

# SECOND SUNDAY *of Advent*



**St. Michael  
Netcong, New Jersey**

The Church of Saint Michael  
December 10, 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent



*O King of all nations, Jesus Christ, only joy  
of every heart, come and save Your people.  
Amen.*

Please remember in your prayers those who have died  
**Dominick Arbolino Jr.**

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, Roseann Lehmann,  
Louis DiBernard, Tim Paternostro, Margie Kern,  
John Matits, Elsie DeFeo, Alina & Luca Chretien,  
The Buga Family

Readings for the Week

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

2 Peter 3: 8-14

Mark 1: 1-8

Special Remembrance

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

memory of: *Pete & Carol Dinkowitz*

The Sanctuary Lamp, which burns near the Tabernacle  
as a reminder of our Lord's presence in the Holy  
Eucharist, burns this week in loving memory of:

*Joe DeVito*

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, December 9

5pm Rea Family, Pat Buckley

Sunday, December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

7am Joe DeVito, Louis & Alice Esposito

9:30am Ronald E. Costanzo, Carol Bergmaier

11:30am Marie B. Heaney, Josephine Vaia

1:30pm Special Intention

Monday, December 11

10am Helen Newstead

Tuesday, December 12

10am John Bauer

Wednesday, December 13

10am Josephine Vaia

Thursday, December 14

10 am Ronald E. Costanzo

Friday, December 15

10am Sherry Lopez

Saturday, December 16

10am Dolores Murtha, Daniel Gene Benson

5pm Chet Togno, Robert G. Klinck, George Calvert

Sunday, December 17 – Third Sunday of Advent

7am Thomisina Grogan

9:30am Nicholas Bias, Pete & Carol Dinkowitz

11:30am Doris & Jerry Hartman

1:30pm Special Intention

Weekly Donations

Sunday, November 26

\$7650.00

WeShare

unavailable

*As we approach the Sacred Season of Christmas, we ask  
that you prayerfully consider what special financial gift you  
will give to your church this year.*

*With your ongoing generosity, we are able to continue the  
many ministries that we have here at Saint Michael Church  
in your name and in the name of Christ!*

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## Present for Your Church

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This Christmas offers another opportunity to those who are “making their lists and checking them twice. **“Have you ever thought about buying a present for your church?”** There are so many things that we use each and every day, like hosts, wine, candles, altar linens and clothes, etc. I would offer anyone who would like to buy a gift for their church (above and beyond their Christmas Offering and Flower Offering). You can select a particular gift you would like to purchase or just make a general donation for liturgical expenses.

I know that there are so many areas that people are exceptionally generous to; the Christmas Giving Tree, the Food Pantry, and to the weekly collection. But when we are shopping for Christmas parties, relatives and friends, let us not forget our own local church here in Netcong. As the old saying goes **“Charity begins at home.”**

Therefore, I have compiled a few gifts you might consider donating to your church for Christmas this year. As always, I am grateful for your continued generosity in supporting all our continuing ministries and outreach programs. May the Lord continue to bless you with His grace and peace for your goodness and kindness.

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Esta Navidad ofrece otra oportunidad para aquellos que están “haciendo sus listas y revisándolas dos veces”.

**¿Alguna vez has pensado en comprar un regalo para tu iglesia?** Hay tantas cosas que usamos todos los días, como hostias, vino, velas, manteles y ropa del altar, etc. Ofrezco a cualquiera que desee comprar un regalo para su iglesia (además de su Ofrenda de Navidad y Ofrenda de Flores). Puedes elegir un regalo en particular que te gustaría comprar o simplemente hacer una donación general para gastos litúrgicos.

Sé que hay muchas áreas a las que las personas son excepcionalmente generosas; el Árbol de Regalos de Navidad, la despensa de alimentos y la colecta semanal. Pero cuando estamos comprando para fiestas navideñas, familiares y amigos, no olvidemos nuestra propia iglesia local aquí en Netcong. Como dice el viejo dicho, **“La caridad empieza por casa”.**

Por lo tanto, he compilado algunos regalos que podrías considerar donar a tu iglesia en esta Navidad. Como siempre, estoy agradecido por tu continua generosidad en apoyar todos nuestros ministerios continuos y programas de alcance. Que el Señor continúe bendiciéndote con Su gracia y paz por tu bondad y amabilidad.

## I would like to donate the following:

- ☐ Case of altar wine (\$65)
- ☐ Box of altar candles (\$65/box of 2)
- ☐ Box of 1 ½ “ Altar Candles (\$125/box of 6)
- ☐ Box of ¾ “ Altar Candles (\$60/box of 12)
- ☐ Case of Sactuary Candles (\$100/cse of 9)
- ☐ Case of Candles for Chapel (\$61/case of 12)
- ☐ Linen Purificators (\$50 for 3)
- ☐ Linen Corporals (\$50 each)
- ☐ Wreathes for Church (\$50 each)
- ☐ Advent Wreath (\$150)
- ☐ Box of hosts (500 count \$20)
- ☐ Altar clothes (\$250)
- ☐ Incense (\$40)
- ☐ Charcoal for incense (\$30)
- ☐ Easter Vigil Candles (\$26 for 100)
- ☐ Paschal Candle (\$350)
- ☐ Palm for Palm Sunday (\$30/100)
- ☐ Advent Candles (\$10/each)
- ☐ Worship Aids (\$2/each)
- ☐ Church cleaning products (\$35)
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your continued generosity and for making our parish Church the neat, organized, restored, welcoming and prayerful place it has become and will continue to be for many years to come.

*(Please put your donation in a blank envelope which you can mark as “My Gift!” and place in the weekly basket!)*



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## Silence of the Church

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*A few thoughts to share with you from our Holy Father, Pope Francis:*

“When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chit-chat with those in front of us.” However, “it is not a moment for chit-chat.”

“It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus,” adding that “silence is so important.”

Continuing his new catechesis on the Eucharist, the Pope recalled his message the week prior, that the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the

Lord. In this encounter, silence is what “prepares us and accompanies us.”

But to really understand this, first we have to answer a question. And that is: **What is prayer?**

Prayer is, “first and foremost dialogue, personal relationship with God.” And in prayer, just like in any dialogue, it needs moments of silence “together with Jesus.” This, is because it is only in the “mysterious silence of God” that His Word can resound in our heart.

His Holiness explained that to pray is not difficult, and is something that Jesus Himself taught us to do first of all by example, when in the Gospels He withdraws to a secluded place to pray. And second, He teaches us again when He tells His Disciples that the first word in knowing how to pray is “Father.”

This is “so simple.” “So we have to learn, ‘Father.’” Then, we must take on the attitude of a small child before his or her parents. One full of trust and confidence, knowing that God “remembers you and takes care of you.”

The second attitude we should take is one of childlike surprise and wonder. The child, “always asks a thousand questions because they want to discover the world; in our relationship with the Lord, in prayer, wonder,” telling pilgrims to “open the heart to wonder.”

When it comes to prayer, he noted that often we are busy with many different activities or projects and say we do not have time. “We lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord.”

However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, adding that just as Christ called His Disciples, He also calls us to Him at each Mass.

**This Advent sit in silence for a bit and see if you can hear Him!**

*Unas reflexiones para compartirles de nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco:*

“Cuando vamos a Misa, tal vez llegamos cinco minutos antes y empezamos a charlar con aquellos que están frente a nosotros.” Sin embargo, “no es un momento para charlar”.

“Es un momento de silencio para prepararnos para el diálogo, un tiempo para que el corazón se recoja para prepararse para el encuentro con Jesús”, añadiendo que “el silencio es tan importante”.

Continuando con su nueva catequesis sobre la Eucaristía, el Papa recordó su mensaje de la semana anterior, que la Misa no es un espectáculo, sino un lugar donde encontramos al Señor. En este encuentro, el silencio es lo que “nos prepara y nos acompaña”.

Pero para entender realmente esto, primero tenemos que responder a una pregunta. Y esa es: **¿Qué es la oración?**

La oración es, “ante todo, diálogo, relación personal con Dios”. Y en la oración, al igual que en cualquier diálogo, necesita momentos de silencio “junto con Jesús”.

Esto se debe a que solo en el “misterioso silencio de Dios” su Palabra puede resonar en nuestro corazón.

Su Santidad explicó que orar no es difícil y es algo que Jesús mismo nos enseñó a hacer primero por ejemplo, cuando en los Evangelios se retira a un lugar apartado para orar. Y segundo, nos enseña de nuevo cuando le dice a sus discípulos que la primera palabra para saber cómo orar es “Padre”.

Esto es “tan simple”. “Así que tenemos que aprender, ‘Padre’”. Luego, debemos adoptar la actitud de un niño pequeño ante sus padres. Llena de confianza y seguridad, sabiendo que Dios “te recuerda y cuida de ti”.

La segunda actitud que debemos adoptar es la de sorpresa y asombro infantiles. El niño “siempre hace mil preguntas porque quiere descubrir el mundo; en nuestra relación con el Señor, en la oración, asombro”, diciendo a los peregrinos que “abran el corazón al asombro”.

En cuanto a la oración, señaló que a menudo estamos ocupados con muchas actividades o proyectos diferentes y decimos que no tenemos tiempo. “Perdemos de vista lo fundamental: nuestra vida del corazón, nuestra vida espiritual, nuestra vida de oración con el Señor”.

Sin embargo, Jesús nos sorprende en verdad amándonos y llamándonos incluso en nuestras debilidades, agregando que así como Cristo llamó a sus discípulos, también nos llama a Él en cada Misa.

**¡En este Adviento, siéntense en silencio por un momento y vean si pueden escucharlo!**

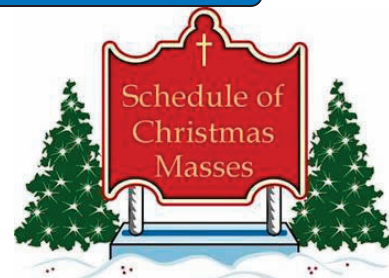
### Adoration Chapel

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

Contact:

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

### Christmas Mass



#### Confessions

Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 4:00pm - 4:30pm

**Christmas Eve Masses (Sunday Dec. 24)**  
4:30pm, 10:00pm (English) 8:00pm (Spanish)

**Christmas Day Masses (Monday Dec. 25)**  
7:00am, 9:30am, 12:00pm (bi-lingual)



## Faith Formation

### Calendar Reminders—

#### Class schedule for this month:

Level 1-6, OSPRE and New Beginnings:

- 12/10 and 12/17: Mass followed by class

#### Confirmation I:

- 12/10 and 12/17: Mass followed by class

#### Confirmation II and NET:

- 12/17: Class and Mass

After Christmas classes resume January. There is NO Family Session in January!

#### REMINDER Confirmation I, II and NET candidates:

Service forms for Oct, Nov and Dec (either 3 separate sheets or combined onto 1 sheet) are due Dec. 31 in the Faith Formation office.

**SPONSOR information** for NET candidates who will be confirmed in 2024 and for Confirmation II candidates is due in the office January 30 – NO exceptions!

#### 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](mailto:faith.formation@stmichaelnetcong.org)

In general Aides do not plan lessons—you are there to assist the catechist primarily with classroom management.

## Youth Ministry

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

**All Youth are Welcome!**

## Food Pantry

We thank everyone for their generosity over the holidays. Of course, after the holidays, our shelves are usually empty, so we please ask you to keep the following foods we are in need of when you are doing your own food shopping:

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

Thank you for your generosity.

## Diocesan Ministries Appeal

As the end of 2023 approaches, we invite you to consider making a year-end charitable contribution to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, which serves tens of thousands of people in need. God calls each of us by name to be a light in our communities where giving to the Appeal is a blessing to both the contributor and the recipient. Please make our Diocesan Ministries Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, through gifts of securities, or credit card or online. May God bless you for your support!

## St. Paul Abbey



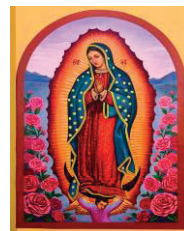
St. Paul Abbey, on 289 Rt. 206, Newton, N.J., one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose 'n' cut 7 days a week from Nov. 24 to Dec. 21, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.

## Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus will be selling **Keep Christ in Christmas** magnets after all masses weekend of **Dec. 9-10**.

## Our Lady of Guadalupe



Join the Parish family in the celebration of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** Dec. 10 at the **1:30 pm Mass**.

Celebration to follow in **Msgr. Trapasso Hall**.

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