

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

The Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

“The people were full of anticipation, wondering in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. John answered them all by saying: ‘I am baptizing you in water, but there is one to come who is mightier than I...’ When all the people were baptized, and Jesus was at prayer, after likewise being baptized, the skies opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in visible form like a dove.”

Last week the Epiphany, today a theophany, a revelation of God. We meet Jesus in a special moment, as Luke states, He was at prayer. From this first moment of His public ministry He is immersed in prayer. As we fast forward in the gospel we will find Jesus at prayer, In His priestly prayer for us in the gospel of John, in the garden of Gethsemane in His passion and His prayer to the Father.

May we who celebrated the birth of Jesus so recently, learn by His example of the role of prayer, and seek the same Holy Spirit in our lives as baptized Catholics, in this new year.



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
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 ADDRESSst.denis@verizon.net
PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS..... wlogo@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, January 11, 2025

- 8:30 am Blanche Bielinski by Karen J. Witzcak
8:30 am Tina O'Donnell by John O'Donnell
8:30 am Carmella Sarro by Evan Sorg & Eric Miller
4:30 pm Deceased Members of the Doherty Family
by Tom & Kerry O'Connor
4:30 pm Joseph Mele Sr. by Joe Mele, Jr.
4:30 pm Rita Windas by Paul Garvey

Sunday, January 12, 2025

- 8:00 am For the People of the Parish
9:30 am Josephine Gagliardi by Ann & Bob Cavallaro
9:30 am Ellen Brown by Tom Giordano
9:30 am Marilyn Siracuse by Michele & Jeff Kellner
10:00 am Maureen Sniatkowski by Michele & Jeff Kellner
10:00 am Edward White by Carol Rizzi
10:00 am Dennis A. Collins by the Welch Family

Monday, January 13, 2025

- 7:30 am Allen Bessemer by Adelaide Avena
7:30 am Shirley Smith by Jackie Lyons
7:30 am Alice Farrell by Joe & Patty Hughes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

- 7:30 am Lottie Kit-Diorio by her Family
7:30 am Shirley Smith by Joe Zanko
7:30 am Robert Ippolito by Anthony & Gerry Grillo
7:30 am Mary Michele Egan by The Langan Family

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

- 7:30 am Florence Fox by John & Ellie Fox
7:30 am Carmella Sarro by Christopher & Lisa Arecchi
7:30 am Rita Caccavale by Pat Hogue

Thursday, January 16, 2025

No Mass

Friday, January 17, 2025

- 7:30 am Joseph Justinic by John & Ellie Fox
7:30 am Shirley Smith by Jane & Ed Donovan
7:30 am Alice Farrell by The Brown Family

Saturday, January 18, 2025

- 8:30 am Joseph Pstrak by Deacon Gary
8:30 am William Meehan by Maureen Caesar
8:30 am Christine Mutch by her Family
4:30 pm Joseph Mele Sr. by Joe Mele Jr.
4:30 pm Marie Terzano by her Family
4:30 pm Rita Windas by The Trengrove Family

Sunday, January 19, 2025

- 8:00 am Ronald Witzcak by Karen J Witzcak
8:00 am Joseph Justinic by Gordon Justin
8:00 am Frank Moser by John & Ellie Fox
9:30 am For the People
10:00 am Mary McCarthy by John & Piper Bruther
10:00 am Jacqueline Varygiannes by her Family
10:00 am Leonard & Betty Stankunas by Deacon Gary

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 Patricia McBarron, Robert O'Brien and Raymond O'Meara, Sr.



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, Borgias Family, Holly Boyd, Cathleen Brenner, Penny Broderick, 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, 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, Madeline Fuccile, John Gallo, Katherine Geiger, Sharon Gergich, 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, Alyson Honrath, Jimi Hood, Lori Hurd, Baby Cayden Joseph, Gordon Justin, Eugene Karpinski, Haley Keating, Marian Keefe, Catherine Kelleher, Robert Kelleher, Katherine Kelly, Bill Koch, Bridget Korn, Christopher Kurtanick, Kelly Layton, Ann Lehberger, William Liao, Barbara Liggett, Elizabeth Ann Linden, Joan Lipscomb, Nick Ljuljana, Frank Lopez, Linda Lowery, Barbara Magda, Madison Marmo, Linda Matthews, Ronnie Micciulla, Michael McGonigle, Helen McGowan, Michael McNulty, Claire Meachum, Frank Meidenbauer, Peter Merz, Nair Messias, Marylee Monsell, Gloria Moore, Mary Moran, Elizabeth Morgan, Margaret Mullin, Nancy Murphy, Pauline Naturile, Nesbitt Family, Jack Noble, Jennifer Noble, Catherine O'Connor, Sue O'Connor, Mark Olear, Gerald O'Keefe, Diane Padluck, Wes Pal, Dolores Palmisano, Joanne Panzarella, Joseph Pastore, Danny L. Payne, Charlotte Pentek, Tony Picinich, Mike Pierce, Janice Pinkerton, 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, Stephen Whyte, Kathy Wicks, Karen Williams, Marilyn Woerner, Patricia Wolfe, Albert Wood, Butch Wright, Eileen Zemo, and Werner Ziesmer.



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.

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.

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. **Our Fall/Winter Program is *The Bible and the Sacraments***. As Catholics, we know the sacraments are important. However, many of us never fully grasp how life-changing these “masterworks of God” really are. This program reviews the basic teaching of the Church as to the sacraments’ meaning and origin, but 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. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6 pm in the St Denis Parish Center. If you miss some meetings, no problem, join us for the next one. For info, contact the rectory at 732 223-0287.

JESUS AND JOCKO-DISCIPLINE=FREEDOM=HOPE- Men of the parish are invited to a discussion on Tuesday, 21 January at 7 pm in the church. We will be looking at the book "Extreme Ownership" by Jocko Willink and Lief Babin, and the teachings of Jesus, as well as looking into the New Year with resolutions and Hope. (Reading the book is not required.)

ST. DENIS/HOLY TRINITY “AMEN EFFECT” BOOK STUDY- Fr. Bill and Pastor Mary will lead discussions on “the amen effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World” by Rabbi Sharon Brous: Wednesdays, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19 11 am-12pm at Holy Trinity and 7-8 pm in St. Denis Parish Center. Brous writes about the healing power of “showing up” for individuals and the community in times of pain and sorrow, joy and celebration. She offers compelling examples and invites us to consider how to mend broken hearts and rebuild our society in times of loneliness and isolation. Join the conversation! (Check out this interview with the author: <https://streicker.nyc/past-event-recordings>.)



especially USMC Sgt. Jordan Basile, Coast Guard Petty Officer Joseph Beattie, 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 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, US Army 2nd Lt. Christopher Halmi, US Army 2nd Lt. Mia Halmi, USAF Cadet Thomas Halmi, USMC Captain Diego Heinzerling, 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, Coast Guard Seaman Anthony Scala, Air Force Major David Smith, Army Private 1st Class Cody Svenson, Air Force Captain Jason Trischitta, Army Matthew Van Pelt, Navy Captain Colin S. Walsh, Navy LL. Edward P. Windas, and USN LTJG Michael Zimmerman.



Join Walking with Purpose at Any Time!

walking with purpose At Walking with Purpose (WWP) we gather to learn how the teachings of Jesus Christ, Holy Scripture and our Catholic faith are relevant to our everyday lives. Together we create an authentic community that laughs, learns, grows, and loves one another.

WWP Gatherings are offered at the St. Denis Parish Center. We offer two Gathering opportunities: Tuesday evenings, 7:30-9pm or Wednesday afternoons, 12:15-2pm. Choose which time works best for you and join us at the table—you’ll be so glad you did!

We are so much more than a Bible study!
For more info visit www.wwpnjshore.com



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 rejoice their families prior to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. We will celebrate at the 9:30 am Mass every other week: 1/12, 1/26, 2/9, and 2/23. We hope your children will join us!! For more information please contact the rectory.



FIFTEEN:5 HAPPY NEW YEAR from FIFTEEN:5. We’re all busy balancing life’s challenges. Will you be making a New Year’s Resolution to take one new step to improve your health - physically, emotionally, or spiritually? FIFTEEN:5 is sponsoring a **WINE & DINE for those in their 20’s, 30’s, & 40’s (single or married) on Saturday, January 25th at 6:30 pm in the St. Denis Parish Center. Enjoy dinner, drinks and fellowship with your peers.** Bring friends, your spouse. Learn a little about FIFTEEN:5, a new Catholic Community of Faith, Family, and Friends. We’ll also announce our **Spring Team EVENT, Jersey Shore Relay Marathon.** Any runner, including casual runners, can join one of our teams. Information will be shared at our January 25th event. Questions or to RSVP, please email fifteen5njshore@gmail.com.

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 / eileenziesmer@gmail.com to let us know you plan to attend or with any questions!

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.



In Loving Memory of
Dr. Richard and Mary Ryan
 Requested by The Lintner Family



CATHECIST NEEDED—There is an urgent need for a Monday night 7th grade teacher in our Religious Education Department. If you can help please contact the office at 732-223-1161.

MESSAGE FROM THE GRANDPARENTS GUILD- The Grandparents Guild is looking for members to join us in the new year as we explore creative ways to show love and share faith with our grandchildren. Our group is committed to passing our Catholic faith onto our grandchildren through our devotion to the Church and our prayers for each grandchild. Please come to our meeting on Tuesday, January 21, at 11 am in the Parish Center.

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.

VINCENT’S LEGACY-The Furniture Outreach Conference of St. Vincent de Paul works with the local SVdP Conferences to serve neighbors in need of furniture and household items. Vincent’s Legacy accepts donated furniture and household items that are in good condition to redistribute to your neighbors in need. The Furniture Outreach Conference offers many opportunities for you to share your time, talent, and/or treasure, whether you have furniture to donate, 2-5 hours a month to volunteer, or financial support to offer that will help cover warehouse and truck expenses. Visit our website: <https://vincentslegacy.wixsite.com/furniture> or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FurnitureMinistry.com>. If you have any questions, contact us at: Furniture@svdptrenton.org To make a financial contribution, please send a check made out to Vincent’s Legacy Furniture Outreach Conference, P.O. Box 526, Manasquan, NJ 08736, or use the DONATE button on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FurnitureMinistry>. For more information or to donate items, please call 609-557-7837.



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.

ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED.

ITEMS NEEDED AT THIS TIME:

Pasta sauce, tuna fish, laundry detergent & dish detergent.

****Please Check Expiration Dates****

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.

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.

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.



THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



“I am the good shepherd... I know mine and mine know me” says Jesus In the Gospel. The good shepherd is concerned about, cares for and protects the sheep and fulfills the obligation of relationship. This relationship requires of us disciples to “lay down our lives.” Shepherding is serious business. It means that we cannot run away but rather to commit ourselves to good deeds, such as caring for the sick, feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, forgiving those who wrong us and loving others as God loves us. These good deeds are the very “stuff” of our everyday living and loving-in our families and in our service to the poor. To those served, Vincentians are expected to give the same deep and serious thought that they give to their own families. Sharing does not consist merely in the distribution of material goods; it also implies that our personal resources and potential of mind and heart, of time and influence, are placed at the service of others. Sharing means taking part in the joys and sorrows, in the worries and hopes of others. It equally involves a readiness, on the part of members of the Society to accept help, suggestions, advice, encouragement and collaboration. We are all poor in one way or another and that is perhaps what draws us closer to one another and to Him who is the Good Shepherd and who consented to share our humanity.

If you have an interest in learning more about Vincentian “good shepherding” come to the Society’s next meeting on January 16, 2025 at 7 pm in the Parish Center.

If assistance is needed, encourage the person to call our direct hotline and leave a message (732-223-1383). If you would like to donate, checks can be made payable to: SVDP/St. Denis Conference.



HENRY B. KING MEDICAL BRIGADE BON VOYAGE PARTY- The annual HBK Bon Voyage Party for the 32nd Mission to Honduras will take place on Saturday, February 15th, 2025 from noon to 4pm at the Beach Haus Brewery, 801 Main St, Belmar, NJ 07719; <https://beachhausbeer.com/>. The party includes a full buffet lunch, soda, cash bar, coffee, tea and a gift auction. Pre-sale ticket price is \$65 per person, kids are \$10. At the door price is \$70. For information on ordering tickets, please call the rectory at 732-223-0287. Come party with us and celebrate our 32nd Mission Trip to Honduras which is scheduled in early April 2025. We are excited to announce that we have updated our GoFundMe.com our Website (<https://henrybkingmedicalbrigade.com/>).

If you would like to make an **online donation** to our cause, please go to: [Fundraiser by Henry B. King : Henry B. King Medical Brigade 2025](#)

WORD OF LIFE --

provided by Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry

"When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others' lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "How to Build a Culture of Life" (respectlife.org/culture-of-life)

ACTION CENTER--

MASS FOR LIFE with Bishop O'Connell at 11:00 AM on Friday January 24th at the Co-Cathedral in Freehold. Immediately following, there will be *LIFE EXPO!* featuring life affirming organizations and groups that support human dignity from womb to tomb, and everywhere in between. This dynamic exhibit hall will offer attendees opportunities for learning, networking and engagement while fostering new friendships, strengthening bonds with our community, and enjoying delicious refreshments! All are welcome! NO RSVP needed.

PRAY THE ROSARY TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA. Please join us in prayer at St. Catherine's in Spring Lake at the statue of Our Lady of Fatima on the 13th of every month at 8:30am., come rain or shine. Our Lady of Fatima told us to repent and say the rosary to bring peace to our country & the world. Over 100 years later we again need her intercession to her Son to help us. Please join us. *Prayers are our most powerful weapon against the chaos of evil!*

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

THE MISSION OF MARY'S CHILD MINISTRY is to defend the truth of Jesus Christ. Each human being is a gift from God, made in His image and likeness, worthy of dignity, respect, and protection from conception until natural death. We raise our prayers, concerns, and funds in support of this Truth, and we support organizations that consistently live and value the Gospel of Life. If interested in this ministry, contact the rectory for our parish Pro-Life representative.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

Happy Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast of the Lord is the concluding celebration of the Christmas Season. You may ask, how is the Baptism by John in the Jordan River, about 33 years after the birth of Christ, part of the Christmas Season? Good question indeed. This is due to the fact that the Baptism of the Lord, as well as the Miracle at the Wedding in Cana, are linked to the Visit of the Magi as part of the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord. "Epiphany" means "appearance" or "manifestation" of the divine. Jesus was manifested to the nations firstly, through the star that led the gentle Wiseman to meet the Lord. Secondly, Jesus was manifested as the Messiah as John the Baptist pointed out, Jesus as the Lamb of God, and the appearance of the Holy Spirit and the voice of the Father, calling Jesus His Beloved Son, at the Baptism of the Lord in the Jordan. And thirdly, Jesus was manifested as the Son of God who could work miracles and would undo the sin of Adam when He turned water into wine at Cana.

As we conclude the Christmas Season, I want to thank all who helped during the Advent Season and all who prepared for and helped in the celebration of Christmas. In particular, Eileen Ziesmer who shared her faith in the adult faith sharing opportunities and also in the Children's Christmas Pageant, and shared her joy in running the St. Nicholas Festival. Thank you to Mark Mataranglo in preparing our liturgical music, and also Casey Fabianski who creatively led the children's choir as well as the re-imagined Christmas Carol Festival, which was so fun and so awesomely attended!!! I also thank Deacon George and Deacon Gary for their care and commitment to working behind the scenes (in so many facets) and in front of the altar to prepare for all the liturgies and for their presence with Frs. Jim, Andrew, and Sean – who I also thank for their priestly and fatherly attention. Also, a great big thanks to Bob Olson and his crew, as well as the Dingley Families for decorating the church and rectory. I am grateful to John Newman, of Bouquets to Remember, and his crew for the poinsettias and continued care for them. And lastly, thanks to the O'Brien Funeral Home and the Orender Family Home for Funerals for donating the 2025 calendars for our parish. As you can see, there are so many people to thank, including you, for all your donations for flowers and also donations for the upkeep and future of the parish!

PROM DRESS DRIVE- January 13th through January 27th hosted by the **Norah E. Bruther Memorial Scholarship Fund**, a non-profit 501(c)(3). Collected prom dresses will be distributed among local schools to be given to students. Please drop dresses off at St. Denis Rectory, 90 Union Ave, Manasquan, during regular business hours.

ONLINE GIVING-To help support our parish more easily we offer online giving! For information or to sign up, go to our parish website www.churchofstdenis.org and click on "Online Giving".



December 29, 2024

Weekly Collection-

\$11,747.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

2024 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you wish to receive a statement of your 2024 contributions, please complete and return this form to the rectory by way of the collection basket or by mail. You may also email your request to st.denis@verizon.net or call 732-223-0287.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

Email address _____

(if you would like to receive your statement via email)

Do you also need a statement from our St. Vincent de Paul Society?

Yes _____ No _____

WITH GRATITUDE AND THANKS FROM THE KNIDNESS CAFE- It is with an abundance of heartfelt gratitude that we extend our thanks to the many parishioners who generously donated to the Kindness Cafe through the parish's *Giving Tree*. The generous donations help us continue our mission to provide meaningful employment opportunities for neurodiverse individuals. We wish you a Holy and Happy New Year!

THANK YOU FROM BELMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parishioners of Saint Denis for their incredibly generous contributions to the Belmar Elementary School Holiday Gift Drive through the Giving Tree. Your thoughtful donations were instrumental in ensuring that over 170 students experienced the joy of receiving gifts this holiday season. As a sending district school to Manasquan High School, we truly appreciate your support and unwavering commitment to the families of our school community. We wish you a joyous holiday season!

MANASQUAN HIGH SCHOOL SENDS THANKS- On behalf of Manasquan High School and the families in our community, we would like to express our gratitude for your generosity and thoughtfulness this holiday season. The care and effort you put in to supporting our students and their families have brought joy and relief during a time when it is most needed. Your dedication to organizing, assembling, and delivering these thoughtful donations has made a meaningful difference in the lives of so many. It has been wonderful to see such an outpouring of kindness and compassion from our community. Please know how deeply appreciated your efforts are by all of us at Manasquan High School. Your generosity reflects the true spirit of the season, and we are so grateful for your partnership in uplifting those around us.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THANK YOU- The Knights of Columbus Council #3231 (St Marks/St Denis) wishes to thank all who participated in our Annual Charity 50/50 Cash Raffle. First prize winner, #985 received \$1822.50, second prize winner, #1190 received \$1093.50 and third prize, #1003 received \$729. All winners are local and wish to remain anonymous. The remaining balance will be deposited into our Charity account. Again, thank you for helping us provide good cheer this holy Christmas season.



Mass for Life & Life Expo

CELEBRATED BY



Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.

PRAY, CONNECT, ENGAGE

Embrace the transformative power of the Eucharist, foster solidarity, and take decisive action to nurture a culture of life that honors every stage from womb to tomb.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Join us for a special Mass celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.
- Engage with local organizations dedicated to upholding and promoting human dignity throughout all stages of life.
- Enjoy delicious refreshments, fostering new friendships, and strengthening bonds within our community.

Friday

JANUARY 24

11:00AM

Co-Cathedral of
St. Robert Bellarmine,
Freehold

All are Welcome • No RSVP needed



For full information about the day's events, visit:
dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life



OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 26
12 - 2PM



Preschool - 8th Grade

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