



February 14, 2021 | 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

REV. LAWRENCE E POLANSKY, PASTOR

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

*“To bear witness to God the Father,
to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ,
and to be guided by the Holy Spirit.”*



**IF YOU WISH,
YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN.**

MARK 1:40

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 9a at Nativity
Tuesday: 9a at Nativity
Wednesday: 9a at Nativity
Thursday: 9a at Nativity

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4p at Nativity
Sunday: 8a at Nativity
10a at Nativity

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 7p at Nativity
Holy Day: 9a & 7p at Nativity

*(Please confirm with
Mass Intention Schedule.)*

RECONCILIATION

*Due to COVID-19, by Appointment
Please call the Parish Office.*

OFFICE MANAGER

Fran Carder
PSMA.FranC@gmail.com

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

PREP E-MAIL

religiouedsmap@gmail.com

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL REGIONAL SCHOOL

Philip J. Gianfortune, Principal
856-881-0067

NATIVITY: 2677 Delsea Dr, Franklinville **SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA:** 700 N Delsea Dr, Clayton

PARISH OFFICE: 49 W North St, Clayton, NJ 08312-1114 **PHONE:** 856-881-9155 **FAX:** 856-881-9166

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday: 10:00a-2:00p **Thursday:** 10:00a-12:30p *(or by appointment, please call the Office)*

FOR SACRAMENT PREPARATION OR FOR LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY: *Please contact the Parish Office.*

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please take a look at our website or call to register

Please visit our website at <https://www.psmaj-nj.com>

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

4:00p (N) Stephen Bartos *by Goddaughter, Ronnie*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH
6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00a (N) People of the Parish
10:00a (N) Patricia A. Maciow

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

9:00a (N) No Parish Mass

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

9:00a (N) William J. Morris, Sr. *by The Morris Family*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH
ASH WEDNESDAY

9:00a (N) Health & Well Being of Terry & Ray Labas *by Niece Ronnie*

4:00p (N) Service with Ashes
7:00p (N) Andrew & Wanda Kratson

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

9:00a (N) Special Intention *by The Wright Family*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

9:00a (N) No Parish Mass

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

4:00p (N) Health & Well-Being of David Lachowicz
by Rocky & Susan Costa

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00a (N) Mary Austin *by The O'Hara Family*
10:00a (N) People of the Parish



SANCTUARY CANDLE



If you've been thinking about having the Sanctuary Candles burn in the memory of your loved one, envelopes are available in the Gathering Spaces of both the Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena for your intentions and offering of \$10. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 856-881-9155.

*The Sanctuary Candle in Nativity Church burns
in Loving Memory of*

Felicia Tarnecki

Requested by The Seniff Family

The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING ©JPPC

Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, Nicholas & Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Mary Alyce Hagelstein, Matt Healy, Ernest Henry, Sherry Jeffries, Lorraine Kreiner, Pauline LoCicero, Steven Lord, John Henry Mathiesen, Rosemary McBride, Gerry McCloskey, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Jack Nelson, Michele Resavage, Bob & Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, Karen J. Viola, & Susan Webster

If you have a family member who you would like added to the Prayer List, please ask their permission (due to the HIPAA Privacy Act) and contact the Rectory by calling 856-881-9155 or e-mailing PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com. Thank you!



OUR MILITARY HERO PRAYER LIST

If you have a family member serving in one of the branches of the military, please send their name, rank, and branch of service to the Parish Office (PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com or 856-881-9155).

*Please keep our brave service people in your prayers,
Especially those suffering from the effects of war.*

US Army

Cpl Austin Arledge, Specialist Bryan Jenkins,
1st Sgt Shane W. McLaughlin, MAJ Eric Miller, &
CPT Graham Miller

US Navy

AWR Daniel Carr & EM2 William Little

US Marine Corps

Gy Sgt Brad Davis, Cpl Nate McAllister, & CPT James V. Tumolo

LT JG Dominic J. Tumolo, US Navy; US Army Medic



Ambassadors, Ushers, Sanitizers ...

We need your help! We need individuals at each Mass to help us to guide parishioners to their seats, to social-distance, to guide during Holy Communion and with exiting the church afterwards, and to help disinfect in-between Masses. If you have a few moments, would you please prayerfully consider helping us? Please see Fr. Larry or call the Parish Office. **Many hands make light work!**



“Keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35)

Pasta, pasta sauce, mac & cheese, soup, rice, baked beans, peanut butter, oatmeal and pancake mix are just some of the items needed at the pantry at his time. Soap, toilet tissue, toothpaste and toothbrushes would also be appreciated. These and any other nonperishable items may be placed in the shopping cart in the Gathering Space of Nativity Church, or, you may deliver them directly to the pantry at the O’Meara Conference Center **from 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings.**

Since we cannot allow you inside the pantry at this time, there will be a bench outside the pantry on which you may leave your donations. You may honk your car horn before driving away to alert us of your presence so that we may retrieve the items. **Please, leave your food donations outside the pantry on Wednesday mornings only.** We are sorry, but, food left out in the elements for an unknown number of hours or days when we are not present at the pantry or when the church is not open cannot be used safely and must be discarded.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Prefer not to shop?

Monetary donations are always welcome.

STEWARDS PUT GOD FIRST

“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” ~ 1 Cor 10:31 ~

Do a quick check of your Stewardship. Where does God rank in that list? If He’s not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other “gods” (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, *“Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?”*

Happy Saints Cyril & Methodius Day!

Saints Cyril (827-869) and Methodius (815-884) were brothers bound not only by biology, but by their longing to evangelize the unenlightened heart. Their missionary zeal led them to Slavic territories where the seeds of Western Christianity had yet to be planted. At the time, the Western Church only recognized the Hebrew, Greek, and Latin languages. Therefore, they were charged with the task of translating the Bible and liturgical texts into Slavonic. Because Slavonic did not have a written language, the brothers had to develop a script which later became known as the Cyrillic alphabet, named after Saint Cyril. Shortly after his brother died, Methodius was consecrated a bishop. They are venerated in both the East and the West. They are considered the patrons of ecumenism.



February 14, 2021 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 | 1 Cor 10:31—11:1 | Mk 1:40-45

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

While leprosy as found in Biblical times is now rare and very treatable, it is not hard to imagine the tragic consequences it had on those who were affected. They suffered physically, but also socially and emotionally: Levitical priests declared lepers unclean, banishing them from the religious community. Jesus, as he did so often, would upend these conventions in his encounter with the leper in today’s Gospel. “Moved with pity,” Jesus healed him, telling him to return to the local priest for readmittance to the community. Jesus’ model of compassion for the man is meant for us to embody. Modern culture continues to stigmatize people perceived as different – those suffering from depression and other mental illnesses, the homeless, perhaps those who struggle with cognitive disabilities – shunning them in different ways from full participation in community. To imitate Christ, as Paul alludes, is to have compassion for the needs of others – to “be moved with pity.” Let us pray for the grace to put on the mind and heart of Christ, and dignify the presence of all our brothers and sisters in our community.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I admit I was taken aback by today’s Old Testament reading: Not only were lepers banished from the religious community, but they had to announce themselves by crying out “Unclean, unclean!” Jesus changed all that. He healed the leper, encouraging him to return to the priest for readmittance. I am struck by how the leper approached Jesus. He did not demand a cure, but asked, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” Although it is unlikely that any of us in the developed world will experience leprosy, we ourselves or people we know may carry inner struggles that have led to separation from the Church or a sense of isolation. In our humanity, we do not have the power to heal these maladies on our own. Instead, let us come to Jesus as the leper does, asking him, if he wills it, to heal us and our wounded world. Let us pray with confidence, knowing that Jesus in his compassion can and will make us clean and whole.

REFLECT Who are today’s lepers? What are the inner struggles or wounds that may keep us from fully participating in our parish community or have left us estranged from members of our own family? Bring these before Jesus in your own words. Call a family member you have fallen out of touch with. Invite a person who has left the Church to lunch and listen with compassion.



Dear Parishioners,

Chronic or terminal diseases in those we love do more than frustrate us. They often leave us angry, edgy, or tormented. With all our modern advances in medicine, why can't researchers and doctors overcome this illness, we ask. We wait interminably for promised breakthroughs, we hope desperately for a miracle, and we pray nonstop for healing. Such experiences can help us empathize with the leper in this weekend's Gospel. For him, no medical breakthrough awaits, no healing looms, and no future dawns.

Leper in biblical times were required to proclaim themselves "unclean" and live in social and religious isolation from the community (see First Reading). They lived painful lives, their only human contact being with those in their same condition. Their only future was the relief of death. The leper in the Gospel, excluded from the community and well aware of his miserable plight, understandably approached Jesus with caution ("If you wish ...") and humility ("kneeling down ..."). Jesus, however, has no doubt about His response ... for His purpose in coming among us was to show the compassion of God for the outcast: **"I do will it."** Jesus' compassion gave the leper what he deeply wished – to be made clean, yes, but also to once again be restored to relations that were lost, to have a life other than one determined by pain, and to have an opportunity for a different outlook on death. The leper's boldness in approaching Jesus changed his life in so many ways.

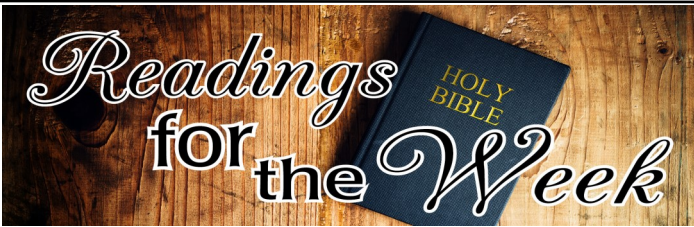
This healing account between a leper and Jesus dramatically unfolds in a conversation punctuated by concrete and very personal gestures. The leper **comes** to Jesus, **kneels**, and boldly **begs** for cleansing ... gestures expressing his sense of unworthiness. Moved with pity, Jesus **stretches out** His hand and **touches** the leper, gestures revealing the leper's inherent dignity. Jesus heals more than the man's body. Encounter with Jesus and being healed always fashions a new relationship with Him. Freed from pain and isolation, the leper can let his inherent dignity spill over into proclaiming the Good News of a new Presence ... a new Awakening ... a new Life.

Each of us has been touched by Jesus, healed of pain and suffering, and been invited to grow into a deeper relationship with Him. Our own inherent dignity is reinforced by Jesus' very personal compassion and care for each one of us. We experience this compassion and care in our own moments of deep prayer as we turn to Jesus in our need. We experience Jesus' compassion and care in the helping hand of another, in the unexpected pat on the back for something we've done well, and in a burst of energy we get from another noticing some good we've done. In these and many other ways, goodness abounds and relationships grow.

Paschal Mystery living means taking up our cross daily and actually doing what Jesus did – willing the good of others. Doing so sometimes means risking isolation ... being snubbed by coworkers, being laughed at by people who consider us religious fanatics, or being ridiculed for giving our time and possessions for the good of others. Such isolation because of Paschal Mystery living is not the loss it seems, however, for it gains deeper community in the Body of Christ.

May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, and intercede for us always!

Fr. Larry



Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-4, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15



FACES OF HOPE



The House of Charity kickoff is a bit different this year due to COVID-19. There is a lot of information about this year's campaign at www.camdendiocese.org/hoc and on our website: <https://www.pdma-nj.com>.

The online options for giving to the House of Charity this year are great alternatives in the event of another shutdown due to COVID or restrictions reducing attendance at Mass across the Diocese.

Please respond to the materials you should have received in the mail. You can respond either via mail or you also have the opportunity to give online at <https://bit.ly/HoC-Online>.

Your support of the 2021
House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal
ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching, and the redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ throughout Southern New Jersey.

We are all Faces of Hope.

Please support the 2021
House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal
www.camdendiocese.org/hoc

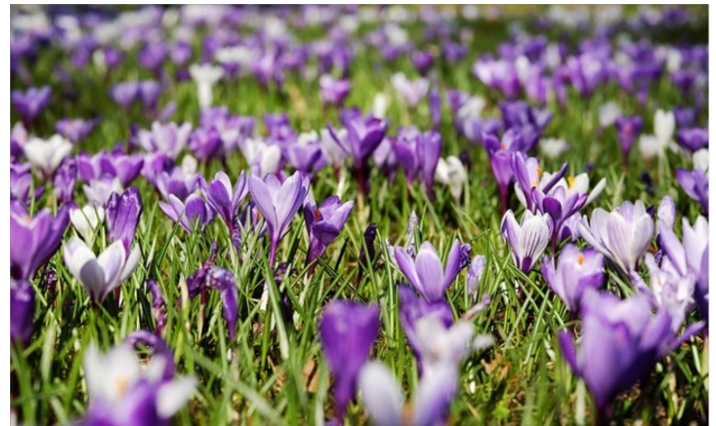


Knights of Columbus Council 6890 Scholarship

Due to our continue success of our fund raisers, the Knights of Columbus Council #6890 will again award two (2) one-time scholarships for the 2020-2021 school term. The first scholarship of \$1,500 will be awarded to ANY high school graduate with a 2.5 grade average or above who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in their school, church, and community and who will be attending ANY four-year or two-year accredited college or university. The second scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded to any eighth-grade student who plans to attend a Catholic high school. See your school guidance counselor for the application. Applications are due by April 27, 2021. Please contact John Fitzpatrick for any questions at 856-472-1029.

SPRING WILL BE HERE SOON!

GARDEN PERMIT PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE
GARDENING – THE HEALING POWER OF NATURE



Research shows that digging in the earth's soil is soothing, comforting and peaceful. When planting seedlings, cultivating the ground, and nurturing flowers, we experience happiness from our fruitful labor. Each year we plant gardens knowing when the first frost comes the flowers will die. However, we have hope because in the spring we will once again plant flowers. The cycle of life mimics the cycle of nature. The loss of a loved one changes lives; however, gardening may be a therapeutic option that provides hope.

The mission of South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries is to not only to bury and pray for the dead, but also to comfort and console those grieving. Consider signing up for our Garden Permit Program; now available at all cemeteries managed by the Diocese. To learn more visit www.SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org or call 800-594-4980 and a member of our staff with gladly help you.

*"He loves justice and right.
The earth is full of the mercy of the Lord."
Psalms 33:5*





- The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
- On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those who are 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 Duty) extends from the First Sunday of Lent (February 21, 2021) to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (May 30, 2021).



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

Prayer for Spiritual Communion
BY SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

MY JESUS,
I BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.
I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL.
SINCE I CANNOT NOW RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,
COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART.
I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE, AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.
NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU.
AMEN.

Please Note.....
If you handle any bulletins, literature, prayer cards, etc., please take whatever you touched home with you.
Doing so will decrease the spread of germs through contact. ©JPPC
.....**Thank you**



Please check out <https://www.camdendiocese.org/live-stream-mass/> for Parishes in the Diocese and sites throughout the country that are live-streaming the Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass, but would like to continue watch it, this is for you!

Lent

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 17th

Mass with Distribution of Ashes – 9a (Nativity)
 Service with Distribution of Ashes – 4p (Nativity)
 Mass with Distribution of Ashes – 7p (Nativity)

Confession Opportunities

Due to COVID-19 guidelines and regulations for social distancing & sanitizing, please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

No Confession on Holy Saturday, April 3rd

Stations of the Cross with Benediction at 7p

February 19th – Nativity
 February 26th – Nativity
 March 5th – Nativity
 March 12th – Nativity
 March 19th – Nativity
 March 26th – Nativity