



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)



December 8, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT "Do Not Ignore this Fact"



The readings of this Second Sunday of Advent, Year C, call us to something serious by these words "Do not ignore this one fact, the day of the Lord will come like a thief" (2 Peter 3:8-10). "Be

constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come." Many a time, we see Advent as the commemoration of the birth of Christ, but, in its truest meaning, it is more so the preparation for the second coming of Christ—Judgement as different from the first coming of Christ, which was for salvation. What then should we be focused upon during advent?

Many people have chosen to respond to this consequential end times in varied ways. We have "The Calculators"—those preoccupied with figuring out when Christ is coming back again and when the end of the world will be. But Scripture says, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority" (Acts 1:7) and "About that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Mark 13:32). My friends, we may not be here when Christ comes back again; we may not be here when the world comes to an end; but one thing is certain, we will surely be here when our life on earth ends. It is not the end of the world we should be preparing for but the end of our lives because at that point, there will be no more room for reconciliation, no time to make amends or get it right with God (cf. Luke 16: 19-31).

There are also those who choose to be "Indifferent"—those who simply could care less and who believe we are just human beings having a human experience on earth. There is nothing to account for and as Jean Paul Sartre would say, "Simply enjoy life when you can, suffer life when it comes, you will die and that is the end". But

Scripture says, "Do not neglect this fact; the day of the Lord will come like a thief" (2 Peter 3:8). It is better to find out at the end that there is no God, heaven, and hail (Nothing to lose) than to find out at the end that there is God, heaven, and hail and there is no chance to make things right (everything to lose).

Then, we do have "The Determined"—those who chose to be intentional about loving and worshiping God; who believe God and His word, recognize God's work in their lives and in all that is created, and allow the sense of God to pervade how they see the world, themselves, and others. They live life in the present, doing all they can to account for today, realizing that yesterday is gone, and that tomorrow is not a promise. Their life is filled with gratitude and gratefulness, appreciating every gift and taking nothing for granted. They live a life of compassion and empathy, able to sense and feel the joys and pains of others, take their identity as children of God seriously, and recognize the same worth in others. They are constantly mindful of the need to stay reconciled with God, self, and neighbor, always seeking forgiveness from God for sins committed, asking forgiveness from those they have offended, and forgiving others for offences, and themselves for shortcomings. My friends, there is no saint without a past and no sinner without a future. Let us believe God, as we continue fervently in our advent preparation, where Scripture says, "The Lord God Himself will strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:8-9).

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

DECEMBER EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Sunday, December 1, 12:00 noon Mass
Blessed Iwere Tansi Feast

Sunday, December 1, 7:00 -8:30 pm
First Sunday Adoration, Upper Church

Tuesdays, December 3, 10, 17, 7:00 PM
Bible Study (Online)

Wednesday, December 4, 11, 18, 2024, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Charismatic Renewal Group Prayer Meeting, (LC)

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18, 7:30 -8:30 pm
Marian Devotion: Rosary and Adoration, Upper Church

Friday, December 6 at 6:30 pm
First Friday Mass and Adoration, Upper Church

Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm
CYO Festival of Lights, Church

Thursday, December 12, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mind & Spirit Ministry, LC

Sunday, December 15, after all Masses
Fellowship Sunday, LC

Friday, December 20 at 8:00 pm
Simbang Gabi (Christmas Mass)
Bishop Elias Lorenzo presiding

Saturdays, December 7, 14, 21, 9:30 am
Wellness Ministry, Phil Matrале Hall (LC)
Dance/Exercise/Self-Defense

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

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



"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

	<u>NEEDED</u> <u>WEEKLY</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>WEEKLY</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
NOVEMBER			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,825	\$ 518
Week 2	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,639	\$ 332
Week 3	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,607	\$ 300
Week 4	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,987	\$ 680
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 10,633	\$ 593
DECEMBER			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,748	\$ 441
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 6,108	\$ 3,932

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

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 air conditioner. **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

December 7

8:30 am Concepcion Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving
Manuel DeOliveira, Ofelia Espana
5:30 pm Jorge J. Criado, Concepcion Ticzon
Zenaida Cano

SUNDAY

December 8

7:30 am Douglas Sipe (Living)-Birthday
R & C Vibar (27th Ann.)
9:00 am Jean Cabibbo, For the Parishioners
Thanksgiving for Graces to Come
10:30 am Semel Carlos (Living)-Birthday
Monica Votapek
Concepcion & Telesoro Narciso
12:00 noon Lise & Ilvert Beauliere
Chike Melie, Jr.

MONDAY

December 9—Immaculate Conception

8:30 am Roger Boetsch
12:00 noon Claudette Pierre (Living)-Thanksgiving
Novena of Masses
7:00 pm Casar Pastor Castillo

TUESDAY

December 10

8:30 am Anna & Michael Cebulak
12:00 noon Leticia Sefia (Living)-Birthday
Rudy Mendoza

WEDNESDAY

December 11

8:30 am Blanca Tan (Living)-Birthday
Amoakon Mian
12:00 noon Rosa Mugavero & Antonino Mugavero

THURSDAY

December 12

8:30 am Reynaldo Aguila
Mary Ianiro (1st Ann.)
12:00 noon Paul Sefia (Living)-Birthday
Xavier Ross

FRIDAY

December 13

8:30 am Robert Neufelf
Novena of Masses
Demetrius Aberi (1st Ann.)
12:00 noon Libio Expiritu

SATURDAY

December 14

8:30 am Jose Fernando Llanes
Novena of Masses
5:30 pm Ogechukwu Nwosuh (Living)-Birthday
Rui Do Carma

SUNDAY

December 15

7:30 am Deceased Members of Lazcano Family
9:00 am For the Parishioners
Deceased Members of Janiola & Deligero Family
10:30 am Carmen (Charlie) Tato-23rd Ann.
Yolanda Lamosa
Jose Percival Cruz
12:00 noon Jean Cabibbo

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and the Sanctuary Lamp is 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 Lamoso
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Pierre & Rubinetti Families	Frank & Helen Rubinetti
Joseph & Michelene Kmetz	
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 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 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

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,

**Emily Maggiore, Ada Napoles,
Barbara Santorini**



Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



The CYO / Youth Ministry is excited to announce that we will be venturing back to Camp Lebanon for our annual teen retreat on the weekend of November 22nd-24th! Any teen who is interested in attending, or anyone looking to sponsor someone who is attending, please contact us at cyouionnj@gmail.com. With rising costs, we are trying to ease the financial burden of the retreat price for our teens. To assist with this, there are envelopes in the church vestibule for the Phil Matrale Retreat Memorial Fund that can be dropped off at any time. We truly appreciate all of your support. Thank you and God Bless!

A big thank you to everyone who donated to our annual CYO Thanksgiving Food Drive! We will continue to accept food donations for the remainder of the month of November. Please drop off any donations to the Parish Center.

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.

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

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 Matrale Hall (LC)



Announcements

2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday, December 14
 1:00-2:00 pm
Wednesday, December 18
Communal Penance Service with Confession
 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th
 8:30 am, 12:00 noon

Christmas Eve
 5:00 pm Family Liturgy
 8:00 pm Christmas Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25th
 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon

Thursday, December 26th
 9:00 am

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



SAVE THE DATE BUS TRIPS

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 but payment will not be required till 2025.



COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY December 15, 2024



Our next Fellowship Sunday will be on **December 15, 2024** after all Masses at the Phil Matrale Hall (LC) after all of the Sunday Masses and meet new parishioners and make new friendships while enjoying coffee, delicious pastries and light refreshments. Everyone is invited and you're all welcome to bring your family and friends.

We always need some help. Anyone who would like to volunteer, time commitment and how long you'll stay is all up to you. For questions, you may call the Parish Office at (908) 688-1232.



2024 "SIMBANG GABI/MISA DE GALLO
December 20, 2024
8:00 pm
St. Michael's Church
Bishop Elias Lorenzo will be presiding



We would like to thank the following Marian Devotees for their donations towards the Blessed Virgin Mary grotto.

Van Phan
Pat & Anna Pntoriero
Anna Di Fabrzio
James Ford, Jr.
Anonymous
Patsy Scalgione



Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.



The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the Archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and to provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Although we will report all allegations of abuse immediately to the appropriate County Prosecutor, we encourage anyone with an allegation of abuse to reach out to the prosecutor.

Individuals who report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Victim's Assistance Coordinator of the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

The phone numbers for the County Prosecutors with the Archdiocese are:

- Bergen (201) 646-2300
- Essex (973) 621-4700
- Hudson (201) 795-6400
- Union (908) 527-4500