

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 28, 2024

“I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit as you were also called to the one hope of your call...”

We often examine our conduct and conscience by examining the ten commandments, the eight beatitudes or seven capital sins. As we strive to grow and maintain a close relationship with Christ, may we see in the words of St. Paul, the bricks we have to live out our call. He cites these same virtues on many occasions, reminding us of their importance for our growth in holiness. Do I find them present in my life at this moment? He continues to call me.



CHURCH OF ST. DENIS

MANASQUAN, NEW JERSEY

STAFF

Reverend William J. P. Lago, Pastor
Reverend James Burke, 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 CHAPEL554 East Main Street
RECTORY90 Union Avenue732-223-0287FAX: 732-528-1901
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE119 Virginia Avenue732-223-1161
ST. DENIS CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY732-223-1383
CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSst.denis@verizon.net
PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESSwlago@dioceseoftrenton.org
WEB PAGE ADDRESShttp://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. 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, July 27, 2024

8:30 am Joan Clarkin-Heary by Patrick Moore
 8:30 am Mary Jo Romano by Patrick Moore
 8:30 am David & Gloria Smith by their Family
 4:30 pm Erin & Bronwen Doherty
 by Tom & Kerry O'Connor
 4:30 pm Lucia Campo by Michael & Pam Budalich
 4:30 pm Intentions of Debbie Gallo & Family
 by Michele Fitzgerald

Sunday, July 28, 2024

8:00 am Karen, Patricia & Trish Monaghan
 by the Easton Family
 8:00 am Cleofe Francisco Prieto by Grace & Terry Gabriele
 8:00 am Gonzalo Rafael Cordova by Grace & Jerry Gabriele
 9:30 am For the People of the Parish
 10:00 am Leonard & Betty Stankunas by Deacon Gary
 10:00 am Charles Franzetti by Carl & Catherine Franzetti
 10:00 am Ann DeMaria by the Russell Family

Monday, July 29, 2024

7:30 am The Parish of St. Martha by St. Denis Parish

Tuesday July 30, 2024

7:30 am Bernard & Agnes Gowen by the Gowen Family
 7:30 am Joan Clarkin-Heary by Marilyn & Bob Healey
 7:30 am Maureen Walsh by Gene Bialas

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

7:30 am Betty Kessler by the Burke Family
 7:30 am Helen Mayer Blaine by the Dziena Family
 7:30 am Scott Quilici by his Family

Thursday, August 1, 2024

No Mass

Friday, August 2, 2024

7:30 am Ronald Belka by his Family
 7:30 am Brian Benbrook by his Family
 7:30 am Joan Clarkin-Heary by Lynn & Bill Motzenbecker

Saturday, August 3, 2024

8:30 am Pauline Cataline by Susan Schenker
 8:30 am Ibrahim Tellado by Kim & James Hanley
 8:30 am Elizabeth Iskenderian-DeLuca
 by the DeGenova Family
 4:30 pm Robert F. Wade by Greg Boyle
 4:30 pm Deceased of the Brennan-Healey Families
 by Marilyn & Bob Healey
 4:30 pm Jim Kazenmayer by Marilyn & Bob Healey

Sunday, August 4, 2024

8:00 am Alice Stankunas by Deacon Gary
 8:00 am Joan S. Micioni by the Easton Family
 8:00 am Jacki Roth by Eileen & Mike Mahoney
 9:30 am John Nielsen by his Sister
 9:30 am Jo & Patricia Mongiardini
 by Joan & Anthony Ciccotto
 9:30 am William Bertscha by his Family
 10:00 am For the People of the Parish

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 James Coakley, Marybeth Conway and Bernard Doyle.



especially Doris Abruzzo, Maiya Andrews, Velma Andrews, Peggy Andrich, Baby Lucy, Bobbie Banks-Grove, Joseph Bartol, Edith Bean, Belle & Ashton, Bernadette Bevan, Stanley Bevan, Joseph Bick, Holly Boyd, Cathleen Brenner, Borgias Family, Lois Brookes, Ann Brown, Karen Brown, Eileen 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, Thomas P. Coyle, Linda Custode, Mary Damico, Christine Danish, Duane Danish, Lauren Davis, Rose DeMarco, Michael Desider, Constance & Hugh Doherty, Lisa Dunfee, Thomas Evans, Thomas Fahey, Chris Faraca, Joseph Fiamingo, Christine Fields Nannette Forkan, Denise Frank, Louise Franzetti, Norma Friel, Veronica Garrett, Katherine Geiger, Nicole Giambrone, 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, Nancy Murphy, Pauline Naturile, Nesbitt Family, Jack Noble, Jennifer Noble, Bob O'Brien, Catherine O'Connor, Sue O'Connor, Mark Olear, Patricia O'Leary, Gerald O'Keefe, Diane Padluck, Wes Pal, Dolores Palmisano, Joanne Panzarella, Joseph Pastore, Charlotte Pentek, Tony Picinich, Mike Pierce, Peter Merz, Mickey Pindar, Lisa Pirrello, Marty Pirrong, Samara Pirrong, Kidron Procyson, Timothy Michal Przywara, Irene Pstrak, 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, Paul Tuyp, Phyllis Van Salders, Riley Veazey, Dee Vulgaris, Siobhan Vuono, Christopher Waters, Erin Waters, Ronald Weinbel, Stephen Whyte, Kathy Wicks, Karen Williams, Marilyn Woerner, Patricia Wolfe, Albert Wood, Butch Wright, Eileen Zemo, and Werner Ziesmer.



TO ALL OF OUR PARISH FAMILIES
Registration has started for our 2024-2025 Religious Education Program. All children grades 1-8 are invited and encouraged to attend. For more information please call the Religious Education Office at 732-223-1161 or visit the St. Denis website and look under the Religious Education tab. We are looking forward to seeing you next year!

PART-TIME RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSISTANT- Help spread the faith to our wonderful religious education students! We are seeking an assistant during class days (Sunday morning, Monday afternoon/evening, and Tuesday afternoon). Approximately 12-15 hours per week. Please contact Katie Bodnar 732-223-1161 / office@stdenisccd.com for details.



BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE- We will once again be collecting backpacks, lunchboxes, and school supplies for children in Monmouth County who are helped through the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency. We will be collecting donations thru August 10/11 in order to have enough time for the workers to meet with the students before school starts in early September. Our parish has been so generous in helping the children in this way. The stories of how excited the children are in being able to have the opportunity to pick their own backpack or lunchbox would make your heart so grateful and happy. Thank you in advance for your support.

THE CHOSEN- We have begun discussions on "The Chosen" Season 4!!! Co-hosted by St. Denis and Holy Trinity Churches, we meet on Wednesdays at 11 am at Holy Trinity Church and at 7 pm at St. Denis Church. We will go until 14 August and then start up again on 4 September and go until 25 September. We always have such an amazing time. We have a "viewer response" discussion with cinematographic nuances and background information. Just a great conversation regarding a thought-provoking show. Join in the discussion!



especially USMC Sgt. Jordan Basile, Coast Guard Petty Officer Joseph Beattie, USMC Corporal Patrick Bednarski, USMC Capt. Philip Cahill, Army Major Matthew Cauda, Army PFC Ryan Costello, Air Force 1st Lt. Dominic Celiano, Army Lt. Nikkole Crosson, Army Captain Dr. Justin Eisenman, Army 2nd Lieutenant Brendan Ertle, USMC Lance Corporal Hunter Fancher, USAF Airman 1st Class Tristan Fancher, Army Major Sean Fessenden, USMC PFC Joseph J. Foley Jr, Airman Andrew Halmi, USMC Captain Diego Heizerling, Lt. Jg. Mary T. Herman, Navy LS2 Nora N. Honrath, Navy Lt. Rachael M. Honrath, US Army Airborne Private Zachary Hoyle, US Army 2nd Lt. Allison M. Ingraham, Air Force Academy Cadet 2nd Class Slade Kelling, USMC Lance Corporal Laura Licata, Navy E4 Patrick Moynihan, USMC Private Robert E. Mullin IV, Navy CM Taylor Nesbitt, Contractor Benjamin Ostrow, Army Lt. Brian Quinn, Air Force Major David Smith, Army Private 1st Class Cody Svenson, Air Force 2nd Lt. Jason Trischitta, Army Matthew Van Pelt, Navy Captain Colin S. Walsh, Airman Devon Webster, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, and USN LTJG Michael Zimmerman.



Ladies, join us October 2024 as we start our next Walking With Purpose (WWP) season! If you are new to WWP, you will love our foundational study, Opening Your Heart (OYH). OYH, is designed for women who are new to WWP as well as those with more Bible study experience. Join us as we examine the core questions that we wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us. For those who have completed, OYH, we are excited to begin the first of our two-part study season with Reclaiming Friendship. With this study we will discover God's plan for friendship and learn how to cultivate true, deep relationships that last. Go to www.wwpnjshore.com for more information and to register.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

AN EVENING WITH FR. PIO MANDATO, HMFJ- St. Pio of Pietrelcina Church welcomes you for a special evening with "Fr. Pio Mandato, HMFJ When: Thursday, August 1st, Where: 1100 Grand Central Ave in Lavallette, 5:30-7 pm: Fr. Pio will be joined by fellow priests to hear Confession during the Holy Rosary & testimonies of healing! 7pm: Father Pio's teaching on the Love of Jesus! Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, healing prayer w/ Fr. Pio, blessing with St. Pio's Relic Stigmatic Glove & Benediction! For further information please contact: Dawnrusinko@yahoo.com *Fr. Pio Mandato FMHJ is a Franciscan priest living as a missionary hermit. Fr. Pio was born in Italy and along with his brother Vincenzo, received his First Holy Communion from Saint Pio before coming to the USA. He grew up in NJ and entered the Capuchin Franciscans at the age of 17. He was ordained in 1985. In 1998 he was accepted into the Diocese of Scranton, PA., and now lives a life of solitude, prayer and intercession.*


PART-TIME ADMIN POSITION- ST. PIO PARISH IN LAVALLETTE- We are looking for a Part-time Admin to join our staff of 3 other admins sharing the duties and responsibilities of the Parish Secretary. The person must be willing to work in a fast paced, team environment, welcoming to parishioners and ready to provide support to our two linked parishes of St. Pio and Sacred Heart, working out of our Administrative Office in Lavallette, 3 days per week. Responsibilities include: primary responsibility to complete the weekly parish bulletin by deadline, phones, mail, fill out Mass cards, sacramentary records, donor acknowledgement letters, routine banking, pay approved invoices, maintain database, and update website. Proven proficiency in Microsoft Publisher, Word, and Outlook is needed. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: office@stpioparish.com

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.

WHY BECOME A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER? The simplest gifts are often the most profound. If you've got time, empathy, and compassion, you have the ability to support those nearing end of life. If you have been searching for meaningful ways to spend your time, we invite you to explore the role of hospice volunteer with VNA Health Group. Companionship visits in patient's homes or facilities in Monmouth or Middlesex Counties, administrative projects, or comforting phone calls from the Neptune office, are just some of the ways in which volunteers support patients and their families. A training will be provided by members of the VNA Hospice Team on 3 consecutive Mondays: August 5th, 12th & 19th 2024 10 am – 3 pm. Advanced registration is required. *Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions* at 3600 Route 66, FL 4 Neptune. For registration info please call the Rectory Office 732-223-0287.

YOU ARE INVITED TO CWOZ CHAPTER 1: The day consists of Mass, music by: *Joyful Praise*, Living Rosary, speaker, sharing, networking and prayers for healing. This month's speaker is: Kathy Nowak. She is a cradle-Catholic and has been a member of the Church of Epiphany in Brick for many years. In 1975 she had a deeper conversion experience through the power of the Holy Spirit at which time she experienced Jesus asking her to follow Him. She is passionate about faith, family and the Right to Life movement and volunteered at a crisis pregnancy center for eight years. She is currently a member of Light of Life Prayer Group at St. Joseph's Church in Toms River. Kathy invites us to join her as she shares: "*Spiritual Works of Mercy—Counsel the Doubtful*" Date: Saturday, August 10, 2024 Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mass: 9:00 am Place: Church of St. William the Abbot 2740 Lakewood Allenwood Rd. Howell Admission: \$25.00 includes box lunch - pay at the door Come and bring a friend! Reservations: are necessary-must select a box lunch from selections listed on CWOZ Website www.cwoz.org You can also register by phone-please leave your phone number, spell your last name and selection of box lunch at 732-475-7113 no later than Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

INVITATION TO THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS- St. Francis of Assisi heard the voice of Jesus – asking him for help to "Rebuild My Church..." The Lord is still calling people to help rebuild His Church through prayer, community, and service. Members of the Secular Franciscan Order of the St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity invite you to join us in a "Come and See" presentation on his feast day Wednesday, August 14, 2024, following the 8:30 AM Mass at St. Peter's Church, in Lower Kolbe Hall. The presentation will include a healing prayer service in honor of St. Maximilian Kolbe and it will give you an overview of how and why millions of people (including St. Maximilian Kolbe) have wanted to follow the spirit of St. Francis for more than 800 years.



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)
 Questions or special food needs?
 Please call our hotline number at 732-223-1383
 Pantry hours: Tuesdays: 1PM–3PM

There is a menu of food options available at curbside for pick up!. Donations of the following items would be greatly appreciated. Cash and check donations are welcome and can be left in the envelopes with the donated food. Please include "Food Pantry" in the memo section of checks.


PLEASE DONATE ONLY THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
Toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant and vegetable oil (16oz.)
****Please Check Expiration Dates****
Items may be left in the shopping cart in the Gathering Space in the Main Church, or in the plastic box at the Beach Chapel.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ANNE PIETRUCHA
REQUESTED BY HER FAMILY

CHILDREN'S CHOIR RECRUITMENT! St. Denis Church is looking to inspire our parish children who love and worship God by making a joyful noise and singing in a newly formed parish Children's Choir in the fall of 2024. The Children's Choir is open to any student in grades 2 through 8. They will sing at Mass (up to two times) a month at either the 9:30 am Mass in the main church or the 10:00 am Mass in the beach chapel. If interested please contact Casey Fabyanski (cfab1983@gmail.com) or the Parish Office at 732-223-0287 or st.denis@verizon.net

THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Admission into heaven is something money cannot buy. The only currency that has any value to secure our entrance is that of love. In a world where so many things can be bought with money, our minds often center more on money than love. What Jesus is trying to tell us is that money is a good servant-but a bad master. When money is employed as a servant, it can bring joy and comfort to millions and especially to those who have little or none of it. Our goal as members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, is to enable money to be a servant of the poor, but also to demonstrate the love of Christ to those we help. But let money become our master, let it take first place in our lives and it can become a tyrant. It can harden our hearts and blind our vision of the supreme realities of our existence.

Millions of "dollars" passed through the hands of St. Vincent and he made every cent a good servant. Vincent regarded the money which he received or possessed as the "patrimony of the poor", and so it was always to be used for the benefit of the poor. The parishioners of St. Denis in their generosity, continue to make it possible for us to make every dollar a "good servant" for the poor.

To learn more about helping those in need, come to the Society's next meeting in the Parish Center on Thursday, 8/15/24 at 7 pm.

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.

If you are in need of 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 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 info. Life Recovery Bible Weekly Podcasts by City of Angels Recovery Radio-<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=st.shoutca.sh.coan>

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.

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.



CONCERT AT THE GARDEN-We will have our annual "Concert at the Garden" on August 6th at 6:30 pm by the Ecumenical Giving Garden. Join us for a fun and relaxed evening of music and community. Please bring your own chair and a snack

to share! Iced tea and water will be provided. If you would like to play a song on your instrument or sing a song, let Fr. Bill know.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DISABLED CITIZENS DRIVE – At all Masses on August 10th and 11th, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting money for Holy Innocents Society of Southern Monmouth County including St Mark's Parish, Special Olympics and ARC of Monmouth County. Last year we collected almost \$4,600 for these charities. Thank you in advance for your support.

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



July 14, 2024

Weekly Collection **\$10,205.00**

2nd Collection (Building Repairs) **\$5,579.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

We celebrate the Feast Day of Sts. Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus (26 July), and the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. **The theme for the 2024 celebration selected by the Pope is "Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. Psalm 71:9).** We pray for our grandparents and those seniors in our life who have helped us on our faith journey and we renew our pledge to help them, as we can, with their needs with their grandchildren. I am thankful to our Grandparents Guild who reach out to grandparents of our parish, as well as grandparents attending the baptisms held at St. Denis. They reach out in support of their vocation to share their faith. As Pope Francis wrote: "On this Fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our tender love for the grandparents and the elderly members of our families.... In place of the self-centered attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say "I will not abandon you".

We will be having a summer-time altar server training on Tuesday, 13 August from 4-5:30pm in the church. All students who have already received First Holy Communion are eligible. Grandparents are encouraged to encourage their grandchild to become an altar server – a major milestone in the life of Catholic children in their participation in Mass and other Liturgies of the Church. For older students, in 5th-8th grade, this is a great opportunity to grow in service of God and neighbor, as you prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I cannot speak enough about what it means for a student to participate in altar serving. I can speak of it in terms of spiritual, social, and psychological development. Sports can not provide all of this. A student grows in the spiritual sense by being up-close to the celebration of the Mystery of the Mass. They must pay more attention, so they get more out of the Mass, plus learn concentration skills. They not only learn cooperative work with their peers but also work side-by-side with the priest and deacon in the most important work of the Catholic Church – worship of God and following the command of Christ to "do this in memory of me." In so doing, children, even introverts, grow in self-confidence and self-possession – important life skills. They learn to critically think and give their best in the moment, knowing that they are a part of something much larger than themselves; they share in the everlasting victory of Christ, which has infinite merit that will last into eternity.

"Hope is inescapably a gift. Hope is the gift God bestows on us (at Baptism) so that we can turn our lives to God, seek God, grow in the love and goodness of God... If hope arises from the desire for something good, then Christian Hope is audacious because Christian hope reaches for an unsurpassable good we already, if imperfectly possess: the very life, love, goodness and joy of God." Paul Wedell

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING- The natural methods of family planning (NFP) do *not* depend on a woman having "regular" menstrual cycles. NFP information treats each woman and each cycle as unique. NFP teaches a woman to watch every day for her signs of fertility. NFP therefore works with menstrual cycles of any length and any degree of irregularity. It can be used during breastfeeding, just before menopause, and in other special circumstances. NFP allows a woman to understand the physical signals her body gives her to tell her when she is most likely to become pregnant. (See: *NFP, Myth and Reality*, NFP Program, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops).

SAVE THE DATE... Monday, September 9, 2024 at 9:00 am- Knights of Columbus Charity Golf Outing at Pebble Creek Golf Course in Colts Neck, NJ. The outing is sponsored by K of C Council 3231, St. Denis and St. Mark's Parishes. For more info contact the Rectory Office.

MANASQUAN ELKS SUNDAY BREAKFAST- The Elks invite you to breakfast on Sunday, 8/11/24, 8:30-11:30 am at the Manasquan Elks Lodge located at 17 Stockton Lake Blvd. Breakfast offerings will be: custom omelets, custom egg sandwiches with cheese, pork roll, bacon or sausage, eggs any style with choice of toast, side of pork roll, bacon or sausage, French toast, pancakes, and coffee. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children.

WALL KNIGHTS FAMILY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER- Founded in 2020, WKFF's sole mission is to help student athletes of Wall Twp., by means of fundraising and partnering with local businesses to provide the best athletic experiences and opportunities the community deserves. On August 12, 2024, WKFF welcomes you to enjoy full access to all the amenities and features of Eagle Oaks Golf and Country Club to raise funds for the youth athletes of Wall Twp. The schedule of events include: 10 am- Golf & Pool Registration & Check-in, 10 am- Welcome BBQ for all, 10 am- Pool, Cabana, Pickleball & Tennis Open, 12 pm- Shotgun Start, 5:30 pm-Cocktail Hour (Open Bar) & 6:30 pm-Dinner. To sign up or for more information please visit: my.onecause.com



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 for dates, registration, directions and for our other offerings! All programs will be offered online and in-person unless otherwise indicated.

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius are a core offering at Francis House which deepen your capacity for prayer and intimacy with God, free you from attachments, clarify your purpose and teach discernment of spirits, the art of finding God in all things. Below are our 3 ways:

IN-PERSON OR ZOOM MONTHLY SPIRITUAL EXERCISES 10 Wednesdays 3-4:30 PM

9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/4, 1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 4/6, 5/7 Please give yourself the gift of this retreat that invites you to pray with Scriptures each day using the format of the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*. We will use *The Jesus Way: Practicing the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises*, by Karen Keen and *The Gift of Spiritual Intimacy* by Monty Williams, SJ. Donation: \$200

34 WEEKLY ZOOM MEETINGS- SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS 34 Tuesdays 3-4:30 PM

9/17-5/27 On Zoom to alleviate travel each week. In this full version, we will experience the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius* which corresponds to a 30-day retreat at a retreat house. You are committing to one hour of prayer every day and a weekly meeting. We will use *The Jesus Way: Practicing the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises*, by Karen Keen and *The Gift of Spiritual Intimacy* by Monty Williams, SJ. Donation: \$450

EVENING ZOOM SERIES- THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES MADE EASY 10 Wednesdays 7-8:30 PM

9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/4, 1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 4/16 & 5/7 We will use *To Walk with Christ* by Laurence Gooley, SJ as our guide through the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius* and read Jesuit James Martin's *The Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything*, between sessions. Donation: \$200

EXTREME OWNERSHIP!!! "Jesus and Jocko Book Discussion"- Men of the parish are invited to a discussion on the virtues/qualities necessary for an "Extreme Ownership" style of leadership, as discussed by Jocko Willink and Leif Babin in their book of that name, and also lived in the life of our Lord, Jesus Christ. You will be inspired to "get after it" with faith and zeal after a discussion with other men of faith from the parish who don't take the God-given gift of their life for granted. We will meet Tuesday, 20 August at 7 pm.


THE MEN'S GROUP AT ST. DENIS AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INVITE YOU TO "INTO THE BREACH"-The Men's Group at St. Denis and our Knights of Columbus Council 3231 are co-sponsoring this program over the summer. **All men are invited, whether or not a member of St. Denis Parish or the Knights.** Join us as we watch and discuss *Into the Breach*. Through short videos and inspiring speakers and group discussions, we'll learn how to be stronger fathers, better husbands and men, fit for the breach. The purpose of our Men's Group is to enrich the lives of men by providing opportunities for men to enjoy a sense of brotherhood and spiritual growth. Our Men's Group programs generally have 30-40 men participate. **Meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 pm and will last an hour.** Meetings are held at the St. Denis Parish Center (formerly St. Denis School.) Join us for this series. No problem if you miss a meeting or two, just join us for the next meeting. The lessons of *Into the Breach* are powerful and should help each of us become better men and help strengthen us as Catholic men, leading a fuller, more purposeful life. If you have any questions, please contact the Rectory Office at 732-223-0287.

You are invited to New Jersey's


Mass for Life

Thursday, September 26, 2024
9:30 a.m.

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Bishop David M.
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