

The Assumption of the *Blessed Virgin Mary*



**St. Michael
Netcong, New Jersey**

The Church of Saint Michael
August 14, 2022
Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Please remember in your prayers those who have died.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: May Lee, Special Intention, Lucy Pintos, Karlene Yaple, Joseph Conklin

Weekly Memorial

Altar Bread & Wine: Antoinette Gugliemini
 Sanctuary Lamp: Thomasina Grogan

Readings for the week

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

Monday

Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27;
 Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday

Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday

Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday

Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14

Friday

Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday

Ez 43:1-7ab; Mt 23:1-12

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 13, 2022

8am All Deceased Members of the
 Assumption Society, Jimmy LaBell
5pm Agatha Grassi, Tommy Yanavok

Sunday, August 14, 2022

7am Christopher Hogan
9:30am Leopoldo Lucero, William Ruf
11:30am Joseph Vaia Jr., Janice Airel
1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, August 15, 2022

10am Sherry Lopez

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

10am Special Intention

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

10am Special Intention, Vincent & Paula Tardive

Thursday, August 18, 2022

10am John Bauer, Jimmy LaBell

Friday, August 19, 2022

10am Pat Buckley

Saturday, August 20, 2022

10am For All Deceased Parishioners
5pm Chet Togno, Josephine & Anthony Preziosi

Sunday, August 21, 2022

7am Sam Rosa
9:30am Thomas S. Pedersen, Don Kraus
11:30am Biaggio Vaia, Janice Airel
1:30pm Special Intention

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

Sunday, August 7, 2022\$4,967.00
 WeShare not available

From Deacon Rich

Once you know, you cannot unknow... And, you know... What do you know? You know God and our faith, our religion. You know Jesus, you know God the Father and you know God the Holy Spirit. You know our faith. Knowing it is not enough though... Believing it and living it is what it is all about. Actually, believing it isn't even enough... You can know it and believe it but that is not enough... We have to live it, all the time and maybe that will be enough... Enough for what you ask? Enough to be with Jesus in heaven for all eternity. This is Faith, "F".

The 3 theological virtues Faith, Hope and Charity. They are gifts from God. We have to be open to them and accept them. Faith like Abraham had, that is a gift from God. You have to completely give up control, control of yourself, control of the situation and control of your life. Have you ever done that? When you think about it, we really don't have much control anyway. Have you ever really given everything over to Jesus and say to Him, "you got this" and just stay right there with Him, not trying to control or influence Him, yourself, others or the situation at all? That is Faith, "F". I have done it and it is not comfortable!! I can think of many times lately where I truly said to Jesus, "I can't do this anymore. This isn't working... I have no control anyway, it is all yours"... And I gave it to Jesus and just sat there with Him. We are supposed to do this all the time actually. This is how Jesus wants us to live all the time. Don't be afraid. His Will be done, not ours...

Faith is giving up yourself and what you want and giving over to Jesus and, being OK with it all! There are many times where I wanted to give up but gave everything over to Jesus. A lot of the times, it wasn't good things. It is when bad things happen and everything is all crazy. Isn't that how it usually goes though? But, we should always give over to Jesus. Giving up is not good. It is hopeless, without Hope "H". We have to be open to God's gifts. We are Catholic and with Faith "F", we don't have to give up, we can give over. There is a difference, and that difference is Jesus!! Non believers give up, believers give over, over to Jesus.

I remember a time long ago where I wanted to give up but thankfully, through Faith, I gave over to Jesus. I know some of you know this story but way back, when I was in formation to become a deacon... I was young! My hair was black, and there was more of it, it was about 30 or 40 pounds ago and our kids were young (Will 2, Mark 8, Nicole 10) and I had not been in a class room for years. Needless to say, I was worried. And Annemarie and I were brought in for a "special meeting" with the head of the diaconate and the diaconate team. A few deacons and their wives... We were told that they will accept me into the program but they are watching! I was not your typical person in formation. Usually it is men retired, empty house and young grandkids. I was

working, we had a full house and our kids were young. The diaconate team was worried that formation would be too much for me and my family. I was always working, going to class, doing homework and studying. And, they were watching. If they noticed any issues, I was out of formation. I would not be able to be a deacon... It was hard. I was worried about classes and passing. We were in college level classes!

But never mind me, I couldn't have done it without Annemarie. She was doing everything else! All seemed OK and then... Our yearly weekend retreat. Wives had to be there with us. We both had to go. We had little kids home. School, homework, Religious Ed, sports dinner, bedtime. Who was going to watch our kids and take care of our home? Annemarie and I had not been away from our kids much. I was going to give up. Annemarie and I went to see Msgr. Diacheck to see if Annemarie could stay home to be with our kids, just Friday and she would come to the retreat Saturday morning. It was like going to see the great Oz! We were very scared and he made Annemarie and I very upset! He said "NO" to us being excused... Annemarie had to be there for the whole time or I was out. It was bad... But thankfully, through Faith "F", I didn't give up, I gave over to Jesus. I truly said in prayer, "Jesus I give this over to you. If you want me to be a deacon, then you will help us find a way, and if not, I am OK with it". Annemarie's Mom and Dad were able to watch our kids. And Annemarie and I formed a wonderful and loving relationship with Msgr. Diacheck. There were many other times when I thought I was done and wanted to give up... But every time, I gave it over to Jesus... His Will be done. Don't ever give up, give over to Jesus! Faith, "F".

From Deacon John

"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." The obligation to get our priorities straight is clearly placed on us with our Gospel today; we are to look beyond the things of this world and to focus on the true treasure that awaits us. One of the difficulties we face with our fallen human nature is that we are very short sighted. We tend not to see beyond the here and now and errors we make today can cause many regrets in the future. The challenge for us in the here and now is to understand where we are is not where we belong. As stewards we have been entrusted with many gifts and talents, and we have the obligation to use them for the building up of the kingdom of God, and not to squander them on worldly "things."

Many people have been seduced by the "Gospel of prosperity" model, where Gods' blessings are measured

by the things you have, and the concept that those blessed in life have the most. In reality, it is not about the things you have, but what you do with the gifts that God has given you. Our mission as God's steward is to use the gifts and talents we have been given and we will be held accountable for them at our particular judgment. The Gospel states "for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." Are our hearts centered on doing God's will, or am I seduced with a "me-first" attitude? Do we recognize the treasure that God has given us? The wonderful thing about divine providence is that God provides for all our needs. The difficulty we face is discerning the difference between want and need. We often get so absorbed in what "I" want that we forget our mission and its final destination. We need to be vigilant in waiting for the master's return, but we also need to do our part while we are waiting here. The goal is heaven but the mission is to bring as many as we can with us and while we are on the way, to share the gifts God has given us with those we encounter and build the Kingdom of God here on earth. I find it amazing that we plan out all the aspects of our life, we plan our future, we plan for our retirement, we have IRA's and 401k's and yet we spend little to no time to consider our where our final destination will be, Heaven or Hell.

It comes down to a question of faith. The letter to the Hebrews gives us the example of what faith is "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen." Many of us have a hard- time understanding the concept of faith without tangible or empirical evidence. Scripture tells us if we have faith the size of a mustard seed we could move mountains. My faith can't be that big, because I have yet to move any mountains, however I do have trust. And by trusting in God and striving to live my life in His will, I understand the great gifts he has entrusted me with. Without faith all in life can seem shallow and superficial, many who have fallen into the secular mindset find no peace or contentment in their lives. We have generations of people who are unhappy, angry, and live unfulfilled lives searching for meaning in their lives. They search everywhere for happiness however they completely ignore the true source, Jesus Christ. We need to set our sights on the bigger picture, happiness is situational, and can disappear as quickly as it came. When we hope and trust in God's love for us we don't have to be concerned with the situational, we have contentment. Contentment is the gift from God that carries you through whatever the world dishes out.

St. Augustine said our hearts are restless until we rest in thee. Our true home is in heaven and we have a choice. We can stumble blindly through life looking for happiness in things, or we can trust in the love and mercy of God, have true faith in Him, and live a life with joy, peace and contentment. The promise is not a life

without hardship; the promise is with God, I can endure all things here on earth, and gain the retirement plan of eternal life in Heaven. We have been entrusted with much, have we used it wisely?

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Registration for 2022-23 is open!

Registration is open to families REGISTERED with the Parish (you currently receive and use envelopes or We Share electronic giving).

If you are *new* to the parish, or you do not receive and use envelopes or We Share, please register as a parishioner on the Saint Michael website FIRST:

<https://www.stmichaelnetcong.org/parish-registration>

To register children for Faith Formation:

- Click the link on the website page: www.stmichaelnetcong.org/religious-education
- Follow the instructions for completing the form and for returning the signed Covenant, baptismal certificate if applicable, and payment to the office.

ALL children must be registered for Faith Formation *every year* in order to participate in the Faith Formation program in September.



Catechist needed!

We are currently in need of a catechist for our Kindergarten group. The group meets once a month (after the 9:30 am Mass). If you are interested, please contact Debbie Rogalo at 973-347-0032 ext. 2330.

Middle School Confirmation:

- July Mass sheets are due in Faith Formation office
- Summer Reading project: The Gospel of Mark—all teens have received this. Please do not fall behind in completing this project (reading according to the outline and answering questions in the booklet). If you have any questions please contact us.

NET Group

- July Mass sheets are due in Faith Formation office

YOUTH MINISTRY

Emails will be sent out regarding special events over the summer.

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

-Nicole

Missionary Cooperation Visit on August 13/14.

Mary Queen of Heaven Missionaries is a religious community based in Cebu, Philippines. Our charism is to peacefully fight the scourge of human trafficking and sexual exploitation through rescuing survivors and rehabilitating them holistically: mind, body, and soul. We are also active in preventing human trafficking and exploitation through our educational assistance in vulnerable communities prone to trafficking, particularly in the rural areas of the Philippines.

We have three rehabilitation centers. *The Home of Love*, a shelter for rehabilitation of human trafficking women and their children survivors, the *My Bonita Home For Girls*, a refuge for the minor female survivors of abuse and the *Regina Coeli Home of Love* in California, a Women's Shelter for survivors of sex trafficking.

Together with our counterpart NGO, *Regina Coeli*, we are able to reach out to many areas vulnerable to trafficking and provide educational assistance to the rural communities to empower and support the students in different Philippine provinces. Our educational assistance program has reached 12,000 high school students across the Philippines as of 2022.

These unique times are indeed challenging, but every challenge must be taken to better serve God and the People of God. We are more dedicated now to increase our efforts in nurturing our mission, but we will need all the help we can get. You may visit our website at WWW.MQHM.ORG for more detailed information about us. You may contact us at 81812616201.

We thank the Pontifical Mission Societies Office in the Diocese of Paterson for giving us the opportunity to do a mission appeal at St Michael Parish Church on August 13-14, 2022.

RCIA Classes 2022-2023

In the fall of 2022 we will begin our classes for any adult who would like to receive or complete the sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation or be received into full Communion with the Catholic Church. Classes meet on Thursday evenings. If you or anyone you know is interested in our RCIA classes, please contact Valerie Nichols via email, valerie.n@stmichaelnetcong.org by August 31, 2022.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items: **pasta, spaghetti, canned corn, canned fruit, canned soup.** As always, we thank you for your generosity and support.

-No Confessions on Mondays during
June, July or August.
-Saturday Confessions continue 4-4:30pm

Loyola Jesuit Center Men's Weekend Retreat

October 14-16
Morristown, NJ
Call for reservations
973-539-0740

Parish Picnic Help Wanted Saturday, September 17th

We are looking for fun, hardworking St. Michael parishioners to help plan the 2022 parish picnic. If you are interested in being part of the "committee of picnic people" please reach out to
Debbie Hartman 862-266-1613 or
Nancy Keller 973-557-5273.
Thank you

VIGESIMO DOMINGO EN TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Domingo

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

Lunes

Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27;
Lk 1:39-56

Martes

Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30

Miércoles

Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16

Jueves

Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14

Viernes

Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40

Sábado

Ez 43:1-7ab; Mt 23:1-12

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