



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

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www.stmichaelunion.org

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

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



March 2, 2025

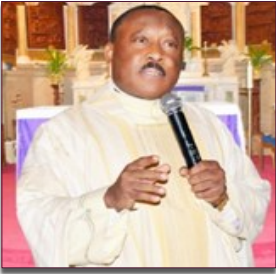
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A good tree does not bear
rotten fruit, nor does a rotten
tree bear good fruit.

Luke 6:43

Guard Your Heart with All You Got



In the 1st reading of this 8th Sunday in Ordinary Times (Sirach 27:4-7) we are told that one's speech discloses the bent of one's mind and that one's faults are revealed when one speaks. The gospel reading (Luke 6:39-45) concludes with this statement, "for out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks."

My friends, what comes out of our mouth reveals a lot about who we are and what our innermost self is made of. Speech always betrays the true nature of our hearts. What we are preoccupied with usually dominates our hearts and what dominates our hearts usually finds escape through our mouth; not just the words we say, but the thoughts, emotions, and beliefs that we carry within us. If our hearts are filled with love, kindness, positivity, and graciousness, our words and attitude will reflect that, the same it would if our hearts are filled with anger, bitterness, hate, or negativity. No wonder Scripture says, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it" (Proverbs 4:23). What this means is that we can change the words that come out of our mouth by changing the condition of our hearts.

How does one go about changing the conditions of one's heart? By cultivating a heart that is filled with goodness and righteousness—things that are pleasing to God and help mold the best-version of the self. Unfortunately, this cannot happen without serious effort on our part. For us to cultivate a heart of goodness and righteousness, it is important that we read and meditate on the Word of God and allow its truths to mold our hearts. It is difficult for our hearts to be truly transformed without the power of the Holy Spirit because it is the Spirit that provides the encouragement in the ever-difficult journey of surrendering our will to God's will. The desires of

the Holy Spirit are aligned with the desires of God and so when the power of the Spirit is acting within us, the fruits of the Holy Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, will begin to manifest in our speech.

We can also fill our hearts with good stuff when we develop an attitude of thankfulness and appreciation, allowing our spirit to be filled with praise and gratitude, by consciously recognizing and focusing on the goodness of the Lord and the blessings we have received. This has the power to shift our perspectives about self and others and allow the spirit of gratitude to take root in our hearts. We need to find ways to talk about God, about the church, about our own spirituality during the course of our day. We cannot just be "all flesh and no spirit" in our daily conversations. Let us find ways to magnify God, praise His Name, be in worship and in His presence.

It is also important that we consider the environment in which we operate. The bible says that iron sharpens iron. What we see, read, hear, and what is constantly around us can feed our hearts with stuff. Surrounding ourselves with positive influences and uplifting relationships, companionships that cherish and support our spiritual ideals, and environments where good things happen, are of vital importance. Such environments can safeguard our hearts from the onslaught of negativity, unwholesome behaviors, and attitudes, while filling us with the good, life-giving, and rewarding things of life. Let every one that comes from our mouth be edifying.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Stewardship of Treasure



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

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.

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ 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, or you can make your commitment at Mass on March 1-2, which will be our In-Pew Weekend. 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.

*"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 WEEKLY</u>	<u>ACTUAL WEEKLY</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
FEBRUARY			
Week 1	\$ 8,461	\$ 6,432	\$ 2,029
Week 2	\$ 8,461	\$ 6,305	\$ 2,156
Week 3	\$ 8,461	\$ 6,978	\$ 1,483
Week 4	\$ 8,461	\$ 8,300	\$ 161
Monthly SOS	\$11,425	\$11,824	\$ 399

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.*

Mass Intentions & Novenas

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY		March 1
8:30 am	Margaret McGurgan	
	Ramon Timothy Omberte (Living)-Birthday	
5:30 pm	Illuminada Duyan (40th day)	
	Romeo Ponce	
SUNDAY		March 2
7:30 am	Concepcion Pilapil	
	Clotilde Cardenas	
9:00 am	Joan Noonan (Living)-Thanksgiving	
	For the Parishioners	
10:30 am	Juan Espeleta, Sr.	
	Robert Gechtman	
	Kirsten Espeleta (Living)-Thanksgiving	
12:00 noon	Randal Harris	
	Heather Etienne (Living)-Special Intentions	
MONDAY		March 3
8:30 am	Delia Empleo (Living)-Healing	
12:00 noon	Novena of Masses	
	Aloysius Odoemene (24th Ann.)	
TUESDAY		March 4
8:30 am	Socorro Dagat (Living)-Healing	
	Frank Schmitt	
12:00 noon	Rosa & Emilio Alvero	
	Geneve Rumohr Garcia (Living)-Birthday	
ASH WEDNESDAY		March 5
8:30 am	Norma Canares	
12:00 noon	Novena of Masses	
4:00 pm	For All Parishioners	
7:00 pm	Giovanna DiBiase	
THURSDAY		March 6
8:30 am	Pope Francis (Living)-Healing	
12:00 noon	Alberta Phillips (Living)-Healing	
FIRST FRIDAY		March 7
8:30 am	Serapio Dagat (44th Ann.)	
	Thomas Canavan (15th Ann.)	
12:00 noon	Robert & Susan Rumohr (Living)	
	44th Wedding Anniversary	
6:30 pm	Eric Kovevi (Living)	
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	
12:00 noon	Leticia Velasquez (Living)-Birthday	
	Carol & John Halloran	

ALTAR OFFERINGS

*The Altar Bread and Altar Wine are offered in memory of Juan Espeleta, requested by his children.
The Sanctuary Lamp is offered by Lucy Scalgione, family and friends.*

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
Ruth Harriman	
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 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, Michelle Dressel, Jose Espiritu, Cristina Sarmiento

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025 IS ASH WEDNESDAY

Ministry Happenings

CYO YOUTH MINISTRY

Cristina Manochio
(908) 688-1232, ext 3

Joseph Santillo
cyounionnj@gmail.com



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!

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

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!

Kids Night Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Please circle: Boy Girl

Parent Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Parent Name and Signature: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
(Name) (Phone) (Relationship)

Please circle any of the following your child is allergic to: Peanuts Gluten Dairy

Does your child have any special concerns we should be aware of? This includes any allergies, diabetic, etc.

Pizza will be served for dinner. Please circle "Yes" or "No" if your child would like pizza.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per child.

Total Enclosed _____

Please return this form to the St. Michael's Parish Center (1211 Orange Ave) in person or by mail. If mailed, please write "CYO Kids Night" on envelope.



Youth Ministry Office: (908)688-1232 ext. 3 or email us at cyounionnj@gmail.com

Pictures from Kids Night will be used on our Website, for advertising and on our Church Bulletin Boards. **No names or personal information is ever used or given out on any child.** If you **do not** want pictures of your child used sign here. _____

Registration is due by 3/7/25. First come, first serve! Limited spots and there will be no walk-ins this 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.

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

Saturdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 9:30 am
Wellness Ministry, Phil Matrale Hall (LC)
Dance/Exercise/Self-Defense

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!

WAIT LIST ONLY

Tuesday, April 1, 2025— Join us for the 30th Anniversary show of **Noah at Sight and Sound**. Luncheon buffet will be at the newly built Hershey Farms restaurant. **Cost for the trip & lunch is \$170**. Reservations are needed. **Bus leaves promptly at 7:30 am. Please be at the Parking Lot by 7:15 am for seat assignments.**



SAVE THE DATE HEALING MASS

SATURDAY MARCH 29, 2025 AT 11:00 AM
No registration required. Everybody is invited.

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).

WELLNESS MINISTRY

(FREE) DANCE/EXERCISE/SELF DEFENSE Class
For the Family
Saturdays 9:30—10:00 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.

FAMILY ACTIVITY COMMITTEE-PAINT NIGHT SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

