

HIS WORD TODAY
by Rev. William J. Reilly

First Sunday of Lent
March 1, 2020

“For if by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance grace and of the gift of justification, come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all. So through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all.”

We begin the season of Lent, a time of prayer, fasting, sacrifice and good works. It is not just a time to shift gears and remember, but to allow the saving work of Jesus to take place in our hearts.

Do I see the need for the abundant grace of Jesus in the world today? Am I able to move from what is around me needing salvation in Jesus, and see my own personal need for His saving, His amazing grace?

I begin my Lenten journey in a serious way, asking that the next few weeks will find me caring for my soul, my spiritual life, the spiritual well being of others, my children. I ask forgiveness for what I have done and what I have failed to do.



CHURCH OF ST. DENIS

MANASQUAN, NEW JERSEY

STAFF

Reverend William J. P. Lago, Pastor
Rev. Joseph Miele, Weekend Assistant
Rev. Lewis Papera, Weekend Assistant
Mr. George R. Kelder, Jr., Deacon
Mr. George J. Pstrak, Deacon

Mrs. Eileen Ziesmer, Pastoral Associate
Mr. Mark Mataranglo, Director of Music Ministry
Sr. Mary Guyer, SSJ
Mr. Denis Campbell, Trustee
Mr. Gregory W. Boyle, Trustee

BEACH CHAPEL	554 East Main Street		
RECTORY	90 Union Avenue	732-223-0287 FAX	732-528-1901
CONVENT	117 Virginia Avenue		732-292-0772
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE	119 Virginia Avenue		732-223-1161
ST. DENIS CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY			732-223-1383
CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS		st.denis@verizon.net	
PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS		wlago@dioceseoftrenton.org	
WEB PAGE ADDRESS		http://www.churchofstdenis.org	



MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekday Masses: 7:30 AM (Mon.-Tues.-Wed.-Fri.) – St. Denis Church
Saturday: 8:30 AM – St. Denis Church
Saturday Evening: 4:30 PM (fulfills Sunday obligation)- St. Denis Church
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM- St. Denis Church
Sunday: 10:00 AM - Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel
Holy Days: Evening before: 7:00 PM & day of: 7:30 AM & 7:00 PM-St. Denis Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Every Saturday from 3:30 until 4:15 PM - St. Denis Church. Also by appointment.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL DEVOTIONS: Tuesday morning after the 7:30 AM Mass-St. Denis Church

BAPTISM: The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12:15 pm at St. Denis Church. Parents must complete the required preparation with the priest or deacon and obtain godparent eligibility letters before a date for Baptism will be given. Please call the rectory for further details.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the rectory office for more information about weddings. All couples contemplating marriage are asked to give the priests one year prior notice in order that all the requirements for marriage can be satisfied. Do not reserve the reception hall before contacting the church; your requested date may not be available.

CARE OF THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: We will gladly bring Holy Communion to anyone who is ill or otherwise unable to get to Mass. Please call the rectory to make arrangements. The priests and deacon make regular visits to the local hospitals. Please call the rectory if any loved one is hospitalized.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL: At such times of deep pain and loss, we seek to offer our bereaved families comfort and hope as they commend their loved ones to God. Please note that, in accordance with Church regulations, eulogies are not permitted during Funeral Masses.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM. There are no office hours on Saturday & Sunday. Evenings are by appointment only.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! We encourage new families moving into the area to stop in or call the rectory to arrange for registration.

CELIAC SPRUE PARISHIONERS – Saint Denis provides a low gluten (<0.01% gluten content) host. Parishioners who are gluten-intolerant should see a deacon or priest prior to the start of Mass in order to be included in the reception of the Eucharist.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK- Saint Denis Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/churchofstdenis. You don't need to have a Facebook account to read parish news and updates, but would need one to leave comments and feedback.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 29, 2020

8:30 am Mark Mahoney by Deacon Gary Pstrak
 8:30 am Steven M. DePaul by the Gilbert Family
 8:30 am Annabella Dwight by Maurice & Patricia Donovan
 4:30 pm Rose & John Cafone, Sr. by the Children
 4:30 pm Dorothy Nielson by her Daughter
 4:30 pm Mary Price by Margaret & Mel Price

Sunday, March 1, 2020

8:00 am Doris Seichter by Deacon Gary Pstrak
 8:00 am Zulmira Antonio by Joe & Carol Hill
 8:00 am Bill Truex by his Family
 9:30 am Joseph Abitante by Fran & Paul Weeks
 9:30 am Annabella Dwight by Jeanne & Donna Scalamoni
 9:30 am Kevin Huffman by Terry & Bob O'Brien
 10:00 am Ann Marie McGough by Michelle & Steve
 10:00 am Harold Hoppe by the Rose Family
 10:00 am Virginia Tichenor by the Loreto Riesco
 11:00 am For the People of the Parish

Monday, March 2, 2020

7:30 am Andrew P. Hrankowski, Jr. by his Sisters
 7:30 am Steve M. DePaul by the Gilbert Family
 7:30 am Nancy Reese by Kate Geiger

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

7:30 am Cecilia Burke by the Family
 7:30 am George Kleinknecht by Susan & Robert Cavallo
 7:30 am Archie Prusakowski by MCW

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

7:30 am Richard Koch by the Koch & Rice Families
 7:30 am Edward N. Bookrajian by his Daughter
 7:30 am Frank Firman by Margaret & Mel Price

Thursday, March 5, 2020

No Mass

Friday, March 6, 2020

7:30 am Stephen Sciarappa by Mom, Dad & Sisters
 7:30 am Frederick Yorke by Susan Schreck
 7:30 am Emil & Anna Taborelli by the Family

Saturday, March 7, 2020

8:30 am Alexander Zaccaro by Adam & Monique Bellofatto
 8:30 am Intentions of Adam & Monique Bellofatto
 8:30 am Dennis C. Branski by Ken Kleinlein
 4:30 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, March 8, 2020

8:00 am Russell Stroupe by his Daughter
 8:00 am Phyllis Misch by her Family
 8:00 am Gene Capauno by Richard & Jopyce Tipaldi
 9:30 am Thomas Thompson the Thompson Family
 9:30 am Chris Robinson by the Family
 9:30 am Ed Burke by Deacon Gary Pstrak
 10:00 am Alexander Moskov by Cynthia Moskov
 10:00 am Rocco DeJohn by the Family
 10:00 am Alice Silvestri by Carol Rizzi
 11:00 am Joseph Walsh by Carolyn & Sal Berardesco
 11:00 am Thomas J. Quigley by his Family
 11:00 am Ralph Melepka by Pat & Patrick Trezza

MASS INTENTIONS for the weekend, as well as the coming week, can be found on our parish website www.churchofstdenis.org on Friday mornings.

MOVING? Please inform the rectory office if you are moving out of the area or if you have a change of address, so the envelope company can be notified. Thank you!



especially Mary Moran, Steve Ford, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Peggy Andrich, Mary Damico, Eileen Byrne, Amanda Castro, Dolores Palmisano, Holly Boyd, Mary Conlon, Albert Wood, Maiya Andrews, Velma Andrews, Stella Thompson, Katie Holbrook, Claire Meachum, Mike Pierce, Thomas Hayes, Jr., Thomas Evans, Catherine O'Connor, Edith Bean, Phyllis Van Salders, Joanne Panzarella, Taryn Rotondi, Kathy Wicks, Michael McNulty, Mary Jane Schaaf, Lisa Pirrello, Joseph Bick, Mary Collins, Ken Kleinlein, Robert Kelleher, Stephen Byrne, Denise Frank, Lucy Falco, Marie Tashjian, Angeline Hart, Joan Tumbas, Cathleen Brenner, Nick Ljuljana, Patricia Blumenstock, Sue O'Connor, Baby Cayden Joseph, Thomas Fahey, Baby Kelly Grace, Nair Messias, Jennifer Noble, Scarlet Slotnick, Belle & Ashton, John Najar, Tina Pilot, Karen Brown, Elizabeth Morgan, Frank Lopez, Christina Roundtree, Eugene Karpinski, Charlotte Pentek, Phillip Graceffa, Christian Russo, Rose DeMarco, Dee Vulgaris, Michael McGonigle, Baby Evelyn Mizer, Herbert "Butch" Wolfe, Leanna Rawson, Nannette Forkan, Nicole Giambone, Lisa Dunfee, Albert J. Cifelli, Brian Alberse, Stanley Bevan, Windell Rainey, Sadie Svenson, Barbara Magda, Paul Tuyp, Nancy Murphy, Bernadette Bevan, George Leonard, Teresa Hayes, Jeanne Hayes, Irene Hayes, Ronnie Micciulla, Cindy Tomkins, Joseph Fiamingo, Baby Colton Gardella, Anita McCudden, Catherine Kelleher, Baby Siena Grace Pizzillo, Samara Pirrong, Donna Schwear, Helen McGowan, Karen Williams, Timothy Michal Przywara, Christopher Kurtanick, Wes Pal, Neil O'Callaghan, Siobhan Vuono, Linda Lowery, Tanner Koch, Linda Custode, Marty Pirrong, Bridget Korn, Vincent Azzolini, Scott Burdett, Joan Lipscomb, Kathy Kleinlein, Baby Lucy, Stephen Whyte, Victoria Margadonna, Christine Fields, Chris Faraca, Kathy Larkin, Gordon Justin, John Jonason, Estelle Jonason, Jim Kazenmayer, Frank Meidenbauer, Sean Campbell, Joel Rivera, Jimi Hood, Al Ricciardi, Eileen Beesley, Beverly Heinz, Pauline Naturile, Haley Keating, John Fossani, Paul Borden, Mary Daidone, Donna Morgan, Jonathan Miller, Dennis Datillo, Bill Koch, Jennifer Pindar, Doris Abruzzo, Sandy Heitner, Randy Farmer, Joseph Pastore, Christine Coburn, Julianna Grusso, Frank Dugan, Lori Hurd, John Gondek, Lois Borton, the Pilots, the Nesbitts and the Campbells.

SAINT DENIS PRAYER GROUP - The Prayer Group meets at 12:00 noon each Monday in St. Denis Church. There are no meetings on holidays. All are welcome.

DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE WEBSITE- Please visit the Respect Life website of the Diocese of Trenton at respectlifetoday.org. You will obtain important information concerning respect life issues in our diocese and our world.



We welcome into our parish family the following children who were brought to the Lord through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Jack Luca Farrell
Ryan Adeline Papa
Catherine Aliena Scalcione

May the grace of the sacrament remain with them always.

LENTEN SOUP & SCRIPTURE— The Manasquan Ministerium continues its “Soup & Scripture” series each Wednesday during Lent in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church, 16 Virginia Ave. The program begins promptly at 12:00 noon and ends at 1:00 pm. This year’s theme is “Aspects of Discipleship.” On Wednesday, March 4th, Rev. Russell Griffin of the Church of St. Uriel in Sea Girt will speak about “Telling Your Story— Isaiah 6:8.” All are welcome.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY- All children (ages 4-7) are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 11:00 am Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Children will proceed to the church basement before the first reading and return during the offertory. For information call Debbie at 732-223-9823.

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY will meet on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 12 noon in Msgr. O’Connor Hall. Members should bring their lunch. All women of the parish are welcome!

YOUTH GROUP NEWS- Our next meeting will be Sunday March 8th from 6-7:30pm in the school cafeteria. We will have a discussion on Lenten spirituality and continue our planning for our 4th annual “St. Mary Magdalene Egg-cellent Adventure”. As always, there will be great food too! All high schoolers and 8th graders welcome.

ST. DENIS MEN’S GROUP-All men are invited to our next meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 pm at the rectory. Our conversation will include a discussion on The Temptation of Jesus. Please read Chapter 4 in both the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Also Colossians 1:24. Bring your bible and your questions!



especially Navy Lt. Rachael M. Honrath, Navy MIDN Nora N. Honrath, Army Captain Christopher Cauda, Army Captain Matthew Cauda, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, Marine Lance Corporal Laura Licata, Contractor Benjamin Ostrow, Air Force Captain David Smith, Senior Army

Major Sean Fessenden, Army Lt. Nikkole Crosson, Navy Captain Colin S. Walsh, Army Captain Dr. Justin Eisenman, Army Lt. Brian Quinn, Navy E4 Patrick Moynihan, Army Major Michael Potoczniak, Air Force 1st Lt. Dominic Celiano, Air Force Academy Cadet 2nd Class Slade Kelling, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Petty Officer Joseph Beattie, Navy CM Taylor Nesbitt, Airman Devon Webster, Army Private 1st Class Cody Svenson, Lt. Jg. Mary T. Herman, Matthew Van Pelt, Army, USMC 2nd Lt. Philip Cahill, USMC 2nd Lt. Joanna Smith-Cahill, Navy MIDN Michael Zimmerman U.S. Naval Academy, Air Force 2nd Lt. Jason Trischitta, Allison M. Ingraham at West Point Academy, Lt. Col. Ivan Ingraham USMC, PFC Joseph J. Foley, Jr. USMC, Airman Andrew Halmi, Robert Halmi, U.S. Army, Corporal Jordan Basile USMC, PFC Neil Horenburg USMC.



Fridays at noon followed by
Exposition and Benediction (until 1 pm)

&

Fridays at 7 pm
(Living Stations by Religious Ed. students on March 20th)

BLESSING FOR PREGNANT WOMEN AND COUPLES HOPING TO CONCEIVE OR ADOPT A CHILD

Are you currently pregnant or are you and your spouse hoping to conceive or adopt a child? If so, please attend the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, March 22, 2020. A very special blessing will be offered to you by Fr. Bill along with a blessed St. Gerard medal and prayer card. The St. Denis family wishes to support and encourage you as you live out God’s plan for your family. No need to RSVP... just come to the Mass. Family and friends are welcome. Additional St. Gerard medals and prayer cards will be available to take home to friends and family after the Mass. This blessing is supported by the St. Denis Elizabeth Ministry. If you have any questions, contact Rachel Hendricks at 732-223-1658 or thehendricks7@gmail.com.



CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION-CHAPTER 1—All women are invited to a Retreat Day at St. William the Abbot Church, 2740 Allenwood-Lakewood Rd. in Howell. The day consists of Mass, prayer, music, a speaker, sharing, networking, and prayers for healing. Camille Herr will speak on “Be Not Afraid, Remember That You are Never Alone. Christ is With You on Your Journey Every Day of Your Lives!” Saint John Paul II Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020 Time: 9:00 am-2:00 pm Mass: 9:00 am Admission is \$20 and includes lunch (pay at the door). For reservations please call 732-202-8352 by Tuesday, March 10, 2020 or register online at CWOZ.ORG.

CURSILLO is all about building long-term Christ-centered relationships with God and others through prayer and a focus on authentic Christian living. For information please contact trentoncursillo@gmail.com or 609-396-8447.

FOOTLOOSE- Pegasus Production Company will present *Footloose* on March 6, 7, 13, 14 at 7 pm; March 8 at 2 pm; and March 12 at 5 pm, at Christian Brothers Academy, 850 Newman Springs Road in Lincroft (Henderson Theater). Please purchase tickets at cba.booktix.com or at the door.

VENDOR OPPORTUNITY-The Church of Epiphany will be hosting its annual summer festival, “The Feast of the Assumption at the Jersey Shore” August 13-16, 2020. They want to give you the first opportunity to share your service/product with everyone that attends! Please note the “REDUCED” registration fee this year-only \$75 per vendor for all four days! Important: 1. Vendor spaces are given on a FIRST TO PAY, FIRST TO RESERVE basis. 2. Only ONE of each brand will be accommodated. (For example, only one Scentsy consultant will be accepted.) 3. All agreements are FINAL— No refunds, No exceptions. Don’t wait to reserve your spot, as they will go quickly. For more information please email festival@churchofepiphany.org.



MEET THE DOVES MARCH 7 & 8: Are you a teen with the desire to serve others while making new friends and enriching your faith? Or an adult willing to **SPONSOR** a life-changing week for a deserving student? Then come meet the DOVES (Dedicating Our Values Every Second) service group at all Masses March 7 and 8, 2020. DOVES will share their experiences and provide information about their summer 2020 service trip. Registration is open for "GIVING BACK TO THE GARDEN STATE" in North Haledon, N.J. from July 19-July 24, 2020. Organized through Catholic HEART Work Camp (heartworkcamp.com), this fourteenth annual trip is open to 8th graders or older in Fall 2020. Cost is \$430, including meals, lodging, transportation and free day activity. For more information, contact Ellen Easton, 732-528-8038 or email eeaston1@verizon.net. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 27, 2020.**

DOVES VITAMIN DRIVE- The DOVES will hold its eighth annual Vitamin Drive the weekend March 7th-8th. Donations of adult and children's multi-vitamins (no gummies, please) will benefit the Henry B. King Medical Brigade's 28th annual mission to care for the sick and poor of Santa Barbara, Honduras. The local brigade is a team of forty medical professionals, translators and student aides that provide free medical care to over 2,000 adults and children. Each team member pays his/her own expenses and all supplies are donated. Please place all vitamin donations in the designated boxes in the church and chapel. The DOVES and the medical brigade thank you in advance for your support. To arrange an alternate drop-off, call Ellen Easton at 732-278-0954.

HELP SUPPORT HARBOR HOUSE-A SAFE HAVEN FOR YOUTH- Harbor House, an agency that helps homeless and runaway youth is supported largely by the Ride for New Beginnings, a 3-day bike ride, June 26-28, 2020. Representatives of this ride will be here March 14 & 15 to accept your donations in support of Harbor House. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** For more information see <http://www.oceansharborhouse.org/event/annual-bike-ride/>

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL (ASBURY PARK) ALUMNI GATHERING- Graduates from the classes of 1930-2011 are invited to attend this celebration on March, 22, 2020, 4-7 pm in the OLMCS cafeteria. There is no cost! Come munch, mingle, imbibe, celebrate and renew friendships and have some fun. Please, when responding state your graduation year. RSVP by March 14th by email to judeboyce@hotmail.com or text/phone 732-513-4496. Please share this news with other alumni



**ST DENIS ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
FOOD PANTRY 732-223-1383**

Msgr. O'Connor Hall (lower level of church)
**EVERY TUESDAY: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM &
3RD & 4TH SATURDAY: 10:00 AM-NOON**

Items needed- **Depleted: beef stew, individual chips & snacks**
Very Low: baked beans, canned fruit, chili, men's 3-in-1 body wash and shampoo, female shampoo, dish liquid, and laundry detergent.
Please place non-perishable donations in the shopping cart that is located in the gathering space near the stairwell to Msgr. O'Connor Hall. Non-perishable food may also be brought to the Beach Chapel. Please check expiration dates. Thank you for your continued generosity!

2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you wish to receive a statement of your 2019 contributions, please complete and return this form to the rectory by way of the collection basket or by mail (attention: Betsy). You may also email your request to st.denis@verizon.net or call 732-223-0287.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

Email address _____

(if you would like to receive your statement via email)

**THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**



In the Ash Wednesday gospel, Jesus directs His apostles to surrender their money in alms, their bodies in fasting and their spirits in prayer. May Jesus gift us with His presence this Lent, so that we can be a gift to others in carrying out our service as we: fast from judging others, and feast on the Christ indwelling in them, fast from unrelenting pressures, and feast on unceasing prayer, fast from self-concern, and feast on compassion for others. This explanation of "compassion for others" was articulated by Vincent de Paul when he said, "I should not judge the poor peasants, men or women, by their exterior nor by their apparent mental capacities. All the more is this so, since very frequently they scarcely seem to have the appearance or intelligence of reasonable beings... *but, turn the medal,* and you will see by the light of faith that the Son of God, whose will it was to be poor, is represented to us by these (same) people." Perhaps we can recall such an encounter. Was it an occasion during which we saw below the surface and we "turned the medal"...and caught a glimpse of God's presence?

There are many ways of carrying out service to the poor, but if you feel that you might have an interest in our Society, please join us at one of our meetings, which are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month. The next meeting will be at 6:30 pm on March 3, 2020 in Msgr. O'Connor Hall (lower level of the church).

If you need assistance, please call the St. Vincent de Paul hotline at 732-223-1383.



**Ladies, come give
Walking with Purpose a try!
Join us at our next gathering on 3/3/20:**

walking with purpose
THE MODERN WOMAN'S GUIDE TO THE BIBLE

**What Does Mary Have to Do with
My Relationship with Christ?**

Jesus, who held nothing back from us, offers us His mother. The Blessed Mother is one of His most precious gifts, and He longs for us to know her, admire her, and become more like her. There's a love that only a mother can give, and He wants us to experience that love at its best. Come, join us at WWP to learn more!

WWP has two study opportunities: Tuesday evenings (7:30-9) at St. Denis Parish Center or Wednesday afternoons (12:15-2) at St. Mark's Parish Center (lesson topic may vary from above). Come, join us at any time!

Please visit www.wwpnjshore.com for specifics study descriptions, details and to register.

GRANDPARENTS GUILD-NEXT MEETING MARCH 8, 2020- Please join us on the 8th for a very important planning meeting. We will be discussing our upcoming events scheduled from March to June (Fish Fry, Movie Night, Egg-cellent Adventure, Covered Dish Dinner, etc.) In July, we will once again celebrate St. Anne and St Joachim at our 2nd Annual Luncheon. Our goal is to encourage and engage our grandchildren into our faith community. Each of these activities will be include attending Mass with our grandchildren followed by these fun, family activities. Come and be a part of our amazing group! Your input and ideas are most welcome. It is never too late to join. Meetings are every 2nd Sunday following the 11:00 Mass at the St. Denis school building. For more information contact Ronnie Garrett 732- 859-2601.

FREE TAX HELP-The volunteer counselors of the AARP Foundation Tax Aide program will prepare and electronically file your federal and New Jersey income tax returns at no cost. While special attention is paid to those over the age of 60, all taxpayers with low to moderate incomes are welcome. Returns will be prepared, by appointment only, on Tuesdays between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm at St. Martha's Church, 3800 Herbertsville Road, Point Pleasant. To schedule an appointment, please call the Senior Beehive office at 732-810-5890. Please bring photo ID, your 2018 tax returns and all 2019 tax documents.

ONLINE GIVING- To help support our parish more easily we offer **Online Giving!** For additional information or to sign up, go to our parish Website www.churchofstdenis.org and click on "Online Giving". For those who wish to use the online giving service but do not have Internet access, please contact the Parish Office at 732-223-0287 for assistance.



February 16, 2020

Regular Collection-	\$10,776.00
Average Envelope Donation-	\$22.93
2nd Collection (Debt) -	\$4,841.50
Average Envelope Donation-	\$15.14

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

A Message from Father Bill

As we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, I wish to share with you a "View from the Pew" regarding our Parish Almsgiving Project to support the good works of Catholic Charities in Monmouth County:

"Brothers, while we have time, let us do good", supposedly some of the last words of St Francis of Assisi to his friars, paraphrasing Scripture. To me, this is a simple sentence to describe a Christian way of living. It is also a way to summarize the mission of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton. Their mission is to restore dignity and independence to individuals and families, especially the poor and vulnerable, through service, advocacy and community building.

I have met people working in the Catholic Charities' programs; they are passionate about their mission. I was impressed by their love and compassion toward those in need. They want to help others overcome the adversity they have experienced, restore hope, and to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

I have also met some of the people helped by Catholic Charities and heard their stories. One young lady had us in tears over her suffering with domestic abuse. Like many, she was so thankful for the help.

Many who are helped are homeless or living day to day, with little or no resources. They have been abused, addicted to drugs, lost jobs, or experienced other trauma-related events. Based upon what I have seen and heard, Catholic Charities provides the assistance to help them recover and survive. In other words, they "do good".

While Catholic Charities does receive government grants and health care reimbursements for many of their core services, they do not have the resources to support all the needs of those they serve. We can help restore the dignity of their clients by providing items to support basic living needs. Jesus said the second greatest commandment (after loving God with our whole heart, whole soul, and whole mind), is "you shall love your neighbor as yourself"; Matthew 22:39. For Lenten Almsgiving, please consider taking one (or more) envelopes from the baskets on the Info Table to help those in need. You can learn more about the programs and the people we will be helping in the Lenten Almsgiving flyer, also at the back of church.

Finally, we are planning a visit to the Linkages family homeless program in Tinton Falls, so that you can see for yourself the good work being done by Catholic Charities. Please contact Fr. Bill if you are interested.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL IN ACTION- EVANGELIZATION-

Families are the foundation of the Catholic parish. "Together in Mission" is a tool to support evangelization efforts to support families. Your donation to the Annual Catholic Appeal supports youth events, young adult gatherings, marriage preparation, and faith formation for all members of a family. Also, rooted in the Gospel invitation to share in the healing mission of Jesus Christ, the diocese evangelizes through pastoral care to the sick, imprisoned, separated and divorced. Please consider supporting these efforts through a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED- Meals on Wheels is looking for drivers to help deliver hot lunches to homebound seniors in Wall. If you would like to volunteer some of your time to this worthy organization (it can be as little as one morning a month) please contact Rich Finnerty at 732-528-9483.



LENTEN REGULATIONS

During Lent, from Ash Wednesday, February 26th until Holy Thursday, April 9th, this is what the Catholic Church requires of us as baptized Catholics:

The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE (no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for reason of sickness or those provided in Canon Law below. All other Fridays of Lent are days of ABSTINENCE (no meat).

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST (only one full meal) as above. From the age of 14, people are also obliged to ABSTAIN (no meat: this prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat).

The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It is the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of days, which must be considered serious. The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year - often called "Easter duty" - for those in the state of grace should be fulfilled during the period from the First Sunday of Lent, (Feb. 29/March 1) to Trinity Sunday, (June 7/8). However, the Church's law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is just cause.

THE VATICAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, *The Eucharistic Miracles of the World*- In August 2019 Bishop O'Connell relayed an alarming statistic: only 31% of Catholics believe in the Real Presence. In order to help us better understand, all are invited to come and see! To begin, there is an 8-minute video of the Eucharistic Miracle of Buenos Aires. Then, visitors can tour over 65 displays of miracles from around the world. We hope you will join us and encourage all of your students, friends and family to take some time to view it at: Church of the Sacred Heart (Casey Hall), 751 Main Ave. in Bay Head, on Sat. March 14th, 4-7pm and Sun. March 15, 8 am-4pm, and also at St. Pio of Pietrelcina Church (Parish Hall), 1200 Grand Central Ave. in Lavallette on Sat., March 21st 4-7 pm and Sun., March 22nd 8 am-4 pm. This exhibit was researched, designed, and created by Carlo Acutis, a young computer genius from the diocese of Milan, Italy. He died at the age of 15 from Leukemia and has been declared a Servant of God! This exhibit is suitable for all ages.



PRO LIFE PLACE
Mary's Child Pro Life Ministry
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

SAVE THE DATES:

FEBRUARY 26-APRIL 5- 40 Days for Life Vigil - One hour of prayer on Fridays during Lent outside of Planned Parenthood in Shrewsbury. Sign up info: Local coordinators for Fridays 8am - 5pm are Kevin Ludwig and Mary Reilly, other days & times are available. To add your name to the 40 Days list contact Parish Rep: Ray Gabler rjgabler@gmail.com

MARCH 12- 6:30 pm An evening with Fr. Padavoni & viewing of Unplanned movie. Cafeteria of St. Denis school building. What Are Teens Saying About Unplanned? Take the next generation with you and SEE IT TOGETHER to find out.

PARISH SEAFOOD & CHIPS

MAC & CHEESE DINNER

New Parishioners Welcome!



Catered by Jimmy's Cucina of Brielle

Friday, March 27, 2020

in the Saint Denis School Building Cafeteria

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Reserved Dinners will begin at 5:00 pm

Take-outs will begin at 5:30 pm

Walk-ins welcome at 6:00 pm

Fish & Chips—\$15.00 per dinner

Scallops & Chips- \$17.00 per dinner

Macaroni & Cheese- \$9.00 per dinner

All are Welcome!!!! BYOB and Dessert

Please make checks payable to: *Saint Denis Church*

For more information,

please call the rectory office at 732-223-0287 ext. 303

or email eileenziemer@gmail.com.

For reservations, please return

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