

HIS WORD TODAY
by Rev. William J. Reilly

Twelfth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
June 21, 2020

“But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, all died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.”

It is easy for us to point out the cause of our restless world. Sin, death, war, hate all flow from the fall as recorded in Genesis. At that time, God made His promise to us. That promise was carried out in the person of Jesus Christ.

Paul tells us of the greatest of gifts, God’s grace, bringing His life to us, and renewed as we celebrate the Sacraments. What is grace? It is the life of Jesus Christ, our God, communicated to us, as a gift. That’s God’s part. Our role is to accept that gift, hungering for His life in us. As I recall this great teaching, may I ask for the grace to overflow in my heart. Today I want to reach out and accept that gift in my heart.




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. Gary J. Pstrak, Deacon

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

**Saturday, June 20, 2020**

8:30 am George Fischer by Diane & Craig Dellegrippo
 8:30 am John McNamara by his Wife
 8:30 am Allen Bessemer, Sr. by his Wife, Jane
 4:30 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, June 21, 2020

8:00 am Father's Day Intentions
 9:30 am Father's Day Intentions
 10:00 am Father's Day Intentions
 11:00 am Father's Day Intentions

Monday, June 22, 2020

7:30 am Father's Day Intentions

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

7:30 am Father's Day Intentions

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

7:30 am Rosemary Donohue by her Sister-in-law, Kay Kolon
 7:30 am Irida Dale by Palmie Cummings
 7:30 am Noreen McCabe by James McCabe

Thursday, June 25, 2020

No Mass

Please note:

The Sunday, 9:30 am Mass intentions will be prayed for privately by Fr. Joe

Friday, June 26, 2020

7:30 am Michele A. Roskey by Joe & Mary Daidone
 7:30 am Joseph Pstrak by Deacon Gary
 7:30 am Thomas Lozinski by his Family

Saturday, June 27, 2020

8:30 am Marie Bernice Kile by her Family
 8:30 am Jack Simes by his Family
 8:30 am Virginia Salcito by Anthony & Mary Ellen Prince
 4:30 pm Clinton & Catherine Broadhurst by their Daughter
 4:30 pm Russell Hilbert by his Wife
 4:30 pm Barbara Bramante by Juliet Yorke

Sunday, June 28, 2020

8:00 am For the People of the Parish
 9:30 am Josephine & Jimmy Quilter by Cindy & Scott Ernst
 9:30 am Rick Holt by Nancy & Paul Sutor
 9:30 am William "Craig" Goletz by Dan & Marianne Kerrigan
 10:00 am Diego Perusi-Melara by Rita Badaracco
 10:00 am Frances Pilot by Rita Badaracco
 10:00 am Samuel Melillo by his Family
 11:00 am Robert C. Braker by Ronald & Debra Reba
 11:00 am Anna Vastola by John & Eleanor Iannelli
 11:00 am John Flores by MCW

Please note:

The Sunday, 11:00 am Mass intentions will be prayed for at the 11:30 am Facebook Mass.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS – Those in need of these specially approved Communion hosts at Mass are invited to receive from the deacon (if present at Mass) or the priest. Look for the small cup attached to the minister's ciborium, in order to receive the sacramental Body of Christ with a low-gluten host.

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!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED especially Sally Murphy.



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

HOME DEVOTION– Please visit AscensionPress.com for special resources and events to help Catholics with home devotions throughout the coming weeks.



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, 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 Giambrone, 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 Azzollini, Scott Burdett, Joan Lipscomb, 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, 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, Roddy Pilot, William Liao, the Borgias, the Pilots, the Nesbitts and the Campbells.

A Message from Father Bill

Happy Father's Day to all our fathers and also to all men who lend a hand in a fatherly way. May St. Joseph intercede for you as you encourage, teach and inspire by example and care for others with a father's heart.

As we are well aware of the situation our county is in at this time, in response to the death of George Floyd, I am drawn to the teaching of our Roman Catholic Church and particularly to the example of St. Katherine Drexel. Firstly, St. Katherine, in her love of the Blessed Sacrament, and her meditations on the Blessed Sacrament, had the most profound realization of the Communion we share, and the Oneness that exists, in all the members of the Body of Christ, no matter who we are. God unites us on the deepest of levels; so much deeper than looks. We are bound together in sharing God's life. Even if the person is not Catholic, there is the potential of all God's children to be One. We are called to be open to the fact of our call to Communion and our responsibility to work for this Oneness – to have our part in answering Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper, "that all may be One." It is from her Faith and the fruit of her prayer that St. Katherine acted in forming the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and reaching out to Native American and African American communities, in the face of much opposition. It is our Faith that calls us too, in our own way, to have our part in answering Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper, "that all may be One." We are called to see the world as God would have us and work for the Kingdom through our acts of Love, formed by Faith and powered by Hope – our call to use these three gifts given to us at Baptism.

In looking at Church teaching, we look to Scripture and the pastoral outreach of the bishops and our local churches. There are many translations of the Scriptures. (Even the translation we use at Mass has recently been retranslated.) I find that looking at a different translation of the Scriptures allows us to re-approach and re-appreciate a passage we are familiar with. With this in mind, I offer a different translation of a familiar passage on the virtue of Love meant to be lived in community, 1 Corinthians 13. (see below). It is often used at weddings, but it was written with the community in mind. (A married couple/family is the smallest "cell" in the "body" of the world community, so it is very appropriate.) We need to look at this familiar passage "with new eyes" at this time so to be inspired to approach the world and its troubles today, with the truth of the Scriptures that we are called to live by our Lord, Jesus Christ. In addition, I invite you to read the Pastoral Letter written by the USCCB (the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) entitled "Open Wide Our Hearts, The Enduring Call to Love: A Pastoral Letter against Racism". An excerpt is in this bulletin and the full text is at the website: usccb.org. I also invite you to read a joint pastoral statement made by all of the ministers of the Manasquan Area Ministerium. Let us pray also the prayer offered by the Bishops at the conclusion of their document.

1 Corinthians 13

Christian Love—The Highest and Best Gift

If I were to speak with the combined eloquence of men and angels I should stir men like a fanfare of trumpets or the crashing of symbols, but unless I had love, I should do nothing more. If I had the gift of foretelling the future and had in my mind not only all human knowledge but the secrets of God, and if, I had the absolute faith which can move mountains, but had no love, I tell you I should amount to nothing at all. If I were to sell all my possessions to feed the hungry and, for my convictions, allowed my body to be burned, and yet had no love, I should achieve precisely nothing.

This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience-it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance.

Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not compile statistics of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails.

SAINT PETER SCHOOL in Point Pleasant Beach is a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, a State School of Character, and is anchored in faith! An integrated STREAM curriculum is taught. The school's ideal class sizes allow for individualized learning. Financial assistance is available for qualifying families. Busing is available from Brick and Point Pleasant Boro. For more information please call 732-892-1260 or email info@stpschool.org.

COASTAL HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RESTORE is open once again. New store hours are Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-4 pm & Sunday, 12pm-4 pm. While closed the Restore was cleaned and sanitized thoroughly. There have also been changes made to the layout of the store to facilitate social distancing. Please note that masks are required of shoppers and staff. There will be a limit to the number of shoppers permitted in the store to ensure social distancing. All donations are cleaned and sanitized. Upholstered furniture is further treated with Steri-Fab, an EPA registered nonresidual spray that deodorizes and disinfects. The ReStore is located at 1105 Memorial Drive in Asbury Park.

DOWNEY SIDE– Do you want to make a difference in the life of a foster care child? If so, apply to adopt through Downey Side and give foster care children a permanent home. The children are school-age and up. For information contact Sister Elizabeth Engel at 732-359-8434 or email your interest to sister.engel@gmail.com.

PROJECT CHILD FIND is a free referral service to use if you have concerns about your child's development (ages birth-2 years). For more information about Special Education in NJ visit www.nj.gov/education/specialed. Call 1-800-322-8174. All calls are confidential and toll-free.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES is fully operational at a heightened state of precaution, accommodating social distancing. To access our services or learn how the changes affect our clients via the internet type <https://www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org/catholic-charities-coronavirus-pandemic/> or call our Help Line 1-800-360-7711.



RECOVERY CORNER-

LIFE RECOVERY BIBLE WEEKLY PODCASTS- Check out "City of Angels Recovery Radio" <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=st.shoutca.sh.coan>

Download the above app to listen to Life Recovery Bible podcasts. New ones can be heard each Sunday at 10am and 10pm. There is a library of older podcasts. Please share with friends in recovery or anyone who may want to listen.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD ONLINE BIBLE STUDY:

Rabbi Harold Kushner's book is entitled *The Lord Is My Shepherd: Healing Wisdom of the Twenty-Third Psalm*. Rabbi Kushner asks the question, "Can fifteen beautiful lines from a single page of the Bible change your life?" (p. 5) You guessed it: his answer is "Yes!" Many of us are already familiar with Psalm 23 from lifelong exposure. When has the world's need for healing ever been greater? Please join this "remote" opportunity for Lutheran/Roman Catholic Bible study/book discussion. Join us either on-line or over the phone on Tuesday, June 23 and 30 at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. Pastor Mary and Father Bill will be leading the discussion. Reading the book ahead of time will enrich our conversation, though it is not required. (*The Lord Is My Shepherd: Healing Wisdom of the Twenty-Third Psalm*, by: Harold S. Kushner, Anchor Books: NY, 2003. 175 pages. ISBN 1-4000-3335-7).

For the morning session join by phone (1-415-604-0836) with PIN: 931167438, or join with google meet: meet.google.com/vxr-edbh-onh

For the evening session join by phone (1-862-243-6946) with PIN: 491282326, or join with google meet: meet.google.com/zdg-kwmj-vni



St. Vincent De Paul Society's Food Pantry at St. Denis Church
Phone: 732-223-1383

Location: Msgr. O'Connor Hall
(lower level of church)

Until further notice:

There will be curbside pick-up of prepackaged food with appropriate social distancing.

Questions or special food needs?

Please call our hotline number at 732-223-1383

Please note adjusted pantry hours:

Tuesdays: 1PM – 3PM and
3rd and 4th Saturdays from 10AM – 12noon

At this time, donations may be dropped off curbside by the pantry during regular pantry hours or on the rectory front porch, under the overhang.

The items most needed at this time are:

cranberry juice, canned carrots/corn/green beans, regular coffee, juice boxes, white vinegar, popcorn, decaf tea, male shampoo, male razors, body lotion, vegetable oil, sugar, powdered milk, rice, oatmeal and ketchup.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our food pantry.



our military, 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, 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, Air Force 1st Lt. Dominic Celiano, Air Force Academy Cadet 2nd Class Slade Kelling, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Petty Officer Joseph Beatie, 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.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Vincent de Paul was canonized by Pope Clement XII in 1737, but Pope Leo XIII honored him as patron saint of all charitable societies in 1885. It was the deathbed confession of a dying servant which opened Vincent's eyes to the crying spiritual needs of the peasantry of France. This was a crucial moment in the life of a man from a small farm in France, who originally became a priest with little more purpose than to have a comfortable life. The Countess de Gondi-whose servant he had helped-persuaded her husband to endow and support a group of missionaries who would work among the poor tenant farmers and country folk. After working for some time in Paris among imprisoned galley slaves, Vincent returned to be the leader of that group-now known as the Congregation of the Mission, or the Vincentians. These priests, with vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and stability, were to devote themselves entirely to the people in small towns and villages.

Later, Vincent established confraternities of charity for the spiritual and physical relief of the poor and sick of each parish. From these, with the help of Louise de Marillac, came the Daughters of Charity to help the sick in the city. He organized the rich women of Paris to collect funds for his missionary projects, founded several hospitals, collected relief funds for the victims of war, and ransomed over 1200 galley slaves from North Africa. He was also zealous in conducting retreats for clergy at a time when there was great laxity, abuse and ignorance among them. Remarkably, Vincent was by temperament a quick tempered and testy person-even his friends said so. He said later in life that except for the grace of God he would have been "hard and repulsive, rough and cross." But, he became a tender and affectionate man, very sensitive to the needs of others, and would become the patron saint of our Society which bears his name.

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



We welcome into our parish family the following child who was brought to the Lord through the Sacrament of Baptism: Jaxson Robert Graciano
May the grace of the sacrament remain with him always.

INVOCATION OF THE HOLY HELPERS- As we are St. Denis Parish, we have the honor and privilege of having St. Denis as our patron saint and intercessor. St. Denis was invoked along with thirteen other saints during the period of the Black Death that devastated Europe from 1346-1349 they later would be known as the Fourteen Holy Helpers. Let us pray, asking the Holy Helpers to intercede for all people at this time: **FOURTEEN HOLY HELPERS**, who served God in humility and confidence on earth and are now in the enjoyment of His beatific vision in Heaven; because thou persevered till death thou gained the crown of eternal life. Remember the dangers that surround us in this vale of tears, and intercede for us in all our needs and adversities. *Amen*

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.



Ladies, life, as we know it, has certainly changed. As we experience a gradual emergence from sheltering in place, we may feel discontent, worry and anxiety about the present and the future.

Rest assured, you're not the only one feeling this—and God, in His Divine Providence, has given us the solutions needed to ease our uncertainties.

For some, life before COVID-19 was often frazzled and out of control—work, school demands, family obligations, and extra-curricular activities kept us always on-the-go. And now we are hoping not to go back to that hectic lifestyle.

So, where does that leave us? Starting in October 2020, St. Denis Church is offering 2 bible study opportunities from Walking with Purpose (WWP). Our WWP community is comprised of women, just like you. We strive to learn more about our faith and understand how the teachings of Jesus Christ can strengthen us to be the women, wives, friends, mothers, grandmothers, we are meant to be. Together we create an authentic community that laughs, learns, grows, and loves one another.

Opening Your Heart (OYH), our foundational study, is designed for women new to Walking with Purpose. Whether or not you have any Bible study experience, we welcome you to learn how the Scriptures apply to our everyday lives.

For those women who have completed *OYH*, our next study is *Keeping in Balance (KIB)*. This Bible study will take us on a journey throughout Scripture to discover the relevance of Old and New Testament wisdom in relation to our current life challenges. God wants to support and help us so that we can be our best in every season of our life.

We don't actually exercise—we "walk" on a faith journey together. Walking with Purpose leads hearts to Christ. For more info, visit www.wwpnjshore.com



**WEEK OF JUNE 21, 2020
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DR. DONALD & MARY LINTNER
REQUESTED BY THEIR FAMILY**

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. ext. 14.

THE MONITOR MAGAZINE- HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED YET? The Monitor Magazine and Trenton-Monitor.com offer food for your faith journey throughout the year. Subscriptions options start at \$15 for a year of full digital access...Or, for \$25, get full digital access and home delivery of the magazine. Order your subscription via a convenient and secure web page... dioceseoftrenton.org/monitor-subscriptions. For assistance call 609-406-7131. Monitor-Subscriptions@DioceseofTrenton.org

DON'T FORGET ST. DENIS PARISH WHILE SHOPPING ONLINE - AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. **Instructions to support St. Denis:** Go to smile.amazon.com Choose your charity: Church of St. Denis, Manasquan Click on the box marked "yes". You must start at smile.amazon.com so that the charity gets donations. Then click on the "start shopping" button. It's that simple!

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.

HOLY FATHER COLLECTION- Next weekend our second collection will be the Peter's Pence Collection which provides Pope Francis with the funds to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. For more information visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.



June 7, 2020

Regular Collection- \$9,252.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

**From “Open Wide Our Hearts, The Enduring Call to Love:
a Pastoral Letter against Racism”**
(USCCB 2018, Excerpt from Conclusion)

Almost thirty years ago, St. John Paul II reminded us just what is at stake. Each person “is called to a fullness of life which far exceeds the dimensions of his earthly existence, because it consists in sharing the very life of God. The loftiness of this supernatural vocation reveals the greatness and the inestimable value of human life.”⁴³ We are all called to 42 *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, no. 19. 43 St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, no. 2. 31 that great life, to the communion of heaven where “a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue[stand] before the throne and before the Lamb” (Rev 7:9). That Lamb, Christ, showed us that the very life of God is love, and love requires something of each of us. We pray that the reader will join us in striving for the end of racism in all its forms, that we may walk together humbly with God and with all of our brothers and sisters in a renewed unity. For there is no place for racism in the hearts of any person; it is a perversion of the Lord’s will for men and women, all of whom were made in God’s image and likeness. We end by adopting the words of St. Paul: Brothers and sisters, “be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Your every act should be done with love” (1 Cor 16:13-14).

Prayer to Overcome Racism

Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other. We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another. We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society. We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person. Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us. Amen

**The Churches of the Manasquan Area Ministerium:
A Response in the Aftermath of the Death of Mr. George Floyd**

As the pastors of the Churches of the Manasquan Area Ministerium, we feel called at this time to speak in response to current events. We affirm that all of humanity is created in the image and likeness of God. Each human being carries sacredness and holiness within. We affirm the divine mark on every human being. Therefore, we condemn oppression, prejudice, and inhumane treatment of all human beings. As such we are grieved and denounce the death of George Floyd. We prayerfully seek an end to racism in our hearts, in our schools, in our healthcare system, in our law enforcement, in our courts, in our faith communities and in all the systemic ways that it impacts our lives together. We also affirm the human right to gather and protest peacefully. As Christians, we are called to be steadfast in seeking change for a better life for all human-kind.

At the same time, we condemn self-serving actions of rioting, looting, and the destruction of human life and property. We are especially concerned about the infiltration of peaceful protests by groups that wish to make these protests appear violent. We also pray for those in law enforcement who serve and protect with the common good as their desire, and we caution people to recognize that the illegitimate and illegal actions of one person, or several, cannot be attributed to all persons in law enforcement. With all of this, we affirm that Jesus called us to partner with him and to contribute to God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven according to the gifts with which God’s Spirit has provided us.

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