

St. Michael Parish

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm
Sunday :
English : 8:00am
 10:30am (Upper Church)
 Portuguese 9:15am (Lower Church)
 Brazilian: 11:00am(Lower church)

Weekday Mass Schedule

9:00 am

Monday
 Wednesday
 Friday

Administrator: **Rev. Laurence “Ren” Tocci**
 x301 ~ frren@stmikes.org

Weekend Assistant: **Rev. Adriano Lessa**

Deacon: **Deacon Jared Auclair**
 603-682-8722 deacon_jared@stmikes.org

Business Manager: **Vina Sousa x304**
 business@stmikes.org

Administrative Assistant: **Mécia Moore x300**
 office@stmikes.org

Music Director: **Donna McIntyre**
 donna@stmikes.org

Pastoral Assistant: **Lori Morton x310**
 ministry@stmikes.org

Baptisms & Weddings: **Joyce Rossignol x309**
 joyce@stmikes.org

Ministry Coordinator: **Pat Conte x306**
 pconte@stmikes.org

Custodians: **Antonio Gonçalves**
Francisco Pinheiro

Welcome New Parishioners

We welcome you to the St. Michael community. Please introduce yourself to Father, call or visit the Parish Center or visit us online at www.stmikes.org to fill out a registration form. As a parish committed to the vision of stewardship, we encourage your involvement by sharing with us your God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure. For detailed information about our ministries, parish activities and contact persons, refer to our parish website.

Baptisms

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2:00pm. Baptism catechesis for the parent (s) and godparent(s) is held on the 1st Sunday of the month at 1:00pm and 2:30pm.

Register online at www.stmikes.org or call the Parish Center and ask for Joyce Rossignol X309

Marriage

Arrangements **MUST** be made at least 6 months prior to the intended date of the wedding. Please call the Parish Center to schedule your date and make an appointment to speak with Joyce Rossignol our wedding coordinator.

Ministry of the Sick

Please notify us if there is a sick or aged family member or friend who would like to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and/or Holy Communion at home.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturdays from 2:30 to 3:30 PM in the lower church, and or by appointment.

RCIA

If you have not been baptized or were baptized but have not received First Eucharist, Reconciliation or Confirmation, please contact Sheila Mahoney at 978-562-3148, call or email the Parish Center.

St. Michael's Cemetery

Cemetery lots are available. For information contact Vina Sousa at the Parish Office.

21 Manning Street, Hudson, MA 01749
 Phone: 978-562-2552 Fax: 978-568-1761
www.stmikes.org & office@stmikes.org

****PARISH CENTER HOURS****

Monday through Friday —9:00am-3:00pm



Saturday **February 4, 2023**
4:00pm Joe Braga & Jose Braga & Dec
Dec. Relatives

Sunday **February 5, 2023**
8:00am St. Michael's Parishioners
10:30am Teresa & Charles Bousquet
9:15am (Lower Church) Portuguese Mass
11:00am (Lower Church) Brazilian Mass

Monday **February 6, 2023**
9:00am Kenneth Sullivan

Wednesday **February 8, 2023**
9:00am Ana Guarino
Lillian Pavlovich

Friday **February 10, 2023**
9:00am Marie Esteves

Saturday **February 11, 2023**
4:00pm Marc Leandres

Sunday **February 12, 2023**
8:00am St. Michael's Parishioners
10:30am Tina Chaves Frias
9:15am (Lower Church) Portuguese Mass
11:00am(Lower Church) Brazilian Mass

If you have requested a Mass intention and would like to have a family member present the gifts, please see an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion before the start of the Mass.

Bread and Wine
Manuel & Guilhermina Ponte
Lights and Candles in Loving Memory of
Antonio C. Sousa & Dec. Relatives

From the Business Office

Weekly Income:	\$12,000.00
To Meet Expense	
In Church Giving	\$6,092.00
On Line Giving	\$1,471.00
Other	\$400.00
Parish Maintenance & Dev.	\$212.00
Over Budget (shortfall)	(3,825.00)
Grand Annual	\$56,927.00

Our next collection will be
February 4th & 5th for
Parish & Maintenance Development

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday morning after Mass until
noon



Suicide Prevention

Unfortunately suicide is a very real issue in our society today. If you or someone you know is looking for information or help please go to:

www.nami.org/Learn-More/Mental-Health-Conditions/Related-Conditions/Risk-of-Suicide.

Where you can find resources and help.

Inclement Weather Notice

If there is a delay or cancellation at the Hudson Public Schools due to inclement weather, the daily Mass is cancelled and The Parish Center will be delayed or closed .

Ash Wednesday falls on February 22nd this year and we are hoping to collect and use last year's palms to make the ashes . Please bring your palms and the items you have created with them to church anytime on or before February 12 and place them in the baskets in the back of the church.

Thank you!!



“The Unfolding of Your Words Gives Light”: A Deep Dive into the Ten Commandments (Part XXXV) . . .

Like most kids of my generation, I grew up reading Marvel comic books. Characters like Peter Parker/Spiderman, Bruce Banner/the Incredible Hulk, Steve Rogers/Captain America, and later on Lucas Cage/Power Man dominated the imagination of Baby Boomers and Gen Xers. Products of the nuclear age, these characters all had their super-hero origins in scientific experiments—a fact that, no doubt, lent to making genetic research and medical enhancement an attractive endeavor in our minds.

But looking back on these origin stories from the perspective of an adult (an adult who happens to be a history buff) the romanticizing of scientific experimentation on human beings is more than a little troubling. It’s particularly disturbing in the case of Steve Rogers, who was an army private when recruited for the experiment that turned him into Captain America; and especially Lucas Cage, who was in prison when they performed the experiment that gave him super powers. As exciting as the comic books make it seem, there is something chilling about tinkering around with human beings, all the more so when the subjects belong to a compromised population like prison inmates, the elderly, the mentally limited, or children. To those familiar with history, it calls to mind the experiments performed on Black sharecroppers in the 1932 Tuskegee experiments, as well as the horrific surgeries that Nazi doctor Josef Mengele performed on Jewish prisoners at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

The Church emphatically resists any claim that scientific research is morally neutral: that the pursuit or expansion of scientific knowledge justifies the disregard to moral questions. Rationalizations stemming from the glorification of progress, or from appeals to a improved quality-of-life for some at the expense of others, are unacceptable excuses. Science and technology must adhere to strict moral standards, and must be placed at the service of the human person and his inalienable rights. Anything that takes human ingenuity beyond the pale of God’s design, and the divinely granted dignity with which He blessed the human race, fractures the Fifth Commandment. Even if the subject willingly volunteers for the research, the basic regard due each person must be paid at all costs—even at the expense of the integrity of the experiment.

With the rise of technologies that promise to reproduce biological DNA, it’s all the more necessary that science proceed with caution and proper humility, to recognize God’s sovereignty over creation and all His creatures. There are moral and metaphysical borders of human limitations; and just because technological advances have made it possible to do something doesn’t make it permissible to do so. I’m reminded of a few years ago, when there was some buzz about using the DNA of a recently discovered dinosaur fossil to try and replicate the beast—why? just cuz (I mean, GEESH!—haven’t these people ever seen Godzilla?!). More recently, gender reassignment surgery has made it possible to reconstruct the basic anatomy of a person, and that ability has eclipsed the moral and psychological question of gender dysphoria. Similarly, the advent of in vitro fertilization has created a climate in which children come to be seen as a commodity to had on demand. In the process, more embryos are created than what will be implanted in the mother’s womb; and these “excess” embryos are then frozen and kept in hibernation indefinitely, until the parents choose to dispose of them or they simply degrade over time for lack of gestation.

All of these advances, which pull the stuff of science fiction into the realm of science fact, threaten to champion genius over morality, technology over personalism, progress over beauty and dignity. They shake the fist in the face of God and His design of the world, and they cheapen the value of the human person, who is always more than just a biological specimen. To remain in its proper sphere, science must proceed with caution, decency, and humility. As G.K. Chesterton quipped over a century ago, “We are learning to do a great many clever things. The next great task will be to learn not to do them.”

Father Ren

“A Revelação de Tuas Palavras Traz Luz”: Um Mergulho Profundo nos Dez Mandamentos (Parte XXXV) . . .

Como a maioria das crianças da minha geração, cresci lendo histórias em quadrinhos da Marvel. Personagens como Peter Parker/Homem-Aranha, Bruce Banner/o Incrível Hulk, Steve Rogers/Capitão América e, mais tarde, Lucas Cage/Poderoso dominaram a imaginação dos Baby Boomers e da Geração X. Produtos da era nuclear, todos esses personagens tiveram suas origens de super-heróis em experimentos científicos - um fato que, sem dúvida, tornou a pesquisa genética e o aprimoramento médico um empreendimento atraente em nossas mentes.

Mas, olhando para essas histórias de origem da perspectiva de um adulto (um adulto que por acaso é um aficionado por história), a romantização da experimentação científica em seres humanos é mais do que um pouco preocupante. É particularmente perturbador no caso de Steve Rogers, que era soldado raso do exército quando foi recrutado para o experimento que o transformou no Capitão América; e principalmente Lucas Cage, que estava na prisão quando realizaram o experimento que lhe deu superpoderes. Por mais emocionante que os quadrinhos pareçam, há algo de assustador em mexer com seres humanos, ainda mais quando os sujeitos pertencem a uma população comprometida como presidiários, idosos, deficientes mentais ou crianças. Para aqueles familiarizados com a história, isso lembra os experimentos realizados em meeiros negros nos experimentos de Tuskegee em 1932, bem como as horríveis cirurgias que o médico nazista Josef Mengele realizou em prisioneiros judeus no campo de concentração de Auschwitz.

A Igreja resiste enfaticamente a qualquer alegação de que a pesquisa científica é moralmente neutra: que a busca ou expansão do conhecimento científico justifica o desrespeito às questões morais. Racionalizações derivadas da glorificação do progresso, ou de apelos a uma melhor qualidade de vida para alguns em detrimento de outros, são desculpas inaceitáveis. A ciência e a tecnologia devem obedecer a rígidos padrões morais e devem ser colocadas a serviço da pessoa humana e de seus direitos inalienáveis. Qualquer coisa que leve a engenhosidade humana além do designio de Deus e a dignidade divinamente concedida com a qual Ele abençoou a raça humana, quebra o Quinto Mandamento. Mesmo que o sujeito se voluntarie voluntariamente para a pesquisa, a consideração básica devida a cada pessoa deve ser paga a todo custo - mesmo à custa da integridade do experimento.

Com o surgimento de tecnologias que prometem reproduzir o DNA biológico, é ainda mais necessário que a ciência proceda com cautela e a devida humildade, para reconhecer a soberania de Deus sobre a criação e todas as Suas criaturas. Existem fronteiras morais e metafísicas das limitações humanas; e só porque os avanços tecnológicos tornaram possível fazer algo, isso não significa que seja permitido fazê-lo. Lembro-me de alguns anos atrás, quando houve rumores sobre o uso do DNA de um fóssil de dinossauro descoberto recentemente para tentar replicar a besta - por quê? só porque (quero dizer, GEESH! - essas pessoas nunca viram Godzilla ?!). Mais recentemente, a cirurgia de mudança de sexo tornou possível reconstruir a anatomia básica de uma pessoa, e essa habilidade eclipsou a questão moral e psicológica da disforia de gênero. Da mesma forma, o advento da fertilização in vitro criou um clima em que as crianças passam a ser vistas como uma mercadoria a ser adquirida sob demanda. No processo, mais embriões são criados do que serão implantados no útero da mãe; e esses embriões “excedentes” são então congelados e mantidos em hibernação indefinidamente, até que os pais decidam descartá-los ou simplesmente se degradem com o tempo por falta de gestação.

Todos esses avanços, que puxam o material da ficção científica para o reino dos fatos científicos, ameaçam defender o gênio sobre a moralidade, a tecnologia sobre o personalismo, o progresso sobre a beleza e a dignidade. Eles levantam o punho contra Deus e seu designio do mundo, e barateiam o valor da pessoa humana, que é sempre mais do que apenas um espécime biológico. Para permanecer em sua esfera adequada, a ciência deve proceder com cautela, decência e humildade. Como G.K. Chesterton brincou há mais de um século: “Estamos aprendendo a fazer muitas coisas inteligentes. A próxima grande tarefa será aprender a não fazê-los.”

Padre Ren



Lent...So What!!

When we were children, Lent meant no candy **FOREVER** or at least it seemed like it! Lent is a 40 day season to give some thought to our faith, to God who sent his Son to redeem us of our sins, to **repent** of those sins, to **pray** more often in thanksgiving for the blessings we have received, to **fast** from the things that distract us from prayer and repentance, **fast** from our cell phones, **fast** from anything that keeps us from remembering that faith and family is of higher importance than anything else in our lives; a time for **fasting** from our own importance and remembering the importance of others in our community and in the world. Take a **RICE BOWL** Fill it with the money you save when you **fast** from that cup of coffee or glass of wine once or twice a week for those 40 days. Use your” **Little Black Book**” to add **6 minutes** a day for prayer and meditation on the topic of the day. **Attend Mass!** If you do not usually attend, be there, try for at LEAST 4 of the 6 weeks, perhaps let it become a HABIT worth doing, bringing you and your family into the family of St. Michaels. Don’t like something about the parish? Offer that up as reparation for your sins by attending anyway. Think on why your feelings are running you instead of your faith in your Lord who loves you in spite of your feelings! Immerse yourself in the spirit and meaning of Lent this year! Let **this** be the year of rebirth of your faith in all things good!

Eucharistic Adoration



**Every 4th Friday of the month.
Friday February 24th 6-8**



Today’s readings invite us all to active discipleship – to minister to the poor, the hungry, the homeless in our community. Our Christian faith moves us to improve our community and the lives of others. Check out one – or more! – of our ministry opportunities and explore which might be a good fit for you!

- Altar Servers/Adult and Youth
- Baptism Robe Making
- Eucharistic Ministry/Church
- Eucharistic Ministry/Outreach
- Knights of Columbus
- Lectors
- Liturgical Environment Committee
- Music Ministry
- Our Father’s Table
- Parish BBQ Picnic
- Prayer Shawl
- Pro-Life Ministry
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
- Senior Assistance
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Sunday Coffee & Conversation Hour
- Ushers

For more information, go to the ministry tab of our website www.stmikes.org or reach out to Lori at the Parish Center 978-562-2552 x-310 or ministry@stmikes.org. If you have other unique talents and are interested in serving the Parish community in a different way, please reach out to Lori. **Thank you!**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Michael Parish is here to assist people in the Hudson community. When an individual or family is experiencing a need for financial or informational assistance, please feel free to contact us directly at

978-618-5175.

We are here to help!



Come as you are...

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

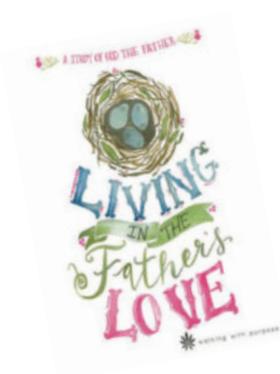


Lenten Study for Women

An Introductory level Catholic Study about God the Father

In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you're valued just for who you are? *Living in the Father's Love* will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all.

This brief but powerful six-lesson Bible Study is the ideal resource to revive and refresh yourself during Lent. Discover just how much God loves us and how the Gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and those we love.



St. Michael Parish

Tuesday, February 28 to Tuesday, April 4, 2023

In-Person 6:00pm to 7:45pm

To order the study book (\$20):

<https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible-study/>

To register contact: Joyce & Abby

stmikeswpp@gmail.com or 978-562-2552

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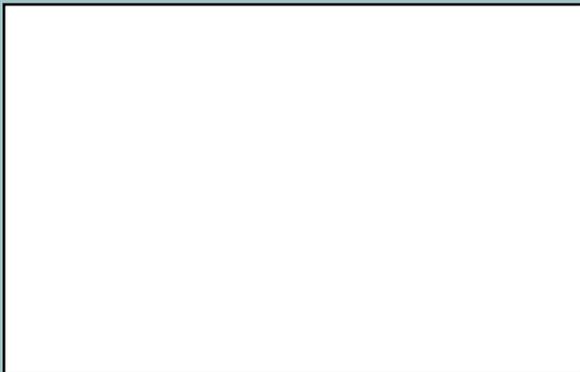


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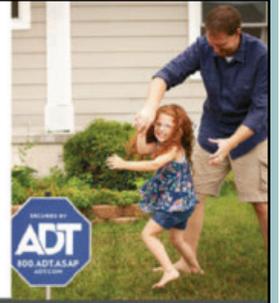
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