

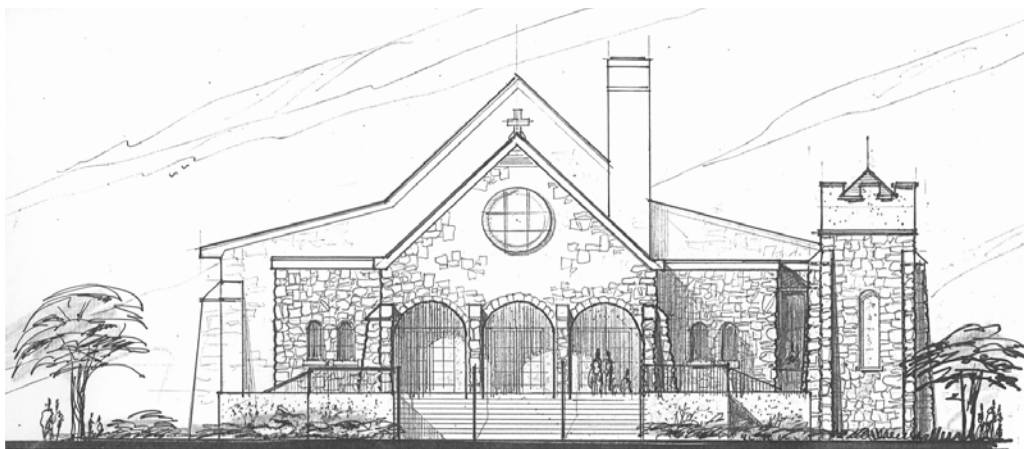
**HIS WORD TODAY**  
*by Rev. William J. Reilly*

**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 9, 2018**

“In every prayer I utter, I rejoice as I plead on your behalf at the way you all have continually helped promote the gospel from the very first day. I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus....My prayer is that your love may more and more abound...that you may learn to value the things that really matter up to the very day of Christ.”

How many are busy writing greeting cards to relatives, friends and acquaintances. The thoughts expressed, speak of a deep, deep concern for the joy of Christ's presence to touch their lives. At times we might not think twice about the reason for sending a card.

Consider the reasons St. Paul referred to as he wrote the Philippians. He wrote about his prayer for this new Christian community. He offered encouragement for them to grow in their lives as disciples of the Lord. That prayer motivates us as we begin this second week of Advent. Advent reminds of the past coming, but directs us to today and tomorrow where the Lord is leading us. May we find a quiet moment to reflect upon Paul's wish for us today as we anticipate the coming of Christ with His grace and peace. May we seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our advent.



# 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

Ms. Barbara Evans, Director of Rel. Ed.  
Mrs. Doris Ramme, Director of Music Ministry  
Sr. Josephine Wade, SSJ  
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](mailto:st.denis@verizon.net)  
PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS ..... [wlago@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:wlago@dioceseoftrenton.org)  
WEB PAGE ADDRESS ..... <http://www.churchofstdenis.org>



## MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekday Masses: 7:30 AM– 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](http://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, December 8, 2018-****The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

- 8:30 am Maria Bianchi by Terry & Adam Ginther  
 8:30 am Marge Hartwick by Al Bray  
 8:30 am Rodney Jinkins by Bill & Liz Oliver  
 4:30 pm Gerry Maywalt by her Husband  
 4:30 pm Tom Mahady & Bill Burkhardt by the Families  
 4:30 pm Betty Beltran by Pat Werdann

**Sunday, December 9, 2018**

- 8:00 am For the People of the Parish  
 9:30 am Edmund Dunne by Carolyn & Sal Berardesco  
 9:30 am Lajos Oroszlany by Anne & Joe Riccardi  
 9:30 am John Cohane by Dennis & Reene O'Neill  
 10:00 am Carmen Rego by Bunker & Sari Mundi  
 10:00 am Ronald Campbell by Lois & Denis Campbell  
 10:00 am Lena & Lenny Rhodes by Fran & Kevin Kearns  
 11:00 am Fay Riccio by the DeGenova Family  
 11:00 am Francis Cunningham by the DeGenova Family  
 11:00 am Alan Singer by the Pilot Family

**Monday, December 10, 2018**

- 7:30 am Adrienne Kupselaitis by Dawn & John Burke  
 7:30 am Viola Prieth by her Daughter  
 7:30 am Frank Falco (5th Anniversary) by his Wife & Daughter

**Tuesday, December 11, 2018**

- 7:30 am Florence McManus by Irene  
 7:30 am Edward Hartwick by All Bray  
 7:30 am Eileen Arntz by the Sy Family

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

- 7:30 am Frank D'Antonio by the Olear Family  
 7:30 am Walter & Marie Terzano by the Family  
 7:30 am James Reme, Jr. by Katie & Joe

**Thursday, December 13, 2018**

- 7:30 am Alan Harrington by the Sutor Family  
 7:30 am Fr. John Gibbons & Family by the Estate  
 7:30 am Richard Ramme by Carol Rizzi

**Friday, December 14, 2018**

- 7:30 am Virginia & Angelo Taborelli by the Family  
 7:30 am Carol Ashlon by Carole & Patrick DiSalvo  
 7:30 am James Spillane by Saint Denis Parish

**Saturday, December 15, 2018-**

- 8:30 am Anthony & Catherine Rotonda by the Family  
 8:30 am Eileen Reilly by Cindy Moskov  
 8:30 am Donald Klein by Walter & Charlotte Jensen  
 4:30 pm Ellen Boyle by the Kerrigan Family  
 4:30 pm Anita Matyas by her Family  
 4:30 pm Joseph Michael Panzarella by Amanda & Frances Pilot

**Sunday, December 16, 2018**

- 8:00 am Len & Helen Sullian & Dora & Warren Kirby  
 by the Sullivan & McMullen Families  
 8:00 am Daymon Thatch by Nancy & Mike Smith & Family  
 8:00 am William Truex by Tim & Sue McCorkell  
 9:30 am For the People of the Parish  
 10:00 am Eileen Donahue by Tim & Sue McCorkell  
 10:00 am Ronald Campbell by Marilyn Allen  
 10:00 am Richard Michael Snitko  
 by Uncle Charlie, Jimmy & Matt Trybus  
 11:00 am Aurea Allen by the DeGenova Family  
 11:00 am Margaret Sherbert by Betsy & Jim Rice  
 11:00 am Claire Kessler by St. Denis Altar Rosary Society

**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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED** especially Frances Perry.



especially Mary Moran, Steve Ford, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Peggy Andrich, Mary Damico, Eileen Byrne, Amanda Castro, Dolores Palmisano, Holly Boyd, Mary Conlon, Jillian Zito, Jennifer Zito, 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, Joseph Siple, Kathy Wicks, Michael McNulty, John Koch, Mary Jane Schaaf, Lisa Pirrello, Joseph Bick, Mary Collins, Ken Kleinlein, Robert Kelleher, Lisa Olivera, Stephen Byrne, Denise Frank, Lucy Falco, Marie Tashjian, Angelina 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 Najjar, Patrick Lewis, Tina Pilot, Karen Brown, Elizabeth Morgan, Frank Lopez, Christina Roundtree, Eugene Karpinski, Charlotte Pentek, Joan Samperi, Phillip Graceffa, Christian Russo, Rose DeMarco, Dee Vulgaris, Michael McGonigle, Baby Evelyn Mizer, Patricia O'Leary, 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, Frank Bonavita, Joel Rivera, 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, Patricia Lannon, Karen Williams, Timothy Michal Przywara, Christopher Kurtanick, Wes Pal, Neil O'Callaghan, Siobhan Vuono, Linda Lowery, Kathy Perusi, Linda Custode, Marty Pirrong, Edward Romanko, Bridget Korn, Vincent Azzollini, Scott Burdett, Joan Lipscomb, Kathy Kleinlein, Baby Lucy, Stephen Whyte, Thomas J. Mahoney, Victoria Margadonna, Christopher Pindar, Christine Fields, Chris Faraca, Catherine Ziesmer, Maureen Meehan, the Pilots, the Nesbitts and the Campbells.



Christmas Giving Tree

**ST. DENIS GIVING TREE**– It is that time of the year again when we will engage in the spirit of giving. Our Giving Tree is now displayed in the Gathering Space of the church. If you wish and are able to do so, please take an ornament and purchase the suggested gift. The offering is then to be returned with the ornament taped onto it.

Please do not wrap gifts. If you want to include a female veteran in your choice from the Giving Tree, some gift ideas are: house coats (zipper fronts)-sizes medium or large, long sleeve knit shirts-sizes medium or large, pastel color cardigans-sizes medium or large, fleece tops-sizes medium or large, and perfume. If you have any questions please call Sister Josephine at 732-292-0772. All gifts are to be returned on the weekend of December 15 & 16 only. Thank you.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS, COURT ST. DENIS** members will conduct their December meeting while enjoying a Christmas luncheon at Due Amici Restaurant in Brielle on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 12:00 noon. CDA, Court St. Denis thanks all our parishioners and friends who supported the Christmas Wreath & Flower sale last weekend. We are very grateful to Fr. Bill, Deacon Gary, the Religious Education staff, and the students who helped with the sale. Merry Christmas!

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS**– Our Next Youth Group event is Christmas Caroling at Sunnyside Nursing Home which will be Sunday, December 16th from 2:30-3:30 pm. We will meet at the nursing home at 2:15 pm to prepare.



**ST. DENIS JUNIOR CHOIR**- It is not too late to join the St Denis Junior Choir! Come and sing for Christmas! Practice dates for Christmas: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 6:30pm-7:15pm & Wednesday, December 19, 2018 6:30pm-7:15pm *All choir practices will be held in the Church*

St. Denis Junior Choir Christmas Mass is on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 4:30pm. All youth from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through high school are welcome to join! All music and materials will be provided. Please contact: Caroline Woodrow at (732) 513-0108 or email: [carolinenj@aol.com](mailto:carolinenj@aol.com) for information.



especially Navy Lt. JG 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 Airman John J. Kosequat, Army Captain Sean Fessenden, Army 2nd Lt. Nikkole Crosson, Navy Captain Colin S. Walsh, Army Captain Dr. Justin Eisenman, Army 2nd Lt. Brian Quinn, Navy E4 Patrick Moynihan, Army Major Michael Potoczniak, Air Force 2nd 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, Navy Ensign Mary T. Herman, Matthew Van Pelt, Army, USMC 2nd Lt. Philip Cahill, USMC 2nd Lt. Joanna Smith, 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, and Airman Andrew Halmi.

**Recovery Corner**

Addiction is not a moral failing. There is help. Anyone affected by addiction is welcome each Thursday at 10:00 am & 7:00 pm as we support one another by applying what scripture says about recovery. Call 848-333-7085 for information.



**FAMILY EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ADDICTION SERIES**- Available Mondays, 7:00 pm, at 67 Atlantic Ave. in Manasquan Recreation Annex. **RAFTS**- “Recovery Advocates For The Shore” located in Manasquan, is a non-clinical, non-profit, peer-based community organization serving the recovery needs of individuals and their families struggling with behavioral or substance addiction. It is free of charge. 1-833—2BSOBER [www.raftsnj.org](http://www.raftsnj.org)  
**Please note**–There will be a special Mass at the end of January for those affected by addiction. Date to be announced. All are welcome!

**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. New Instructions to support St. Denis: [Go to smile.amazon.com](http://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](http://smile.amazon.com) so that the charity gets donations. Then click on the “start shopping” button. It’s that simple!!

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR VICTIMS OF WILDFIRES**- On the weekend of December 22nd & 23rd, we will have a special second collection. Proceeds will benefit the people in California who have been affected by the recent wildfires. Please make checks payable to *St. Denis Church*. In the memo line, please write *California Fire Relief*.

**OUR CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION** will be the second collection next weekend, December 15th & 16th. Envelopes have been provided in the monthly packets and are also available at the exits of the church and chapel. This is a wonderful way to honor our loved ones, both living and deceased. Your generosity will help us to beautifully decorate our church and chapel for the Christmas season.



**November 18, 2018**

Weekend Collection-	\$13,017.00
Average Envelope Donation-	\$23.34
2nd Collection– Human Development-	\$3,821.00
Average Envelope Donation-	\$11.65

**November 25, 2018**

Weekend Collection-	\$12,265.00
Average Envelope Donation-	\$25.50

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !**



**Ladies, You can join WWP at any time!**

*Opening Your Heart*, the foundational study of *Walking with Purpose (WWP)*, is designed for you to join our table at any time as we discuss our Catholic faith with fun, sincere, respectful conversation. Whether or not you have any Bible study experience—we welcome you to learn how the scriptures and sacraments apply to our everyday lives. Study groups meet on Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm, St. Denis School Building. **To learn more visit [www.wwpnjshore.com](http://www.wwpnjshore.com).**

**BLAZE** is the Walking With Purpose ministry developed for middle school aged girls. Our mission with *Blaze* is to use scripture to speak truth into the hearts of young girls who are bombarded by lies about their true worth and beauty. Our *Blaze* ministry offers resources to help you reach the hearts of middle school girls with the love of Christ and the truths of our Catholic faith. Two years of curriculum, a kit full of take home gifts and ice breakers, a mother/daughter devotional, retreat guides, Bible studies, and prayer journals give you all you need to communicate with middle school girls as they navigate truth and lies in their everyday life. Meetings are on Fridays, 6:30-7:30 pm in the library of the school building and will continue 2-3 times per month until May. Registration forms can be found on the information table in the gathering space of the church. They may also be picked up at the rectory office during regular business hours. If you have any questions email Jennifer at [jennifermahoney@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermahoney@gmail.com).



"Blessed are those who mourn, they shall be comforted." Our Bereavement Support Group continues through the holidays when loss of a loved one can often be felt most deeply. If you want to join us and share your journey of loss but are unable to at this time, join us January 3rd when we will offer another series of Thursday weekly gatherings in the rectory from 11:00am-12:00 pm for mutual support. For more information contact Eileen Ziesmer at (732) 223-0287/[eileenziesmer@gmail.com](mailto:eileenziesmer@gmail.com)



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

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

**HOURS**

EVERY TUESDAY: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

3RD & 4TH SATURDAY: 10:00 AM-12:00 NOON

**Items needed: Ketchup, "Spam",** canned tuna and chicken, cold cereals, pancake syrup, pancake mix, instant mashed potatoes, regular coffee, microwave popcorn, cookies/snacks, small bottles of vegetable oil, laundry detergent, dish liquid, tooth brushes, tooth paste, men and women deodorant, shampoo, tissues, and paper towels. \*New reusable shopping bags are needed, as are the stronger paper bags with handles. **Items in bold are depleted.** 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!



**RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS:**

Please note that the Rectory Office will be closing at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 19 and will reopen on Thursday, December 20 at 8:30 am. The Office will be closed on December 24, 25 & 26, and will reopen on Thursday, December 27 at 8:30 am.

**FOR THE LOVE OF GOD... PRAISE & SING**

Come, praise our Lord with contemporary Christian music. 30 minutes of prerecorded music with lyric sheets provided. Every First Friday at 7:00 pm in Saint Denis Church. For more information call Allison Penkethman 732-528-4976.



**A HOLIDAY REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM** for those grieving this Christmas season, will be sponsored by O'Brien Funeral Home, 2028 Highway 35 in Wall. It will take place on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 2:00 pm at the funeral home. During this program, we will dedicate our Christmas tree. You will be invited to personalize an ornament with the name of the loved one you wish to remember this year and place it on our tree. We will provide your family with an ornament, or, if you choose, you can bring one from home. Your family members and friends are welcome to attend. Please RSVP by calling 732-899-8600 before December 12th. There is no fee for this event, but we encourage the donation of a new and unwrapped toy for a child in need. If you can't attend the event, stop by and place your ornament on the tree any time after December 17th. The tree will remain on display throughout the holiday season.

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



Advent tells us to be attentive, to listen in patience and peace. God speaks to us in all sorts of ways: through Scripture, through His church, but also through all the events, great and small, that happen to us. Since most of our lives are made up of very ordinary tasks which we do each day, it is in these especially that the voice of the Lord is to be heard. We make the mistake so often of expecting God to speak to us though some great event or happening when, in fact, all the time He is speaking to us in all the small events of each day. For Vincentians, the "small events of each day" often include the various activities of our ministry-home visits, phone calls, or organizing food in the conference pantry. Sometimes we may wonder whether we are making the best of our time, but God leads us. We can feel His presence and guidance-giving us confidence. It is also true that God often uses the people we help to teach us and lead us on the way we should go.

If you would like to know more about our ministry, please come to one of our general meetings. Meetings are usually held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Due to the holidays, our next meeting will be January 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm 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.



## ADVENT HAPPENINGS

**Lessons and Carols**-Sunday Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-3pm in the Church. Come and listen (and join) both the adult and youth choirs in religious songs of the season and reflect on their deeper meaning as we prepare for Christmas.

**Still, Still, Still**- Monday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 11 am-noon or 7-8 pm. Join Fr. Bill for a tranquil time as we take a meditative look at this Christmas song as well as the importance of the biblical phrase to “be still and know that I am God.”

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration**- Tuesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark’s Parish from 6:30 pm-12:30 am. Join the celebrations honoring the Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas throughout the evening.

**Youth Group Caroling**- Sunday Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> meet at SunnySide Nursing Home at 2:15 pm. We will sing and visit from 2:30-3:30 pm. Join the fun and share the cheer. (2500 Ridgewood Rd., Wall)

**Confessions/Adoration**- Monday Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> in Church 11am – noon and 6:30-8pm Quiet adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity for confession.

**Children’s Nativity** - Sunday Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at the 9:30am Mass. Great for younger children to watch as the older children take part in sharing the true meaning of Christmas – celebrating the birth of Christ.



### St Denis Christmas Pageant

“Camels, Carols and Friendly Beasts”

Sunday, 12/23/18

During the 9:30 am Mass

Come celebrate the wonderful birth of our Lord!!!!  
Children 6 and older are welcome to join and be a part of this pageant. Information and sign up can be found in the gathering space and on our parish website- [www.churchofstdenis.org](http://www.churchofstdenis.org) or contact Eileen Ziesmer at [eileenziesmer@gmail.com](mailto:eileenziesmer@gmail.com) or (732) 223-0287

**COME LET US ADORE HIM!**

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

#### Christmas Eve Masses

Monday, December 24, 2018

St. Denis Church- 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm

Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel- 5:00 pm

#### Christmas Day Masses

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

St. Denis Church- 9:30 am & 11:00 am

(No Masses at Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel)

#### Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Masses in St. Denis Church

Monday, December 31, 2018 4:30 pm

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 9:00 am

**OPLATEK**, the Christmas wafer, is available once again this year. If you wish to share in this Christmas tradition with your family, please stop by the rectory office during regular business hours. We thank Mileto Polish and Italian Gourmet from Pt. Pleasant for donating the Oplatek for our parishioners.

### A Message from Fr. Bill:

“Still, Still, Still” - this title of a traditional German Christmas Carol is the title of the Advent reflection I will give on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> at both 11am and 7pm. Even if you cannot attend, Advent is a time to remember we need to be still before God. “Be still and know that I am God,” we read in Scripture. (Psalm 46) Stillness before God is an absolute necessity in the spiritual life – it is as important as breathing is to the body. I heard an acronym years ago and I dismissed it as too saccharin, but it is useful, to a degree: BUSY – Being Under Satan’s Yolk. Believe me, I know that there are so many components to life, but so often we choose to be too busy and then quiet time to just “be” with God, quiet time to reflect, quiet time to imagine/daydream, quiet time to listen to God (and quiet with-in conversations with others to just listen to them)... just evaporates. This lack of stillness has led to a huge decline in both the human condition and society. If the acronym helps, use it; regardless, we all must give ourselves to time of stillness before our loving God.

One thing stillness permits is time to ask for enlightenment of the Holy Spirit and then examine our conscience. Confession before the great celebration of Christmas has long been a tradition in the Catholic Church. A saint, of long ago, likened going to confession before Christmas to preparing your house for Christmas. As we clean and decorate where we live, we are also to “clean” our hearts by confession and then decorate our souls with good acts of faith, hope and love and works of mercy. I encourage families to go to confession before Christmas. In three years of being here, only a handful of families have ever come to confession (throughout the whole year, let alone Christmas). As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas I ask you to utilize the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as we are called to as disciples. And I remind parents to remember their call to bring their children to the Sacrament to help their children realize God’s mercy. Other than our regular Saturday confessions and by appointment with me in the office, you can look up the times offered at our local churches and to be aware of the following special times for confession during Advent:

St. Rose, Belmar: Every Monday during the Holy Hour from 7:00-7:45 pm

St. Denis: 11:00 am-noon and again from 6:30-8:00 pm on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

St. Martha, Pt. Pleasant: 6:00 pm-midnight on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

St. Peter, Pt. Pleasant Beach: 7:00–9:00pm on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

Holy Innocents, Neptune: 4:00-7:00 pm on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

**PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES**– A joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities provides licensed professionals for short term counseling (up to 6 sessions) to parishioners dealing with difficult issues, for example, job-stress, family concerns and bereavement. Contact your pastor for additional information and referral. The fee is \$90 per session, but, if needed, financial assistance is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.



*Sanctuary  
Candle*

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 9, 2018  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF RICHARD KOCH  
REQUESTED BY THE KOCH & RICE FAMILIES**

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT WITH BENEDICTION- Fridays 12:00-1:00 pm** Come join us in adoring Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in the church on Fridays.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY-** All children (ages 4-7) are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 11:00 Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Children will proceed to the church basement before the first reading and return during the offertory. Volunteers are needed for this ministry. If interested, call Debbie at 732-223-9823.

**THE DANIEL PLAN- LIVE YOUR LIFE ABUNDANTLY!** Join us for the Daniel Plan Ministry. The Daniel Plan is a groundbreaking healthy lifestyle program founded on biblical principles and focused on *the Essentials: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus and Friends*. The program offers an innovative approach to achieving a healthy lifestyle where people get better together by optimizing their health in each of these life areas. The program is open to anyone who is looking to improve his/her health using bible-based principles. **Contact Eileen Ziesmer with questions (732) 223-0287 When? Wednesday evenings, thru Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm** Where? St. Denis school building Leader/Facilitator: Monica Butler

**CAREGIVER VOLUNTEERS OF CENTRAL JERSEY INTERFAITH COALITION HELPING OLDER MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND CONGREGATION** There are many older people living in our parish...in our neighborhood... who are in need of a little help to continue living with dignity and independence at home. **If you can spare just a few hours a week, you can be involved in this ministry. For info contact the Caregiver office at [www.caregivervolunteers.org](http://www.caregivervolunteers.org) or 732-876-3900.**

**ST. PETER SCHOOL PTA FUNDRAISER-** Please support our local St. Peter Catholic School. Their PTA is running a Christmas Cash 50/50 Raffle. The drawing will be held December 19, 2018 at their annual school Christmas Pageant. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call Cindy at 732-672-3966.

**RAFFLE WINNERS-**New Jersey Right to Life wishes to express to parishioners at St Denis Parish our sincere appreciation for your support of our annual car raffle fundraiser. We are deeply thankful for your generosity which makes possible truly life saving work. The 2018 Raffle winners are:

1st Prize – Volvo: Michelle DeRitis, West Belmar, NJ

2nd Prize- \$1,000 ShopRite GC: Nick Menchise, Annandale, NJ

3rd Prize- \$750 ShopRite GC: Suzanne Jaworski, Oceanport, NJ

4th Prize- \$500 ShopRite GC: Laraine George, Toms River, NJ

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT-** The Georgian Court Chorale will present a Christmas Concert on Saturday, 12/8/18 at 7:00 pm at the Dorothy Marron Chapel at Georgian Court University in Lakewood and Sunday, 12/9/18 at 4:00 pm at the United Methodist Church, 23 Church Street in Manasquan. Adults: \$15, Seniors: \$10 Students: free. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 732-948-9464.

**SERENADES TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE-On** Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 starting with the Rosary and "Angels Dance" at 6:30 p.m. and with Mass at 11 p.m., and many other happenings in between, St. Mark's Parish is celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. See the flyer at the entrance of church/chapel for more details. Attend part or all of this celebration.

**MARY'S CHILD PRO-LIFE MINISTRY WANTS YOU TO GET ON THE BUS!!** Join a bus trip to Washington, D.C. for the 2019 March for Life on Friday, January 18th, 2018. \*Leaving St. Catharine Church after 6:45 am Mass, and returning at 9:30 pm. The suggested donation: \$10/student \$20/adult includes transportation & breakfast! For reservation contact Sheila Kenny 201-637-7618or [smohk@me.com](mailto:smohk@me.com) \*Leaving St. Rose High School at 7:30 am, returning 9:30 pm. For reservations contact Aileen Crean 732-272-8108 [ajcrean9@gmail.com](mailto:ajcrean9@gmail.com). Join us for song, prayer, and fellowship as we celebrate LIFE!

**BLESSED ST. GERARD MEDALS & PRAYER CARDS AVAILABLE-** Do you know someone who is expecting a child, hoping to conceive, or thinking about adoption? Blessed St. Gerard medals and prayer cards are available for anyone who wishes to take them for themselves or to give to family and friends. To receive one, please stop by the rectory office during normal business hours. For more information call Rachel at 732-223-1658.

**DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE WEBSITE-** Please visit the Respect Life website of the Diocese of Trenton at [respectlife-today.org](http://respectlife-today.org). You will obtain important information concerning respect life issues in our diocese and our world.

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR / BOOKKEEPER / SECRETARY-**St. Mark's Church in Sea Girt is seeking a self-motivated, dynamic and resourceful individual to fill the position of Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper/Secretary. This multi-faceted, hands on position includes responsibility for implementing and coordinating all parish financial functions including bookkeeping, payroll and coordinating with and preparing financial reports for the Diocese of Trenton, supervision of the parish administrative staff and support for parish activities such as special events, services and church organizations. The individual will work closely with the pastor to address the needs of the parish and interact regularly with parishioners needing assistance. Requirements include a bachelor's degree with a minimum of five years of related administrative experience, strong organization, communication and interpersonal skills. Prior supervisory experience and work in a parish setting is preferred. Must be able to multi-task, make decisions and work independently. Strong computer skills are essential with knowledge of Microsoft Office and Quickbooks required. Interested candidates should send their resumes to [rectory@stmarkseagirt.com](mailto:rectory@stmarkseagirt.com)

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