

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Twenty-sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
September 29, 2024**

“At that time, John said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.’ Jesus replied, ‘Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us.’ Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.”

Do I really ‘belong to Christ? What a special title! What signs reflect this reality? My words and actions reveal the presence and power of Christ in me. Others take notice and can recognize that ‘something special,’ and be drawn to the One we follow.

Think of all the good in the world. Do not focus only on what draws us down. The description of Jesus in the Acts of the Apostles can be ours as well – ‘He went about doing good.’ Our task is not to see who gets the credit, but that I bring that goodness where it is needed.



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 Matarango, 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
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. 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, September 28, 2024

8:30 am Maryann Apostolou by Helen & Bob Young
 8:30 am Mary McCarthy by Marie Regan
 8:30 am Rita Windas
 by the Churchman, Hennessey & Forcillo Families
 4:30 pm Richard St. Vincent (1st anniversary)
 by June Cunningham
 4:30 pm Eileen Bopf by Maureen & Natalie Ogonowski
 4:30 pm Dolores Sullivan by the Balioni Family
 4:30 pm Intentions of Daniel Griffith by his Family

Sunday, September 29, 2024

8:00 am Bob Cahill by Eileen & Michael Mahoney
 8:00 am Carol Muller by Eileen & Michael Mahoney
 8:00 am James Boyle by Eileen & Michael Mahoney
 9:30 am Tom Tracey by Tom & Alice Brady
 9:30 am John Patterson by Mary Catherine (Rogers) Mahon
 9:30 am Reverend Daniel Gowen by the Johnson Family
 10:00 am For the People of the Parish

Monday, September 30, 2024

7:30 am Margaret Bishop by Jacki Lyons
 7:30 am Maryann Apostolou by Dawn & John Burke & Family
 7:30 am Daniel G. Riccardi by the Wagner Family

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:30 am Stephen Sciarappa by his Family
 7:30 am Mary Lou Lytle by Paulette & Perry Boquel
 7:30 am Luba Zaharin by Bill & Jeanne Buble

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

7:30 am Mildred Tassini by her Family
 7:30 am Arno Schwarz, Jr. by John & Luann Quigley & Family
 7:30 am Tina O'Donnell by Phil & Denise Cahill

Thursday, October 3, 2024

No Mass

Friday, October 4, 2024

7:30 am Margaret & Michael McCreesh by Carolyn McCreesh
 7:30 am Charles Trybus by Linda Kocur
 7:30 am Diane Trybus by Joanne Parker
 7:30 am Rita Windas by the Quigley Family

Saturday, October 5, 2024

8:30 am Bryan Ahern by his Family
 8:30 am Maryann Apostolou by Denis & Lois Campbell
 8:30 am Charles J. Messenger by Todd & Jamie Leonhardt
 4:30 pm Leo Cunningham by his Family
 4:30 pm Donald Dickson by his Family
 4:30 pm Hugh A. Boyle by Greg Boyle

Sunday, October 6, 2024

8:00 am For the People of the Parish
 9:30 am Carrie Forsythe-Mace by Carolyn & Sal Berardesco
 9:30 am Michael John Bastkowski by Linda & Jason Stanco
 9:30 am Michelle Gamatko by the Donofrio Family
 10:00 am Reverend Christopher Cashman by Marion Mullarkey
 10:00 am John Behan by Carol Rizzi
 10:00 am Tina O'Donnell 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 John Reilly, Janice Bell, Mary Michele Egan and Agnes Bakunas.



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, Daniel Griffith, 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, 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, Raymond J. O'Meara, Diane Padluck, Wes Pal, Dolores Palmisano, Joanne Panzarella, Joseph Pastore, Danny L. Payne, 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, Joan Regan, 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.



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

Julian Douglas Brendle
Corbin Jax Naimo
Tenley Jo Naimo
Lola Marie Otchy

May the grace of the sacrament remain with them always.



The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4th. Because of his love of animals, we will have the annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 6th at 12:00 pm on the front steps of the church. Parishioners and friends are invited to attend with their pets... rain or shine.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ST. DENIS RELIGIOUS ED PROGRAM-THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR 7TH GRADE CATECHISTS ON MONDAY EVENINGS AND TUESDAY AFTERNOONS. Substitutes and volunteers are also still needed! For more information please contact the Religious Ed Office (732) 223-1161 or office@stdeniscdd.com

ROSARY RALLY- America Needs Fatima organization is coordinating over 22,000 Rosary Rallies across America on Saturday, October 12. We will be holding one at St. Denis on Saturday, October 12 at Noon outside the Rectory by the Stations of the Cross monuments, rain or shine. Feel free to bring a chair if you like.

ST. DENIS PARISH SUPER 50/50 RAFFLE - Tickets (\$20 each) will be sold before and after all Masses and will be available at the Parish Office during regular business hours through 10/11/24. The drawing will take place 10/12/24 as part of our celebration of the Feast of St. Denis, at the annual Spaghetti Dinner in the Parish Center (winner need not be present). Proceeds from the raffle will be used for improvements and program development for the parish.



our military, 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, US Army 2nd Lt. Valerie Goodwin, Airman Andrew Halmi, US Army 2nd Lt. Christopher Halmi, US Army 2nd Lt. Mia Halmi, USAF Cadet Thomas Halmi, USMC Captain Diego Heinzlerling, Lt. Jg. Mary T. Herman, Navy LS2 Nora N. Honrath, Navy Lt. Commander 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, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, and USN LTJG Michael Zimmerman.



Children's Liturgy of the Word is beginning **OCTOBER 6th** at the 9:30 am Mass. Participating children, ages 4-10, will be seated with their families for the Introductory Rites of the Mass. The group will be dismissed to their gathering space downstairs to share an age-appropriate reflection on the Sunday readings. Everyone will rejoin their families prior to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. We will celebrate Children's Liturgy of the Word **October 6th, 20th, November 3rd and 17th.** We will meet every week for **ADVENT, Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd.** We hope your children will join us!! For additional information please contact the rectory.

JOIN US FOR RCIA NOW CALLED OCIA
Do you or someone you know have an interest in becoming Catholic? Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist and wants to change that? We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of becoming a full member of the Church. **Sessions will start Wednesday, 10/2/24 at 7 pm in the Rectory Office.** For information about becoming Catholic, please contact Eileen Ziesmer at eileenziesmer@gmail.com or **732-223-0287.**

ST. DENIS MEN'S GROUP – The Purpose of our Men's Group is to enrich the lives of men by providing opportunities to enjoy a sense of brotherhood and spiritual growth. **We kick off our Fall Program on Tuesday, October 8th, with *The Bible and the Sacraments* from The St. Paul Center.** The program reviews the basic teaching of the Church as to their meaning and origin, but it goes further. It investigates the deeper mystery of the sacraments as illuminated by Sacred Scripture and reveals the sacraments as more than mere earthly rituals. As Catholics, we know the sacraments are important. However, many of us never fully grasp how life-changing these “masterworks of God” really are. *The Bible and the Sacraments* unveils the mystery of the sacraments and their foundation in Sacred Scripture. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6 pm at the St Denis Parish Center. Men will view a short video at home at their convenience and we'll discuss the video during our meeting. Even if you miss some meetings, you can still participate by viewing the videos at home. Join us to gain a real appreciation for our sacraments. Bring a friend! For information or to register, contact the rectory at 732-223-0287 or st.denis@verizon.net

FIFTEEN:5 – A Catholic Community of Faith, Family, and Friends – A new initiative! Our initial program will be for those aged mid 20's through their 40's (single or married), who feel they are juggling life's priorities in today's stress-filled world. Join us for *The Search*, beginning Thursday, October 10th at 7 pm in the St Denis Parish Center. The Search asks about our journey here on earth and what we want from our life during this journey. We'll meet once a month. Our meetings will consist of fellowship, refreshments, and a short video followed by discussion. If you miss a meeting, no worries, just join us when you can. FIFTEEN:5 hopes to create a close-knit community of peers with similar values, to bring people closer to God by gaining a better understanding of our faith, and support one another in handling the stress and challenges of everyday life. We plan to accomplish this through programs, events, and activities, including charitable works. Consider attending a few sessions of *The Search*; it's a limited time commitment and will be well worth your time. Bring a friend; bring your spouse! For information, see the flyer in the back of church or contact the St. Denis Rectory at 732-223-0287 or st.denis@verizon.net.




Ladies, join us for our next Walking With Purpose (WWP) season, starting Tuesday, 10/1/24 7:30-9 pm and Wednesday, 10/2/24 12:15-2 pm. 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.

ST. DENIS ADULT CHOIR sings at the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays. Rehearsals are on the first Sunday of the month, immediately following the 9:30 am Mass. New members are always welcome. If interested please see our Director of Music Ministry, Mark Mata-ranglo at church after any Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR RECRUITMENT– We are looking to inspire our parish children who love and worship God by making a joyful noise – singing in a newly formed parish Children's Choir. We will kick off our Children's Choir in the fall of 2024. The choir is open to any student in grades 2-8 (No need to read music – come and make a joyful noise!). We hope to have the Children's Choir sing at the 10 am Mass at the Beach Chapel on the first Sunday of the month and at the 9:30 am Mass at the Church on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The first rehearsal will be Monday, October 14th from 5:30-6:20 pm in the chapel of the St. Denis Parish Center (school). The children will sing at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday October 20th in the Church. If interested, please contact Casey Fabyanski (cfab1983@gmail.com), the parish office at 732-223-0287 st.denis@verizon.net or please fill out the survey in the link: <https://6it2w1sen2d.typeform.com/to/ZCTs2J1H> A member of our music ministry team will be in contact with you shortly.

HEALTH FAIR- The Church of St. Dorothea is sponsoring a health Fair on October 6, 2024, 9am–12pm. The theme is *Health is Wealth* and the focus is *The Art of Aging*. The health fair will take place at the Harbor School Gym, 240 Broad St. in Eatontown.

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.



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.


ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED.
MOST NEEDED ITEMS AT THIS TIME:
Coffee, boxed milk, pasta sauce, small mayonnaise, beans (regular, not baked) and small laundry detergent.
****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.



*Sanctuary
Candle*

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 THE LEWIS AND GEARING FAMILIES
 REQUESTED BY THE FAMILY**

"In every change, in every falling leaf there is some pain, some beauty. And that's the way new leaves grow." 

St. Denis Bereavement Support Group
 If you are experiencing the loss of someone in your life we welcome you to join with others who are bereaved to share in your loss. Through mutual sharing with guidance this series will offer support, prayer and work on answering questions about loss, grief, coping and potential for the renewal of self and hope. **Join us on: Thursdays Morning Sessions: 10-11 am at the St Denis Parish Office Conference Room Contact Eileen Ziesmer at (732) 223-0287 / eileenziezmer@gmail.com to let us know you plan to attend or with any questions! All are welcome!**

KINDNESS CAFE- Please stop in for a cup of kindness after Mass! The Kindness Café is open every Sunday from 8:30 am –11:30 am at 140 Main Street in downtown Manasquan. Our mission is to bring meaningful employment to young adults with developmental disabilities, one cup of coffee at a time. For more information contact us at: kindnesscafeonmain@gmail.com #brewingkindnessdaily

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

In the Gospel Jesus once asked "Who are you looking for?" Perhaps it could be asked "What are you looking for?" Perhaps it is happiness we seek, but sometimes we are looking for happiness in selfish ways. However, we also find that when we look for ways to make others happy or a bit more secure, it is then that we become truly happy and witness God's love. The Vincentian Society witnesses God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes. As you give your gift or your time to the Society of St Vincent de Paul, know that you are a sign of God's love to those who are suffering and you give them reason to believe and trust.

If you have an interest in seeing how you can help those in need, come to the Society's next meeting on 10/17/24 at 7 pm in the Parish Center.

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 box.

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

WORD OF LIFE

“Over the years, the FDA has bent the law and shown disregard for women’s health when it comes to chemical abortion. In 2000, mifepristone was first approved using an ‘accelerated’ review process that is supposed to be only for new drugs that treat serious illnesses and are better than existing treatments. But pregnancy is not an illness, and abortion drugs are riskier than surgical abortion.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Abortion Pills: The Basics”

ACTION CENTER

SEPT. 25 – NOV. 3—**40 Days for Life**—Pray for one hour outside Planned Parenthood in Shrewsbury. Contact mey-erjim1953@gmail.com to sign up.

OCTOBER 20 --**Attend Champion for Life Dinner.** Cocktails @ 5pm at The Spring Lake Manor in Spring Lake Hts. Hold the Date. Registration forms to be available in the Gathering Space of the church.

First Friday Mass- It was the special desire of our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed to Blessed Margaret Mary, that the first Friday of each month be consecrated to the devotion and adoration of His Most Sacred Heart. Join us after 7:30 am Mass to pray the rosary for the unborn, the protection of our country, peace throughout the world, and the special intentions recorded in the prayer book by parishioners.

First Saturday Mass- This devotion is honoring and consoling the Immaculate Heart of our Blessed Mother per her request at Fatima. Join us after 8:30 am Mass to pray the rosary for the unborn, the protection of our country, peace throughout the world, and the special intentions recorded in the prayer book by parishioners.

WALKING WITH MOM'S IN NEED- If you are a Mom in a crisis pregnancy or in need of help for you and your children, please see the poster in the Gathering Space of the church for a list of resources available to you in our area.

VISIT OUR WEBSITES: dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry USCCB: respectlife.org

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the “Walk With One” weekend – through your prayer and presence and your invitation to people to come to our parish and our Sunday Mass. I saw a person sitting in the back of the church, and just before Mass started, she told me that she came because she was driving by and read the sign in front of the rectory. When she looked down the street (Virginia Ave.), as she put it, “I saw all the energy of the people going into church and I thought to myself that I wanted to give it a try.” What a great witness! She was not intending to come to church and was not even from the area. I thank Eileen Ziesmer for all her efforts to coordinate our displays along with the members of the parish who staffed the tables to talk to people after Mass. And a special thanks to the Knights for their awesome work of welcome in offering the Pancake Breakfast. There were several people who came with family and enjoyed themselves and feel more welcome in their coming to church and worshiping God and re-evaluating this “source and summit” of our lives. We pray for the seeds planted that weekend to bear fruit.

I must say I was quite disappointed by the more-than-usual number of people who have been leaving Mass early, especially that weekend. What kind of witness are we giving to the visitors if we are showing them that it doesn’t matter if you stay after you receive Holy Communion? There could not have been that many people with pressing emergencies. We all need to realize that leaving before Mass is over is contrary to the call to worship God. Mass is never more than an hour and I think it is quite reasonable to stay to listen to a fellow parishioner out of respect, even if the matter-at-hand does not concern you. The Mass is a family affair, God’s family, and it is like a kid telling the family that they have something to share from the day and the other siblings just get up and leave. Please re-think this negative behavior.

I am also thankful to the women and men who coordinated the Men’s and Women’s Social with special guest speaker Dr. Brett Salkeld, Ph.D. This theologian spoke to a packed house with great enthusiasm which matched the joyful spirit of the evening. It was a very enjoyable and enriching evening. I look forward to the joy and enthusiasm of our annual St. Denis Feast Day Spaghetti Dinner. Please get your reservations in and get ready for a great evening of fun, fellowship and great food.

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



September 15, 2024

Weekly Collection- \$10,189.00

2nd Collection- Parish Debt \$4,623.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is an international order of Catholic men who are called to lead the faith, protect our families, serve others and defend our Catholic values in this busy changing world. The St Denis/St Mark’s Council #3231, founded in 1949 will be holding a membership drive at all Masses on October 12th, Columbus Day and the 13th. Whether you become an individual member or a member of our council you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you would like to join today simply go to www.kofc.org/joinus and enter our preferred local council four digit number: 3231. Please consider joining the 132 members of our Council. Any questions, please contact scottyabercrombie@gmail.com . Thank you.

NEW PERMANENT DEACON CLASS FORMING! The diocese is having two information meetings for men interested in ordination to the diaconate. The meetings are: September 24 & October 22 @ 7pm and will be held at the Chancery: 701 Lawrenceville Road in Lawrenceville. Only one of the meetings is necessary to attend and the application process and formation will be discussed. Men interested must reach out to Fr. Bill to let him know which meeting they will attend. After an opening prayer, there will be an explanation of the formation process and application if the potential candidates decide to move forward. The meeting will last about one hour.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 MSGR. FREDERICK VALENTINO,
 REV. JOSEPH MIELE
 AND ALL DECEASED PRIESTS
 WHO SERVED AT ST. DENIS PARISH
 REQUESTED BY A PARISHIONER

MASS INTENTIONS for the weekend, as well as the coming week, can be found on our parish website on Friday mornings www.churchofstdenis.org

NJ RIGHT TO LIFE CAR RAFFLE- Raffle tickets will be sold next weekend October 5 & 6 at all Masses. *First prize is a 2024 VolvoXC40 AWD SUV valued at \$44,595! Other prizes include Shop Rite Gift cards in the amounts of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500!* Proceeds will benefit New Jersey Right to Life, The cost is \$10/ticket, book of 10/\$100; Payment accepted in cash, checks made to NJRTL, or Venmo to @Rachel-Hendricks-12 (memo car raffle with address & phone) Drawing is November 22. Winner need not be present. If you would like to help sell raffles at a particular Mass, we'd LOVE to have you – especially at Saturday 4:30 Mass! Contact Rachel Hendricks thehendricks7@gmail.com

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CHEESECAKE SALE- Catholic Daughters, Court St. Denis is having its annual Cheesecake Sale Fundraiser. Delicious cakes, pies, & cookies are also being offered. Here are just a few of the things we do with your donations: Award a scholarship to a young woman entering a Catholic high school, provide First Communion outfits for families in need, "Adopt a Family" - help a family at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter, and collect items for the Tutwiler Clinic in Mississippi. Cheesecake sale brochures and order forms are available at the rectory office during regular business hours. Please make checks payable to: CDA-Court 1497. Orders need to be in by 10/22/24. Delivery of cakes will be during the week of 11/11/24. We will contact you when they are ready for pick-up. Thank you for your support throughout the year.

SOCKTOBER! The Catholic Daughters of St. Denis will be collecting socks for our Food Pantry neighbors during the month of October. Any type of socks are appreciated... men's, women's or children. Any color or size. A collection tote will be next to the shopping cart in the gathering space. Thank you!!

TUTWILER CLINIC, WHERE CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY-The Catholic Daughters, Court St. Denis is supporting a precursor to "The Giving Tree" for the needy children assisted by the Tutwiler Clinic in Tutwiler, Mississippi, where Santa comes early, so to speak. The first week in December there is a great celebration where children from 70+ families receive gifts, all donated by those who can. During the month of October we will be collecting the following gifts: dolls, board games, basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, infant and preschool toys, children and infant clothing: lightweight jackets, hoodies, for adults: gently used clothing in large sizes. We will collect through Sunday, October 27th. Look for collection boxes in the gathering space of the church and also at the chapel. For more information about this worthwhile endeavor visit <http://www.tutwilerclinic.org/>.



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF
 FOOD AND FUN
 AT ST. DENIS PARISH CENTER
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**Return the bottom of this form
 to the Parish Office
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Name: _____

Phone# _____

of Adults _____ # of Children _____

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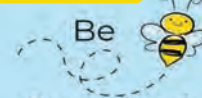
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