

The Assumption of the *Blessed Virgin Mary*

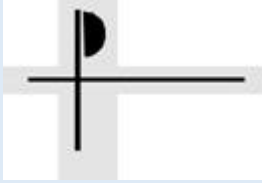
August 13, 2023



Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

**St. Michael
Netcong, New Jersey**

The Church of Saint Michael
August 13, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please remember in your prayers those who have died: Gail Tardive

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: May Lee, Special Intention, Lucy Pintos, Karlene Yapple, Joseph Conklin, Marysia Hancock, Bev Couter, Kathy Conklin, Special Intention, Carmen Pina, Paula DiElsi, Avila De La Rama, Roseann Lehmann, Louis DiBernard, Tim Paternostro

Weekly Memorial
 Altar Bread and Wine is in memory of:
 Mary Brodo

Readings for the week
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Monday

Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday

Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16: 1-2;

1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Day: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday

Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday

Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday

Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday

Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 12, 2023

8am All Deceased Members of the Assumption Society

5pm Gaetano (Tommy) Letizia

Sunday, August 13, 2023

7am Ursula Coleman, Richie DiRenzo, Eleanor Sylvester

9:30am Ronald E. Costanzo

11:30am Joseph Vaia Jr., Joana Alves Pereira

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, August 14, 2023

10am Christopher Hogan

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7am Sherry Lopez

10am Jimmy LaBell

7pm For All Deceased of St. Michael Church

8:15pm Special Intention - Spanish Mass

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

10am John Bauer

Thursday, August 17, 2023

10am Special Intention, Vincent & Paula Tardive

Friday, August 18, 2023

10am Theresa Donnarumma

Saturday, August 19, 2023

10am Jimmy LaBell, Rose Marie Reilly, Michele Lee Kranz

5pm Chet Togno, Barbara Keller

Sunday, August 20, 2023

7am Richie DiRenzo, Eleanor Sylvester

9:30am Thomas S. Pedersen

11:30am Gail Tardive

1:30pm Consuelo Fajardo

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

Sunday, July 30, 2023 \$5,901.00

WeShare not available

Deacon Rich - Homily from Aug. 6

Gospel of Matthew 17:1-9 - Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. It took place on Mount Tabor in the Holy Land. I was there! I was where Jesus was Transfigured... Along with 30 or so other St Michael parish pilgrims and millions of others throughout all of time... We stood where Jesus stood and showed His Glory to Peter, James and John. Where God the Father said "listen to Him". And where Jesus said "Rise, and do not be afraid". Jesus tells us over and over again, and we hear all through Scripture, do not be afraid... He Loves us so much and in Him we have to trust. Does Jesus tell us what not to be afraid of? Does He clarify? No. He doesn't clarify or expand on the statement, He just says, "do not be afraid"... Period.

I believe we have to be transfigured so to speak, in Jesus, in order for us to not be afraid. We have to become the person Jesus intends us to be... How you ask? With His help and grace... Jesus is always the answer. We have to listen to Him as God the Father tells us... Listen to Him. We have to listen to Him and trust Him with everything, then we will have no reason to be afraid. A way for us to know how much we trust Jesus is to know how much we are afraid of... If I am always afraid and worried about a lot of things, then I know I have to trust Jesus more... It is an easy way for us to know what we have to pray about too, what we have to listen to Jesus and His will for us about and an easy way to know what we don't have to be afraid of... In other words, if I am worried about a person who is not practicing our faith and not going to Mass. If I am afraid for them and their soul... That is exactly what I need to pray about and then, what I don't need to be afraid of... If I am worried about myself or afraid of something for my family or friend, that is what I pray about and then, what I don't need to be afraid of... It is easy. If we love and trust our Lord Jesus and His Church... Listen to Him and live our life in Christ Jesus and His Church. And His Church is amazing! It is the same Church and same Mass everywhere!

That is amazing too. The Mass is the most beautiful prayer we have on this earth. And no matter where in the world we go it is home. Jesus in the Mass is our forever home here on earth. The Mass is the place

where we go to be transfigured in Jesus... It is the same all over the world. Different languages but the same all over. In the Holy Land, in Italy, here at home and even in Korea! My family and I recently went to Korea to see our son Mark, he is teaching there for a year now and visit our kids birth country. Our 3 children are adopted from Korea.

It was fun, hot and muggy, nice to see Mark, the food was awesome, clean, beautiful... Did I mention the food? We were in Seoul, Busan, we saw museums, stood on the shore of the Pacific ocean... Coffee cafés and many little Mom and Pop shops to eat food. And it was good! Sunday morning rolls around and we look for a church and find St Matthews near Mark's place. It was raining hard, we get on a bus, and it was the wrong bus. We jump off next stop and check... Standing in the pouring rain under our ever-present umbrellas, Willie says we can make it on foot... We start walking, under a highway, along a river, through a park, up some stairs and onto the street... 8 minutes to go at 10:55AM. Mass is at 11:00AM. We pick up the pace... We get to the church at about 11:00AM and go inside... We see a teenage boy and girl and ask... They thought we wanted the English Mass at 1:00PM, we said no, the 11:00AM Korean Mass. The church was big and beautiful, filled with many people. The ushers found us seats, separated because it was full, thankfully, we could see each other. We didn't understand one word! Well, that is not entirely true... I heard "gamsahamnida" which is "thank you". They were thanking God and Jesus. I didn't understand a word and it was one of the most beautiful Masses. Here we are, literally half way around the world, 6,860 miles from Stanhope NJ, soaking wet, sitting next to and with people I didn't know and most likely will never see again here on earth... Not understanding a word but knowing exactly where we were in the Mass and knowing exactly with everyone else, who we were there for... We were all there for Jesus!! A man born 2,000 years ago, Who had something to say to us. And His Father told us to listen to Him.

The cadence, the postures, the "Alleluia", the great "Amen". It was all there, and it was beautiful. We have to be transfigured in Jesus. We have to listen to Him, pray to Him, love Him and trust Him and eventually we will all see Him as He appeared on Mt. Tabor... In all His glory.

Deacon John ~ Homily from Aug. 6

Mountaintop moments

We have all had those mountaintop moments. Whether it is the beauty of a sunrise or sunset, or a panoramic view that is just awe inspiring we get a glimpse of the glory of God. There is something about being on top of the mountain that just makes us feel closer to God. Peter, James, and John not only had the view from the mountaintop, they saw Jesus transfigured before them and saw the Glory of God incarnate. Hearing the voice of God the Father from the cloud telling them “This is my beloved son, listen to Him”. WOW! They saw, they heard, they felt the fear and awe. Yet, a short time later, when the crowd came to arrest Jesus in the garden, they ran.

This was not what they expected. So many times before Jesus just walked through the crowd. The apostles didn't understand why He would let this happen? It's the same with us. We know Jesus is God. We experience Him and we receive His body and blood regularly. Yet, when tribulation or anxiety confronts us we panic. We worry and we forget who Jesus is, what He has told us, and all He has done for us in the past. The Apostles at least had an excuse for their behavior; they hadn't experienced the resurrection yet. As far as they knew this could be the end for them. We, on the other hand, have seen the results of the resurrection and have two thousand years of proof of the divinity of Jesus, and yet we seem to constantly find something to worry about. Many people, in spite of strong faith, still cling to the desire to have total control over their lives. As they climb towards the top of the mountain, they constantly worry about how they are getting back down and miss the moment.

Sometimes our lives need to crash and burn before we come to the realization that we are not in control, and we need God to carry us out of our messed up life. The difficulty with many of us is that we are not willing to totally give our lives to God. When God asks us to take a leap of faith; we keep checking the G.P.S. to see if there is any other way out. We view the reception of the Eucharist as our minimum daily requirement of God and put Jesus on the back burner to simmer in case we might need Him. God doesn't need that kind of devotion, He wants YOU! How can you expect this life changing encounter on the mountaintop when you can't get your

eyes off your phone? We experience that mountaintop moment when we let God love us. His love is unconditional and unwavering. We, on the other hand, are not always willing to totally trust, and rather than finding God on the mountain with silence, solitude and prayer, we waste our time, efforts and energy with anxiety and worry. Remember, climbing the mountain is not supposed to be easy; it takes hard work and perseverance, just like faith. A life of faith is not always easy but it is always rewarding. If you want to experience God, you have to let Him know, with prayer. We don't grow close to someone unless we talk to them. So, open the eyes of your heart, look for that mountain, and start climbing.

In Luke's account of the Transfiguration, he mentioned that the Apostles were sleeping during most of the conversation between Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. When they became aware of what was happening they became fully awake. Most of us can relate to that as well. God is working wonders all around us and we don't even notice them. Our challenge as we go forward is to open our hearts and our eyes to look for the Glory of God that is right under our nose.

In a few moments will we experience time and eternity coming together on this altar. As ordinary bread and wine become the body and blood, soul and divinity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That is **our** mountaintop moment. So, today as we receive the Eucharist; I ask you to become fully awake from your sleep. Prepare your heart and soul and mind to receive Him, and to experience your own transfiguration.

Adoration Chapel

If you're looking for an hour of peace and silence, come spend it with Jesus. Contact: Andrea 201-874-8769 or Marie 732-885-7972

Open Hour – Tuesdays at 1pm

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items: **pasta, spaghetti, large soup cans, canned vegetables (corn, peas, potatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables), jelly, cereal, and coffee, applesauce and rice.** We are also in need of personal care products, such as **shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and toilet paper.** As always, we thank you for your generosity and support.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Registration for 2023-2024

Registration is currently closed so we can prepare for the new year. We will open it again before classes start. Consult the website or bulletin for updates. Please call the office if you have any questions.



We are in need of a catechist for our Confirmation II group (primarily 8th graders) We would like to have two catechists for this group, and they will meet about twice a month on Sunday with a wonderful group of young people. TRAINING and guidance will be provided. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Debbie Rogalo at 973-347-0032 ext. 2330.



Confirmation II candidates (Level 8 and NET):

- Mass sheets for July and Service forms for April, May, June (and July for NET) are due in the office

Classes for Levels 1-6 and Confirmation I will begin on Sunday, Sept. 24 with the 9:30 am Mass.

We will have an orientation meeting for Confirmation II and NET on Sunday, Sept. 17 after the 11:30 am Mass in the Church hall.

RCIA Classes 2023-2024

In the fall of 2023 we will begin our classes for any adult who would like to receive or complete the sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Classes meet on Thursday evenings. If you or anyone you know would like to become a Catholic or complete their sacraments, please contact Valerie Nichols via email, valerie.n@stmichaelsnetcong.org



GOLD and SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1973 or 1998? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+, 50th or 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held:

Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 3:00pm.

Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish office. **The deadline to register is Wednesday, October 11, 2023.** You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. *Congratulations on this joyous occasion!*

DECIMONOVENO DOMINGO EN TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Domingo

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Lunes

Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27

Martes

Vigilia: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16: 1-2;

1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Día: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Miércoles

Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20

Jueves

Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21—19:1

Viernes

Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12

Sábado

Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15

DECIMONOVENO DOMINGO EN TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Primera Lectura: 1 Reyes 19:9a, 11-13a

Luego de huir de la venganza del Rey de Israel, Elías se escondió en una cueva. Pero al mandarlo Dios, salió afuera y subió a una montaña. Allí el Señor vino a él, no en el viento ni en el terremoto, sino en un “sonido suave y delicado.”

Segunda Lectura: Romanos 9:1-5

Pablo está muy acongojado pues los judíos, a pesar de todo lo que se les ha otorgado, han rechazado a Cristo.

Evangelio: San Mateo 14:22-33

Mateo cuenta con detalle cuando Jesús caminó sobre el agua. Al ver esto, sus discípulos sienten terror, y Jesús los regaña por su miedo. Pedro le ruega a Cristo que le permita caminar en agua. Al principio muestra valor pero empieza a hundirse y pierde la fe, gritando: “¡Sálvame, Señor!”. Cristo lo rescata por su poca fe.

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