



# St. Michael the Archangel Parish Newsletter

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## From the Pastor

Fr. Stanley Kostrzomb

As we approach our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in two years, we are grateful to almighty God for many things, including our parish. St. Michael's is truly a grace from Him.

This is our twelfth newsletter, noting the good things happening here. We, once again had a great Feast Day celebration last August. We were blessed to participate in the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to the national shrine in Washington DC. in October. We no longer have the sisters in our convent, but we started using it for the parish such as religious education and a little social after the 10:15 AM Mass on Oct. 17 in honor of our 98<sup>th</sup> year.

Read on for more news.



St. Michael's 7th annual Feast Day Celebration at Town Hall Park on Aug. 20-21 was successful in terms of having fun as well as in terms of raising funds for our beautiful parish.

## Angel Academy

Roberta Pocius, Director

The staff and children of St. Michael's Angel Academy have settled in for the 2010 -

2011 school year. Everyday we greet happy and smiling children. The three year old children are learning all the rules of Angel Academy and are busy socializing and shar-



*Left:* St. Michael's Parish pilgrims board bus at 6:45 AM on Oct. 23 for trip to the National Shrine Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. *Right:* Mathew Gorski and his mother Maria placed our parish banner among other parishes' banners in the Basilica sanctuary. We joined with our neighbor Sacred Heart Parish to be one of 63 buses from the Archdiocese of Newark on this pilgrimage.

ing with their new friends. They are learning to listen and follow the everyday school routine along with letters, numbers and computers.

The four year old children begin with a more structured and detailed schedule. They are busy with reading, phonics, writing skills, upper and lower case letters, art and Spanish. Their day is quite full but always leaving time for a play group.

Halloween is a fun time at Angel Academy since we celebrate with our "Trunk or Treat". We look forward to Thanksgiving and spending time with our families. Christmas comes upon us quickly as we prepare for our recital by learning songs and practicing on the stage. Our PTO is occupied with fund raising events which help to make Angel Academy the best place.

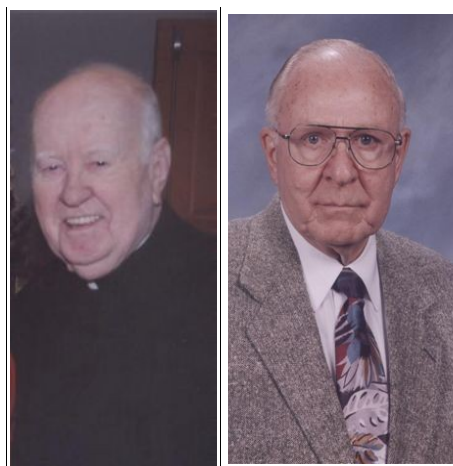
We're looking forward to the New Year 2011. We will keep you updated on our events in our next newsletter.

### We Cannot Forget

Fr. Stanley Kostrzomb, Pastor

There have been many great people who have made our parish special over the last 98 years, both priests and lay people. Judging by the quality of our parish, I would say that we benefited from really good priests, religious and parishioners who gave themselves selflessly to St. Michael's. During my time here so far, we have experienced the loss of genuinely good parishioners, and we cannot forget them and their service.

It has been eleven months since we lost two of our friends Deacon Vincent Serzan and Msgr. James McMenemie both of whom died last January 5 and 19 respectively. It would not surprise me to know that our deacon did the most work of any other permanent deacon in our Archdiocese. He worked many hours each week, even before his retirement, with the help and support of his wife Irene. He visited the sick and the homebound and was always dependable in



Msgr. James McMenemie and Deacon Vincent Serzan

assisting at Masses each day as well as at funerals. He was that kind of rare person whom one did not have to ask for help, but he simply was there. He was not just an asset, no, he was a great person, a true son of God who loved his Church, his wife and family and his country.

Msgr. McMenemie was a true priest who loved God and us. He served in the marriage tribunal, doing his best to help those in difficult marital situations. On weekends, he helped in parishes and in our own parish since he took up residence here in June 1989. But, he was not merely an assisting priest, he was a hard working parish priest, like a curate (as we once were called) who cared for his people. He, like our Deacon, didn't wait to be asked for assistance, but he looked for ways to help others and to improve our parish.

These were men of special character which we can only hope we might see in more people today. We were fortunate to know them we will always remember and miss them. I thank God for the time that we had them with us.



The little angels, our students, of Angel Academy enjoy a demonstration by the Lyndhurst Fire Department during Fire Prevention week last October.



During their Nov. 15 meeting, our *Food Pantry* volunteers were quite busy sorting and making *Thanksgiving* baskets from two rooms filled with food donations.

### Food Pantry

by Beth Bogdanowicz

The Food Pantry has been truly blessed in 2010. In these difficult economic times we have received sufficient food all year to serve those who come to us in need of assistance.

First and always we thank the parishioners and their families and friends who support the Pantry throughout the year.

There are also many organizations who steadfastly help the Pantry with monetary and

food donations. They are the Mount Carmel Seniors, the Sacred Heart Seniors, the St. Michael's English Rosary Society, the United Presbyterian Church of Lyndhurst and the Annual Post Office Food Drive.

We were also pleased to have received a very generous cash donation from the Shop Rite Partners in Caring and a contribution from the AARP of Lyndhurst in memory of Deacon Vincent Serzan. We are especially grateful for the AARP donation as they are disbanding the local chapter and remembered the deacon and the St Michael's Food pantry with this donation.

During 2010 the Meadowlands Board of Realtors conducted three food



St. Michael's Religious Education students brought up food donations for *Thanksgiving* baskets during Mass on No. 14.

drives at Shop Rite of Lyndhurst and each time gave the Pantry two carloads of food. We are very grateful for the hard work done by the Board to collect this food and appreciate that they have given us so much each time.

Last, but certainly NOT least, big thanks go to the Food Pantry volunteers who keep the shelves stocked, the bags packed, and the Pantry organized.

Thank you & God bless all.

### Evangelizing on the Internet

Robert Recchia

St. Michael's has made its presence known on the internet with an enhanced web site, a new Facebook page, and a re-designed blog. The St. Michael's Facebook page provides Facebook users who "like" the page with inspirational thoughts and updates on happenings at the parish. For the past several years, we have published a blog containing Fr. Stanley's weekly, "From the Pastor's Desk" column; the blog enables Fr. Stanley's column to reach a worldwide audience. The redesigned blog now also offers Catholic news headlines, Catholic resources, and links to Catholic media. The enhanced St. Michael's web site links to the blog and the Facebook pages, as well as to other Catholic resources. The web site also now contains the entire weekly bulletin in pdf format. If you haven't done so recently, be sure to visit the St. Michael's web site at [www.st-michael.org](http://www.st-michael.org), take a look at the weekly bulletin and Fr. Stanley's blog, and click on the Facebook link and then click "like" on our Facebook page.



*Merry  
Christmas  
and  
Happy  
New Year*



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