



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY IN ACTION

August 13, 2023

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

8:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Saturday

8:30 am

Sunday

5:30 pm (Saturday Vigil Mass)

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 Cavallo
Deacon Michael Alfano
Permanent Deacons

Margaret Kazan
Principal

Mary Jo Arnaldo-Sipe
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Clare Andriola
Lois Scanio
Religious Education

Cristina Manochio
Joseph Santillo
Youth Ministry

Fran Engleman
Patrick B. Phillips
Music Ministry

Tiago Rodrigues
Property Manager

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Charles McDermott

PARISH OFFICE

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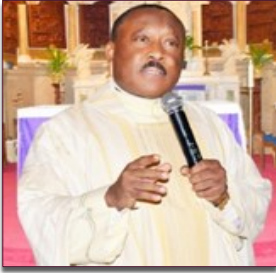


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Faith

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.



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

My dear Parishioners,

On this 19th Sunday in ordinary times, Year A, the gospel (Matthew 14:22-23) tells the story of Christ walking on the water to help out His apostles whose boat was being tossed about by a stormy wind. Peter, requested to walk on the water also as an assurance that the one walking on the water was Jesus. Jesus asked him to come, and he did, but shortly after, began to sink, when fear caught hold of him. He cried out to Christ and Jesus lifted him off of the water while remanding him, “Oh ye of little faith, why did you doubt”.

Doubt almost seems like a bad word in our Christian circle. Many a time, we equate it with disbelief or losing faith. We fight against doubt and we encourage those who question their faith to back off and just have faith. But is doubt always a bad thing?

My friends, faith and doubt can very easily cohabit. Doubt is not disbelief. The truth of the matter is that when it comes to faith, no one is 100% sure. Surely, we do have reasons to believe what you believe and we have lots of evidence for what we believe. Yet, at some point in our faith journey, we will run into a wall whereby doubt can set in. Scripture is full of these situations. Abraham and Sarah doubted God’s promise of a child; actually they laughed at it in spite of the fact that Abrahams faith was so strong that God recorded for him as righteousness (Genesis 16-18). Asaph, the Psalmist, had great doubts concerning the value of serving God because those who do not serve God seemed to prosper more than those who do. He wondered whether the servant of God should not be more blessed than the wicked (1 Chronicles 16:4-7). Moses doubted God could use him to lead Israel out of Egypt (Numbers 11:21-22) and Gideon did exactly the same (Judges 6-8). Thomas, Jesus’ disciple, doubted Jesus rose from the dead (John 20:24-29) and the people mocked Jesus when He told them that Jarius daughter, who had just died, was sleeping. I could go on and on but the point here is that God isn’t scared by our doubt, rather it is what we do with our doubt that matters most. Doubt can keep us from following God or it can increase our faith. Take Asaph, for example. He did not let his doubt fester and cause him to fall. Instead, he went into the temple (Psalm 73:16-17), bringing his troubled thoughts before God. He gained understanding about the destiny of the wicked—their prosperity was only temporary and would end with destruction. His faith was strengthened by this new insight. His doubt had led him to growth in his faith. The same was true of Thomas, Gideon, Moses, Abraham, etc.

My friends, doubt will occasionally creep into our faith. It is natural. Rather than run from it, rather than disconnect from God because of it, let us rather, like Peter, in today’s Gospel, call out to Jesus. Let us use it to our advantage by bringing it to God like Asaph did and by seeking answers to our doubts like Thomas did. When we find ourselves questioning some aspect of our faith or the things we believe, let us invest time and effort in studying what we are being challenged by; let us seek to better understand it. Doubt in our faith is always an opportunity to grow deeper in faith.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

2023 UNION OF SAINTS & NATIONS (USAN)

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

May the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and your families.

On behalf of our pastor Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, we would like to give you an update on our UNION of SAINTS and NATIONS FUNDRAISER 2023 (USAN 2023), which is our church's sole annual fundraiser.

At present, we only have 38 groups formed with 38 facilitators or group leaders. We need to form a minimum of 50 groups to be able to achieve our fundraising goal of **\$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand)**. Each group is to raise \$2,000.00. We have raised **\$47,281** so far for this campaign period.

Thank you to all who have already responded. For those who have not, please consider being a facilitator or choose to belong to any formed groups or any new groups that will be formed.

For questions, please contact:

Parish Office 908-688-1232
Cynthia Grandeza 908-591-1065
David Bernot 908-472-8858

May our good Lord give us the grace to commit to do everything possible to be a part of this blessed effort for the sustenance of our church. We hope and pray for the success of this campaign and may God grant us this blessing.

Your brother and sister in Christ,
David and Cynthia
USAN COORDINATORS

Dear Parishioners,

Our ministry to children 0-5 years and their families (**HUGS Ministry**) has truly picked up to the Glory of God. We now serve over 50 families every month and these are families that truly need help. To make sure our Church continues to carry out this most worthy ministry, we will have a HUGS Ministry Sunday, every third Sunday of the month. Look for the teddy bear in the vestibule of the Church after every Mass on this dedicated Sunday.

Msgr. Anselm N. Nwaorgu

"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
AUGUST			
Week 1	\$ 7,079	\$ 6,792	\$ 287
Week 2	\$ 7,079	\$	\$
Week 3	\$ 7,079	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 7,079	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$10,040	\$ 6,508	\$3,532

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

6 Ways To DONATE

<p>ONLINE GIVING:</p>  <p>—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING— stmichaelunion.org</p>	<p>BANK TRANSFER:</p>  <p>stmichaelunion@comcast.net</p> <p><small>In the Comment section, indicate where your donation should be accounted for, e.g., USAN (with your Group Name), Offertory, Tithe, etc.</small></p>	<p>CONTACT FREE: QR CODE</p>  <p><small>Scanning the code above with your mobile device directs you to the online donation page</small></p>
<p>MAIL IN:</p>  <p><small>1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083</small></p>	<p>DROP OFF: AT THE PARISH CENTER</p>  <p><small>1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083</small></p>	<p>DURING OFFERTORY: AT MASS</p>  <p><small>You can use designated envelopes OR use your envelope but indicate where your donation should be accounted for.</small></p>

ARE YOU GOING AWAY THIS SUMMER?

Many of our parish families are planning to get away for some summer fun and relaxation in the next few months. We pray that your vacation time will be safe and a source of many happy memories. However, please do not take your parish offering with you. Each summer our parish office struggles to juggle the bills as Sunday offerings decrease significantly. If you find that you tend to forget your envelope more often during the less structured weeks of summer, please consider our electronic giving program. Go to our website, stmichaelunion.org, to sign up for electronic giving. It's simple! It's safe! And it keeps God at the top of your giving list even when you are away.

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY August 12
 8:30 am Clara Asoya (Living)-Thanksgiving
 Stephanie Mejias
 5:30 pm Denisa Sardella & Family
 Raymond Williamson (74th Birthday)

SUNDAY August 13
 7:30 am For the Parishioners
 Jose & Lucille Arnaldo
 9:00 am Laisha Eugene (Living)-Birthday
 Jossy Benoit (Living)-Birthday
 Sophia, Cristian, Stephan Riche (Living)
 Philip Ruivivar
 10:30 am Alejandro Cruz
 12:00 noon Robert Emery (20th Ann.)

MONDAY August 14
 8:30 am Novena of Masses
 12:00 noon For the Parishioners

TUESDAY August 15
 8:30 am Arsenio Reyes (Living)-75th Birthday
 Reynaldo & Concepcion Ticzon
 12:00 noon For the Parishioners

WEDNESDAY August 16
 8:30 am For the Parishioners
 12:00 noon Novena of Masses

THURSDAY August 17
 8:30 am For the Parishioners
 12:00 noon Novena of Masses

FRIDAY August 18
 8:30 am For the Parishioners
 12:00 noon For the Parishioners

SATURDAY August 19
 8:30 am Victoria Sipe (Living)-Birthday
 5:30 pm Lucille Arnaldo

SUNDAY August 20
 7:30 am Novena of Masses for all Children
 Victoria Nwosu & Deborah Nwosu
 9:00 am Novena of Masses for all Children
 For the Parishioners
 Florencio Roque, Sr.
 10:30 am Novena of Masses for all Children
 Henry Mendoza (Living)-Thanks
 Diane Cavallo
 12:00 noon Joe & Ginger Frain (Living)
 35th Wedding Anniversary

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread, Altar Wine and the Sanctuary Lamp are offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.

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 Richard Laguna

NOVENA OF MASSES August 2023

<p>Jose & Lucille Arnaldo James Ford, Sr. Raymond Williamson Pierre & Rubinetti Families Mary & Idolo Russomano George Rinehart, Jr. Michelle Sumabat (Living) Cresencia Mayuga (Living) Visitation Raymundo Belza Agnes Malgapo (Living) Marita Chisaokwu Nwaogu Michelene & Joseph Kmetz Aida Sotto (Living)-Healing Elenita Roque (Living)-Healing Jeff Pogorzelski (Living) - Healing Shela Boulin (Living)-Thanksgiving Anamaria Araujo Pais (Living) Filipe Manuel Araujo Pais (Living) Grace Marie Araujo Cadenas (Living) Patsy Scalgione & Deceased Family Members Living & Deceased Members of the Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families Manuel Pereira Araujo & Lucilia Sousa Araujo Living & Deceased Members of Furnari & Potignano Families Living & Deceased Members of Santoriello Family Living & Deceased Members of the Del Rosario & Perez Families Living & Deceased Members of Onyenanu & Durugo Families</p>	<p>Phil Matrale Jorge J. Criado Fritz Maddy Frank Rubinetti Artemia Tan Abe Maksom Phyllis J. Szeker Philip Ruivivar Aurora Sandoval Louie Ozimek Frank Ozimek, Jr Angelito Sandoval Timothy L. Connell</p>
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PRAYERS OF HEALING FOR

Julia Asfalk, Roselle Roux, Amanda D'Amato, Jean Claude, Claubette Kallabeen, Clarence Roberts, Harry Vendemia, David Randolph, Junia Perez, Virginia Hernandez, Doug Heinzer, William Grant, Cesar DeJesus, Carmen Diaz Colon, Marian Orzechowski, George Leary, Grace Fortino, Brian Schmitt, Tom Ewing, Tony Zaliwski, Kathleen Kachelriess, Trudy Spinelli, Willa Jackson, John McEvoy, Dolores Rust, Lucy Nwauku, Judy Reid, Ana Torres, Rita Homiak, Stephen Berberabe, Norma Tuano, Marlene Cababe, Milan Durish, Maria Santiago, Marisol Morales, Angelina Amali, 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, Coady Brown, Alex Pretto, Paulo Goncalves, Frances Machado, Antoinette Agriloo, James Scholz, Giovanna Di Biase, Michael Nworu, Victoria Nworu, June Musa, Marivic del Rosario, Socorro Dagat, Denise Lucarello Aliseo, James Mariusiak, Theresa Ojeawere, Aida Sotto



Ministry Happenings

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTRATION FOR 2023/2024 - Currently registered families should have received an email reminder directly from Parish Giving to register their children for the coming school year. If you need the email re-sent to you, call or email the Religious Education Office.

NEW FAMILIES ONLY: If your child was not part of our program last year, please visit stmichaelunion.org/religious-education and follow the link to either in-person classes or home-based classes. Alternatively, you can print the .pdf registration form, fill it in and return it to the office, or come to the Religious Education Office and complete the process in person.

Religious Education begins in Grade 1 and continues through Grade 8. First Communion candidates must complete two years of Religious Education before receiving the sacrament. Confirmation is typically received in Grade 9 after completing the Religious Education program. If you know of someone who has a child entering the first grade, please ask them to contact the Religious Education Office. Special classes are available for older students who haven't had any prior religious instruction.

The **Religious Education Office** is open Monday through Thursday from 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

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY



The CYO / Youth Ministry would like to thank all of its members for an amazing year! Congratulations to all of our seniors who are graduating, and we wish you the best of luck! We wish everyone a safe, healthy and fun summer and we look forward to seeing the rest of our members back in September!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Consider joining the Eucharistic Ministry, it is a rewarding experience, bringing Christ to others at mass and those who are unable to attend mass. At this time our parish is in need for new candidates for the Eucharistic Ministry. At this time we are in need of men and women 18 years and older to volunteer to the Ministry of the Eucharist. We presently have openings for all masses. If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please contact Terry Dziedzic at (908) 418-3730 or dziedzict@comcast.net and Deacon Michael Alfano at (201) 995-7211 or michaeljalfano@aol.com.

LINEN MINISTRY

St. Michael's Church is in need of new ministers to join the Linen Ministry. The Linen Ministry provides clean altar linens used at masses and spiritual celebrations.

What do you need know to be a part of this worthwhile ministry?

- You need to have a washing machine and iron (no starch please).
- Based on the size of our team you can expect to be asked every 3 to 4 months to launder the clothes.
- The linens are washed and pressed. The linens are usually picked up on the weekend and returned within the week of pickup.
- A typical wash consists of approximately 50 to 75 altar clothes.

Consider joining the **Linen Ministry** it will be a rewarding experience for you knowing the linens you cleaned are adding to the beauty of our altar and the celebration.

If you are interested in joining the **Linen Ministry** or have .questions, please call or email Joann Pastewski at 908-688-8844 jpastewski@aol.com

HANDS OF GRACE MINISTRY (HUGS)

HUGS Ministry needs help with **Back to School** supplies—backpacks, notebooks, pencils, etc. We also have 50 families with children—new born to age 5 that we give monthly grace bags.

Please call the contact **Bisi (908) 247-4461** or **Tania (908) 420- 8659** for more information on how you can help.

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)



WELLNESS MINISTRY

(FREE) **DANCE/EXERCISE** Class For the Family

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

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.

Announcements



ST. MICHAEL'S ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Please join us for the Feast of St. Michael Annual Dinner Dance on September 29, 2023, 7:00-11:00 pm at The Galloping Hill Caterers. Cost: \$60, Buffet Dinner, Dessert & Dancing Only 130 tickets are available (Tables of 10) now being sold at the Parish Center (908) 688-1232, ext. 100. After August 20th, tickets will be sold at the Church.

SAVE THE DATE



Annual celebration of the feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila The first Filipino Saint

Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 3:00 pm
Daily Novena will start on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023 after the 8:30 am Mass on weekdays and Saturdays and before the 12:00 noon Mass on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023

Reception and fellowship after the Mass at the Phil Matrale Hall (Lower Church)

WINDCREEK CASINO TRIP Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Cost \$35, return \$25 in slot play
Bus leaves St. Michael's
Parking Lot at 9:30 am

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

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Social Events Committee is accepting donations of school supplies. The items needed are:

Composition books, folders—2 pockets, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, erasers, glue sticks, zip-lock bags—gallon size, subject notebook, pencil cases, marker.

You may drop off donations at the Church vestibule anytime on the weekend of August 13 and 14.

Thank you for your generosity.



COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS

We would like to acknowledge the Knights of Columbus Council 4504 and the Columbian Club of Union for their generous donation of donuts. Their presence throughout the entire fellowship and beyond, ensuring that there's continuous supply of food, information materials about K&C programs and activities and helping with after care/clean up truly made a difference.



Thank you to Yakima Williams for your unfailing commitment and generosity in providing bagels, donuts, etc. Thank you to Victoria Oyakhrome, David Bernot, Maria Edmond and Yakima Williams for your selfless service to our Church.

Our next Coffee & Fellowship Sunday will be **August 20, 2023**. It will also be dedicated to our students as they prepare to return to school. Special Back to School Student Send-off. More information to follow.



SAVE THE DATE

Bus trip to Sight & Sound to see Miracle of Christmas on December 21, 2023. Bus leaves at 7:15 am. Breakfast snack and lunch included. Cost: \$155.00. Treat yourself to a spiritual Christmas present. Please call the Parish Center for more information. 908-688-1232, ext. 110.