

## HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

### The Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2024

“You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit. It was not made known to people of other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

On this day when we commemorate the coming of the Magi, the Wise Men, with three gifts, and their discovery of Mary with the child, we ask what that means for me today. Saint Paul speaks of three things. We are coheirs' of the gift of grace and redemption. We are, as he states in his letters, 'members of the body of Christ', and copartners.

We have been gifted, but also become responsible to bring what has been given to others. This responsibility is an awesome task for which we are held accountable. We learned the three kings returned home, and have heard nothing more about their experience. That cannot be what is expected of us, who discover the presence of the Lord and the protection of His Mother.



# 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](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 (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.

THIS WEEK'S  
**MASS**  
INTENTIONS

**Saturday, January 6, 2024**

8:30 am William Starr by the Shinnick Family  
8:30 am Maureen Hunt by the Kile Family  
8:30 am The Intentions of Edward R. Deane  
by Peter & Sharon Wilson  
4:30 pm John Sciarra by Maryann Crowe  
4:30 pm Steven Ringo by the Odell Family  
4:30 pm Evan Budalich by Barbara Roche & Lou Nieves

**Sunday, January 7, 2024**

8:00 am For the People of the Parish  
9:30 am Daniel C. McCormick  
by Ron & Terry DePasquale  
9:30 am Steven Ringo by Trish & Yvonne  
9:30 am Betty & Frank Ernst by Scott & Cindy Ernst  
10:00 am Carol Geiger by Gerard & Cynthia Donnelly  
10:00 am Christopher J. Holowach  
by Owen & Maura McCarthy  
10:00 am John Collins by Michele & Jess Kellner

**Monday, January 8, 2024**

7:30 am Kevin Walsh by Carol Rizzi  
7:30 am Linda Wynd by the Craig Family  
7:30 am Edward Tracy by Phil Brunner

**Tuesday, January 9, 2024**

7:30 am Kevin T. McMahon by Bill & Jeanne Buble  
7:30 am Armondo Ienco by Larry Dolan  
7:30 am Paul Reddish by Linda Turano

**Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

7:30 am Gary Walsh by Cathy & Hank Trost  
7:30 am Peggy Bocker by Cathy & Hank Trost  
7:30 am The Intentions of Charles Rock  
by Peter & Sharon Wilson

**Thursday, January 11, 2024**

**No Mass**

**Friday, January 12, 2024**

7:30 am John Sciarra by Maryann Crowe  
7:30 am Mickey Britt by Susan Schreck  
7:30 am Sr. Helen Francis Coakley by Gene Bialas

**Saturday, January 13, 2024**

8:30 am Gary Walsh by the Brannick Family  
8:30 am Catherine Basile by Weslee Seraitsky  
8:30 am Wendy Moleski by the Shinnick Family  
4:30 pm Timothy O'Connor by Walking With Purpose  
4:30 pm Deceased of the Doherty Family  
by Tom & Kerry O'Connor  
4:30 pm Thomas Roche, Jr. by Barbara Roche

**Sunday, January 14, 2024**

8:00 am For the People of the Parish  
9:30 am Maureen & James Larkin  
by Tom & Alice Brady  
9:30 am Jay Napolitano by the Reynolds Family  
9:30 am Marie Roche Sweeney by the Prince Family  
10:00 am Leonard & Betty Stankunas by Deacon Gary  
10:00 am Jacqueline Varygiannes by her Family  
10:00 am Toni Jean Matson by Carol Rizzi

**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 Gloria Cancellieri, Mary Capone and Otto Kazenmayer.



**Pray For  
The Sick**

especially Doris Abruzzo, Maiya Andrews, Velma Andrews, Peggy Andrich, Baby Lucy, Bobbie Banks-Grove, Edith Bean, 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, Dule Campbell, Sean Campbell, Mary Carstens-Lockenmeyer, Amanda Castro, Albert J. Cifelli, Mark Clarkin, Elizabeth Clos, Baby Aubrey Rose Cirinia, Christine Coburn, Mary Collins, Mary Conlon, Jimmy Conrey, Rick Constrisciano, Marge Covey, Thomas P. Coyle, Linda Custode, Mary Damico, Christine Danish, Duane Danish, Lauren Davis, Rose DeMarco, Constance & Hugh Doherty, Lisa Dunfee, Thomas Evans, Thomas Fahey, Chris Faraca, Joseph Fiamingo, Christine Fields Nannette Forkan, Denise Frank, Norma Friel, Barbara Gearing, 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, Shawn Herenburg, Katie Holbrook, Jimi Hood, Lori Hurd, Baby Cayden Joseph, Gordon Justin, Eugene Karpinski, Haley Keating, Marian Keefe, Catherine Kelleher, Robert Kelleher, Kathleen Kelly, Bill Koch, Celina Koch, Bridget Korn, Christopher Kurtanick, William Liao, Barbara Liggett, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Joan Lipscomb, Nick Ljuljana, Frank Lopez, Linda Lowery, Madison Marmo, Barbara Magda, Linda Matthews, Ed McCullough, Michael McGonigle, Helen McGowan, Michael McNulty, Claire Meachum, Frank Meidenbauer, Nair Messias, Ronnie Micciulla, Marylee Monsell, Gloria Moore, Mary Moran, Elizabeth Morgan, Margaret Mullin, Robert Mullin, Nancy Murphy, Pauline Natirile, Nesbitt Family, Jack Noble, Jennifer Noble, Bob O'Brien, Neil O'Callaghan, Catherine O'Connor, Sue O'Connor, Tina O'Donnell, Patricia O'Leary, Gerald O'Keefe, Diane Padluck, Wes Pal, Dolores Palmisano, Joanne Panzarella, Joseph Pastore, Charlotte Pentek, Tony Picinich, Mike Pierce, Mickey Pindar, Lisa Pirrello, Marty Pirrong, Samara Pirrong, Kidron Procyson, Timothy Michal Przywara, Vera Raffetto, Windell Rainey, Leanna Rawson, Al Ricciardi, Marybeth Richards, Joel Rivera, Patricia Rodgers, Taryn Rotondi, Christina Roundtree, Christian Russo, Donna Schwear, Slotnick Family, Katie Spawn, Susan Suagee, Danny Suskevich, Sadie Svenson, Laurie Syby, Marie Tashjian, Cindy Tomkins, Jim Trischitta, Paul Tuyp, Phyllis Van Salders, Riley Veazey, Dee Vulgaris, Siobhan Vuono, Erin Waters, Stephen Whyte, Kathy Wicks, Karen Williams, Marilyn Woerner, Patricia Wolfe, Albert Wood, Butch Wright, Eileen Zemo, and Werner Ziesmer.



WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2024  
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**ROBERT MORLEY**  
 REQUESTED BY  
**JOAN & MARK CLARKIN**



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** takes place First Fridays, from noon to 1 pm, in the church. We look forward to the beautiful prayer of presence with our Lord. All are welcome!

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

**“REBUILD MY CHURCH” WITH THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS** - St. Francis of Assisi heard the voice of Jesus – asking for his help to “Rebuild My Church...” The Lord is still calling people to help follow in the footsteps of St. Francis and rebuild His Church through prayer, community, service, and living the Gospel life. Members of the Secular Franciscan Order of the St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity located at St. Peter's Church, Pt. Pleasant Beach invite you to contact them. Find out why millions of people have wanted to follow the spirit of St. Francis for more than 800 years. Is He calling you? Please email Minister Dorothy O’Reilly, OFS at [bernardineofs@gmail.com](mailto:bernardineofs@gmail.com) for more information.

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

**NORWAY TRIP-** Come join us October 29-Nov. 13, 2024 as we travel to London, Salisbury, Oxford and take the Queen Mary Ocean Liner Cruise to Norway and the Northern Lights. For more information call the Rectory Office at 732-223-0287.



especially Navy Lt. Rachael M. Honrath, Navy LS2 Nora N. Honrath, Army Major Matthew Cauda, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, USMC 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, 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, USN LTJG 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, US Army Airborne Private Zachary Hoyle, Army 2nd Lieutenant Brendan Ertle, USMC Corporal Patrick Bednarski, USMC 1st Lt. Diego Heinzerling, and USMC Private Robert E. Mullin IV.



**GOD AND GOGGINS – PART 2! SAVE THE DATE!**- Men of the parish who attended the first talk were so invigorated by the discussion, we are back for a second discussion! Save the Date – Wednesday, 28 February, 7:00pm in the

Parish Center cafeteria. Make it your New Year’s Resolution to make a fresh start to make the most of the gift of your life and get to the next level; with God with you, and inspired by David Goggins, you won’t be the same. This time we will bring in more elements of Mr. Goggins’ second book, “Never Finished” and bring in more elements of inspiration from Scripture and the Tradition of the Church.

**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 business hours.

**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.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**– Parishioners may reserve the flower arrangement near the altar, for a week at a time, in “memory of” or “honor of” someone or some occasion. Weekend flowers are billed to the parish at \$150 per arrangement so the suggested donation for flowers is \$150. Due to liturgical and church calendar requirements, donations toward floral arrangements do not permit the donor to choose the color, style or flower type. Reservations will be taken by the rectory staff during business hours.

**ATTENTION ENVELOPE USERS**–A printing error occurred on the January collection envelopes for the Church in Latin America and Black and Native American Missions. Both envelopes are dated January 28. Please know that those two envelopes will be accepted on the weekends of January 21st and January 28th. We are sorry for any inconvenience. Thank you.

**BUILDING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE COLLECTION-** Next weekend our second collection will be used towards renovating the Parish Center. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



**12/24/23-Weekly Collection-**

**\$10,315.00**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !**



**Ladies, join us in the new year!**

Walking with Purpose (WWP) is more than a women’s Bible study. WWP is a faith community that laughs, learns, grows, and loves one another as we walk on our faith journeys together.

WWP 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 Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm or Wednesday afternoons, 12:30 pm at the St. Denis Parish Center. Our next sessions start January 9 and 10.**

For more information and to register, go to [www.wwpnjshore.com](http://www.wwpnjshore.com)

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS, COURT ST. DENIS**– The first meeting of the year will be held Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6 pm in the Parish Center. All women of the parish are welcome to join.

**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.

**MEN OF THE PARISH - BE STENGTHENED BY THE EUCHARIST**-There will be a talk for the men of the parish on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the church titled: The Eucharist our Sanctification. Join Fr. Bill for a look at ways in which we can approach receiving the Eucharist for strength in our vocation as men in the Church and disciples of Christ.

**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.

**ST. MARK’S YOUTH GROUP – AN INVITATION**-Teens are invited to join a high school youth group at our neighboring parish of St. Mark, Sea Girt. They meet on Sunday nights at 7:30 pm. There are always lots of games, service opportunities, food, and friendly high school students from our local area.

**ROSARY FOR LIFE**- St. Mark’s Altar Rosary Society will be presenting a Rosary for Life after the 11 am Mass on Friday, January 19. They will be reciting the joyful mysteries with inspirational meditations. Please join us as we pray in union with the March for Life in Washington DC.

**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



**This week’s needed items:**

Boxed milk, cereal, mayonnaise, vegetable oil, boxed sugar (no bags please), laundry detergent, & pepper.

Monetary donations are always welcome! 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. Thank you!

**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 for more information. Life Recovery Bible Weekly Podcasts by City of Angels Recovery Radio-

**COMMUNION BREAKFAST WITH GUEST SPEAKER**

-We are having a great celebration on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 am with a Communion Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and hosting Fr. Doug Freer as special guest speaker. Fr. Doug is a priest of the Diocese of Trenton who is a convert to Catholicism and will share with us his love for the Eucharist which led to his conversion. Save the date and set aside the time to come to the Communion Breakfast.

**ATTENTION EXPERIENCED SEWERS**

–Would you like a meaningful opportunity to use your skills? “The Memory Care Project– Bear Hugs”? Visiting Nurse Association Health Group offers hospice patient families a special service: Memory Bears crafted from the garments of a loved one, by a team of skilled volunteer seamstresses. VNAHG offers the Bear Hugs Program through its joint venture with RWJ Barnabas Health Hospice. For more information about becoming a volunteer seamstress, please contact Pauline DePalma, BSW, Director of Volunteer Services at [Pauline.depalma@vnahg.org](mailto:Pauline.depalma@vnahg.org).

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



The St Denis Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul serves everyone living in the parish neighborhood, whether they are parishioners or not, since all are joined together through the realities of creation and redemption. Our conference recognizes our responsibility toward all of our neighbors as brothers and sisters in Christ.

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 January 18, 2024 at 7 pm in the Parish Center.

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



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

<i>Raymond Smith</i>	<i>Theodore &amp; Linda Damen</i>
<i>Cinelli Family</i>	<i>Frank Baglieri</i>
<i>DiNardo Family</i>	<i>Sissy Pastirik</i>
<i>Alice Wilson</i>	<i>Ruby Borreo</i>
<i>Eleanor Molyneaux Viermeire</i>	<i>Louise &amp; Anthony Coppola</i>
<i>Edward V. Molyneaux</i>	<i>DiSalvo/Fairchild Families</i>
<i>Dan &amp; Liz Finn</i>	<i>Rose &amp; John Cafone, Sr.</i>
	<i>Otto Eggert, Jr.</i>

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS**—Today’s bulletin contains only some names of those loved ones who were remembered or honored with Christmas flower donations. Names appeared in the last two week’s bulletins. Thank you to all who made donations to this collection.

**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)



**FRANCIS HOUSE OF PRAYER** is a Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House located at 84 Walnford Road, Allentown, NJ. 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. Upcoming Offerings:

**SIMPLIFYING LIFE- CLEANING UP & CLEANING OUT**

Tuesday, Jan. 9 9:30 AM – 1PM Winter teaches us to let go in order to make some room for God. Do you find yourself complaining, “I have too much stuff!” Is de-cluttering one of your desires for 2024? We are each going to make a plan to clean up and clean out, to simplify and enjoy life more, to have a lighter grasp and a freer heart for the more important things of life. Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20.

**LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT- STILL MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

Friday, Jan. 12 9:30 AM – 1 PM Is your long-awaited, much-deserved retirement a blessing or a curse, or a little bit of both? Do questions arise, “Who am I now? Am I fulfilling God’s will, God’s plan? What do I do with this new gift of time? What are my deepest desires? What is my purpose now?” Come together with other retirees in this new or not-so-new chapter of your sacred journey. Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom, \$20.

**ZOOM ONLY- GROWING IN COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION**

12 Fridays: Weekly from Jan. 12 to April 26  
1:30 – 2:30 PM How do you express your real feelings and needs? We will learn to listen to ourselves closely, be attentive to our real feelings and needs and notice how we are expressing them. Our communication with God, ourselves and others will become gentler and more respectful, more inclusive, and less reactive, with much better results. We will use *Non-Violent Communication* by Marshall Rosenberg. Donation: \$150.

**IN-PERSON ONLY- OVERNIGHT RETREAT FOR WOMEN REIMAGINING LIFE, ADJUSTING TO CHANGE**

Jan. 16–17 7 PM Tuesday – 4 PM Wednesday This retreat is for women over 50 who are adjusting to sudden, unwanted or age-related change in their lives. God invites us to reimagine our lives, become aware of what brings hope and energy to this time of life, and to “Follow my bliss.” What am I passionate about now and what is true for my authentic self? God is still creating me! Donation: \$100/\$50 non-refundable deposit. Commuters are welcome, meals and workbook included.

**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL**

We celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord! We rejoice in Jesus being revealed to the world as our Lord and Savior. In the epiphany/revelation/realization of the wise men, we see God extending the invitation into God’s Kingdom to all peoples of the world who seek God with sincere hearts. The “chosen people” are now not limited to the Jewish people; all God’s people can join together with Jesus as the Messiah of the human race. It is a great celebration indeed for us, who mostly come from gentile origin. We conclude our Christmas Season on Monday, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Also an epiphany event, it is usually celebrated on the Sunday following Epiphany Sunday, but due to the calendar this year, it is moved to a Monday as we then move forward to an early Lent and Easter.

I am excited for the arrival of the traveling exhibit of the Eucharistic Miracles. This exhibit calls to mind the great work done by Blessed Carlo Acutis, who compiled all the Eucharistic miracles ever approved by the Church and made a website devoted to them. In these years of the Eucharistic Revival in the U.S. we highlight the miracle of receiving the Eucharist each Sunday by calling to mind the Eucharistic miracles to impress upon us who we receive and the magnanimity of God in giving us such an awesome Sacrament, in order to give us a share in the divine life of Jesus now and forever.

The exhibit will be here from 16-30 January. We are having a great celebration on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 am with a Communion Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and hosting Fr. Doug Freer as a special guest speaker. Fr. Doug is a priest of the Diocese of Trenton who is a convert to Catholicism and will share with us his love for the Eucharist which led to his conversion. Save the date and set aside the time to come to the Communion Breakfast and also set aside time to visit the exhibit during its stay here at our parish. (A calendar will be in next week’s bulletin.)

**HEALING MASS**- All are welcome at The Church of Epiphany, 615 Thiele Road in Brick every third Friday of the month (from September to May) for a Healing Mass. We will begin at 6:45pm in the worship area with Prayer and Reflection. Mass will commence at 7:00 pm, followed by Prayers of Healing and Adoration.

**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.

**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**

**ST. DENIS GRANDPARENTS' GUILD EXTENDS TO ALL A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR!** Everyone is cordially invited to join us at our next meeting on January 16, 2024 at 11 am at the St Denis Parish Center. Light refreshments will be served, coffee, tea, and... As we begin the New Year, we would like our focus to be not only on our grandchildren, but on ourselves as well. *In old age they still produce fruit.* (Psalm 92:14) Yale Professor, Becca Levy suggests that we examine how our society in general reflects on aging. How often do we see seniors and the elderly in anything but a productive contribution to society? Notice how often elders are portrayed in the media as weak, vulnerable, and often times disrespected. Levy suggests that we can change that image by highlighting goals and opportunities that clearly define, in a positive way their attributes, thereby improving their physical and mental health. *Joining the St. Denis Grandparents' Guild reminds us of what we do on a daily basis, without the accolades. (Loving and praying for our grandchildren). However, it is important that we have a good support system for ourselves as well. Our Mission Statement clearly emphasizes our vocation as grandparents. "We are called to model a Christian way of life for our grandchildren, as well as being supportive of each other."* Pope Francis reminded us in his speech before a gathering of senior citizens on October 15, 2016 of the following; "You are an important presence because your experience is a precious treasure... Your maturity and wisdom, accumulated over the years, can help younger people in search of their own way, supporting them on the path of spiritual growth". **Grandparents' Prayer:** (Except from The Catholic Grandparents' Handbook by Lorene H Duquin p.157) "Gracious and loving God, you know the pain I feel because of family members who no longer practice their faith. Help me to love as you love. Keep me from becoming judgmental. Give me the wisdom to know when to speak and what to say... Allow your Holy Spirit to work through me so that my faith can become a positive example in their lives." For more information, kindly contact St. Denis Rectory at 732-223-0287.

**EXPERIENCE THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT, BASED ON THE WORKS OF THE BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS.** This traveling exhibit has been created to assist those who will experience it to affirm belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. It is based upon the website created by Blessed Carlo Acutis to catalogue all the Eucharistic miracles that have taken place worldwide. The exhibit will be in the St. Denis Parish Center—Multipurpose room, January 16-30th. Public viewing times will be announced. The exhibit will be open to the public at various times throughout the two weeks. Be sure to bring your friends and family.



**THE DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE, Feb. 3, 2024,** is a gathering for ALL teens in the 8-12th grades of the Diocese of Trenton. It is an exciting day filled with great music, powerful talks, fun service projects and more! Most importantly it is a chance to connect with other Catholics teens beyond your parish or school and grow in your faith! Please visit [www.dotyouth.org/dyc](http://www.dotyouth.org/dyc) for more information.

# STANDING TOGETHER FOR *Life*

## FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 2024

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold

<p><i>Mass for Life</i></p> <p>11:00 a.m.</p> <p>CELEBRATED BY <b>Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.</b></p> <p><i>All are Welcome</i></p>	<p><i>Lunch &amp; Seminar</i></p> <p>12:30-3:30 p.m.</p> <p>FEATURING <b>5 Expert Panelists</b></p> <p><i>Advanced Registration Required</i></p>
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For full information about the day's events, visit:  
[dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life)

**STANDING TOGETHER FOR LIFE – MASS FOR LIFE; LUNCH & SEMINAR-** On Friday January 19, 2024, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton will come together in prayer and solidarity to proclaim the sanctity of all human life! All are invited to an 11 am *Mass for Life* celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., in St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold. No registration is needed for the Mass, seating is first come, first served. Mass will be livestreamed on [Youtube.com/trentondiocese](https://www.youtube.com/trentondiocese). The Mass will be followed by a *Lunch & Seminar* in the Co-Cathedral's Dentici Hall. A panel of local expert speakers will offer practical, actionable, ideas and resources to take back to parishes where they can be immediately applied to build a culture of life in a spirit of inter-ministry collaboration and radical solidarity with vulnerable pregnant women and families. Advanced registration to attend the *Lunch & Seminar* is required by January 10, 2024. Full details for the day's events, including a registration link for the *Lunch & Seminar* can be found here: [dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life). Questions, contact Belem Perez [bperez@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:bperez@dioceseoftrenton.org)



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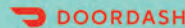


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