



May 3, 2020 | 4th Sunday of Easter

**THE PARISH OF
SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE**



“
**I am the
gate for
the sheep.**
”

JOHN 10:7

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MASS *Intentions*

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND

ATHANASIUS

People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sylvia Gerber

by Fred & Donna Ruberti and John & LouAnn Lynch

Jim Ranniello

by Fred & Donna Ruberti

MONDAY, MAY 4TH

Eleanore McNealis by Zana & Family

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH

William J. Morris, Sr. by Elaine & Bill Morris

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6TH

No Parish Intention

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH

No Parish Intention

FRIDAY, MAY 8TH

No Parish Intention

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH

Mother's Day Intention

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mother's Day Intention



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.



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

PRAY for the SICK

Please pray for the sick & those that care for them

Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Mary Alyce Hagelstein, Matt Healy, Ernest Henry, Ginny Hoffman, 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

PERSPECTIVE:
what have you learned?

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:

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, please call or e-mail the Parish Office at PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com.

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.pdma-nj.com>



Did you know that you can submit your weekly contributions via the mail or even drop them off?

The Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel accepts your weekly contributions via online giving, however, if you prefer, your envelopes **can be mailed** or can be dropped off at the Parish Office. (If you want to drop off your envelopes to the Parish Office, please call or e-mail us first and we'll let you know where and how you can drop them off safely.)

Mass Intention Book

You will notice from the Mass Intentions on the second page of the bulletin that there are many open Masses during the week ...

In this time of COVID-19, social distancing, and closed Parish Offices and churches, you can still request a Mass or Sanctuary candle. (Our Lord is still present in the Tabernacles of both Saint Catherine of Siena and Nativity churches.)

You can call 856-881-9155 or you can e-mail PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com to make your request. You can then send your Mass stipend to the Parish Office via regular mail or drop it off at the Parish Office. (I will give you instructions how to drop off your stipend, if that is your choice, when you call or e-mail the Office ... I also ask that your stipend be received at least one (1) week in advance of your requested Mass (so that it can be printed in the bulletin).

As per the directives of the Bishop, I continue to say Mass **daily, privately** for the intentions of the Parish and for an end to COVID-19. I look forward to once again saying public Masses and pray that will be soon.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Parish during these extraordinary times.

Fr. Larry



THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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

Saint Mother Teresa once said, “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.” You can make a difference in someone’s life right here in our local community by donating any nonperishable food item of your choice to our pantry.

Suggested items include, but are definitely not limited to, **pasta sauce, mac & cheese, ramen noodles, oatmeal, pancake mix, canned chicken, peanut butter and jelly.**

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity!

Something to consider ...

We are called to imitate the Good Shepherd in bearing our share of suffering without insult or threat, with no other response other than to trust in the God who judges justly.

STEWARDS REPENT

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...’”
~ ACTS 2:38 ~

The word “repent” means to turn from sin, to change our actions. Change that is permanent comes from within. It requires prayer, discipline and perseverance. Change is also hard. We have to recognize that we are broken and need help. The good news – we are not alone in our journey. **Stewards** ask Jesus daily for guidance and patiently listen for His response.

Covid-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.



For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.


Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.



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Pastor's Corner



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Dear Parishioners,

Gates can reveal a lot about what is beyond them. A broken-down, vine-covered gate suggests an abandoned house or one where the occupants don't care much about keeping up their property and appearances. An easy-swinging gate suggests that many people pass through it. A decorative gate with an artistic "Welcome" sign suggests that whatever lies beyond is pleasant and hospitable. The word "gate" appears five (5) times in this weekend's Gospel. Twice, it is personified. Twice, Jesus says, "*I am the gate.*" Jesus is ever the compassionate, welcoming, protecting gate. That He is the gate suggests that what is beyond is more than pleasant and hospitable – what is beyond is eternal life ... abundant Life ... His risen Life.

On this fourth Sunday of Easter, the sixth Sunday since COVID-19 stopped our public Masses, we celebrate what we have traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday." This Gospel is particularly interesting in that the image of Jesus this Sunday is not that of a shepherd, but that of a gate. The image of the gate directs our attention to Jesus Christ as the risen One who always recognizes us and cares for us. Yes, Jesus is the Good Shepherd. The wide-open gate is the goodness of the Shepherd. The twist of the Gospel is that the gate is also a symbol for the Shepherd and how the Shepherd acts toward us – the gate itself is a metaphor for the care that Jesus gives us ... His openness to call and welcome everyone ... His desire to protect and guard us. Thus, the Gate (the Good Shepherd) invites us to cross through ... to enter the safety and protection that He offers. The Gate opens up a space of security, peace, and protection ... "*Whoever enters through Me will be saved.*" This is where resurrection faith calls us to enter the Gate ... "*that we might have life and have it more abundantly.*" Jesus states clearly that He came so that His followers might have abundant Life. Jesus uses the metaphor of a caring shepherd and his sheep to indicate how His followers might receive that Life ... by hearing His voice and their name ... by following the Good Shepherd ... by recognizing whose voice calls them. **Hearing, following, recognizing** ... we are to open our ears in faith ... open our hearts in trust ... open our minds in love. This is the way to abundant Life. The Gate is wide open, and we have a choice. ***Will we choose to enter?***

This weekend's Gospel assures us that the risen One, the Good Shepherd, is truly there for us. He calls us by name. He leads us to abundant Life. For Jesus to call us by name supposes that He knows us – knows us intimately enough to call us by our name. Ask yourselves this ... ***Does He?*** This is a personal call. Each one of us is significant to the Good Shepherd. He cares for each one of us individually, by name, not as strangers. ***Do we acknowledge the call, or do we ignore it?***

Thus, does Jesus model for us how we, too, are to be both gate and shepherd for others. The Second Reading from the First Letter of Saint Peter (1 Pet 2:20b-25), gives us a practical blueprint for our shepherding ... patience in suffering, doing good, return no insult or threat, hand ourselves over for the good of others. In these ways our own gate must be wide open. This may seem to be demanding. It is. However, Jesus is always there, walking "ahead of" us, guiding us toward being good shepherds ourselves.

We are reminded this Sunday that our simple, everyday actions of being faithful to the Gospel are how we live out our Baptismal promises ... our entry into following Jesus (see First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41). When we embrace our Baptismal commitment, we enter through Jesus the Gate into a life of being gate and shepherds ourselves.

May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, protect, and intercede for us always! May you and your families be well and safe on this Easter day and always!

Fr. Larry

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.



PSMA & ConnectNow | Giving

Is Online Giving Safe?

Online Giving meets the highest banking-level security standards set forth by the Payment Card Industry (PCI) to ensure safe and confidential transactions. In fact, your banking information is encrypted in the system and is not accessible to any users or administrators of the Online Giving system. When you manage your own account information, your church never needs to handle checks or worry about locking up documents containing your account information. And you'll always be certain that your gifts are direct-deposited into your church's account.

What are the advantages of Online Giving?

It makes it easy to give, even when you are unable to attend church. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget!

How my contributions are automatically deducted from my account?

Once you complete the online registration form, the contribution amount you specify will automatically be transferred from your bank account to the church's bank account.

When will my contribution be deducted from my account?

Your electronic contribution will be debited on the date you specify on the "My Gifts" page of the Online Giving system.

If I do not write checks, how do I keep my checkbook balance straight?

Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions are recorded for you on your bank statement as well as your online reports.

Without a canceled check, how can I prove I made my contribution?

Your bank statement and the Online Giving system both provide reports that document your electronic transactions.

Can I put different amounts in offerings and have all of them withdrawn at different times?

You can contribute to different offerings at different times; however, you will have to do each one separately. You will receive a receipt for each one.

What if I change bank accounts?

Log in and update your account information in the My Payment Methods window. Each checking/savings can be changed using the edit button, deleted completely, or new accounts can be added on the right side of the screen.

How much does Online Giving cost?

It costs you absolutely nothing! The parish pays the transactions fees charged by the company.

What if I try Online Giving and don't like it?


You can cancel your authorization by cancelling your gifts and donation dates at any time.

20/20 is considered perfect vision. Maybe God is using 2020 for us to see clearly that He's in charge and the only one who can help us!

Amen **Kelly's Treehouse**



Jesus doesn't command that we love Him. Instead He invites us to be in a relationship with Him by showing how He cares for us. When Jesus calls Himself "the gate," He assures us that following Him will lead us to what is right and good in life. When we understand that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are His sheep, we are able to trust that He will care for us and provide what we need.



TALKING CATHOLIC PRESENTS

Local YouTube shows and audio podcasts with information for all Catholics to help grow their faith and vocation

Talking.CatholicStarHerald.org



Working with Today's Youth



How to Become a Priest



Become a Missionary Disciple



A Perspective for Young Adults



When Life Gives You Lemons



Temas locales para la Comunidad Hispana

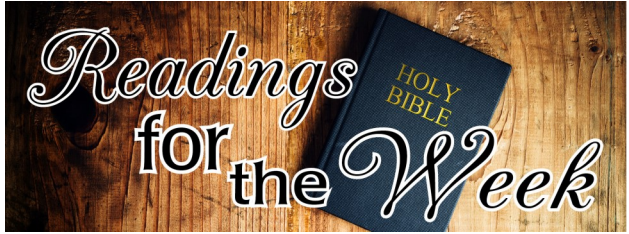


Interviews with great Catholics



Finding inspiration in our saints

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Readings for the Week

- Monday:** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18
- Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30
- Wednesday:** Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
- Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
- Friday:** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
- Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14
- Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12



We are strong!
We are American!
UNITED
 in the fight against
COVID-19!

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MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL

WITH BISHOP DENNIS SULLIVAN

WATCH LIVE





Join Bishop Dennis Sullivan on Sundays at 10:30 AM as he celebrates Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Camden. The Mass will be celebrated without a congregation.

Mass will be broadcast via

- <https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfCamden/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/camdendiocese>
- <https://twitter.com/camdendiocese>

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.

