



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

Clare Andriola
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)

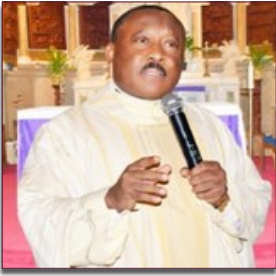
 [Stmichaelchurch](https://www.instagram.com/Stmichaelchurch)



April 14, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

repent
in his name

EASTER GLORY: AN INVITATION FOR U-TUNES IN LIFE



The Bible tells us that God will hold everyone responsible and accountable for the choices we have made in life. This is both good news and bad news. The bad news is that we cannot blame

others and circumstances for our choices in life; we will have to own up to them. The good news, on the other hand, is that we are not going to be responsible for anybody else's choices.

But there is greater good news. This week's Gospel reading (Luke 24:35-48) tells us that the purpose of Christ's death and resurrection is so that "Repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations." What this means is that sin is no longer able to send us to hell, rather, what will lead us to condemnation is unrepentance because forgiveness for sin has been guaranteed in the face of repentance in Christ Jesus. In the second reading we read, "If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world" (1 John 2:1-2). Again, Scripture says, "If only the people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselvesand turn from their sins, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Repentance is the English translation of the Hebrew word, "teshuvah", which means "returning"; a process of making U-turns in life and returning to one's true self in relation to God and neighbor; making choices that help us walk away from our ego-centered needs that, many a time, leads us to destructive actions. A perfect example is the story of the Prodigal Son where scripture says, "One day, he came to his senses and said, "I shall return back to my father, and I

shall say to him, father, forgive me for I have sinned against heaven and against you".

So, repentance requires a recognition that "I have made bad choices, that I am making bad choices, and that I have done things wrong that have distanced me from God and righteous living; things that have hurt me, other people, and my relationship with God. This simple acknowledgment could be life changing because our natural tendency is to avoid acknowledging our mistakes, double down on our bad choices, excusing them, however we can, in order to protect ourselves from shame, rejection, abandonment, or even from being seen as weak. But the relief, freedom, and joy we experience from repentance far outweigh these discomforting elements. Repentance is the only way to repair the spiritual, emotional, and the human-God relational rupture that bad choices can cause.

The joy of Easter lies in the fact that the death and resurrection of Christ is a sure banker that we don't have to be condemned for our own sins and the comfort of knowing that sins do not have to control our eternal future, nor do we have to be trapped in a never-ending cycle of bad choices. Repentance is taking responsibility for my actions and taking positive steps to make sure that I am not condemned for it. Repentance is not meant to be a one-time event, rather, it is an ongoing process of becoming the best version of myself. To this end, God has left, at our disposal, the Sacrament of Reconciliation—His way of constantly offering us the chance to return to him and be forgiven, experience a clean heart, and a new spirit. So, let us take God up on His offer, for His promises are "Amen unto us in Christ Jesus".

Msgr. Anselm

Stewardship of Treasure

April 9th, 2024

My dear Parishioner,

Let me start by thanking you for what we have been able to accomplish since I became the pastor of this Parish. As you may know, for the past four years, we have been able to balance our budget, take care of our bills, grounds, and all kinds of renovations, improvements, and new installations in our buildings, and remained financially solvent. This has been, largely, due to God's blessings upon us and the success of our one and only yearly campaign—St Michael's Church **Union of Saints and Nations Fundraiser (USAN)**. When I arrived here in July 2017, there were so many mini fundraising events that had turned the Vestibule of our Church into a market place, which in many ways detracted from the sanctity of our worship environment. I did not like this for our Church. So, in prayer, we initiated this yearly single fundraising event, to take care of our Church. Thank God, it has been a huge success in meeting our needs.

Now, the time is upon us to run this year's campaign, the purpose of which is to continue to balance our budget, maintain our buildings, convert the heating system in the Parish Rectory buildings from oil to gas (which will save us a tremendous amount of money), and to generate revenue-reserves for emergencies. As always, our target goal, for this fiscal year ending June 30th, 2024, is \$100,000.00 (One hundred thousand dollars).

For us to run this mission successfully, we need to form a minimum of 50+ groups, with each group targeting to raise a minimum of \$2000 (Two Thousand dollars). Facilitators are charged with these groups. We need parishioners to facilitate these groups. Without these facilitators, we may not be able to reach our goals. All that a facilitator has to do is to coordinate the members of his or her group to reach the targeted goal. Parishioners will be assigned to facilitators to form their groups. Also, an individual, a couple, a family, or friends held together by some common interest like religious devotion, socio-cultural background, or national allegiance, can form a group of their own. Generally, groups choose a name by which they are named. Groups can also recruit members from family, co-workers, and friends. When you get a call from a parish facilitator, please know that the call is not a scam. If you are in doubt, do please call the parish office at 908-688-1232.

Many individuals and families who choose to be stand-alone groups write a check for the target amount. Some groups organize internal fundraisers or ask group members for a minimum contribution to meet the group's target amount. Whatever the initiative may be, please do what you can to ensure the success of your group. All monies gifted to this campaign are tax deductible.

I urge all our parishioners to stand tall and stand committed to this blessed effort. We can accomplish any goal if we do it together. How glorious it would be if we all can commit, as individuals, to do whatever we can for the success of this year's USAN.

May the good Lord continue to bless you as you graciously participate in this kingdom work for His Church at St. Michael's Parish.

Rev. Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, Ph.D.
Pastor

"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>
APRIL			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 6,485	\$ 822
Week 2	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
Week 3	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 7,307	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 6,939	\$ 3,101
EASTER	\$25,000	\$23,882	\$ 1,118
EASTER FLOWERS	\$ 3,700	\$ 3,537	\$ 163

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK ANNUAL APPEAL ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

2024 Base Goal:	\$43,473.00
2024 Stretch Goal:	\$46,240.00
As of: 4/9/24	
Donor Pledge:	\$30,788.01
Donor Received:	\$23,381.35



SAVE THE DATE

Our parish will be taking a cruise around New York City as part of the celebration of St. Michael's Feast Day 2024.

Cruise Date: Friday, September 27, 2024

Ship Boarding: 6:30 pm

Cruising: 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

Vessel: Spirit of New Jersey

Departing: Lincoln Harbor

1500 Harbor Blvd. Weehawken, NJ

COST:

Option 1: \$170 per person includes cruise, dinner, round trip bus from St. Michael's Church to Lincoln Harbor and back. No beer or wine.

Option 2: \$178 per person includes cruise, dinner, drinks (1 glass of wine or bottle of beer), round trip bus from St. Michael's Church to Lincoln Harbor and back.

Option 3: \$150 per person includes cruise and dinner only. No bus transportation nor wine or beer.

Tickets are first come first serve basis. Only 150 tickets will be sold.

Bus boarding at St. Michael's Parking Lot at 5:00 pm sharp.

Please call Parish Office (908) 688-1232 for more information.

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

April 13

8:30 am Novena of Masses
Victor Napenas
Florintino Rivera
Daisy Mora

SUNDAY

April 14

7:30 am Jean Ford
9:00 am For the Parishioners
Manuel Pereira Araujo
10:30 am Carmen Ezpeleta (Living)-Thanksgiving
Carmelita "Baby" Publico (Living)-Thanksgiving
Nanay Regaspi (10th Ann.)
12:00 noon Patricia Palermo

MONDAY

April 15

8:30 am Josefina Respecia
Rose Ann Cebulak (9th Ann.)
12:00 noon Doug Sipe & James Sipe (Living)
Lucy Gimenez

TUESDAY

April 16

8:30 am Novena of Masses
Ivy Alta
12:00 noon For the Parishioners

WEDNESDAY

April 17

8:30 am Amoakon Mian
12:00 noon Spiritual Growth Novena
JR Avery (Living)-Birthday

THURSDAY

April 18

8:30 am Amadea Casia (Living)
12:00 noon For the Parishioners

FRIDAY

April 19

8:30 am Guerdie Barreau (Living)-Birthday
12:00 noon Novena of Masses

SATURDAY

April 20

8:30 am Kathrynne Jugard (Living)-Thanksgiving
Raphael Espana (Living)-Thanksgiving
Alarcon Family
5:30 pm Myrna Tanchingco

SUNDAY

April 21

7:30 am Teresita Coullahan
9:00 am Modesta Antonio
For the Parishioners
10:30 am Jesus & Josephina Alvero
Guerdie Barreau (Living)-Birthday
12:00 noon Ginette Jean Pierre (Living)-Birthday

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine & Sanctuary are offered for all St. Michael's Parishioners.

The Paschal Candle is offered in memory of Walter & Ruth Reinhard and Edward & Carol Izbicki, donated by Ed & Kathy Izbicki.

NOVENA OF MASSES APRIL 2024

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrale
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Mary & Idolo Russomano	Special Intentions-VG
Pierre & Rubinetti Families	Frank Rubinetti
Jorge & Hilda Criado	George Rinehart, Jr.
Maria Leanor Coronel	Ramon Valera
John Dittemer (Living)-Healing	
Melise Arnaldo (Living)	
Nickdy B. Auguste (Living)-Healing	
Michellene & Joseph Kmetz	
Antonio Simao DeMelo Madeiros	
George Sr., Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Jeff Pogorzelski (Living) - Healing	
Manuel Pereira Aarujo & Lucilia Silva Sousa Araujo	
Patsy Scalgione & Deceased Family Members	
Living & Deceased Members of the Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Del Rosario & Perez Families	
Living & Deceased Members Onyenanu & Durugo Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Maddy & Boulin Families	
Rodrigues, Medeiros & Araujo Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family	

PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Grace Fortino, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Ana Torres, Rita Homiak, Stephen Berberabe, Norma Tuano, Jeff Pogorzelski, Virginia Attanasio, Mary Leeman, Marie Esposito, Jose M. DeJesus, Andre Graigwell, Nicole Pozeinick, Amy Dombroski, Samantha Lopes, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Ken Lang, Valarie Carter, Willie Green, Shirley Dobard, Joyce Toth, Maria Ferrara, Alex Preto, 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

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



ST. MICHAEL'S CYO YOUTH MINISTRY'S

Clothing Drive Fundraiser

April 16, 2024
Drop Off Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
 Address: 1211 Orange Ave.
 Please use the entrance on Orange Ave or Vauxhall Road.

We will be collecting the following:
 Men's | Women's | Children's

- Clothing
- Shoes
- Hats
- Belts
- Ties
- Handbags
- Coats
- Jackets
- Bed Linens
- Bath Linens
- Stuffed Animals

Email us at cyouinionj@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to coordinate an alternative drop off time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS:

FIRST COMMUNION:

Thank you to everyone who attended our Family Retreat for First Eucharist ("Communion Bread" Retreat) on Saturday, April 13.

A special THANK YOU! to our CYO members and adult volunteers who helped facilitate the six activity stations: Baptism, Easter Bread, Mass Petitions, Holy Rosary, First Holy Communion Banner and Butterfly Craft.

First Communion is quickly approaching. Sixty-six candidates will receive the sacrament at one of two masses: **Saturday, April 27 and Saturday, May 4 at 10AM**. Thank you to the St. Michael School religion teachers and Religious Education catechists who are working diligently to prepare them.

The **May Crowning of our Blessed Virgin Mary** will be held on **Wednesday evening, May 15, at 7PM** in the Church. The 1st Communion candidates will attend in their 1st Communion dresses / suits and will lead us in praying the rosary. **All are welcome to attend!**

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 smccd@comcast.net.

MIND AND SPIRIT MINISTRY

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

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

Monthly Group Sessions

February 8th 7PM:
 Personal Tribulations

March 14th 7PM:
 Forgiveness of Self & Others

April 11th 7PM:
 Living with Sadness

May 9th 7PM:
 Coping with Fear & Anxiety

June 13th 7PM:
 Building Self-esteem

COME AND JOIN US

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

WELLNESS MINISTRY

(FREE) DANCE/EXERCISE Class
For the Family



Saturdays 9:30-10:30 am
Phil Matrale Hall (LC)

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.stmichaelunion.org (Click on the Parish Giving Icon).



Join the **HANDS OF GRACE (HUGS) MINISTRY** in celebrating "Giving Bear Sunday" every 3rd Sunday of the month. Look out for our Purple Bear in the vestibule with a basket for cards for family needs. Please stop by and pick a card or 2 to help ensure the ministries inventory never dries up. The HUGS Ministry services 50 families in our parish and community by giving out Grace Bags monthly to mothers and children-newborn to age 5.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT PERSONALLY
WITH ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group

DAY: Wednesday
TIME: 6 PM-7:30 PM
VENUE: Murphy Room, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)



Announcements

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS

April 21, 2024

Our next Coffee and Fellowship Sunday will be on April 21 after all the Sunday Masses at the Phil Matrale Hall (LC). We hope you can join us.

Thank you to Maria Valera and Yakima Williams for their generous donation to the March 17 fellowship.



SAVE THE DATE BUS TRIPS

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Bus trip to **Wind Creek Casino**. Bus leaves parking lot at 9:30 am. Cost is **\$35** with a \$25 slot play return.

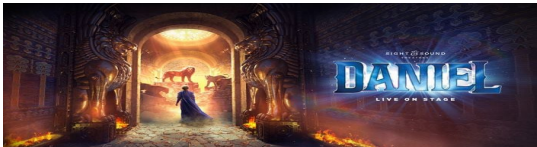
Wednesday, April 22, 2024

Bus trip to **Padre Pio Shrine, Barto, PA**. Cost: **\$45**. Bus leaves St. Michael's at 9:15 am sharp. Box Lunch available for \$16 which includes choice of sandwiches, fruit, cookies, chips & water.

Tour of the Shrine which includes Rosary at 11:30 am, Mass at 1:30pm, chaplet at 3:00pm. Bus leaves for home at 3:30.

Tuesday, May 21, 2024—Sight & Sound Trip to see **Daniel**. Bus boarding at St. Michael parking lot at 7:15 am, departure 7:30 am sharp. Cost: **\$170** includes show ticket, lunch, breakfast snack.

SOLD OUT - (WAITING LIST)



**Thank
You!**

Jeff and Theresa Pogorzelski
Ana DiFabrizio
Socorro Dagat

For your donations for the purchase of the new chasubles.
Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the Parish.



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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / LOCAL SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Status: Part Time: 25-28 hours per week, flexible schedule.
Potention for a full time position

Supervisor: Pastor

Position Summary - The Director of Religious Education (DRE) oversees and directs the parish religious education program grades 1 through 8, including sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion; recruits, trains and supervises volunteer catechists. The DRE is also the Local Safe Environment Coordinator (LSEC),

Position Specific Requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church.
- Must have vision and a demonstrated ability to plan, develop, coordinate, manage and implement a parish catechetical program within the parameters of the Catholic Church.
- Current credentials as a Catechetical leader and participation in the Archdiocesan ongoing certification and mentoring process.
- An ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with youth, diverse individuals, and teams of volunteers
- Basic computer and technology skills
- As LSEC, to ensure the volunteers (in ministry with minors) and employees in the Parish have the required safe environment documentation on file.

Interested candidates are invited to send cover letters and resumes to the attention of:

Msgr. Anselm I. Nwaorgu
St. Michael's Parish
1212 Kelly Street
Union, NJ 07083

Email: stmichaelunion@comcast.net



Family Life Ministry

The Archdiocese of Newark will be celebrating five, twenty five and fifty years of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2024 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark and will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin.

June 2, 2024	12:00 Noon	50 years (All counties)
May 5, 2024	12:00 Noon	5 Years & 25 Years (All Counties)

Please call the Parish Office (908) 688-1232, ext. 100 if you want to register.

2024 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

Please stop by the Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave.) to book your Mass Intentions for birthdays, wedding anniversaries, death anniversaries and any other special occasions. The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.