALE AVE • CEDAR KNOLLS
315 BROAD STREET • BLOOMFIELD

**STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY
AND STAY POSITIVE!**

PLUMBING PROBLEMS?

Call... **The Polite Plumber**

\$25 OFF
Your Next Plumbing Drama!

We'll never ask how it happened!

973-398-0875

NJ License #10597 - All work is guaranteed!

thepoliteplumber.com

Drains • Faucets • Toilets • Water Heaters • Your Plumbing

LEBER-LAKESIDE FUNERAL HOME

MAIN ROAD, LANDING NEW JERSEY 07850

JOSEPH R. CINOTTI DIRECTOR NJ Lic. No. 4098

973-398-3000

MICHAEL J. CINOTTI PRESIDENT & MANAGER NJ Lic. No. 4228

Catholic Families Serving Catholic Families
Continuing Joseph J.A. Cinotti's Commitment To Family Service

KLAUS ROOFING SYSTEMS

Quality 1st

Contact Us For a **FREE ESTIMATE!**
833-471-1150

GutterShutter

\$500 OFF
A FULL ROOF REPLACEMENT

0% FINANCING AVAILABLE

KlausRoofingchurches.com

✓ **ROOF REPLACEMENT** ✓ **CLOG FREE GUTTERS**
✓ **ROOF REPAIR** ✓ **SKYLIGHT REPLACEMENT**

Family. Friends. Community.

Erin M Misurelli, Agent
296 State Route 10
Randolph, NJ 07869
Bus: 973-389-9999
erin.misurelli.ud08@statefarm.com
Se habla espanol

We're all in this together.
State Farm has a long tradition of being there. That's one reason why I'm proud to support St. Michaels. Go to a better State.

State Farm

ALL THINGS BASEMENTY!

WET BASEMENT?

Quality 1st Basement Systems

- WATERPROOFING & FINISHING
- FOUNDATION PROBLEMS
- HUMIDITY & MOLD CONTROL
- NASTY CRAWL SPACES

Contact us for a FREE ESTIMATE!

866-588-8317

BasementRepairNJ.com

NY Lic # 1274423 • NJHIC# 13VH01833300

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Our Weekly Church Bulletin Is Made Possible By Their Continued Support!!
Please Patronize Our Generous Businesses & Let Them Know You Saw Their Ad!

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

Mt. Arlington Family Dentistry

"A GREAT DENTAL EXPERIENCE ... WITH A GENTLE TOUCH!"

973-770-3322
info@mtarlingtonfamilydentistry.com

22 HOWARD BLVD., SUITE 104 MOUNT ARLINGTON, NJ 07856

EMANUEL CATANIA, DMD • PETER SERRATELLI, DDS

We provide many services for the entire family:

CLEANINGS • DIGITAL X-RAYS • COSMETIC FILLINGS • PORCELAIN LAMINATES • CROWNS & BRIDGES
ROOT CANALS • IMPLANT RESTORATIONS • FULL & PARTIAL DENTURES • PERIODONTAL GUM CARE
GLO WHITENING • NEW "CUTTING-EDGE" DIGITAL IMPRESSIONS

www.MtArlingtonFamilyDentistry.com

CatholicMatch

New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/NJsingles

† CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES®

Saint Clare's Health System

Beyond medical care to medical caring.

saintclares.org • 1-866-STCLARE (1-866-782-5273)