



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

1212 KELLY ST, UNION, NEW JERSEY 07083

Mission

A diverse spiritual community in action, dedicated to drawing people to Christ and making church and worship matter. We do this through our liturgical worship and living out our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Monday—Friday
8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Saturday

Mass: 8:30 am
Confession: 1:00 pm—2:00 pm
Saturday Vigil Mass—5:30 pm

Sunday

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12:00 Noon

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu
Pastor

Rev. Camilo Lopez
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Alfano
Permanent Deacon

Margaret Kazan
Principal

Mary Jo Arnaldo-Sipe
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Stephanie Marulanda
Lois Scanio
Religious Education

Cristina Manochio
Joseph Santillo
Youth Ministry

Fran Engleman
Music Director

Tiago Rodrigues
Property Manager

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Charles McDermott

PARISH OFFICE

Tel.: 908-688-1232

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stmichaelunion@comcast.net
www.stmichaelunion.org

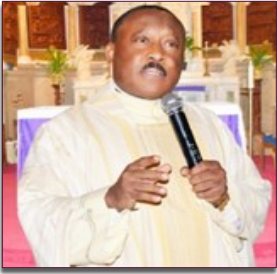
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 [stmichaelunion](https://twitter.com/stmichaelunion)

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Growing in Christ as a Family



This first Sunday of the year is the celebration of the Holy Family, and both the first reading (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) and the second reading (Colossians 3:12-21) paint a picture of how families need to function. In Colossians 3:18-21, St. Paul writes, “Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord” It is important to note that submission, in this context, is a voluntary choice that the wife makes for the greater good of the family, and not an act of debasement. This is a faith issue, recognizing the husband as the God-appointed leader of the household and it is done “as it fitting in the Lord”. Which means, a woman whose husband is cruel, abusive, and violent is not condemned this role.

The readings, then shift to husbands and says, “Husbands love your wives and do not be harsh with them”. The word used for love here refers to selfless love, sacrificial love, and satisfying love; an unceasing care and loving service for the woman’s entire well-being. It is like the love that Christ has for the church (sacrificial) and like the love men have for themselves (generous). Paul's admonishment here requires a man to keep in mind who his wife is—a gift from God (Proverbs 18:22), a partner for life (Genesis 2:24), and a mother for his children (Genesis 4:1).

Then, the readings speak about children: “Children obey your parents in everything; for this is pleasing to the Lord” and “honor your father and other” (for obedience to parents is a good measure of the level of Christlikeness in our lives). The book of Sirach states that honoring parents is a sign of righteousness, atones for and is firmly planted against the debt of our sin (3:3,14); is a means of divine blessing and disposes God to hear and answer the prayers of those who exercise this virtue (3:5); is a guarantee for long life, prosperity, and temporal power (3:6-7); and even the patience required for the care of an elderly parent is said to strengthen character and that God would look upon children offering such care with compassion (3:12-14). It goes on to state that

the respect due to our parents is not something we can neglect or discard without serious consequences, noting that honoring our parents is something that God set up to orient us toward Himself. Honoring our parents is not just about listening and obeying them. It also entails not taking for granted the sacrifices they make for us, taking responsibility for some of the household chores, learning to have a rational discussion about things we disagree about, being patient with them if they can’t see our viewpoint, knowing that they may have insights that we don’t have because we haven’t experienced all the things that they have.

Honoring our parents demands staying connected, and not just in contact, with them, making sure they are taken care of in their old age and connected with their grandchildren. My friends, let us enjoy your parents while they are still here with us!

Forgive their sins and give them a break. It is for our own good. The readings, then touch on the responsibility of parents toward their children: “Fathers do not embitter your children, lest they will become discouraged” (Col 3:18-21). Parents have authority but they are not to overdo the authority thing—creating a home that is an overbearing prison, setting goals too high for their children, being inconsistent with their promises, lacking in praise and appreciation, being absent in their children’s life, or creating favoritism leading to sibling jealousy.

Parental authority is to be used to provide a safe and encouraging environment for children to grow up. Children become discouraged when they cannot please, properly obey, or secure a blessing from their parents. Such discouragement can easily lead to depression, withdrawal, or rebellious behaviors.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

2024 NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR MASSES

Tuesday, December 31st
8:30 am, 12:00 noon

New Year's Eve
7:00 pm Vigil Mass & Prayer Service

New Year's Day
January 1st
9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon

January 2nd
9:00 am



NEW YEAR HOUSE BLESSING

20 + C + M + B + 25

Heavenly Father, bless our home and those who dwell within its secure walls. Grant that all people who visit will find us honest, just and hospitable. May we live this coming year open to Your grace and mercy, as we walk in your truth.

Please cut up this prayer and place at the top of your front door.



"Give and gifts will be given to you ... the measure with which you measure will in turn be measured out to you." **Luke 6:38**

COLLECTION & SOS

	NEEDED WEEKLY	ACTUAL WEEKLY	OVER/UNDER
DECEMBER			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,748	\$ 441
Week 2	\$ 7,307	\$ 8,949	\$1,642
Week 3	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,792	\$ 485
Week 4	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$10,241	\$ 201

Dear Parishioners,

In order for us to stay in the **GREEN**, it is important that we meet our weekly budget collections and SOS. Please let us continue to support the weekly Sunday collection so that we can achieve our goals of balancing the budget going forward.

Thank you for your support of the parish and your continued generosity.

Msr. Anselm

6 Ways To DONATE

ONLINE GIVING:



BANK TRANSFER:



stmichaelunion@comcast.net
In the Comment section, indicate where your donation should be accounted for, e.g., USAN (with your Group Name), Offertory, Tithe, etc.

CONTACT FREE: QR CODE



Scanning the code above with your mobile device directs you to the online donation page

MAIL IN:



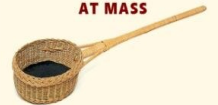
1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083

DROP OFF: AT THE PARISH CENTER



1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083

DURING OFFERTORY: AT MASS



You can use designated envelopes OR use your envelope but indicate where your donation should be accounted for.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPE

In your envelope package and at the vestibule of the Church, you will find envelopes for Christmas Flower Offerings. Please be generous in your donations to keep our Church beautifully decorated for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas Flowers Budget: **\$3,500**

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

December 28

SATURDAY

8:30 am Mary Ann Campos (Living)-Birthday
Luz Cruz (10th Ann.), Novena of Masses
5:30 pm Fabricio S. Marques (Living)-Healing
Hugo Galarza, Edgardo Belino

SUNDAY

December 29

7:30 am Rory King, Sita Kone, Adam Coulibaly
9:00 am Mark Fredrickson (1st Ann.)
For the Parishioners
10:30 am Jean Cabibbo, Gerardo Crincoli
12:00n Charismatic Group-Thanksgiving
Luz Mary Lozada
Paul & Lucy Sefia (Living)-Wedding Ann.

MONDAY

December 30

8:30 am Frank & Madesa Espana (Living)-
30th Wedding Ann.
Manuel Fazendeiro
12:00 noon Maureen Reilly
Cyril Nwako

TUESDAY

December 31 NEW YEAR EVE

8:30 am Jose & Lucille Arnaldo
Novena of Masses
12:00 noon Cyril Nwako
7:00 pm Grandeza Family (Living)-Thanksgiving

WEDNESDAY

January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

9:00 am New Year's Novena of Masses
Sipe Famiy (Living)-Thanksgiving
Eric Kouevi (Living), Stephanie Topke (Living)
10:30 am New Year's Novena of Masses
Durugo & Onyenanu Families (Living)
Jesus & Josefina Alvero
Lourdes Marasigan (40th Day)
12:00 noon New Year's Novena of Masses
Fanta Mian & Family (Living)-Thanksgiving
Morales Family (Living)-Thanksgiving
Craig Calix (Living)-Thanksgiving

THURSDAY

January 2

8:30 am Novena of Masses
12:00 noon Wladyslaw Skoczylas
Cyril Nwako

FRIDAY

January 3

8:30 am Novena of Masses
12:00 noon Marie Janita Francillon
6:30 pm Eric Kouevi (Living)
Ricardo San Juan

SATURDAY

January 4

8:30 am For the Parishioners
5:30 pm Devera Family (Living)-Safe Travels

SUNDAY

January 5

7:30 am For the Parishioners
9:00 am Lilian Sousa Araujo
10:30 am Edwardo Fernandez
12:00n Cenona San Andres Lacuna
Norma Canares
Luz Mary Lozada

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and Sanctuary Lamp are offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.

Novena of Masses December 2024

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrале
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Mary & Idolo Russomano	Abe Maksom
George Rinehart, Jr.	John McEvoy
Norma Canares	Connie Emery
Mike Fayad (Living)-Healing	Jose Percival Cruz
Josie Igna (Living)-Healing	Yolanda Liamoso
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Pierre & Rubinetti Families	Frank & Helen Rubinetti
Joseph & Michelene Kmetz	Miriam Perez
Matthew Boulin (Living)-Birthday	
Peter & Rebecca Aguh (Living)	
Jeff Pogorzleski (Living)-Healing	
All Souls in Purgatory	
George Sr., Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Maddy & Boulin Families	
Patsy Scalgione & deceased family members	
Living & Deceased Members of Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Lucille Sousa Araujo & Manuel Periera Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Araujo & Torres Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Durugo & Onyenanu Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Grace Fortino, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Jeff Pogorzleski, Virginia Attanasio, Mary Leeman, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Alex Pretto, Paulo Goncalves, Frances Machado, Antoinette Agriloo, James Scholz, Michael Nworu, Victoria Nworu, June Musa, Marivic del Rosario, Theresa Ojeawere, Kathy Chavez, John McEvoy, Sofia Teixeira, Carlos Dacruz, Anthony Staynings, Socorro Dagal, Peter & Cathy Fortunato, Anna Lepski, Nicole Ferlo, Therese Ferlo, Dolly Kramer, Junita Ottenstroer, Baby Sophia Alfano, John Dittemer, Pat Wittek, Sal Dovi, Kathy Doherty, Mary Ann Flynn, Roger Swadish, Jaime DeLeon, Angela Doug Heinzer, Leonard Stfalk, Sophia Zamudio, Anthony Stayning, Aida Polanco, Fr. Chuck McDermott, Remedios Mendoza, Bellevina Alexandre, Thomas McGarvey, Maria Ferrara, Barbara Donato, Kevin Kinsella, Mary Ann McGrath, Rev. Msgr. Charles Antonicelli, Anthony Terrezza, Homer Mereira, Alberta Phillips, Annamae McKnight, Liza David

DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Please remember in your prayers our parish, friends and family members who have passed on to the Lord, that they may inherit the promise of everlasting life in heaven.

Especially,

Anthony Martelli & Estelle Muller

Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



Cristina Manochio
Joseph Santillo
(908) 688-1232, ext. 3
cyounionnj@gmail.com

There will be no CYO over the next two weeks for Christmas break. CYO will resume on Tuesday, January 7th. We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS)

Please consider making donations to the Ministry. We are constantly in need of clothing, sanitary and feeding items for children (**New born to Age 5**) and for mothers. Please call **Bisi Longe** (908)247-4461 or **Tania Massicot** (973) 420-8659 for a comprehensive list of items needed. All items must be **NEW**.

Please note that donations can also be made online on a one-time or recurring basis, on the parish website at www.stmichael.org.

MIND AND SPIRIT MINISTRY

IN THE LOWER HALL OF **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**,
1212 KELLY STREET, UNION, NJ

Non-therapeutic groups integrating listening support with spiritual reflection. Available to anyone who wants to attend.

MONTHLY GROUP SESSIONS THURSDAYS 7PM - 8.30PM

2024

October 10th: Grief & Loss

November 14th: Shame & Inner Criticism

December 12th: Coping with Stress

2025

January 9th: Gratitude & Self-care

February 6th: Managing Anger

March 6th: Relational conflict

April 3rd: Finding Self-forgiveness

May 8th: Living with Anxiety & Fear

June 12th: Personal tribulations

July 10th: Life after Past Experiences

COME AND JOIN US

Contact Ginnie, Jonathan, Ylani and Taisha at
ourmindandspirit@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The **Religious Education Office** is open Monday through Thursday 9:30AM to 2:30PM (except holidays) or by appointment. We are located in the Parish Center at 1211 Orange Avenue. You can also contact us by phone 908-964-0965 at any time and leave a message or via email at smreligiouseducation@gmail.com

All who are willing to help our community please go to our website and submit a volunteer application and send an email to the Religious Education Department to smreligiouseducation@gmail.com

MILLENNIALS WITH CHRIST (MWC)

Happy Holidays!



We're thrilled to share that meeting virtually has not changed how impactful our fellowship has been! October and November's virtual meetings have kept us engaged in insightful discussion while allowing members that could not meet due to time and location constraints to still take part in fellowship!

October's meeting centered around the dangers of envy and how it can have a negative influence on one's spirit.

As Jesus reminds us in Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT):
"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

November's meeting allowed us to dissect what preparation for the "End Times" looked like practically.

Mark's Gospel reads:

"However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the son himself. Only the Father knows. And since you don't know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!" Mark 13:32-33 (NLT)

Let's come together to embody these teachings in our lives and in our community.

To wrap up November, we met in person for our first official Theology on Tap where we had the opportunity to partake in authentic conversations and maintain the meaningful relationships we've built at our very own MWC Happy Hour!

As we approach the end of the year, we want to thank all members for your time and contribution to reigniting our young adult ministry!

We will not be meeting in December and will reconvene in the new year. We invite new members to join Millenials With Christ for more exciting opportunities for fellowship. We look forward to meeting you!

WELLNESS MINISTRY

(FREE) DANCE/EXERCISE/SELF DEFENSE Class
For the Family
Saturdays 9:30—10:00 am
Phil Matrale Hall (LC)



Announcements

18TH ANNUAL SANTO NIÑO FEAST

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish

1212 Kelly Street
Union, NJ 07083



Sunday, January 26, 2025
3:00 pm, Upper Church

Main Celebrant: Fr. Ranulfo Docabo

Hermanas: Pet Espiritu and Margie Du

Novena starts on Friday, January 17, 2025, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on weekdays and Saturdays and before the 12 noon Mass on Sunday, January 19, 2025

The 2nd collection during the feast will benefit children in an orphanage or in a home for children with special needs in the Philippines. Thank you for your generosity.

Fellowship and reception will follow at the Lower Church after the Mass

For information, please contact: Luz Gonzalez (908) 774-7368
Madesa Espana (908) 391-5990
Cynthia Grandeza (908) 591-1065

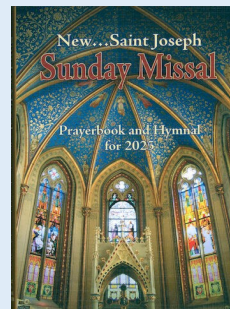
2025 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

Please stop by the Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave.) to book your Mass Intentions. The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Prayer to **ST. MICHAEL**



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



2025 SAINT JOSEPH SUNDAY MISSAL

Please come to the Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave) to purchase your copy.

Cost: \$6.00 each

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



The next Coffee & Fellowship is **January 21, 2025.**

Thank you to all the donors and volunteer for always helping and making sure our Sunday fellowship go efficiently.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

ATTENTION TO ALL MINISTRY COORDINATORS

If planning for a St. Michael's Parish activity in the Phil Matrале Hall (Lower Church), please **CONFIRM** with the Parish Office the availability of the space including set-up. Know that many big ceremonies need the previous day/night set-up and please consider this before you book. Please clear all bookings with the Parish Office not with Msgr. Anselm.

It is the ministry's responsibility to clean up, including garbage disposal, the Phil Matrале Hall (LC) after every event.

RCIA PROGRAM

Deacon Michael Alfano RCIA classes are every Saturday morning in the Phil Matrале Hall (LC) - Murphy Room at 10:30 am. Please contact Deacon Michael at michaeljalfano@aol.com if you want to learn more about the program.