

ST. MICHAEL & ST. JOSEPH PARISHES



189 Essex Street, Fall River, MA 02720
 TELEPHONE: 508.672.6713
 WEBSITE: www.smpfr.org
 FACEBOOK: "St. Michael's Church and School"



1335 North Main Street, Fall River, MA 02720
 TELEPHONE: 508.673.1123
 WEBSITE: www.stjosephschurchfr.com
 FACEBOOK: "St. Joseph's Church"

Parish Office at St. Joseph's Rectory, 1335 North Main St., Fall River
 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM Friday 9:00AM-12:00PM

| <u>ADORATION</u> | <u>HOLY MASS</u> | | <u>CONFESSION</u> |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p><u>St. Michael's</u></p> <p>Daily Adoration Chapel 8AM-8PM</p> <p><u>St. Joseph's</u></p> <p>Tuesdays 6:00-7:00PM Benediction 6:45PM</p> | <p><u>St. Joseph's</u></p> <p><u>Daily Mass (9AM)</u> Tuesday Thursday Saturday</p> <p><u>Weekends</u> Saturday 5:15PM Sunday 7:00AM 10:45AM</p> | <p><u>St. Michael's</u></p> <p><u>Daily Mass</u> Monday (Port) 9AM Wednesday (Eng) 8:30AM Friday (Port) 9AM</p> <p><u>Weekends</u> Saturday 4:00PM (Eng) Sunday 9:30AM (Eng) 12PM (Port) 7:00PM (Eng)</p> | <p><u>St. Michael's</u></p> <p>Wednesdays 5-5:30PM Saturday 3-3:30PM</p> <p><u>St. Joseph's</u></p> <p>Tuesdays 6-6:45PM Saturday 9:30-10:30AM</p> <p>Any time by appointment.</p> |

DECEMBER 20, 2020

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S AND ST. JOSEPH'S

St. Michael's and St. Joseph's in the North End of the city of Fall River are two parishes that have come together to share our resources to effectively accomplish our common mission—to preach, teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for His glory and the salvation of souls. If you are visiting or are new to our parish, please introduce yourself to our Pastor, Fr. Jay. Please know how welcome you are here. God bless

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jay Mello, Pastor [fatherjaymello@gmail.com]

Deacon Paul Levesque [paul.levesque@comcast.net]

Mrs. Shanna Lubold, Director of Pastoral Services [stjosephsfallriver@gmail.com]

Mrs. Lisa Ouellette, Director of Religious Education [louellette@smsfr.dfrcs.org]

Mrs. Ana Lucy Mello, Confirmation Coordinator [analuciamello910@gmail.com]

Mr. Ryan Klein, Principal [rklein@smsfr.dfrcs.org]

Ms. Jean Revil, Director of Adult Faith Formation [jrevil@comcast.net]

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - December 24th

2:00PM - St. Michael's

4:00PM - St. Joseph's

6:00PM - St. Michael's (Live on Facebook)

Christmas Day - December 25, 2020

Midnight Mass - St. Michael's (bilingual)

7:00AM - St. Joseph's

9:00AM - St. Michael's (Port.)

11:00AM - St. Joseph's

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FR. JAY

It is with great joy that I take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and assure you of my prayers for a blessed and happy New Year. I know that this has been a difficult year for all of us, there have been many challenges and losses, but as we celebrate Christmas, let us never forget that Jesus Christ is born today! Let our hearts be filled with joy and happiness as we rejoice that God is close to each of us, especially in the difficult moments of our lives. Let us rejoice that we have a God who loves us and wants us to be close to him! As we celebrate his birth and enter into the new year, let us strive to bring that joy to those in our lives! Please know of my daily prayers for each of you and your families! Fr. Jay

WELCOMING PEOPLE TO MASS AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a wonderful opportunity for us to be witnesses of our Catholic Faith and to invite others to share our joy. As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, I invite you to consider two things: First, making a deliberate point to invite people to join you for Mass this Christmas. We have all heard the expression, "Keep Christ in Christmas" but let us also remember to "Keep Mass in Christmas" (Christmas is Christ's Mass). Your simple invitation can have a huge impact on one's life. Second, let us remember the virtue of hospitality. There are many guests who will be joining us for Mass on Christmas who are not normally here. Let us give them a reason to want to come back next Sunday - a warm welcome to our Church and parish community. Please extend that hospitality to the parking lot! Be joyful! Be welcoming!

LIVESTREAMED MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE

If you are unable to attend Mass this Christmas, we will have our 6PM Mass at St. Michael's Church streamed live on the parish Facebook page. After Mass, it will be posted to our parish websites.

FOLLOWING GUIDELINES AT MASS

We ask that you please review our guidelines for opening our churches during the current health situation, and continued to wear your masks and observe social distancing. Please use hand sanitizer upon entrance and exit of church, as well as before and after receiving Holy Communion. Please refrain from any form of the Sign of Peace. Please use only center aisle for Communion.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SACRED SILENCE AND PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Recently, Pope Francis called out the common habit of chatting with people before Mass, stressing that this is a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord. "When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chitchat with those in front of us," the Pope said, "However, it is not a moment for chitchat. It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus," he said, adding that "silence is so important." I am happy that many have commented on how they enjoy the Gregorian Chant before Holy Mass, helping them to prepare for Holy Mass. Arriving early and recollecting ourselves is an important way to preparation for the celebration of Holy Mass as it helps us to clear our mind, recall why we are there, and also to enter into the sacred presence of God. Because Holy Mass is a communal celebration, there is the temptation to talk with others, but I respectfully ask that we try and keep conversations until after Mass, or if they are necessary, to have them in the foyer area or outside, so as to not disturb others who have come to pray. Let us always remember that we are in a sacred space and should conduct ourselves accordingly.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The office will be closed on 12/24 and 12/25 in observance of the holiday. We will reopen on Monday, December 28th. The office will also be closed from December 30th through January 1st. Thank you.

PRAYER BEFORE THE NATIVITY

God our Heavenly Father, from the moment of creation you have never ceased showing your love for us. Even when we turned away from you, you did not abandon us to the darkness of sin and death. Indeed, it was when our need was greatest that you sent us a Redeemer—your Son, Jesus—to be born of the Virgin Mary. Bless us as we look upon this manger. May it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus and raise our minds to contemplate the awesome mystery of Godmade-flesh. Let this holy season fill us with hope that we might join him in the eternal Kingdom of peace in heaven. Through Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen

BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study, led by Director of Adult Faith Formation, Jean Revil, meets on Tuesdays, at 9:30AM and 7PM at St. Joseph's school, focusing on the following week's readings this Advent. Seating will be set up to maintain social distancing.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

This month, in both the collection envelope mailings as well as in the back of the church, you will find Christmas Memorial envelopes. With these envelopes, your donation is asked as an offering for flowers to decorate our sanctuary during the Christmas season in memory of a loved one. The list with all the names of those remembered will be published on Christmas Day. We thank you for your generosity.

REGISTER FOR THE PARISH

If you attend Mass here regularly, or are new here and would like to be registered as a parishioner, please call or stop by the parish office. Accurate counts of registered parishioners is important for pastoral planning purposes. It is also important for mailing and communications from the parish office. Additionally, it is important to be registered at a parish when you are asked to be a Godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation, without which, you can not be given a sponsor form.

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

On Tuesday December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis announced a "Year of St. Joseph" in which the faithful are encouraged to learn more about the Husband of Mary and the earthly Father of Jesus. This was done to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of St. Joseph being declared the Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. Throughout the year, I will be providing materials and opportunities for parishioners to cultivate a devotion to St. Joseph, Patron of the Church and Patron of our Parish.

MASS DURING SNOW STORMS

As we enter the winter season and inclement weather, please be advised that daily Mass will be cancelled if school is canceled. All Mass intentions will be rescheduled. Weekend Masses will not be cancelled unless such severe conditions warrant a driving ban. Please use prudence and safety.

ST. JOSEPH'S ORGAN FUND

The organ at St. Joseph's Church is preparing for the third phase of repairs. We would like to thank those who generously gave to their project. To date, **\$11,214** of \$17,500.00 has been raised. If you would like to make a contribution to this effort, there are envelopes at the main entrance of the church.

"SCHOOL OF PRAYER"

Deacon Paul has started a new series called School of Prayer. In this series we will learn how the Church prays, the different forms and stages of prayer, the spiritual aids that help us to pray well, how to recognize and overcome common obstacles to prayer, and practical tips for developing good habits of prayer. The Monday Morning Study Group meets every Monday at 10:00 am in St. Joseph's Hall and is open to all. For more information contact Deacon Paul at paul.levesque@comcast.net

MY PARISH APP

Our new St. Joseph & St. Michael Parish app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook or Twitter. Download our app today at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for myparish, or **by texting the word APP to 88202 from your smart phone.** Download the App, and select —St. Joseph and St. Michael Parish App from the list of available parishes.

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

If you are expecting a child or planning a wedding, and would like to schedule a baptism or wedding ceremony, please contact the parish office or speak with Fr. Jay.

LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA

You will notice at the main entrance of the Church a display class with CDs from Lighthouse Media. These are inspiration and education CDs from well known Catholic Speakers to help each of us learn more about and grow in our faith. Each CD is only \$3. These are great for listening in the car on the way to work, or to give as a small gift to someone who might need some encouragement in their faith.

PARISH EXCELLENCE AWARD

I am honored to share with you great news for our parishes. Recently, the Parish Excellence Summit Team voted on their awards and granted our parishes the top award for Website Innovations and Excellence during Covid. The panel felt that our reach to our parishioners, whether through Fr. Jay's blog, the book recommendations, the Stimulus Package, and daily videos offered many ways for us to stay connected as parishioners. We are grateful for this great honor, but it was done for God's Glory and for all of you!

PERSONAL MISSALETTES FOR SALE

We are not able to have commonly used Missalettes but if you would like your own copy of the new Missalette, please contact the parish office. They are \$5 each. They are available for sale in the office.

REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL

An investment in the future of St. Joseph's Parish and St. Michael's Parish goes beyond the walls of our church; it has a life-changing impact on our parish's families and the community we serve, and helps keep the spirit of Christ's message alive for future generations. You can uphold our mission and help us thrive for years to come by remembering St. Joseph's or St. Michael's in your estate plans. Please see Fr. Jay to learn more.

REGISTRATION AT ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year for grades PreK—8 has begun. Space is limited and spots are filled in a first come, first served basis. If you would like to have your child registered at St. Michael School, please call the school office as soon as possible as spots fill quickly.

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Our church will be participating in a Baby Bottle Campaign to support A Woman's Concern – Learn Your Options. In January, individuals and families will have the opportunity to respond to the issue of Life. We will be handing out Baby Bottles or a donation envelope for you to take home, fill with cash, checks, and change and bring them back to the church. Our financial support will help to make the services available free of cost to those who are in need of support and guidance in the fight for life! If you decide to give a donation by check, please make the check out to A Woman's Concern.

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL



Mr. Ryan Klein, Principal - rklein@smsfr.dfrcs.org

Mrs. Lisa Ouellette - louellette@smsfr.dfrcs.org

School Office: 508.678.0266

Website: www.smsfr.org

Facebook: "St. Michael's Church and School"

Instagram: [saint_michael_school](https://www.instagram.com/saint_michael_school)

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

St. Michael's school is continuing to take applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Our pre-school program takes students ages 3 and 4, but space is limited. Call the school office today 508.678.0266 or speak directly with Fr. Jay. Financial assistance is available.

MRS. MARY WICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Mary Wick was a dedicated parishioner involved in many different things at St. Michael's parish, including teaching in our parish school for many years. It was Mary's wish that a scholarship be started in her name to assist families with the cost of tuition. If you would like to remember and honor Mary in this way, please make checks payable to the "Mrs. Mary Wick Scholarship." Donations can be mailed in the parish, placed in the collection basket or given directly to Fr. Jay. Let us all remember Mary and all the good she has done!

SUPPORT ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL VIA AMAZON

Enter the link below in a web browser and you will be brought to the — Welcome to Amazon Smile page. Be sure to put St. Michael School, Fall River, MA. Or type the link below in your browser, and they will donate a percentage for qualified purchases to be donated to St. Michael School.

Visit: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/042106670>

SCHOOL SPIRIT STORE

St. Michael School has items for sale from its School Spirit Store, including mugs, blankets, umbrellas and Christmas ornaments and more. If you would like to place an order for any items, please contact the parish or school office.

Religious Education Program Grades 1-7

Grades 1-2

Break for Christmas

Grades 3-7

Break for Christmas

Students must sign in at Mass each week. If the student attends Mass outside of our parishes, please collect a bulletin and have the pastor sign and date the bulletin. Please include your child's name on the bulletin when turning it in.

If you have any questions, please contact the Director of Religious Education, Lisa Ouellette at louellette@smsfr.dfrcs.org or 508.567.3638.

Confirmation Program Grades 8-9

Grade 8 Confirmation Class

Break for Christmas

Grade 9 Confirmation Class

Break for Christmas

If you have any questions, please contact the Director of Religious Education, Ana Lucy Mello at analuciamello910@gmail.com

Students must sign in at Mass each week. If the student attends Mass outside of our parishes, please collect a bulletin and have the pastor sign and date the bulletin. Please include your child's name on the bulletin when turning it in.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19th - Vigil Mass

5:15PM - Gilberto Vieira, Albert Garant Jr., Humberto and Maria L Furtado, Manuel and Sofia Travassos, Stella Citino, Maria dos Santos Palhinha, Maria Regina Vertentes, Leo Hamel, Antonio V. Amaral, Miguel and Delores Massa, Geraldine Ryder, Carolyn Desmarais

Sunday, December 20th - 4th Sunday of Advent

7:00AM - Norman L. Rivard

10:45AM - Manuel de Mendonca

Tuesday, December 22nd

9:00AM - Gilberto Vieira

Thursday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

9:00AM - John and Gertrude Lawrence

Saturday, December 26th - St. Stephen

9:00AM - Bob and Mary Brack, Bob Canada

Saturday, December 26th - Vigil Mass

5:15PM - Gilberto Vieira

Sunday, December 27th - The Holy Family

7:00AM - Thomas & Gertrude O'Neil, Manuel & Agnes Lawrence

10:45AM - For the People of our Parish

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of
George Arruda

CHURCH SUPPORT ST. MICHAEL'S

December 12-13, 2020

First Collection: \$3,444.00

Christmas Flowers Collection: \$1,749.00

This week's Second Collection:

Diocesan Assessment Collection
(Non-Assessable)

Next week's Second Collection:

Church Maintenance Collection
(Non-Assessable)

CHURCH SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH'S

December 12-13, 2020

First Collection: \$2,465.00

Christmas Flowers Collection: \$1,796.00

This week's Second Collection:

Diocesan Assessment Collection
(Non-Assessable)

Next week's Second Collection:

Church Maintenance Collection
(Non-Assessable)

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19th - Vigil Mass

4:00PM - Toni Costa

Sunday, December 20th - 4th Sunday of Advent

9:30AM - Jose S. Mendes, Carlos, Jose, Fernando and Maria Martins, Genoveva Furtado, Isaura DoRego, Mario and Antonio M. Aguiar, Jose and Diamantina Do Rego, Natalie Silva, Jeffrey Martins, Peter C. Rego, Evelyn Botelho, Taylor Patricio, Manuel, Maria, Claudio, Manuel, Daniel, Zelia Leite, Iberia, Gabriela, Amelia Furtado, Maddox Almeida, Jose and Margarida Martins, Nashwa Holt, Joao Teixeira, Fr. Henry Dahl, Intentions Natividade and Albertino Martins, Antonio and Mary Lou Duarte

12:00PM - Moises Sousa, Gilberto Vieira, John DaSilva, Jacinto and Angelina Silva, Agostinho e Paixao Silva, Alex Silva, Angela Coimbra e familia, Moises Camara, Joao Carvalho, Jose Carvalho, Umbrazina, Hermano, Marcolino, Maria do Espirito Santo e Abel Teves, Maria de Jesus Aguiar, Julieta e Antonio Branco, Tony Branco, Jose Luis Cabral, Manuel Pavao, Olivia Garcia, Antonina e Mariano Sousa, Joao Oliveira, intencoes de esposa, para uma graca recebida, em honra de Nossa Senhora do Carmo, e Sta. Luzia

7:00PM - Natalie Souza

Monday, December 21st - St. Peter Canisius

9:00AM - Gilberto Vieira

Wednesday, December 23rd - St. John of Kanty

8:30AM - For the Parish and School Community

Friday, December 25th - Nativity of the Lord

9:00AM - Pelo povo da paróquia

Saturday, December 26th - Vigil Mass

4:00PM - Olive and Gene Melloa and family

Sunday, December 27th - The Holy Family

9:30AM - Margarida Resendes

12:00PM - Antero Matos Frias e familia, Manuel Natal e Maria Conceicao Tavares, Jose Maria e Gilda Lourenco e familia, Jaime e Lourdes Simoes, Clotilde Simoes

7:00PM - Fr. Henry Dahl, for the intentions of Dulce and Kayla Faria, for all souls in purgatory

SANCTUARY LAMP

Em Memoria de
Maria Isabel Barbosa

CHAPEL LAMP

In Memory of
Toni Costa

MISSAS DE NATAL

Vespra de Natal - 24 de Dezembro

2:00PM - S. Miguel

4:00PM - S. Jose

6:00PM - S. Miguel

Dia de Natal - 25 de Dezembro

Meia Noite - S. Miguel (bilingual)

7:00AM - S. Jose

9:00AM - S. Miguel (Port.)

11:00AM - S. Jose

PRÊMIO DE EXCELÊNCIA PARÓQUIAL

Fico honrado em compartilhar com vocês uma ótima notícia para nossas paróquias. Recentemente, a Parish Excellence Summit Team votou em seus prêmios e concedeu às nossas paróquias o prêmio máximo para Inovações e Excelência em Sites durante a Covid. O painel sentiu que o nosso alcance aos nossos paroquianos, seja através de pe. O blog de Jay, as recomendações do livro, o Pacote de estímulo e os vídeos diários oferecem muitas maneiras de nos mantermos conectados como paroquianos. Agradecemos por esta grande honra, mas foi feito para a Glória de Deus e para todos vocês!

FELIZ NATAL DE FR. JAY

É com grande alegria que aproveito a oportunidade para desejar a cada um de vocês e a suas famílias um Feliz Natal e assegurar-lhes minhas orações por um abençoado e feliz Ano Novo. Sei que este foi um ano difícil para todos nós, houve muitos desafios e perdas, mas ao celebrarmos o Natal, nunca nos esqueçamos que Jesus Cristo nasceu hoje! Que nossos corações se encham de alegria e felicidade ao nos alegrarmos por Deus estar perto de cada um de nós, especialmente nos momentos difíceis de nossas vidas. Alegremo-nos por termos um Deus que nos ama e quer que estejamos perto dele! Enquanto celebramos seu nascimento e entramos no novo ano, vamos nos esforçar para levar essa alegria para aqueles em nossas vidas! Por favor, conheçam minhas orações diárias por cada um de vocês e suas famílias! Fr. Jay

SEGUINDO DIRETRIZES EM MASSA

Pedimos que reveja nossas diretrizes para abrir nossas igrejas durante a atual situação de saúde, e continue a usar suas máscaras e observar o distanciamento social. Use desinfetante para as mãos na entrada e saída da igreja, bem como antes e depois de receber a Sagrada Comunhão. Abstenha-se de qualquer forma do Sinal da Paz. Por favor, use somente o corredor central para a comunhão.

MISSALETES PARA O TEMPO DE NATAL

Temos Missalettes na igreja. Fazem favor de tirar um livro. Se levar um Missalette Portugues, leve-o para casa e traga-o a todas as Missas para evitar os riscos associados ao COVID. Esta será sua Missalette até o final da temporada de Natal.

TEMPO SAGRADO ANTES DA MISSA

Estou feliz que muitos tenham comentado sobre os Cantos Gregoriano antes da Santa Missa, ajudando-os a se preparar para a Santa Missa. Chegando cedo e lembrando -nos é uma maneira importante de preparar a celebração da Santa Missa, pois isso nos ajuda a limpar nossa mente, lembre-se porque estamos lá, e também para entrar na presença sagrada de Deus. Porque a Santa Missa é uma celebração comunal, há a tentação de conversar com os outros, mas peço respeitosamente que tentamos manter conversas até depois da Missa, ou se for necessário, para as ter na área do vestíbulo ou fora, de modo a não perturbar outros que vieram rezar. Lembremo-nos sempre de que estamos em um espaço sagrado e devemos nos conduzir em conformidade.

ACOLHENDO PESSOAS À MISSA NO NATAL

O Natal é uma oportunidade maravilhosa para sermos testemunhas de nossa fé católica e convidar outras pessoas a compartilhar nossa alegria. Enquanto nos preparamos para a celebração do Natal, convido a considerar duas coisas: Primeiro, fazendo um ponto deliberado para convidar as pessoas a se juntarem para a Missa deste Natal. Todos nós já ouvimos a expressão "Mantenha Cristo no Natal", mas lembremos também de "Manter a Missa no Natal" (o Natal é a Missa de Cristo). Seu convite simples pode ter um enorme impacto na vida de alguém. Segundo, lembremonos da virtude da hospitalidade. Há muitos convidados que se juntarão a nós na missa no Natal que normalmente não estão aqui. Vamos dar a eles um motivo para querer voltar no próximo domingo - uma recepção calorosa à nossa igreja e comunidade paroquial. Por favor, estenda essa hospitalidade ao estacionamento também! Seja alegre! Seja acolhedor!