



June 25, 2023 | 12th 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**.”*

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 9a at Saint Catherine
Tuesday: 9a at Nativity
Wednesday: 9a at Nativity
Thursday: 9a at Saint Catherine
First Fridays: 9a at Saint Catherine
First Saturdays: 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

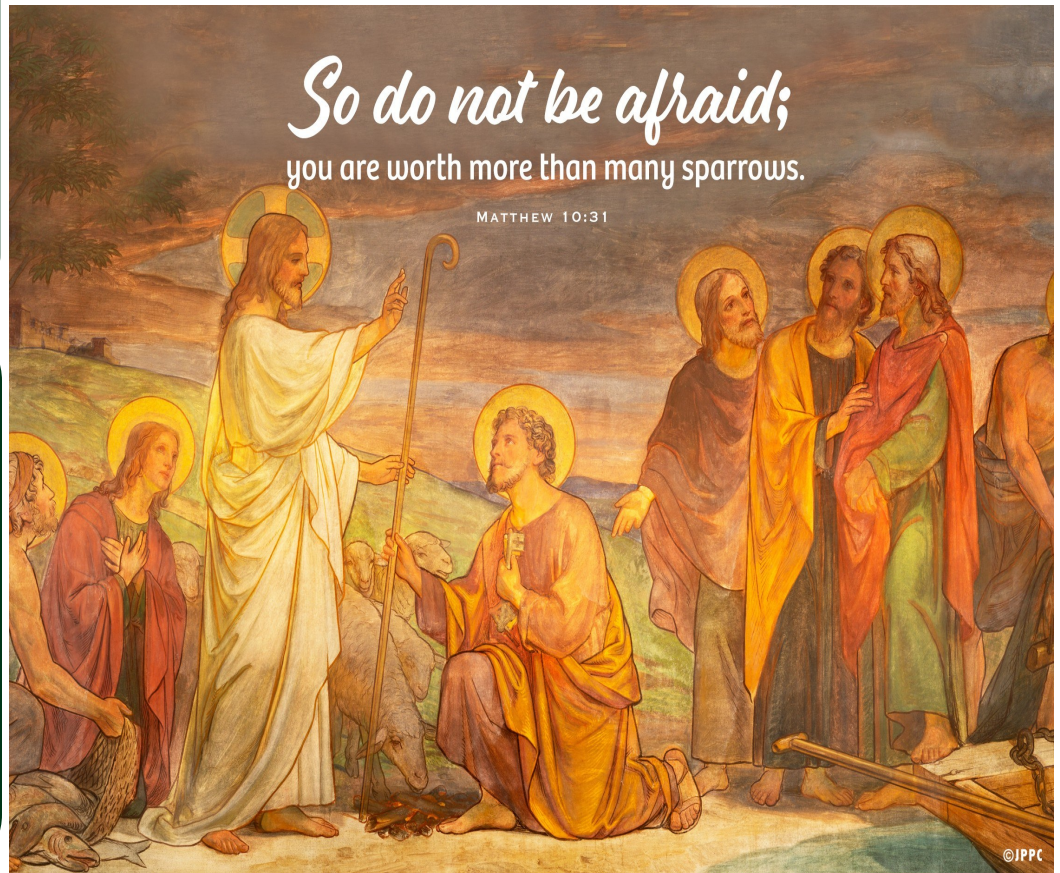
SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

REGIONAL SCHOOL

856-881-0067
office@smrsonline.com

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Ronald Ferraro



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 any time 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.pasma-nj.com>

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH – NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

4:00p Robert J. Carder, Jr. *By Fran, Kathy, & Bobby*

SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH – 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00a The People of the Parish

10:00a Anne Ellena *by Joe & Kathy Tinney*

MONDAY, JUNE 26TH

9:00a David & Julian Irwin *by Dan & Karen Seniff*

TUESDAY, JUNE 27TH – CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA

9:00a Edith Pacini *by Pat Pannullo*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28TH – IRENAEUS

9:00a Sis Biehler *by The Biehler Family*

THURSDAY, JUNE 29TH – PETER & PAUL

9:00a Stephen Bartos *by Goddaughter, Ronnie*

FRIDAY, JUNE 30TH – 1ST MARTYRS OF THE HOLY ROMAN CHURCH

~ No Parish Mass ~

SATURDAY, JULY 1ST – JUNIPERO SERRA

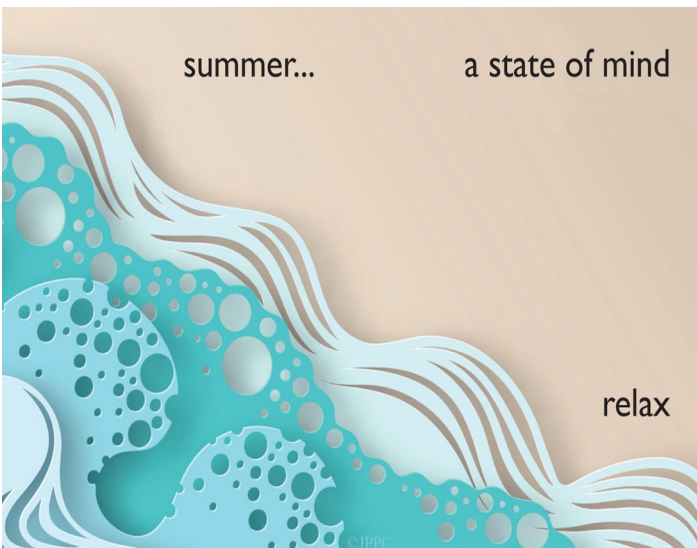
9:00a (SCS) *~ No Public Mass – No Parish Intention ~*

4:00p Deceased Members of the Lubatty Family
by John & Anna Contrevo

SUNDAY, JULY 2ND – 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00a Anne Ellena *by Matt & Marie Adgie*

10:00a The 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 \$15. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 856-881-9155.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP

"Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I will deny before My Father who is in heaven."
~ Matthew 10:32-33 ~

Would others know that you are a **Catholic Steward** by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!



Harriet Bajewicz, George Bromwell, Nicholas & Rob Christian, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Mimi Hall, Don & Matt Healy, Rosemary McBride, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, Karen J. Viola, and Joanna Walczak

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, & Kurt Reinhold, US Navy

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

Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

On this, my last weekend here at the Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel ... Saint Catherine of Siena, Clayton and Nativity, Franklinville ... I would like to once again thank God, Bishop Sullivan, and all of you for the privilege of being able to serve as your Pastor here for the last six (6) years. I have come to know many wonderful people and there is much that I have learned. I am grateful to you for your kindness and generosity, which you have shown me in so many different ways.

In the changes ahead, all of us, myself included, are being called to deeper faith and relationship with the Lord. Big changes in life, as I preached about this past Easter, call us to this. They teach us greater detachment from the things and persons of this world and summon us to fix our gaze on the Lord and things eternal. May we not let ourselves get down about such changes and what is beyond our control, for this will only stifle the work the Holy Spirit wants to do on our hearts.

Please give a warm welcome next weekend to your new Pastor, Father Michael J. Goyette, who is coming to you from Saint Mary's of the Lakes, Collings Lakes. Get to know him. Invite him over to your home. Bear in mind that this is a sudden and unexpected change for him as well. Undoubtedly, Fr. Goyette will bring with him his own unique set of pastoral gifts and abilities, and will enrich this community in new and unanticipated ways. Be open to the Holy Spirit and receive him warmly!

Please pray for me and I will pray for you. God bless you all!

~ Father Larry Polansky

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The well-loved former movie star dies in her Beverly Hills mansion surrounded by her two sons, her publicist and a secretary of 20 years. Emails and texts pour in full of encomiums and sympathy. But it doesn't take long before the typical American-as-apple-pie question arises: *"How much was she worth?"*

We Catholic Christians learn today what we are worth in the eyes of the only Person who really matters. Jesus tells His listeners (and us) that we are worth *"more than many sparrows."* Not that such little birds rank high as modern mediums of exchange, but they do represent a high estimation of our innate value to God.

We tend not to admit God into the equation when it comes to self-evaluation. Nor do we customarily rank ourselves high in His estimation. We know about the saints, from the Blessed Mother on down, as models of both humility and holiness. By that unruly duo of comparison and contrast always show up to confuse us.

What Our Lord came into our world to tell us was something quite different. He proclaimed repeatedly that God our Father loves us. Not that we always deserve it. But it is there for the taking.

Along with this guarantee, Jesus also told us that God will protect and defend us, as the prophet Jeremiah learned. This despite our fears, great and small, that have a way of stalking us, especially as we age.

It had to be a motivating belief and source of courage for the early martyrs of the Church to know that the only fear they should have is not about those who can kill the body, but *"those who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna."*

Rampant crime on our streets may compel us nowadays to buy a gun and keep it handy. So much for bodily fear. But no gun can protect us from the erosion of the soul that comes with what our culture pushes: abortion on demand; a "woke" outlook; and a positive outlook on transgender isn't and all that implies. Those can be met only by prayer and fasting, and maybe with some protesting mixed in.

Sometimes we notice that a friend or loved one has strayed into the path of errors like these and others. If they are worth our love, so should they be worth our attention, guidance and help. They need us also to remind them of their worth, especially to God.

Children have their own scale of values. *Once upon a time a little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal, its throat was very small.*

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher repeated that it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven, I will ask Jonah." The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl answered, "Then you can ask him."





June 25, 2023 | Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:10-13 | Rom 5:12-15 | Mt 10:26-33

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

When I was in middle school, I came upon a group of students who had singled out another student, accusing her of some pretty rotten things. The Lord must have helped me to be brave that day because I decided to step in and defend her. Thankfully, calling them out on their cruelty was enough to fend them off. Thank God for his presence and aid in that moment! In the first reading today, Jeremiah tells of his experience of being betrayed and accused: "All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine. 'Perhaps he will be trapped [they say]; then we can prevail, and take our vengeance on him.'" But Jeremiah does not lose heart, saying also, "the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." And Jesus' words in the Gospel echo the resolve of Jeremiah when he says: "Fear no one ... What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light ... And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul." It seems pretty clear, then, that our job is to bring the Good News of Jesus into the world whenever we can and let his light shine forth by our words and actions. We are commissioned to be warriors for Christ who should not fear injury but rather call upon him in our need and trust in his goodness and mercy to render aid.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Stepping into a conflict or situation can be difficult. But we are not meant to do it alone. Yes, we are called to proclaim the Word of God at every opportunity - to let "zeal" for our Father's house consume us, as we heard in the psalm. And the task at hand may seem a daunting one - until we focus on the second part of the Gospel and soak in the depth of the love Jesus has for each of his children. Matthew writes: "Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted." We are not alone as we do the work of the Father; rather, we are known and loved by him and strengthened by the Advocate, the Holy Spirit. We can feel emboldened by this as we pursue the everlasting gift of heaven.



ENGAGE This world often tells us to do what makes us happy. Let's challenge ourselves to, instead, do what makes us *holy*, as we keep our eyes fixed on the path to eternity.



- Monday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29
- Tuesday:** Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12; Mt 8:23-27
- Wednesday:** Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 8:28-34
- Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8
- Friday:** Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 9:9-13
- Saturday:** Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:14-17
- Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

**PARISH OF
SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
FOOD PANTRY**

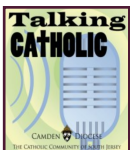


"Keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, who Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"
~ Acts 20:35 ~

Summer – time for swimming, gardening, vacationing and shopping for the Pantry! Yes, the pantry will be open throughout the summer. As always, we appreciate your generous donations of nonperishable food items of all kinds, including **tuna, instant potatoes, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned chicken, applesauce, cereal, crackers, peanut butter and jelly.** Nonfood items such as **soap, shampoo, bathroom tissue, toothpaste and toothbrushes** are also welcome.

You may leave your donations 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 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings.**

Many thanks for your ongoing generosity!



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:](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLK-2e35CrjDzJlprO6s4Q)

www.youtube.com/channel/UCLK-2e35CrjDzJlprO6s4Q

[Subscribe to the Talking Catholic YouTube channel:](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUnilpN77DidUfyweow)

www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUnilpN77DidUfyweow



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Embracing the Divine Gift of Freedom



June 26th — Religious Freedom in Nigeria

Pray that herders and farmers in Nigeria, whose conflict over access to land and resources has fueled religious tensions, may find the means to compromise and work out their differences in a non-violent manner.

Reflect

In February 2021 the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria published a message to the people of Nigeria, perhaps their strongest statement ever, condemning the long running crisis of violence in the country saying, "The very survival of the nation is at stake. The nation is falling apart. Serious insecurity, clearly evident in widespread loss of lives and property, for long unaddressed, has left the sad and dangerous impression that those who have assumed the duty and authority to secure the nation are either unable – or worse still, unwilling – to take up the responsibilities of their office." The police forces and the courts have failed horribly to establish the rule of law in the country. This has led to a total lack of general security while shrinking grazing land has contributed to rising conflict between herders and farmers in Nigeria. Because herders are generally Muslims from the Fulani tribe and farmers are generally Christians of various ethnicities, this has exacerbated ethnic and religious differences in conflicts that originated over access to agricultural resources. Amid continuing violence and polarization, the CBCN continues to call and work for peace. This work is crucial because the population of Nigeria is almost equally divided between Christians and Muslims and this state of conflict could drive a wedge between them and threaten the long-term stability of Nigeria. The lack of effective rule of law has allowed terrorist groups such as Boko Haram and the Islamic State - West Africa Province to maintain operations in Nigeria. Additionally, other groups, often referred to as armed bandits, kidnap innocent people, attack travelers on the roads and rails, and steal cattle often for money. As a result, a repeating cycle of retaliation has become pervasive throughout Nigeria. For example, in January 2022, Islamic terrorists attacked and burned a rectory, killing one priest and seriously injuring another. Subsequently, a mob of Christians burnt the local police office in response to the perception that the police do not respond as promptly to attacks against Christians as they do against Muslims. Religious polarization has increased in Nigeria, inhibiting the chance for dialogue among opposing groups.

Act

Support Aid to the Church in Need, Catholic Relief Services, USCCB's Solidarity Fund for Aid to the Church in Africa, and other organizations that are helping the internally displaced, providing livelihood training and healthcare, and offering peacebuilding between those of different faiths.



June 27th – Faith at Work

Pray that business leaders would promote a culture that welcomes faith at work.

Reflect

The Catholic Church calls the lay faithful to bring their faith to bear on all spheres of life. Christians are Christian not only when they pray or serve in a non-profit ministry. Catholics also seek to live out their faith in their work lives. Christians are not the only ones who should be able to live out their religion in a holistic way. All people should be free to allow faith to guide them in their daily affairs, even in work and business. Religious freedom conflicts can arise when an employee seeks accommodation for his or her practices, such as an exception to a dress code in order to wear certain religious clothing or a request to have certain days or times – like the Sabbath or certain times for prayer – accommodated in scheduling. Another kind of religious freedom conflict involves cases where the business itself runs afoul of some government policy. For example, a government may require employers to cover certain products or procedures in their healthcare plans that the employer believes to be immoral, or a government may require creative professionals to produce speech that violates their religious convictions. In all of these scenarios, a culture that embraces the divine gift of freedom will be one that makes as much space as possible for persons to participate in work life in accordance with their religious convictions.

Act

Individuals have the right to receive accommodations from employers for their religious practices. Businesses have the right to operate in accordance with religious principles. How do you see faith in action at work? Share your story with us! @USCCBFreedom #ReligiousFreedomWeek



Catholic Charities is seeking diaper donations to help local families and babies. With larger diaper sizes being high priority, the agency is asking for donations of diaper sizes 4, 5, and 6. They are also kindly asking for baby wipes, too. Currently, 1 in 3 families struggle to buy diapers for their babies. Many have to choose between buying diapers and paying for food, rent, or utilities. To donate diapers, visit the Catholic Charities Amazon Donation Wish List. When you donate through the wish list, the items are directly delivered to Catholic Charities. Your generous support is appreciated.

To donate, please visit: amzn.to/42h1o4V



June 28th – Services to Immigrants and Refugees

Pray that the Lord would protect all migrants and refugees, and that all those who work with people on the move would be free to serve.

Reflect

As part of their duty to uphold the common good, civil authorities are responsible for ensuring public order, including by maintaining national borders. At the same time, governments must respect the rights and dignity of all people, and the Gospel mandate that the Church serve all vulnerable populations, including migrants and refugees. The Church has long sought to serve the needs of “people on the move,” from providing for basic needs, to assisting with resettlement, to offering legal services to help newcomers navigate the expectations of their receiving country. However, Christian services have faced legal attacks, because the Church refuses to facilitate abortions for the children who come under our care, while in other places, state governments have passed or proposed laws that forbid “harboring” or transporting undocumented immigrants – even when the “harboring” is just providing a safe place to sleep, or the transporting is just a ride to Mass – which could essentially criminalize much of the Church’s ministry to immigrants. A nation that embraces the divine gift of freedom will respect the dignity of all people and allow the Church to carry out her mission to vulnerable people, including migrants and refugees.

Act

The USCCB’s Justice for Immigrants Campaign is an effort to unite and mobilize a growing network of Catholic entities and people of goodwill in support of migrants, refugees, and immigration reform. To learn more about the Church’s work with migrants and refugees, get news, resources, and action alerts from Justice for Immigrants at justiceforimmigrants.org



Pope John Paul II said, “I place much of my hope for the future of marriage in Worldwide Marriage Encounter.” Worldwide Marriage Encounter is being supported by Bishop Sullivan for support of Catholic married couples.

Real home improvement is not about hammers and nails. It’s about relationship. Enrich your marriage. Enrich your home. Make a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. **The next weekend is September 29th through October 1st.**

Questions? Need more information? Please call our Application Couple at 609-741-8012 or please email: applications@wwme-southjersey.org.

You can also visit our website wwme-southjersey.org.

Have you made Jesus part of your summer?

ENCOUNTER OUR EUCHARISTIC LORD:

One Night Only!

A Special Mission with the Sisters of Children of Mary Sunday July 23, 2023

Come close to His Heart to be lifted up by the Sisters in prayer and encounter the Living God Who thirsts for your love...

Beautiful music, guided meditations, personal encounter with the Source of Lasting Peace

Presentation by Sisters: 6 - 7pm
Guided Holy Hour: 7 - 8pm

Location: MARIS STELLA CHURCH, 5012 DUNE DRIVE, AVALON, NJ

For further information, contact the parish office: 609-967-3746



June 29th – Catholic Healthcare

Pray that governments will respect the consciences of all individuals and institutions that care for the sick and vulnerable.

Reflect

For centuries, Christians have carried on the healing ministry of Christ by building institutions dedicated to medicine and accompaniment of the dying. However, Catholic hospitals and medical professionals face numerous challenges to their mission today. Activists have sought to undermine the Church’s mission by forcing Catholic hospitals to perform procedures that destroy human life and undermine human dignity, such as sterilization, gender reassignment surgery, and even abortion, and people of faith who work in secular institutions may find themselves coerced into performing abortions. Over the past year, [the Biden Administration proposed a cascade of changes to federal regulations](#), many of which removed conscience protections from healthcare institutions and individuals. A culture that embraces the gift of divine freedom is one that respects the consciences of hospitals and professionals who seek to carry out the healing ministry of Christ.

Act

The period for submitting comments on these proposed regulations has ended, but our advocacy continues. Sign up to receive alerts at www.votervoice.net for new opportunities to let government agencies in Washington know that you support the Church’s right to operate her institutions in accordance with her faith in Jesus Christ.