



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

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www.stmichaelunion.org

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

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

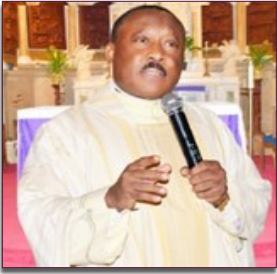
 [StMichaelChurch](https://www.instagram.com/StMichaelChurch)



December 1, 2024 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This past Thursday, we celebrated Thanksgiving Day. Amazingly, when President George Washington recommended and assigned Thursday the 26th of November, in 1789

as Thanksgiving Day, and when President Abraham Lincoln declared the final Thursday of November as a national Thanksgiving Day, in 1863, both presidents saw the act of thanksgiving as not just limited to giving thanks but also as a time to seek God's forgiveness for our communal sins, and a call to the responsibility of creating a peaceful, more just and equitable world. This is very interesting because both presidents saw thanking God for our blessings as intrinsically tied into reconciliation with God and to the greater responsibility of being benefactors to a world in great need of our kindness, goodness and mercy. Amazingly, this is exactly what Advent is all about.

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year, (Year C). While many a time, we look at the Advent season as a time we prepare for the celebration of Christmas—the birth of Christ, in the true sense, it is really the season when we are invited to be mindful of the second coming of Christ; a time to remember that we will be accountable to God for how we have lived our lives. It is a time that calls us to seek reconciliation with God, self, and others; a time that calls us to forgive and be forgiven. It is a time to let go of past failures, negativities, hate, anger, wrath, vengeful spirit, and guilt. It is a time to let go, let God, and get going. It is a time to embrace the freedom of living life as a child of God with the fullest confidence found in the saving grace of His Son, Jesus Christ.

In line with the second coming of Christ, Advent is also a time that calls us to be much

more conscious of reaching out to suffering humanity. Scripture says that our accountability, on the last day, will center around what we did to be the compassionate hand and heart of God to those in need. Therefore, as we go into Advent this year, let us remember, pray, and commit ourselves to caring for the hungry and destitute among us. Let us remember and pray for those who are alone and forgotten and commit ourselves to doing something about it. Let us remember and pray for those silenced by the weight of violence, oppression, and injustice and commit ourselves to do all in our power to pursue justice, fairness, and equity for all. Let us initiate, daily, little, compassionate, graceful, unexpected and undeserved acts of love towards others.

Advent, my friends, is a time to choose to live life from a place of peace, happiness, and joy. So, let us be kind and graceful to ourselves for we deserve to be joyful and happy. let us do what we must to make sure that emotions like anger, hatred, envy, hopelessness, failure, and frustration do not become default emotions in our lives, as we look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior and prepare for His second coming.

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	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 10,243	\$ 203

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

8:30 am **November 30**
Edward Jakubco (Living)
Rosa Calayag Triunfo
5:30 pm Manuel Fazendeiro, For the Parishioners

SUNDAY

7:30 am **December 1**
Stella Seimbida, Jean Cabibbo
9:00 am Mary Fedia Royal (Living)-Thanksgiving
Durugo Family (Living)-Thanksgiving
10:30 am Ajerico Mendoza, Edgardo Belino
Jose Percival Cruz
12:00 noon Barbara Dittermer
Deceased Members of Magalhaes Family

MONDAY

8:30 am **December 2**
Sabatino & Josephine Maragni
Antonette & George Assante
12:00 noon Rui Do Carma, Novena of Masses

TUESDAY

8:30 am **December 3**
Jose Guzman Almonte
12:00 noon All Souls in Purgatory
Anthony Young

WEDNESDAY

8:30 am **December 4**
Socorro Dagat (Living)-Healing
Cris Alexander (Living)-Birthday
12:00 noon Grace Badiola (Living)-Healing
Dennis Capio (1st Ann.)

THURSDAY

8:30 am **December 5**
Novena of Masses
Norma Caneres
12:00 noon Jean Bautist Auguste
Willy Pierre

FRIDAY

8:30 am **December 6**
Matilde Neiva, Novena of Masses
12:00 noon Krzak Family
6:30 pm Eric Kouevi (Living)
Charles Eluwa, Jr. (Living)-Birthday
Stanislaw Pogorzelski

SATURDAY

8:30 am **December 7**
Concepcion Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving
Manuel DeOliveira, Ofelia Espana
5:30 pm Jorge J. Criado, Concepcion Ticzon
Zenaida Cano

SUNDAY

7:30 am **December 8**
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
12:00 noon Lise & Ilvert Beauliere
Chike Melie, Jr.

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread is offered by Mary Fedia Royal.
The Altar Wine is offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.
The Sanctuary Lamp is offered by Lucy Scalgione for Family and Friends.

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
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 Dittermer, 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,



For Members of St. Michael's Parish

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 cyounionnj@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.



Last month's meeting was fully virtual for the first time, but it provided the same impact. Our members were both engaged and insightful. We spoke about 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.'"

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

Upcoming Events

Virtual Member Meeting (October) Stay connected! Register to attend our next monthly meeting. When: Thursday, November 21, 2024 Time: 7:15 - 9:00 PM Registration Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84830786524?pwd=tNEbwGnIQcN5xkJ97Zk0k0jVZzGpcb.1>

SAVE THE DATE: MWC Happy Hour & Christian Concert Meet Up When: November 26, 2024

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

Let's grow in faith and fellowship together!

WELLNESS MINISTRY

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

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



The CYO again this year did a Holiday Food Collection and brought in almost a thousand pounds of groceries. We at Sr. Ann's Pantry thank you again.

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).

Theme: "The Fall if Man"

Verses:

Genesis 2: 8 - 18
Genesis 3: 8 - 24
Isaiah 53:5
John 3:6
Romans 5:8
Romans 8:38-39
Ephesians 2:8-9

*more verses from the proclaimer

Proclaimer: Bro. Charles Eluwa

"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.

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

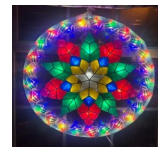
January 2nd
9:00 am

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

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

We are looking for Marian Devotees to help us offset the cost of the Mother Mary grotto. The cost of the grotto was \$880.00.

Please call the Parish Office for any questions. (908) 688-1232, ext. 100.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish.

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.

