



December 20 & 25, 2020 | 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas

THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

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
10:45a 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

religioussdsmap@gmail.com

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL REGIONAL SCHOOL

Philip J. Gianfortune, Principal
856-881-0067

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**.”*



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)*

SACRAMENT PREPARATION OR 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, DECEMBER 19TH

4:00p (N) Burnett Lacy by Fran Carder

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman
10:45a (N) The People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

PETER CANISIUS

9:00a (N) The Fewer & Yurkonis Families
 by Mary Ann Yurkonis

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

9:00a (N) Mary Lee Hanlon by Sally & Ron Bonner

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

JOHN OF KANTY

9:00a (N) Gene Florich by Ronnie Vanaman

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

9:00a (N) The Deceased Members of the Meyer Family
 by Ronnie Vanaman

The Vigil Masses of Christmas Eve

3:00p (N) For All Religious & Clergy by Ronnie Vanaman

5:00p (N) The Carder & Szumowski Families
 by Fran Carder

7:30p (N) Ed, Wanda, & Anne by Son & Brother, Larry

10:00p (N) The People of the Parish

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

10:00a (N) Michael & Sophie Lachowicz
 by The Lachowicz Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

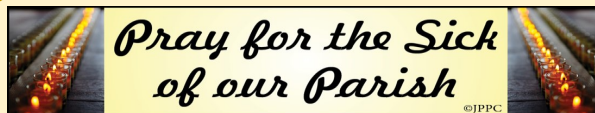
STEPHEN

4:00p (N) The People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

8:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman by Sally & Ron Bonner
10:45a (N) The Deceased Members of the Carder & Szumowski Families
 by The Carder Family



Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, 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 McCloskay, 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



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 Saint Catherine of Siena Burns in Memory of Robert Sandelier Requested by His Loving Family

The Sanctuary Candle in Nativity Church Burns in Memory of The Deceased Members of the O'Hara Family Requested by Kathy O'Hara



December 20, 2020 | Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16 | Rom 16:25-27 | Lk 1:26-38

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE

PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

During Advent, we await the One who is perfect grace, light, and joy. The Christ Child’s arrival during a time when darkness has been increasing each day, and our anticipation of that arrival, emphasize his salvific role. For if even the smallest light is a glimmer of hope in the night, how much more is Christ’s perfect and all-consuming light a life-saving flare in the darkness of sin and death. As we hear the angel Gabriel say of Christ, in his visitation to Mary: “He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High ... and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Emmanuel, God with us, is the reason for our hope, and the reason for our joy.



GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I don’t know about you, but despite my best intentions, I have been known to get a little swallowed up in the commercialism of Christmas. But this last week of Advent feels like a chance to reorder my mind and heart. One way to do this is by focusing on the “O Antiphons,” prayed during the Church’s evening prayer from December 17-23. Each antiphon begins with the word “O,” and is followed by a title for the Messiah, found in Scripture, and a petition for him to come and save his people. Although this may sound overly complicated, you most likely know of these without realizing it: they have been transposed into the verses of the hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. Today’s first reading speaks of David, who thought he could build a place for God to dwell, but he can’t. Instead, for us, whom God created and fashioned in his own image, God created a dwelling for his Son, so that he might enter into our human history as one of us; and in doing so, dwell among us and within us forever. Come, Lord Jesus.

INVITE

When lighting the final candle on your Advent wreath, invite your family to help you make the prayer interactive. Focus on the lesser-known verses of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, such as the one below – it is an ancient prayer still very relevant today.

O King of the Nations

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us our King of Peace.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*



Beginning the weekend of **January 2 & 3, 2021**, our Mass Schedule will be changing. Masses will be: 4:00p on Saturday 8:00a & **10:00a** on Sunday.

Please take note of the coming changes!



*“God loves a Cheerful Giver”
~ 2 Corinthians 9:7 ~*

Would you like to donate to our parish food pantry during this holiday season? Nonperishable items may be placed in the shopping cart located in the Gathering Space of Nativity Church or, if you prefer, you may bring 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 entrance on which you may leave your donations. We will periodically come outside and retrieve the items, but feel free to honk your horn before driving away if you wish to alert us of your presence.

Don’t know what to give? The best idea is to give what you would like to receive! The only necessity is that the items be nonperishable. Here are some suggestions: **1 or 2 pound bags or boxes of rice, canned yams/sweet potatoes, gravy, stuffing (such as Stove Top), pasta, canned fruit, applesauce, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, tuna, canned chicken, pancake mix, cereal, and, especially, SOUPS OF ALL KINDS.**

*Prefer not to shop?
Monetary donations are always welcome.*

STEWARDSHIP GENEROSITY

*“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!”
~ LUKE 1:28 ~*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal **Steward**. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God’s call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Pastor's Corner



©JPPC

Dear Parishioners,

The submission of bulletins for publication has been moved up this year and as I write this I'm attempting to shift mental gears from the 3rd Sunday of Advent to the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas (*and it's only December 9th*).

In light of the last nine months under the effects of COVID-19, it's hard to believe that Christmas is upon us once again. I noticed decorations up and lit very early this year. I'm sure celebrations will be a bit different this year as the COVID pandemic has impacted every aspect of our lives. But Christmas is about more than decorations, presents, and gatherings. Christmas celebrates more than the birth of a baby. Christmas is a feast of salvation announcing to us that the glory of the Lord is upon us. Christmas calls us to open ourselves to God's glory so that it may shine.

There is perhaps no other Gospel story that has been told and retold in so many thousands of ways as this one about the birth of Jesus. Much about it piques our imaginations and quickens our hearts. It is an easy story to tell with lots of characters: a Mom, a Dad, a newborn baby, angels, shepherds, sheep, donkeys, and cattle ... and later on, camels, kings, and gifts. We empathize with the hardship of Mary and Joseph: "*no room for them in the inn,*" giving birth to a "*firstborn son*" in a place less than hospitable, and having to use a manger for crib. These picturesque and memorable details, however, can limit our appreciation for what we really celebrate. Christmas is less about the birth of a baby and far more about the birth of a divine Savior. It is less about glory and joy of long ago and more about an invitation to us today to enter into the saving mystery of God revealed so uniquely in Jesus Christ. It is less about drama and more about the nitty-gritty challenge of living daily in the mystery of God among us.

Christmas calls us to give the most important gift of all – the very Life of God – to one another. We have been given the Gift of Jesus, now we share this Gift with others as we continue our life journey. Christmas calls us to open our eyes and to see where we ourselves can bring the joy and peace of salvation to those around us even in spite of the COVID pandemic. Indeed, the greatest gift we can give others is God's glory ... God's Presence.

Christmas affords many opportunities for us to be God's glory through Jesus Christ for others. Most of us go out of our way to be generous to the poor and less fortunate at this time, especially so that the drudgery and worry of not having enough might be allayed at least for a little while. We must also open our eyes to those near and dear to us who might be lonely or depressed, struggling or drained, fearful or discouraged. Sometimes, like the shepherds, we need only to listen. Sometimes, like Joseph, we might accept without question. Sometimes, like Mary, we might say "yes" to what might be an unspoken request for help. Christmas is a salvation feast that happens every day. May we live our lives in such a way that the glory of God within us shines forth, bringing light into darkness ... hope into desperation ... and peace into discord.

It is my prayer and wish that you and yours have a Merry, Holy, and Blessed Christmas and Christmas Season! May you also have a Happy, Healthy, and Safe New Year! May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, protect, and intercede for us always! May the love of God which took human form in the person of Jesus be honored and revered in every person you meet. Be an ambassador for Christ this holiday season and wish people a Merry Christmas!

~ Fr. Larry



The Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel

welcomes its newest members

Lilliana Grace Fisher

baptized on Saturday, December 12th
and

Maxwell Jay Winship

baptized on Sunday, December 20th,

May they always walk as children of the Light!

With Appreciation and Thanks!

It has been a very different couple of months in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, but I would like to express my deepest appreciation and thanks to all of you who have continued to support the Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel during this very extraordinary time!

Thank you to the Ambassadors, Ushers, the members of the Music Ministry, Lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who have continued to exercise their ministries in light of the challenges we've encountered. Thank you to everyone who has stayed after Mass to sanitize the church!

It is my prayer that the Christmas Season and the New Year bring you happiness and peace! May your families continue to be safe and healthy!

~ Fr. Larry



Something to consider ...

Just as the children toss away the paper, ribbon, and boxes, we, too, must discard whatever is in the way of our receiving God's gift of salvation. We must discard, for example, the sparkle of self-satisfaction, the lure of self-promotion, and the smugness of self-righteousness so that we may discover anew each day God's continued Presence and love. Christmas is a feast day of gift, discovery, surprise, encounter, and promise. Blessed Christmas!



Please know 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: www.youtube.com/channel/UCLK-2e35CrjZDzJlprO6s4Q

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

Catholic Charities Vehicle Donation Program & Tax Deduction for 2020

It is now close to the end of 2020, and Catholic Charities is asking you to check your garage, yard or other areas around your house for old vehicles. Please donate your vehicle(s) to the Catholic Charities (Diocese of Camden) Charitable Auto Resources for Services (CARS) vehicle donation program. The CARS program accepts any type of vehicle, running or non-running, including cars, vans, SUVs, trucks, boats, mobile homes, motorcycles, golf carts, scooters, etc.

Free towing and an IRS tax deduction form will be provided for your vehicle donation. To donate your vehicle, call toll free: 1-877-586-9227, and PLEASE MENTION YOU ARE DONATING YOUR VEHICLE TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF CAMDEN, NJ. You can also donate your used vehicle online at: <http://catholiccharitiescamden.careasy.org/HOME.html>

There is still time for you to receive a tax deduction on your 2020 tax return, if you donate your unused vehicle to Catholic Charities by December 31, 2020. All proceeds from the Catholic Charities CARS program benefit needy individuals and families in parishes, and throughout the six counties of South Jersey. Thank you very much for helping those who are most vulnerable in our Diocese.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact Kevin Hickey, Executive Director at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden: 856-342-4104 | Kevin.Hickey@CamdenDiocese.org



Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

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

WEAR IT CORRECTLY

TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS



Completely cover the nose and mouth with the face covering. Be sure it fits snugly against the side of the face.



Nose & mouth are not covered.



Nose is not covered.



Mask is too loose.

Chance of Transmission	Asymptomatic COVID-19 Carrier	Uninfected Person
Very high		
High		
Medium		
Low		
Very low		
Virtually none		



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus, you heal the sick.

We pray that the coronavirus that has affected so many in our world can be contained, controlled, and cured.

We lift up to your mercy all those affected, all those working hard to study and cure this illness, and all health care professionals and emergency management teams that are working day and night to keep us safe.

Help us, Lord, to trust in your merciful care.



Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.
Amen.



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!

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.

