

## HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Second Sunday of Easter  
Sunday of Divine Mercy  
April 16, 2023**

“Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”

The Acts of the Apostles describe the life of the first Christian community. May we take a minute to apply this example to our parish community, parish societies or bible study groups. We celebrate the Eucharist weekly, but we live the entire week, conscious of the needs of others, the sick, the lonely, the homeless; for after being fed by the Lord, we become His presence to others.

Pope Francis asks us to see the face of Christ in the suffering and vulnerable. He has been quoted saying, ‘God’s last name is Mercy.’ Pope Saint John Paul II dedicated this second Sunday of Easter as the Sunday of Divine Mercy. Reflecting upon the words describing the first disciples, may we paint the same image by our thoughts, words and deeds.



# CHURCH OF ST. DENIS

MANASQUAN, NEW JERSEY

## STAFF

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

Mrs. Eileen Ziesmer, Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Kathleen Bodnar, Parish Cat. Leader  
Mr. Mark Mataranglo, Director of Music Ministry  
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.



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, April 15, 2023

- 8:30 am Frank Arena by his Family  
 8:30 am John Charlesworth by his Sisters  
 8:30 am Robert Dawson, Sr. by Eileen & Bob  
 4:30 pm Rosemary Tassini by her Family  
 4:30 pm Jim Maywalt by Pat Spawn  
 4:30 pm Theresa Nagel by the Mutch Family

### Sunday, April 16, 2023

- 8:00 am Jessica Scott by her Cousin, Barbara  
 8:00 am Gerald Moore by MCW  
 8:00 am Maria Magno by the DeLuca Family  
 9:30 am Irene DeGenova by her Family  
 9:30 am Santo Grasso by Janine Kelley  
 9:30 am Michael Gabler by Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry  
 10:00 am For the People of the Parish

### Monday, April 17, 2023

- 7:30 am Michael Gabler  
 by Rosemary, Sylvia & Otto Schmidt & Family  
 7:30 am Katherine Ford by Tom & Nancy Corcoran  
 7:30 am Pauline Convey by Megan, Ray, Lou & Rose

### Tuesday, April 18, 2023

- 7:30 am The Sarullo, Bugliaro, Schellar & Burke Families  
 by the Bugliaro Children  
 7:30 am Joan Miller by Jane Bessemer & Family  
 7:30 am Clifford Parcinski by John, Cheri & Thomas

### Wednesday, April 19, 2023

- 7:30 am Deceased of the Gowen Family  
 by the Gowen Family  
 7:30 am Domenica Tarabocchia by Betty Scrivanich  
 7:30 am Walter J. Bronikowski by George Honrath

### Thursday, April 20, 2023

No Mass

### Friday, April 21, 2023

- 7:30 am Kay & Dave Morton by the Family  
 7:30 am Rev. Joseph Miele by the Honrath Family  
 7:30 am Barbara DiGuglielmo by Fr. Bill

### Saturday, April 22, 2023

- 8:30 am Cliff Syby by his Family  
 8:30 am Carl Lepis, MD by Denis & Lois Campbell  
 8:30 am Sandy Zemaitis by the Koch & Rice Families  
 4:30 pm Al & Rosemary Struncius by the Family  
 4:30 pm Dora & Warren Kirby  
 by Margaret & Len Sullivan  
 4:30 pm Karen Olear by Denise & Mark Olear

### Sunday, April 23, 2023

- 8:00 am For the People of the Parish  
 9:30 am Michael Gabler by John Kastanis & Joyce Long  
 9:30 am Ann & Richard Lingle by Gloria Smith  
 9:30 am Cecilia & Ronald Witczak  
 by Loving Daughter, Karen Witczak  
 10:00 am Vivian Gearing by her Family  
 10:00 am Margaret & Edmund Burke by the Family  
 10:00 am James Schneider by the Dolce Family

**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.

**MASS INTENTIONS** for the weekend, as well as the coming week, can be found on our parish website on Friday mornings [www.churchofstdenis.org](http://www.churchofstdenis.org)



**PRAY**  
 FOR THE SICK

especially Doris Abruzzo, Maiya Andrews, Velma Andrews, Peggy Andrich, Vincent Azzollini, Baby Lucy, Bobbie Banks-Grove, Edith Bean, Eileen Beesley, Belle & Ashton, Bernadette Bevan, Stanley Bevan, Joseph Bick, Lois Borton, Holly Boyd, Cathleen Brenner, Borgias Family, Lois Brookes, Karen Brown, Eileen Byrne, Stephen Byrne, Barbara Cabrera, Campbell Family, Sean Campbell, Mary Carstens-Lockenmeyer, Amanda Castro, Andrew Chermak, Albert J. Cifelli, Mark Clarkin, Elizabeth Clos, Christine Coburn, Mary Collins, Mary Conlon, Jimmy Conrey, Rick Constrisciano, Thomas P. Coyle, Linda Custode, Mary Damico, Duane Danish, Lauren Davis, Rose DeMarco, Constance & Hugh Doherty, Frank Dugan, Lisa Dunfee, Thomas Evans, Thomas Fahey, Gail Fallon, Chris Faraca, Joseph Fiamingo, Christine Fields, Steve Ford, Nannette Forkan, Denise Frank, Norma Friel, Baby Colton Gardella, Mary Anne Gearing, Katherine Geiger, Nicole Giambrone, Sharon Goettle, Johnny Gondek, Baby Kelly Grace, Phillip Graceffa, Julianna Grusso, Angeline Hart, Irene Hayes, Jeanne Hayes, Teresa Hayes, Thomas Hayes Jr, Beverly Heinz, Sandy Heitner, Katie Holbrook, Jimi Hood, Lori Hurd, Baby Cayden Joseph, Gordon Justin, Eugene Karpinski, Jim Kazenmayer, Haley Keating, Marian Keefe, Catherine Kelleher, Robert Kelleher, Regina Kiesche, Bill Koch, Esther Koch, Tanner Koch, Bridget Korn, Christopher Kurtanick, William Liao, Barbara Liggett, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Joan Lipscomb, Nick Ljuljana, Frank Lopez, Linda Lowery, Barbara Magda, Ed McCullough, Michael McGonigle, Helen McGowan, Michael McNulty, Claire Meachum, Frank Meidenbauer, Nair Messias, Ronnie Micciulla, Baby Evelyn Mizer, Marylee Monsell, Mary Moran, Elizabeth Morgan, Margaret Mullin, Nancy Murphy, Pauline Naturile, Nesbitt Family, Jack Noble, Jennifer Noble, Neil O'Callaghan, Catherine O'Connor, Sue O'Connor, Gerald O'Keeffe, Diane Padluck, Wes Pal, Dolores Palmisano, Joanne Panzarella, Joseph Pastore, Charlotte Pentek, Tony Picinich, Mike Pierce, Lisa Pirrello, Marty Pirrong, Samara Pirrong, Timothy Michal Przywara, Vera Raffetto, Windell Rainey, Leanna Rawson, Al Ricciardi, Joel Rivera, Taryn Rotondi, Christina Roundtree, Christian Russo, Donna Schwear, Theresa Sergel, Slotnick Family, Rob & Katie Spawn, Susan Suagee, Norma Summers, Sadie Svenson, Marie Tashjian, Sondra Thompson, Cindy Tomkins, Jim Trischitta, Paul Tuyp, Phyllis Van Salders, Riley Veazey, Dee Vulgaris, Siobhan Vuono, Stephen Whyte, Kathy Wicks, Karen Williams, Marilyn Woerner, Patricia Wolfe, Albert Wood, Butch Wright, Linda Wynd, and Werner Ziesmer.



### End of Season Get-Together!

All women are invited to join us for our final gathering of this season on Tuesday, April 25, 7:30pm or Wednesday, April 26, 12:15pm as we discuss:

#### “Set the World on Fire”

We will gather for social time, watch a video, and discuss how we can take the principles of WWP and make a difference in the world!

For more information about WWP, visit our local website:

[www.wwpnjshore.com](http://www.wwpnjshore.com)

Our next WWP season will start October 2023!

**ST. DENIS MEN’S GROUP** 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 Parish Center, from 6-7 pm. For more information contact the St. Denis rectory at 732-223-0287.

**GRANDPARENTS’ GUILD-** Happy Easter to Everyone from the Grandparents’ Guild! Many Blessings to All as we journey these next 40 days until the Ascension of our Lord on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is invited to join in this most blessed vocation (The Grandparents’ Guild.) Our mission is model a Christian way of life via prayer not only for our grandchildren, but for all of God’s children. Although challenging at times, we are committed as St. Monica was to never give up. As you may recall, her prayers are contributed to her husband and son’s conversions. Her son, St. Augustine went on to become a priest, bishop, and Doctor of the Church. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, the 18th of April. We will meet in the School Building, (Parish Center at 11:00 am.) It is never too late to join in prayer, support, and fellowship. Your continued prayers of intercession to Saint Anne and St Joachim are also most appreciated. Grandparent Prayer from (The Catholic Grandparents Handbook by Lorene Hanley Duquin ) “Gracious and loving God, you know the pain I feel because of family members who no longer practice their Catholic faith. Help me to love as you love...Give me the patience to bear silently the sorrow I feel. Allow you Holy Spirit to work through me so that my faith can become a positive example in their lives.” Amen



especially Navy Lt. Rachael M. Honrath, Navy LS3 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 Capt. Philip Cahill, Navy ENS Michael Zimmerman, Air Force 2nd Lt. Jason Trischitta, US Army 2nd Lt. Allison M. Ingraham, PFC Joseph J. Foley, Jr. USMC, Airman Andrew Halmi, Sgt. Jordan Basile USMC, PFC Neil Horenburg USMC, US Army Airborne Private Zachary Hayle, and USMC Private Robert E. Mullin IV.

### CAREGIVERS NEED CARE TOO!

Join Us for a Caregiver Support Group

When: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Where: St. Denis Parish Center (school building)

The Caregivers Support Group is a group supporting individuals who are caregiving through illness of a loved one. The group offers friendship and fellowship. It will meet once a month on the third Tuesday of the month.

When we allow others to support us, we will find we can do much more in supporting and encouraging those who are in our care. Please consider joining us to find out more and let us help! *Group to be run by :* **Kat Verdi MAT, CADDCT, CDP, HTM Caregiver Coach & Dementia Consultant Certified Alzheimer's & Dementia Disease Care Trainer**

Contact Eileen Ziesmer about attending 732-223-0287/

[eileenziesmer@gmail.com](mailto:eileenziesmer@gmail.com)

### THERAPUTIC YOGA CLASSES ARE BACK, HOO-

**RAY!** Unlike traditional Yoga, Therapeutic Yoga is intended to utilize postures and movements that are modified according to an individual’s abilities and needs. The class is specifically designed for cancer patients, arthritis sufferers, or individuals with other health issues who would benefit from a more gentle and modified exercise program. Various techniques and modification to yoga will be utilized for physical and medical challenges by moving slowly into and out of postures as we stretch, tone, and strengthen muscles. Each class will include breathing exercises, posture exercises, and relaxation techniques. The key skill is to be developed in a Therapeutic Yoga class is learn to listen to your own body. Classes will begin on Mondays, beginning May 1, 2023 from 1:30-2:30 in the St. Denis School Building Gymnasium are being offered through the Manasquan Recreation Department. Chairs will be provided for those in need. There is no fee required, all are welcome! For any other questions and or concerns, kindly contact Ronnie Garrett via St. Denis Rectory at 732-223-0287.

### ST. PETER SCHOOL IN PT. PLEASANT BEACH OFFERS ENHANCED WORKING FAMILY FRIENDLY PRE-K PROGRAM-

St. Peter School’s high quality, well-rounded Pre-K programs focus on early learning skills in a Christ-centered, loving, nurturing environment. \*Pre-K and Pre-K 4: 5 full-day options and part-time options depending on family needs \*Family affordable (compare and you’ll see!) \* Focused on Kindergarten readiness \* Integrated with award winning K-8 St. Peter School Academics (Blue Ribbon School of Excellence 2016 & New Jersey School of Character 2020) \*STREAM Pilot School \*Little Saints Athletic Program \*Same convenient drop off and pick up times as St. Peter School. For more information visit [stpschool.org](http://stpschool.org)

DIOCESE of TRENTON

Catholic Schools  
**JOB FAIRS**

**HIRING**  
*Teachers and Staff*  
**IN-PERSON JOB FAIRS**

Registration is encouraged but not required

**30 DIFFERENT SCHOOLS REPRESENTED!**

**MAY 9**  
4-7 PM  
SAINT JOHN VIANNEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Holmdel, NJ

**MAY 11**  
4-7 PM  
NOTRE DAME  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Lawrenceville, NJ

SCAN HERE  
TO REGISTER



**WEEK OF APRIL 16, 2023  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
THE LAWRENCE & STRUNCIUS FAMILIES  
REQUESTED BY THE FAMILY**

**“THE CHOSEN” SEASON THREE DISCUSSION-**Get ready fans!!! We begin our discussion on Season Three of “The Chosen” on the following Wednesdays: April 19 and 26; May 3, 10, 17, 31; June 7, 14 and 21. (one week break May 24). We will meet at 11 am in the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church meeting room and we will also meet at 7 pm in the St. Denis Cafeteria. So choose the time that is best for you and watch the episode before you attend a of discussion of the show and its impact on us. (We will start with a discussion on Season 3, Episode 1 on April 19<sup>th</sup>).

**HELP AT MASS: PROJECTIONISTS-** We have a need for volunteers to help with the projection of lyrics and prayers at Mass. This is a great service opportunity for students and a chance for parents and children to work together. You can choose your Mass and the frequency of volunteering. Contact the office for training with Deacon Gary.

**COME JOIN THE JERSEY SHORE CHORALE**, a diverse group of men & women of all ages, many with professional music backgrounds, performing a wide variety of favorites from the classical (Vivaldi, Mozart) to Broadway show tunes, (West Side Story, Les Miserable) and so much more. The Jersey Shore Chorale's exquisite harmonies accompanied by a piano, flute, strings and woodwinds kicks off the delightful Spring season on Sat. May 6- 7pm at Greenbriar 1, 1 Darley Circle, Brick OR Sun-May 7- 4pm at United Methodist Church, 23 Church St., Manasquan. Tickets sold at the door. Adults: \$15. Seniors: \$10. Students & children are free. For more information call 732-223-0287.



**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> & 4th Saturdays of the month: 10AM–12 noon

This week's needed items:

Coffee, canned chicken, crackers, and dry pasta .

Donations can be dropped off at the shopping cart in the gathering space of the church. For monetary donations please make checks payable to: SVDP/St. Denis Conference. On the memo line please write: “Food Pantry”. Thank you!

We will join together to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a Prayer Service starting at 3 pm on Sunday, April 16th in St. Denis Church. We will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and have a chance for private prayer and reflection as well, during this Octave Feast of the Easter Season.



**NEWS FROM ASCENSION PRESS- HOME DEVOTION** Visit AscensionPress.com for special resources and events to help Catholics with home devotions. **PRAY THE ROSARY**– Join over 50,000 fellow Catholics and pray the rosary LIVE on Ascension's Facebook page daily at 4pm.

**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 would like to donate to our ministry, checks can be made payable to “SVDP/St. Denis Conference” and placed in the shopping cart in the gathering space of the church (envelopes available). At the Beach Chapel, please drop them in the collection basket.”

To learn more about helping those in need, come to the Society's next meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7 pm in the Parish Center.

If you need assistance, please call the hotline at 732-223-1383.



## RECOVERY CORNER

Monday 7PM “SMART Recovery for Family and Friends”...Education and support using current concepts and a workbook, continuously cycling through the year. Right things, not wrong things. Presently just virtual on Zoom.

Thursday 7PM “Life Recovery Bible Study”...The 12 steps of Anonymous Recovery framed in their origin in holy scripture along with corollary readings. An education and support program featuring scripture and workbook assistance to enlighten and empower those seeking recovery from substance or behaviors. Presently just virtual on Zoom. Call the rectory office for more information.

Thursday 10AM “Life Recovery Bible Study”...Same as above but specializing in corollary readings from the 12 Gifts, the 12 Laws, the 12 Missteps of recovery and other corollary readings. Presently just virtual on Zoom. Call the rectory office at 732-223-0287 for more information.

Life Recovery Bible Weekly Podcasts by City of Angels Recovery Radio

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=st.shoutca.sh.coanj>  
Download this 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.

**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.

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL LUNCHEON/GIFT AUCTION-** Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Asbury Park is having a fundraiser on Sunday, April 23, 2023 from 1:00pm-4:30pm. It is a luncheon/auction with entertainment by the Singing Florist, John Newman. The cost is \$60 per person. It will be held at the Renaissance (Route 35S in Ocean Township), near Wegman's. Tickets are available by calling the school at 732-775-8989.

**RETREAT-** St. Catharine's Classics invite all to their 12th annual retreat “Prayer-God's Gift To Us” on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 9 am-3 pm, at San Alfonso Retreat House, 755 Ocean Ave. in Long Branch. The cost is \$60 per person and includes continental breakfast and lunch. For registration info please call St. Denis Rectory Office at 732-223-0287.

### OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the Diocesan Abuse Hotline: **888-296-2965**

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

Please read through to the end.

Happy Easter! Our Lord is Risen, risen indeed! We celebrate the Octave of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. We are called to give glory to God for God's Mercy as well as show forth God's Mercy through our words and deeds as God's Children. We are God's daughters and sons when we act like God, or more correctly stated, when we cooperate with God's grace and do God's Will through, with and in the life of our Resurrected Lord, Jesus. The “Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy” are the way in which our Church describes our duty to live God's Mercy. The corporal works of mercy are kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead. The spiritual works of mercy are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs: counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offenses, bear wrongs patiently, pray for the living and the dead.

Throughout Lent we have been called to look at our response to the works of mercy. I am thankful for all who have responded through their donation of time, talent, and treasure. I do want to share the success of our Easter Basket Drive. Not only were we able to give about 130 baskets to the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, but also an additional huge amount for the social workers to continue to prepare baskets as needs arose before Easter. In addition, we were also able to help children assisted through Mercy Center, Project 180, and also the Family Success Center, all in Monmouth County! Thank you for your generosity.

In the list of the works of mercy, I underlined two that pertain to our respect for the dead. Caring for those who have died, with the hope and truth of the promise of the Resurrection of the dead, is the only work of mercy that straddles both the corporal and spiritual works. In this edition of the bulletin, I share a very important insert regarding the degrading outlook that people are having on the respect that we must show to those who have died. We are called upon by God Almighty, to treat the body or remains of a person with dignity and responsibility. Too many people are disrespecting the body and remains of persons who are made in the image and likeness of God. The scattering of ashes was done by many evil people to be a final humiliation to many saints and also people such as those killed in the concentration camps. It seems that there is now being forwarded the idea of actually composting human beings. If you are Roman Catholic, these actions are contrary to our faith. It is not an opinion; it is a fact. I, as pastor, have a right to know how a body is being treated and I have the right, as a free human being, to not do anything against my conscience. I will not participate in any type of funeral that is not part of the Roman Catholic Faith, a Faith that I have sworn to God to uphold. Please inform your conscience and read the insert. Please recognize how absolutely serious this is. We live in God's Mercy, and God respects all people and is the “God of the living and the dead.”



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

Evelyn Joan Marsali Hilarczyk  
 Finley Dennis O'Neill  
 Lachlan James O'Neill

May the grace of the sacrament remain with them always.

**RETRouvaille- A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES-** Do you know someone in a struggling marriage or considering divorce? We are a lifeline for married couples. Retrouvaille is a nationwide, three-phase program: A weekend experience, 12 post sessions and monthly meetings for marriage enrichment. This program is Catholic in origin but all faiths are welcome. For a better marriage or to find upcoming weekends near you visit [HelpOurMarriage.org](http://HelpOurMarriage.org).



**EASTER FLOWERS WERE DONATED  
 IN MEMORY/HONOR OF:**



*Ann, Neil & Stephen Callaghan  
 Sciarappa & Rice Families  
 William & Alice O'Connor  
 Ruth & Sal DeFeo  
 Margaret & James Dillon  
 James Bronco  
 Lawrence & Elizabeth (Betty) Brattlof  
 Lisk Family  
 Barlow Family  
 Buntaine Family  
 Gerry Crennan  
 George & Kara Bednarski  
 Elizabeth A. McCarthy  
 Robert & Delores Pearce  
 Roy & Marie McGreevey, Jr.  
 Al & Rosemary Struncius  
 Kathy Hillhouse  
 Paul Lawrence, Sr.  
 Nicholas & Josephine Oleksik  
 Ruth & Clem Danish  
 George & Rose White & Family  
 Sollance Family  
 Cunningham & Broadhurst Families  
 Charles & Josephine Whitney  
 William & Josephine Rosell  
 Sadie & Joe Aliseo  
 Antonio & Maria DaRosa  
 George & Mamie McCrossen  
 Langan & Hearn Families  
 Mom & Dad Marino  
 Giuseppe & Antonetta Bertucci  
 Francesco & Giuseppina Garruzzo  
 Lucy & Joseph Soriano  
 Koch & Rice Families  
 Family Members Who Passed Near  
 Easter*

*Kevin M. Helm  
 Artie Bohse  
 John McNamara  
 Patricia Brunner  
 DiPaolo Family  
 Pollara Family  
 Scerrato Family  
 Donald Dingler  
 Larry DeGrande  
 Marion Guerrere  
 Gail Amerine  
 Eileen Berardi  
 Barbara Leahy  
 Kenneth O'Donnell  
 Raymond Smith  
 John E. Lake, Sr.  
 Frances Barclay  
 Estelle A. Spillane  
 Jack Dolan  
 Mary Dolan  
 Lou Gartz  
 Bridget Wilson  
 Robert DiGrigoli  
 Salvatore DiGrigoli  
 Alfred Joseph Manzi  
 Billy Niskoch  
 George Leonard  
 John Fritz  
 Marie Rose Policastro  
 Donald Aversa  
 Tom & Marie Roche  
 Thomas Roche, Jr.  
 Geri Morgantean  
 Soriano Family  
 Cicalese Family  
 James & Jane Lacey*

**EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS-** Today's bulletin contains only a partial listing of names of those loved ones who were remembered or honored with Easter Flower donations. Other names appeared in the two previous bulletins. Thank you to all who donated to this special collection.

**OFFERINGS AT FRANCIS HOUSE OF PRAYER**, a Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House, 84 Walnford Road, Allentown, NJ or [FHOP@verizon.net](mailto:FHOP@verizon.net):



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

**PRAYING WITH THE RESURRECTION NARRATIVES**

Tuesday, April 18 9:30 AM – 1 PM The Solemnity of Easter comes and goes so quickly, we hardly have a chance to savor its Mystery. We will take a few hours to drink deeply of the hopeful and consoling Presence of Jesus as He appeared to His Apostles and friends and as He continues to manifest His resurrected presence in our own lives. This will be a wonderful morning of prayer and the true celebration of Resurrection. Led by S. Marcy. Donation: \$25, includes lunch; Zoom \$20.

**3 – DAY SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT**

Begins 7 PM – Ends 10 AM April 23–26 Sunday to Wednesday Liturgy, spiritual direction, and optional contemplative prayer periods are included. Please register early. These fill quickly. Donation: \$165/\$65 non-refundable deposit with registration. Donation: \$275; \$75 non-refundable deposit.

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

**RESTORE AND RENEW** April 21-23 Relax and renew at the beautiful St. Joseph by the Sea retreat house at the Jersey shore. The weekend is the ideal getaway from a busy life. The program consists of daily gentle Asana practice, mediation, walks on the beach, fellowship and breath work. You will leave refreshed and better prepared to share your best self with your family and community. Massage therapy will be available. Eucharistic Liturgy included. No Supper on Friday. Arrival: 5:00-6:00 p.m. Departure: 10:30 a.m. Presenter: Avita Kennedy, RYT Cost: \$350

**WELLNESS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN** May 5-7 Come away to the quiet and serenity of the ocean and renew yourself in body, mind and spirit. Eucharistic Liturgy included. Massage and spiritual direction will be available. No Supper on Friday. Arrival: 5:00-6:00 p.m. Departure: 1:00 p.m. Presenter: Janice Santanello, M.Th., CLEM, CSG, CPC Cost: \$375

**ONLINE GIVING-** To help support our parish more easily we offer online giving! For information or to sign up, go to our parish Website [www.churchofstdenis.org](http://www.churchofstdenis.org) and click on "Online Giving".



**April 2, 2023**

Weekly Collection- \$11,679.00

2nd Collection- Building Repairs- \$8, 440.00

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