

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

80 FARNUM PIKE, GEORGIAVILLE, RHODE ISLAND



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 PM - Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM - Mon-Wed: 7:00 AM
Holy Days: As announced in bulletin

PASTOR: Rev. Richard A. Valentine

PASTORAL ASSISTANT:

William A. Bowden, ext. 4

PARISH SECRETARY:

Joanne Pesce ext. 0

RELIGIOUS FORMATION DIRECTOR:

Wendy A. Carrier, ext. 3

PARISH OFFICE:..... 231-5119

RELIGIOUS FORMATION:.....231-1340

OFFICE FAXNUMBER:..... 231-0523

HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

WEB SITE: www.stmichaelsmithfield.org

EMAIL: stmikesgeo@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents should contact the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4, at least four months before the birth of their baby to discuss baptismal plans.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: by appointment with the priest.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Couples should contact the parish priest at least one year in advance. Be sure you have a confirmed date at the church before making any other arrangements.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring communion to the homebound. Please call the Pastoral Assistant, ext. 4.

PARISH PRAYER LINE: If anyone wishes to request a special intention, please call Avis at 233-0225. All requests will remain confidential.



On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, "What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?" The Saint responded, "I'd keep hoeing this row of beans." Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus' glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize **"with the Holy Spirit and fire"** (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus' coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It's so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don't know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That's what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.

Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: "Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming." Then make the appropriate changes.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 14, 2024

5:00 PM John Ruzzano
11th Anniversary, by Family

Sunday, December 15, 2024

8:00 AM Deceased Parishioners of St. Michael's

10:30 AM Mary Jane Fry
Remembrance, by Mary & Frank Murphy

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

7:00 AM William Bassi
3rd anniversary, by Janet Bailey

Saturday, December 21, 2024

5:00 PM Muriel Keegan & Harold Crook
Remembrance, by Family

Dear Lord,

Give us boldness as we move
through the motions of the holiday season,
to reflect and remind those around us
of Your deep and abiding love for them.
Allow them to encounter Your love, through us.



WEEKLY IN OUR PARISH

Weekday Mass: Monday–Wednesday 7:00 AM

Communal Recitation of the Rosary:

Mondays at 6:30 PM



Readings  Week



Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

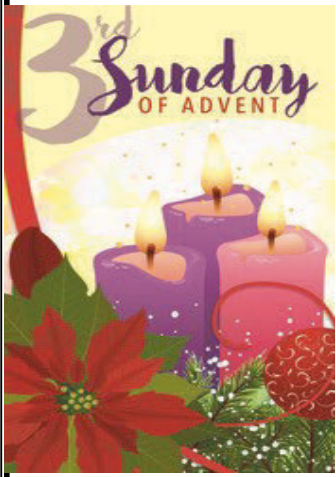
Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Religious Formation

401-231-1340, Ext 3
EMAIL: faithformation80@gmail.com



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

GRADES 1 & 2 CLASS

9:15AM-10:15AM

GRADES 9 & 10 CLASS

6:00PM-7:45PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024

GRADES 3-8 CLASS

6:30 PM-7:45PM



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Mass at 5:00 PM

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Mass at 10:30 AM



Keep the Heat On: Help or Be Helped

If you would like to help local families this winter, please send tax-deductible donations to: Keep the Heat On, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903 or visit www.heatRI.com to make a secure credit card donation.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of assistance, please visit the web site, www.heatRI.com, or call 401-421-7833, ext. 207 for additional information.

Prayer for the third week of Advent

Prayer with St. John the Baptist

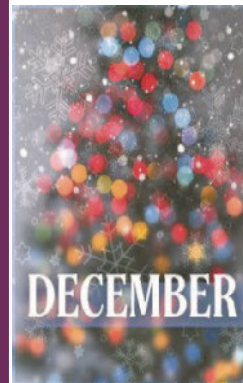
Through the intercession of St. John the Baptist, help us to remember the least fortunate, and how caring for them shares in the caring of the beloved Christ-child.

Bring Your generosity into our community.

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THANK YOU FOR EMBRACING THIS NEW WAY OF DONATING. WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE MANY FAMILIES WITH GIFT CARDS THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES THIS ADVENT SEASON..



ST. MICHAEL'S FOOD CLOSET

The Food Closet is open
December 21
10 AM to Noon

Donations to the Food Closet can be made on weekends during mass time or if you have a large amount, please bring your donations to the rectory, 9am - 4pm.

To continue helping our friends and neighbors, the following items **are** needed: **mayonnaise, juice, coffee (regular and decaf), corned beef, Sloppy Joes, Sugar, Beef Stew, Pickles, Olives, Tea (Regular and Decaf), canned fruit, toothpaste, corned beef hash, frostings, paper towels, shampoo & deodorants, napkins, Chowders, tissues, toilet paper, jelly & hot chocolate!** Thank you!

(ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT ARE MOST NEEDED.)

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of ever-green boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. This is Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.




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THEY WILL PRAY
FOR YOU MANY
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FROM HEAVEN**


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