



February 26, 2023 | 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

# 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

religioussmap@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.psmaj-nj.com>  
or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PSMAinDoC>**



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>**

4:00p **Richard Parkinson** by Fran Carder

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> – 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00a **Bobbie Lyons** by The Biehler Family

10:00a **The People of the Parish**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> – GREGORY OF NAREK**

9:00a **Pat Luko** by Fran Carder

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

9:00a **The Holy Souls in Purgatory** by Nancy Wright

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

9:00a **Robert Mroz** by The Wielgus Family

**THURSDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>**

9:00a **Thomas Longo** – by Victoria & Joseph Nichols

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup> – KATHARINE DREXEL**

9:00a **Health & Well-Being of Tom & Lorraine Lehman**  
by Dan & Karen Seniff

7:00p (N) **Stations of the Cross with Benediction**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> – CASIMIR**

9:00a **Ethel O'Hara** by Kevin & Kathy O'Hara

4:00p **The People of the Parish**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00a **Pat Luko** by Michael & Betsy Gambino

10:00a **John Redkoles** by Carmen Visalli, Jr.



**Get your Daily Mass Readings this Lent**

USCCB Communications has created QR codes to make subscribing to the Daily Readings easier and more accessible. Please find text for short ads

for of the readings below. Moving into the season of Lent we'd like to make as many people as possible aware that they can get the daily readings sent to them, as opposed to searching for them each day on social media or the USCCB website.

Pray with God's Word this Lent! Get the daily readings sent to your email each morning. Please sign up for your free subscription from the USCCB.

**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.

**STEWARDS FOLLOW**

*"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve.'"*

~Matthew 4:10 ~

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we, as His **Stewards**, wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things, and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

**PRAY for the SICK**

Please pray for the sick & those that care for them

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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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**, 1<sup>st</sup> 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,

Vulnerability opens us up to being wounded (from its Latin root *vulnus* “wound”), exposed, or harmed. I think it’s safe to say that none of us likes to be in this situation. We all like to be in control, sometimes not only of ourselves, but also of others. This, we might think, is the best protection for us. In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus is led into the desert. Here, Jesus spends forty days and forty nights fasting and praying. Yes, Jesus walked every aspect of our human journey, even submitting Himself to temptation and death. At the end of His desert experience, He would have been hungry. He would have sought companionship. If He were like me or you, maybe He would have wanted a shower and a haircut. After forty days in the desert, Jesus was vulnerable ... was ripe for temptation ... was ripe to be led where under other circumstances, He might not have gone. So the devil was smart. He knew how to hit Jesus where He was most vulnerable. He tried to pull Him with tantalizing temptations.

This Gospel story teaches us that temptation comes most surely when we are most vulnerable. It is essentially an enticement to put our own desires and needs first, to do what we think is best for ourselves at the moment, to give in to our impulses without considering too seriously the consequences. It is thinking our ourselves first. Resisting temptation, then, is really a matter of resisting self-centeredness. Like Jesus, we must choose instead to surrender ourselves to God who alone should be the center of our lives. To make any other choice is to choose a false god. This First Sunday of Lent forces us to consider this question: ***Do we serve god or God?***

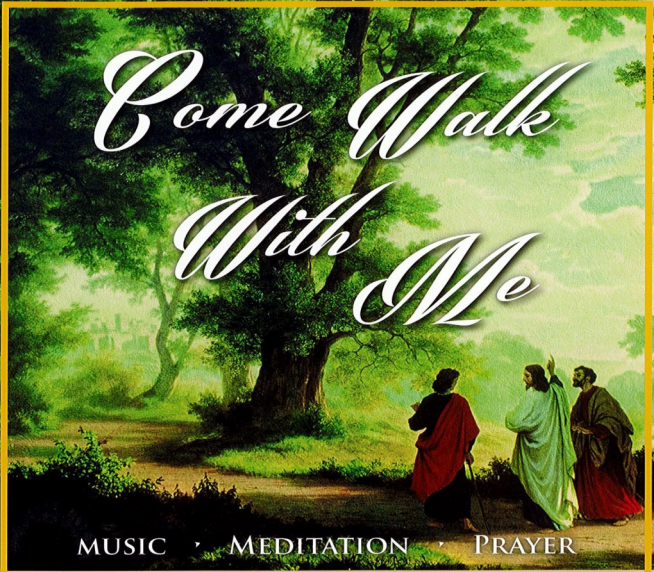
With every temptation, we learn through our struggle with good and evil exactly how vulnerable we are. We learn how much we are tempted to serve all the false gods of our personal desires and needs. We also learn, interestingly enough, to fight temptation with temptation – to replace a desire for something that leads us astray with a stronger desire that leads us to serve our loving and merciful God alone. Only in a metaphoric desert can our vulnerabilities become ones that bring us to right relationships with God, ourselves, and others. We begin Lent with a reflection on temptation and false gods, hoping that Lenten penance helps us to overcome our vulnerabilities and come to Easter ready to receive the new, risen Life this season offers.

We are never immune to temptation. It is real. Temptation always brings choice, decision, and greater self-knowledge. Thus, Lent is a time for us to grapple with the vulnerabilities and inevitable temptations in our own lives and how they shape our self-knowledge. Good choices help us conform more perfectly to Christ and help us to be faithful to our baptismal identity as Body of Christ. Sinful choices and giving into temptations that lead us to false gods sidetrack us on our salvation journey and weaken our identity as Body of Christ.

Penitential practices proper to Lent are not about suffering for the sake of suffering. Instead, they are meant to expand us beyond self-preoccupation to new self-knowledge that leads us to deeper love for God and greater concern for the good of others. Lent is a time of conversion, a time when we become more perfectly who we are – the Body of Christ. This is Lent’s challenge and invitation ... to replace vulnerabilities with strength and temptations with grace.

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


~ Fr. Larry



*Come Walk With Me*

MUSIC · MEDITATION · PRAYER

MARCH 7, 2023  
7:00PM  
HOLY ANGELS PARISH  
— ST. PATRICK CHURCH —  
86 Cooper St. · Woodbury 08096  
ADMISSION IS FREE  
856-845-0123



MARK FORREST  
IRISH TENOR



**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

- The days of both **Fast** and **Abstinence** during Lent are **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
- On a day of **Fast**, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those who are between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
- On a day of **Abstinence**, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of Abstinence.
- The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially” (in other words, as a whole) is a serious obligation.
- The Fridays of the year outside of Lent are designated as days of Penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as Penance.
- The time for fulfilling the **Paschal Precept (your Easter Duty)** extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 26, 2023** to the **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 4, 2023** [The Paschal Precept is to receive Holy Communion during the Paschal Season. To receive Holy Communion, one must not be conscious of any grave sin. If you are conscious of grave sin, prior sacramental confession is needed. (Please see “**Guidelines for the Reception of Holy Communion**” in the **Breaking Bread** Missalettes in church, page 319, “**For Catholics**” 1996, USCCB.)

**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 ~

We would like to thank everyone from our parish and local community who generously supports our parish food pantry throughout the year. As individuals, we may not feel we can make much of a difference in this world. However, the items you donate may be the very items that let an individual right here in our community realize that someone cares.

Currently, the pantry is especially in need of **ramen noodles, pasta, instant potatoes, canned chicken, peanut butter and jelly**. Of course, any nonperishable food item of your choice is always welcome.

Your nonperishable food donations may be left in the Gathering Spaces of both Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena churches, or they may be delivered directly to the pantry at the O’Meara Conference Center **from 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings**.

**Once again, thank you for your continued generosity!**

**LENTEN & HOLY WEEK MASSES**  
**South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries**

Join us in celebrating Mass for Lent and Holy Week in our Chapel Mausoleums. Masses will be held at 10 AM. Dates and locations:

- 2/27 All Saints Cemetery | Newfield
- 3/22 Holy Cross Cemetery | Mays Landing
- 4/3 Sacred Heart Cemetery | Vineland
- 4/4 Calvary Cemetery | Cherry Hill
- 4/5 New St. Mary Cemetery | Bellmawr

*For more information, please visit  
SouthJerseyCatholicCemeteries.org*



**SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
*Your Choice † Your Privilege † Your Right*  
A Ministry of the Diocese of Camden

# Oldies But Goodies

Saint Padre Pio Parish in Vineland will host an "Oldies Dance" on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Pompeii Rosary Hall, 4680 Dante Avenue from 7 to 11p. Doors will open at 6:30p and a buffet dinner will be served at 7p. Tickets are \$45 per person. BYOB. Donation of desserts are appreciated. For tickets or for more information, please call Janice at 856-305-4177.

## Growth & Renewal: The Garden Permit Program



Submit Your Application by March 15th!

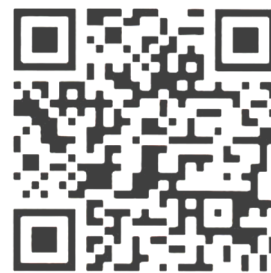


The Garden Permit Program, exclusively offered by South Jersey Catholic Cemeteries, is back for Spring, and we're happy to announce the annual fee, despite rising living costs, will remain the same!

The Garden Permit Program allows a family to tend to their loved one's final resting place by growing a garden within a cemetery-installed border. Please visit <https://www.southjerseycatholiccemeteries.org> to learn more about this program.



SOUTH JERSEY  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL



Your **Catholic Ministries Appeal** gift enables Catholic Charities offices in each of our 6 counties to provide a range of vital social services to people in need, for example, through food pantry, clothing, furniture warehouse, housing assistance and county sites.

Support the 2023 South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal  
[www.camdendiocese.org/sjcma](http://www.camdendiocese.org/sjcma)

As of February 24<sup>th</sup>,

Through your generosity, we have raised **\$15,170** toward our goal of **\$53,200**.

We are **28.5%** there!  
Let's keep up the great work!



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

JOIN THE 10TH ANNUAL DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

# FaithFULL Food Drive

March 25 - 26, 2023

"From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others."  
- Pope John Paul II

## What we're collecting:

Non expired food only. Please aim for healthy no salt added, low-sodium, and whole grain options.

- Canned Beans
- Dried Pasta and Rice
- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Cooking Oils and Vinegars
- Canned Fruit and Fruit Cups
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Nutritious Snacks (Nuts, Granola Bars)
- Canned and Hearty Soups
- Dried Mashed Potato and Stuffing Mixes



TAKING PLACE ON PARISH GROUNDS  
Please bring donations in a reusable bag

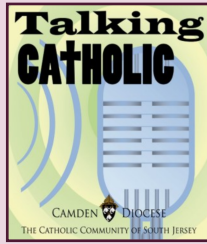


It's spring training time. Play ball with your spouse and sign up to hit a home run at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are March 3-5 and May 5-7.

Questions? Need more information? Please call our application couple at 609-741-8012 or email [applications@wwme-southjersey.org](mailto:applications@wwme-southjersey.org). Please visit our website [wwme-southjersey.org](http://wwme-southjersey.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.

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

[Subscribe to the Talking Catholic YouTube channel:](#)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUnilpN77DldUfyweow](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUnilpN77DldUfyweow)



**FATHER PATRICK HYDE**  
DOMINICAN PROVINCE OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT



**FATHER JOSEPH JEAN-LOUIS**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI



**BISHOP DENNIS J. SULLIVAN D.D.**  
DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

Join us at the first-of-its-kind Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, the showcase event of the first year of the National Eucharistic Revival, a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

The bilingual congress will feature presentations by national Eucharistic preachers Father Patrick Hyde of the Dominicans (Province of St. Albert the Great) and Father Joseph Jean-Louis from the Archdiocese of Miami, witness talks by local lay Catholics, and a concluding Mass celebrated by Bishop Dennis Sullivan.

**SPONSORS: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | PORTER & CURTIS | ANNE MARIE GAVIN**



REGISTER: [CAMDENDIOCESE.ORG/ECTIX](http://CAMDENDIOCESE.ORG/ECTIX)  
• FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING  
• ATTENDEES MAY BRING LUNCH/SNACKS INTO THE VENUE OR LIMITED CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE

FREEDOM MORTGAGE PAVILION  
1 HARBOUR BLVD., CAMDEN, NJ



February 26, 2023 | First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Superbowl Sunday was two weeks ago, and many of us were more likely interested in the commercials than the actual game. After all, companies pay a ton of money to have their products paraded in front of us, and – in theory at least – take the time to make these particular ads memorable and funny. If we can be convinced that we will be better people, or our social outings greater and filled with more laughter, we will buy what they are selling. It’s the modern version of the words of the serpent in today’s first reading: if you eat this, “you will be like gods”! Today’s readings are a reminder that we are all sinners and burdened by being vulnerable to false promises – but also that we are relieved of this burden through one man: Jesus Christ. If we tend to forget that the most important part of our salvation story is that it is full of more grace and forgiveness than we can comprehend, this first Sunday of Lent is a good time to prayerfully ponder this. If God seems far away or distant, let us recall that he loved us so much that he breathed our very life into us, and then gave his only begotten Son to us that we might have life eternally. All he asks in return is for us to accept this gift and follow in his footsteps. Lent is the time to be mindful of grace-filled opportunities that draw us closer to God.

**PRAY** Pray today’s psalm: “Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.”

**GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Let’s think about these 40 days. In addition to allowing us to grow in understanding of God, this time is also an opportunity to grow in our understanding of how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world and help to build the kingdom right here and now. How can we keep God at the center of our lives and resist worldly temptations to push him aside? Perhaps today’s psalm can help us here: Ask for God’s mercy, acknowledge our offenses, seek a “clean heart,” renew a “steadfast spirit” within us, and ask God to grant us a “willing spirit” to give him praise. And remember Christ’s words from the Gospel: Depend on “every word that comes forth from the mouth of God,” which is love and mercy.