



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

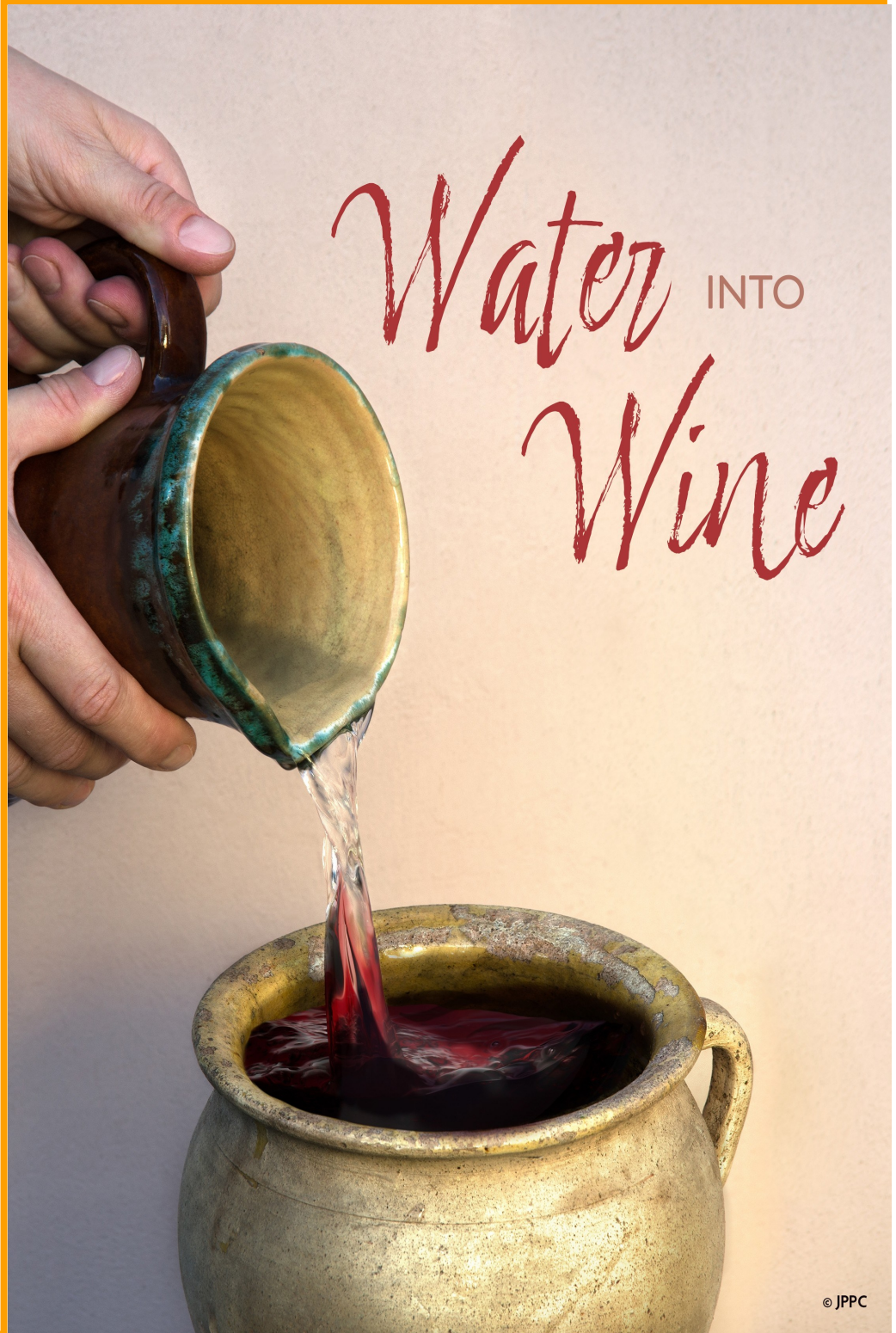
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www.stmichaelunion.org

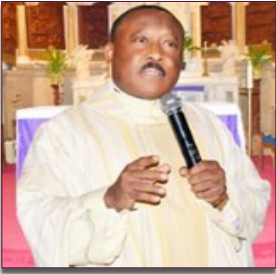
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The Power of Commitment



The first reading on this 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Times, Year C, begins with this statement: “For Zion’s sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not

be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch” (Isaiah 61:1). Here, the prophet said that he will not give up and that nothing will stop him from achieving his determined goal—the vindication of Jerusalem. My friends, this is what commitment is all about—a determined pursuit of a goal, a dream, an objective with a consistent, persistent, and unyielding spirit, until the goal is reached or the result achieved.

My friends, life is full of dreams, hopes, and aspirations and the road to achieving them is rarely by magic. It is always a combination of determination, commitment, hard work, and prayer. Life is very unforgiving and rarely rewards anyone who wants to sit on the fence and live it on the margins. As Scripture says, “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; so, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth” (Revelation 3:15-16). Our relationship with God, and life in general, cannot be successful if we take it on with an uncommitted spirit. Success is rarely an accident of history; it is mostly the result of a committed living; staying focused, loyal, and on point to what we said we are going to do, long after the mood in which we said it has passed.

There is a true difference between being

involved and being committed, and that difference is like the difference between ham and eggs. When it comes to eggs, the chicken is involved; but when it comes to ham, the pig is committed. Commitment is about total involvement; holding nothing back, accepting no excuses; only results. It involves the little everyday choices we make in the pursuit of our dreams. Whether we are working toward a healthier diet, a more active lifestyle, better relationships, reducing stress, becoming a happier person, pursuing a new career, or even more importantly, getting closer to God, our success starts with a commitment to ourselves to take little baby steps that would bring about the big goal. Those baby steps could be getting rid of those things that are holding us back from moving forward, the fears and inhibiting challenges that stand on the way, learning to stand firm in the face of “Nay Sayers” who are good at aborting dreams, or letting go of persons who are a drag to a future hope. Bottom-line, success is the fruit of commitment and the only one that holds the key for each of us is the self.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

JANUARY EVENTS IN THE PARISH

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

Friday, January 3
First Friday Mass and Adoration, Upper Church

Sunday, January 5, 7:00 -8:30 pm
First Sunday Adoration, Upper Church

Wednesday, January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Charismatic Renewal Group Prayer Meeting, (LC)

Wednesdays, January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 7:30 -8:30 pm
Marian Devotion: Rosary and Adoration, Upper Church

Thursday, January 9, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mind & Spirit Ministry, LC

Sunday, January 21, after all Masses
Fellowship Sunday, LC

Sunday, January 26, 3:00 pm
Feast of the Santo Nino (Child Jesus)

Saturdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 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
JANUARY			
Week 1	\$ 8,461	\$ 8,492	\$ 31
Week 2	\$ 8,461	\$ 8169	\$ 292
Week 3	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$11,425	\$ 8,068	\$ 3,357

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!

6 Ways To DONATE

ONLINE GIVING:



SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING—
stmichaelunion.org

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

It is not too late to donate for our Christmas Flowers. Christmas Flower Envelopes are available in the Church vestibule. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas Flowers Budget: \$3,800

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

January 18

8:30 am Uzoma Ubanii (Living)
Gedimise Gedeon
Myrthil Etienne
5:30 pm Frank Karwowski

SUNDAY

January 19

7:30 am For the Parishioners
Maria Elaine Rajano
9:00 am Avelino Torres
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)-Thanksgiving
10:30 am Lucille & Jose Arnaldo
12:00 noon Chinwe Melie (Living)-Birthday
Uzoma Ubanii (Living)
Giuseppi & Josephine Valentino

MONDAY January 20 Martin Luther King Day

9:00 am Mary Lambusta
Sylvana Etienne
Valmy Mythil

TUESDAY

January 21

8:30 am Lorenzo Bulos
Exantus Mythil
Serventine Etienne
Hedei Suter Wright
12:00 noon Novena of Masses
Eric Kouevi (Living)

WEDNESDAY

January 22

8:30 am Amoakon Mian
Raymundo Canares
12:00 noon Assunta Capra (1st Ann.)

THURSDAY

January 23

8:30 am Thomas Sipe (Living)-Thanksgiving
Jeffrey Alino
12:00 noon Novena of Masses
Gabriel & Jeanine Joseph (Living)-60th Wedding Ann
Josianne Ecienne
Christinne Exantus

FRIDAY

January 24

8:30 am Deceased Members of Diaz Family
Kevin Schmitt
12:00 noon Brian Schmitt
Novena of Masses

SATURDAY

January 25

8:30 am Patrick Eltouney (Living)-Birthday
Amadeu Pinto
Pat & Mafe Querubin (Living)-20th Wedding Ann
5:30 pm Almario Morales (Living)-Birthday

SUNDAY

January 26

7:30 am Peter J. Janke, Jr.
Felicidad Albinto
9:00 am Emmanuel Egwuonwu
For the Parishioners
10:30 am Carmen M. Gancia
12:00 noon Manuel Aguda (40th day)
Living & Deceased Members of Magalhaes Family

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and Sanctuary Lamp are offered by Chinwe Melie (Living) for thanksgiving.

Novena of Masses January 2025

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrale
Mary & Idolo Russomano	John Mc Evoy
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Joseph & Michelene Kmetz	Miriam Perez
Erlinda Pradas	Luis Evalle
Jagadeesan Ragavan	Julieta A. San Pascual
Mary & Idolo Russomano	Isabel Urra (Living)
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Carminia Bascon	
Christopher Boulin (Living)-Birthday	
Dr. Magdalena Canag Cabaraban	
Alberta Phillips (Living)-Healing	
Jeff Pogorzleski (Living)-Healing	
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	

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 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, 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

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,

Charles Benedek & Beverly Riccitelli

Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



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

Our next CYO meeting will be on Tuesday, January 21st from 7:00pm-8:15pm in the Phil Matrale Hall where we will be making sandwiches and bagged lunches for the St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth. Sign-ups for our other January service projects will be available at our next meeting. This month will be going to the ARC of Union County on Saturday, January 25th, and the Cheshire Home on Tuesday, January 28th.

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

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!

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

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.

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.

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



Please join us this Sunday, January 19, 2025 for Coffee & Fellowship 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!

We especially thank Betty Falcon, Victoria Oyakhime, Soque Dagat, Erica Colbert, Clara Asoya, Jane Mrugal, Maria Valera, Mary Anaamdi, Babs Ordonez & Cheryl Thompson for their generous donation to our December fellowship and Christmas celebration.

We wish you all a very Happy, prosperous and peaceful New Year.

God Bless you All!

ACCOUNTABILITY WITH HEARTFELT THANKS



Catholic Charities received **\$5,926** as a result of your generosity to our Donation Bin(s) at your Church from June 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024. These funds combined with monies from other parishes in the same program throughout the Archdiocese enable Catholic Charities to provide shelter to 590 people every night at our seven homeless shelters throughout the Archdiocese (FY23/24). The advent of the cold weather increases the demand for our services at these shelters. Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.

RCIA PROGRAM

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