



# 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](http://www.stmichaelunion.org)

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

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

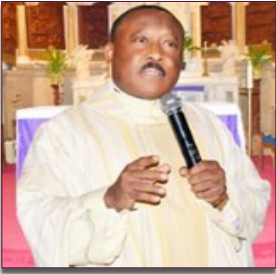
 [Stmichaelchurch](https://www.instagram.com/Stmichaelchurch)



# FOLLOW THE LIGHT



**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Why Was Christ Baptized?**



On this first Sunday in Ordinary Times, Year C, we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. With the birth of Christ, God had to find a way to help us identify Him as the Lamb of God, the

Savior, because anyone could rise and claim that he is the Messiah. The baptism of the Lord served this purpose, and we can, actually, call it the Epiphany of the Lamb.

In the gospel of John, John the Baptist said, “So that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water and He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, ‘He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit’ (John 1:30-33). The other gospels, also, had this to say, “Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.” (Matthew 3:16-17, Mark 1:9-11, Lk 3:21-22). The very next day, John the Baptist pointed to Christ and told his disciples, “Behold the Lamb of God”. So, the Baptism of our Lord served to single out Jesus as the Messiah, the Lamb of God. As John the Baptist would go on to say, “I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God” (John 1:34).

The Baptism of Christ also serves as a symbol of identity—Christ identifying with those he had come to save, so that through His righteousness, sinners can regain their rightful place with God. By His baptism, Jesus took our place so that by our Baptism in Him we can take on His place—his life, death, and resurrection. As Scripture

says, “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Cor. 5:21) and “Having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. (Titus 3:7). In other words, by being baptized, Christ turned the Baptism of John—a baptism of repentance—into a Sacrament of grace, redemption, and salvation; a ticket and admission into the community of God’s people; a gateway and passport into the kingdom of God. It also ended the criteria of being Jewish and circumcised to be a child of God. Scripture says, “Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith (that is, those who are baptized) who are sons of Abraham....in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles” (Galatians 3:7-9, 14).

The Baptism of Christ also served to reveal the true nature of God as Trinity—Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. During His baptism, we had the Spirit descending upon the Son, in preparation for the Father’s testimony, and the Father who spoke of His Son; the Son who was being baptized. Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit interacting in this divine moment on earth.

My friends, the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord is a rich experience and a true privilege for all of us who are bonded unto Christ through Baptism. His Baptism reassures us that he is the One, the Lamb of God, and the Redeemer. We therefore can be sure that our hope for salvation is not in vain. To Him be praise, honor, and glory for all ages, Amen.

*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 Matrале 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
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
Week 1	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,748	\$ 441
Week 2	\$ 7,307	\$ 8,949	\$1,642
Week 3	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,792	\$ 485
Week 4	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,165	\$ 142
<b>Monthly SOS</b>	<b>\$10,040</b>	<b>\$10,971</b>	<b>\$ 931</b>

### 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:



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 4**  
 8:30 am New Year's Novena  
 5:30 pm Devera Family (Living)-Safe Travels

**SUNDAY** **January 5**  
 7:30 am Jose & Lucille Arnaldo  
 For the Parishioners  
 9:00 am Lilian Sousa Araujo  
 10:30 am Edwardo Fernandez  
 Cenona San Andres Lacuna  
 12:00n Norma Canares  
 Luz Mery Losada

**MONDAY** **January 6**  
 8:30 am Winnie Rogales  
 12:00 noon Novena of Masses

**TUESDAY** **January 7**  
 8:30 am Socorro Dagat (Living)-Healing  
 12:00 noon All Souls in Purgatory

**WEDNESDAY** **January 8**  
 8:30 am Amoakon Mian  
 12:00 noon For the Parishioners

**THURSDAY** **January 9**  
 8:30 am Roger Boetsch  
 12:00 noon Novena of Masses

**FRIDAY** **January 10**  
 8:30 am Fredrick Dittmer  
 12:00 noon Uzoma Ubanii (Living)-Birthday

**SATURDAY** **January 11**  
 8:30 am Ronald Santos (Living)-Birthday  
 Rafael Gonzalez  
 5:30 pm Uzoma Ubanii (Living)

**SUNDAY** **January 12**  
 7:30 am For the Parishioners  
 9:00 am Joaquin & Maria Sarmiento (Living)  
 50th Wedding Anniversary  
 Thanksgiving to St. Jude & St. Anthony  
 10:30 am Lucille & Jose Arnaldo  
 12:00 noon Uzoma Ubanii (Living)  
 Jeanine Joseph (Living-Healing)

### ALTAR OFFERINGS

*The Altar Bread and Altar Wine are offered for all St. Michael's Parishioners.*

*The Sanctuary Lamp is offered for Lucy Scalgione (Living), family and friends.*

## 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)
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 Dittmer, 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, Homer Mereira, Alberta Phillips, Annamae McKnight, Liza David

## 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**  
**Joseph Santillo**  
**(908) 688-1232, ext 3**  
**[cyounionnj@gmail.com](mailto:cyounionnj@gmail.com)**

There will be no CYO over the next two weeks for Christmas break. CYO will resume on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### 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](http://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](mailto:ourmindandspirit@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](mailto: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](mailto:smreligiouseducation@gmail.com)

### MILLENNIALS WITH CHRIST (MWC)

#### Happy Holidays!



We're thrilled to share that meeting virtually has not changed how impactful our fellowship has been! October and November's virtual meetings have kept us engaged in insightful discussion while allowing members that could not meet due to time and location constraints to still take part in fellowship!

October's meeting centered around 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.'"*

November's meeting allowed us to dissect what preparation for the "End Times" looked like practically.

Mark's Gospel reads:

*"However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the son himself. Only the Father knows. And since you don't know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!"* Mark 13:32-33 (NLT)

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

To wrap up November, we met in person for our first official Theology on Tap where we had the opportunity to partake in authentic conversations and maintain the meaningful relationships we've built at our very own MWC Happy Hour!

As we approach the end of the year, we want to thank all members for your time and contribution to reigniting our young adult ministry!

We will not be meeting in December and will reconvene in the new year. We invite new members to join Millenials With Christ for more exciting opportunities for fellowship. We look forward to meeting you!

### WELLNESS MINISTRY

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

**Saturdays 9:30—10:00 am**  
**Phil Matrale Hall (LC)**





## Announcements

### 18<sup>TH</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

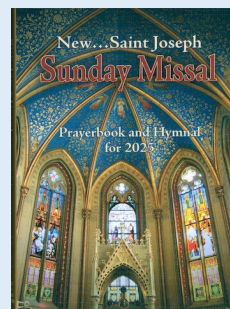
### 2025 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

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.



### 2025 SAINT JOSEPH SUNDAY MISSAL

**Please come to the Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave) to purchase your copy.**

**Cost: \$6.00 each**

### COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



The next Coffee & Fellowship is **January 21, 2025.**

Thank you to all the donors and volunteer for always helping and making sure our Sunday fellowship go efficiently.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

### ATTENTION TO ALL MINISTRY COORDINATORS

If planning for a St. Michael's Parish activity in the Phil Matrале Hall (Lower Church), please **CONFIRM** with the Parish Office the availability of the space including set-up. Know that many big ceremonies need the previous day/night set-up and please consider this before you book. Please clear all bookings with the Parish Office not with Msgr. Anselm.

It is the ministry's responsibility to clean up, including garbage disposal, the Phil Matrале Hall (LC) after every event.

### RCIA PROGRAM

Deacon Michael Alfano RCIA classes are every Saturday morning in the Phil Matrале Hall (LC) - Murphy Room at 10:30 am. Please contact Deacon Michael at [michaeljalfano@aol.com](mailto:michaeljalfano@aol.com) if you want to learn more about the program.