

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 Open 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>* NO 7PM Mass Memorial Day - Labor Day.*</p> | <p><u>St. Michael's</u></p> <p><u>Daily Mass</u> Monday (Eng) 9AM Wednesday (Eng) 8:30AM Friday (Port) 9AM</p> <p><u>Weekends</u> Saturday 4:00PM (Eng) Sunday 9:30AM (Eng) 12PM (Port) * 7PM (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 10, 2023

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 [frjmello@diocese-fr.org]

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]

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

4PM - St. Joseph's

5:30PM - St. Michael's

Christmas Day

12AM Midnight Mass - St. Michael's
(bilingual)

7AM - St. Joseph's

9AM - St. Michael's (Portuguese)

11AM - St. Joseph's

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 13th -

6:30-7:30PM

St. Joseph Church

BLESSING OF BABY JESUS STATUES

There is a beautiful tradition in the church of having a blessing of the Baby Jesus figures for nativity scenes in the days leading up to Christmas. I invite anyone who would like to have their baby Jesus blessed to bring them to Church next weekend, December 16th and 17th and I will bless as you leave Mass. Nativity sets in our homes are such a beautiful way to bring the true meaning of Christmas into our daily lives.

RECENTLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to Tatum Ryan Silva who was recently baptized at St. Joseph's Parish. With great joy, we welcome him into the Catholic Church and our parish community. Anyone interested in having their child baptized, should speak with Fr. Jay or call the rectory.

RECENTLY MARRIED

Congratulations to George Potter and Lisa Potter who recently had their marriage blessed at St. Joseph's Church. May the Lord grant them a happy and holy marriage! Anyone interested in getting married, or having their civil marriages blessed by the Church, they should see Fr. Jay or call the rectory.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISHES

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events at Saint Michael's (SM) and Saint Joseph's (SJ)

December 11th - Study Group, 10AM (SJ)
- Confirmation Grade 8, 7PM (SM)

December 12th - Bible Study, 9:30AM (SJ)
- Adoration/Confessions, 6PM (SJ)

December 13th - Rel. Ed. Class, 6:15PM (SJ)
- Advent Confessions,
6:30-7:30PM (SJ)

December 15th - Jr. Youth Group, 7PM (SJ)
- High School Youth Group, 7PM (SM)

December 16th - Soup Kitchen, 4:30PM (SM)

NEW PASTORAL LETTER FROM FR. JAY

With the start of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year, I take this opportunity to make available a letter I have written to each parishioner with the hope that it might enhance your life of faith and devotion. Following the theme of my last two letters and in keeping with the efforts of the National Eucharistic Revival, this letter is about our worthy reception of Holy Communion. Copies are available at the entrance of each Church, in both English and Portuguese, as well as on our parish websites.

SAVE THE DATE - WINE TASTING

Save the date of Saturday, February 3rd for the 12th annual St. Michael School Wine and Appetizer Tasting fundraiser. The event features wine, beer, spirits and appetizer tasting, as well as dancing, raffles and a silent auction. Please contact the parish office if you would like to sponsor this event.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A special Mass of thanksgiving will be celebrated for couples observing significant wedding anniversaries, including the first year. This celebration will take place on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3PM at St. Mary's Cathedral. Please contact the parish office as soon as possible to obtain an invitation.

ADULTS WHO NEED SACRAMENTS

RCIA is for any adult over 18 who desires Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation, or for an adult who may have been baptized but did not receive the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation. For more information, please contact Deacon Paul.

MONDAY MORNING STUDY GROUP

Deacon Paul leads a study group for those searching to get more out of their faith. Through Scripture stories, commentary, and questions for reflection and discussion, we'll learn how to receive the freedom and the new life Jesus died to give us. These sessions take place every Monday at 10AM.

HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

What better way to prepare for Christmas than by examining our consciences and going to confession to receive our Lord's mercy and forgiveness. We will have an Advent Penance Service Wednesday, December 13th from 6:30-7:30PMPM. Our regular confession schedule is Tuesday from 6-7PM and Saturday from 9:30-10:30AM at St. Joseph's, and from 5-5:30PM on Wednesday, and 3-3:30PM on Saturday at St. Michael's Church. Confession guides and Examination of Conscience guides are available on the parish websites.

"GIVING TREE" TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

This Advent, please visit the Giving Tree at the entrance of each church to drop off a gift card of any denomination for Walmart, Target or Amazon to help a family in need. Please return all gift cards no later than December 17th. No toys or other gifts will be expected this year, only gift cards please. Please let us know if you are in need of assistance.

ASSISTANCE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

If you are in need of assistance during the holiday season and winter months, please contact the parish office or Fr. Jay directly. Our parishes have a very active Outreach Committee that works those in need.

CHOIR REHEARSALS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to sing in the choir for our Christmas Masses, rehearsals will be as follows:

St. Michael Midnight Mass - 5:30-6:30PM
December 14th, 19th and 21st

St. Joseph Vigil Mass - 6:45-7:45PM
December 14th, 19th and 21st

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

During December, 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CATECHESIS ON HOLY MASS

Please, let us not leave Mass early unless it is absolutely necessary: that is, it is a true emergency. Whether we sing or not, we should stay right through to the end of the recessional hymn, if there is one. While there are possible exceptions to this guideline, most who leave early don't really need to and ought not to, plain and simple. The worst case, I believe, is those who habitually leave Mass right after receiving Holy Communion, without even stopping in the pew to make a prayer of thanksgiving. This is disrespectful to God and distracting to those who are praying and thanking God for his great gift, the Holy Eucharist. Many of us have heard it said that at the Last Supper, the only one to leave early was Judas Iscariot. Don't be a modern day Judas!

PRAYER OF ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the
wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

The following dates have been scheduled for our Jr. Youth Group and High School Youth Group events.

Junior Youth Group -
Friday, December 15th, 7-9PM at St. Joseph's

High School Youth Group -
Friday, December 15th, 7-9PM at St. Michael's

ONLINE GIVING

Online Giving is now available for parishioners with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Donating is simple, safe, and completely secure. If you have any questions or concerns about the program, contact the parish office. To enroll in Online Giving, please visit:

St. Joseph's: stjosephschurchfr.weshareonline.org
St. Michael's: smpfr.weshareonline.org

**CHURCH SUPPORT
ST. MICHAEL'S**

December 2-3, 2023

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| First Collection: | \$4,819.00 |
| Monthly School Collection: | \$ 614.00 |

Next Weekend's Second Collection
Retired Religious (Diocesan)

**CHURCH SUPPORT
ST. JOSEPH'S**

December 2-3, 2023

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| First Collection: | \$3,796.00 |
| Diocesan Assesment: | \$ 853.00 |

Next Weekend's Second Collection
Retired Religious (Diocesan)

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL



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

Lisa Ouellette, Office - 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)

FOLLOW SMS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow all the great things going on at St. Michael School on our social media accounts, "like" our Facebook page: St. Michael's Church and School, and our Instagram page: [@saint_michael_school](https://www.instagram.com/saint_michael_school)

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE—SAVE THE DATE

There will be an Open House at St. Michael's School on Sunday, January 28th from 11AM-1PM. Please pass along this information to families with young children that you may know and might be interested in our parish school. We appreciate everyone's effort to spread the word about our parish school, especially among families in our own parish.



Religious Education News

Confirmation Grade 8 Class

Monday, December 11th - 7PM

St. Michael's Hall

Religious Ed Grades 1-7 Class

Wednesday, December 13th - 6:15PM

St. Joseph's Parish Center

Religious Ed Grades 1-7 Class

Wednesday, December 20th - 6:15PM

St. Joseph's Parish Center

Religious Ed Grades 1-7 NO Class

Wednesday, December 27th - NO CLASS

Christmas Break

Confirmation Grade Class

Monday, January 8th - 7PM

St. Michael's Hall

For questions, contact Lisa Ouellette for grades 1-7 at 508.567.6358, or Ana Lucy Mello for grades 8-9 at 508.494.3916.

PROJECT RACHEL FOR MOTHERS

At the core of Project Rachel (post-abortion healing), the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a place where we have the amazing opportunity to encounter God's endless and loving Mercy, which is the ultimate source of all healing. If you desire, you will be able to meet with one of our priests who will welcome and counsel you in a prayerful environment with an atmosphere of respect, sensitivity and confidentiality. If you would like support from a counselor, contact 508.617.3230.

Mass Intentions - St. Joseph's

Tuesday, December 12th

9:00AM - For the People of our Parish

Thursday, December 14th-St. John of the Cross

9:00AM - Gilberto Vieira, Sofia Aguiar and family

Saturday, December 16th

9:00AM - Francis Joseph Riley IV

Saturday, December 16th - Vigil Mass

5:15PM - Brian Paul Mello

Sunday, December 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

7:00AM - John and Gertrude Lawrence, Helen Brzys

10:45AM - Michael Dubeau

MASSES AND CANDLES

To book a Mass, or have the candles in our sanctuary or Blessed Sacrament Chapel lit in memory or for the intentions of a loved one, please contact the parish office.

SANCTUARY LAMPS

St. Joseph's - Jose Matos Frias

St. Michael's - Graça Recebida

Blessed Sacrament Chapel - Gail Conforti

Mass Intentions - St. Michael's

Monday, December 11th - St. Damasus

9:00AM - Chris Oliveira

Wednesday, December 13th - St. Lucy

9:00AM - For our Parish & School Community

Friday, December 15th

9:00AM - Pelas Almas mais Aflitas

Saturday, December 16th - Vigil Mass

4:00PM - Jose and Diamantina Amaral

Sunday, December 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:30AM - Jose S. Mendes, Jose Creador, Manuel & Maria dos Anjos Tavares, Jacinto & Maria dos Anjos Creador, Peter, Melanie Creador, Mario & Antonio Aguiar, Maria, Mario & Irene Correia, Jose & Diamantina DoRego, Natalia Silva, Jeffrey Martins, Francisco Carvalho, Manuel Pereira, George Souza & family, Genoveva, Alfredo Tome, Alfredo Furtado, Isaura Rego, Irena Benfeito, Victor & Mike Medeiros, Maria & Jose F. Moniz, Diamantina Machado & João Alves, John Pacheco

12:00PM - Miguel e Maria Helena Aguiar, John DaSilva, Jacinto DaSilva, Angelina Silva, Agostinho, Paixao, Jose Augusto, Antonio Tavares, Silvina Estrela, Joao Oliveira, Teodora M. Pereira, Palmira Luciana, Alvaro e Al Carvalho, Joao e Germana Medeiros, Jose Cabral, Belmira Tavares e familia, Manuel Natal e Maria Conceicao Tavares, Jose Maria e Gilda Lourenco, Jose Maria e Olga

A SAGRADA TEMPORADA DO ADVENTO

A época santa do Advento é o período de quatro domingos antes do Natal. Advento significa 'Vindo' em latim. Esta temporada destina-se a nos preparar e a nos ajudar a refletir sobre a vinda de Jesus Cristo ao mundo, que são três. Os cristãos usam os quatro domingos do Advento para lembrar a primeira vinda de Cristo, o verdadeiro significado do Natal – o nascimento de nosso Senhor. A segunda vinda de Cristo acontece em cada Missa quando nosso Senhor se torna presente para nós no altar na Eucaristia. A terceira vinda de Cristo acontecerá no final dos tempos, quando Cristo retornar em glória. Durante este Santo Tempo do Advento, vamos preparar nossos corações para Cristo entrar em nossas vidas, cuidando de nossas vidas espirituais e nosso relacionamento com ele. Vamos recebê-lo com grande alegria.

ÁVORE DE OFERTAS

Neste Advento, visite a Árvore de Doações na entrada de nossa Igreja para deixar um cartão presente de qualquer denominação do Walmart, Target ou Amazon para ajudar uma família necessitada. Devolva todos os cartões presentes até 17 de Dezembro.

ASSISTANCIA DURANTE O INVERNO

Se precisar de ajuda durante esta temporada de férias e meses de inverno, entre em contato com a paróquia ou pe. Jay diretamente. Nossas paróquias têm uma Sociedade São Vicente de Paulo muito ativa que trabalha com os necessitados.

ENSAIOS DO CORO DE NATAL

Se gostava de cantar no coro de Natal, os ensaios começaram no dia 14 de Dezembro.

S. Jose - Missa das 4PM - ensaio as 6:45PM

S. Miguel, Missa da Meia Noite - ensaio as 5:30PM

MEMORIAIS NATALICIOS

Durante o mês de Dezembro, tanto nos envelopes de coleta quanto na parte de trás da igreja, encontrará envelopes comemorativos de Natal. Com estes envelopes, sua doação é solicitada pelas flores para decorar nosso santuário durante o Natal em memória de um ente querido. A lista com todos os nomes dos lembrados será publicada no dia de Natal. Agradecemos sua generosidade.

CATEQUESE SOBRE SANTA MISSA

Por favor, não saiamos mais cedo da Missa, a menos que seja absolutamente necessário: isto é, é uma verdadeira emergência. Quer cantemos ou não, devemos permanecer até ao fim do hino recessivo, se houver. Embora existam possíveis exceções a esta diretriz, a maioria dos que saem mais cedo não precisa e não deveria, pura e simplesmente. O pior caso, creio, são aqueles que habitualmente saem da missa logo após receberem a Sagrada Comunhão, sem sequer parar no banco para fazer uma oração de agradecimento. Isto é desrespeitoso para com Deus e distrai aqueles que estão orando e agradecendo a Deus por seu grande presente, a Sagrada Eucaristia. Muitos de nós já ouvimos dizer que na Última Ceia o único que saiu mais cedo foi Judas Iscariotes. Não seja um Judas moderno!

NOVA CARTA PASTORAL DO PE. JAY

Com o início do Advento e o início de um novo ano litúrgico, aproveito esta oportunidade para disponibilizar uma carta que escrevi a cada paroquiano com a esperança de que possa melhorar a sua vida de fé e devoção. Seguindo o tema das minhas duas últimas cartas e em consonância com os esforços do Reavivamento Eucarístico Nacional, esta carta é sobre a nossa digna recepção da Sagrada Comunhão. Cópias estão disponíveis na entrada de cada Igreja, em inglês e português, bem como nos sites das nossas paróquias.

GUARDA A DATA - WINE TASTING

No Sábado, dia 3 de Fevereiro, nossa escola paroquial terá o seu event Social de provar vinhos, licors e cervejas. Esta é uma grande evento social para famílias, amigos, ex-alunos e benfeitores da escola de São Miguel. Existem muitos prêmios de sorteio, comida, música e muito mais. Os bilhete custam \$35 por pessoa e podem ser adquiridos ligando para os escritórios da escola ou da paróquia.

CONFISSÕES DO ADVENTO

Que melhor maneira de se preparar para o Natal do que examinar nossas consciências e confessar para receber a misericórdia e o perdão de nosso Senhor. Haverá confissões ouvidas 18 de Dezembro, as 6PM na Igreja de Espírito Santo e no dia 19 de Dezembro as 11 horas da manhã. Haverá padres que falam Portugues disponível para ouvir confissões.