



July 4, 2021 | 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

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

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

PREP E-MAIL

religiouedsmap@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, JULY 3RD

THOMAS, APOSTLE

4:00p People of the Parish

SUNDAY, JULY 4TH

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00a Edward "Bud" Hoffman
by Rocky & Susan Costa

10:00a Mike Rossi *by The Wright Family*

MONDAY, JULY 5TH

ANTHONY ZACCARIA, PRIEST & ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL

9:00a Michael Feriozzi, Jr.
by Saint Michael the Archangel Regional School

TUESDAY, JULY 6TH

MARIA GORETTI, VIRGIN & MARTYR

9:00a William J. Morris, Sr. *by The Morris Family*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7TH

9:00a Ronald Vidovich *by The Wielgus Family*

THURSDAY, JULY 8TH

9:00a Thomas Austin *by The O'Hara Family*

FRIDAY, JULY 9TH

AUGUSTINE ZHAO RONG, PRIEST & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

9:00a No Parish Mass

SATURDAY, JULY 10TH

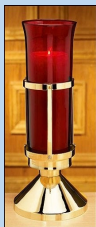
4:00p Onorato & Sylvia Funaro
by John & Anna Contrevo

SUNDAY, JULY 11TH

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00a Michael Feriozzi, Jr.
by Jeanne & Gina DePew

10:00a Martin F. Paluch *by The Wielgus Family*



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
Burns This Week in Memory of
Kevin Hogan*

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, Tim Luko, John Henry Mathiesen, Rosemary McBride, Gerry McCloskey, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Jack Nelson, Michele Resavage, Raymond Rossi, Bob & Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, Kathy Tinney, 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



STEWARDSHIP CALLING

*"As the Lord spoke to me,
the Spirit entered me and set me on my feet,
and I heard the One who was speaking say to me,
'Son of man, I am sending you...'"*
~ Ezekiel 2:2-3 ~

God has a **Stewardship** plan for each of us. He calls us to do something for Him. But, He doesn't leave us on our own to figure it out. He gives us the resources we need to do His work. Are you listening for God's call? When you hear it, do you get on your feet and do the work He asks of you? Do not be afraid. God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called. **Answer His call.**



Loving someone struggling with addiction can be very difficult, painful, and chaotic. A community relief group can help by offering peer support for anyone affected by drug addiction – individuals and family members. Join us on online or in-person Saturday mornings at 9:30am. We meet at The Church of the Incarnation, 240 Main Street, Mantua. For those how would like to attend (or just listen) online, the Zoom meeting link is:

[https://zoom.us/j/99624003781?](https://zoom.us/j/99624003781?pwd=d1FveGZCTmI2a3drR25tU1phTThzd09)
 pwd=d1FveGZCTmI2a3drR25tU1phTThzd09

All are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Bill Dougherty at 609-617-9959.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION TRAINING

Are you a good listener? Do you pray and laugh well with others? Do you have compassion for those who have lost loved ones? Join us for Ministry of Consolation Training!

Three in-seat sessions, will be held on Saturdays, in October, the 16th through 30th, 9a – 1p, at Saint Joseph School Auditorium, 141 - 45th Street, Sea Isle City.

Participation will lead to certification in the Diocese of Camden Ministry of Consolation and a fulfilling ministry serving others. **The registration deadline is October 2nd.**

For more details or to register please call (856) 583-2904 or please email joanne.digennaro@camdendiocese.org or please contact the Parish Office.

Your Attention, Please!

The Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel recently received two (2) State Homeland Security grants to improve safety and security around our campuses in Clayton and Franklinville. These

projects include panic bars on the doors, improved parking lot lighting, glass breakage alarms, motion sensors, and a closed-circuit television system. In addition, a risk assessment of our campuses was performed and it was suggested / recommended that once an event begins in any of our buildings, the exterior doors should be locked. These practices generated by the risk assessment survey were shared with the Parish and implementation began when the churches reopened in June 2020. At the time, locking the doors had a two-fold purpose ... COVID-19 and Homeland Security. **Today, it remains an issue to insure security.**

For these reasons, we ask that you try to arrive 5-10 minutes early. The exterior doors will be locked once Mass or an announced scheduled event begins.



Does gardening give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you lovingly planted the seeds of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you the “gardening tools” you need to help your marriage grow and blossom.

The next weekend dates are October 8-10 and December 3-5. Please call 609-741-8012 for information or email applications@wwme-southjersey.org. Please visit our website: wwme-southjersey.org.



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)

Just a reminder that the Parish Food Pantry will be open throughout the summer months. If you would like to help by donating to the pantry, you may leave nonperishable items in the shopping carts located in the Gathering Spaces of both Nativity and St. Catherine of Siena, or, you may deliver them directly to the Pantry at the O’Meara Conference Center **from 10:15 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.**

Nonperishable items such as **ramen noodles, canned fruit, applesauce, canned vegetables, rice, crackers, coffee, peanut butter and jelly** are currently needed. Also, nonfood items such as **soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes** are also welcome. If you prefer not to shop, monetary donations are great, too.

Thank you for your very generous support of our Parish Food Pantry!



Dear Parishioners,

It's no doubt that one of the biggest fears of adolescents is rejection. Their need to be accepted drives the clothes they wear, the music they listen to, the food they eat, and the sometimes preposterous number of text messages they send every day. While most adults have learned that we must become our own person (and so hair and clothes styles, etc. become more diverse), we never quite lose our fear of rejection. It is a human drive to be accepted, respected, and honored. This Sunday's Gospel shows us a Jesus who was also confronted with human rejection. In His hometown, Jesus confronts scandal, rejection, and lack of faith on the part of those who presume to know Him.

"Where did this man get all this?" "What kind of wisdom has been given Him?" Some who heard Jesus could not get beyond the familiar details such as His occupation and His relatives to believe that He was more than this. Their questions reveal that they still did not understand who Jesus was. They were not able to accept Him as someone from God. They saw ... but they didn't believe.

Where does a prophet have honor? Where is a prophet heard? Not among kin or in familiar surroundings. Not among those who lack faith. Herein lies the paradox. To have faith, we must be familiar with Jesus. The very stumbling block for the people in the Gospel is the necessary stepping stone to hear Jesus' Word and to accept Him. Faith-filled familiarity frees us to see ourselves as we are (those in need of Jesus) and to see Jesus as He truly is (a prophet with the power to save). What opens us to encounter and accept Jesus is faith. Through faith we encounter Jesus as One who is trustworthy. One who loves us. One who wants to teach us the Good News of salvation in all its truth and wisdom.

Sadly, biblical tradition reveals that all too frequently, God's prophets faced rejection and resistance. The story of Ezekiel in the First Reading describes most of God's faithful servants. To recognize God's prophets among us for who they are, to do the work of God, we must have the faith that makes us receptive to God's saving presence. We must also have the faith that makes us willing to be prophets ourselves ... calling others to faithful Gospel living. We come to faith by doing. More than intellectual assent to doctrine, faith is a yes-response to God's words and deeds. Faith is a yes-response to God's presence. Faith enables us to become familiar enough with the God who loves us so that we return that love with open trust.

If we take our own commitment to live religious values and a life of faith seriously, there will be times when we ourselves are faced with misunderstanding, rejection, and ridicule. Sometimes this is most painful, when, like Jesus, the rejection comes from those who are closest to us. Indeed, the extent of resistance may be the measure of our commitment. Our faith commitment is best lived out in the simple, everyday opportunities to live as Jesus did that come our way. For example, when our children need time and direction, we surrender to their needs even when we had a long day at work and are really tired. Or when a friend needs help, we surrender to that need, even when our schedules are packed with activity. By surrendering to these everyday ways of dying-to-self for the good of others, we live a life of faith and rise to God's saving new life.

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

~ Fr. Larry



Questions and Answers on the U.S. Bishops' Vote to Draft a Document on the Meaning of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church

Since the conclusion of the Spring Plenary Assembly of the U.S. bishops last week, there has been much attention on the vote taken to draft a document on the Eucharist. The question of whether or not to deny any individual or groups Holy Communion was not on the ballot. The vote by the bishops last week tasked the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Doctrine to begin the drafting of a teaching document on the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life. The importance of nurturing an ever deeper understanding of the beauty and mystery of the Eucharist in our lives is not a new topic for the bishops. The document being drafted is not meant to be disciplinary in nature, nor is it targeted at any one individual or class of persons. It will include a section on the Church's teaching on the responsibility of every Catholic, including bishops, to live in accordance with the truth, goodness and beauty of the Eucharist we celebrate.

Below are a few commonly asked questions on the meeting and on this topic at issue.

Why are the bishops doing this now?

For some time now, a major concern of the bishops has been the declining belief and understanding of the Eucharist among the Catholic faithful. This was a deep enough concern, that the theme of the bishops' [strategic plan](#) for 2021-2024 is *Created Anew by the Body and Blood of Christ: Source of Our Healing and Hope*. This important document on the Eucharist will serve as a foundation for the multi-year Eucharistic Revival Project, a major national effort to reignite Eucharistic faith in our country. It was clear from the intensity and passion expressed in the individual interventions made by the bishops during last week's meeting that each bishop deeply loves the Eucharist.

Did the bishops vote to ban politicians from receiving Holy Communion?

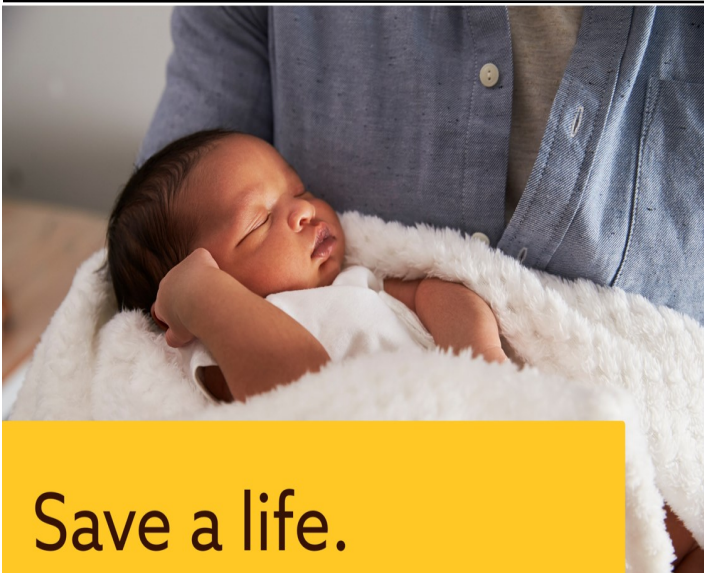
No, this was not up for vote or debate. The bishops made no decision about barring anyone from receiving Holy Communion. Each Catholic - regardless of whether they hold public office or not - is called to continual conversion, and the U.S. bishops have repeatedly emphasized the obligation of all Catholics to support human life and dignity and other fundamental principles of Catholic moral and social teaching.

Are the bishops going to issue a national policy on withholding Communion from politicians?

No. There will be no national policy on withholding Communion from politicians. The intent is to present a clear understanding of the Church's teachings to bring heightened awareness among the faithful of how the Eucharist can transform our lives and bring us closer to our creator and the life he wants for us.

Did the Vatican tell the bishops not to move forward on drafting the document?

No. The Holy See did encourage the bishops to engage in dialogue and broad consultation. Last week's meeting was the first part of that process. It is important to note that collaboration and consultation among the bishops will be key in the drafting of this document.



Save a life. Contact Congress.

WHAT

Congress is trying to force Americans to pay for abortion.

HOW

The Hyde Amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from funding elective abortion for 45 years. Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away these laws that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century.

WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT THESE PROTECTIONS?

Billions of taxpayer dollars could be used to pay for abortion.

TAKE ACTION

Sign the petition to Congress at NoTaxpayerAbortion.com!

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E-Mail Scams

You might have received an e-mail recently from Fr. Larry asking for gift cards or to contact him regarding a personal matter. *It's a scam!*

- Please be aware that I would never ask you to contact me via e-mail regarding a personal matter, nor would I solicit gift cards (or anything) via e-mail.
- If I was to ask for the help of the parishioners and / or staff and / or anyone for help with anything, it would be by a direct phone call or at the end of Mass during the announcements (for Parish or Diocesan solicitations), or a direct mailing from the Parish or from me personally for whatever cause.
- For your protection, delete these e-mails immediately. If you have a question about it, please call the Parish Office or contact me directly before replying to the e-mail or clicking on any links found in the e-mail.



July 4, 2021 | Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 2:2-5 | 2 Cor 12:7-10 | Mk 6:1-6

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I'm struck by phrases in today's first and second readings: The prophet Ezekiel is told that those to whom he will be sent are "hard of face and obstinate of heart"; and Saint Paul aptly describes a "thorn in the flesh" as having been given to him. He even refers to this thorn as "an angel of Satan." These are descriptive images! So, I wondered, What do these images look like in practice? The Gospel gives us a clear example: those who grew up with Jesus refuse to see him as a prophet. At one time in my life, I might have said to myself: "Wow, I can't believe people of his own time would reject Jesus!" However, as I grow older, I'm conscious not only of more physical aches and pains, but the "thorn in the flesh" of patterns I'm not particularly proud of - cynicism, pessimism, even hard-heartedness and a closed mind. The "they" in today's readings hits closer to home and strikes me more as "we" than it used to. And yet, as Saint Paul reminds us, we can bring our imperfections to God and pray for grace to give us strength in our weakness, hearts open to God's love, and ears ready to hear the Gospel and be transformed by Jesus.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When Jesus returned to his hometown, he was not exactly greeted like a "hometown hero." His contemporaries could see him only as a carpenter, and not the Messiah: "So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith." We know that Jesus went on to perform the mightiest of deeds - dying and rising from the dead. And yet, even today, he would be "amazed at our lack of faith." Today's Gospel and the other readings encourage us to do a check-up of our spiritual health and pray for the grace to continue to grow in faith. We can also pray for others who may be questioning or have lost their faith, inviting them to consider coming to church with us or simply offering to pray with and for them.

REFLECT For a more intentional look at whatever thorns might be in your side, and what weaknesses those contribute to, consider doing a retreat. Attend an in-person retreat at a local retreat house, or look into online options for a guided retreat at home.