



April 24, 2022 | 2nd Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

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 Saint Catherine

Tuesday: 9a at Nativity

Wednesday: 9a at Nativity

Thursday: 9a at Saint Catherine

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4p at Nativity

Sunday: 8a at Saint Catherine

10a at Nativity

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 7p at Saint Catherine

Holy Day: 9a & 7p at Nativity

*(Please confirm with
Mass Intention Schedule.)*

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00-3:30p at Nativity
or by appointment

OFFICE MANAGER

Fran Carder

PSMA.FranC@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER

Cindy Simpson

PSMA.CSimpson@gmail.com

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

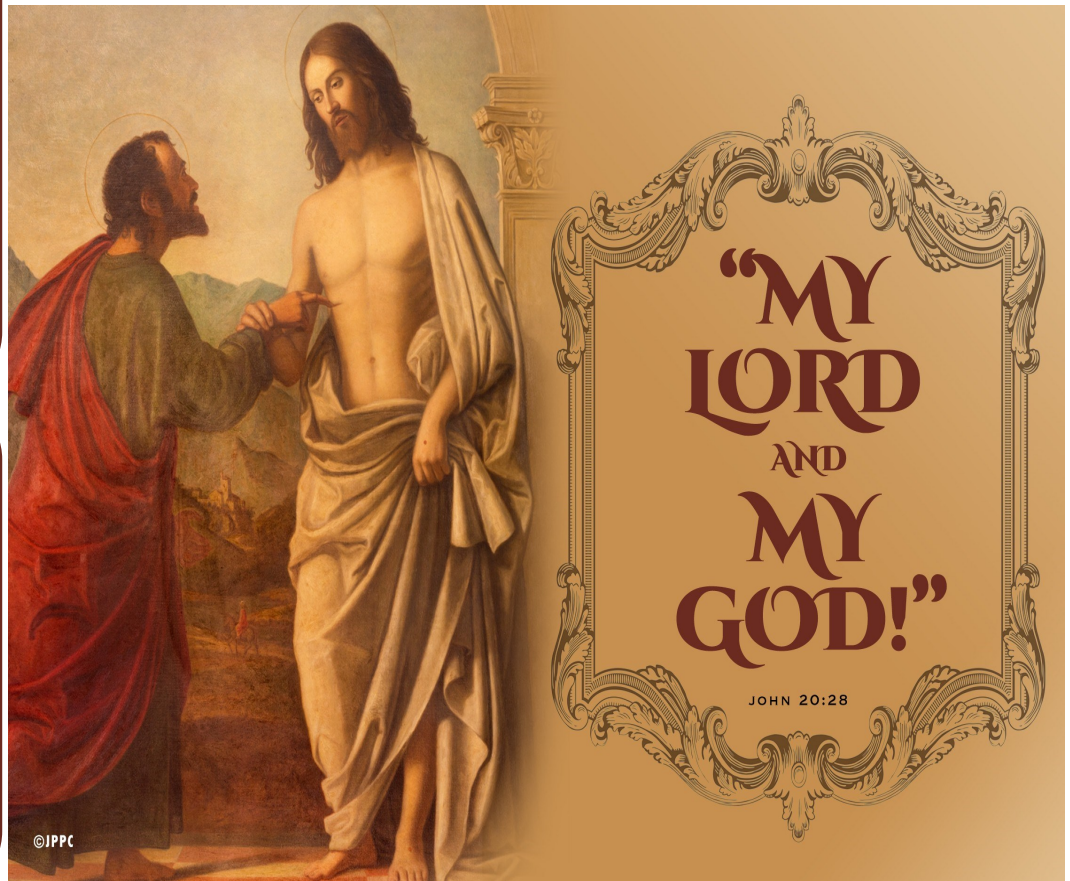
PREP E-MAIL

religioussdsmap@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-12:00 noon

(You may also call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment anytime outside of these hours.)

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.pdma-nj.com>

SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD

SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

4:00p Carol Nardelli by Angie Rosenberg & The Nardelli Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

8:00a Kathleen "Babe" Bottaro by John & Anna Contrevo

10:00a The People of the Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 25TH

MARK, EVANGELIST

9:00a For the Ukraine

TUESDAY, APRIL 26TH9:00a The Deceased Members of the Meyer Family
by Ronnie VanamanWEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH

9:00a Jack Lyons by The Biehler Family

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH

PETER CHANEL, PRIEST & MARTYR AND LOUIS GRIGNON DE MONFORT, PRIEST

9:00a John Polansky, Jr.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

9:00a *No Mass*SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH

PIUS V, POPE

4:00p Edwina Szumowski by Daughter, Fran Carder

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00a The People of the Parish

10:00a John & Mary Polansky

**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 Memory of*

Robert Skala*Requested by Daniel & Karen Seniff*

Pray
For The
Sick

Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, Nicholas & Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Anne Ellena, Debbie Fazzio, Matt Healy, Ernest Henry, Sherry Jeffries, Lorraine Kreiner, Steven Lord, Pat Luko, 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,
& PFC Vincenzo Taormina

US Navy

AWR Daniel Carr, AG1 Jamie Engleman & EM2 William Little

US Air Force

AB Jacob R Custis

US Marine Corps

WO3 Brad Davis, SGT Nate McAllister, & CPT James V. Tumolo


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

STEWARDS OF PEACE

*"Jesus said to them again,
'Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'"*
~ John 20:21 ~

Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As **Stewards** of Jesus, we are called to be compassionate and merciful; and not with just those who are our friends, but also with our "enemies." Think of someone in your life who you need to reconcile with. Call them right now or better yet, go visit them.

Pastor's Corner



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Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Let's take a step back a moment ... Lent is a practical time, a season we can easily understand, embrace, or use to progress in our spiritual lives. We choose to undertake penitential practices. They are concrete: give up something we enjoy, do something that will help us grow. These penitential practices come from and are directed to our everyday living. And now, we are in the Easter Season. This season is not so easily understood. Risen life is not something practical, deriving from certain spiritual practices. We know that Jesus rose from the dead; however, we cannot so easily grasp how this has an immediate effect on us. The Resurrection is a mystery. Risen Life is different ... a new happening ... a fresh experience. Most surely, risen Life is of God. It instills Easter joy. Like the penances of Lent, it ought to make a difference in our everyday living.

This weekend's Gospel shows us why the Resurrection makes all the difference in the world. When the risen Lord appears to the Disciples locked away behind closed doors, fear is dispelled by peace ... sin is dispelled by forgiveness ... doubt is dispelled by Presence ... unbelieving is dispelled by seeing-believing. The Lord comes to the Disciples a first time on that first Easter Sunday evening when Thomas is not present. Thomas makes known quite clearly to the other Disciples what he needs in order to believe that Jesus is alive. He must encounter ... see ... touch ... put his finger and hand into the wounds that he expects to see on Jesus' body.

A week later, when Thomas is present, Jesus appears to the Disciples again, and responds to Thomas' unbelief. Jesus is not angry with Thomas for not believing. He does not judge him. He simply invites: here ... see ... touch ... and believe. Seeing-believing – for Thomas and for us – is not merely an exercise in intellectual assent, but a practical encounter played out through our acceptance of the risen life that is offered to us. We know ***to whom and what*** our belief is directed ... to Jesus and the gift of risen life. We know ***how*** we receive risen Life ... through Jesus' gift of the breath of the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. Jesus' Resurrection is a divine pledge of "life in His name." Risen Life is God's divine Life ... transforming who and how we are. Resurrection makes all the difference ... for all of us ... for all of creation.

Perhaps we unfairly fault Thomas. Maybe he is a good model for us of authentic seeing-believing. Our believing cannot stand on hearsay or on blind acceptance of what others have seen and believe. Rather, our believing must be grounded in personal encounter with the Risen Christ ... grounded in ongoing conversation with Him that leads to conscious choice ... and grounded in expressing our belief in him by the way we reach out to others. Here is where the Resurrection and the Life it brings becomes very concrete and practical for our daily living. Christ's Risen Life within us enables us to choose to live the Gospel He preached. His Risen Life within us prompts us to set aside fear and doubt and embrace forgiveness and peace.

Jesus dispels our fears and offers us a whole new relationship with Him – not one where we need to touch His wounds, but one in which we utter with joyful conviction, ***"My Lord and my God!"*** We enter into a whole new relationship with each other as we continue the works of Jesus that lead others to seeing-believing. Resurrection makes all the difference ... for us ... and for all of creation.

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

Fr. Larry



April 24, 2022 | Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 5:12-16 | Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 | Jn 20:19-31

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

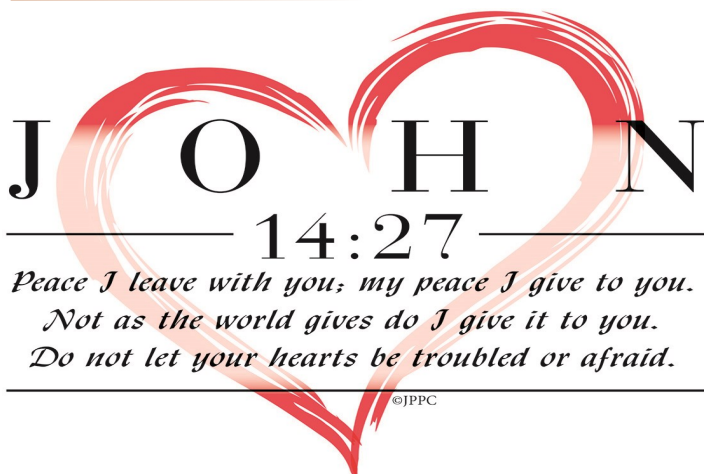
In today's Gospel, Thomas gets singled out as the one who doubts that Jesus had risen from the dead. But the other Gospels reveal that the other disciples doubted too. I understand why they had trouble believing that Jesus was alive. To think that God loves us enough that he chose to become human to die for our sins is incomprehensible. To accept that he loves us this deeply is almost unbearable. It seems doubtful anyone can love us that much. It seems doubtful that we deserve to be loved that much. It is much easier to doubt than to believe. But Thomas was the first to publicly proclaim the man Jesus as also God: *My Lord and my God!* he says. The risen Jesus had come into the room, although the doors were locked, and called them back into belief. Through Christ, God shows the disciples – and us – the extent of his love and mercy. We are worth it, even when we doubt, even when we fail. His death and resurrection are testament to that. He will walk through whatever walls exist to tell us. No doubt about it.

GO EVANGELIZE**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

The reading from the Acts of the Apostles today describes the reaction to the apostles' joyful and confident proclamation that Jesus was Lord and God after receiving the Holy Spirit. The crowds drew near just to have Peter's shadow fall upon those who were sick. God's mercy has no bounds. How can we be like the first disciples? In what ways do our lives reflect God's mercy on us? Where can our own "shadows fall" so that God's goodness and grace can bring healing and comfort to others? Let us begin our days by giving "thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting," and trust that the Holy Spirit will both remind us of our blessings and continued need for mercy, and guide us to encounters with others who need the same.

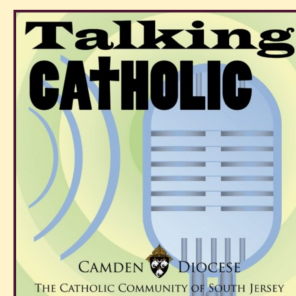


PRAY During this Easter season, read a passage from the Acts of the Apostles each day and immerse yourself in the history of the early Church. End your time of reflection by praying the Apostles' Creed, the statement of beliefs of Christians in the first centuries after Jesus' death and resurrection.



Our Facebook page is back!
Check us out at:

<https://www.facebook.com/PSMAinDoC>



Please know that you can easily find Diocesan audio podcasts and YouTube resources from local Catholic experts, produced by the Office of Communications with the Catholic Star Herald, to share with others at talking.catholicstarherald.org/

Subscribe to these YouTube channels to view all videos:

Subscribe to the Catholic Star Herald YouTube channel:
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Subscribe to the Talking Catholic YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUniIpN77DldUfyweow





Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

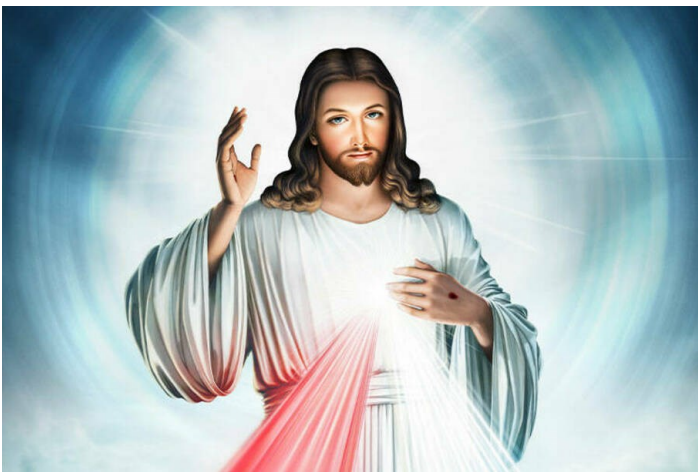
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14



Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel Food Pantry



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

~ Acts 20:35 ~

As we move forward into spring, a season of renewal and rebirth, our parish food pantry continues to provide assistance to those who come to our church seeking a helping hand. If you would like to help, you may leave your donations of nonperishable items in the Gathering Spaces of both Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena churches, or you may deliver them directly to the pantry at the O'Meara Conference Center **from 10:15a to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings**. 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.**

Here are some suggested items: **pasta, ramen noodles, mac & cheese, instant potatoes, tuna, canned chicken (or other canned meats), rice, pudding, peanut butter and jelly.** Also, nonfood items such as **soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes** are appreciated.

*Thank you
for your continued support and generosity!*



FROM MANY ...One Body



✠ Divine Mercy Sunday

THE SECOND Sunday of Easter is also called "Divine Mercy Sunday." When Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina in the Jubilee Year of 2000, he added the title to this day. In visions, Faustina heard Jesus request that the image of Divine Mercy be venerated on the Sunday after Easter, a day John Paul lovingly chose for Faustina's canonization.

Many communities display the image of Divine Mercy on this day. Jesus' penetrating, compassionate gaze reaches out to the viewer. Red and white rays emanate from his heart, symbols of blood and water—Eucharist and Baptism. Many Catholics confess their sins or pray before the Blessed Sacrament in conjunction with this feast.

A priest may use the prayers from the Votive Mass for Divine Mercy on any day when a stronger feast does not conflict. The Second Sunday of Easter has its own prayers and readings, so the Votive Mass for Divine Mercy is never permitted on that day. Instead, we observe the much older tradition of the octave day of Easter. The Gospel story of the doubting Thomas is heard every year on this day because Jesus appeared to him a week after the Resurrection. The other texts for this Mass refer to the season and to Baptism. This day used to be called *Dominica in albis*, the Sunday of white garments, because those baptized at the Easter Vigil wore their new vesture to conclude a week of catechesis about the sacraments.

Today the only change to this liturgy is its title: the Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday. The mercy of God may be proclaimed in the homily or the Universal Prayer, but especially in the actions of believers, who extend God's mercy to all they meet.

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Written by Paul Turner.

✠ Easter Octave

EASTER DAY is eight days long. Easter reigns as the most important feast in the liturgical year. One single day cannot contain it. One entire week cannot contain it. We celebrate Easter for a week and a day. The period is called the Octave of Easter.

Weekday Masses are celebrated “as Solemnities of the Lord” (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 24). The only difference is that the Creed is not recited and there is no Second Reading. We include the Glory to God in the Introductory Rites. The Easter Sequence may follow the Responsorial Psalm. Each Gospel tells one story of how the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples. Whenever the priest chooses the first Easter Preface or Eucharistic Prayer I, he includes words and phrases that call the weekday “Easter day.” The dismissal dialogue at the end of the Mass concludes with two alleluias. The liturgy treats each weekday of the octave as if it were Easter Sunday all over again.

In the early days of the Church, those who were baptized at Easter participated at the cathedral Eucharist every day for a week. Their joy was so full that they kept coming back for more. During this period, the bishop offered them daily catechesis on the sacraments of the church during his homily at the Masses of the Easter Octave.

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* does not explicitly encourage the newly baptized to participate in the Eucharist during the Easter Octave, but the prayers at Mass still presume that they are there. The Mass prayers assigned to the priest this week make frequent references to these neophytes. The Easter Octave is a sign of the Church’s joy. Christ is risen, and we repeat the good news again and again—eight days a week.

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Written by Paul Turner.



✠ St. Catherine of Siena

THE PASSION of Jesus Christ was the passion of St. Catherine of Siena. She meditated on Jesus’ sufferings, death, and resurrection intently. She thus experienced a union with Christ so deep that it could only be called a spiritual marriage. Fasting fueled her religious fervor. In one vision she received communion from Christ himself.

Born in 1347 among the last of her parents’ twenty-five children, she devoted herself to prayer and service. As a teenager she became a Dominican Tertiary—living at home with her family, but wearing the habit of a nun. Although she provided hands-on assistance to the poor and the sick, she became a correspondent with kings, queens, and popes. Hundreds of her letters survive.

For nearly one hundred years the popes had been living in Avignon, France. But others claiming to be pope took up residence in Rome. In 1376 Catherine traveled to Avignon to convince Pope Gregory XI to leave and return to Italy, where the schism gradually came to an end. A statue of her resolute face stops pilgrims on their way to St. Peter’s Basilica today.

Catherine died in 1380 on April 29, the day on which the entire Church still celebrates her memory. Her body lies beneath the altar of Rome’s Dominican church, Santa Maria sopra Minerva, though her separated head was returned to Siena. In 1970 she was proclaimed a doctor of the Church.

The Collect for her Mass acknowledges the fire of divine love that inspired Catherine in her mystical marriage with Christ. It prays that God’s faithful people may exult in the revelation of the glory of Christ. His Passion can become our passion as well.