



NOVEMBER 12, 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

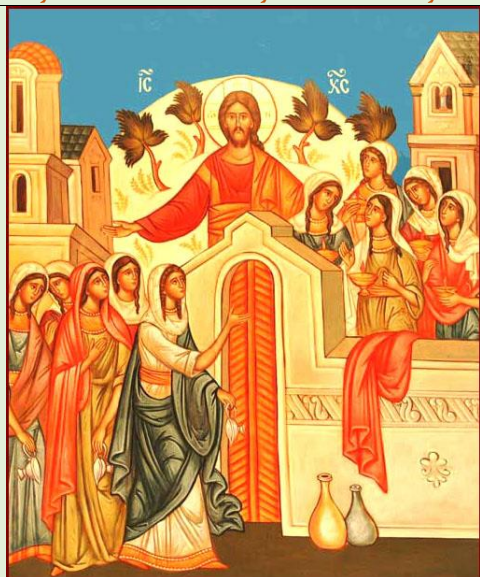
Website: www.stmichaelnetcong.org

Welcome to our Church

The Church of Saint Michael

November 12, 2023

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please remember in your prayers those who have died

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish family: May Lee, Special Intention, Lucy Pintos, Karlene Yaple, Joseph Conklin, Marysia Hancock, Bev Couter, Kathy Conklin, Special Intention, Carmen Pina, Paula DiElsi, Roseann Lehmann, Louis DiBernard, Tim Paternostro, Margie Kern, John Matits, Elsie DeFeo, Alina & Luca Chretien, The Buga Family

Readings for the Week

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship Sunday

Wisdom 6: 12-16

Psalms 63: 2-8

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Matthew 25: 1-13

Special Remembrance

The hosts and wine, which will become the Holy Body and Precious Blood of our Lord, were given in loving memory of:

Albert and Jennie Costanzo

Marian Flowers

The Marian floral arrangement for this week in the month of November was given in loving memory of

Pinsonault Family

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 11

5pm Timmie White

Sunday, November 12

7am Pauline & Carmine Milone, John Savino

9:30am Ronald E. Costanzo, Barbara Bias

11:30am Paul Grogan, Felipe Rossy Jr.

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, November 13

10am Albert & Jennie Costanzo, John Bauer

Tuesday, November 14

10am Chet Togno

Wednesday, November 15

10am Sherry Lopez

Thursday, November 16

10am Peter Dates, Andrew Dedinsky

Friday, November 17

10am Tim Trapper

Saturday, November 18

10am Terry Castaldi

5pm Vincent Dalessandro, George Calvert

Sunday, November 19

7am Richie DiRenzo

9:30am James Applegate

11:30am Diana Lapsley

1:30pm Consuelo Fajardo

Weekly Donations

Sunday, October 29

\$6992.00

WeShare

\$1988.00

We certainly know that there are many things and people pulling at you this time of the year. We ask that you bring your decision to give before the Lord and allow Him to direct you in returning to Him what you receive!

Thanksgiving Day

The office will close Wednesday, November 22 at 11:00 am.

Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, will be at 8:00 am.

Deacon Rich Homily

I had lots of experience with this teaching from the Gospel today when I was a little kid. I am not sure if my father realized it or not but he exposed me to this gospel teaching early on... I grew up with my father telling me with certain things to, "Do as I say, not as I do"... So, I learned from a very early age, before I could fully understand it, do as I say, not as I do. And probably the earliest and first time I remember he said it to me was about smoking. My dad smoked, a LOT!! And he told me all the time, "don't ever smoke cigarettes!" Even as he was actually lighting a cigarette up sometimes. Smoke billowing as he is saying, don't you ever smoke Rich... You hear me?... Also, the first time I remember saying, "wait, what?"

How hypocritical is this!! He is doing exactly what he is telling me not to do! As he is doing it! How can he say to me, don't you ever start smoking, when he smokes! So... One day I said, Dad, how can you say to me, don't smoke even as you light a cigarette?!?! And he said, because "I am your father and I say, do as I say, not as I do"... And that was that.

And I listened to him... A lot of people might say this is hypocritical, get mad and do it anyway... I was a little kid and instead of me getting even more upset and complaining how can he do that... It did something different in me. It taught me how important a father is and how he loves me. If the reason he can tell me to do as he says and not as he does is because he is my father then, being my father is pretty darn important, to me and him, and ultimately to God!

Then we come to today's Gospel and Jesus is basically telling us the same as my dad did... Do as they say, not as they do. Do as they say because they are speaking the Truth, capital "T"! They were speaking from the Chair of Moses. The teaching chair of authority in a synagogue. On our Holy Land pilgrimage, we even saw a chair of Moses that Jesus likely sat in when He was teaching in the synagogue in Chorazin. It was awe inspiring as is Jesus telling us today to do as they say and not as they do...

I am not going to say that as a little kid I made the immediate connection between what my dad said and this Gospel but, I think I connected those two things somewhere along the line. Connected that if my father says something, I should listen. My Father being my father but more importantly my father as in God the Father. When He tells me something, I should listen. God the Father who speaks and IS the Truth! He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Now our fathers on earth are not God so that is where this warning comes from... We are all broken by original sin here on earth, some more than others... (That was a joke...) We tend to widen our phylacteries and lengthen our tassels,

looking for earthly praise. Looking for power and recognition. Looking for things of this world. Being all full of pride.

Jesus says don't do it! Don't look for earthly praise or power... It is fleeting and self-serving. And why does Jesus tell us don't call anyone father?!? That is contradicting himself, isn't it? No. It is not... What is the 4th commandment? Honor your father and mother. Right? How can God say honor your father and mother, then say call no one on earth father?

The truth is Jesus and He is perfect. So there is no contradiction. There is no division. There is truth (God) and we have to bring ourselves to it, not the other way around. We don't make something up and then try to fit it in or to the truth. Truth is, and we bring ourselves to it. That said, then what is Jesus saying then when He says to call no one on earth father? He means call no one on earth God! Because He is God, the Father. You call someone father as in God on earth, you are putting them ahead of God. Don't do that... Don't put anyone ahead of Him! What about master or rabbi? Same thing, He is our Master so if you call someone here on earth master, you are calling them God putting them ahead of Him. We are not God, He is God!! Once again, Jesus is teaching us to be humble and meek, and know that He is God and He loves us!

He is our creator, and we are His created. He loves us into being. He is Who we put our faith in, He is Who we have our hope in, He is Who we should love above all!!!! He loves us! God loves you! That is why I can say here and now, Do as He does and DO as He says too. He loves you and He loves me!

Deacon John Homily

Many years ago I heard these words from a young, newly ordained Priest as he poured water on his hands. He said the proper, prescribed words first "Wash me O Lord from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." and then he quietly added "Let me live what I preach." This simple act of humility left a very powerful impression on me and all these years later I make an attempt to remind myself of that as I serve, both here at Mass and out in the world in my day to day life.

The humility required of a Christian life is one of the most difficult things to achieve. Our human nature has a self preservation "default mode" which causes us to always think about ourselves and our interests first. The concept of dying to self and serving others goes against the grain of our very being. Our fallen human nature may allow us to do good works of charity or almsgiving, but our pride and ego want credit for it. As our Liturgical year winds down we see our readings getting more intense about the expectations that Jesus has for us, and the decisions we have to make to follow him. The time

for sitting on the fence is over; we have to make a commitment.

In our Gospel today, Jesus has harsh words of condemnation towards the scribes and Pharisees, because they thought the rules did not apply to them; they were being hypocritical. They could talk the talk, but did not want to walk the walk. They worried more about their own interests, instead of shepherding their flock. This brings me back to the “let me live what I preach” attitude. In my day to day it is so difficult to do this. I am called to live the Gospel, and yet the fallen world keeps nipping at my heels as I try to follow Jesus. I am called to quietly lead by example, with humility and mercy, but my pride and arrogance can lead me to being judgmental and seeking vengeance. The scribes and Pharisees were good and devout Jews, they knew the letter of the law, they held positions of trust and authority, they should have been held to a higher standard.

In our first reading, the prophet Malachi takes the priests of the Temple to task for neglecting their obligation to fulfill their duties to teach and instruct the people. Preaching truth has never been popular or easy and to those given that obligation much is required. Our Church in recent years has also endured many scandals because some of our priests have not fulfilled their obligations to shepherd their flock or preach the truth. Some have tried to water down scripture and doctrine to make it more cultural- friendly. The reality is that truth is just that, truth! It doesn't change with the wind or a whim, whether the culture likes it or not.

Christianity has had to be counter-cultural, whether in pagan Rome two thousand years ago or in secular-humanist New Jersey now. The Catholic Church has had to preach truth whether it is popular or not. We can't invent dogma or change doctrine by popular vote or we will face the condemnation that Malachi had for the temple priests or Jesus had for the scribes and Pharisees. The reason scandal in the Church is so serious, is because the Catholic Church is held to a higher standard. You will hear people toss around examples of abuse in other realms, such as schoolteachers, scout leaders, or day care workers. It is not comparable; they are under a legal system. In the realm of our Church, one victim is too many, because we answer to God.

So our challenge today is to live what we preach. People should be able to see we are Catholic by the way we live our lives and not just on Ash Wednesday when it's visible on the outside. Jesus calls us to greatness, but not greatness as the world understands it. The greatness we are called to is in humility, in sanctity, and in holiness, and the way we achieve that is by dying to self, totally giving to others, and living what we preach.

All Souls Remembrance

Tomas Mojica, Jose & Leonor Sosa, Walter & Rene Celada, Sergio Ramirez, Baby Michael, Mr & Mrs Pintos, Mr & Mrs Nazzaro, Francisco Bonilla, Pablo Bonilla, Hector F Bonilla, Irma Suarez, Juan Del Carmen Bonilla, Filomena Agront, Pilar Bonilla, Robert F Eehalt, Tilley Family, Ausneth Constantine, Hazel Hamilton, Lantet Sinclair, Alvin White, Jennie Bartelheim, Authur English, Patricia Ford, John & Hortense Stocker, Sadie & Joseph Civiletti, Bias Family, Keenen Family, Anne T Keenan, Nicholas & Barbara Bias, George Calvert, Angellatta Family, Palamaro Family, Matthew & Frances Soccio, John & Mary Ronzo, Michael & Mary Soccio, Bernard & Helen Rogalski, Deceased Members of the Ronzo & Soccio Families, Eugene & Regina Trapp, Robert Trapp, George Trapp, Kenneth & Mercedes Klug, Members of Rogalski Family, Members of Trapp Family, Santina, Vincenzo, Antoinette, Concetta, Rocco, Mario P, Maria, Robert Calbo, Maria & Angelo Parisi, Rose & Leo Mercurio, Heider Family (Lisa, David, Michael), Nutte/Mitro, Kowalski Family, Wysowaty Family, Corrigan Family, Glen Shoudy, Maryann Boatman, Bob Smaracko, Alfred Morales, Henrri Morales, Edelberto Morales, Irma Solarte, Carmen Correa, Jorge Realpe, Fanni Realpe, Emanuel Feirrira, Josephine Vaia, Anthony Vaia, Biaggio Vaia, Mary DiGiovanni, Joseph Vaia Jr, Tony Sydrock, Frank Weinret, Walter Reisners, Natalie Harding, Michael J Drinka, Michael & Valerie Drinka, Peter & Anna Vrbousky, Angela Vrbooska, Giuseppe Pezzola, Paul Grogan, Thomisana Grogan, Antiontte Gugliemini, Lillian Peluso, Alphonse Peluso, Anthony Peluso, Ga Gerrel Peluso, Josephine Anderson, Ralph Anderson, George Sirgiouganni, Thomas & Rosemary Rinehart, Joseph & Marie Vendola, Henry & Rose Nichols, Jimmy LaBell, Donald LaBell, Donald Jr LaBell, Carmell Griffith, Connie DeFelice, Mary Weiss, Chris Hogan, Daniel Plante, John & Catherine Fiore, Jack Fiore, Dennis Fiore, Richard Glenn, Ricky Glenn, Ada Sartoris, Violet Ryan, Jeff Verdi, Ryan Vernay, Frank Guiliana, Nettie Zito, Margaret Di Pasquale, Allan Surdi, Lynne Guiliana, Elwin & Mary Burd, Cesario & Anna DiBernard, John R Bauer, Raymond Malo, Kathleen Blue, Raymond Malo Jr, Ryan Blue, Anna Blue, Baby & Rokko Malo, Benvenuto Family, Goldman Family, O'Connell, Fentur, Kaijala Families, Yishak & Abraham Family, Annamaria, Grace, Lino, Nilo, Ancille, Giuseppina, Enylla, Sergio, Rose & Joseph McLaughlin, Vera & John Bomenka, Lopresti/Piazza Families, Joseph S McLaughlin Jr, Patricia & Anthony Dolce, Minnie & Joseph Dolce, Elsie & Russell Nunamann, Burns Family, Beale Family, Robert J Belmonte, Joseph & Carol Fenton, Joseph & Joyce Benvenuto, Jimmy Johnson, Martina & Sylvester Nebrich, Sylvia, Joseph A, Joseph J, John Nebrich, Sean O'Rouch, Caroline & Edward

Ludwig, Teresa & Donald Allen, Charlotte & Carlyle Gowdy, James Ennes & Robert Wood, Zica & George Amiholzner, Josephine & Anthony Preziosi, Busniak Family, Gordon Family, Andrew & Rita DiBernard, Jeremy Van Heemst, Michael DiBernard, DiBernard Family, Edward Pruden, Pruden Family, John B Riedenn, Baby Michael, Mr & Mrs Pintos, Mr & Mrs Nazzaro, William Garrison, Thomas Jennings, Jane Jennings, Catherine Keller, Helen Jennings, Perez Babies, Robert G Klinck, Rose Ciccone, Anthony Ciccone Sr, Josephina Ciccone, Jasephie Cestaro, Joan Ciccone, Della Dornik

Faith Formation

Levels 1-6, Confirmation I, OSPRE and New Beginnings

Mass and class sessions resume this weekend!

Each class is organizing donations for the Parish



Thanksgiving food drive. Please make sure your child brings his/her donation to class:

- Levels 1-Confirmation I on 11/12
- Confirmation II and NET on 11/19

Thank you for your generosity!

Confirmation I, II and NET: you should be working on service for the quarter that includes Oct, Nov, Dec.

Help Needed!

We are in need of a classroom aide on Sundays, after the 9:30 mass until 11:30am. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mrs. Rogalo:

faith.formation@stmichaelnetcong.org

In general Aides do not plan lessons—you are there to assist the catechist especially with classroom management especially for the younger ages.

Youth Ministry

Join us for Youth Ministry Meetings (8th grade to senior high school) every Monday evening at 7:00 pm in the Youth Ministry room.

All Youth are Welcome!

Adoration Chapel

If you are looking for an hour of peace and silence, come spend it with Jesus.

We are looking for people to fill Mondays at 12pm.

Contact:

Andrea (201) 874-8769 or Marie (732) 885-7972

Food Pantry

This week, when you are shopping, please keep in mind the following items which are needed by our food pantry:

- Ramen noodles & cup-a-soup

- Spaghetti & tomato sauce
- Cereal (regular size) & rice
- Large soup cans (all varieties)
- Canned vegetables – corn, mixed vegetables, peas, and green bean
- Tuna
- Peanut butter & Jelly

Thank you for your generosity.

Midnight Run



Midnight Run

The Youth of the Parish will participating in a Midnight Run Friday, December 1, to feed and clothe the homeless of NYC.

We are in need of the following donations:

- New underwear (men's L & XL sizes)
- New socks
- New T-Shirts (men's XL & XXL)
- Toiletries (travel size)
- Gently used and clean clothes (men's L, XL, & XXL)
 - Jackets, sweaters, pants, hats

Please drop off all donations to the Parish Office.

For more information on the program please visit:

<https://midnightrun.org/our-story>

Diocesan Ministries Appeal 2023

When you give to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, you should be confident knowing that it supports four causes: 1) our Catholic Charities' programs, including helping fund the renovation of the Father English Food Pantry in Paterson, 2) seminarian education, 3) Catholic urban education and 4) Nazareth Village and retired priests' needs. The Diocesan Ministries Appeal also supports parishes, as 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal is returned to them directly for their own needs. Funds raised in the Diocesan Ministries Appeal stay in the Paterson Diocese and are used only for the purposes described above.

Please make a donation to the 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal today. Visit www.2023appeal.org to make a gift today.

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