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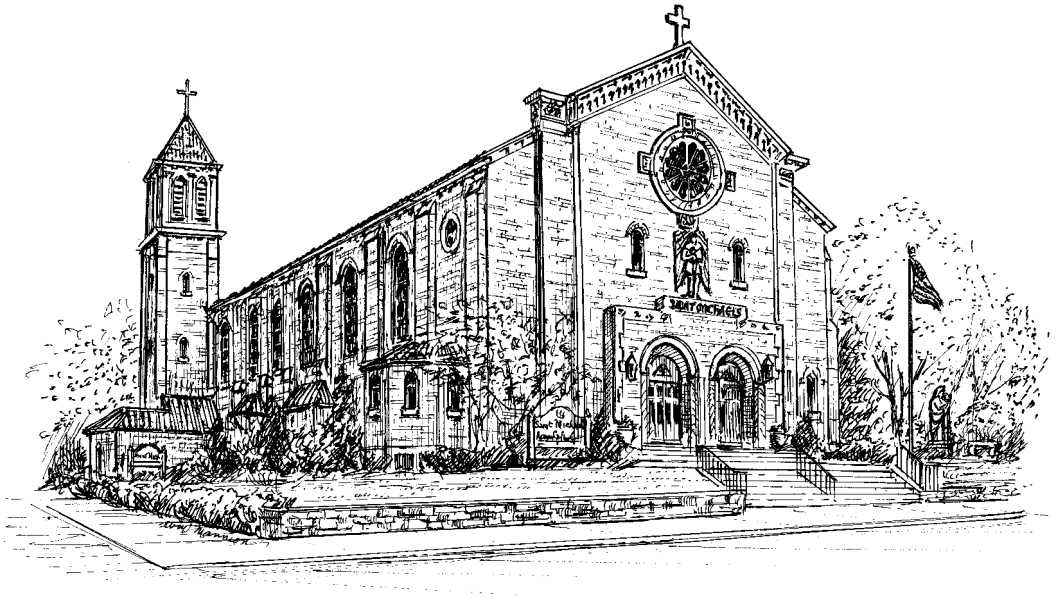

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Rev. Wilson A. Paculan, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Thomas P. Quinn, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. William P. Sheridan, *In Residence*
Rev. Mr. Sebastian Valencia Obando, *Deacon*

Lisa Durant, *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

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www.stmichaelcranford.org

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Saturday	**December 30, 2017**
5:30	Albert Conti
Sunday	**December 31– The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
7:30	People of Our Parish
9:00	Knights of Columbus - Living & Dec.Members
10:30	Ann Donner
12:00	Jude Buccine
Monday	**January 1, 2018 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
9:00	Novena of Masses
10:30	People of Our Parish
12:00	Andrew Irving (lvg.)
Tuesday	**January 2**
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Duane F. MacMenamie
Wednesday	**January 3**
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Jean & Ted Zuchowski
Thursday	**January 4**
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Madge & Ed Reynolds
First Friday	**January 5**
7:00	Novena of Masses
12:00	Mary Alice Harrison
First Saturday	**January 6**
8:00	Susanna Melise
12:00	Novena of Masses
5:30	People of Our Parish
Sunday	**January 7**
7:30	Novena of Masses
9:00	Amparo Camarero
10:30	Rosary Society - Living & Deceased Members
12:00	Owen McGovern

Novena: Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Mondays after 12 Noon Mass

Legion of Mary: Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.– Parish Center

Rosary: Weekdays 6:30 am; Sat.7:30 am; Sun.8:30 am

Social Services Helpline:
(Cath. Comm. Services) 1-800-CCS-7413

Crisis Pregnancy Center: 1-201-991-2850

To Report Abuse: Victim Assistance Coordinator 201-407-3256
Union County Prosecutor 908-965-3879

Pilgrim Statue: God Bless Those Who Welcome Our Lady!
Dec.31-Jan.7: Norma Dwyer, 439 So.Union
Jan.7-14:Anira Clericuzio, 505 Lexington Av.

Readings for the Week:

Monday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:5-13;Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-28
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-13; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Please Note: **Monday, January 1, 2018, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is not a Holyday of Obligation in the Year 2018.**

"...they took him up to Jerusalem…"

The Sunday after Christmas is designated as the Feast of the Holy Family, reinforcing our belief in the authentic humanity of Jesus. Our 'humanity' is defined biologically by our DNA, but it is shaped and formed toward fullness by social interaction, first within our primary community, our family unit. Today there are many developments altering the traditional view of the 'typical' family structure—often for understandable reasons—yet the fact remains that each person requires a father and a mother, and just on the level of physical descent, we are determined in many aspects of our personalities. But ideally, we might say—and without taking anything away from the generosity shown by those who adopt or otherwise welcome children into a loving home—the parent-child relationship is best served by the conscious commitment of both natural parents to the raising of their children in an intact and secure family. That doesn't mean that our families automatically form a stress-free environment: in fact, it may be essential to our development that, amid the everyday struggle to manage the ordinary tensions and minor conflicts of family life, we learn how to deal intelligently and sensitively with the pressures of human interaction in the wider dimensions of community life. The Scriptures tell us that Jesus was born into a family—unique, to be sure, but nonetheless a family—and enfolded in the love uniting Mary and Joseph, two models of responsiveness to the will of God. Unlike the pagan goddess Athena, who came 'full blown from the brow of Zeus', Jesus grew up in a family unit within a larger community of relatives, neighbors and countrymen, absorbing the 'how to' of being human. In this the Church recognizes the Son of God's full embrace of our humanity—not just inhabiting a body, as if it were a temporary costume, but living in our human nature, *"one like us in all things but sin."* And so His every act as man expresses His divine identity—obedient to His Father and in loving concern for His human sisters and brothers. Today we celebrate both God's choice of the processes of Incarnation for fulfilling His plan for our redemption, and His blessing of the dynamics of family life among us. In our multiple roles—as wives and husbands; as daughters and sons; as brothers and sisters; as grandparents, step– and adoptive-parents and siblings; as aunts, uncles, cousins—we are privileged to be involved in the great work of God in bringing us to the fullness of life as His children. Let us commit ourselves anew to helping each other grow 'in wisdom and grace.'

I thank all who helped to make our Christmas celebration so beautifully prayerful: our Priests and Parish Office staff and maintenance personnel; the Art and Environment Committee; Dr. Bower and our Choirs, Youth Ensemble and Cantors; our Lectors, Communion Ministers, Ushers, and Altar Servers; and you, our parishioners. To you and to all our neighbors and friends, I wish a Happy and Blessed New Year. God love you!

Msgr. Tim Shugrue

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"….as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." (Colossians 3:13)

Forgiveness — one of the hardest things for people to do. It's amazing how long we can hold a grudge or be angry with someone. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, take this opportunity to give the gift of forgiveness to someone — maybe someone in your family, maybe a friend, maybe a co-worker or neighbor or, maybe yourself. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

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 December 31, 2017

Bread & Wine: in memory of Legion of Mary
Sanctuary Candle: in memory of Charles Plungis
Altar Candles: in memory of Jack Bayak

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER…

…..those who have died, and especially:

Stanley Hreniuk, Dorothy Hopko

May all our deceased friends and relatives rest in the Lord's peace.

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 for more information (908-276-0360). Please pass this along to anyone you think might be interested.

MARCH FOR LIFE ... The Cranford Knights of Columbus will sponsor its annual bus to the 2018 March for Life, Friday, January 19, 2018. Bus will depart at 7:00 AM from St. Michael School parking lot. Cost $20 per adult. More info: 908-276-6189 or march4lifesmc@hotmail.com

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION...

will take place on Friday, January 5, 2018**,** following Noon Mass. There will be time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, closing with Benediction.

MEN'S BREAKFAST...will take place on Saturday, January 6 (8:30 to 10:00 a.m.). ALL MEN of all ages are invited to the Sarah Black Room, Parish Center. www.stmikesmensbreakfast.webs.com.

ROSARY SOCIETY

Members are invited to join other Rosarians at 10:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, January 7, 2018, when all members, living and deceased, will be remembered in a special way. Please sit in the front pews on Blessed Mother's side of the church with your guest(s) if any.

EXPLORATIONS IN FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 12:45-2:15 and 7:30-9:00 p.m.

(Attend the session that works for you)

Location: Parish Center, Pat O'Keefe Room

MORNING OF HEALING: for Perinatal Loss

The Offices of Family & Respect Life are offering a Morning of Healing to support families who have experienced the loss of a child due to miscarriage, stillbirth or neo-natal death. All parents, siblings, grandparents and others who are affected by the loss of a baby, either recently or long ago, are invited to attend on Saturday, February 17, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 60 Byrd Ave., Bloomfield, N.J. Agenda includes: presentations on topics specific to perinatal loss, small group discussions, a memorial service, resources, and fellowship. Lunch and refreshments provided. Free of charge and babysitting is provided. Must register online at: http://Events.rcan.org/PerinatalLoss/

ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL FESTIVAL

...*The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children*, which provides partial tuition scholarships for low-income students Grades K-12 to attend Catholic schools, will hold its 15th annual High School Basketball Festival on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at Kean University, Union. For complete game times and information on ordering tickets, please visit www.sfichoops.com or call 973-497-4278.

REPORTING OF ABUSE The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may call the Office of Child & Youth Protection Victim Assistance (201-407-3256).

YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Program

This weekend, with the holiday break, there is no Youth Ministry Meeting on Sunday. TEAM members will gather with Rich and Valeria to start planning the second half of the year this week. Please pray for the success and the leaders of the program. Our next meeting is Sunday, January 7, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Michael's.

Get the latest information about the Youth Ministry Program at www.stmtym.com. You can also reach Rich at the Youth Ministry Office at 908-276-5990 or via email at rich@stmtym.com.

SAMARITAN MINISTRY

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

SANDWICH PROGRAM - Drop-off sites New Year's Day are: Joanne & Bob Truncali, 4 Harold Johnson Place, and Eve & Bob Feeney, 111 James Avenue. **Because New Year's Day falls on a Monday, St. Joseph's will be closed that day. Therefore, sandwiches will be collected on Monday, January 1, and delivered early Tuesday, morning, January 2.** Please consider starting the New Year by helping those in need. Make a loaf or two of sandwiches to be shared by the people at St. Joseph's in Elizabeth.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION - for Cranford Family Care will be at all Masses this weekend. Needs for the month include, coffee, tea, hot cocoa, mayonnaise, canned meals such as stew, snacks, and paper products, including plates, napkins and cups. Fresh foods are always welcome and can be delivered to CFC, 61 Myrtle Street (908-276-3530). Your help and support are always appreciated.

WORLD DAY OF PEACE - January 1, 2018

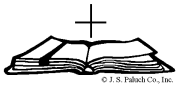
The theme of this year's observance is ***Migrants and Refugees: Seekers of Peace.***

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops has a number of resources on both the World Day of Peace and the work of the Church in the area of migrants, refugees and travelers. This information is available on the USCCB website at : http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/migrants-refugees-and-travelers/index.cfm

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION... Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help earn cash for St. Michael School. Each one is worth 10 cents for our school. Just look for the pink Box Tops on hundreds of products. All you have to do is clip them and drop them off in one of the boxes set up in the Church Lobby. For more information, including a list of participating products, go to www.BTFE.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...the Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemorative Service will take place Thursday, January 18, 2018, (7:00 p.m.) at Trinity Episcopal Church, Forest Avenue, Cranford.

Mass Intentions



The intentions in our **Novena of Masses** for January 2018 are as follows:

Ruth Boruszkowski	Viola Boruszkowski
Vincent Joseph Boruszkowski	Lvg.&Dec.Mem-Boruszkowski fam
Mario Madorma	Lvg. & Dec.Mem.-Madorma fam.
Mary Madorma	John McGrath
Connelly & Hawryluk fams.	John & James Dwyer
Bob Mattis	Fernando Gaspar
Vito & Michael Testa	Susanna Melise
Tom Willis	Forker / Doogan fam.
Michael Celock	Mary & John Celock
Maryia & John Marshak	Cecile & Frank O'Connell
Alfred Korab	Jesse Korab
Stephen & Josephine Toth	Aniello Romano
Helen Butner	Living & Deceased Loved Ones
Mary Plesko	Fredric Faulkner
Maureen Donovan	Rev. Patrick J. Donovan, M.M.
John Semen	JoAnn Leiker
Gertrude M. Meyer	Mackenzie Plick
Elke McNamara	Joseph Lang
Nancy Keefer	Margaret Sullivan
Matthew Nierstedt	Theresa & Joe Diana
Roxanne Esposito	John Ferry
Peter Pursell	Leo T. Meekin
Marcy Xavier	Delores Miller
Andre Yurkovic	Alice Gavin
James Castle	Peter Tierney
Dorothy Dembowski	Ruegamer & Straub fam.
Genevieve Doyle-Schneider	Stephen Ondish
Mark Italiano	Henry Sisbarro
Anne O'Toole	Marie Mahony
Alfred E. Crilly	Tom & Nora Gooney
Theresa Miragliotta	Rose Krako Helfrich
Josephine Queenan	Catherine Pretti
Barbara H. Stevens (lvg.)	Vincenzo DiTrolio
Eleanor M. Wolfe	Mildred Dolce
Anita Jean Wright	Angelo J. Mustillo
Thomas Witkowski	M/M Don Mustillo
M/M James Tagliareni	M/M Len DiStefano
Marie Spadoro	Robert Barosso
Russell R. Ripka	Mary Lou Lyons

NEW TAX EXEMPTION FOR VETERANS NOTED

The Retired Police/Fire PBA recently reported a new State tax exemption for veterans of U.S. military service (anyone with a DD-214 that shows Honorable Discharge) who are residents of New Jersey. "All Veterans...can get a $3,000 personal tax deduction from their income on STATE taxes for 2017. In order to get this deduction, the Veteran needs to submit a copy of their DD-214 and a form to the N.J. Division of Taxation." For more information, application details and copies of the forms, go to the website of the State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Division of Taxation, or call 609-292-6400 ext. 4.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service 2018

January 15, 2018, 4:30-6:30 at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford

This year, in preparation for the 2018 Dr. King Service Fair, the main project will be to assemble and donate personal care products bags to three non-profit organizations: The YWCA Women's Shelter, which we have supported in the past; Community Access Unlimited (Elizabeth) and Covenant House (Newark) to support homeless, at- risk adolescents. This will be a big, yet achievable, endeavor with the women's shelter and Community Access Unlimited servicing a total of approximately 150 clients and Covenant House servicing 75 adolescents in their crisis centers. **Covenant House also serves over 1000 homeless adolescents, in Newark and Atlantic City, each year, which is a staggering and alarming amount of children who have to take care of themselves.**

We are excited to have the opportunity to be of service to homeless and at-risk adolescents. This is also a great opportunity for the youth groups to take charge to be creative in collecting these items to help youth, their peers, who are in need. There will be a collection box in the Parish Office. Please bring your donations by Sunday, January 14, 2018. The items will be sorted by volunteers assembling the bags at the Service Fair. We will be collecting diapers for Raphael's Life House and cleaning products for FISH Hospitality Network and Family Promise.

Each House of Worship is asked to donate a minimum of 30 of each item for 225 bags, and additional amount will go to Covenant House.

- Individually packaged toothbrush
- Toothpaste – 6 -8 ozs. (no travel or family sizes)
- Deodorant
- Soap

In addition they also can use full size shampoos, conditioners, body wash, body lotion, hair products, chap sticks, etc; any of these items collected items will be boxed separately and given to each agency. .

Cleaning products: Each House of Worship is asked to donate at least 4 of each item:

- bottles of multi-purpose cleaner,
- spray cleaners,
- toilet bowl cleaner,
- wipes and/or sponges.
- Various sizes of diapers – as many as possible.
- healthy snacks and individual fruit juice packages for afterschool snacks for Elizabethport.

Thank You and please contact me with any questions,

Janice Grevious, chair, MLK, Jr. Service Fair 908-612-5465 or janicegrevious@gmail.com

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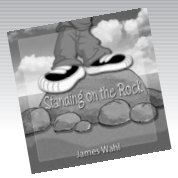

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