

Welcome to the Church of St. Andrew the Apostle

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

CYCLE B

APRIL 14, 2024



The next meeting of the **St. Andrew's Men's Group**
will be held on:

Saturday, April 20th at 8:30 AM
Immediately following the 8:00 AM Morning Mass.

Please join us in the Upper Room of the Parish Hall for coffee,
donuts, prayer, and time to engage in learning
about our faith.

**JOIN OUR
CATHOLIC
MEN'S GROUP**



27 Kresson-Gibbsboro Road • Gibbsboro NJ 08026
(856) 784-3878 - Visit us online - www.ChurchofStAndrews.org
Office hours: Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Our Pastoral Team - We're Here to Serve You! 856-784-3878

Clergy

Rev. Msgr. Louis A. Marucci, VF, D. Min.	Pastor	MsgrMarucci@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 19
Rev. Anthony Infanti	Parochial Vicar	FrInfanti@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 14
Deacon Aaron Smith	Permanent Deacon	ASmith@churchofstandrews.org	leave message at Office
Deacon Anthony Malatesta	Permanent Deacon	Amalatesta@churchofstandrews.org	leave message at Office

Parish Administration

Debby Morlachetta	Parish Administrator	DMorlachetta@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 12
	Worship & Music		leave message at Office
Spiritual Life Office	Spiritual Life	KEmrich@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 33
Kathy Emrich	LifeLong Faith Formation	KEmrich@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 33
Michelina O'Neill	Administrative Assistant	MOneill@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 15
Dan Maney	Youth & Young Adult Ministry	DManey@churchofstandrews.org	ext.20
Bob Sperrazza	Coordinator, Compassionate Outreach	RSperrazza@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 27
Chris Parry	Coordinator, Compassionate Outreach	sppc1@comcast.net	856-906-5127
Tese Hemschoot	Senior Adult Ministry	THemschoot@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 36
Bibiana Sola Trejo	Parish Bookkeeper	BSolatrejo@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 11
	Principal Organist		leave message at Office
Matthew Johnson	Maintenance Director	MJohnson@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 35
Carl Zuccarelli	Maintenance	CZuccarelli@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 35
June Stengel	Sacristan	JStengel@churchofstandrews.org	856-784-3878

Parish Registration

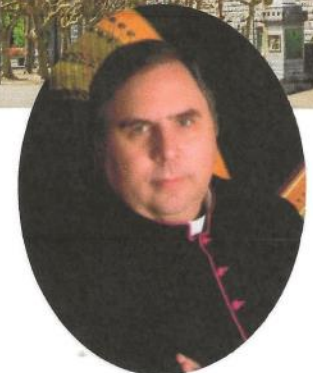
Welcome to St. Andrew the Apostle Church! We invite you to join our family! You may register or update your current information by calling the Parish Office or visiting our website. www.ChurchofSaintAndrews.org



**Pilgrimage to Marian Shrines:
Lisbon, Fatima, Spain & Lourdes**

Your Pilgrimage Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare
- Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- 8 Nights Accommodation at Centrally Located Hotels



**Spiritual Director:
Msgr. Louis Marucci**

From the Pastor's Desk



(Homily given by Rev. Msgr. Louis Marucci on the occasion of the Mass of Resurrection (Funeral Mass) for Father Michael Rush.

Given: March 27, 2024

A few months ago, Father Michael came over for dinner, and we began discussing the Gift of Priesthood.

We talked about how God has allowed us to be instruments in his hand to accompany people through essential moments of their lives, particularly Baptisms, Weddings, and Funerals. He shared with me that some of the most incredible experiences of his life as a priest have been in the confessional when people shared they had not been to confession for many years, and after absolving the penitent, they left with a peace in their hearts that was not present when they first arrived. Although priesthood is a gift, it is a gift that is meant to be shared. It is shared through the priest's pastoral presence, in persona Christi, as he reaches out to help and serve the people of God. People need the presence of Christ in their lives.

Amid our dinner conversation, I asked Father Michael why he had decided to become a priest. I believe that people are often fascinated when they learn why men choose to respond to God's Call to priestly life, and for that reason, brothers, we should never be afraid to share our vocation stories.

Father Michael's story surprised me. I expected him to say that he grew up in an active Catholic family, who were actually pillars of the Parish at St. Andrew the Apostle. His parents were very active parishioners; his Father was a parish Trustee. Father Michael grew up here in Gibbsboro, and his family has had a profound presence in the parish since its inception. As a matter of fact, the parish would not even be here if it were not for Father Michael's Dad, Mr. Rush. I shared this story during my sermon for Michael's Jubilee Mass last June. You may not know this, but in the early sixties, there was significant hostility toward Catholics. When the parish wanted to purchase this property, the owner would not sell it because Catholics wished to buy it. When Mr. Rush, a Parish Trustee at the time, heard about it, one night, he gathered some Rosaries and Religious Medals, came over to this property, and buried them somewhere in the ground. The next day, the seller changed his mind and sold the entire property to St. Andrew the Apostle Parish.

In addition to being formed in a strong Catholic Family, Father Michael's older Brother had entered the seminary. I thought perhaps his older Brother's vocation was the catalyst for Father Michael to become a priest. However, Father Michael shared the following story with me, which was the moment he knew that God was calling him to become a priest.

When Father Michael was a little boy, about eight or ten years old, he was told a story by a Priest or a Sister that changed his life. The story was about a ten-year-old boy living in a small village in Ireland. One day, the young lad rode his bicycle to the top of a hill. When he looked on the other side, he saw a parade, which fascinated him, and he rode his bike to catch up to the parade. As he rode closer, he realized it was not a parade but a funeral procession where young parents were burying their child. The parents were very poor, and the casket was nothing more than a wooden crate being transported on the back of a horse-drawn wagon.

The young boy noticed how distraught the parents were, and the procession led to the Pauper's Field, where people experiencing poverty who could not afford a plot in the village cemetery could bury their deceased relatives. What struck the little boy was that no priest was present when they placed the small casket in the ground. In the boy's mind, he thought there was no priest because the people were poor, and priests did not attend to their needs because of their poverty. Therefore, the boy, unknown to the family, approached the parents and asked if he could say a few prayers in the priest's absence. The prayers offered by the young lad brought great comfort to the parents.

In Father Michael's young mind, he thought there should never be an occasion that people could not have the availability of a priest when they needed one, and it was at that moment he decided that he would become a priest to serve the people of God. This story, coupled with being formed in a strong Catholic Family and the path of his older Brother, Joe, Father Michael said Yes to God's Call to become a priest.

I believe that Jesus invites every one of us to discipleship: to be faithful to His Word, to repent of our sins, to confess Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, and to live out our vocation in harmony with Him. God has a plan and purpose for our lives, and our mission in life is to discern that path and then become instruments in His hand ac-

From the Pastor's Desk

ording to that path. We do not need to be perfect to be a disciple, but we do need the power of the Holy Spirit to carry us beyond our human weaknesses. We learn that despite our limitations, our lives in his hands can accomplish much.

Today, we commend our dear Brother, Father Michael Rush, back to Almighty God because of the worthiness of the way he lived his vocation. 50 years ago, Father Michael gave his life into the hands of our Lord. And look what God was able to accomplish. Father Michael responded to the call of discipleship: to be faithful to His Word, to repent of any sin, and to bear witness that Jesus Christ is his Savior and Lord. And he has lived out that vocation in harmony with him for 50 years.

This past June, we gathered in this Church to thank God for the Gift of the priesthood Father Michael has been privileged to share for the past fifty years. In the greater picture, 50 years is a small amount of time. However, in today's world and context, every single day of priestly fidelity is cause for Thanksgiving and prayer.

When we celebrated Father's Jubilee, we celebrated a witness factor of faithful living, a commitment to consistent Service, and Father Michael's profound Love for God. We gathered together in community to celebrate the Gift of Priesthood, the Gift of the Eucharist, and most significantly, the priesthood of Father Michael Rush.

I remember being struck that Father Michael was resistant to celebrating his Jubilee. He avoided the suggestion of celebrating it every time I brought it up. One day, after probing him several times, he said, Louie, I don't think so. I'm not the Pastor, and people only know me from my weekend Masses now, and I am not sure that people would come.

When I told him it was not about him but about the Gift of priesthood, he relented but was concerned that only a few people would come. He was shocked that over 350 people responded that they were coming. People came from every walk of life. As the responses kept arriving, my staff would pray that the person would decline because we were unsure if we could fit any more people in the parish hall. Father Michael was beside himself by the response.

The responses were a testament to how he faithfully lived as an instrument in the Lord's hand for 50 years. When Father Michael retired and celebrated his last Mass at St. Damian parish, he proclaimed with a prophetic voice,

"Although I retire from serving as a Pastor, I will never retire from serving as a Priest."

The people of St. Andrew the Apostle parish have been extraordinarily blessed these past three years when Father Rush has served amid his retirement. His Service at St. Andrew's was a beautiful homecoming for Father Michael and the good people of St. Andrew the Apostle. Father Michael was ordained in our parish hall, which was St. Andrew the Apostle Church at the time. At his Jubilee celebration I placed his family table at the very spot where Father Michael's hands were anointed on the day of his ordination. I left the space in front of his table empty because it designated the sacred place where Father Michael laid prostrate before the Altar as the Church prayed over him. Who would have ever guessed that 50 years later, we would gather in the exact location in Thanksgiving for Father Michael's 50 years of dedicated priestly Service?

Today, we once again gather as the Church of God. We gather to commend our dear brother, Father Michael Rush, back to Almighty God to receive the Gift of eternal life because of the worthiness of how he lived his life. The suddenness with which Father Michael returned to the Lord is a beautiful reminder that we should all live our lives as Father Michael did, that is, ready and prepared.

None of us know the day, time, or hour that our life will require of us. I would like to share one final thought. Father Michael Rush preached his last homily the weekend before last in this Church. Because we were celebrating the Scrutiny Mass for the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults), Father Rush preached on the Gospel about the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Let me share with you Father Michael's final words:

"Let us all always remember the words of Mary (Lazarus' Sister). Jesus told her that Whoever lives and Believes will never Die. Then Jesus asked her, 'Do You Believe this?' And Mary said, "Yes, Lord, I Do Believe. I Believe you are True God and True Man. Yes, Lord, I Believe you are one with us, and we are one with you. Yes, Lord, I believe you can wipe away all Tears, where there is no death, no grief, and no more crying."

Then, Father Michael asked the congregation three times... **Do YOU Believe? Do YOU Believe? Do YOU Believe?** And then, he shared these final words about himself. "Yes, Lord, I do believe!!!!"

And so today, we once again thank Almighty God for calling

Father Michael to the Holy Priesthood of Jesus Christ. We thank Almighty God for the Gift of the Rush family in our Parish and in our Diocese.

We thank Almighty God that Father Michael said "Yes" and that God breathed on him and gave him the strength to endure for these past fifty years.

And we thank Almighty God that for the past 50 years, countless people have had the availability of a priest who otherwise may not have had one to minister to them.

Let us always remember that it takes a Church to make a priest, and it takes a priest to hold the Church together!

There is one thing for sure: Father Michael Rush will enjoy the most Glorious Easter he has ever experienced in this earthly life. Father Michael, may you enjoy your eternal reward for faithfully serving God and His people so well.

Let us forever remember that, eye has not seen nor ear heard, nor can our human hearts begin to comprehend what God has in store for Father Michael, who loved and served him so well. May he rest in peace. Amen.

With a loving and grateful heart,
Msgr. Louis Marucci, VF, PH.D., D.Min.
Pastor



*Alexa Atkinson
Mia Caputo
Ava Carullo
Jaxon Chenetz
Carly Cianfrone
Paige Connell
Gabiella Deku
Elizabeth Ebinger
Rowyn Forney
Luca Foti
Sofia Freitag*

*Isabella Galipot-Clingain
Emma Galvin
Lana Gomez
Cassandra Harris
Sebastian Henderson
Colette Keenan
Juliette Kreifus
Alexander Luscombe
Reese Maglasang
Natalie McPeak
Jake Patrizzi*

*Lucas Phillips
Dante Puggi
Harry Rose
Sephina Scappa
Payton Settlemire
Eila Smith
Malin Stengel
Isabella Tenaro
Mateo Teran
Antonia Worthington
Samatha Zoller*

For Whom Shall We Pray

MASS INTENTIONS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

8:00 AM + Martin Egizi r/b The Knasiak Family
 8:00 AM + Marie Sbrocco r/b Harold Sbrocco
 10:00 AM L Ronnie Sulpizio on his 85th Birthday r/b His Family
 10:00 AM + Thomas Mullen r/b Joanne Handfield
 6:00 PM + Adeline and Leonard Boyle r/b Louise and Rich Wilson

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024

8:00 AM + Thelma Negowski r/b Adrienne Maiuri
 8:00 AM + Vicki Sbrocco r/b Harold Sbrocco

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024

8:00 AM Pro Populo Mass

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

8:00 AM + Peter Heckman r/b Sophia Sinibaldi
 8:00 AM + Joseph G. DePietro r/b Harold Sbrocco

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

8:00 AM + Sonia C. Cruz r/b SAA RC Seniors

FRIDAY APRIL 19, 2024

8:00 AM + Peter Heckman r/b Michael and Ruth Sinibaldi

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

8:00 AM + John Szombathy r/b St. Jude Council Knights of Columbus
 4:00 PM + Michael Tressel r/b The Kreal & Stainrock Families
 + Deceased L Living

A Time to Be Healed

Caddy and Maye Alfonso	Robert Joynes
Mary Bauman Soards	Loretta Lipp
Peggy Badey	Dan McGravey
Gary Carmody	Marge Merkert
Silvia Ciliberto	Robert Merkert
April Cole	David Misilewich
Barbara Curtis	Mike & Jane Mooney
Tony Del Pidio	Matt Murphy
Stephen DiLizio	Rita Romano
Maryann Donohue	Anthony Simone
Debbie Filipone	Maryann Simone
Joan Geier	Mabel "Dolly" Staton
Amy Glenney	Don Stoll
Neil Glenney	Nina Stone
Donald Ray Hamilton	Amanda Yakacki & Family
Carson Hill	

A Time for Peace

Devin Thomas Badey, Army
 Sgt. Austin Tyler Cole, USMC
 Officer Bill Walsh
 Officer Kevin Wynne

A Time to Die

Eugene Cabral
 Mildred Lagomarsino
 Rose Maschi
 Marie Joan Pashuck

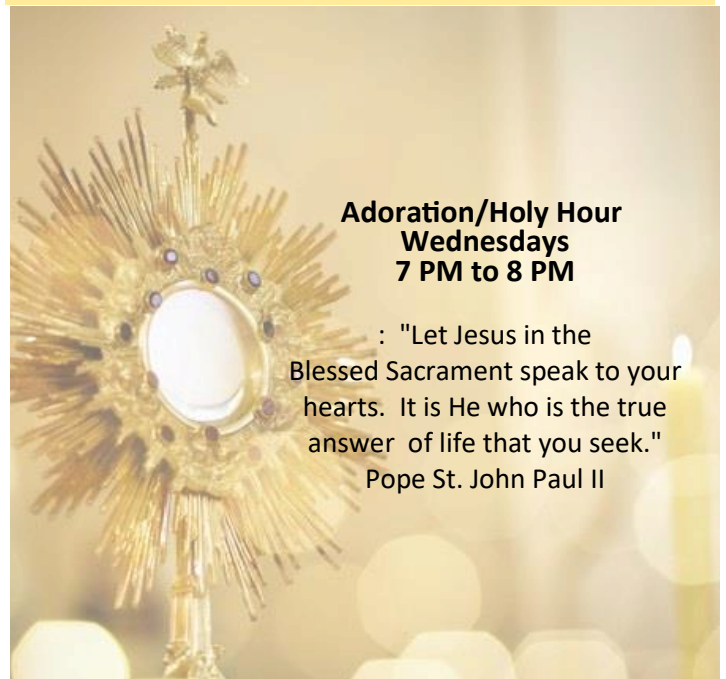
The Sanctuary Candle Burns in Memory of
 Joseph Sheehan r/b Theresa Romasky and Family

The Blessed Mother Candle Burns in Honor of the
 Ricchini Family r/b a Friend

Open Enrollment for CCD Classes for Grades
 K-8 for September is now underway!



Registration Forms can be found
 on the Church website and in the Parish Office



**Adoration/Holy Hour
 Wednesdays
 7 PM to 8 PM**

: "Let Jesus in the
 Blessed Sacrament speak to your
 hearts. It is He who is the true
 answer of life that you seek."
 Pope St. John Paul II

Your Ministries



Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

Saint Andrews Bible Study will begin May 13th. We will meet in the Upper Room in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm and the sessions will last for one hour.

The topic for the Bible Study will be Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother.

Study Guides are available in the Parish Office for a donation of \$25.

Bible Study dates are as follows:

May 13

May 20

No session May 27

June 3

June 10

June 24

July 1

July 8



SAVE THE DATE!

Knights 3rd Annual Golf Outing ~ Monday, June 10



Indian Spring Country Club, Marlton

***Golf ~ Delicious Buffet Dinner ~ Dancing ~ Prizes ~ 50-50 Raffle
Entertainment Provided by Sir Knight Al Armato***

Now in its 3rd Year, St. Jude Council's *Annual Golf Scramble* is a fun way to enjoy a beautiful day out on the links, camaraderie with your fellow parishioners and neighbors, dinner and dancing... *all while supporting St. Andrew's Ministries and Local Knights of Columbus Charities!*

Over 100 people attended last year, please consider supporting this worthwhile event.

18-Hole Golf Greens Fees, Cart, and Full Hot Buffet \$140 ~ Dinner Only \$60 Per Person

For more information, contact:

A.J. Ariani at 856-630-2030 aariani@comcast.net OR

Bob Sperrazza at 856-761-2226 sperr_r@comcast.net



Your Ministries



Give your child the gift of a Little Angels Academy Preschool education!

LITTLE ANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

NOW ENROLLING FOR SEPTEMBER!

Call us today at 856-435-1585 or visit our homepage on the parish website: ChurchofSaintAndrews.org

Hi Seniors, We look forward to meeting you!

Our Goals: To enhance the overall quality of life of the senior members of our community.

Social interaction and recreation.

To provide opportunities for spiritual growth through faith reflection, faith sharing, scripture exploration, and prayer.

To offer programs of interest.

To promote successful aging through educational programs and physical activities.

Provide nutritious meals and table fellowship.

If you have any questions, please contact me at them-school@churchofstandrews.org.

 **TRC**
The Renaissance Center



NEW LIFE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

New Life is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. You'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief.

The Grief Support Group meets every Wednesday at 4:00 pm in the Parish Center
Remaining Meeting Dates are:
April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5
All are welcome!

Your Ministries

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

MAY 4, 2024

9:00AM-11:00AM

Marco's at Indian Springs
Country Club
115 South Elmwood Road
Marlton, NJ 08053

Please join Women of Joy for their annual Mother's Day Brunch at Marco's at Indian Springs Country Club.

The Mother's Day Brunch will take place on May 4, 2024 from 9:00-11:00am.

The cost is \$34.00. We will be having a fashion show of memories.

Please RSVP by April 26th to Cathy Knasiak at catherineknasiak@yahoo.com or call / text 856-693-0200.



Members of the Legion of Mary's praesidium Queen of the Apostles attended the annual Acies event at St. Simon Stock Church on March 23.

Members rededicate themselves to Our Blessed Mother and pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance in their works and prayers.

Father Anthony Infanti presided. His homily focused upon the three C's of the Legion: Conversion, Consolation and Conservation. The Event concluded with Adoration of the Eucharist.

Your Ministries

Pastoral Coordinators- Bob Sperrazza and Chris Parry. If you are faced with challenges or know someone struggling, we're here to help. Contact Bob at c# 856-761-2226 or rsperrazza@churchofstandrews.org or Chris at c# 856-906-5127 or spcp1@comcast.net.

Local Outreach

A young mom is in need of bed wetting underwear for her 5 year old daughter who is developmentally delayed. She requests 'Goodnites'-Girls Nighttime Bedwetting Underwear Size S/M 43-68 lbs.

Joseph's House Monthly Casserole Recipe

Last month we collected 30 casseroles for Joseph's House. Thank you so much to our volunteers!!!! The next drop off for casseroles will be Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 10-11AM. Drive up to the parish hall and a volunteer will be waiting for you in the parking lot. We will hand deliver to Joseph's House later in the day. If this day and time do not work for you, we can make other arrangements. Call or text Chris Parry at 856-906-5127 with any questions and/or to confirm you will make a casserole. Prepare one or more casseroles. All donations are greatly appreciated. We will continue to use the same recipe.

Hamburger Noodle Casserole

1 lb. hamburger	1 cup cottage cheese
15 oz. can or jar tomato sauce	1 cup sour cream
1 medium chopped onion	12oz. egg noodles
1 cup of green pepper	2 cups Shredded Monterey Jack Cheese

-Combine the hamburger, green pepper and onion and sauté until meat is cooked.

Salt and pepper to taste. Add tomato sauce and simmer for 20 minutes.

-Cook noodles according to package directions.

-In another bowl combine sour cream and cottage cheese.

-Blend cottage cheese and sour cream mixture with the cooked noodles.

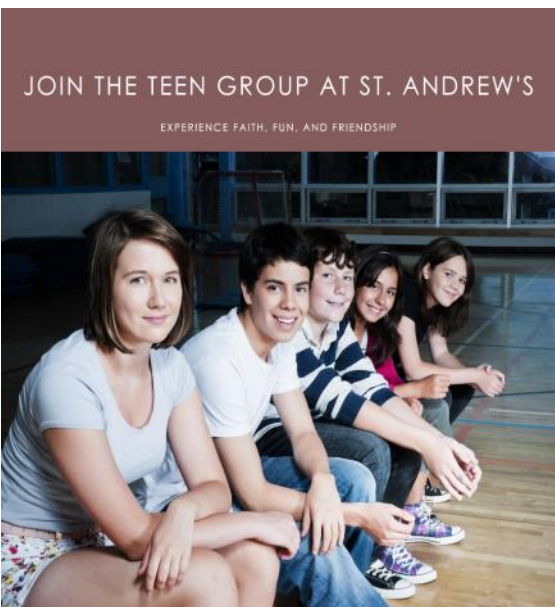
-Salt and pepper to taste.

-In a lightly greased aluminum pan spread the hamburger mixture. Next, layer the noodle mixture. Top casserole with shredded Monterey Jack Cheese.

Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until thoroughly heated.

NOTE: Please freeze the casserole, cover with aluminum foil, date and label

St. Andrew's- "Hamburger Noodle Casserole."



St. Andrew the Apostle Life Teen Group

What is LIFE Teen? Spend time with your peers, make friends, have fun and serve others! Learn about your interests and gain self-confidence! Take a moment to gain a different perspective and learn more about your faith in God and others!

All 8th to 12th grade teens and their friends are welcome!

LIFE Teen Group

How to get notified about Group Events?

Go to Remind.com and enroll in @39bab4 by entering your cell # or email address.

QUESTIONS ABOUT JOINING LIFE Teen?

Call or text Dan Maney, Youth Leader, at (609) 706-0981 or email DManey@churchofsaintandrews.org. For more information, go to church web site <http://churchofsaintandrews.org> then select education, then youth ministry.