

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

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 19, 2021**

“Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, ‘Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does it happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me... Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.’”

A few short days for us to allow the Lord of history into our lives again. Finding the two pregnant mothers to be meeting and greeting is not unlike what will transpire in our lives with Christmas visits.

The words exchanged, words we pray daily in the Hail Mary, are sacred biblical words. The question Elizabeth asks is ours: ‘how does it happen that the mother of my Lord should come to me?’ Mary is present to us in so many ways as model, protector, mother.

The next question is ours: How is it that my Savior should come to me? Because of His love He took on our humanity, to give us grace and allow us to be part of His divinity. Let the encounter of the relatives lead us to our encounter with Jesus this week.



# CHURCH OF ST. DENIS

MANASQUAN, NEW JERSEY

## STAFF

Reverend William J. P. Lago, Pastor  
Reverend James Burke, Weekend Assistant  
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, SSI  
Mr. Ralph Cabrera, Trustee  
Mr. Robert Butler, 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 - St. Denis Church  
Mass is shown on the Parish Facebook Page each weekend.  
Sunday: 10:00 AM - Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel  
Holy Days: See bulletin or website for schedule

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays, 3:30-4:15 pm & by appointment.

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

**BAPTISM:** The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Parents must complete the required preparation with the Pastoral Associate 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-Thursday 8:30 AM-12:00 noon & 1:00 PM- 4:30 PM, Friday 8:30 AM- 12:00 noon only. 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 18, 2021**

8:30 am Frank Stankunas by Deacon Gary  
 8:30 am Joseph Sciortino by Lucia & Joseph Nitti  
 8:30 am A Special Intention  
 4:30 pm Joseph Walsh III  
 by Barbara Roche & Louis Nieves  
 4:30 pm Michael Nunes  
 by Barbara Roche & Louis Nieves  
 4:30 pm Thomas S. Coyle by Saint Denis Choir

**Sunday, December 19, 2021**

8:00 am Derry Quigley  
 by Luanne & John Quigley & Family  
 8:00 am Louis Micioni by the Easton Family  
 8:00 am Ian H. Tissot by Eileen & Mike Mahoney  
 9:30 am For the People of the Parish  
 10:00 am Tracey Day Rogers by Peter Panariello  
 10:00 am Rosemary Bergin by Karen Golding  
 10:00 am Nicholas Sciarappa by Paul & Fran Weeks

**Monday, December 20, 2021**

7:30 am Dr. Donald & Mary T. Lintner by the Family  
 7:30 am Nancy & John Charlesworth by Catherine Campen  
 7:30 am Quinn Annable by Maryann Crowe

**Tuesday, December 21, 2021**

7:30 am Al Essner by the Bialas Family  
 7:30 am Mary O'Connor by her Family  
 7:30 am A Special Intention

**Wednesday, December 22, 2021**

7:30 am John Robert Greco by the Vermeulen Family  
 & by the Dellegrippo Family  
 7:30 am Jim Maywalt by Gene Bialas

**Thursday, December 23, 2021**

No Mass

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

7:30 am Margie & Anthony Patullo by the Family  
 7:30 am Gloria Onda Kirkwood  
 by the Bartholomew Family  
 7:30 am Patricia Farrell by Virginia Coester

**Friday, December 24, 2021- Christmas Eve**

4:30 pm (Church) John & Jack Kolon by the Family  
 4:30 pm (Church) Koch & Rice Families by the Family  
 4:30 pm (Church) Patrick Campbell by his Family  
 5:00 pm (Chapel) Thomas Crawford by the Sutor Family  
 5:00 pm (Chapel) Bernard Schindler  
 by Robert Stegman & Janet DaCruz  
 5:00 pm (Chapel) Stuart Sansone by his Family  
 7:00 pm (Church) For the People of the Parish  
 10:00 pm (Church) Nicholas Sciarappa  
 by the Dellegrippo Family  
 10:00 pm (Church) Patrick Kelly by the Kelly Family  
 10:00 pm (Church) Patricia Farrell by Virginia Coester

**Saturday, December 25, 2021- Christmas Day (Church)**

9:30 am Rose & Jack Feeney by the Family  
 9:30 am Thomas Tracey by Thomas & Alice Brady  
 9:30 am Ann Lingle by Dave & Gloria Smith  
 11:00 am Joseph & Viola Ziella by the Conrey Family  
 11:00 am Janice Racioppi by her Family  
 11:00 am Emil DeJacomio by his Mother & Family

**Sunday, December 26, 2021**

8:00 am Leon & Dorothy Madden by the Jacobus Family  
 8:00 am Michael Parcaro (52nd Anniversary)  
 by Mona & John Kirk  
 8:00 am Vincent O'Rourke by John & Francine Jacobs  
 9:30 am Anne & Tom Gilmartin by Susan Meehan  
 9:30 am Betty & Frank Ernst by Cindy & Scott Ernst  
 9:30 am Nicholas Sciarappa by the Sheehan Family  
 10:00 am For the People of the Parish



especially Mary Moran, Steve Ford, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Peggy Andrigh, Mary Damico, Eileen Byrne, Amanda Castro, Dolores Palmisano, Holly Boyd, Mary Conlon, Albert Wood, Maiya Andrews, Velma Andrews, 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, Robert Kelleher, Stephen Byrne, Denise Frank, Marie Tashjian, Angeline Hart, Cathleen Brenner, Nick Ljuljana, Sue O'Connor, Baby Cayden Joseph, Thomas Fahey, Baby Kelly Grace, Nair Messias, Jennifer Noble, Scarlet Slotnick, Belle & Ashton, 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 Azzollini, Scott Burdett, Joan Lipscomb, Baby Lucy, Stephen Whyte, Christine Fields, Chris Faraca, Gordon Justin, Jim Kazenmayer, Frank Meidenbauer, Sean Campbell, Joel Rivera, Jimi Hood, Al Ricciardi, Eileen Beesley, Beverly Heinz, Pauline Naturile, Haley Keating, Donna Morgan, Bill Koch, Doris Abruzzo, Sandy Heitner, Randy Farmer, Joseph Pastore, Christine Coburn, Julianna Grusso, Frank Dugan, Lori Hurd, John Gondek, Lois Borton, William Liao, Marylee Monsell, Norma Friel, Tony Picinich, the Borgias, Patricia Wolfe, Marian Keefe, David Smith, Marie Woodrow, Elizabeth Clos, Reverend Joseph Miele, Gail Fallon, William Pavincich, Patsy Pindar, Lois Brookes, Andrew Chermak, Mark Clarkin, Duane Danish, Hank Przybylowski, Werner Ziesmer, Cathy Hodgkiss, Thomas P. Coyle, Constance & Hugh Doherty, Jim Trischitta, Paul Weeks, Regina Kiesche, the Stoute Family, the Nesbitt Family and the Campbell Family.





**Ladies, Join us!** Walking with Purpose (WWP) is more than a women's Bible study. It is a faith community that supports, encourages, and challenges one another. It is a safe place where you

will discover authentic friendships and meaningful discussions as your heart is transformed by the Word of God. **We gather on (most) Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm and/or (most) Wednesday afternoons, 12:30 pm. St. Denis (School) Parish Center.** To find out more details and register, go to [www.wwpnjshore.com](http://www.wwpnjshore.com)

**MEN'S GROUP-** Pursue the Way, the Truth, the Life is a faith study group for Catholic men at the Jersey Shore, coordinated from St. Denis Parish. The group meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month in the school building, from 6-7 pm. For more info contact the St Denis rectory at 732-223-0287.

**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.

**BLESSED ST. GERARD MEDALS AND 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 please call the office at 732-223-0287.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET SAINT 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](http://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. Click on the "start shopping" button.



especially Navy Lt. Rachael M. Honrath, Navy E3 Nora N. Honrath, Army Major Matthew Cauda, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, Marine Lance Corporal Laura Licata, Contractor Benjamin Ostrow, Air Force Major 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 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.



## Christmas & New Year Schedule

### Confessions in St. Denis Church

Monday, December 20, 2021  
12:00 pm-1:00 pm & 6:00 pm-7:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 21, 2021  
12:00 pm-1:00 pm & 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

### Christmas Eve Masse

Friday, December 24, 2021  
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

Saturday, December 25, 2021  
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 Mass

Friday, December 31, 2021  
St. Denis Church-4:30 pm  
Saturday, January 1, 2022  
St. Denis Church- 8:30 am



**The Rectory Office  
will be closed on the following days:**

**Dec. 24th, Dec. 27, Dec. 31, Jan. 3rd**

**Merry Christmas  
to our wonderful parishioners and friends!**



### December 5, 2021

Weekly Collection-	\$11,913.00
2nd Collection Bldg. Repairs-	\$4,176.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !**



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

Bradyn Wain Savoth

May the grace of the sacrament remain with them always.

**THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES-** Your generosity enables Catholic Charities to serve those in desperate need. That generosity was especially demonstrated by the rapid response to the urgent need of the Afghan children housed at McGuire Air Force Base. They, and all we serve, are so grateful for your support. If you know of anyone needing assistance, especially during this Christmas season, with food, housing, drug addiction, domestic violence or immigration services please contact us at: [www.catholiccharitiesrenton.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesrenton.org) or call 800-360-7711. We wish you a blessed Christmas and holy, healthy and happy New Year.

**CHRISTMAS GIFT-** For a truly meaningful Christmas present, one that lasts long after the decorations have been put away, why not give your spouse the gift of a Marriage Encounter Weekend? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held February 4-6, 2022. Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Call the rectory office at 7432-223-0287 for more information or visit online at: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

**RETRouvaille-** Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a lifeline to help couples heal and renew their marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. Upcoming weekend: February 23-25, 2022. To register email 3024@helpourmarriage.org



**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)

There is curbside pick-up of prepackaged food with social distancing.

Questions or special food needs?

Please call our hotline number at 732-223-1383

Pantry hours:

Tuesdays: 1PM - 3PM and

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays from 10AM - 12 noon

*Thank you all for being so generous with your donations to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We were able to distribute 25 turkeys and the items that went with them to make Thanksgiving dinners. Our neighbors were very appreciative. We have enough food to do it again at Christmas!*

**This weeks list of needed items:**

Crackers, boxed milk, beef stew, small vegetable oil, juice, hot chocolate, cereal, dish detergent, & laundry detergent.

Thank you.



**St. Denis Bereavement Support Group-**

"In every change, in every falling leaf there is some pain, some beauty. And that's the way new leaves grow." If you are experiencing the loss of someone in your life we welcome you to join with others who are

bereaved to share in your loss. Through mutual sharing with guidance this series will offer support, prayer and work on answering questions about loss, grief, coping and potential for renewal of self and hope. **Join us on: Thursdays Morning Sessions: 10 am-11am at the St. Denis School Multi Purpose room. Contact Eileen Ziesmer at (732) 223-0287 or [eileenziesmer@gmail.com](mailto:eileenziesmer@gmail.com) to let us know you plan to attend or with any questions! All are welcome!**

**NODA "NO ONE DIES ALONE"**- Be part of a rewarding ministry. Assist patients at Jersey Shore University Medical Center at the end of their life. Volunteers are needed as dispatchers, compassionate companions and Eucharistic Ministers. For more information please call the community liaison at 732-245-1740.

**PROJECTIONISTS NEEDED-** We are in need of volunteers to run the projectors at the weekend Masses in the main church. Please call the rectory office at 732-223-0287 if you can be of help. Thank you.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** - The Knights of Columbus is dedicated to the mission of our Holy Mother Church starting here, in our parish and our community. We are a fraternity of Catholic men united in charity and patriotism. If you miss fraternity life and want to get out and join with others in charity and Catholic brotherhood, join us. To learn more please call the rectory office.

**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

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



Our ministry of lay volunteers is inspired by the values of the Gospels and the work of Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Paris is 1833. The first U.S. conference was formed in St. Louis in 1845 and it remains to this day the national headquarters. There are over 800,000 members worldwide in 140 countries. The St. Vincent de Paul Society offers members the chance to grow spiritually, to cultivate friendships and to provide person-to-person help to those who ask for assistance. The volunteers of St. Vincent de Paul, who come from many diverse backgrounds, invite you to join their efforts, and they also thank all who donate so generously to the Society.

If you have an interest in learning more about helping those in need, come to one of the Society's meetings in the school building.

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





WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF PATRICK CAMPBELL  
REQUESTED BY HIS FAMILY

**COLLEGE-AGE RETREAT– JANUARY 7-9, 2022** will take place at the Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point. This retreat is designed to bring young people together of college-age (17-22). So, whether you are in college or working, come join us to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost: \$140 per person Register at: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or call 609-884-3829. Some financial aid is available. High school seniors are welcomed.

**“WONDERFULLY MADE” MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA-** All mothers and their daughters age 10 and up (along with aunts and grandmothers) are invited to a very special inaugural event, the *Wonderfully Made* Mother-Daughter Tea on Sunday, January 23, 2022 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm hosted by St. Denis Parish. Join your friends and neighbors for a fancy tea party and a presentation that will empower mothers and their daughters to understand and embrace God’s beautiful plan for fertility and becoming a woman. The fee for this event is \$20 per family; preregistration is required, and seating is limited. To learn more about this event and to register, go to [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/nfp-info-for-mother-daughter-connection](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/nfp-info-for-mother-daughter-connection) or contact the rectory office at 732-223-0287.

#### WORD OF LIFE

“Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother.” Author of “10 Ways to Support Her When She is Unexpectedly Expecting” (enclosed within bulletin)

\* *The Mission of Mary’s Child Pro-Life Ministry* is to defend the truth of Jesus Christ. Each human being is a gift from God, made in His image and likeness, worthy of dignity, respect, and protection from conception until natural death. We raise our prayers, concerns, and funds in support of this Truth, and we support organizations that consistently live and value the Gospel of Life. If interested in this ministry, contact the rectory for our parish Pro-Life representative.

\* **ACTION CENTER** – Please continue to pray for the Supreme Court to thoughtfully reach a decision in support of God’s gift of life. Science has confirmed what God has always taught us. The baby in the womb is fully human and fully alive. *“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me.” Mathew 18:5*

\* **FACING UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?** Need Help? Contact Birthright @ 800-550-4900 or locally @ 732 747-7600 for assistance with testing, doctors, food, housing, counseling, and other services at little or no charge.

**Visit our Websites:** [dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry) USCCB: [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org)

#### A Message from Father Bill

We have one last almost-week until Christmas, so I will wait a bit longer to wish you a Merry Christmas. As we prepare for the celebrations of the Holy Day, let us still keep Advent in our hearts for the next few days! It is during these days that the Church uses the "O Antiphons" to call upon Jesus by different titles used by the prophets, in order to help us focus on the meaning of *Advent - The Coming To (us) of Christ*. All these titles make up the verses of "O Come O Come Emmanuel" - so a verse a day is a great way to keep Advent in our hearts whilst lifting our minds and hearts to God by reflecting on the "verse of the day." Which, starting on the 17th (so double up to catch up, if you haven't started yet), are as follows: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Dayspring, O King of Nations, O Emmanuel-God with us.

As we look ahead, to plan properly, our parish will be hosting a diocesan wide program, a Mother-Daughter Tea, titled "Wonderfully Made." This will be the first one ever, and I am proud we were asked by the diocese to host it. I draw your attention to the advertising we have been doing. I invite mothers, grandmothers and godmothers to invite the young women in their lives to attend this event on January 23rd. I ask that you see it as a priority that will be well worth your time, not only for the content of the program but also for the time spent as Mother-Daughter, Grandmother-Granddaughter, Godmother-Goddaughter and amongst other women of faith in our community and diocese. It will be from 12:30pm to 3pm and focus on empowering women to understand more fully God's plan for becoming a woman and the gift of fertility, specifically with an introduction to the Theology of the Body, a beautiful teaching of the Church. Pre-registration is needed to conduct the event properly, so see the details in the bulletin and take part!!!

Have a blessed week and blessed Christmas.

**CURSILLO** is all about building long-term Christ-centered relationships with God and others through prayer and a focus on authentic Christian living. For info contact [trentoncursillo@gmail.com](mailto:trentoncursillo@gmail.com) or 609-396-8447 x14.

**SAINT LEO THE GREAT RELIGIOUS STORE-** Experience the peacefulness of our store while picking out devotionals that will help you along your faith journey. The store carries a diverse variety of gifts for friends, family and clergy. There are rosaries from Italy, statuary, Miraculous Medals, wall plaques, holy cards and many books to help you grow in prayer and faith. The store is located at the lower level of the parish center, 50 Hurleys Lane in Lincroft. A chair lift is accessible. For more info visit on the web: [www.stleothegreat.com/store](http://www.stleothegreat.com/store).

**FAITH IN ACTION-** Have you received hope, comfort and love at a time in your life when you needed it most? Do you feel it's time to give to others the blessings you have received? There are hospice patients in your area that would benefit greatly from your companionship and encouragement. As a VITAS volunteer you would be trained in how to work with hospice patients and their families. Your assignments would suit your schedule and your location. Find out more about our amazing team of caring VITAS volunteers by calling VITAS Innovative Hospice Care® of Jersey Shore at 732-389-0066.



**OFFERINGS AT FRANCIS HOUSE OF PRAYER, a Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House 84 Walford Road in Allentown, NJ:**

**END OF THE YEAR RETREAT-** Friday, December 31 9:30 am – 1:00 pm Since

God gives us life and time and is Lord over all, it seems appropriate to end the year in prayer. Francis House offers time, space and quiet for naming the graces of 2021 and expressing gratitude to God. The afternoon will focus on our goals, hopes and desires for 2022. We reverently say farewell to 2021 and cordially welcome 2022 as a gift from God. Please bring your lunch. Donation: Love Offering.

**SPIRITUAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL GROWTH**

**IN LIFE'S SECOND HALF IN-PERSON ONLY-** Friday,

Jan. 21 at 7 pm – Sunday, Jan. 23 at 1 pm How is the second half of life different from the first? Who does God want me to be in this part of my life? What's important, and not so? How can I live my life in God's way? What can I hold onto and let go of? How do I accept, bless and integrate my past as I move into the future? Big questions. Come be with others on the same path. Donation: \$200/\$75 non-refundable deposit with registration. Commuters are welcome, meals and workbook included.

Please check [www.FHOP.org](http://www.FHOP.org) for registration, directions and for our other offerings! All programs will be offered online and in person unless otherwise indicated.

**ST. JOSEPH BY THE SEA RETREAT HOUSE, 400 Rt. 35N in South Mantoloking invites you to:**

**COME TO THE QUIET – A SILENT RETREAT-** February 18-20, 2022 - Come and experience the shore in all its winter beauty! This weekend has been set aside for those desiring time alone with God. This retreat offers time for reflection; Eucharistic Liturgy and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be included. Massage therapy will be available. Arrival: 6:00-7:00 pm / Departure: 1:00 pm (Presenters: Staff and Visiting Directors) Cost: \$300.

**HONORING SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER - March 19, 2022** In honor of our patron St. Joseph, the staff cordially invites you to join us at Liturgy as we celebrate this special day. We will pray for peace and healing for ourselves and for our world. Please call to register by March 16. **SPACE WILL BE LIMITED TO 40 PEOPLE.** Refreshments and Blessed Bread will be available after the program. Arrival: 10:30 am - (Mass: 11:00 am) - Departure: 1:00 pm (Presenters: Sr. Brunilda Ramos, MPF and Sr. Dolores Bianchi, MPF) Donation

**FOOTSTEPS IN THE GARDEN-March 25-27, 2022** – Do you ever wonder what God is doing and has done in your life even without your help? In scripture, God says, “You will be like a watered garden.” (Is 58:11-12) The blooms in the garden of life take root in the silence. Although the garden needs tending and harvesting, often in our busyness, we miss the beauty that comes on its own and the footsteps of the One who scatters seeds of hope. This weekend offers you time to explore the gardens of your life. Mass included. Arrival: 5:00-6:00 pm/Departure: 1:00 pm (Presenters: Paulette Cicero, M.Th., CSD, and Ellen Murphy, CSD) Cost: \$350

Please call the rectory office at 732-223-0287 for registration information.

**HARBOR HOUSE, A SAFE HAVEN FOR YOUTH-** If you know of any youth between the ages of 10-21 who is homeless and/or in crisis, call the Hotline at 732-929-0660.

**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.coanj> 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.

**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.

**SINGLES JOURNEY** is a support and discussion group for adults over 40 that are widowed, divorced or never married. We meet Sunday mornings at 11:45 am in the Spiritual Center, Room 10, of St. Mary's Church in Colts Neck on Rt. 34. We have facilitators that alternate every week to discuss different topics and challenges. We share our experiences and offer fellowship and support. We do not accept fees.

**COASTAL HABITAT FOR HUMANITY-** Are you interested in volunteering your time to serve the Coastal Habitat for Humanity mission to create a world where everyone has a safe and affordable place to live? We are always looking for volunteers to assist in the ReStore in Asbury Park. Hours: Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Sun., 12 pm-5pm (weekend hours needed, flexible schedule). For information about how to get involved, please call the rectory office during business hours at 732-223-0287.

**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](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/monitor-subscriptions). For assistance call 609-406-7131. [MonitorSubscriptions@DioceseofTrenton.org](mailto:MonitorSubscriptions@DioceseofTrenton.org)

**DONOVAN CATHOLIC-** Thank you to all who completed the Fall application. Your notification letter will be mailed by December 22nd. To those who missed the Fall application process, the Winter application is NOW open. Apply today at [DonovanCatholic.org](http://DonovanCatholic.org).

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP!** Monthly Recurring Gifts-Making a monthly recurring gift in any amount is a simple and sustainable way to impact the future of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. We are asking that you consider making a monthly recurring gift in the range of \$10.00-\$25.00. If many folks commit to this campaign, a huge difference will occur. Online donations can be made at [www.olmcapnj.org](http://www.olmcapnj.org) or monthly donations can be sent to: Mount Carmel School 1220 First Ave. Asbury Park, NJ 07712 Attn: Sr. Jude Boyce, SSJ





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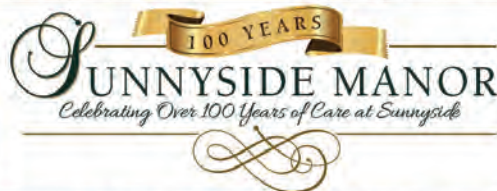
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