



March 7, 2021 | 3rd Sunday of Lent

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**."*

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

religioussmap@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, MARCH 6TH**

4:00p (N) Louis Cosenza & Rosalie Cosenza
by Ron & Sally Bonner

SUNDAY, MARCH 7TH
 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00a (N) People of the Parish
10:00a (N) Julia Kratson

MONDAY, MARCH 8TH
 JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS

9:00a (N) Stephen Bottyanszki by Granddaughter Ronnie

TUESDAY, MARCH 9TH
 FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS

9:00a (N) Health & Well Being of Sharon Bouchard

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH

9:00a (N) Health & Well Being Matthew Healy
by The Seniff Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 11TH

9:00a (N) Louis Cosenza & Rosalie Cosenza
by Fr. Larry

FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH

9:00a (N) No Parish Mass

SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH

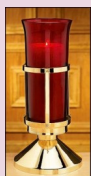
4:00p (N) Paul Kratson

SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH
 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00a (N) Kathyne Lovell by Rod & Louise Burgess
10:00a (N) People of the Parish



The Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel
now has a Facebook page!
<https://www.facebook.com/PSMA.clayton.franklinville>

**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*

Jeff Tubaugh

Requested by The Seniff Family

The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

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, AG1 Jamie Engleman & 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

**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

March 12th – Nativity
March 19th – Nativity
March 26th – Nativity



*"Keep in mind the words
of the Lord Jesus who Himself said,
'It is more blessed to give
than to receive.'"
(Acts 20:35)*

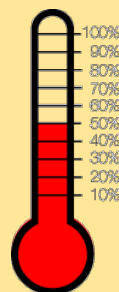
Pasta, pasta sauce, mac & cheese, soup, rice, baked beans, peanut butter, oatmeal and pancake mix are just some of the items needed at the pantry at his time. Soap, toilet tissue, toothpaste and toothbrushes would also be appreciated. These and any other nonperishable items may be placed in the shopping 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.



FACES OF HOPE

HOUSE OF CHARITY
BISHOP'S HUMAN AFFAIRS

As of March 1, 2021 ...

You have donated **\$24,335**
or **48%** of our goal of **\$50,700**

We're almost half-way there!

Let's keep it going!

*Thank you for your generosity
to the House of Charity!*

STEWARDS GROW IN VIRTUE

*"You shall not carve idols for yourselves
in the shape of anything ..."*

~ Ex 20:4 ~

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to be good **Stewards** by pruning our vices and growing in virtue.



March 7, 2021 | Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 | 1 Cor 1:22-25 | Jn 2:13-25

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

We have rules in our house. Every family does. "No back talk. Do your chores. Bedtime. Curfews. Respect one another. Be kind." Rules bring order out of chaos, forge a shared identity, and set standards to which everyone is held. Not surprisingly, life in God's family has rules, too. Hence the Ten Commandments, which we hear today. They begin with these words: "I, the Lord, am your God." If we miss that line, we miss the point of the rules – of the law. God's law is about God's love. Through his laws, God taught the Israelites a new way to live based on God's values: humility, justice, love, sacrifice, simplicity, kindness, and mercy – values they rarely saw when enslaved in Egypt. This Lent, we give thanks to God for the law of love and we pray to grow in this love, and be strengthened in virtue.



ACTION Read the Ten Commandments this week and imagine God giving you all the wisdom you could ever want in those rules. Think about the chaos those rules have protected you from in your life. Imagine telling your loved ones how to find happiness by following the way God guarantees will lead to joy. (Read John 3:16)

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel reminds me of the time my older son helped his younger brother understand the rules of a game we were playing. He did so by showing his own cards, which meant he would lose that round. While not done under the same circumstances, or with the same anger with which Jesus cleansed the temple, my older son did what he did for the same reason and with the same effect: love. When Jesus cleansed the temple, he did so out of love: love for God the Father, and love for those being exploited by the marketers. We have an opportunity this Lent to witness to this same love of Christ by putting the needs of others first. Sure, our kids demand our time, energy, and resources. Our spouses and parents sometimes do, too. To follow Christ means to choose to sacrifice for others with love, not simply because it has to be done. Christ infused the world with love through his sacrifice. We have the opportunity to be Christ today when we make our sacrifices out of love.



Dear Parishioners,

With this weekend's Gospel, we depart from the Gospel of Saint Mark and enter into the Gospel of Saint John. The story of Jesus driving out the money changers happens during Holy Week in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, & Luke), but early in Jesus' ministry in Saint John's Gospel. In fact, we are in Chapter 2, and Jesus is already in Jerusalem. Rather than a ministry in Galilee followed by a momentous journey to Jerusalem as we have in the other three Gospels, in Saint John's Gospel Jesus goes back and forth to Jerusalem throughout His ministry.

At the time of Jesus, the Temple had become in some senses a place of simple buying and selling. Oxen, sheep, and doves were sold to be sacrificed. It wasn't enough for one to bring one's own animals. They had to pass an inspection, and were "pre-certified," so to speak, guaranteed to be without blemish and therefore worthy of sacrifice. Of course, there might have been a markup for this quality assurance. For a nice price you could buy a worthy sacrifice. How quickly and easily does religion seem to fall into a trap of commodities? Similar things have happened in our own Church history – the selling of indulgences comes to mind.

The challenge of the buying and selling (commodification) of religion is not limited to Jesus' day or to the annals of Church history. Commodification of God's grace happens today, too. The unholy alliance of money and the access to religion that it buys were scandalous then and should be scandalous today. Jesus responds to this scandal as the Scriptures foretold (Ps 69:9). He is zealous, passionate for His Father's house, which has been turned into a bazaar.

Those with the vested interest in the way things were (the status quo) are upset. But Jesus replies with His parabolic riddle-speech. **"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."** Of course, He is referring to the temple of His own body. But the stakeholders do not see the deeper meaning of His speech. They see only literal realities and they know that the Temple took nearly half a century to build. To them, Jesus must have seemed a wild-eyed zealot, off His rocker, and half-baked. He was dangerous, a threat to business and religious interests, and would have to be stopped.

But for Jesus, the Temple is holy, not worthy of sacrilege, neither His Father's house nor Jesus' own self. The example Jesus gives us this weekend demands consideration. We must recoil at every instance of commodified religion, or a selling of God's grace. God's presence is not to be bartered. It is not a commodity. God's grace is freely given to all.

The Gospel tells us something today that we often overlook. The Temple is not only a physical place in Jerusalem, but metaphorically it is Jesus' very self. By extension, the human body is a place of God's presence. To be holy is not merely to go to the physical temple to purchase a "pre-certified and quality assured" sacrifice. If the human being is a dwelling place of God, then true worship becomes how we treat ourselves, and how we treat one another. But treating another kindly, patiently, and with love is much more difficult to commodify. It seems easier to say, "buy this" and all will be well with God. But God's grace is not dependent on somebody else or whatever they try to sell us in deed or in word. Rather our relationship with God is dependent upon how we treat the other, who is a dwelling place of God in our midst. It can be difficult to die to our preconceived notions of God, to let go of the idea of an accountant God who takes stock in each and every sacrifice, ensuring it is without blemish. Instead, Jesus invites us to a relationship with God based on Jesus Himself, the enfleshment of God. If Jesus is the incarnation of God, if humanity is a dwelling place for the divinity, then proper worship becomes how we treat our neighbor.

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

~ Fr. Larry



Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21



Rice Bowl contributions can be made any time throughout the Season of Lent up to Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11, 2021.

Please put your envelope in with the first collection. There will no special second collection for Rice Bowl envelopes. Thank you!



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

Due to bulletin publishing deadlines, if you haven't already done so, please make your Easter Flower Contributions by **Sunday, March 21st** in order to have your memorial printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Thank you!



The Difference You Can Make When You Pre-Plan Your Catholic Burial

Eliminating stress during life's most difficult time, is why pre-planning your Catholic burial is important and beneficial to all. Pre-planning removes the guesswork, and it makes it easier. Consequently, your loved ones are not making haste decisions when they are most vulnerable. Rather, they can focus on their love for you and the memories they cherish. Plus, you can relax knowing the choices are made. Moreover, you save money because you pay today's prices, and you receive pre-need discounts. Consider pre-planning. Give everyone peace of mind. Call 855-MyPrePlan (855-697-7375). Learn about your options, and then discuss your choices with your family.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"

~ 1 Peter 1:3 ~



SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Your Choice † Your Privilege † Your Right



Do you need to go to Confession? If your behavior has hurt others, if you've you'd be ashamed to have some of your actions made public, it's time to seek mercy and forgiveness. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will help you choose the right path forward.

As was discussed last weekend, due to a scheduling conflict, the Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel is unable to have Confession on Wednesday evenings as recommended by the Diocese; however, you can always call the Office to schedule an appointment.

If you wish to go to Confession on Wednesday evenings, the following parishes in the area can accommodate you:

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish in Glassboro on Wednesdays beginning at 7:00p.

Our Lady of Peace Parish in Williamstown on Wednesdays: Eucharistic Adoration 5-6:15p, Confession beginning at 6:00p, and Mass at 6:30p.



Sexual abuse is a crime that must be reported, investigated and responded to so that victims are protected and those who commit abuse are removed from ministry.

A special toll-free number has been established to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency.

For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, contact the Victims Assistance Coordinator at 1-800-964-6588.

THE DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

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.



**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
 FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

In re The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey
 Case No. 20-21257 (JNP)

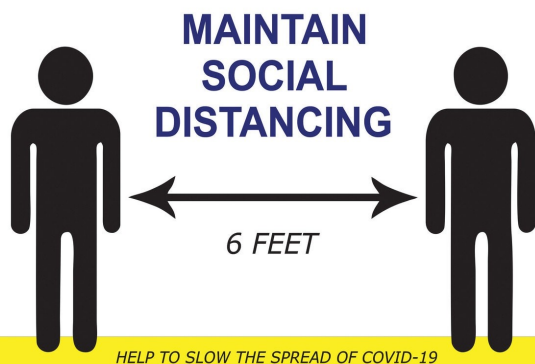
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on October 1, 2020, The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, (the “Diocese”) filed for protection under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code.

The Bankruptcy Court has established June 30, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the “Bar Date”).

If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date with Prime Clerk, the appointed Claims Agent.

Please visit <https://cases.primeclerk.com/camdendiocese> or call 877-465-8420 (Toll-Free) or 347-817-4096 (Local) for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE’S CHAPTER 11 CASE.



LIVE 
STREAMING

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!