

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

SAINT MICHAEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4 CHURCH STREET • NETCONG, NJ 07857

TEAM POSITIVE

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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
September 24, 2023
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please remember in your prayers those who have died: Leila Rencis

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, Margie Kern, John Matits, Elsie DeFeo

Weekly Memorial
 Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of:
 Andrew Weaver

Readings for the week
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday
 Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a
Monday
 Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday
 Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday
 Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday
 Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Friday
 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday
 Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 23, 2023

10am Tom McColgan

5pm Josephine & Emelio Rea, Joseph Vendola

Sunday, September 24, 2023

7am Thomasina Grogan, Anna Mary Smith

9:30am Ronald E. Costanzo

11:30am Gail Tardive

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, September 25, 2023

10am Theresa Castaldi

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

10am Rose & Jack Kelly

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

10am Mary Margaret Mintz

Thursday, September 28, 2023

10am Eleanor Yoniak

Friday, September 29, 2023

10am Sam Rea

Saturday, September 30, 2023

10am Sherry Lopez

5pm Gail Tardive, Patricia Airo

Sunday, October 1, 2023

7am Richard Fletcher, Gail Tardive

9:30am Deceased Members of Netcong Fire Dept. and Firemen from surrounding areas.

Members of the Dates & White Families

11:30am Ronald G. Provost, Rita Charron

1:30pm Special Intention

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

Sunday, September 17, 2023	\$5,173.00
WeShare	\$2,298.00

From Fr. Mike

This message was written by another pastor to his church not in our diocese.

People have been asking me if we will be blessing pets at Saint Vincent's on the feast day of Saint Francis-Wednesday, October 4th. We will not. Let me explain why.

I do not feel it is in keeping with the mission of our parish (or our school) to host an event for which families will bend over backwards to bring their pets, even though it is a workday, while at the same time, many of those same families consistently fail to bring their children to Sunday Mass.

Your pets are beautiful creatures of God, but they are not sinners in need of Redemption, and they are not members of the Church. They have no need to hear the Word of God proclaimed, nor of receiving the spiritual nourishment of the Eucharist. Your pets will be fine without a blessing. Your children will not be.

I know it is hard to bring your children to Mass. I know that teaching them how to behave in a pew is a long process. I realize that you might feel you do not get much out of it yourself or that you might even have been hurt by someone in the Church.

In spite of that, your children need Jesus, and so do you! God has given you your children with the expectation that you will provide not only for their physical needs, but also their spiritual needs. While it might be difficult to come to Mass, I promise you that the rhythm of life of weekly Mass attendance does get better, and it does bear fruit.

Just this morning our Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 students came to daily Mass (as they always do on Thursdays), and they were very well behaved. They got a little squirmy toward the end, but they made it just fine, and they were attentive and saying the responses. I am very proud of the great job our teachers are doing with them. It takes some repetition, but children can learn how to sit still and listen. In a world where our children hardly ever get a chance for silence, I hope you can see the value in giving them some quiet moments before the Lord. The same could be said for us adults.

We teach the Catholic faith in its fullness at Saint Vincents, so that means our students are taught that failure to attend Mass on Sunday is a mortal sin. We do not teach them that they are at fault for missing Mass—we are not interested in crushing a child with guilt for something that is not his or her fault. But, just as we teach them, I want to teach you: failure to bring your children to Mass is a mortal sin that should be confessed before receiving Communion. They have an excuse: their parents do not bring them. You do not have an excuse.

To further clarify: Friday school Mass does not fulfill your obligation. (It is your obligation, not your child's.) Christians have gathered on the first day of the week since the very beginning of the Church, because Sunday is the day that Jesus rose from the dead. Regular Sunday Mass attendance is fundamental to your identity as a Christian. In this family, you are expected to be at family dinner.

You might right now be thinking of all the excuses you have for not being present on Sunday. (Some of them might actually be valid.) But, I beg you instead to start looking for reasons to come rather than reasons to stay away. Christ invites you and your family to something wonderful and powerful. If there is brokenness in your family, coming to Mass will help not hurt. Your first week back at Mass might be challenging, but stick with it. You will not regret it.

(Finally, I recognize that we have non-Catholic families in our parish. We are so happy to have you as part of the Saint Vincents family! It is good for you to be faithful to your own religious tradition, but know that you are always welcome to come to Mass with us.)

See You On Sunday!

Thank you - Nicole Bias

It is with great sadness that we announce that Nicole Bias has stepped down as the youth minister for the parish. We thank her for many years of dedication and service. Please keep her in your prayers.



Octoberfest & 1st Annual Smoke-off

Thursday, September 28th at 6:30pm

5 competitors

All you can eat!

Brisket & Ribs

\$10 per person ~ \$5 for kids under 12

RSVP – St. Michael Parish Office

Coffee Sunday ~ volunteers/donations

Join us for Coffee Sunday downstairs in Msgr. Trapasso Hall, next week after all the Sunday Masses! Donations of breakfast pastries, muffins, bagels, and other finger foods are greatly appreciated. Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with the set up on Saturday, Sept. 30, after the 10 AM Mass, cooks to help with the baking of delicious casseroles (recipes & ingredients provided), and servers for Sunday morning. If you are interested in helping us in any capacity, please contact Gezi Mintz at 973-219-1487.

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

Loyola Jesuit Center

COED Weekend Retreat

Morristown, NJ

Oct 13-15

Call for more info 973-539-0740

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Registration:

If you missed the registration period, please contact the office for assistance: 973-347-0032 ext. 2320

Class Start Dates: for *REGISTERED* children/teens

- **Levels 1-6, New Beginnings, OSPRE and Confirmation I:** 9/24 starting with 9:30 am Mass.
- **Confirmation II :** 10/1 in the school; arrive by 9:40 am
- **NET:** 10/1 in the Youth Room (basement of office, entrance door on the right of the building); arrive by 9:20 am

REMINDER: Next week, 10/1, is a **Family Session** for all children (and their parents) in Levels K-6 and New Beginnings and OSPRE

- Session is a required Faith Formation session
- Families stay in church after 9:30 am Mass for short presentation. All are invited to Coffee Sunday refreshments **AFTER** the Family Session

On Family Session days, Confirmation I candidates will meet Mrs. Bollinger (your catechist) in church after 9:30 am Mass to do service work.

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!*

COMING IN OCTOBER

Bible Study

8 week session

"Follow Me,

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John."

More to come...

For more info call Betty Pinsonault at 973-448-8847

Food Pantry

The food pantry is in need of cereal, large canned soup - all varieties, corn, peas, mixed vegetables, mac and cheese, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant, razor blades, and toothbrushes.

Thank you for your generosity!



Diocesan Ministries Appeal 2023

DIOCESE OF PATERSON

Weekend of September 23-24 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal "I Have Called You By Name"

The 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal officially kicks off this weekend. This year's theme "I Have Called You By Name" highlights the importance and value of every person in our neighborhood, county and Diocese. God calls each of us by name, and our faith assures us that we do not walk this path alone. Thank you to all who contributed to last year's Appeal, which serves those in need in Morris, Passaic and Sussex County. Your gifts have a significant impact on so many lives. Each year, the Diocesan Ministries Appeal supports over 70 Catholic Charities' programs, Catholic urban education, Nazareth Village and retired priests' needs and seminarian formation. Please consider a donation to the 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Scan the QR code below or visit www.2023appeal.org to make a gift today.

VIGESIMO QUINTO DOMINGO EN TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Domingo

Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

Lunes

Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18

Martes

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21

Miércoles

Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

Jueves

Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9

Viernes

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51

Sábado

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45



Vigésimo Quinto Domingo en Tiempo Ordinario 24 de septiembre de 2023

"¡Busquen al Señor mientras se deja encontrar, llámenlo mientras está cerca! Que el malvado abandone su camino y el hombre perverso, sus pensamientos; que vuelva al Señor, y El le tendrá compasión, nuestro Dios, que es generoso en perdonar. Porque los pensamientos de ustedes no son los míos, ni los caminos de ustedes son mis caminos –oráculo del Señor–... ¿Por qué tomas a mal que yo sea bueno?"

Dios está tan cerca de nosotros, pero muchos preferimos mantenerlo a El a distancia. Algunos tenemos miedo a Dios, quien pareciera estar esperando que cometamos un error o pecado, otros en vez, encontramos a un Dios misericordioso quien busca nuestro bienestar y felicidad. Las palabras de Isaías nos alientan a buscarlo a El, quien se inclina para alcanzarnos. Sus pensamientos son compasivos, amorosos, deseando cuidar y protegernos. Jesús nos dijo que El es el camino, la verdad y la vida. Ojalá que andemos por Su camino mientras buscamos, encontramos y tocamos.

Nuestro Dios no es un Dios lejano, El se convirtió en uno de nosotros para guiarnos al Padre.

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