

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time

January 19, 2025

“There are different gifts but the same Spirit, there are different ministries, but the same Lord; there are different works but the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone. To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good... His mother instructed those waiting on table, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’”

We celebrate the giftedness of others. Athletes, educators, singers all are the cause of our admiration. But think about this. St. Paul speaks of gifts, ministries, works given for the common good. They are not to be stored, hidden or left unused.

God accomplishes them in all of us. We are accountable. Besides encouraging others with their talent, abilities, and gifts look in a mirror and decide what has been given to you, and how accountable you are in developing and using ministries and works for the common good.

We visit Cana and hear Mary speak to us ‘do whatever he tells you.’



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 Avenue732-223-1161
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.

**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 M. Windas by the Trengrove Family

Sunday, January 19, 2025

8:00 am Ronald Witczak by Karen J. Witczak
 8:00 am Joseph Justinic by Gordon Justin
 8:00 am Frank Moser by John & Ellie Fox
 9:30 am For the People of the Parish
 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

Monday, January 20, 2025

7:30 am Fran Coon by Tom & Gerri Bleach
 7:30 am Leonard McKittrick by Tom & Gerri Bleach
 7:30 am Gabe Bevilacqua by his Family

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

7:30 am Allen Bessemer by Gene Bialas
 7:30 am Warren Behrens by Maureen Caesar
 7:30 am Mary Michele Egan by Jim & Eileen Stokes

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

7:30 am Ann Marie Del Negro by her Family
 7:30 am Daniel Sewnig by Sister Trudy
 7:30 am John E. Schmigel by Bill & Jeanne Buble

Thursday, January 23, 2025

No Mass

Friday, January 24, 2025

7:30 am Carmella Sarro by Kathleen & Noman Reola
 7:30 am Nancy LoBianco by Dave & Vicky Zappulla
 7:30 am Joseph Peter Romano by CDA, Court St. Denis

Saturday, January 25, 2025

8:30 am John Green by the Ferruggia Family
 8:30 am Ruth Ann Sokolick by Arleen & Ron Meyn
 8:30 am Mary Michele Egan by Connie & Ben Forcillo
 4:30 pm Theresa Mele by Joe Mele
 4:30 pm Rita M. "Mickey" Windas
 by Sean & Mary Ellen Boyle
 4:30 pm Ellen Brown by Terris & John Garbarini

Sunday, January 26, 2025

8:00 am Barbara & Chris D'Andrea by their Children
 8:00 am Jack Hawkins by Gordon Justin
 8:00 am Robert Koncelik by John & Ellie Fox
 9:30 am Josephine "Pina" Gagliardi by Paul Garvey
 9:30 am Patricia Zanetti by Rose Gaguski
 9:30 am Walter Bronikowski 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 Noel Gattuso.



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
Dominick DeStefano
 and
Antonia (Nina) DeStefano
 Requested by Their Family



**ST. DENIS RECTORY OFFICE
 WILL BE CLOSED
 MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025
 IN OBSERVANCE OF
 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY.
 THE OFFICE WILL REOPEN
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 AT 8:30**

ST. DENIS ALTAR ROSARY members will meet in church on Sunday, February 2, 2025 at 9:00 am for recitation of the Rosary and the 9:30 am Mass. The business meeting will be held Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 12 noon on the Parish Center. Please bring your lunch and a friend.

BLOOD DRIVE, sponsored by the Woman's Club of Manasquan, will be held Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 2-7 pm in the gymnasium of the St. Denis Parish Center. Appointments are preferred. Visit redcrossblood.org and use code womansclubmanasquan or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. Everyone who donates blood is eligible to receive a \$15 e-gift card.

ONLINE ROSARY GROUP- Holy Innocents Church in Neptune offers an Online Rosary Group that meets Monday through Friday 10:00 am online or over the phone. Please contact the rectory office at 732-223-0287 for information. It is easy to join by phone or she can assist you to access the group via video teleconference. New members are always welcome! No commitment necessary; come when you can.

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.



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.

AWARENESS AND ACTION- January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Human trafficking is a crime against the basic dignity and rights of a person. Sadly, human trafficking is flourishing throughout the world. According to Walk Free, an international human rights group focused on the eradication of Human Trafficking, in all its forms. In 2021, an estimated 50 million people were living in modern day slavery on any given day. Learn more: <https://www.walkfree.org/> For our part, the New Jersey Catholic Conference continues to work with state government agencies, a coalition of religious communities, and community-based organizations to eradicate Human Trafficking in New Jersey. Currently, we represent the Catholic Church on the New Jersey Attorney General's Anti-Trafficking Faith Based Committee. The goal of the faith-based committee is to assist with the development of programs and resources section to help faith communities learn how more on what they can do to stop human trafficking. During January, we encourage all Catholics and people of good will to learn more about Human Trafficking and how they can work to end this form of modern-day slavery. Our local Pro-Life committee supports Metanoia Manor, a Catholic shelter for victims of human trafficking.

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.

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



Our ministry of lay volunteers is inspired by the values of the gospels and the work of Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Paris in 1833. The first U.S. conference was formed in St. Louis in 1845 and it remains to this day the national headquarters. There are over 800,000 members worldwide in 140 countries. SVdP offers members the chance to grow spiritually, to cultivate friendships and to provide person to person help to those who ask us for assistance. The volunteers of St. Vincent de Paul, who come from many diverse backgrounds, invite you to join their efforts, and they also thank all who donate so generously to the society.

If you have an interest in learning more about Vincentian "good shepherding" come to the Society's next meeting on February 20, 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.



**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, in the plastic box at the Beach Chapel, or on the front porch of the rectory.



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

“There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: *We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem.* In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is *always and radically incompatible* with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: “Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB

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.

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 contact the rectory or see the poster in the Gathering Space of the church for a list of resources available to you in our area.

SUPPORT LOCAL PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATION. Madonna House, located in Neptune, is dedicated to serving women, children and infants by providing clothing, diapers, formula and small household items. They gladly accept donations as well as welcome new volunteers. Call Rebecca @ 732-775-1140.

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.

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

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

We have entered the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January, the octave between the feasts of Sts Peter and Paul.). In 2025, the whole Church commemorates the 1,700th anniversary of the first Ecumenical Council of the entire church at that time, called by the Emperor Constantine at Nicaea (presently in Turkey) in 325. The Council discussed and debated orthodoxy of doctrine, especially about what Christians believe about the nature of God as Trinity and the two natures, human and divine, of Jesus Christ. The result was an agreed upon Creed, what we today call the Nicene Creed. It is only appropriate then, in remembering this event of common confession, that Christians today may celebrate that which unites them. Spiritual ecumenism, according to Vatican II, is the “soul” of the ecumenical movement. It is our common faith in the Risen Christ that brings us together for prayer. In turn, the prayer itself is effective in nourishing and confirming our unity.

This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the creed formulated during the Council of Nicaea. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 offers an invitation to draw on this shared heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians.

The guiding biblical text for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 comes from John 11:17-27. The theme for the week, “Do you believe this?” (v. 26), takes its cue from the dialogue between Jesus and Martha when Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany following the death of their brother Lazarus. This theme, by offering a way to see that faith is not just a static set of beliefs, but an active means of receiving grace, is most appropriate for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2025. The Manasquan Ministerium actively prays and works together. You are an important part the Ecumenical Movement by participating in the prayer and action we take as a Christian Community as well as by the personal prayer and acts we take to enact the prayer of Christ “That all may be One”. The question this year is “Do you believe this”? I pray you do and participate in the endeavors of the Manasquan Ministerium.

If you are looking for a way to help victims of the California wildfires please visit: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org This organization is helping with disaster relief.

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”.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA- Next week’s 2nd collection will be for the Church in Latin America. It is an opportunity to #ShareYourFaith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Your generosity will be appreciated. For more information visit www.usccb.org/latin-america



January 5, 2025

Weekly Collection-

\$13,122.00

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 _____



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. Thank you.

REGISTER NOW
Spring Lake, NJ | 732.449.4424 | joinus@stcatharineschool.net

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Early Registration Price of \$25 Ends 1/31



Mass with Bishop David M. O'Connell, CM



English Keynote Chris Padgett



Spanish Keynote Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR

www.dioceseoftrenton.org/hope2025

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