

JULY 16, 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
July 16, 2023
Fifteenth Sunday in 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, Marysia Hancock, Bev Couter, Kathy Conklin, Special Intention, Carmen Pina, Paula DiElsi, Avila De La Rama, Gail Tardive, Roseann Lehmann, Louis DiBernard, Tim Paternostro

Weekly Memorial

Altar Bread and Wine is in memory of:
Albert & Ronald Costanzo

Readings for the week

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday

Ex 1:8-14, 22; Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday

Ex 2:1-15a; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday

Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30

Friday

Ex 11:10—12:14; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, July 15, 2023

10am Sherry Lopez

5pm Charlie Carney

Sunday, July 16, 2023

7am Msgr. Trapasso

9:30am Timothy Trapper, Special Intention

11:30am Terry Castaldi

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, July 17, 2023

10am Anne T. Keenan, George Calvert

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

10am Bob Suralik

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

10am Mary Allen

Thursday, July 20, 2023

10am George Calvert

Friday, July 21, 2023

10am George Calvert

Saturday, July 22, 2023

8am St. Cesario Society -

All Members Living & Deceased

10am Special Intention

5pm George Calvert, Helen & Charles Massopust

Sunday, July 23, 2023

7am Pat Buckley

9:30am Mary & Michael DeFalco Sr.,

Ronald E. Costanzo

11:30am Jose DaCosta

1:30pm Special Intention

**TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING -
 SAINT MICHAEL PARISH HAS BEEN TITHING
 SINCE 1988.**

Sunday, July 2, 2023 \$4,986.00

Repair & Renovation \$1,670.00

WeShare \$2,273.00

WeShare Repair & Renovation \$ 306.00

From Deacon John

Homily from July 2, 2023

Mixed messages

In our first reading from the book of 2nd Kings we see charity and hospitality towards a holy prophet being rewarded by God. Yet in our reading from Romans, we hear we are baptized into Christ's death and our Gospel tells us to take up our cross. In one breath it appears that God rewards those who do His will, and in the next breath it appears those who are walking in faith are persecuted or punished. Without looking at the context of the situation and seeing the bigger picture we can easily get confused. The story of the two great prophets in 1st and 2nd book of kings is about God's call to his people to come back to the true faith. The culture at large had abandoned God and fallen into pagan worship, and these two great prophets Elijah and Elisha preached, taught and worked miracles to bring the people back to God. Yet it was not without persecution. The prevailing culture of their day did not want to hear truth. This woman recognized the truth in the preaching of Elisha, and offered charity and hospitality to the man of God, and she was rewarded for her faith in action. Divine providence means that God will be with you and satisfy your needs. There is a big difference between needs and wants. God provides what is best for our eternal soul, not the fleeting desires of our heart.

One of the amazing things that I often hear about, are people who have had a deep conversion of faith, or a reversion into a deeper faith, seem to suddenly be able to work through any difficulties. Prayer comes easier and they get many consolations and graces. They seem to be able to ride a spiritual high through all their cares and worries, and then all of a sudden, things can start to change. This new or deeper foundation of faith can begin to rub their friends or family members the wrong way. Perhaps they think you are better than them or even jealous of your new found peace and confidence. This can escalate into severe conflicts that can actually lead to family members never speaking to each other again! What a price to pay for having faith.

I have a good friend who had such a conversion several years ago, went through R.C.I.A. and entered the Church. He turned his life around, met a very nice woman and was contemplating marriage. Then all of a sudden turmoil and trouble began with his family and friends. They became hostile to him about his new found faith, and the wonderful woman he had met developed breast cancer. He questioned me and said "Was he being abandoned by God? What was he doing wrong?" We talked and prayed about this for a few minutes and then I told him that he did NOTHING wrong! I shared that it was probably because he was doing things right that family and former friends became hostile.

I asked him if he still trusted in God, and he answered that his faith was stronger than ever. I asked did he still love the woman and he replied more than ever. The difference between enduring hardships with faith and being overwhelmed by hardship without faith is the real issue. Before his conversion he would have never been able to be the support and caregiver for this woman. Now his faith and love for her has grown stronger and he has a new circle of friends with similar values.

Faith in Jesus does not always mean prosperity, peaches and cream. It sometimes means hardship, rejection, persecution, and for some martyrdom, but through it all Jesus' love for us is unshakable. Following Jesus Christ is not supposed to be easy, and in the same breath it not just suffering on the cross waiting for Heaven. Following Jesus means that while our true home is in heaven, we take the joy and peace of heaven and share it with others here. I see so many people with no hope, no joy, searching for happiness. They are lonely and depressed, and angry and envious at the world because they are not happy and it has to be someone else's fault. Following Jesus will not always make you happy. Anyone who is happy all the time probably needs to see a psychiatrist.

However, following Jesus will offer you contentment, comfort in your sorrows, and joy in your heart.

Faith Formation Registration for 2023-2024 is now open

**Registration will close in early August so
we can order books and make
preparations for the new year!**

<https://www.stmichaelnetcong.org/religious-education>

- Read the information about registration, Program Policies and Guidelines and the supporting documents including the Covenant) that are needed
- Follow the link to the online form and fill it out, one per family (you can sign up multiple children on one form)
- In order to complete registration you MUST send/drop off:
 - Payment (at least partial).
 - Faith Formation covenant *
 - Supporting documents for children NEW to the program

- Contact us at 973-347-0032 ext. 2320 if you have any questions or concerns or need assistance or are experiencing any difficulties with making a payment at this time.

Faith Formation programs are available to registered, active families of St. Michael Parish!

* There are blank covenants (one side in English, other side in Spanish) in a basket on the table in the church vestibule (main entrance) that you can take if you don't have a printer available.



Catechists needed! If you are interested in learning more about how to serve in the Catechetical ministry in the Faith Formation



program, please contact Debbie Rogalo at 973-347-0032 ext. 2330. We need catechists for different age groups! We will train you over the summer. Please consider helping out

in this ministry

Confirmation II candidates (Level 8 and NET):

- Mass sheets for June are due in the office
- Evaluation form for service completed in April, May, June is due on the office. Please make sure you answer all questions on the front and back of the form!

All forms can be dropped off during business hours or put them in the mailbox outside of the front door of the parish office.

Vacation Notice--

** Please know the Staff will be on vacation at various times during July and early August. If you leave a message or send an email, we will get back to you but it may take us a few days. Thank you for your patience!

Adoration Chapel

If you're looking for an hour of peace and silence, come spend it with Jesus. Contact: Andrea 201-874-8763 or Marie 732-885-7972



DECIMOQUINTO DOMINGO EN TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Domingo

Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Lunes

Ex 1:8-14, 22; Mt 10:34—11:1

Martes

Ex 2:1-15a; Mt 11:20-24

Miércoles

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Mt 11:25-27

Jueves

Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30

Viernes

Ex 11:10—12:14; Mt 12:1-8

Sábado

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18



Décimo Quinto Domingo en Tiempo Ordinario 16 de julio de 2023

“Así dice el Señor: Así como la lluvia y la nieve descienden del cielo y no vuelven a él sin haber empapado la tierra ... así sucede con la palabra que sale de mi boca: realiza todo lo que yo quiero y cumple la misión que yo le encomendé.”

Padres gozosamente recuerdan las primeras palabras que pronuncia su bebé. Escuchamos tantas palabras a diario en la radio y televisión. Cuántas palabras decimos a otros. Jesús utiliza parábolas para enseñar y compara Su Palabra a una semilla que se ha sembrado, con propósito, para dar fruto, no para regresar vacía.

Recordamos discursos famosos – ‘Pregunta no lo que que tu país puede hacer por ti’, ‘Ochenta y siete años ha’, ‘Tenemos Papa’. Hacen eco a través de los años.

¿Y qué hay de la palabra de Dios? La escuchamos proclamarse en la misa, pero ¿ponemos atención? Escuchamos los ruegos de los pobres, los indigentes, las víctimas de abuso. ¿Respondemos con amabilidad y compasión?

Se nos aconseja ‘pensar antes de hablar’, sin embargo el Señor ha hablado. Ahora debemos pensar.

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 13:1-23

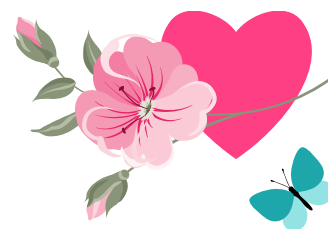
Jesus uses parables or comparison stories to preach to the people the Kingdom of Heaven.

Read the sentence then use the bold letters to fill in the blanks below.



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When the Word of God is **planted** in our hearts, we are nourished and strengthened **by** His **love**, similar to **seeds** planted in rich soil.



A _____ is a story that is told using comparisons.

Look around at all the beautiful summer flowers. We see them in gardens, hanging planters, in pots on front steps, growing wild along highways and fields. All these flowers need good rich soil to grow in. Our faith in God can grow in our hearts, as beautiful as the flowers around us! We just need to ask Jesus to come and take root, and allow His love to blossom within us and spread that love to others.

Color these flowers and add your own...



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