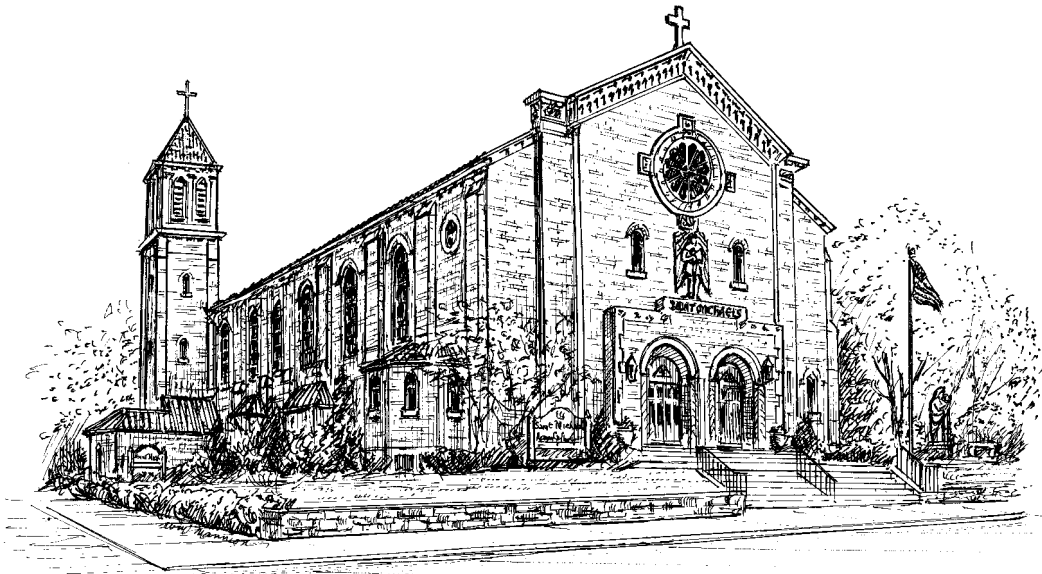


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Putting God first through the stewardship of time, talent & treasure



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**Rev. Sebastian Valencia Obando, Parochial Vicar**

**Margaret Silva, Director of Religious Education**

**Jacqueline Karmol, Pastoral Assoc. for Rel. Ed.**

**David Bower, Director of Music**

**Rich Donovan, Coord. of Youth Ministry**

**Valeria Downey, Assoc. Coord. of Youth Ministry**

**Barbara A. Bilger, Trustee**

**Richard C. Gallagher, Trustee**

**Kenneth Hickey, Pastoral Council Chair**

**Sandy Miragliotta, St. Michael School Principal**

## EUCHARIST:

*Saturday Evenings: 5:30 pm*

*Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12 Noon*

*Weekdays: 7:00 am, 12 Noon*

*Saturdays: 8:00 am, 12 Noon*

*Holy Days: Check Bulletin for Mass times*

**RECONCILIATION:** Monday through Saturday after the 12:00 Noon Mass and Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

**BAPTISMS:** Contact the Parish Center for date and Prep Class.

**MARRIAGE:** One year preparation program. Please contact the Parish Center.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Homebound:** Please let us know of any parishioners, unable to attend church, wishing to receive the Sacraments - Anointing of the Sick and Communion. **Hospital Visitation:** Present privacy regulations require the family to notify the parish of hospitalized parishioners. Please call the Parish Center to arrange a visit.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** We welcome new members to our parish. Registering helps us know you are one of us. Please visit the Parish Center.

**R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):** We welcome inquiries into our Faith. Please contact the Parish Center.

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** Weekly in the Youth Room - High School 7:00 p.m. Sunday - at St. Michael's

**PARISH CENTER**  
**40 ALDEN STREET**  
**CRANFORD, NJ 07016**  
(908) 276-0360

Emergency only Cell: 908-477-3093  
parishcenter@stmichaelscranford.org  
www.stmichaelcranford.org

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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 5, 2019</b>
5:30	People of Our Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 6</b>
7:30	Novena of Masses
9:00	Susanna Melise
10:30	Rosary Society - Living & Deceased Members
12:00	Mary Fernandes
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 7</b>
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Linda Lascari
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 8</b>
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Bardwil Family - Living & Deceased Members
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 9</b>
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Bridget Coakley
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 10</b>
7:00	Roberta Grace Conti
12:00	Carmen DiFabio
<b>Friday</b>	<b>January 11</b>
7:00	Jack Coogan
12:00	John Mesgleski
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 12</b>
8:00	Madge & Ed Reynolds
12:00	Katherine O'Dowd
5:30	Tenore Family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 13</b>
7:30	People of Our Parish
9:00	Muriel Fernald McHugh
10:30	Bunny Loughney
12:00	Thomes DeMaio
<b>Novena:</b>	Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Mondays after 12 Noon Mass
<b>Legion of Mary:</b>	Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.– Parish Center
<b>Rosary:</b>	Weekdays 6:30 am; Sat.7:30 am; Sun.8:30 am
<b>Social Services Helpline:</b>	(Cath. Comm. Services) 1-800-CCS-7413
<b>Crisis Pregnancy Center:</b>	1-201-991-2850
<b>To Report Abuse:</b>	Victim Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Newark 201-407-3256 Union County Prosecutor 908-965-3879
<b>Pilgrim Statue:</b>	God Bless Those Who Welcome Our Lady! Jan.6-13: Anira Clericuzio,505 Lexington Ave Jan.13-20: H. & K. Welsh, 11 Mansion Terr.

**Readings for the Week:**

Monday:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 2:7-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19 —5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**Please Note:** One of our Sunday Masses will be televised on TV-35. The viewing times will be on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The taped Mass will be from the previous week and Mass will appear on the TV-35 website: [www.cranford.com](http://www.cranford.com)

**“...as it has now been revealed...”**

Our celebration of Christmas continues with today's Feast of the Epiphany ('Revelation' or 'Manifestation'), when we recall a visit to the Christ Child by "*Magi (wise men, scholars) from the east*", who, studying the skies for omens, noticed a star that they interpreted as signaling the birth of a royal heir in Judea. The Gospel of St. Matthew records the story, to make the point that, even in His infancy, Jesus found recognition from those whose curiosity was not bound by the preconceptions or biases of the established traditions of His own people. The Magi came from far away—the distance not just geographical, but cultural and spiritual—when, quite near Bethlehem, the political and religious leaders of His nation were oblivious to what had just occurred there. Perhaps because the tradition had become so fixated on an indeterminate *future* moment, those entrusted with conserving it overlooked the possibility of their hopes being fulfilled in the *present*. And so, instead of rejoicing at the news brought by the Magi, King Herod (a puppet ruler, found useful by the Romans, but notoriously paranoid about being supplanted) was "*greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.*" (When Herod got upset, everyone had reason to worry—a reasonable reaction to an unpredictable and insecure man in power!) Informed by his own scholars of where the prophesied Anointed One would be born (clearly indicating Herod was not up on the details himself, nor expecting an imminent arrival of the Messiah), Herod sent the Magi on their way to Bethlehem, with a request to return with confirmation of their discovery, so that Herod could himself "*do him homage.*" Of course it was a lie: Herod was determined to eliminate the threat of a usurper. When he was outwitted by the Magi, who were warned "*in a dream*" to avoid Herod and take another route home, the king's frustration was such that all the male children of Bethlehem under the age of two would be murdered—the price of a mad king's jealousy and rage. But the Magi did find the Child, and their reverent acknowledgment of His kingship would be a metaphor for the search of so many for the Light of the world.

The incident led to Mary and Joseph having to flee with Jesus to Egypt, forced by the threat of violence to be unwilling exiles, becoming an icon of the plight of refugees and migrants even in our own day. The Church remembers today all those in our troubled world who have been displaced by war, famine, gang violence and religious persecution, or who seek escape from poverty and no meaningful opportunities for work and social stability. Our U.S. Bishops remind us of the moral dimensions of this global crisis, with immediate relevance for this country. As we hear conflicting voices about solutions, let us not forget the image of the Holy Family, huddling in fear and uncertain of their future. Can we not see them in the faces of those who knock, seeking refuge? Can we not become voices urging at least respect for these children of the God Who loves us all?

Msgr. Tim Shugrue

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**



*“They prostrated themselves and did Him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:1-12)*

The three kings in today’s Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS**



We are accepting Memorial Donations for flowers for the Altar area, the Candles, Bread & Wine used for the Liturgies, and the weekly Sanctuary Candle.

These items may be donated in memory of someone or to mark a special occasion. A donation of \$10 is suggested for the candles, bread & wine and sanctuary candle, and a donation of \$40 is suggested for the weekly flowers. (MEMORIAL CARDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THESE DONATIONS.) **ALSO**, as we face the need to replace various items for **liturgical** use, we are happy to arrange for memorials of deceased loved ones. Contact the Parish Office.

**Memorial Gifts for the Week of January 6, 2019**

**Bread & Wine, Sanctuary Candle, Altar Candles:**  
In memory of Linda Lascari

**LET US PRAY....**



.... for our beloved relatives and friends who have gone home to the Lord, and especially...

Mildred Kranowski,  
José Fernandez

May they rest in eternal peace.

Let us also pray for the homebound, those in nursing homes, and those who have no one to pray for them.

**2019 MARCH FOR LIFE....**The Cranford Knights of Columbus will sponsor its annual bus trip on Friday, January 18. Bus will depart at 7:00 a.m. from St. Michael School parking lot. Cost is \$20 per adult. Call 908-276-6189 or [march4lifesmc@hotmail.com](mailto:march4lifesmc@hotmail.com) Coffee will be served.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?**

Anyone interested in learning about being a baptized member of the Catholic Church (or who has been baptized and wants to receive First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) is invited to call the Parish Office (908-276-0360).



**EXPLORATIONS IN FAITH & SPIRITUALITY**

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 - 12:45-2:15 and 7:30-9:00 p.m.

(Attend the session that works for you.)

Parish Center, Pat O’Keefe Room

Topic: (Bishop Robert Barron - DVD Series - Lesson 2):

**St. Thomas Aquinas and the Paths to God.** In the 13th century, St. Thomas Aquinas composed his famous five paths to God. His proofs do not depend on the bible or divine revelation. They simply start from the world around us — trees, birds, buildings, and even ourselves. Thomas noticed that none of these things have to exist. But if that’s the case, there must be some cause behind them, something grounding their existence. For Thomas and all Christians since, we know this source of all being by its ancient name — God.

**ROSARY SOCIETY....**

....next meeting will take place on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sarah Black Room, Parish Center. The program is being worked on at the moment. You are invited to bring along a friend and enjoy our first meeting of the New Year.



**THANK YOU...**

...to all who shared their time, talent, and generosity in making our sacred space so appropriately beautiful in a true Christmas spirit. We offer a BIG THANK YOU to:

- |                   |                  |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Theresa Griffin   | Loretta Roettker | Tom Roettker    |
| Zionabelle Ondrey | Bernie Ondrey    | Matt Lubin      |
| Tom Hannen, Sr.   | Dan Hannen       | Tom Hannen, Jr. |
| John Rennie       | Andy Koneski     | Jo deLazaro     |

**SACRED MUSIC MINISTRY AT ST. MICHAEL’S**

**All Are Welcome!**

- **Adult Choir** sings for the 10:30 Mass each Sunday, September through May. Rehearses on Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm in the church choir loft.
- **Children’s Choir** open to children Grades Second Grade & up Rehearses Thursdays 3-3:30pm, September through May.
- **Handbell Choir** open to children Grades two and higher. Rehearses Thursdays 3:30-4:00pm, September through May.
- **Joyful Noise Choir** open to children Grades pre-kindergarten to first grade. Rehearses Thursdays 4-4:30pm Sept. to May.
- **Youth Choir** sings for the 12 Noon Mass weekly with rehearsal at 11:30am in front of church by the piano. All Junior High and High School ages.
- **Resurrection Choir** sings at all funeral and memorial Masses, as well as special events such as First Eucharist and Noon Mass on Holy Days. Open to all ages.
- **Cantors/Leaders of Song** If you are a singer and able to share your talents with our parish community, please consider becoming a cantor. Please consider sharing those talents with our community.

**More information: Dr. David Bower, Director of Music, at 908-276-0360 X231, or [david.bower@nyu.edu](mailto:david.bower@nyu.edu)**

**YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM**

**HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM** - After a short break with Christmas and New Year's, we swing back into things with the High School Youth Ministry Program!

All High School students are invited to join us for our meeting at St. Michael's **tonight, Sunday, January 6**. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and we get started shortly after 7:30 p.m. Don't forget to invite your friends to join us!

Get the latest information about the Youth Ministry Program at [www.stmtym.com](http://www.stmtym.com). You can also reach Rich at the Youth Ministry Office at 908-276-5990 or via email at [rich@stmtym.com](mailto:rich@stmtym.com).

**SAMARITAN MINISTRY**

**Jane Hannon 908-276-0863-H 908-591-3202-C**

**SANDWICH PROGRAM** - Drop-off sites this Sunday are: Anne Marie & Rob McNamara, 31 Lincoln Avenue West, and Lisa & Erik Sorenson, 133 Colombia Avenue. Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord by making a loaf or two of sandwiches for the people of St. Joseph's in Elizabeth. Sandwiches are delivered early Monday morning.

**ST. JOSEPH'S SOUP KITCHEN** - We will collect meatloaves on Saturday, January 19, 2019. Our goal is to collect 60 meatloaves (2-3 lbs. each and should be fully cooked before delivery). *Consider making a New Year's resolution to make a meatloaf each month to share with the people of St. Joseph's in Elizabeth.* Drop-off is before 10:00 a.m. at the home of Trish & Bill O'Connor, 135 Mohawk Drive, or the Parish Center (Miln Street entrance in the hallway).

**Assistance for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and their Families....**

If you or someone you know has a family member with intellectual disabilities and needs assistance, the **Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and their Families** is available to help with care, support services and advice. For help, please contact: Paul S. Aronsohn, Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Development Disabilities and Their Families: State of New Jersey, P. O. Box 205, Trenton, NJ 08625, [Paul.Aronsohn@treas.nj.gov](mailto:Paul.Aronsohn@treas.nj.gov) or 609-984-7764.

**PROJECT READY**

**Job Training Program** - must be actively looking for work! Learn how to find, get and keep a job! Free five weeks Job Readiness & Computer Skills Training Program— Tues.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.– 2:30 p.m. Class begins Tuesday, January 8 and ends February 7, 2019. Location: St. Joseph Social Service Center, church building, 118 Division Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201. Contact: Colletta Liccardi or Iris Rodrigues 908-353-1045 X8 or [projectready@sjeliz.org](mailto:projectready@sjeliz.org)

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT— February 8-10, 2019**

Marianist Family Retreat Center - Cape May Point NJ 08212 Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family and yourself. More info: Anthony Fucci, Center Director at 609-884-3829 or [mfrcc@capemaymarianists.org](mailto:mfrcc@capemaymarianists.org) (\$135 per, dbl.occup)

**PRESENTATIONS for the Separated/Divorced**

**Marriage, Divorce & Church Annulment:** Wednesday, January 10, 7-9 p.m.) What Does the Church Really Teach?

**Workshop on Divorce & Family Law** :Thursday, January 17, (7-9 p.m.) - The "Nuts & Bolts" of the divorce process.

**Location for both Talks:** Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, 28 Livingston Ave., Roseland, NJ 07068

For more information and to RSVP, contact: Lauren Egan, BA CADC, Assoc. Dir., Office of Family Life Ministries, Archdiocese of Newark (973-497-4327) - [Lauren.Egan@rcan.org](mailto:Lauren.Egan@rcan.org)  
171 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104-0500

**Other Family Life Ministry programs include:**

Parish Bereavement Grps [www.rcan.org/parishes-by-city-support-groups](http://www.rcan.org/parishes-by-city-support-groups)  
Separated/Divorced Grps [www.rcan.org/sites/default/files/files/SepDiv%20Support%20Groups\(5\).pdf](http://www.rcan.org/sites/default/files/files/SepDiv%20Support%20Groups(5).pdf)

Single Parent Support Grps [www.rcan.org/single-parent-ministry](http://www.rcan.org/single-parent-ministry)

Same Sex Attraction Support Grps [www.rcan.org/couragesupport-same-sex-attraction](http://www.rcan.org/couragesupport-same-sex-attraction)

Website: [www.rcan.org/offices-and-ministries/family-life/loss-transition](http://www.rcan.org/offices-and-ministries/family-life/loss-transition)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RCANfamilylife/](https://www.facebook.com/RCANfamilylife/)

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**HERE & THERE****CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP ....**

...takes place at St. Helen's Church (parish center), Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, on the first non-holiday Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. These are information / sharing sessions for those caring for elderly / chronically ill loved ones. The next session is Monday, January 7. For more information, please call Marilyn Ryan at 908-233-8757.

**2019 MASS FOR OUR COUNTRY...**

...an opportunity to come together and pray for God's blessings and mercy for our country will be celebrated on Thursday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle church, 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ. This is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark. More information: 973-497-4137 or [evangelization@rcan.org](mailto:evangelization@rcan.org).

**MONTHLY RECOVERY SERVICE** for those afflicted with the problem of addiction is held on the second Saturday of the month at St. Joseph Shrine, Sterling. Information: 908-647-0208.

**McCAULEY HALL HEALTH CARE** is a skilled nursing facility located off Highway #22 West, in the Watchung Mountains on the same grounds as Mount Saint Mary High School. More information re: Sub-Acute Rehab. or Long Term Care, and tours are available. Information: 908-754-3663 X313.

**DONATION BIN...**The cold winds of January and the harsh weather are strong reminders that our voyage in life is never smooth and comfortable at all times. Most people are prepared to meet adverse conditions in the environment, as well as in life's journey. There are many, however, who do not have the resources to meet the demands of daily living. Catholic Charities is the lifesaver for many such people. Your help is needed for our donation bin, located in the yard of St. Michael School. Thank you in advance for your donations. For more information: [DonationBins@ccannj.org](mailto:DonationBins@ccannj.org) or Maria at 973-596-3985.



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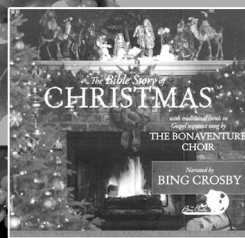
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