



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

Fax: 908-810-1076

stmichaelunion@comcast.net

www.stmichaelunion.org

 [StMichaelParishUnion](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishUnion)

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

 [Stmichaelchurch](https://www.instagram.com/Stmichaelchurch)



February 9, 2025

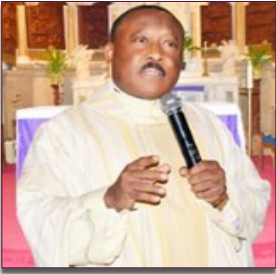
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When they brought their boats
to the shore, they left everything
and followed him.

Luke 5:11



The Lord Cares About You



In the Gospel of this 5th Sunday in Ordinary Times, Year C, (Luke 5:1-11), Peter was awestruck when Christ turned from preaching to the people to asking him to cast his net into deep sea for a

huge catch. He was amazed that Jesus would care about his daily struggle and understand his needs as a fisherman. Christ knew that Peter and his colleagues had fished all night without catching anything and knew the disappointment they felt in their hearts. Yes, God is interested both in saving us spiritually and in lifting off the burdens of our daily needs.

Sometimes, we have the tendency to separate salvation from our everyday worries, as though, our day-to-day anxieties are not God's problem. The truth of the matter is that they are. In the Gospel of Mark, we read about the disciples saying to Jesus, "Don't you care if we drown?!" (Mark 4:34-41). In the Gospel of Luke, Martha asked Jesus, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." Many a time, it seems to us that Jesus doesn't care simply because He is not reacting to the situation the way we are reacting to it. We are even, sometimes, like that with each other. Christ cares about us so much and that is why Scripture says, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" and "Cast all your cares upon Him for He cares for you."

We deal with all kinds of anxieties daily and the Word of God is asking us to cast every anxiety unto the Lord. The verb "cast" means "to throw upon" and indicates a decisive action to put something down and leave it there. Scripture says that Jesus was "a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isaiah 53:3) and in Hebrews 4:15-16, we are told, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but

we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Approach, therefore, the throne of grace with confidence to obtain... needed help" Jesus knows our every weakness and He is not there to judge but to help. He knows we need help. As the Psalmist says, "You know my reproach and my shame and my dishonor; my foes are all known to you" (Psalm 69:19). Christ cares about us since He knows that we are in constant struggle with sins and tribulations, and He knows what that struggle feels like. All He needs in order to help is our obedience to His commands. He knew Peter and his colleagues had caught nothing all night and yet His first instruction to Peter was to pull off the shore a little so that He could teach the people and Peter obeyed. Then, at the appointed time, He told Peter to cast the net into the sea for a catch, and Peter did. It is all about obedience to the Word. Many a time, we want Christ to react to our situation the way we are reacting to it. Yet Scripture says, "My ways are not your ways, and my thoughts are not your thoughts".

God doesn't want us to carry our burdens all by ourselves. He knows we will eventually collapse under the weight and pressure of it. Therefore, He invites us to hand them over to Him in obedience. We just need to trust Him to know what to do with our situation and be mindful that delay in His response is not denial to our request. As Scripture says, "If it delays, wait for it. It will not disappoint" (Habakkuk 2:3).

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

FEBRUARY EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Friday, February 7

First Friday Mass and Adoration, Upper Church

Sunday, February 9, 7:00 -8:30 pm

First Sunday Adoration, Upper Church

Wednesday, February 5, 12, 19, 26, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Charismatic Renewal Group Prayer Meeting, (LC)

Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:30 -8:30 pm
Marian Devotion: Rosary and Adoration, Upper Church

Thursday, February 6, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mind & Spirit Ministry, LC

Sunday, February 16, after all Masses
Fellowship Sunday, LC

Sunday, February 22, 6:30 pm
Family Activity Committee—Paint Night

Monday, February 24, 9:30 am
Wind Creek Casino Bus Trip

Saturdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 9:30 am
Wellness Ministry, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)
Dance/Exercise/Self-Defense

"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
FEBRUARY			
Week 1	\$ 8,461	\$ 6,432	\$ 2,029
Week 2	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 3	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$11,425	\$ 6,440	\$ 4,985

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.

Msgr. Anselm

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

The 2025 Annual Appeal has begun! You should have received an invitation in the mail from Cardinal Tobin to consider making a financial sacrifice to support this year's Annual Appeal. We are grateful for your generosity and we rely on it because it helps support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese, which are also centric to our faith. Your support to the Annual Appeal helps us accomplish across the Archdiocese what we would not be able to do alone.

Our Parish Base Goal for 2025 is \$47,850 and our Stretch Goal is \$57,420. There are two financial benefits to our Parish if we achieve this goal. First, if we reach this goal in cash by June 30th, our Parish is eligible for assessment savings on our fiscal obligations to the Archdiocese. Second, if we go over goal in pledges as of June 30th, we will be eligible for a rebate, which comes back to our Parish, unassessed, to be used at our own discretion.

Please consider taking a step with me on this Stewardship journey by responding to Cardinal Tobin's invitation to support the Appeal, or you can make your commitment at Mass on March 1-2, which will be our In-Pew Weekend. You can also make a gift online by going to rcan.org/sharing. Thank you for your time and consideration. You are in my prayers. Please pray for the success of the Annual Appeal.

Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu
Pastor

ST. MICHAEL'S COLLECTIONS

Below is an explanation of some of the different St. Michael's Collections:

S.O.S. Collection - This is a monthly "restricted" collection dedicated to paying our utility bills. **Restricted collections are not assessed by the Archdiocese of Newark and therefore all funds are used solely by St. Michael's to pay our bills.** S.O.S. collections are appreciated at all times.

Tithing - This is a monthly "restricted" collection dedicated to paying for the new the upkeep of the Church boiler and airconditioner. **Restricted collections are not assessed by the Archdiocese and therefore all funds are used solely for St. Michael's needs.** Tithing collections are appreciated at all times.

Assessment Collection - The Archdiocese of Newark assesses all parishes in the Archdiocese, and a percentage of the parish's annual unrestricted revenue, is paid monthly. This assessment is used by the Archdiocese to support administrative services. St. Michael's has instituted a monthly "restricted" collection that is used solely for paying our monthly assessment. **All Assessment Collection funds are sent directly to Archdiocese of Newark, monthly, to pay our Assessment Obligation. No funds are used for St. Michael's needs.**

National Collections - the Archdiocese of Newark has ten collections during the year to benefit various organizations such as the retired priest's fund, the church in Eastern Europe, the religious retirement fund, and mission appeals. **Money from the national collections go directly to the Archdiocese of Newark.**

St. Vincent De Paul Collection - money donated to St. Vincent De Paul is distributed prior to Thanksgiving and prior to Easter to local foodbanks, soup kitchens and social centers that provide food and shelter for those in need.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support to our Parish!

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

February 8

8:30 am Raymond Canares
5:30 pm Roger Boetsch

SUNDAY

February 9

7:30 am Maria Elaine Rojano
Rafael Vibar
9:00 am John Morris
For the Parishioners
10:30 am Stephanie Topke (Living)-For Protection
12:00 noon Carmel Salvatore
Living & Deceased Members of Magalhaes Family

MONDAY

February 10

8:30 am Matthew Herber (Living)
Novena of Masses
12:00 noon All Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY

February 11

8:30 am Yryns Byron Belmonte (Living)-Birthday
Lourdes Espeleta
Patricia & Robert Neufeld
12:00 noon Josephine & Jesus Alvero
Pedro Bernal (37th Ann.)

WEDNESDAY

February 12

8:30 am Rosemarie Francillion (Living)-Birthday
Ronald & Matilde Tan
12:00 noon Jeff Pogorzelski (Living)-Birthday

THURSDAY

February 13

8:30 am Babe Pajarillo (Living)-84th Birthday
Libra Da Aviola
12:00 noon Novena of Masses

FRIDAY

February 14

8:30 am Fred Lambusta
Urbano Manuel Diaz (11th Ann.)
Robert Vilela
12:00 noon Cynthia Stuart (Living)

SATURDAY

February 15

8:30 am Marie Jo Inoue (Living)-Thanksgiving
Nestor Fadriquella
5:30 pm Georgina Dakiche (Living)-Thanksgiving
Maria Da Silva
Maya & Kayla Guimaraes

SUNDAY

February 16

7:30 am Felicidad Albinto
9:00 am For the Parishioners
10:30 am Carmen M. Gancia
12:00 noon Lourdes Marasigan

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and Sanctuary Lamp are offered for Leonardis & Manco Families.

Novena of Masses February 2025

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrale
Mary & Idolo Russomano	John Mc Evoy
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Joseph & Michelene Kmetz	Carminia Bascon
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Raymond Canares	Rebecca Bower
Evelyn Spital (Living)	Pacita Dolina (Living)
George Rinehart, Jr.	Illuminada Duyan
Carminia Monfort	Pacita Dolina
Nestor Fadriquella	
Almario Morales (Living)-Thanksgiving	
Babe Pajarillo (Living)-Birthday	
Teodora DeLeon (Living)-Birthday	
Maria Filemona "Baby" Sevilla	
Jeff Pogorzleski (Living)-Healing	
Patsy Scalgione & deceased family members	
Living & Deceased Members of Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Lucille Sousa Araujo & Manuel Periera Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Thomas J. McEnroe & Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Boulin & Maddy Families	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Grace Fortino, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Jeff Pogorzelski, 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 Dagat, Peter & Cathy Fortunato, Anna Lepski, Nicole Ferlo, Therese Ferlo, Dolly Kramer, Junita Ottenstroer, Baby Sophia Alfano, John Dittmer, Pat Wittek, Sal Dovi, Kathy Doherty, Mary Ann Flynn, Roger Swadish, Jaime DeLeon, Doug Heinzer, Leonard Stfalk, Sophia Zamudio, Anthony Stayning, Aida Polanco, Fr. Chuck McDermott, Remedios Mendoza, Bellevina Alexandre, Maria Ferrara, Barbara Donato, Kevin Kinsella, Mary Ann McGrath, Rev. Msgr. Charles Antonicelli, Anthony Terrezza, Homer Mereira, Alberta Phillips, Annamae McKnight, Liza David, Kate Hurley-Dandekar, Michelle Dressel, Jose Espiritu, Cristina Sarmiento

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,
Members of St. Michael's Parish

Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



Cristina Manochio
(908) 688-1232, ext 3

Joseph Santillo
cyounionnj@gmail.com

All teens are welcome to join us on February 11th for our Valentine's Day Service Project in the Phil Matrale Hall from 7-8:15pm! We will be making Valentine's Day cards for the Color A Smile Foundation and will be collecting items for the Hands of Grace (HUGS Ministry) who work to provide basic needs for mothers and their children. Please see the list of items to bring as a donation below. 1.5 hours of community service will be given to those who attend.

Diapers: Stages 3-6
Pull Ups: 3T/4T ; 4T/5T ; 5T/6T (Boys & Girls)
Baby Wash Baby Shampoo
Baby Lotion Baby Oil
Baby Wipes Diaper Rash Ointment
Toothpaste (infant, toddler, adult)
Toothbrushes (infant, toddler, adult)
Women's Shampoo & Conditioner
Women's Deodorant Women's Body Lotion
Women's Body Wash Hand Sanitizer
Sanitary Napkins School Supplies
No Baby Powder Please

CYO will also be hosting its annual Kids Night Fundraiser on Saturday, March 15th from 6-9pm in St. Michael's Phil Matrale Hall (Lower Church). Children in grades K-8 are welcome to come and enjoy a night full of art and crafts, games, movies, pizza, snacks, fun and more run by the teen members of our CYO program! The price is \$20.00 per child and money/permission slips can be dropped off at the Parish Center of St. Michael's (1211 Orange Ave) by March 1st. Do not delay as spots are limited and there will be no walk ins this year! Please email us at cyounionnj@gmail.com for any questions!

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)

Join Us for Fellowship and Faith!



Attention all parishioners aged 25-40! We invite you to connect with fellow young adult Catholics in our community through Millennials with Christ (MWC). Our mission is to inspire and empower each other to live out our faith boldly and authentically, fostering a vibrant Catholic presence among our peers.

For more information or inquiries, please contact us at:
MillennialswithChrist@gmail.com.

Let's grow in faith and fellowship together!

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

St. Michael's Parish Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group invites you to join us this Wednesday evening's Testimony Night, at 6:00 PM, in Phil Matrale Hall (LC).

"Come and experience the power of the Holy Spirit."

Hope to see you all. Please invite your family, friends, fellow workers, and/or anyone you know in our fellowship. Thank you, best regards and a blessed week ahead.

*The prayer meeting is followed by the Marian Devotion—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary in the Church.

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.

Kids Night Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Please circle: Boy Girl

Parent Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Parent Name and Signature: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
(Name) (Phone) (Relationship)

Please circle any of the following your child is allergic to: Peanuts Gluten Dairy

Does your child have any special concerns we should be aware of? This includes any allergies, diabetic, etc.

Pizza will be served for dinner. Please circle "Yes" or "No" if your child would like pizza.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per child.

Total Enclosed _____

Please return this form to the St. Michael's Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave) in person or by mail. If mailed, please write "CYO Kids Night" on envelope.



Youth Ministry Office: (908)688-1232 ext. 3 or email us at cyounionnj@gmail.com

Pictures from Kids Night will be used on our Website, for advertising and on our Church Bulletin Boards. No names or personal information is ever used or given out on any child. If you **do not** want pictures of your child used sign here. _____

Registration is due by 3/7/25. First come, first serve! Limited spots and there will be no walk-ins this year!

Announcements

Paint Night

FEBRUARY 22 6:30PM

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH / UNION, NJ
LOWER CHURCH



JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT OF PAINTING AND
SNACKS FOR ALL AGES!
\$10 FEE PER PERSON.
RSVP STRONGLY RECOMMENDED BY 2/15
CHILDREN 3 AND UNDER PAINT FREE
RSVP TO FACSTMICHAELS@GMAIL.COM

SAVE THE DATE

**Bus Trip to Wind Creek Casino, Bethlehem, PA
Monday, February 24, 2025**

Bus leave St. Michael's Parking Lot at 9:30 am

Cost: **\$35** with a \$25 slot play return

SEATS AVAILABLE

Tuesday, April 1, 2025— Join us for the 30th Anniversary show of **Noah at Sight and Sound**. Luncheon buffet will be at the newly built Hershey Farms restaurant. **Cost for the trip & lunch is \$170.** Reservations are needed.



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.

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



Our next Coffee and Fellowship **Sunday is February 16, 2025** after all Masses.

We are very grateful for the generosity of all our donors and who selflessly shared their time, talent and treasure. You have all tremendously made a difference!

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

WELLNESS MINISTRY

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



RCIA PROGRAM

Deacon Michael Alfano RCIA classes are every Saturday morning in the Phil Matrle 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.