



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

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stmichaelunion@comcast.net

www.stmichaelunion.org

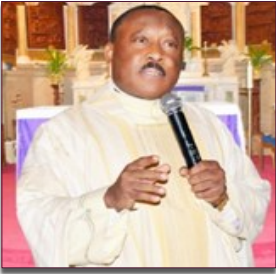
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Offering of Gratitude



Rudyard Kipling is a writer, and his books sold so much that words in his books were said to be worth a hundred dollars each. Once, a journalist gave him a hundred dollars with the request, “Mr.

Kipling, could you please give me one of your one-hundred-dollar worth words.” “Sure”, Mr. Kipling replied, and putting the money in his pocket, said, “Thanks”. Yes, thanks—to be grateful and to appreciate blessings in life—is a genuine and gracious million-dollar word.

In the first reading of this First Sunday of Lent, Year C (Deuteronomy 26:1-11), Moses told the people of Israel that when they bring their offering to the Lord, they should do so with a declaration of all the blessings God has bestowed upon them from years past. In other words, he was telling the people that when they bring their offerings to the Lord, they should be intentional about it, with gratitude in their hearts for God’s blessings in their lives over the years. Scriptures say that “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7).

It is easy to come to Church and drop a note or a few coins into the collection basket without really giving it much thought—what am I doing, how much am I giving, why am I giving what I am giving, etc. Our offertory giving needs to be intentional and must have a purpose. Our offertory giving is not something that happens during offertory. No, it begins at home before we come to Church. The family should come together, remember and declare what the Lord has done in their lives—His mercies, graces, divine protection, deliverances, blessings, provision, sustenance, consolations, healings and restorations, gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, gift of life and wellbeing, etc. Then, in gratitude and thanksgiving for all these blessings, decide on what to give to the Lord, bearing in mind that

all that we have come from Him. In this way, we are thoughtful about what we are giving to God, and we package it with an intention. This makes our offertory giving a true sacrifice of praise, pleasing to the Lord.

My friends, the Lord deserves our best, our very best, and so our minds should be in it when we are making an offering to Him. We should be grateful not just for what God is doing today but also for what He has done over the years. It strengthens our faith in a promise-keeping God and strengthens our hope that His promises are “Amen” unto us in Christ Jesus. So, let us take time to remember what the Lord has done for us over the years and become thoughtful, intentional, and gratitude-loaded, as we make our Sunday offerings. The good Lord blesses His people so that His intention that the world be saved in the Blood of his Son will not be shortchange.

May our offerings always come out of the spirit of generosity and an expression of our thankfulness and gracious gratitude to our Lord. The Church of God cannot lack when the people of God are present. Scripture says, “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food [plenty] in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it” (Malachi 3:10). May the good Lord take glory in our offerings and may this promise of His be “Amen” unto us, in Christ Jesus.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure

2025 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5- Distribution of Ashes
8:30 am, 12:00 noon, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday – March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
7:00 pm, Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, April 12, 1:00-2:00 pm – Individual Confession

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Distribution of the Palms at all Masses
Saturday, April 12 at 5:30 pm
Sunday, April 13 at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon

Wednesday of the Week, April 16

Penance Service with Individual Confession 7:00 – 8:30 pm
No Confession on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday

Holy Thursday, April 17

8:30 am – Morning Prayer
7:00 pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Vigil & Adoration

Good Friday, April 18

8:30 am- Morning Prayer
2:00 pm – Walking Stations of the Cross around town
3:30 pm – Celebration of the Passion
7:30 pm – CYO Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 19

8:30 am – Morning Prayer/Reflections
12:00 noon – Blessing of the Food
8:00 pm – Easter Vigil
No Confession/No 5:30 pm Mass

Easter Sunday, April 20

Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm

Easter Monday, April 21

Mass at 9:00 am

*"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>
MARCH			
Week 1	\$ 8,461	\$ 8,036	\$ 425
Week 2	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 3	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Week 4	\$ 8,461	\$	\$
Monthly SOS	\$11,425	\$ 4,976	\$ 6,449

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK 2025 LENTEN REGULATIONS

- The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

- The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
- The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
- The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Day*) extends from **First Sunday of Lent, March 9 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 15, 2025.**

**Canon 920, 1 All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

ANNUAL²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

The 2025 Annual Appeal has begun! You should have received an invitation in the mail from Cardinal Tobin to consider making a financial sacrifice to support this year's Annual Appeal. We are grateful for your generosity and we rely on it because it helps support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese, which are also centric to our faith. Your support to the Annual Appeal helps us accomplish across the Archdiocese what we would not be able to do alone.

Our Parish Base Goal for 2025 is \$47,850 and our Stretch Goal is \$57,420. There are two financial benefits to our Parish if we achieve this goal. First, if we reach this goal in cash by June 30th, our Parish is eligible for assessment savings on our fiscal obligations to the Archdiocese. Second, if we go over goal in pledges as of June 30th, we will be eligible for a rebate, which comes back to our Parish, unassessed, to be used at our own discretion.

Please consider taking a step with me on this Stewardship journey by responding to Cardinal Tobin's invitation to support the Appeal. You can also make a gift online by going to rcan.org/sharing. Thank you for your time and consideration. You are in my prayers. Please pray for the success of the Annual Appeal.

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	March 8
8:30 am	Novena of Masses Genaro Marasigan, Jr.
5:30 pm	Roger Boetsch Raizza Jean Gonzales (Living)-Birthday
SUNDAY	March 9
7:30 am	For Parishioners Jose & Lucille Arnaldo
9:00 am	Avelino Torres John Morris
10:30 am	John Mota (Living)-Healing Agripina Perez (Living)-Healing
12:00 noon	Leticia Velasquez (Living)-Birthday Carol & John Halloran
MONDAY	March 10
8:30 am	Ariel Picado (Living)
12:00 noon	Romeo Ponce John Becz (1st Ann.)
TUESDAY	March 11
8:30 am	Chester Furmanek
12:00 noon	Novena of Masses
WEDNESDAY	March 12
8:30 am	Amoakon Mian
12:00 noon	Jacquelyn Makus Zita & Danny Habjijian (Living)-41th Wedding Ann
THURSDAY	March 13
8:30 am	Daisy Lapore (Living)-Healing
12:00 noon	Romeo Ponce Czeslawa Pogorzelski Irene Pogorzelski
FRIDAY	March 14
8:30 am	Novena of Mases
12:00 noon	Maria Lourdes Duenas (Living)-Birthday Nestor Fadriquela, Sr. (40th Day)
SATURDAY	March 15
8:30 am	Fr. Alfred Mamman (Living) Maxilillian Ekpeni
5:30 pm	Christopher Boulin (Living)-Thanksgiving Living & Deceased Members of Thomas J. McEnroe, Sr. Family
SUNDAY	March 16
7:30 am	For the Parishioners
9:00 am	Manuel Periera Arujo
10:30 am	Joselito Espana (Living) Dumitru Anusca (31st Ann.) Theodoro Mendoza & Agerico Mendoza
12:00 noon	Living & Deceased Members of Magalhaes Family

ALTAR OFFERINGS

The Altar Bread and Altar Wine are offered for St. Michael's Parishioners.
The Sanctuary Lamp is offered for Christopher Boulin (Living) for Thanksgiving.
The Paschal Candle is donated by Ed & Katherine Izbicki in memory of Walter & Ruth Reinhard and Edward & Carol Izbicki.

Novena of Masses March 2025

Jose & Lucille Arnaldo	Phil Matrale
James Ford, Sr.	Jean Ford
Mary & Idolo Russomano	George Rinehart, Jr.
Julia Durugo (Living)	Carmen Soriano
Stephanie Tokpe (Living)	Eric Kouevi (Living)
Sarah Villanueva (Living)-Healing	
Ruth Harrison	
George Sr., Ruth & Barbara Rinehart	
Jeff Pogorzleski (Living)-Healing	
Christopher Boulin (Living)-Thanksgiving	
Christopher Stanton & Family-Living-Special Intentions	
Delia Empleo (Living)-Spiritual Healing	
Patsy Scalgione & deceased family members	
Living & Deceased Members of Orlando, Landolfi, Siciliano & LaManna Families	
Lucille Sousa Araujo & Manuel Periera Araujo	
Living & Deceased Members of Thomas J. McEnroe & Family	
Living & Deceased Members of Boulin & Maddy Families	
Living & Deceased Members of Lady Chinyere Odoemene & Nwosuh Families	
Living & Deceased Members of the Durugo & Onyeananu 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, 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, Michelle Dressel, Jose Espiritu, Cristina Sarmiento, Agripina Perez, Walter McMahan

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

Cristina Manochio
(908) 688-1232, ext 3

Joseph Santillo
cyounionnj@gmail.com



Our service projects for March include: ARC visit on March 22nd from 10:00am-11:30am and the Cheshire Home visit on March 25th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Please sign up using our monthly service project google form or email us at cyounionnj@gmail.com for any questions.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11th where we are excited to welcome back the missionaries from the Hard as Nails Ministry, as special guest speakers! The event will be from 7-8:15pm in the Phil Matrale Hall of St. Michael's Church. All youth in grades 8-12 of the community are welcome!

CYO will also be hosting its annual **Kids Night Fundraiser on Saturday, March 15th from 6-9pm** in St. Michael's Phil Matrale Hall (Lower Church). Children in grades K-8 are welcome to come and enjoy a night full of art and crafts, games, movies, pizza, snacks, fun and more run by the teen members of our CYO program! The price is \$20.00 per child and money/permission slips can be dropped off at the Parish Center of St. Michael's (1211 Orange Ave) by March 1st. Do not delay as spots are limited and there will be no walk ins this year!

Please email us at cyounionnj@gmail.com for any questions!

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.



As Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) reminds us:
"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

Let's come together to strengthen our faith and uplift one another in fellowship.

Upcoming Event: Ask Me Anything – Part 2 with Msgr Anselm Nwaorgu

Join us for the **continuation of our "Ask Me Anything" session** with **Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu**! Whether you attended the first session or not, this is an opportunity to ask faith-based questions, seek guidance, and engage in meaningful discussion.

When: Thursday, March 20, 2025
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 PM EST
Virtual Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88251820353>

Submit Your Questions in Advance!

To make the most of our time with Monsignor, we ask that questions be sent in advance. Please email your questions to MillennialsWithChrist@gmail.com by **Tuesday, March 18th**.

Bring your questions, an open heart, and a friend! We look forward to growing in faith with you.

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

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

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).

RCIA PROGRAM

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

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.

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

Announcements

MARCH EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Sunday, March 2, 7:00-8:30 pm
First Sunday Mass Adoration, Upper Church

Wednesday, March 6—Ash Wednesday
8:30, 12:00, 4:00, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 7, 6:30 pm
First Sunday Adoration, Upper Church

Monday, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 7:00 pm
Online/Virtual Rosary/Family Prayer

Wednesday, March 5, 12, 19, 26, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Charismatic Renewal Group Prayer Meeting, (LC)

Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:30 -8:30 pm
Marian Devotion: Rosary and Adoration, Upper Church

Thursday, March 6, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mind & Spirit Ministry, LC

Friday, March 7, 14, 21, 28, 7:00 pm
Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 15, 6:00-9:00 pm
CYO—Kid's Night, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)

Sunday, March 16, after all Masses
Fellowship Sunday, LC

Saturday, March 29, 11:00 am
Healing Mass, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Please join us this **Sunday, March 16, 2025** after all Masses for coffee and fellowship.

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!



TRAVELING STATUE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



As part of the Church various devotional activities to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the church has commissioned a traveling statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It will be commissioned for any parishioner's home for a week from Sunday to Saturday. Anybody who wants to take home the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, should indicate the week and the mass time you are taking the statue. The statue should be picked up on Sunday at a Mass time you requested, stays at your home for a week and dropped off on Saturday before the 5:30 pm Mass. There is a sign up sheet in the vestibule of the Church or call the Parish Office (908) 688-1232 for more information.

March Schedule

March 9—Jossy Benoit—10:30 am Mass
March 16— William DeLaTorre—10:30 am Mass
March 23—Carolyn DeLa Cruz—12:00 noon Mass
March 30—Gladys Ubanin-12:00 noon Mass

APRIL SCHEDULE

April 6—Maria Sarmiento—9:00 am Mass
April 13—Yormys Cabral
April 20—Marissa Elan—12:00 Noon Mass
April 27—Adalgisa Sosa—12:00 Noon Mass

**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
1212 KELLY ST., UNION, NEW JERSEY, NJ 07083

SAT
29TH
MAR
2025

11 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME

PHIL MATRALE HALL (LOWER CHURCH)

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

For more info: Call the Parish Office
(908) 688 - 1232

Light refreshment will be served after the mass.



Volunteers are the pillar of our Church community. Please come and join and be a volunteer in our Family Activities Committee, Multicultural Committee, Social Events Committee and our Adult Faith Formation Committee. Please call the Parish Center (908) 688-1232, ext. 100 for more information.

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