

JANUARY 2, 2022



SAINT MICHAEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 am (*in English*)

Misa en Español todos los Domingos: 1:30 pm

WEEKDAYS

Weekdays: 10:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 pm Monday: 6:30 - 7:00 pm

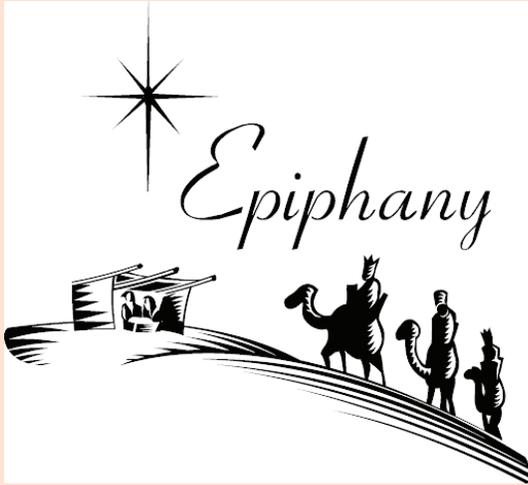
(no Monday reconciliation during June, July or August)

Phone: 973-347-0032

Website: www.stmichaelnetcong.org

Welcome to our Church

The Church of Saint Michael
January 2, 2022
Epiphany of The Lord



Please remember in your prayers those who have died.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish.

Weekly Memorial

Altar Bread & Wine: Pauline & Carmine Milone

Readings for the week

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Monday

1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22

Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 1, 2022

The Octave Day of the Nativity of The Lord,
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

10am Lillian Bruno

5pm Joseph & Emilio Rea, Jamie Liamero

Sunday, January 2, 2022

7am Anthony DeFelice

9:30am Protection of babies in the womb and their families, Ronald E. Costanzo

11:30am Patricia Rea, Kathleen Agnes Carey

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, January 3, 2022

10am Mario Francomacaro

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

10am Special Intention

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

10am Mary Brodo

Thursday, January 6, 2022

10am Chet Togno

Friday, January 7, 2022

10am Catherine Werner

Saturday, January 8, 2022

10am Special Intention

5pm Theresa Donnarumma, Marie Vendola

Sunday, January 9, 2022

7am Special Intention

9:30am Robert J. Poth, Chet Togno

11:30am Antoinette Gugliemini,

Anthony Kowalski, Sr. & Jr.

1:30pm Special Intention

TITHING – GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

ST. MICHAEL’S HAS BEEN A TITHING PARISH SINCE 1988.

Sunday, December 19, 2021.....	\$8,148.00
WeShare	\$1,872.50
Immaculate Conception additional.....	\$595.00
Christmas Flowers additional.....	\$447.00
Retired Religious additional.....	\$360.00

From Fr. Mike

I have a friend, who for as long as I have known her, has stated at this time of the year that the past year has been the worst. Yet for some reason looking back to 2021 there was no such recognition. I reminded her that we end 2021 the same way we ended 2019; with countries closing their borders, with restrictions on travel, with a new variant, with concerns about our future and with concerns about public safety. Yet, she still maintains 2021 was not a bad year. Most of us probably would not share in her sentiments because 2021 was probably a bad year. With the loss of loved ones, jobs, careers, homes, with a declining economy and even the inability to return to the normalcy of what was once known. On top of all these tragedies, the first half of the year were met with restrictions on Church attendance and most were probably “attending” Mass virtually, so, to say the least, we might have felt left alone.

As we embark on a New Year, maybe one of our resolutions could be that we learn to appreciate what we have, for we truly never know when it will be taken away from us. All throughout the Advent Season, we heard about the end times and how we should be prepared for the Second Coming of Christ. The First Sunday of Advent reminded us to “Be vigilant at all times” (Luke 31:26). The Second Sunday told us to “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Luke 3:4). Gaudete Sunday asked us to join with Saint John the Baptist, to look toward with anticipation “One mightier than I is coming” (Luke 3:16) and last weekend, we had the example of our Saint Elizabeth asking “And how does this happen to me that the Mother of my Lord should come to me” (Luke 1:43) as she greeted our Blessed Mother. Still, we might have the feeling that we are alone. But that is far from the truth.

In every generation, there have been calamities from pestilence, disease, plagues, the stock market crash, World Wars I and II, the Great Depression, the Holocaust, September 11th, etc. and each generation seems to feel that the time they lived through was the worst. In all of these events and times, the only consistent and stable entity was God Himself. Although we might have felt He was the furthest from us, it is times like these that I recall the anonymous poem “Footprints” of when it was questioned where Jesus was during the difficult

times in life, why there were only one set of footprints in the sand. As we learned from this timely poem, it was then that the Lord carried us.

So where was the Lord this past year? Exactly where He has been every year, every month, every week, every day and every moment, right by our sides. Whether we can feel this reality or even acknowledge it, is another issue. But the reality remains that Jesus promised to be with us “Until the end of the ages” (Matthew 28:20). So possibly it is not something that is lacking in God, but rather, something that is lacking in us. I am a true believer that when things get rough, I mean really rough in your life, the people that stay by our sides are usually the “real” friends that we can depend upon.

Hopefully we can recognize in this family of faith true friends that in these difficult times of division with no dialogue, we can be there not to judge, not to naysay or give unsolicited advice but be present for each other. May this is what my friend recognized for 2021 and came to the conclusion that it wasn't a bad year. Maybe that is what the Lord wants us to get out of 2022. Maybe we have been so far away from His grace, His love and His Church that having “hit bottom” in so many and varied ways, that we can finally turn to Him with all our minds, hearts and souls and say “Here I am, Lord” I need you more than ever. So, as we close the doors to 2021, we can give thanks for all of the Blessings we have received. Looking on the positive side of every moment, maybe we can say “thank you Lord” for teaching me what is important and what truly holds a special place in my life. We have prepared for four weeks of Advent, and experienced the joy of the Incarnation, maybe some of us are ready to welcome Christ into our lives and in our hearts in 2022.

Happy New Year!





YOUTH MINISTRY

Our next Youth Ministry meeting will be on Monday, January 10th.

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

FAITH FORMATION

Calendar Updates/Reminders, K-7:

- There is a Family Session scheduled for Jan. 9. Out of an abundance of caution, only for this month, we will not have that session after Mass. Instead, the session will be posted on the website and we ask parents to go through the teaching with their children some time during the week.
- As long as you are in good health and not quarantined, please participate in any Mass for Jan. 9.
- Class sessions following Mass will begin again on Jan. 16

Confirmation II (sophomores):

- Sponsor Paperwork: due 1/15/22. Please hand in blue info form AND signed Sponsor form TOGETHER).
- Please hand in your completed service forms and signed Mass sheets. Put in mailbox or bring to next session, Jan. 9, regular time, in the school.

Middle School Confirmation (gr. 8 and 9)

- Sponsor Paperwork: due 1/30/22. Please hand in blue info form AND signed Sponsor form TOGETHER).
- Please hand in your completed service forms and signed Mass sheets. Put in mailbox or bring to next session, Jan. 9, regular time, in the church hall.

NET group

- Next session 1/16, regular time and place
- Please hand in your completed service forms and signed Mass sheets. Put in mailbox or bring to next session

LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

Domingo

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Lunes

1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Martes

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

Miércoles

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Jueves

1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22

Primer Viernes

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Sábado

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30



LA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

Primera Lectura: Isaías 60:1-6

Isaías se regocija por la luz y la gloria que brillarán sobre Jerusalén. Describe cómo la riqueza de las naciones será llevada a Jerusalén, y viajeros llegarán trayendo regalos y alabando a Dios.

Segunda Lectura: Efesios 3:2-3a, 5-6

Pablo explica a los efesios que los gentiles son coherederos con los judíos. A través de Jesús se convirtieron miembros del mismo cuerpo. Por eso ellos recibirán todo lo que Dios ha prometido a los judíos que se han convertido y que han seguido las enseñanzas de Jesús.

Evangelio: San Mateo 2:1-12

Astrólogos del este viajaron para buscar al recién nacido rey de los judíos. Esto preocupó mucho al Rey Herodes. Herodes quería matar a Jesús, y les pidió a los astrólogos regresar y decirle en dónde estaba Jesús. Los astrólogos encontraron a Jesús y le trajeron regalos, pero recibieron un mensaje en forma de un sueño, en donde se les indicaba no regresar a ver a Herodes.

We invite you to take part in an old tradition of “chalking the door” to celebrate the New Year.

“Chalking the door” is a sign and symbol of asking God’s blessing upon those who live, work, or visit throughout the coming year. In Exodus, the Israelites marked their doors with blood so that the Lord would pass over their homes; but in this service, we mark our doors with chalk as a sign that we have invited God’s presence and blessing into our homes.

In Deuteronomy 6:9 God tells the people of Israel: *“These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house... You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”* Chalking the door is a tangible way to honor God in our lives.

Using chalk (at entrance of church), write on the outside of your house or inside above the front main entrance, above or next to an entrance:

†20 Christus Mansionem Benedicat 22† or †20 C M B 22†

Pray: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here and all who visit. May we be blessed with health, kindness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+20 C M B 22

The letters **C M B** come from the traditional names for the three kings: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

It is also an abbreviation for “Christus Mansionem Benedicat” which means, “May Christ bless this dwelling!” The first and last numbers simply refer to the current year.



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