

APRIL 30, 2023



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

Phone: 973-347-0032

Website: www.stmichaelnetcong.org

Welcome to our Church

The Church of Saint Michael
April 30, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter



Please remember in your prayers those who have died: Janet Chanda

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: May Lee, Special Intention, Lucy Pintos, Karlene Yaple, Joseph Conklin, Marysia Hancock, Bev Couter, Kathy Conklin, Charlie Raffay, Special Intention, Carmen Pina, Paula DiElsi, Avila De La Rama

Weekly Memorial
 Sanctuary Lamp: Richard Fletcher

Readings for the week

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18 or,
 for the Memorial, Gn 1:26—2:3 or
 Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

First Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

First Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 29, 2023

10am Sheila Kelly

5pm George Trapp, Anthony Ceddia

Sunday, April 30, 2023

7am John Delahunt

9:30am Veronica Geraghty

11:30am Terry Castaldi

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, May 1, 2023

10am Richard Fletcher

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

10am Janet Chanda

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

10am Rose DeSantis

Thursday, May 4, 2023

10am Dolores & Gregory Murtha

Friday, May 5, 2023

10am Special Intention, Mary Ruf

Saturday, May 6, 2023

10am Michael Drinka

5pm Nicholas Arbolino & Madeline Arbolino,
 Krista Ellison

Sunday, May 7, 2023

7am Sam Rosa

9:30am Thomasina Grogan, Ronald E. Costanzo

11:30am Mary Brodo, John Savino

1:30pm Special Intention

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

Sunday, April 23, 2023	\$5,137.00
WeShare	\$1,863.00

From last week:

d.) **On earth as it is in heaven**; this particular petition is not merely a reply to the last petition of “Thy Will be done,” but is more like a hinge on which all of the first three petitions are linked to the final four. This petition begs the question: “What is it like in heaven?” The Church provides for us this answer in the final book of the New Testament (attributed to Saint John) in the Book of Revelation. In this Book, Jesus is called the “*Lamb of God*” more often than any other books in the Bible (28 times in 22 chapters). This book describes how the angels and saints praise God in Heaven, as it should be on earth. Amazingly, in the Mass, we use so many of the same things which Saint John saw in heaven, like the “Lamb of God,” the “Holy, holy, holy” and the “Gloria,” to list just a few. He also mentions candles and the Menorah (which stood by the altar in the temple of Jerusalem). He tells us that Jesus is wearing a long white robe (a liturgical vestment) and there are twenty-four (24) presbyters (priests), an altar with seven (7) chalices (in which wine is poured out and how it has become Jesus’ Precious Blood). God’s Will is done most perfectly on earth in the Mass more than any other place or in anything else that we do.

e.) **Give us this day our daily bread**; this is in the imperative tense, a demand upon God. Before you think this is presumptuous or even blasphemous, let us remember that our relationship with God is between a Father and His children, so it makes perfect sense that we are able to ask, to reasonably request and yes, even demand things from Him! This petition and the ones following are all demands which children can rightly make of a loving Father.

Also, notice that it is “give **us**” not “give **me**” and that we are requesting “bread” not filet mignon, lobster and champagne. For maybe, we can better understand the cliché “God gives us what we need and not what we want.” Finally, we ask for our “daily bread” not a year’s supply or enough to retire on, but just for today.

I noticed something I never knew before and that was how Jesus says: “Give us **this day our daily bread**.” I never realized that “day” and “daily” are repeated. This should remind us of when God fed

the Jews in the wilderness for forty days with manna from heaven. He gave Israel whatever they needed for just **one** day and if they took more than they needed, it would spoil. Except on the sixth day when they were able to take twice as much without it spoiling, because there was no manna given on the Sabbath. This was so they could rest on the Sabbath and trust in God their heavenly Father.

It also reminds us Catholics of the “true manna” which Saint John spoke about in his sixth chapter of his Gospel when Jesus talks about Himself as the manna and the true bread that came down from heaven (also found in Psalm 78); Jesus is the “*Panis Angelicus*” (the “bread of angels”). God not only gives us what we need in our daily meals, but in one particular, the sacrificial meal of the Eucharist.

e.) **And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**; maybe one of the most difficult of all petitions; what we are actually asking here is that God forgive all of us (not just Catholics) and that we in turn should do the same. Ultimately, God wants us to hate our sin more than we hate other people. We must remember that during the Mass, which is the sacrifice for sin, is where God can uproot the evil in our lives. As Saint Thomas Aquinas once said: “We can only receive the Holy Eucharist worthily if we have the proper disposition toward holy love.” Therefore, it is precisely at Mass, when we receive the Lord worthily, our sins are forgiven and we are given the grace to forgive those who have sinned against us.

f.) **Lead us not into temptation**; our temptation is NOT to forgive those who have sinned against us. It was so wonderfully said in: “God paid the debt that He did not owe, because we owed a debt we could not pay.” We must remember that God is not alluring, seducing or tempting us. Saint James reminds us that “*Let no one say who is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted by evil and He Himself does not tempt anyone*” (James 1:13). A more accurate translation is “*lead us not into the test*” or “*the trial*.”

The trials in our lives are not to show God what He does not know, but to show us what we do not know. By showing us our weaknesses, God allows us to see His power and for us to desire it much more than we do already.

The first step to temptation is that we think we can do all this (life) on our own without the power or presence of God. I think this is the same sin of Adam and Eve as well. Saint Paul tries to explain this when he says: *“Therefore, if anyone thinks that they stand, take heed, lest they fall”* (1 Corinthians 10:12) He continues: *“No temptation that is taken over you which is not common to man... God is faithful and will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation, He will also provide the way of escape that you may be able to endure it”* (v. 13). Paul concludes with *“Is not the cup of blessing which we partake not a sharing in the Blood of Christ? Is the bread which we share not a participation in the Body of Christ?”* (v. 14). The manner of “escape” from our trials is found in the Eucharist! The Lord strengthens us in our weakness. He offers us light in the midst of our darkness.

g.) **But deliver us from evil;** “delivering” suggests a conquest and a victory. We find this victory in Christ and in particular, the Eucharist. The “evil” is not just a generic term but literally translated means “From the evil one.” We must recognize that without the Lord at our side, the “evil one” will have a foothold in our lives and will have a chance to win our souls. The real enemy that we have in our lives is sin and the father of sin is the devil himself. We find God conquering evil in the Book of Revelation, when the devil and the evil ones are thrown out of heaven. God’s power of love is released against the power of darkness. This is most perfectly found in our celebration of the Eucharist. When we join our prayers to all the angels and saints, with the Mother of God herself, then and only then will we be “delivered” from an evil, which left to our own devices cannot overcome.

Some may think we have prayed this prayer too much, I would suggest that we have thought about its true meaning too little. Maybe that is why some have called this the “Perfect Prayer” of all.

FAITH FORMATION

For Confirmation II and NET: last service form for April is due 4/30 ; signed mass sheet for April is due 4/30

First Communion Rehearsals:

<u>First Communion Mass</u>	<u>Rehearsal</u>
Mass on 5/6 at 5 pm	Mass: Tues. May 2
Mass on 5/7 at 9:30 am	Mass: Wed., May 3
Mass on 5/7 at 11:30 am	Mass: Thurs., May 4
Mass on 5/7 at 1:30 pm	Mass: Tues., May 2

All rehearsals start **PROMPTLY at 6:45 pm in the Church. Please arrive early for seating. A parent must accompany each child**

Calendar Reminders

- NO Faith Formation classes for Levels 1-6. Choose any mass to attend
- Confirmation I, II and NET DO have class 5/7, regular time and place

Confirmation Rehearsal: for candidates and sponsors (or parent stand-in if Sponsor cannot attend): Friday, May 19, 6:45 pm. Rehearsal is mandatory.

Knights of Columbus

Diaper Donations for Birth Haven

To honor Mary, in this special month that we celebrate the “Queen of Heaven”, the St. Michael Knights of Columbus requests the parish’s support in donating diapers to Birth Haven, a charitable organization providing shelter, support and education for homeless pregnant mothers and young women. The Knights will be collecting diapers on the weekends of May 20-21 and May 27-28, at the church. Please place your donations in front of the statue of our Blessed Mother. The Knights and Birth Haven thank you in advance for your generosity and May God Bless You.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry meetings are on Mondays
at 7:00pm in the Youth Ministry room.

If you would like to join or if you have any questions,
please email me at
youth.ministry@stmichaelnetcong.org
-Nicole

Youth Ministry Fundraiser
Flower Sale - Donaldson's, Hackettstown
Vouchers will be available after all Masses
Weekends of April 29/30 & May 6/7
\$10 each
towards any flower or plant at Donaldson's
Vouchers are available in the parish office also

Adoration Chapel

If you're looking for an hour of peace and silence, come
spend it with Jesus. We have the following hour in
need:

Fridays at Noon - Partner needed

Contact: Andrea 201-874-8769; Marie 732-885-7972

CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA

Domingo

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Lunes

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18 o, para
el monumento, Gn 1:26—2:3 o
Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58

Martes

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Miércoles

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

Jueves

Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

Primer Viernes

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Primer Sábado

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

Friday, September 8, 2023 BUS TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE LANCASTER, PA "MOSES"

\$160 for a parishioner
(\$160 for 1 friend - non-parishioner)
includes show ticket,
lunch at Bird In Hand Restaurant
and the bus.

*We must have 35 people to
proceed with this trip
Deadline to register is June 15*

Names: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Email: _____

of People: _____

Total: \$ _____

=====

Please cut out and give to Annemarie in the parish
office with a check made out to: **St. Michael Church**
(non refundable – unless the trip is cancelled)

\$5 per person will be collected for the bus driver.

Schedule for the Trip - (estimated schedule)

7:00 a.m.	Mass
7:35 a.m.	Meet at bus (upper parking lot)
7:45 a.m.	Depart St. Michael Church
11:00 a.m.	Arrive at Kitchen Kettle Village to shop
12:00 p.m.	Depart Kitchen Kettle Village
12:30 p.m.	Lunch at Bird In Hand Restaurant
2:00 p.m.	Depart Bird In Hand Restaurant
3:00 p.m.	Show Time! Sight & Sound
5:15 p.m.	Depart Sight & Sound
8:30 p.m.	Approximate time back at St. Michael Church

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